HKUST Students’ Union, Session 2015-2016
Minutes of 4th Societies Meeting

Date: 29th Dec 2015
Time: 2pm – 4pm
Venue: LT-B
Attendees: CHIU Chee Wah Gloria
LAU Yan Chun Chris

Affiliated Societies

The Business Students' Union, HKUSTSU
Accounting Students' Society, HKUSTSU
Information Systems, Business Statistics and Operations Management Students' Society, HKUSTSU
Management Students’ Association, HKUSTSU
The Economics Students' Society, HKUSTSU
The Finance Students' Society, HKUSTSU
The Marketing Students’ Society, HKUSTSU
Computer Engineering Students' Society, HKUSTSU
Industrial Engineering and Logistics Management Students' Society, HKUSTSU
Mechanical Engineering Students' Association, HKUSTSU
The Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering Students' Society, HKUSTSU
The Civil and Environmental Engineering Students' Society, HKUSTSU
The Computer Science and Engineering Students' Society, HKUSTSU
The Electronic and Computer Engineering Students' Society, HKUSTSU
Biochemistry Students' Society, HKUSTSU
Chemistry Students' Society, HKUSTSU
Mathematics Students' Society, HKUSTSU
International Research Enrichment Students' Society, HKUSTSU
The Biology Students' Society, HKUSTSU
Risk Management and Business Intelligence Students' Association, HKUSTSU
The Undergraduate House One Students' Association, HKUSTSU
VERTEX, House II Students' Association, HKUSTSU
Glacier, HOUSE III Students' Association, HKUSTSU
Vista, House IV Students' Association, HKUSTSU
Endeavour, House V Students' Association, HKUSTSU

AIESEC-LC-HKUST, HKUSTSU
China Entrepreneur Network, HKUSTSU
Christian Fellowship, HKUSTSU
Comics and Animation Society, HKUSTSU
Contract Bridge Club, HKUSTSU
Drama Society, HKUSTSU
Film Society, HKUSTSU
Golden Z Club, HKUSTSU
International Cuisine Society, HKUSTSU
Magic Club, HKUSTSU
Model United Nations Club, HKUSTSU
People's Campus Radio, HKUSTSU
Rotaract Club of HKUST, HKUSTSU
Student Astronomy Club, HKUSTSU
Student Social Service Society, HKUSTSU
The Band Society, HKUSTSU
The Photographic Society, HKUSTSU
University Philharmonic Orchestra, HKUSTSU
University YMCA - HKUST, HKUSTSU
Yo-hoo Club, HKUSTSU
Christian Choir, HKUSTSU

Archery Club, HKUSTSU
Dance Society, HKUSTSU
Softball Club, HKUSTSU
1. **Call to order**
   The meeting was commenced at 2:20pm

2. **Agenda**
   - General Announcement
   - Arrangement of HKBPE
   - Arrangement on Promotion period 2016
   - Application of assignments
   - Q&A Session

3. **General Announcement**
   It is reported that sometimes there’re unauthorized posters on the societies’ notice areas. SU PExco reminded that according to the Internal Regulation, the societies have the administrative power and can remove any unauthorized posters.

   SU PExco reminded the societies to be responsible and remove the posters/road signs on the floors/walls after the respective function is finished.

   It is noticed that there’re some inaccurate information of Promotion period arrangement spreading among the societies. SU PExco clarified that official announcements will be sent through email from su_union@connect.ust.hk

4. **Hong Kong Brands & Products Expo arrangement**
   Societies can go and collect materials from the HKBPE on the last day (4 Jan 2016) only.

   Some complaints were received last year about HKUST students collecting inappropriate materials (e.g. Fire Extinguisher). Societies are reminded to be follow the regulations of the HKBPE organizer.

   **Procedure of collecting materials:**
   i. Get a form at the Reception / Information Counter
   ii. Obtain permission of the exhibitors before taking away anything
   iii. Gather at the official assemble area if needed, minimize the disturbance to other exhibitors

   There may be some vacant booths at the venue. Societies are reminded not to occupy those empty booths or collecting any materials without permission.

   The BPE will close at 8pm. Societies are reminded to leave on time.
5. **Official email accounts for nominated cabinets**

Starting from this year, SU will provide official email accounts (XXXnomcab@hkustsu.hk) to nominated cabinets. This will be used for official announcements and communications.

6. **Promotion Period 2016**

SU PExco introduced the arrangements of the coming promotion period including timeslot, floorplan, counter/big decoration size restriction, and chanting period.

For the Chinese New Year holiday, counters and big decorations are needed to be removed. SU will arrange storage area for the big decorations and details will be announced later.

Some common rooms are reserved for nominated cabinets to make their big decorations. These areas will be ready by 8th Jan 2016 and available by registration.

**Application for assignments**

i. Societies have to pay the deposit in order to apply for counter, big decoration area and chanting.

ii. Societies have to fill in the application both in hardcopy and through Google Form.

iii. Societies are reminded to fill in the application and submit the bank-in receipt on time.

**Lot drawing**

The lot drawing session will be held at mid-Jan 2016. Details will be announced through email. No assignments shall be reserved for absent parties.

7. **Q&A Session**

*Societies* asked about the details of electric sockets.

*SU PExco*: The arrangement of electricity is still in discussion with University offices.

*Societies* asked whether they can decorate the counter with angled irons.

*SU PExco* answered positive

*Yo-Hoo* asked about their counter arrangement because they will set-up counters using bamboo sticks

*SU PExco*: The special arrangement for Yo-Hoo is noted. FMO will not preset marquee at Yo-Hoo’s counter. Yo-Hoo can set-up the bamboo stick counter as usual.
Societies asked whether it’s confirmed that marquees will be preset by FMO. As it will cause inconveniences and restrictions on counter decorations. It’s also meaningless when societies need to remove the preset cable ties during decorating the marquees.

SU PExco: There’s still room of discussion. Societies are welcomed to comments and give opinions.

Societies: One of the problem is that counters in row B is susceptible to the windy environment. Even if the marquees are tied together, there’s still a chance of being blown down.

SU PExco: Will discuss with the University.

Societies: Electricity is a basic need of people. Is it possible to provide the electric sockets first, then the monitoring team handle and issue penalty once there’s improper use of electricity.

SU PExco: There were improper use of electricity last year. Societies really need to follow all the rules and regulations in order to convince the University.

Societies: How many cases of improper use of electricity were there last year?

SU PExco: at least 7 cases were caught. But FMO didn’t cut the electricity after the violations.

Societies: What electrical appliances are allowed? For example, are gaming consoles (e.g. PS3 / XBox) allowed?

SU PExco: Only charging of communication devices / laptop computers are allowed. This is because the electricity sockets at the atrium were not designed to support high power appliances (e.g. Induction cooker, TV, etc).

Societies: Why the deposits of assignments are increased? The increase is even higher than the inflation.

SU PExco: In past experiences, there were too many cases of violation of rules & regulations. The increase of deposits is to increase the deterrent effect of the rules & regulations. If societies behave and follow the rules, Those deposits are fully refundable.

Societies: In past years, were there any societies could get back 100% of the deposits?

SU PExco answered positive.

Societies: The current chanting periods cannot cater all the societies, is there any better arrangements?

SU PExco: The size of Atrium is fixed, but the number of societies keeps increasing. It is a fact that the chanting area cannot cater all the societies. Therefore societies have to select timeslots of chanting.
Societies: Chanting is an important way of promotion. The University should not restrict our right to chant.

SU PExco: There’re other concerns like feasibility and safety. It is necessary to control the chanting activity if it causes safety problem.

Societies: There were no accidents caused by chanting in recent years.

SU PExco: We have to prevent and avoid the chance of accidents when planning activity.

Societies: The chanting arrangements of past years were perfect. Why don’t we simply follow the past arrangements?

SU PExco: Actually, there was also an upper limit of societies last year.

Societies: Are the regulations practical? For example, if the limit is 20 societies but 21 societies are coming to chant. Then which society will be penalized?

SU PExco: There’s still room of discussion for the detailed arrangements.

Societies asked further details of chanting, e.g. the numbers of people in each society are different, is it possible to extend the chanting area?

SU PExco: The floorplan and number of chanting societies will be confirmed next meeting.

Societies: Some say that flags are not allowed this year. Is that real?

SU PExco: We’re still negotiating with the University. Details of flags will be announced next meeting.