

PUSA ALERT

Issue No. 13 (November 2017)

SUMMARY

In this issue, the topics include the launch of the 3rd PUSA survey, the introduction of a very attractive medical protection plan for extended family members of current and retired staff members, the upcoming Used-Item Collection Campaign, the involvement of PUSA in a petition for Public Funds, and the personnel announcement of EXCO.

Item 1 PUSA Survey on Work Conditions and University Leadership

PUSA is going to launch a third survey to collect views from all full-time staff members of the University which follows the first survey in 2014 and second survey in 2015. The focus will be on two aspects: the work conditions within university departments/units and the staff expectations of University Leadership. The former topic is for the purpose of keeping track with the evolution and changes of work situations in the University over a period of time, and the latter is to inform the Council of the views of staff members on the kind of leadership we are looking for after the retirement of our current President by the end of 2018. Concerning the latter, the voices of the staff members of all ranks have never been collected until after the notification of the selected candidate – this we believe should not be the case in this era. For the sake of your future work environment and the continuous development of the University, please participate in the survey which will take place in mid-November.

Item 2 Important News for family members and relatives of current and retiring/retired members

In the last AGM of PUSA, it was endorsed by members that PUSA would join CTISU (The Confederation of Tertiary Institutes Staff Unions) as a member. As a result, we are included in an extremely attractive medical insurance package that is liaised by CTISU with IMMO POOL which would allow ***all members of PUSA to expand their medical protection plan to their close relatives*** (such as brothers and sisters, parents). **This coverage also applies to retired members, or for retired staff who have not joined or ceased membership with PUSA but would like to join/re-join as Retired members.** (* If you are a retired member or you are referring to a senior family member to this protection plan, the age must not exceed 65 at the time of joining this plan) Two highlights (they can be chosen independently) in the upcoming promoted package are:

1. Enjoy a discount of at least 15% when purchasing Healthy Medical Comprehensive Protection offered by a large local Bank Group
2. Free membership card by a large local Medical Service Provider with a discounted consultation fee at \$200 (with 3 days basic medication) for GP and \$400 for Specialist

The roadshow on this plan will take place in November. Further details will be provided in due course and you are welcome to spread the news to retirees of the University to get ready for this event.

Item 3 Used Item Collection Campaign

Same as in previous years, PUSA is going to jointly organize a Used-item Collection Campaign with *Community Recycling Coop*, a charitable organization in Shamshuipo and a subsidiary of *Industrial Relations Institute*. The Campaign can be seen as echoing with the objectives and policies of the Campus Sustainability Office (CSO) of the University to help create a green culture on the campus. Items like electrical appliances, clothing, shoes and bags, stationery, books, household goods, bedding, decorations, entertainment items, furniture, and the like are all welcomed. The event will take place on 22nd-23rd November and there will be an announcement later.

Item 4 Proposal on the use of Public Funds

The higher education subsector has been suffering and is still suffering from a long-time shortage of research funding characterized by not just failing to keep up with annual inflation but a drastic decrease in the dollar amount per awarded grant, thus harming the sustainability of research of Hong Kong. Against this backdrop, union heads and elected council members as well as CE election committee members (HE subsector) from 4 UGC funded institutes presented a proposal (see attachment) on increasing the research funding to Hon member of the Executive Council Horace Cheung in July to suggest the petition to the CE. In our proposal, we suggested to increase UGC research funding by 4 billion to maintain research funding at the level it was at 5 years ago.

Last month, we heard from the Policy Address of current CE to ask UGC to review the level and allocation mechanism of research funding, and promised no less than 10 billion as additional resources to remain sustainable. Carrie Lam also would allocate the investment income of 3 billion for support of local research postgraduate students that would greatly alleviate our already limited funding. We welcome the current CE's policy address in relation to the higher education and look forward to the CE to continue to listen to the voices of the higher education subsector. Truly, this is the first time we feel hope for sustainable research in Hong Kong.

Item 5 Personnel announcement of PUSA EXCO

PUSA EXCO has mixed feeling to witness the retirement of Carmen Law, our current treasurer, who has been serving in the University for more than forty years and working as PUSA EXCO for more than ten years. Carman has been working extremely hard and contributed so much for PUSA. We wish her a very happy retired life to come.

On the other hand, PUSA would also like to welcome Ms. Joey Lam representing UHS as a new member of EXCO. We hope to have more representatives from the unrepresented units/departments so that more voices from frontline staff members can be heard.

Time and again, PUSA has explored special packages from different merchandisers exclusively for PUSA members. We have put them under the Promotion link of our website (<https://www.polyu.edu.hk/PUSA/Promotions.html>), please feel free to browse through and enjoy the benefits at your convenience.

PUSA EXCO

理工大學教職員協會會訊 第十三期 (2017 年 11 月)

內容撮要

本期會訊首先談及即將舉行的第三次員工問卷調查，接著向現時及已退休的員工提供一個可擴展至對其家庭親屬亦納入受保範圍及極有吸引力的醫療保險計劃，和即將舉辦的二手物品回收活動。除此之外，會訊亦會披露本會向政府爭取研究撥款的努力，和本會幹事會的最新動態。

一、有關員工工作環境和對大學管理層的意見調查

本會曾於 2014 和 2015 年，分別進行了兩次有關員工在「工作與生活之間的平衡」之意見調查。我們將會在今年十一月中，再進行一次本大學全職教職員的意見調查，請各同事就其部門/單位的工作環境，及對大學管理層的期望，表達意見。第一個題目的調查結果，將會與 2014 和 2015 年的類似結果作出比較。而第二個題目的結論，本會將會提交校董會，使其明白前線員工的聲音！事實上，本大學在過去的校長招聘過程，在遴選委員會對校董會作出最後建議前，從來都沒有對廣大員工工作過任何諮詢。我們認為此等做法在廿一世紀的今天，已經不合時宜。本會熱切期望各位同事到時能積極參與意見調查，表達你們的寶貴意見。

二、有關會員及退休會員之醫療保險

本會在去年的周年大會由會員通過成為 CTISU 之屬會會員。由此本會的會員便能享有 CTISU 與 IMMO POOL 達成的協議，受惠於非常有用的醫療保險計劃。簡而言之，只要是本會的會員或退休會員，其自身、或近親家庭成員（包括其父母及兄弟姊妹），只要在投保時未超越 65 歲，便能投保。（如果有相關教職員已退休，但希望重新加入本會好讓家人得到上述保障，可以馬上申請成為本會的退休會員）。以下為即將推出的其中兩項計劃內容之重點（會員可獨立選項參與）：

1. 投保於本地一間大銀行集團之怡康醫療綜合保時，可享有最少八五折優惠

2. 免費獲取本地一間大規模之醫療集團之會員卡，優惠診金如下: 普通科門診每次港幣 \$200 (三日藥)，專科門診 \$400

相關優惠之展銷將安排於十一月舉行。請留意本會稍後之公布，並歡迎向已退休的本大學同事廣傳，令更多本會會員及退休會員同樣受惠。

三、二手物品收集活動

跟往年一樣，本會將於 12 月 5 及 6 日 (最新修訂日期) 兩天，與「社區二手店」共同協辦二手物回收活動。此活動亦可視為與大學的可持續發展辦事處之綠色概念之倡議相呼應。是次希望回收的物品包括家庭電器、衣服、鞋、袋、家庭用品、廚房用品、床上用品 (如枕頭、被)、書籍、文娛物品、正版 DVD、VCD、CD、裝飾擺設、傢俱等。本會稍後會作更詳細的公布。

四、增加研究撥款的爭取

高教界一直以來長期處於研究撥款的短缺，不但未能追上通脹，反之每一個撥款的金額每年遞減，嚴重打擊香港研究的持續性。今年七月，四大院校中的工會主席和民選校董兼特首選委透過行政會議成員張國鈞向特首提議增加教資會研究撥款。該提議 (見英文附件) 建議政府至少注資 40 億來還原我們五年前的撥款水平。

今屆特首在其上月的施政報告中，承諾將檢討教資會的撥款機制和水平，並表明會注資不少於 100 億為加撥資源來維持持續性研究。特首亦會將 30 億的投資收益用於資助本地研究生，此舉將大大減輕我們本身已經緊絕的研究撥款的負擔。我們對特首以增加撥款來積極回應我們的訴求表示欣慰，並期望特首會繼續聆聽高教界別的聲音。今次是我們首次感到香港的持續性研究重新注入希望的種子。

五、理大工會人事及相關消息

本會司庫羅甄少琴女士將於十一月榮休。羅女士在理大工作超過四十年，亦服務教職員協會將近十年。本會很感謝羅女士多年的貢獻，在此謹代表所有幹事祝願羅女士退休生活愉快！

送舊不忘迎新，本會歡迎代表大學醫療保健處的林靜儀女士加入新一屆的幹事會。教職員協會期望更多部門能推選代表加入本會成為執委，好讓我們更能了解不同職級員工的需要，從而為大家爭取合理權益。

最後，本會一直都為會員搜羅不同類型/品牌的特別優惠。我們會將相關資料擺放在本會網頁的「會員優惠」欄下，歡迎閣下隨時溜覽找尋驚喜

<https://www.polyu.edu.hk/PUSA/Promotions.html>

香港理工大學教職員協會幹事會