Inter-University Social Enterprise Taskforce: A joint effort of eight local universities

Background
The past two decades have witnessed a phenomenal growth of courses and programs related to social entrepreneurship and social innovation in many leading universities around the world. Universities in Hong Kong have been lagging behind, but over the last few years things have begun to change. A number of local universities have started to offer courses and programs in these areas.

Under the joint effort of the British Council and Education for Good CIC Ltd., a number of Inter-University Forums have been organized in the last two years to enable faculty members from local universities to learn from the experience of overseas universities.

Earlier this year, the Director of the British Council Hong Kong wrote to the Presidents and Vice-Chancellors of eight local universities to invite them to nominate two faculty members each to form an Inter-University Social Enterprise Taskforce in order to better coordinate the effort of various universities to accelerate the development of courses and programs pertaining to social entrepreneurship and social innovation. The response has been very positive and the nominations have been completed.

We are now planning to officially inaugurate the Taskforce in November 2014. The British Council and Education for Good will provide support to the Taskforce.

Objectives of the Taskforce

- To facilitate collaboration and synergetic effort of faculty members from local universities in developing teaching and research in social entrepreneurship and social innovation
- To provide a bridge and a platform for faculty members of local universities to reach out and learn from leading overseas practitioners in this field
- To foster inter-university and cross-disciplinary teaching and research
International Advisory Board
Professor Alex Nicholls, Oxford University, UK
Professor Andreas Heinecke, European Business School, Germany
Professor Christopher Gergen, Duke University
Professor Scott Sherman, Stanford University
Ms. Marina Kim, Ashoka U

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Taskforce Secretariat
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Key Activities

1. Inter-Universities Forums with overseas speakers
Tentative two per annum with one overseas speaker to be invited by the British Council from the UK, and the other to be invited by Education for Good in conjunction with the Social Enterprise Summit

2. Inter-University Forums with local speakers
Two to three forums with speakers from various universities and the social enterprise sector

3. Monthly e-Newsletter
The e-Newsletter Inter-University Forum on Social entrepreneurship to be edited by Education for Good with contribution from international advisers and local members

4. On-line resource library
Collection of course syllabus, case studies, text books and reference books, articles, blogs, resource guides, etc, to be initially managed by Education for Good.

5. Joint research across universities and disciplines
To be developed by faculty members with support and participation from overseas partners.

List of founding members of the Taskforce

University of Hong Kong  Professor Cecilia Chan, Dr. Albert Chau
Chinese University of Hong Kong  Professor Kevin Au, Mr. Mingles Tsoi, Prof. Daphne Yu
HK University of Science and Technology  Dr. Christine Chow
City University of Hong Kong  Prof. Linda Wong, Mr. Timothy Ma
Polytechnic University of Hong Kong  Prof. Chan Kam Tong, Prof. Alvin Yip
Baptist University  Prof. Siu Wai Sum, Dr. Alfred Tan
Lingnan University  Dr. Carol Ma, Prof. Chen Ting Ting
HK Institute of Education  Prof. Yu Kar Ming, Dr. Cheung Chi Kin
Inter-University Forum on Social Entrepreneurship cum Inauguration Ceremony of Inter-University Social Enterprise Taskforce

Co-organized by
The British Council & Education for Good

Supported by Faculty of Social Sciences, HKU

Dr. Scott Sherman is the Executive Director of an award-winning social enterprise, the Transformative Action Institute (TAI). The mission of TAI is to train the next generation of social entrepreneurs, innovators, and change makers for the 21st century. Over the last decade, Sherman has taught courses on social entrepreneurship and social innovation at numerous universities, including Yale, Princeton, and Johns Hopkins. His curricula and workshops have been used at more than 50 campuses across the United States from Harvard and Stanford to Berkeley and UCLA. His programs have also been used in dozens of nations around the world from Europe to Latin America, and from Africa to Asia.

Social Innovation and the Story of Your Life

Date: Thursday, November 6, 2014
Time: 9.00am to 1.15pm
Venue: Social Sciences Chamber, 11/F, The Jockey Club Tower, Centennial Campus, The University of Hong Kong

Speaker: Dr. Scott Sherman
Founder and CEO, Transformative Action Institute

Inter-University Social Enterprise Taskforce Inauguration Ceremony

Guest of Honor: Professor Peter Mathieson
President & Vice-Chancellor, The University of Hong Kong

The Taskforce comprises of faculty members nominated by the Presidents of eight universities in Hong Kong.

Admission is free but registration is required.
Please send your name and organizational affiliation to Ms Connie Lee at spcleehk@yahoo.com.hk
Why You Should Attend the Inter-University Forum – Thursday, November 6, 9.00am to 1.00pm

The speaker, Prof. Scott Sherman, is by far the most reputable and influential teacher of social entrepreneurship in American universities. His courses and workshops are being used by over 50 universities in the U.S. and Europe.

Scott is the Founder and CEO of an award-winning social enterprise, Transformative Action Institute, the mission of which is to train the next generation of social innovators across the globe. He is a lively speaker and a master of experiential learning. He will be demonstrating the teaching of parts of his highly popular course on social entrepreneurship.

Rundown of the Forum will be:

09.00  Reception and networking
09.30  Presentation by Prof. Scott Sherman
      • Teaching of Social Entrepreneurship at U.S. Universities
      • Major Trends and Challenges
      • Growing Student Demand and Faculty Members’ Response
      • The Idea of a ‘Changemaker Campus’
      • Why All Students Should Tell the ‘Story of My Life’
      • Essential Qualities of an Effective Teacher of Social Entrepreneurship
      • What’s Next in Social Innovation Education
10.15  Q & A
10.40  Coffee Break
11.00  Open Forum: Sharing by Faculty Members of Local Universities
12.00  Wrapping Up
12.45  Inauguration Ceremony of the Inter-University Social Enterprise Taskforce to be officiated by Prof. Peter Mathieson, President and Vice-Chancellor, HKU