

New programme to enhance NGOs' governance and service quality

HKJC supports HKU to equip social practitioners

The University of Hong Kong has launched new training programmes for non-government organisations to help upgrade their governance and services to the community. So far over 1,000 NGOs representatives have participated in the project.

The programme, "Excellence and Capacity building for Entrepreneurship and Leadership for the Third Sector" (HKU-HKJC ExCEL3), is supported by The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust as part of its funding to the HKU Centennial Campus Project.

The project was launched earlier this month at the HKU campus and officiated by Jockey Club Chairman T Brian Stevenson, Hong Kong University Council Chairman Dr Leong Che-hung and Vice Chancellor Professor Lap-Chee Tsui.

Mr Stevenson commended the University of Hong Kong for its tremendous efforts in developing the project content and offering training programmes for the non-government organisations, many of whom are the Club's partners as a force for good.

"The ExCEL3 Project seeks to help the leaders and social workers of NGOs face the challenges of the community's rising expectations of their functions and governance, as well as to help them ensure their sustainability."

ExCEL3 Project Director Professor Cecilia Chan said the project idea stemmed from seeing the problems faced by the rising number of NGOs being set up across the city.

"During the set up process, these NGO representatives often encounter difficulties like regulatory framework, impact assessment and governance. So it's great to have the support from The Hong Kong Jockey Club as we believe it is a meaningful thing to do if we can share our knowledge and our research findings with these NGO representatives, so as to build up their understanding in these aspects and to increase the service quality of these NGOs in the city."

Under the five-year Project, a series of in-depth training programmes, workshops, symposiums,



Jockey Club Chairman T Brian Stevenson (right) receives from HKU Vice-Chancellor Professor Lap-Chee Tsui (left) a Chinese scroll by renowned scholar Professor Jao Tsung-I, as a token of thanks for the Club's long-term support to HKU.

public lectures, network group projects, public education and other knowledge exchange activities are provided to help social practitioners enhance their capacity to tackle organisational and global challenges. The topics covered include leadership and governance, charity law, management training and social media etc. The programmes are organised by HKU's Faculty of Social Sciences with the support of the Business and Law Faculties.

Renowned local and overseas scholars, as well as leaders from successful NGOs or social enterprises are also invited to share their views with NGOs representatives. Conference resources, practice cases and training manuals will be shared online so as to increase public awareness and the transparency of the third sector.

HKU-HKJC ExCEL3 Project

Website: www.hku.hk/socsc/ExCEL3

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