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Launch of Citi-HKCSS Community Intern Program 2018

80 Local University Students to Embrace Corporate Social Responsibility

Hong Kong – 80 business students from nine local universities have been accepted to participate in the 2018 Citi-HKCSS Community Intern Program (CIP). The program is the first-of-its-kind cross-sector collaboration between academia, business and the NGO sector offering unique intern opportunities for students in local NGOs (non-governmental organizations). The students will contribute their business knowledge and creativity through actual projects to help these organizations build capacity.

The launch ceremony was officiated by Mr. Kevin Yeung Yun-hung, JP, Secretary for Education of the Hong Kong SAR Government; Ms. Angel Ng, Chief Executive Officer, Citi Hong Kong and Macau; and Mr. Chua Hoi Wai, Chief Executive of The Hong Kong Council of Social Service.

Sponsored and organized by Citi and co-organized by the Hong Kong Council of Social Service, the program is in its 8th year running. It aims to inspire Hong Kong university business students to contribute their knowledge and expertise to non-profit organizations through internship; with the ultimate goal of cultivating the concept of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and providing these future business leaders with a broadened understanding of the community.

The 80 students will be placed in 40 NGOs this summer, serving various groups including low-income, elderly and persons with disabilities as well as helping in environmental conservation. Since its inception, more than 500 students have benefited from the program.

Ms. Ng said: "Citi has been established in and contributed to Hong Kong for over 115 years. We have a strong commitment to Corporate Social Responsibility for the well-being and progress of Hong Kong. Empowering future business leaders with the concept of CSR is very important nowadays. The program offers students first-hand experience and understanding of the current issues and social needs in Hong Kong while they also benefit from engaging in the realities of running non-profit organizations in a commercial world."

Mr Chua said, "We are glad to have partnered with the Citi in this meaningful project throughout the past eight years. The project has cultivated a caring attitude among students of nine local universities, who got the opportunities to serve the community and understand more about the underprivileged. The setup of the Alumni Committee further exemplifies the caring spirit of the project and students. At the same time, NGOs have benefited from the creativity and business knowledge of student interns. I am pleased that this joint effort of business, social service and academic sectors has nurtured a group of socially-minded business leaders and inspired more social innovations."







Between July and August, the interns will work in pairs using their knowledge to assist their assigned NGOs in various projects including fundraising and brand-building, as well as social services. The interns will also be given 20 hours of in-depth training on skill sets for working in NGOs and to enrich their knowledge on pressing community issues such as the poverty gap, the aging population and environmental conservation. The training comprises seminars on CSR and cross-sector partnerships, visits to non-profit and social enterprises as well as opportunities to interact with various 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 450 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