



香港城市大學  
City University of Hong Kong

## *University Announcement*

### **Notification on Emergency Response Unit (ERU) (32)**

After much discussion within the University's community, the University arranged for three sessions of dialogue to be held with students today.

Surprisingly, before the start of the first session, planned as a civilized dialogue with local undergraduate students, the venue was surrounded by a large number of unidentified people clearly intent on interrupting the session and preventing the dialogue taking place. The situation was chaotic and intimidating to staff and those students who wished to attend. One member of staff was not feeling well during the disruptions and needed to call an ambulance. For safety reasons, the University decided to cancel all the dialogue sessions.

The University has always tried to promote peaceful, rational and non-violent discussion of the type which should be possible between intelligent members of a University community. However, the large number of people surrounding the venue for proposed dialogues today verbally abused and swore at our staff and security colleagues. They silenced those students who genuinely wanted dialogue by shouting and crowding the reception area making it impossible for registered students to enter the venue and effectively detaining staff causing some of them significant distress.

We strongly condemn the following behaviour:

1. The large number of people surrounding the venue for the proposed dialogues today verbally abused and swore at our staff and security personnel, endangered their safety and damaged properties on campus.
2. They also shouted and called for boycotting of the dialogue so silencing those students who wanted to put their questions to the ERU. They made it all but impossible for registered students to enter the venue.

For the second dialogue session with non-local undergraduate students held at another venue and originally scheduled for 11:30 in the morning, University staff on the scene had the opportunity to talk with about 20 students who had registered and were waiting at the venue. Many of them expressed concern over the current situation and campus safety.

The University has been communicating with students and staff through various channels and methods in order to listen to your needs as well as to provide appropriate support. We deeply regret and protest that today's dialogue arrangements had to be cancelled due to the disruption of many unidentified and aggressive people.

We will answer the more than 100 questions that we have collected from students prior to today's sessions and will post our responses to all students and faculty at an appropriate time through University Announcements.

Chairmen of the ERU,  
Professor Horace Ip Ho-shing, Vice-President (Student Affairs)  
Mr Sunny Lee Wai-kwong, Vice-President (Administration)

14 October 2019