



The University of Hong Kong

# SAFETY MATTERS

*(For Favour of Posting)*

April 3, 2007

To: List C. (Please circulate)

## Rats Control

Rats are a pest which could damage properties and endanger our health. They are highly reproductive (one litter a month and each litter has 6-12 pups) and can spread and invade many habitats when food and harbourage is not a problem. However, the population will crash in the event of food shortage or predators.

The most effective way of rats control is to eliminate its food supply at source and to maintain a hygienic environment. It is more effective if early attention is made and timely action taken as soon as signs of rats are detected or suspected. It is envisaged that if each and every user of the Campus takes a positive and responsible role, rats are unlikely to survive.

Staff and students should ensure that no food waste or food is left in open bins overnight. The smell attracts rats and other pests. Keep all food in a sealed container. Collect and contain all food wastes or remains in bags and dispose off in containers which are accessible to active regular disposal at the end of the day.

Persons responsible for organizing the general cleanliness of the student areas, pantries, common rooms, offices etc. should ensure that the litter bins are emptied close to the end of the day as far as possible. Extra emptying should be arranged when the bins can become filled up after meal time.

When signs of rats are detected or suspected, ring up the Estates Office at 2241 5613 to formulate an action plan.

Rheo Lam  
Acting Director of Safety