Special announcement on student exchange activities
Notification from the Emergency Response Unit (ERU) (84)

The University is very concerned about the safety of staff and students in view of the rapid development of the pandemic and would like to make the following announcement:

1. The Global Engagement Office (GEO) has formed an emergency team, in coordination with Colleges/Schools and academic departments, to keep regular contact with all outbound exchange students (OES), monitor the situations in host countries/regions and provide advice to our students.

2. GEO together with home departments have speedily contacted students currently on exchanges in different countries/regions. It is noted that some have decided to stay while some have not yet decided what to do. GEO will continue to work closely with home departments, keep in contact with OES students, and provide them with advice and assistance as far as possible.

3. Students who completed credit-bearing courses, either offered by host universities or CityU, can get exchange fund as approved. Students who have queries on funding disbursement matters can provide justifications and contact GEO for assistance.

4. Those who are not coming back to Hong Kong, for whatever reason, should stay in contact with GEO.

5. Academic matters
   o If the exchange students are able to attend the courses that they are taking at the host universities and can complete the required assessments through online mode irrespective of their locations, they should do so.
   o However, if the host universities do not offer their courses or conduct their assessments online, the exchange students who have returned to Hong Kong or their home countries (applicable to non-local students on exchanges) will be provided with the option to late register on same/similar courses offered at CityU.

6. For any other cases that do not fall in the above categories, please contact GEO.

7. The University will suspend all overseas programmes and activities for this summer.

We hope everyone understands that the University was severely damaged during the social incidents last year. Teaching and research activities were severely disrupted. The University is now trying hard to open up financial resources for restoring campus facilities, paying the extra budget costs, for funding research and exchange activities. We will continue to seek ways to strike a balance between the needs of students and the actual situation, and provide appropriate support.

Emergency Response Unit
17 March 2020