

Colloquy between representatives of the Campus Transport Consultative
Group and the Chinese University Students' Union

Recently, rumor has it in the internet that a Chinese University bus driver expressed to passengers that overloading had caused the braking system to malfunction; he even perilously demonstrated such act during the journey. This driver further alleged that he was not given short breaks during his duty time from 6 p.m. to near mid-night. On 14 May 2009, representatives of the Campus Transport Consultative Group met with Mr. Rex Chu, Vice President and Mr. AU YEUNG See King, Social Secretary of CUSU to exchange and share views on this issue. A response is deemed necessary and is listed hereunder:

1. Overloading of Bus

In accordance with the Passenger Service Licence issued by the Transport Department, 12 University Buses can carry 68 persons including 22 standing and 2 other buses can carry 59 persons including 12 standing. Thus seeing standing passengers does not mean overloading. In order to ensure no overloading, Transport Unit (TU) has been reminding all bus drivers to ask passengers at the back of the queue to disembark.

2. Braking System

All CUHK buses have to pass an annual inspection by Transport Department prior to vehicle licences being issued; TU provides regular maintenance to buses no less than 4 times a year; a garage mechanic examines the braking drums and tires of buses once a week. A driver must carry out routine inspection of his bus, as required by law, to ensure roadworthiness prior to starting off.

3. Rest Time of bus drivers

For a bus driver, one shift is 7.5 hours with built in 30 minutes rest time. Meal break varies from 40 to 60 minutes but not counting towards the working hours. There should be adequate time to rest.

4. Road Safety on Campus

Concerning road safety and insufficient road signs, Security Unit conducts regular on site inspections in conjunction with Estate

Management Office with a view to install railings and road signs.
Any other suggestion from students is most welcome.

The purpose here is to clarify the misleading information being circulate in the internet. Students can rest assured that University Buses are meeting safety standards.

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