

**Public Opinion Programme, the University of Hong Kong**  
**Results of DP Survey on Universal Hall Membership**

(for the Pilot Deliberative Poll Session on February 27, 2009)

**Part 1 Views of the Current Situation**

[Q1] Are you currently or have been a member of any residential or non-residential halls in HKU?

	<u>Pre-deliberation</u>		<u>Post-deliberation</u>	
	Frequency	% (Base=12)	Frequency	% (Base=12)
Currently a full member of residential hall (go to Q2)	7	58.3%	7	58.3%
Never a member of any hall (go to Q6)	5	41.7%	5	41.7%
Total	12	100.0%	12	100.0%

[Q2] [Only ask current full members of residential halls] Reasons for being a full member of residential hall. (tick all that apply) (to Q8)

	<u>Pre-deliberation</u>			<u>Post-deliberation</u>		
	Frequency (Base=21)	% of responses (Base=21)	% of sample (Base=7)	Frequency (Base=25)	% of responses (Base=25)	% of sample (Base=7)
To save traveling time to and from school	6	28.6%	85.7%	6	24.0%	85.7%
To experience hall education	4	19.0%	57.1%	5	20.0%	71.4%
To make more friends in hall	4	19.0%	57.1%	4	16.0%	57.1%
To participate in inter-hall competitions	3	14.3%	42.9%	3	12.0%	42.9%
Is attracted to a particular hall	1	4.8%	14.3%	3	12.0%	42.9%
To have an appropriate place to study	2	9.5%	28.6%	2	8.0%	28.6%
Friends or family influence	1	4.8%	14.3%	1	4.0%	14.3%
others	0	0.0%	0.0%	1	4.0%	14.3%
Total	21	100.0%		25	100.0%	

[Q2 \_others] Reasons for being a full member of residential hall. (other answers)

<u>Pre-deliberation</u>	Frequency
Spending time with girl friend.	1

[Q6] [Only ask respondents who have never been members of any halls] Reasons for not being a member of any halls. (to Q7)

	<u>Pre-deliberation</u>			<u>Post-deliberation</u>		
	Frequency	% of responses (Base=13)	% of sample (Base=5)	Frequency	% of responses (Base=10)	% of sample (Base=5)
Negative influence in academic results	3	23.1%	60.0%	3	30.0%	60.0%
Do not like the existing hall cultures	2	15.4%	40.0%	1	10.0%	20.0%
Do not feel the need to live in a hall	2	15.4%	40.0%	1	10.0%	20.0%
Applied but was rejected	2	15.4%	40.0%	1	10.0%	20.0%
Enjoy solitude	2	15.4%	40.0%	1	10.0%	20.0%
Living in hall involves an expensive expenditure	1	7.7%	20.0%	1	10.0%	20.0%
Family not allow	1	7.7%	20.0%	1	10.0%	20.0%
Live near to the University	0	0.0%	0.0%	1	10.0%	20.0%
Total	13	100.0%		10	100.0%	

[Q7] [Only ask respondents who have never been members of any halls] Are you willing to apply/re-apply for hall membership now?

	<u>Pre-deliberation</u>		<u>Post-deliberation</u>	
	Frequency	% (Base=5)	Frequency	% (Base=5)
Yes (go to Q11)	2	40.0%	2	40.0%
No (to Q12)	2	40.0%	1	20.0%
Not sure (to Q13)	1	20.0%	2	40.0%
Total	5	100.0%	5	100.0%

[Q8] [Only ask current full members of residential halls] Why did you choose a particular hall?  
(to Q9)

	<u>Pre-deliberation</u>			<u>Post-deliberation</u>		
	Frequency	% of responses (Base=14)	% of sample (Base=7)	Frequency	% of responses (Base=18)	% of sample (Base=4)
Near to the campus	3	21.4%	42.9%	3	23.1%	75.0%
An appropriate place to study	2	14.3%	28.6%	3	23.1%	60.0%
The reputation of that hall	3	21.4%	42.9%	2	15.4%	50.0%
The suitable lifestyle	2	14.3%	28.6%	2	15.4%	50.0%
Family / friends influence	2	14.3%	28.6%	1	7.7%	25.0%
Its excellence in cultural field	0	0.0%	0.0%	1	7.7%	25.0%
Its excellence in sports field	1	7.1%	14.3%	0	0.0%	0.0%
Others	1	7.1%	14.3%	1	7.7%	25.0%
Total	14	100.0%		13	100.0%	
<i>Missing</i>	--			<i>1</i>		

[Q8 \_others] Why did you choose a particular hall? (other answers)

<u>Pre-deliberation</u>	Frequency
Single room	1
<u>Post-deliberation</u>	Frequency
Alumni network, the spirit and beliefs of the hall	1

[Q9] [Only ask current full members of residential halls] Rate your current satisfaction towards your hall membership in descending order. (to Q10)

	<u>Pre-deliberation</u>		<u>Post-deliberation</u>	
	Frequency	% (Base=7)	Frequency	% (Base=4)
4	4	57.1%	1	25.0%
5 (very satisfied)	3	42.9%	3	75.0%
Total	7	100.0%	4	100.0%
<i>Missing</i>	--		<i>1</i>	
Mean	4.4		4.8	
Standard error of mean	0.53		0.50	
Median	4		5	
Mode	4		5	
Base	7		4	

[Q10] [Only ask current full members of residential halls] Will you renew your hall membership next term?

	<u>Pre-deliberation</u>		<u>Post-deliberation</u>	
	Frequency	% (Base=7)	Frequency	% (Base=6)
Yes (to Q11)	6	85.7%	5	83.3%
Not sure (go to Q13)	1	14.3%	1	16.7%
Total	7	100.0%	6	100.0%

[Q11] [Only ask those who answered “yes” at Q7 and Q10] What attract(s) you to want to apply/re-apply for hall membership now? (go to Q13)

	<u>Pre-deliberation</u>			<u>Post-deliberation</u>		
	Frequency (Base=22)	% of responses (Base=22)	% of sample (Base=8)	Frequency (Base=25)	% of responses (Base=25)	% of sample (Base=6)
Want to save traveling time to and from school	7	31.8%	87.5%	5	21.7%	83.3%
Want to make more friends in hall	4	18.2%	50.0%	4	17.4%	66.7%
Want to experience hall education	4	18.2%	50.0%	4	17.4%	66.7%
Want to have an appropriate place to study	2	9.1%	25.0%	3	13.0%	50.0%
Want to participate in inter-hall competitions	1	4.5%	12.5%	3	13.0%	50.0%
Is attracted to a particular hall	2	9.1%	25.0%	2	8.7%	33.3%
Family / friends influence	1	4.5%	12.5%	2	8.7%	33.3%
Others	1	4.5%	12.5%	0	0.0%	0.0%
Total	22	100.0%		23	100.0%	
Missing	--			1		

[Q11 \_others] What attract(s) you to want to apply/re-apply for hall membership now? (other answers)

<u>Pre-deliberation</u>	Frequency
Spending time with girl friend.	1

[Q12] [Only ask those who answered “no” at Q7 and Q10] What repel(s) you from applying/re-applying for hall membership now? (go to Q13)

	<u>Pre-deliberation</u>			<u>Post-deliberation</u>		
	Frequency	% of responses	% of sample	Frequency	% of responses	% of sample
		(Base=5)	(Base=2)		(Base=1)	(Base=1)
Family does not allow to live in hall	1	20.0%	50.0%	1	100.0%	100.0%
Cannot study in hall	1	20.0%	50.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%
Due to previous rejection	1	20.0%	50.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%
Do not agree with the current hall cultures	1	20.0%	50.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%
Do not feel the need to live in hall	1	20.0%	50.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>100.0%</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	

[Q13] What do you see as the strength(s) of the current hall education? (go to Q14)

	<u>Pre-deliberation</u>			<u>Post-deliberation</u>		
	Frequency	% of responses	% of sample	Frequency	% of responses	% of sample
		(Base=59)	(Base=12)		(Base=64)	(Base=12)
Strong spirit and bonding	9	15.3%	75.0%	11	17.2%	91.7%
Train up interpersonal communication skills	11	18.6%	91.7%	10	15.6%	83.3%
Train up the skills other than academic	10	16.9%	83.3%	10	15.6%	83.3%
Help establish personal network	9	15.3%	75.0%	9	14.1%	75.0%
Train up time management skills	6	10.2%	50.0%	8	12.5%	66.7%
Lots of chance to organize and participate in different activities	6	10.2%	50.0%	6	9.4%	50.0%
Learn how to have commitment towards a community	6	10.2%	50.0%	6	9.4%	50.0%
Its reputation and image	1	1.7%	8.3%	4	6.3%	33.3%
Others	1	1.7%	8.3%	0	0.0%	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>100.0%</b>		<b>64</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	

[Q13\_others] What do you see as the strength(s) of the current hall education? (other answers)

<u>Pre-deliberation</u>	Frequency
Personal freedom can be maintained.	1

[Q14] What would you suggest for improvements of the current hall education? (tick all that apply) (go to Q15)

	<u>Pre-deliberation</u>			<u>Post-deliberation</u>		
	Frequency (Base=29)	% of responses (Base=12)	% of sample (Base=12)	Frequency (Base=28)	% of responses (Base=12)	% of sample (Base=12)
More personal freedom	8	27.6%	66.7%	6	21.4%	50.0%
Focus more on academic excellence	5	17.2%	41.7%	7	25.0%	58.3%
Improve hall welfare	7	24.1%	58.3%	5	17.9%	41.7%
Respect diversity of personal interests of hall residents	3	10.3%	25.0%	6	21.4%	50.0%
Reduce emphasis on sports	3	10.3%	25.0%	3	10.7%	25.0%
Reduce emphasis on community bonding	2	6.9%	16.7%	0	0.0%	0.0%
Others	1	3.4%	8.3%	1	3.6%	8.3%
Total	29	100.0%		28	100.0%	

[Q14\_others] What would you suggest for improvements of the current hall education? (other answers)

<u>Pre-deliberation</u>	Frequency
Don't stress submission.	1
<u>Post-deliberation</u>	Frequency
Don't stress submission to authority.	1

[Q15] Are you satisfied with the current residential halls admission system? (go to Q16)

	<u>Pre-deliberation</u>		<u>Post-deliberation</u>	
	Frequency	% (Base=11)	Frequency	% (Base=12)
Yes	3	27.3%	8	66.7%
No	3	27.3%	3	25.0%
Not familiar with the system	5	45.5%	1	8.3%
Total	11	100.0%	12	100.0%
Missing	1		--	

[Q16] Do you think there is enough diversity in hall cultures for students with different interests and needs to choose from? (to Q17)

	<u>Pre-deliberation</u>		<u>Post-deliberation</u>	
	Frequency	% (Base=12)	Frequency	% (Base=12)
Yes	2	16.7%	4	33.3%
No	8	66.7%	2	16.7%
Not sure	2	16.7%	6	50.0%
Total	12	100.0%	12	100.0%

[Q17] Do you think you can really be able to choose and get the hall you like? (go to Q18)

	<u>Pre-deliberation</u>		<u>Post-deliberation</u>	
	Frequency	% (Base=12)	Frequency	% (Base=12)
Yes	4	33.3%	3	25.0%
No	6	50.0%	4	33.3%
Not sure	2	16.7%	5	41.7%
Total	12	100.0%	12	100.0%

## **Part 2 Views of Future Hall Development**

[Q18] Do you believe that hall of residence should be a kind of welfare directed to all students in need or should it be a kind of education reserved for those found suitable?

	<u>Pre-deliberation</u>		<u>Post-deliberation</u>	
	Frequency	% (Base=12)	Frequency	% (Base=12)
Should be a welfare	1	8.3%	0	0.0%
Should be an education	1	8.3%	3	25.0%
Should be a bit of both	10	83.3%	9	75.0%
Total	12	100.0%	12	100.0%

[Q19] Do you think the University should develop a “universal residential hall membership” system whereby all students would be assigned to a residential hall upon university admission, with the flexibility that a student can withdraw from such membership upon the provision of good reasons?

	<u>Pre-deliberation</u>		<u>Post-deliberation</u>	
	Frequency	% (Base=12)	Frequency	% (Base=12)
Yes	6	50.0%	6	50.0%
No	5	41.7%	4	33.3%
Don't know	1	8.3%	2	16.7%
Total	12	100.0%	12	100.0%

[Q20] Do you think the implementation of a “universal residential hall membership” system would compromise the current hall culture?

	<u>Pre-deliberation</u>		<u>Post-deliberation</u>	
	Frequency	% (Base=12)	Frequency	% (Base=12)
Will have a positive impact	5	41.7%	2	16.7%
Will have a negative impact	2	16.7%	7	58.3%
Will have no impact	2	16.7%	1	8.3%
Not sure	3	25.0%	2	16.7%
Total	12	100.0%	12	100.0%

[Q21] Do you think the University should develop a “universal hall membership” system whereby all students would be assigned to a residential or non-residential hall upon university admission, with the flexibility that a student can withdraw from such membership upon the provision of good reasons?

	<u>Pre-deliberation</u>		<u>Post-deliberation</u>	
	Frequency	% (Base=12)	Frequency	% (Base=12)
Yes	6	50.0%	7	58.3%
No	3	25.0%	4	33.3%
Don't know	1	8.3%	1	8.3%
Others	2	16.7%	0	0.0%
Total	12	100.0%	12	100.0%

[Q21\_others] Do you think the University should develop a “universal hall membership” system whereby all students would be assigned to a residential or non-residential hall upon university admission, with the flexibility that a student can withdraw from such membership upon the provision of good reasons? (other answers)

<u>Pre-deliberation</u>	Frequency
Students with needs should have priority on residential hall though.	1
Choose by the student	1



[Q22] Do you think the implementation of a “universal hall membership” system would compromise the current hall culture?

	<u>Pre-deliberation</u>		<u>Post-deliberation</u>	
	Frequency	% (Base=12)	Frequency	% (Base=12)
Will have a positive impact	4	33.3%	3	25.0%
Will have a negative impact	2	16.7%	3	25.0%
Will have no impact	2	16.7%	2	16.7%
Not sure	4	33.3%	4	33.3%
Total	12	100.0%	12	100.0%

[Q23] Given the rapid internationalization in HKU, there is increasing number of non-local undergraduate students, and currently there are about an average of 30% non-local students living in all halls. What do you think should be the optimum proportion of local and non-local students living in one residential hall?

	<u>Pre-deliberation</u>		<u>Post-deliberation</u>	
	Frequency	% (Base=12)	Frequency	% (Base=12)
Should be around 10-20% non-local students	4	33.3%	4	33.3%
Should be around 20-30% non-local students	4	33.3%	4	33.3%
Should be around 30-40% non-local students	2	16.7%	2	16.7%
Should be around 40-50% non-local students	1	8.3%	2	16.7%
Should be around 50-60% non-local students	1	8.3%	0	0.0%
Total	12	100.0%	12	100.0%

[Q24] Do you think increasing the proportion of non-local students in residential halls will have an impact on the current hall culture?

	<u>Pre-deliberation</u>		<u>Post-deliberation</u>	
	Frequency	% (Base=12)	Frequency	% (Base=12)
Will have a positive impact	4	33.3%	4	33.3%
Will have a negative impact	4	33.3%	4	33.3%
Will have no impact	3	25.0%	2	16.7%
Not sure	1	8.3%	2	16.7%
Total	12	100.0%	12	100.0%

[Q25] Do you have any other comments on hall education in HKU?

Pre-deliberation

Childish

I do think that hall education in HKU is a valuable. It gives students an opportunity to explore and a place to be more independent and mature.

I support the current admission system that admission is based on merit in ECAs. It is necessary to uphold this principle as it can encourage students to have all round development.

In addition, non-local students, especially mainland students, generally do not take part in hall activities at all. They can be allocated to residential flats or equivalent accommodation so that they can enjoy their silence while enthusiastic students may have more opportunities to enjoy hall education.

The current system is also unfavourable to students enrolled into demanding programmes, like MBBS and Law -related mixed degrees. Since they have to spend more time studying than other students like BA and BSocSc, special grounds should be given to these students in admission and re-admission. For example, the required degree of participation of these students should be equitably adjusted with regard to their academic workload. Further, since they have to spend more time studying and have a greater need to have accommodation in proximity to campus, privileges should be given to them in admission, so that they can save transportation time. Halls should not force these students to join excessive activities.

Furthermore, students admitted into University through Sports Scholar scheme should be entitled to hall accommodation throughout the duration of the curriculum upon admission. Such policy is put in place in the CUHK. This principle is grounded on the fact that sports scholars have to attend intensive training. They also have greater needs for hall accommodation.

The University should also issue binding guidelines to regulate the orientation activities. It is commonly known the orientation programmes of some halls are inhumane and infringe basic human rights principles. These activities should be banned totally. For example, University should state that freshmen are entitled to at least 6 hours sleep during orientation period. Penalty against student Association should be sentenced in case of violation.

With regard to information access, it is also necessary for University to require halls to disclose the rights and wrongs of hall life in a faithful manner, so that students especially freshmen would not be wrongly induced to apply for hall membership.

I think hall education in HKU is very precious especially those of traditional halls. The sense of commitment to a community is the most valuable in this generation when young people are under great influence of individualism. The spirit and bonding in HKU halls is extremely invaluable, particularly in a materialistic society.

Open more members for students

You can learn

<u>Post-deliberation</u>
Hall education should not be compulsory but it has its own importance. Students should have their own choice to choose whether they receive or not.
I think the commitment to a community is the most important element and University should encourage students to experience hall life and education.
It is not meaningful to be compulsory for all students in HKU to live in hall.
It is worth experiencing hall life
It should be continue in the future.
Special grounds to students studying demanding curriculum should be allowed.
The so called hall culture is hard for anyone to define, I think the universal education of hall is meaningless. It should be up to students to make their own choice.

### **Part 3 Personal Particulars**

[Q26] Which faculty are you in?

	Frequency	% (Base=12)
Faculty of Business and Economics	3	25.0%
Faculty of Medicine	3	25.0%
Faculty of Social Science	3	25.0%
Faculty of Arts	2	16.7%
Faculty of Education	1	8.3%
Total	12	100.0%

[Q27] Which year are you currently in?

	Frequency	% (Base=12)
Year 1	6	50.0%
Year 2	4	33.3%
Year 3	1	8.3%
Above Year 3	1	8.3%
Total	12	100.0%

[Q28] Are you a non-local student?

	Frequency	% (Base=12)
Yes	3	25.0%
No	9	75.0%
Total	12	100.0%

[Q29] Your gender?

	Frequency	% (Base=12)
Male	6	50.0%
Female	6	50.0%
Total	12	100.0%

[Q30] How long have you been having the hall-membership? (including residential halls, non-residential halls, and affiliated members)

	Frequency	% (Base=12)
None	5	41.7%
Less than 1 semester	1	8.3%
1 semester	1	8.3%
2 semesters	1	8.3%
3 semesters	2	16.7%
4 semesters	1	8.3%
5 semesters	1	8.3%
Total	12	100.0%