



Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

STUDENTS' UNION

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Joint Declaration in respect of the recent allocation of hall place

Due to the fact that the Students' Union and Students' Associations have received quite a number of enquiries related to the issue of the recent allocation of hall place, the Students' Union and the Students' Associations would like to state the stance towards this issue.

Strong dissatisfaction with the practices and attitudes towards the school:

Up until now, it is believed that the school authority has always been reluctant to have further communications and discussions with the students. Whenever there are students voicing their opinions, the school authority always disapproves of the students' suggestions and opinions from the perspective of the school management. Instead, the school authority always uses different administrative means to pass the issues by without truly understanding the students' needs and wants.

On behalf of the students' representatives of the university affairs, the above-mentioned behavior and attitude are not acceptable. Regarding to the issues of delayed completion of Hall 8 and 9 and the practices of hall allocation, as well as the practices responding to the students' opinions, the school authority should be the one who shoulder the vast majority of responsibility.

Desire for a fair and reasonable allocation of hall place:

The Students' Union and the Students' Associations strongly understand the intense distribution problem of hall allocation in the coming year. Notwithstanding, we strongly believe that the school authority should allocate the hall place in a fair and systematic way so as to enable students to realize that the hall place is only offered for those who need it.

Firstly, when choosing the hall place, the school authority has already made a mistake as the hall place registration system misled students when registering for the hall place, resulting in students who have high composite scores in the scheme being allocated to HKAC. Such misleading practice has already brought about serious impacts on students as most students

are misled by the unclear instructions. Obviously, such practice is unreasonable and unacceptable.

In addition, the Students' Union and the Students' Associations have received a large number of enquiries from students regarding to the recent allocation of hall place. They stated that even though they have the composite scores which are higher than next year's cutoff scores, they still cannot receive a hall place. Indeed and in theory, those students should be offered a hall place and should receive a proper response from the school authority. Nonetheless, the school authority does not give a reasonable explanation on such issues, which can be counted as another mistake made by the school authority.

Regarding to the above-mentioned, the Students' Union and the Students' Associations would like to have three appeals and would like the school authority to respond us squarely.

1) Suspend the period of accepting the offer of hall place:

Regarding to the issues of hall place allocation, the Students' Union and the Students' Associations believe that it is not fair and is not acceptable. As the impact of this situation is now hard to comprehensively assess, the Students' Union and the Students' Associations do reckon that the school authority should provide more time for both parties to generate more information so as to fully understand the needs and wants. As for those who have severely suffered from the misleading hall place registration system, the Students' Union and the Students' Associations may not preclude the possibility of requiring the reallocation of hall place. Hence, the Students' Union and the Students' Associations strongly urge the school authority to suspend the period of accepting the offer of hall place.

2) Require direct conversation between the school authority and students:

The Students' Union and the Students' Associations deem that the situation of offering hall place is of extreme confusion and the school authority needs to explain the whole system of distributing the hall place so as to reducing the students' confusions regarding to this issue. Moreover, the Students' Union and the Students' Associations believe that the school authority have no reasons to refuse to provide a detailed explanation to students if the school authority does have a comprehensive and fair system to allocate the hall place. Therefore, the Students' Union and the Students' Associations strongly urge the school authority to have a direct conversation between the school authority and students.

3) Review the mechanism of hall place allocation:

The Students' Union and the Students' Associations do think that the reason why there is a controversial debate on the issue of allocation of hall place is that the mechanism of hall place allocation is not perfect and there is a lot of room for further improvements. Thus, the Students' Union and the Students' Associations urge the school authority to review the mechanism of hall place allocation as soon as possible, so as to enable that the hall place can be allocated to appropriate and suitable students.

Lastly, on behalf of the Students' Union and the Students' Associations, the Students' Union and the Students' Associations would like to pursue a fair, appropriate and transparent hall place allocation system, instead of requiring the school authority to offer every applicant a hall place. Hence, the Students' Union and the Students' Associations would sincerely hope and urge the school authority to address the above-mentioned appeals and further understand listen to the needs and voices of students.

The Executive Committee, HKUSTSU

The UG House One SA, HKUSTSU

VERTEX, House II SA., HKUSTSU

Glacier, HOUSE III SA, HKUSTSU

Vista, House IV Students' Association, HKUSTSU

Endeavour, House V Students' Association, HKUSTSU