

08/11/2004

## Findings of Sports Hall Incident Completed

The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST) has completed its investigation on the Sports Hall incident that occurred on 4 May 2004.

The University's Student Disciplinary Committee, which undertook the investigation, took the view that the commotion on 4 May was spontaneous. There was fighting among some students and it was unorganized acts of several individual students. The majority of the 70 to 80 students were spectators trying to stop the fighting.

According to the report, at around 10:30 pm on 4 May 2004, commotion occurred between students of Undergraduate Halls III and IV over the removal of the scoreboard after an inter-house basketball match between the two halls. There were some pushing, shoving and fighting, which lasted for a few minutes. Several students appeared to have sustained injuries.

The University decided to impose the following penalties upon three undergraduate students:

1. A written reprimand, a copy of which will be placed in his academic file which is kept by the University Admissions, Registration & Records Office
2. University community service ranging from 100 to 250 hours
3. Ban from using the University's sports facilities
4. Deprivation of the privilege to student housing accommodation on campus

Student counselling service will be provided for these students, and programs of treatment recommended as appropriate.

"I hope the students will reflect on the incident and learn to behave in a mature and responsible way. While we treat student misbehavior very seriously, we also provide an opportunity for students to learn a good lesson so that they can make contributions to society in future," says Prof Paul Chu, President of HKUST.

The Student Disciplinary Committee is a standing committee of the University Senate. Members of the Committee include representatives of the four Schools, a representative from present and past Hall Wardens, and three student representatives. The Committee had conducted seven meetings, interviewing more than 30 students and staff related to the incident.