**Message from the President and Vice-Chancellor**

**The President and Vice-Chancellor** **vcoffice@hku.hk**

**1/11/2019 10:20**

Dear students,

HKU is a citadel of freedom and knowledge, where we cherish civil and rational debate, and seek to find solutions with knowledge, wisdom and imagination.  I am here to support and promote a diverse and vibrant campus culture premised on openness, civility and respect.  I am always ready to support our students.

Repeated demands have been made of me in public announcements, setting deadlines and threatening escalating action.  I care about you, my students, and none of you needs to issue an ultimatum to talk to me.

I am equally concerned that I am not here to put on a show for anyone.  I wish to have sincere, heart-to-heart conversations with young members of the HKU family.  I know many of you are in pain, Hong Kong is in pain.  It is time to think differently, to work on solutions and find ways forward together.

I appreciate your efforts and desire to communicate with me.  I have been in discussion with many people to find good ways forward, including a dialogue with students and staff, in a format conducive to frank sharing, with trust, respect for diverse views and empathy for deep pain.

I hope to organise a forum in November.

Professor Xiang Zhang
President and Vice-Chancellor

各位同學：

香港大學是自由和知識的堡壘，我們堅持理性的辯論和探索，致力以知識，智慧及想像，開創新天。我有責任維繫一個活潑的校園，捍衛多元價值，互相尊重，讓同學能在一個開放和安全的環境下學習和建構學問。我愛惜每一位同學，也關懷每一位同學，這也是我的責任。

近日有多種聲音要求我公開答應不同的訴求，部份提出死線，否則行動升級。我希望同學們知道，要找我傾談，不需要最後通牒。

事實是，我重視與同學真摰的對談，過去幾個月來，也一直在公開和私人、或大或小的場合，和同學們會面。我希望和同學們的對談，重點不在我的公眾形象，而是真正的坦誠交流，讓我們了解彼此和香港的痛點。

過去幾個月來，我和同事朋友一直在思量如何破解困局，包括怎樣在真誠、信任、尊重的基礎上，理解大家心底的創傷。

我期望在本月內舉行一場師生論壇，一起探尋前路。

香港大學校長
張翔

cc: 全體職員