

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Hong Kong  
**Date:** Thursday, 1 August 2019 2:55:16 PM  
**Attachments:** image001.png  
image004.jpg

Hi [REDACTED]

Thanks once again for your time yesterday and for raising the requests made by the Hong Kong students. As we discussed yesterday, free speech is a paramount consideration. All students and staff have the right to freely express legitimate views providing, of course, that this is done respectfully and peacefully. Naturally, there is also a reciprocal right of free expression for others who may have different views. The University would not agree to a Lennon Wall on campus. In my personal view, this would be undesirable for a number of reasons. These include the potential for unnecessarily inflaming feelings on all sides over a period of time, making students from certain backgrounds potentially feel uncomfortable or even unsafe, and appearing to endorse one side of a controversial issue when – as you said yesterday – maintaining neutrality is an appropriate course of action.

I understand that a protest is being planned for Sunday in Yagan Square. No doubt the Hong Kong students who spoke with you are aware of that. Should they still wish to express their views on campus in some way, I would urge them to let the University know of their plans in advance. That way, appropriate steps can be taken to ensure a peaceful and respectful tone is maintained.

[REDACTED] and is copied into this email. Issues of this nature fall under her portfolio and you are welcome to speak with [REDACTED] directly should you wish more detailed advice. [REDACTED] and colleagues are also in touch with the Guild about this matter to ensure everyone is on the same page.

Thank you again for your diligence and sense of responsibility in drawing this matter to the attention of the University. Please do let the Hong Kong students know of the University's view. In summary, this amounts to strong support for the free expression of opinion providing it is done in a non-violent and respectful manner. And a request to let the University know in advance of any plans to express their views publicly on University grounds.

I would be happy to discuss any aspect of the above with you further.

Best regards,

[REDACTED]

Curtin University

[REDACTED]

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