



For Immediate Release
Citi (NYSE symbol: C)
June 1, 2017

The Citi-HKCSS Community Intern Program 2017 Kicks Off

80 university business students attend summer internship in non-profit organizations to nurture their sense of social responsibility

Hong Kong – 80 business students from 9 local universities have been selected to participate in the 2017 Citi-HKCSS Community Intern Program (CIP) to assist 40 non-profit organizations (NGOs). The program pioneers cross-sector collaboration between academia, business and NGOs to offer unique intern opportunities for students in the local NGO sector.

The launch ceremony was officiated by Mr. Stephen Sui Wai-keung, JP, Secretary for Labour and Welfare, Hong Kong SAR Government; Mr. Weber Lo, Citi Country Officer & Chief Executive Officer, Hong Kong and Macau and Mr. Chua Hoi Wai, Chief Executive of The Hong Kong Council of Social Service.

Sponsored and organised by Citi and co-organized by the Hong Kong Council of Social Service (HKCSS), the program is in its seventh year. With the ultimate goal of cultivating Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), the program also aims to inspire Hong Kong university students majoring in business studies to contribute their business knowledge and creativity through practical projects to help NGOs build capacity.

Weber Lo, Citi Country Officer and CEO for Hong Kong and Macau said: “The program creates a win-win situation to benefit both students and NGOs. Most importantly, it also provides these future business leaders with a broadened understanding of the community and social needs. We hope the passion and dedication they exhibit this summer will last forever. The world is changing rapidly, young people have to equip themselves properly and also show their passion to influence others to make Hong Kong a better place in which to live and work. Hong Kong’s future is in the hands of our young people, our future leaders.”

Chua Hoi Wai, Chief Executive of HKCSS said, “We are glad to have partnered with Citi in this meaningful project for 7 years. We are grateful to the continuous support from Citi, so that a strong joint force among the business, social service and tertiary education sectors is established. Students not only service the community in person, but also understand more about societal needs. Contributing their business knowledge, NGOs are benefited, and the concept of CSR is cultivated in youngsters. Till now, over 420 students have graduated from CIP and the number of NGO applicants is increasing annually.”

The 80 selected business school 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 420 students have benefited from the program.



Between July and August, the interns will work in pairs to use their knowledge to assist their assigned NGOs in various projects including fundraising, brand-building, operations as well as social service. 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, 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.



Mr. Weber Lo, Citi Country Officer and CEO, Hong Kong and Macau, said at the launching ceremony of the Citi-HKCSS Community Intern Program 2017 that the program provided future business leaders with a broadened understanding of the community and social needs. Citi hoped the passion and dedication they exhibit this summer would last forever.



Mr. Stephen Sui Wai-keung, JP, Secretary for Labour and Welfare, HKSAR delivered the Officiating speech at the launching ceremony of the Citi-HKCSS Community Intern Program 2017.



Mr. Stephen Sui Wai-keung, JP, Secretary for Labour and Welfare, HKSAR (2nd from left); Mr. Weber Lo, Citi Country Officer and CEO, Hong Kong and Macau (2nd from right); and Mr. Chua Hoi-wai, Chief Executive of The Hong Kong Council of Social Service (1st from right), together officiated the launching ceremony of Citi-HKCSS Community Intern Program 2017, symbolizing the co-operation of Citi and HKCSS for the seventh time. This joint effort among the business, social service and tertiary education sectors is a vital key to nurture future business leaders with social-mind and stimulate more social innovation.



Representatives from 9 Hong Kong universities, with 80 business students and 40 NGOs joined the launching ceremony of the Citi-HKCSS Community Intern Program 2017.

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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