

Beware of Pyramid Scheme on Campus

It has come to the attention of the Career Planning and Development Centre that, pyramid scheme promotion activities are recently suspected on CUHK campus.

Pyramid scheme is a scheme in which new participants must make a payment in return for the authorization to sell a particular products or services. Profit could be made by recruiting new participants to the scheme but indeed, no genuine underlying business is involved. In short, a pyramid scheme is a scheme under which the main incentive for a participant to pay to join is the opportunity to receive benefits from the introduction of further new participants.

Students are reminded to stay alert to pyramid scheme activities, to avoid from falling into the snares of criminals.

According to the Pyramid Selling Prohibition Ordinance (Chapter 355), any participants who induce or attempt to induce other persons to participate in a pyramid scheme, should be held criminally liable to a maximum penalty of HK\$1,000,000 and imprisonment of seven years.

Useful websites

Pyramid Schemes Prohibition Ordinance comes into effect on January 1
<http://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/201112/23/P201112230217.htm>

‘Decoding Commercial Crimes’ series on Pyramid Scheme-related fraud
<http://www.police.gov.hk/offbeat/974/eng/i04.htm>

Police Report – Pyramid Selling Scheme
http://podcast.rthk.hk/podcast/item_ept.php?pid=397&lang=en-US&id=24633

Career Planning and Development Centre
Office of Student Affairs

提防校園內層壓式計劃活動

本中心近日發現校園內有層壓式計劃宣傳活動。

在層壓式計劃中，新參與者會被要求支付一筆款項，以換取授權銷售特定的產品或服務。參與者會透過介紹更多其他人士參與此計劃而獲得報酬，但報酬並非按其實際銷售業績計算。簡單而言，參與者的報酬主要來自推銷計劃本身，而非來自產品銷售。

現提醒各位同學必須時刻提高警覺，以免誤墮層壓式推銷公司的圈套。

根據香港法例第 355 章《禁止層壓式推銷法條例》，任何人明知參與了一個層壓式計劃，仍誘使他人參與計劃，都要負起刑事責任，一經定罪最高可處罰款 \$100 萬及監禁 7 年。

相關網站

《禁止層壓式計劃條例》一月一日生效

<http://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/201112/23/P201112230216.htm>

「商業罪案解碼」—「層壓式計劃騙案」

<http://www.police.gov.hk/offbeat/974/chi/i04.htm>

警訊 - 層壓式推銷計劃

http://programme.rthk.org.hk/rthk/tv/programme.php?name=tv/police_magazine&d=2012-07-21&p=865&e=184605&m=episode

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