

The Review Panel on the Centenary Ceremony Held on August 18

Progress Report (up to end of November 2011)

1. On 30 August 2011 the Council of the University of Hong Kong established the Review Panel on the Centenary Ceremony held on 18 August 2011 (“the Review Panel”). It adopted the following terms of reference:

“In the light of the controversy surrounding the Visit of the Vice-Premier Li Keqiang to the University of Hong Kong, to review the areas of concerns with a view to making recommendations to the Council on means of improving arrangements and establishing appropriate mechanisms and policies for future University events to make sure that HKU will continue its commitment to freedom, liberty and diversity and will always remain a place for freedom of expression.”

2. Subsequently, the Council Chairman, in consultation with the Convenor of the Review Panel, appointed the following persons to be members of the Review Panel:

- (1) Lester G Huang (Convenor)
- (2) Zhang Yi (Postgraduate Student Representative)
- (3) Professor Cecilia Chan Lai Wan (Academic Staff Representative)
- (4) Professor Johannes Chan (Academic Staff Representative)
- (5) Man Cheuk Fei (Council Member)
- (6) Stephen Cheung Pok Yin (Council Member and Non-Academic Staff Representative)
- (7) Patrick Wong Chun Sing (Alumni Representative)
- (8) Simon Fung Shing Cheung (Alumni Representative)

3. In addition, the Council Chairman invited the Hong Kong University Students’ Union (HKUSU) to nominate a representative from among the undergraduate students. The Review Panel itself extended a standing invitation to the HKUSU on 19 September 2011, which was reiterated on 8 October 2011 and at the HKUSU Council meeting on 18 October 2011 attended by the Review Panel. The Review Panel respects the HKUSU’s decision not to nominate a representative.
4. On 17 September 2011 the Review Panel convened its first meeting and decided that the scope of the review would include the security arrangements, the event arrangements and the post-event crisis handling. The review would be conducted in three stages, namely

fact-finding, opinion gathering and formulation of recommendations. The Review Panel is accountable foremost to the Council, to which it will make its recommendations.

5. Since that time the Review Panel has met on 17 other occasions spending more than 60 hours in meetings, and has interviewed 28 different people. The first stage of fact-finding is coming to an end.
6. The University administration has been most helpful in assisting the Review Panel with developing an understanding of the facts and providing the Review Panel with many useful documents. Those interviewed included the Vice-Chancellor, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (University Relations), the Registrar, the Dean of Student Affairs, the Director of Development & Alumni Affairs, the Director of China Affairs and the Director of Communications as well as the Assistant Security Manager and security guards who were at LG2 of KK Leung Building at the material time.
7. Other interviewees included the Council Chairman, the President of the HKUSU, Mr. Li Shing-hong, and representatives from the Police. The Review Panel has also looked into precedents from other universities in relation to event and security arrangements.
8. In addition to the opinions collected from all of its interviewees, collected through its e-mail address (reviewpanel@hku.hk) and collected through the Development & Alumni Affairs Office, the Review Panel organized a forum (the Forum) open to HKU stakeholders on 23 November 2011 to solicit views from students, staff and alumni. A total of 21 people expressed opinions at the Forum. The Review Panel takes this opportunity to thank all those who attended the Forum.
9. The Review Panel is pressing ahead with its work and aims to complete its report in January 2012. Before the Review Panel finalizes its conclusions and recommendations, the Review Panel would welcome more views and recommendations through its e-mail address (reviewpanel@hku.hk).
10. Please visit the Review Panel's webpage (<http://www.hku.hk/rpanel/>) for updates.

30 November 2011