

# THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

## HALL EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

### MINUTES of 3<sup>RD</sup> OPEN FORUM

Date: 14 April 2011 (Thursday)  
Time: 9:45 p.m. – 11:45 p.m.  
Venue: G/F, Morrison Hall

Present: Dr. Robert Chung (Chairman of the Committee and Budget Holder of the HED Project)  
Dr. K. C. Cheung  
Mr. Theo Chan  
Miss Mimi Lee  
Mr. Samuel Shek  
Mr. Andy Yip

Moderator: Miss Mimi Lee

Secretary: Mr. Anders Wong (The HEDO Manager)

No. of participants: Around 35

#### 1. Questions raised

##### a. On the HED Project:

- Does the Committee know about the current situation in different halls? What activities are organized in halls? Is the Committee going to review the hall culture?
- What is the difference of hall education between undergraduates and postgraduates? Are the programmes targeting to undergraduates only?
- Who will be organizing the activities, students or HEDO?
- There are already many activities in halls. How will HEDO attract students to participate in the HED Project?
- What is the difference of activities between those held by HEDO and those organized by non-hall parties?
- Is it unfair to non-hall students if the Project is only for hall students?

- An environmental protection group in Lee Shau Kee Hall decides to visit China. They want to know which Sub-committee under the Committee the proposal should be submitted to.
- Is the amount spending on hiring an EO too high?

b. On Student Projects:

- Why is the mentorship programme organized for different halls?
- The events organized by postgraduates may only be beneficial to them but not to undergraduates. Will these kinds of projects be funded?
- Some postgraduates want to organize a symposium, publicizing their research projects. They think that, through this event, they may learn how to organize activities and undergraduates may know more about their future career in the research field. The postgraduates want to know whether this kind of project will be funded.
- The projects are expected to be in large scales and having good impacts on halls. Is a subsidy of HK\$10,000-HK\$15,000 enough for such projects?
- There will be approximately 8 projects funded under HEDO. Will the Committee ensure that there is a large diversity between the funded projects?
- How will the Committee assess the progress of the student projects?
- Is the funding granted in different phases?
- How will the diversity in the student projects be judged?
- Will HEDO support projects that are already funded by other sources?

c. On Intellectual Development in Halls:

- Will the hall education courses be eventually integrated into common core courses?
- Is it necessary to organize large-scale social services? Too many participants may be a hindrance to the activities.
- The budget on the overseas study tour was questioned.
- Will the hall education courses eventually bear credits?
- Will the courses be organized by faculties jointly?

## 2. Suggestions from students

- a. The Committee needs to know more about the actual situation in different halls. Before organizing any events, the Committee needs to know what kinds of activities have already been running in halls. Students may want to participate in activities that are not provided by hall students' associations, and the activities should be in large scales.
- b. The idea of hall culture reform is appreciated. However, there are quite a lot of fundamental problems to be solved in order to ensure a smooth progress of the HED Project. One of the important problems is the communication between halls and faculties in which there are too many parties to be involved.
- c. The inter-hall culture may hinder the HED Project because students like to spend time on preparing inter-hall functions and competitions instead of joining the HED programmes. Another barrier to the HED Project is the I-T-O activities during summer which occupies a lot of the students' time for the preparation work.
- d. A student who joined an NGO wants to share his experience in halls by organizing some events. However, not many people were interested in his sharing. He pointed out that HEDO might face the similar situation in the future.
- e. It seems that many programmes organized by HEDO may not be able to cater the postgraduates because they do not have semester break. They, for example, do not have time to join any study tour. HEDO is suggested to provide some programmes that target to postgraduates.
- f. The idea of the HED Project sounds good. However, HEDO needs to have a good strategy to attract students to join the activities when they have already got so many responsibilities in halls and academic aspects.
- g. Hall education courses are not suggested to be organized during summer because many students will stay at home or are busy with internships.
- h. It is beneficial to the students in halls if the hall education courses are credit-bearing.
- i. Courses organized jointly by faculties will benefit students in different curriculums.