



**Carsten Holz**  
<carstenholz@gmail.com>

**Wenhuibao attacks**

**Carsten Holz** <carstenholz@gmail.com>

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To: Ching Kwan Lee

Cc: [Colleagues in School of Humanities and Social Sciences]

Dear C.K. (and colleagues in the School of Humanities and Social Sciences),

I look with some amusement at the rabid foam spouting forth from our [fascist](#) dictatorship's attack hyenas -- the recent five-day *Wenhuibao* barrage targeting you ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [5](#), [6](#), [7](#), [8](#)) -- and would be happy to dismiss it all were it not for the fact that the same regime has murdered 50 million people over the years based on similar rabid foaming, and similarly rabid foaming is currently used to "arrest" Hong Kongers. *Wenhuibao* isn't even responding to "current events." Dredging up matters long past suggests a concerted effort at spreading terror. "Let's pick one of the old rightists and bash their head in to scare off everyone else." It matches the regime's documented design for the complete destruction of Hong Kong ([here](#)).

An attack on the exercise of our profession by one of us is an attack on all of us. I would like to be informed when such an attack happens. Would it be possible for you (C.K.), and for anyone else similarly targeted, to share with all of us when such attacks happen? I would also like to see these attacks publicly documented, such as on a website on the HKUST server, including with the original texts (not just URLs, since these may well disappear).

President SHYY Wei's email of 26 March 2021 to university members sounds comforting to me but upon further reflection I conclude it's baloney.

The President repeatedly refers to HKUST's "Senate." This is not a university Senate but an expanded management team ([here](#)) which will know quite well how to choose between money, the Guangzhou campus, or HKUST's reliance on the regime for postgraduate students and faculty vs. sacrificing a faculty member or two. We have a fake Senate just as we have fake "sabbatical leave," fake "merit review," or fake "consultations."

What I not see happening is HKUST taking legal action against the owner of *Wenhuibao* (the Liaison Office) for terrorizing faculty or for subverting the Basic Law and 'One Country Two Systems.' And at a time when suspected intention to operate in accordance with the Basic Law leads to mass arrests, how can public attempts at subverting the Hong Kong government and its institutions (universities) not attract the attention of the Department of "Justice?"

One of the *Wenhuibao* articles ([here](#)) cites Chen Hengpin, a HKUST councilor, with atrociously inappropriate statements: 科大校董、立法會議員陳恒鏞昨日接受香港文匯報訪問時強調，李靜君的過火言行跟所謂人權、學術完全沾不上邊，大學宗旨亦從不主張違法，強調大學應嚴肅跟進，以正視聽。 Surely that is enough grounds to ask

for his resignation from the HKUST Council. Unless he is misquoted. Why is he not being asked, in the first instance, to explain himself to the university, including the faculty?

Where are HKUST's public statements protecting HKUST faculty against such terror attacks? Check out the university's press release website ([here](#)) for the gaping crater when it comes to protecting academic freedom and faculty members.

To me, HKUST President SHYY Wei's email reveals that we are dead meat. The fact of the matter is that the [Gleichschaltung](#) of HKUST -- in line with the broader Gleichschaltung of Hong Kong from annihilation of the rule of law through the Hong Kong Enslavement Act, the prohibition of certain language terms (i.e., the denial of core features of a human being), the increasing encroachment on press freedom and freedom of speech (RTHK censorship, movie censorship) to the full-blown destruction of Legco as a representative body -- has progressed far enough that the regime's agents can terrorize faculty members at will and the university can (or will) do nothing to protect its faculty members. All that is left for HKUST is to feed into the fascist dictatorship's technological advances and ultimately war machinery.

In fact, the School of Humanities and Social Sciences has become such a liability to a HKUST driven by administrators' self-interest rather than university principles that it may just want to shed the School earlier rather than later. A fascist dictatorship does not look favorably on the objective study of this same regime. The regime has already taken highly publicized measures to try to shut down the worldwide academic and professional study of its practices ([here](#)), and obviously in Hong Kong ([here](#)).

I do not think that fascist dictatorships can be appeased ([Munich Agreement 1938](#)). The annexation and annihilation of Hong Kong is a rather trifling matter for a regime that has set its sight on much grander schemes. A few thousand strategists and attack hyenas combined with 100 years of experience in murder and oppression will easily do the job. A comforting internal-only email, perhaps intended to smooth things over until the wind dies down, is, in my view, delusional. Telling us we have academic freedom means -- since the university can do nothing when the [Gestapo](#) knocks on your door -- that "HKUST faculty members enjoy academic freedom as long as they don't make use of it" (add that to the list of HKUST fakes).

I strongly recommend Li Shaomin's 2-page write-up of his experience as professor at City University in 2001, attached. Perry Link made a similar, more generalized point in 2002 ([here](#)). After C.K., it will just be the next person. And the next. Until those remaining behind will be perfectly 'gleichgeschaltet.'

Best,  
Carsten

 **Li NYT 2001.pdf**  
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