



For Immediate Release
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Citi-HKCSS Community Intern Program in its eighth year of fostering students' sense of social responsibility

80 university business students interned at 40 non-profit organizations

Hong Kong – The Citi-Hong Kong Council of Social Service (HKCSS) Community Intern Program (CIP) has been opening doors for university students in Hong Kong to intern at local NGOs for eight consecutive years, with 80 business students completing their internships at 40 NGOs this year.

Officiating at the ceremony to recognize the contribution of the students were Dr. Law Chi-kwong, Secretary for Labour and Welfare, Hong Kong SAR Government; Mr Wayne Fong, Head of Corporate Affairs, Citi Hong Kong; and Mr. Chua Hoi Wai, Chief Executive of The Hong Kong Council of Social Service.

Sponsored by Citi, and co-organized with The Hong Kong Council of Social Service (HKCSS), CIP pioneers cross-sector collaboration among business, non-profit and academic sectors in the provision of internship opportunities at NGOs. The program aims to prepare university business students to be active contributors of their knowledge and expertise to community development, and ultimately build capacity for NGOs. In addition, it cultivates the concept of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) among the students and provides them with a broader understanding of the community.

Wayne Fong, Head of Corporate Affairs, Citi Hong Kong said, “For eight years, CIP has received a great response from NGOs and a growing commitment from students, equipping our future business leaders with in-depth understanding of community issues and bettering NGOs’ development at the same time. Citi is glad to be a facilitator of this meaningful initiative. As a responsible corporate citizen, we will strive to continuously bridge the gap between business and the community to enable economic progress and growth for our key stakeholders in the community.”

Mr. Chua Hoi Wai, Chief Executive of The Hong Kong Council of Social Service expressed, “I am happy to see that CIP has been increasingly recognized by universities and enthusiastically supported by NGOs. Through this program, student participants have developed a deeper sense of social responsibility and a better understanding of the roles of NGOs. It is common to see CIP graduates stay connected with their placement organizations. This unique tri-sector collaboration draws the energy and wisdoms of different parties together to serve our community.”

Four university students won the “Grand Award for Excellence” in recognition of their outstanding performance during the internship. They were: Cha Lok Yiu from The University of Hong Kong; Hui See Yan from The Open University of Hong Kong; Lau Krystal from The Chinese University of Hong Kong; and Li Hiu Kuen from The Open University of Hong Kong.



Participating NGOs are dedicated to serving diverse social groups in society, including low-income earners and families, students with special educational needs, people with disabilities and also to promoting environmental awareness. Since its inception in 2010, around 600 students and over 300 NGOs have participated in the program.

The internships took place from July to August this year. Working in pairs, interns used their business knowledge to provide assistance to assigned NGOs in areas including fundraising, brand-building, event management, social media development, operations and social service. CIP interns were given 20 hours of in-depth training to refresh their knowledge on pressing community issues and sharpen the skill sets required for working in NGOs. The training comprises seminars on CSR and cross-sector partnerships, visits to non-profit and social enterprises and interactive opportunities with underprivileged groups.

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About Citi

Citi, the leading global bank, has approximately 200 million customer accounts and does business in more than 160 countries and jurisdictions. Citi provides consumers, corporations, governments and institutions with a broad range of financial products and services, including consumer banking and credit, corporate and investment banking, securities brokerage, transaction services, and wealth management.

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About HKCSS

The HKCSS is an umbrella organisation of 460 agency members that provide over 90% of the social welfare services in Hong Kong. HKCSS launched the Caring Company Scheme in 2002 to build a cohesive society by promoting strategic partnership among business and social service partners and inspiring corporate social responsibility through caring for the community, employees and the environment. HKCSS puts much effort in building capacity for social enterprises through the Social Enterprise Business Centre (SEBC) to advance social entrepreneurship and mobilize social innovation.

Additional information may be found at www.hkcss.org.hk | Facebook: www.facebook.com/hkcssfans