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HIGHLIGHTS

**Social Sciences
College Relocated
to Main Campus**

**NTU, Kyoto U Create Dual
Degree Programs**

**Aquatic Robot Wins Top Honor
in Japan**

**Life Storybooks Chronicle
Personal Histories**

Mei-Hwei Chang

**Cancer
Prevention
Leader**





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Dean, Office of Student Affairs

TSUNG-FU CHEN



A person's value increases from knowledge augmented by experience; therefore, it is essential we build high the foundation of our knowledge during our university years. Later, upon entering society, we find that we will stand out from the crowd only by respecting the experiences of different types of people and learning from them with utmost modesty. I also firmly believe that if we intend to compete effectively in the highly-competitive international marketplace, which has become the sole challenge our students seek to face, language and communication skills, especially English, are of primary importance. Besides, a global outlook is equally vital; therefore, we should not limit ourselves to the opportunities in Taiwan. As educators of future leaders and outstanding professionals, we encourage our students to open their eyes widely to the world at large.

Regarding student participation in society, it is my belief that participation in social movements is a natural occurrence, especially since it is part of the NTU tradition. Nonetheless, students who participate in social movements must carefully think through what they are doing in order to formulate rational decisions and ultimately take responsibility for their actions. They should evaluate the pros and cons of the issues and avoid simply following others without making their own judgments. On another front, the number of student clubs has climbed despite a decline in enrollment. While everyone wants to be a club leader, it should be emphasized that the richness and value of club activities lies in one's ability to cooperate and work with others. Those who desire only to lead fail to learn the true spirit of group activities.

As to campus development, the College of Social Sciences has officially completed its move back to the Main Campus this semester, making it easier for the college's students to take elective courses offered by other departments as well as for the students of other departments to enroll in electives in the social sciences. The college's students will also find it more convenient to take part in extracurricular and student club activities and enjoy more chances to meet their schoolmates on the Main Campus.

Another important development this semester is the extension of the services provided by the Office of Student Affairs' new Financial Aid Office. This past January the office expanded financial aid eligibility for students from low-income families to include not only first-year students but all university-level students, raising the number of students eligible for financial aid from 100 to 400. Meanwhile, the OSA's Career Center is working to offer more internship opportunities through the Global Internship Program. The center expects to significantly increase the number of participating enterprises from 600 to 1,500 next year.

Cancer Prevention Leader



Mei-Hwei Chang

Newly-elected Academia Sinica Academician Mei-Hwei Chang set off on a remarkable career as a clinical pediatrician and researcher specializing in liver diseases following her graduation from the NTU Department of Medicine four decades ago. Chang is now a distinguished chair professor of the College of Medicine's Department of Pediatrics as well as director of the Hepatitis Research Center at NTU Hospital. The dedication and passion Prof. Chang has demonstrated in the fight to prevent childhood liver cancer and hepatitis B have helped to ensure the wellbeing of countless people. Her efforts have also made Taiwan a global leader in hepatitis research.



Academic Awards

- Outstanding Research Award, National Science Council (4 times; 1990, 1992, 1995, 1997)
- The Marvin L. Dixon Memorial Visiting Professorship, Harvard Combined Program in Pediatric Gastroenterology and Nutrition (1997)
- Special Contract Researcher Award, NSC (2 times; 1999-2001, 2002-2004)
- International Science Index Citation Classic Award (2001)
- Sheila Sherlock Award, International Association for the Study of the Liver (2002)
- Outstanding Achievement in Science and Technology Award, Executive Yuan (2005)
- Academic Award, Ministry of Education (2006)
- National Chair Professor of Medicine, Ministry of Education (2010-2012)

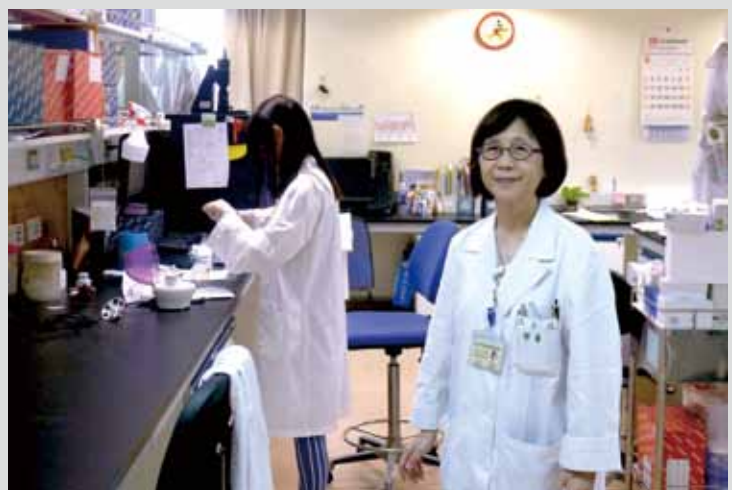
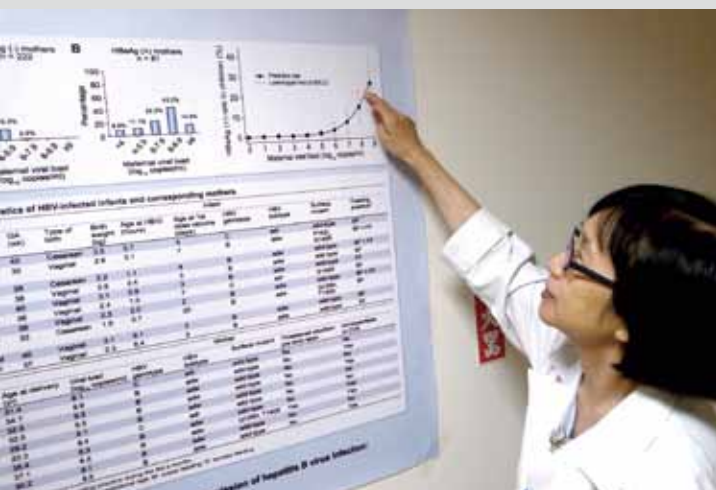
By providing evidence that hepatitis B vaccinations for newborns can effectively reduce the incidence of liver cancer in children and teenagers by 70%, Prof. Chang and her research team proved for the first time that vaccinations can prevent cancer. This undoubtedly captured the attention of the international medical community.

Early in the spring of 1984, Prof. Chang compiled a massive epidemiological database focused on hepatitis B in children and teenagers. The data revealed that in Taipei City, 5% of infants aged one year old and under, as well as approximately 15% of children two

years old and over, tested positive as carriers of the hepatitis B virus. Chang's investigation proved to be especially valuable, as its data was collected just prior to the initiation of a nationwide hepatitis B vaccination program for newborns in the summer of 1984, which allowed Chang to compare data from before and after the program's launch.

Prof. Chang says that in the early days of her work, virtually all of the liver cancer patients she encountered were people with hepatitis B, and that the children suffering from liver cancer were mostly six years old and older, with a small number as young as four. Since it was not common

practice to test children for cancer in those days, most of Chang's young patients had already entered the advanced stages of the disease. She felt confounded by this situation and hoped to find a way to address the suffering of her patients. Chang explains, "During my investigation, my professors told me it would require 40 to 60 years to see a change. I was still young at the time and I felt there were too few scientists pursuing this type of research. Internationally, most of the research targeted adults while none concerned children. I witnessed the needs and problems of my patients, yet was able to find only a small amount of related research literature."



Academic and Administrative Background

- Research physician, Department of Pediatric Gastroenterology, University of California (1981)
- Visiting Professor, Laboratory of Experimental Carcinogenesis, National Cancer Institute, National Institute of Health, U.S.A. (2004)
- Professor, Department of Pediatrics, NTU College of Medicine (1990-present)
- Director, Hepatitis Research Center, NTU Hospital (2009-present)

Special Experiences

- Authoring Taiwan's first academic research article on abdominal ultrasonography
- Serving as the first female chairperson of the Department of Pediatrics at NTU Hospital
- Establishing the Gastroenterology and Hepatology Division at NTU Hospital's Department of Pediatrics
- Establishing the Taiwan Childrens Liver Foundation

In 1983, working with limited personnel and resources, Prof. Chang managed to test over 1,000 children at elementary schools and daycare centers for liver cancer. The data she collected proved crucial to making Taiwan a leader in the international liver research community.

Now 30 years later, Prof. Chang still remains actively engaged in research. She is currently investigating with her team a mechanism she suspects plays a role in causing liver cancer to occur so early as childhood. With statistics showing that 81% of children with liver cancer have cirrhosis and 94% are born to mothers who carry hepatitis, Chang's team believes that childhood liver cancer is the accelerated version

of adult liver cancer caused by hepatitis B. As hepatitis B is not a hereditary disease, Prof. Chang is also curious about the mechanisms behind the transmission of liver cancer from mother to child. Her team's work has recently revealed that the newborns of mothers that carry the hepatitis B virus face a liver cancer risk 30 times that of children born to healthy mothers.

Relying on immunoglobulin and vaccinations, Taiwan has succeeded in preventing hepatitis in 90% of births. Nonetheless, Prof. Chang says, "This rate of failure is too high. I hope it can be eradicated completely." Her team is presently developing a drug for pregnant women with hepatitis B. It is

administered during the third trimester (30-32 weeks) because the vertical transmission of the disease transmits through bodily fluid, and not the placenta, mostly during this period.

In addition to leading world-class research, Prof. Chang also invented the world's first screening system for biliary atresia in newborns. Promoted through government agencies, the system allows new parents to compare the color of their infant's feces against a feces identification card in order to determine whether their newborn is displaying signs of biliary atresia. Over the years, this system has greatly improved the survival rate of babies suffering from biliary atresia.



Question and Answer

■ What is the accomplishment of which you are the most proud?

Conducting the epidemiological survey of childhood hepatitis before the comprehensive implementation of the national hepatitis B vaccination program. The results of this survey came to stand out as a rare compilation of public health research data in the world. I think luck and hard work were both important to this accomplishment.

■ How does one maintain a habit of innovation?

You must sustain the desire and motivation to solve problems and rely on passion to overcome fear.

■ How do you strike a balance between family and career?

Working women are forever burning the candle at both ends. It is more difficult to succeed in research for women than it is for men. The most important thing is the support and understanding of one's family.

■ What are your feelings regarding the work of preventing hepatitis B?

I feel my colleagues and I are like missionaries. We need to constantly promote the concept of prevention.

Fun-filled Orientation Camp Welcomes Rookies



NTU President Pan-Chyr Yang presided over the opening ceremony of the 7th NTU Orientation Camp for first-year students at the NTU Sports Center on August 19. During the ceremony, President Yang and a team of faculty members joined nearly 3,300 newly-arrived first-year students in donning white NTU polo shirts and playing icebreaker games as they sang the NTU University Song.

After welcoming the students as new members of the NTU family, President Yang called on them to take full advantage of the university's extensive resources, determine their future goals, make close friends, and build healthy psychological lives and value systems. He also revealed that the polo shirts they were all wearing had been presented by the university as an expression of good fortune. Featuring an infinity symbol paired with the slogan "NTU Infinite You," the shirts were designed to encourage the students to explore their limitless potential.

The university first introduced the NTU Orientation Camp as a way to welcome first-year students in

2008. Stressing the concept of substituting learning in place of play, the event includes a range of activities that express the university's concern for and openness to the new students and offers practical courses that help the new students adapt smoothly to life at NTU. Since 2012, the camp has included overnight stays and night classes; through the experience of studying and rooming together, the new students come to form deeper emotional connections.

During this year's camp, the university presented each student with a first-year student handbook and provided assistance in selecting courses. Among the fun courses offered this year were one that introduced NTU Library's abundant resources, another on study skills and campus resources, and one, called "Let's Talk about Love and Romance," an activity that sought to reinforce the most important values for healthy interpersonal relationships. Moreover, it was also the first time that Parents Day for freshman students was incorporated into the event. Parents Day included department briefings, meetings with faculty advisors, and department welcoming ceremonies.

Meanwhile, in honor of former NTU President Ssu-Nien Fu's profound influence on NTU, plastic eggs filled with rolls of tape bearing his sayings were dispensed through gumball vending machines. Adding to the fun, an art installation bearing Fu's maxim, "There are only twenty-one hours in one day, the remaining three hours are left for contemplation," was erected during the camp as a colorful backdrop for student photographs.

Students of the Colleges of Science, Bioresources and Agriculture, Management, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, Law, and Life Science attended the camp from August 19 to 23, while students of the Colleges of Liberal Arts, Social Sciences, Engineering, Medicine, and Public Health, as well as international students attended from August 26-30.



SOCIAL SCIENCES COLLEGE CELEBRATES RELOCATION TO MAIN CAMPUS



▲ NTU President Pan-Chyr Yang speaks during the inauguration ceremony of the new College of Social Sciences Building.

This August 26 marked an important milestone in the history of NTU's architectural development. It was the day the College of Social Sciences celebrated its relocation to the newly-constructed Social Sciences Building on the university's Main Campus.

Speaking during the building's inauguration ceremony that day, COSS Dean Hui-Lin Lin expressed excitement over the college's relocation to the modern facilities on NTU's Main Campus while at the same time conveying mixed emotions about leaving the old building which had served the college's students and faculty for 70 years.

Dean Lin also expressed appreciation for the efforts of all of those who had been involved in the planning, design, and construction of the new building. She added that she expects the college's new home to bring the college as a whole closer together, and that she anticipates as well that the new location will make possible new interdisciplinary research in collaboration with faculty of other colleges on the Main Campus.

The College of Social Sciences had been located on NTU's Downtown Campus on Hsu-Chow Road since 1947. Over those decades, only a handful of the college's classrooms and offices were located on the Main Campus.



NTU Hosts First Friendly Sports Games of Pan-Asian League

NTU hosted the first annual sports games of the Pan-Asia International Network for the Elite League, which kicked off on August 26. Dubbed the PINE League, the league was founded by five elite universities in the pan-Asia area, including Hong Kong University, Tsinghua University, Peking University, National University of Singapore, and NTU.

The games were established for the purpose of creating more opportunities for the students, faculty, and staff of the five PINE League universities to interact, communicate, and take part in exchanges beyond the realm of academia. The participating universities have agreed to meet once a year to engage in friendly athletic exchanges and competitions.

This year's inaugural meet featured men's and women's basketball, men's volleyball, and men's and women's badminton. The games were broadcast online via live streaming and can now be viewed in their entirety on Youtube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p1K6RPOQVal#t=4765> for Court 1 and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=86-bJ6zpBu0> for Court 2.

ARTICLE DETAILING RAPID GORGE EROSION DETAILED IN *NATURE GEOSCIENCE*

Dr. Kristen Cook of the Department of Geosciences enjoyed the honor of having her article "River gorge eradication by downstream sweep erosion" published in the prestigious international journal *Nature Geoscience* in August.

In 2009, Dr. Cook began working with the support of NTU and the Ministry of Science and Technology to observe and measure in precise detail the topological transformations of the bedrock gorge of the Daan River in Miaoli County. She discovered that the 1,200-meter-long gorge, known as the Grand Canyon since its formation following the Jiji Earthquake of 1999, is being eroded by regular typhoons and floods each year and that it is disappearing at the extremely rapid rate of 17 meters per year on average.

At this rate, the gorge is expected to disappear and return to its original state prior to the earthquake, that of a broad floodplain, within just a few decades. This effect explains why there remain no observable traces in the area of the earthquakes that occurred before the 1999 Earthquake. More significantly, the rate at which the gorge is disappearing is also 10 times faster than any previously recorded similar events known to human observation.

Dr. Cook joined the Daan gorge research team led by Distinguished Chair Research Professor John Suppe after arriving at the Department of Geosciences in 2008. Her outstanding work on the Daan River gorge stands as her greatest research accomplishment from her time at NTU. After taking up employment at the German Research Center for Geosciences in 2013, Dr. Cook joined colleagues from that research

center and the Swiss Federal Research Institute in preparing her Daan River gorge research for joint publication in *Nature Geoscience*.

Dr. Cook's *Nature Geoscience* article drew a great deal of attention from the international media. She was quoted in a BBC News article as saying, "The really cool thing about this place is that it's happening so fast, we can watch it. We can see processes that you can't reconstruct."

In addition to the gorge's gradual widening, Dr. Cook found that more significant erosion is occurring at the upper entrance to the canyon. During flooding, water from the wide upstream floodplain rushes into the narrow gorge, causing violent erosion. Over the last few years, the gorge's entrance has been pushed forward nearly 90 meters. The most significant aspect of the unique phenomenon in Taiwan is that it makes it possible for scientists to observe such geographic movements within timeframes that would have been impossible in other similar topographic landscapes.





STUDENTS' IRON FISH WINS JAPANESE UNDERWATER ROBOTICS COMPETITION

Known as Iron Fish, the aquatic robot designed by a student team led by Prof. Jen-Hwa Guo at the NTU Underwater Vehicle Lab earned a perfect score to take first place at the 2014 Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology Underwater Robotics Competition, defeating a pool of teams from ten universities and research institutes, including the University of Tokyo.

Iron Fish was developed by the Department of Engineering Science and Ocean Engineering in collaboration with the National Museum of Marine Science and Technology. The fish was built in order to give the museum's visitors the opportunity to understand the design and operation of autonomous underwater vehicles by witnessing the real application of such underwater engineering technologies as propulsion, control, and signal processing technologies.

Stretching 90 centimeters and weighing 20 kilograms, the sleek robotic fish swims at a rapid maximum velocity of one meter per second. The white fish's belly conceals its essential equipment, including a computer, a power cell, and communications devices. A piezometer and electronic compass, used to determine depth and direction, enable real-time feedback control, and the pair of 3D

vision camera eyes makes it possible for the fish to judge its distance in its environment.

In addition, Iron Fish's dorsal shark's fin contains a wireless antenna and optical sensor. When the robot surfaces, a wireless network connects to its internal computer, and when it is near the surface an LED light flashing at the fish can update its control software. Still, with all these advanced features, it was ultimately Iron Fish's speedy dexterity at turning in place as well as ascending and descending that proved critical to its claiming victory.





▲ NTU President Pan-Chyr Yang and KU President Hiroshi Matsumoto exchange gifts during the opening ceremony of the 2nd KU-NTU Symposium.

PRESIDENT YANG LEADS HISTORIC DELEGATION TO JOINT SYMPOSIUM AT KYOTO UNIVERSITY

NTU and KU, which boasts the highest number of research centers of any Japanese university, both enjoy strong academic reputations and support free and open academic environments. The two institutions share a vital partnership and engage in regular exchanges. These exchanges began in 2006 with the initiation of a distance learning project in the field of biology as well as student exchanges involving students of NTU's Colleges of Bioresources and Agriculture, Life Science, and Medicine.

Relations between NTU and Kyoto University reached an unprecedented high on the occasion of the 2nd Kyoto University and National Taiwan University Symposium, which took place at Kyoto University on September 1-2. As head of NTU's largest delegation ever, NTU President Pan-Chyr Yang led the deans of seven NTU colleges as well as more than 120 faculty members from eleven colleges to take part in the historic two-day event, which drew the direct participation of hundreds of KU faculty members and administrators. NTU hosted the first KU-NTU Symposium in 2013.

During the opening ceremony, President Yang and KU President Hiroshi Matsumoto both expressed their hopes and aspirations for the symposium. NTU's Dean for International Affairs Shu-Ying Chang and KU's Executive Vice-President for International Affairs and Hospital Administration Michiaki Mishima also presented introductions to the histories and recent developments of their institutions.

Moreover, the two presidents took advantage of the ceremony to sign two important agreements regarding faculty exchanges and dual degree programs between NTU and KU.

The joint symposium was organized around a series of lectures and workshops as well as parallel sessions addressing the 14 themes of Advanced Disaster Prevention and Mitigation, Agriculture, Biology, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, Humanities, Law, Management, Medicine, Museums, Nanoscience and Technology, Natural Hazards and Global Change, Public Health, Research and Development, and Social Sciences.

In addition to a full schedule of academic meetings, the symposium also provided important opportunities for the two universities to discuss administrative issues in the areas of student affairs, research and development, and international affairs. NTU Dean for Student Affairs Tsung-

International Corner



Fu Chen and KU Assistant to the Executive Vice President Takeshi Katsumi met to share their experiences in the implementation of policies related to student ethics, suicide prevention, and business internships.

NTU's Dean for Research and Development Fang-Jen Lee, Deputy Dean for Research and Development Andrew Wo, and Deputy Director of the Center of Industrial-Academic Cooperation also held a meeting with their KU counterparts to discuss practical issues regarding technology transfers, innovation, and the management of intellectual property rights. The R&D officials also visited some of the laboratories and research centers of KU's Institute for Integrated Cell-Material Sciences.

Meanwhile, NTU Vice President for Academic Affairs Liang-Gee Chen learned about KU's internationalization strategy, including the important Hakubi Project, which is a plan to develop and support the KU's next generation of scientific researchers. And, in preparation for the upcoming faculty exchanges, NTU's Office of International Affairs officials hammered out some practical details with their KU counterparts. They also visited the Yoshida International House, where international scholars live while working at KU.

International Students' First Encounter with NTU



More than 800 new international students joined the NTU student body when classes started on September 15. In order to help these new Taida people settle in and adjust themselves to life on the NTU campus, the Office of International Affairs arranged a series of orientation activities designed to meet their specific needs. Taking place from September 9-12, the event included an airport pick-up service, dorm check-in assistance, a campus tour, orientation meetings, fun activities with NTU volunteers, and registration.

All told, 330 students took advantage of the airport shuttle and dorm check-in services, while around 600 signed up for the campus tour. Attracting approximately 700 students, the orientation meetings were held in three separate sessions for different categories of international students.

Personnel from the National Immigration Agency also came to explain visa and Alien Residence Certificate regulations, and on registration day the agency set up a booth offering assistance to our international students who needed to apply for an ARC.

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON UNIVERSITY MUSEUMS AIMS TO RESHAPE OUTREACH SERVICES



▲ Honored guests of the 2nd APRU Research Symposium on University Museums pause to enjoy a group photo.

As NTU is the sole Taiwanese institution among the 45 member universities of the Association of Pacific Rim Universities, the NTU Museums Office faced stiff competition in its bid to win the opportunity to host the 2nd APRU Research Symposium on University Museums this year. Nonetheless, with the vital support of NTU Library, the Office of International Affairs, NTU Museums Group, and the Office of the Secretariat's Visitor Center, NTU Museums Office successfully made the case that it would be the ideal host for this important international meeting, which took place from May 20-22.

Attracting more than 220 participants from 18 universities in 13 countries, the symposium was one of the most international museum symposiums in Taiwan this year.

Exploring the theme "Reshaping Outreach Services of University Museums through Innovation and Partnership," this year's symposium featured three exciting keynote speeches. Jill Hartz, the president of the Association of Academic Museums and Galleries and executive director of the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art at the University of Oregon, spoke on "Re-envisioning the Role of Academic Museums." Director of the Kyoto University Museum Terufumi Ohno presented the speech "Outreach Tells Us What the University Museum Is." And, NTU's Prof. Hon-Tsen Alex Yu of the NTU Museum Group and Department of Life Science discussed NTU's experience in his paper "A Phoenix Emerged—The NTU Museums' Outreaching to Neighborhoods."

Besides 32 poster presentations, an additional 17 paper presentations were delivered by the directors, researchers, and staff members of APRU university museums from across the globe, including the University of Sydney, University of Tokyo, University of Hong Kong, National University of Singapore, Russia's Far Eastern Federal University, and the University of British Columbia.

The NTU team also organized a brainstorming workshop that discussed the potential of expanding the applications of the Loan Discovery Box, a portable display case that the NTU Museum of Zoology and Herbarium designed for mobile educational exhibitions, to a cross-national audience.



NTU Student at University of Oklahoma Fulfills Marching Band Dream

The article below was published in the University of Oklahoma College of International Studies' newsletter, Snapshot.

Associate A Proud Member of The Pride!

Meet Chih-hao Kao, an exchange student from National Taiwan University who started playing the French horn when he was 13 years old. In Chiayi City, Taiwan, Kao's hometown, an annual international band festival is held where he had the opportunity to improve his skills as a hornist. Playing at the festival gave him the drive to audition for The Pride, OU's marching band, while studying abroad at the University of Oklahoma. Joining the marching band and performing in a stadium that holds tens of thousands of cheering fans was a dream and one of the main reasons he came to OU.

Kao says, "I was lucky enough to get in the exchange program to come to OU where both the football team and marching band, The Pride, are so outstanding. How could I miss this chance to make my dream come true? The best thing about The Pride is that everyone takes it so seriously about being a member, and I also feel that we are really the best ambassadors for OU. I believe I will have a brilliant season with The Pride in the next several months."

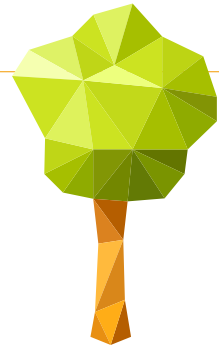
Yes, Chih-hao, an ambassador you are!

By Tina Henderson

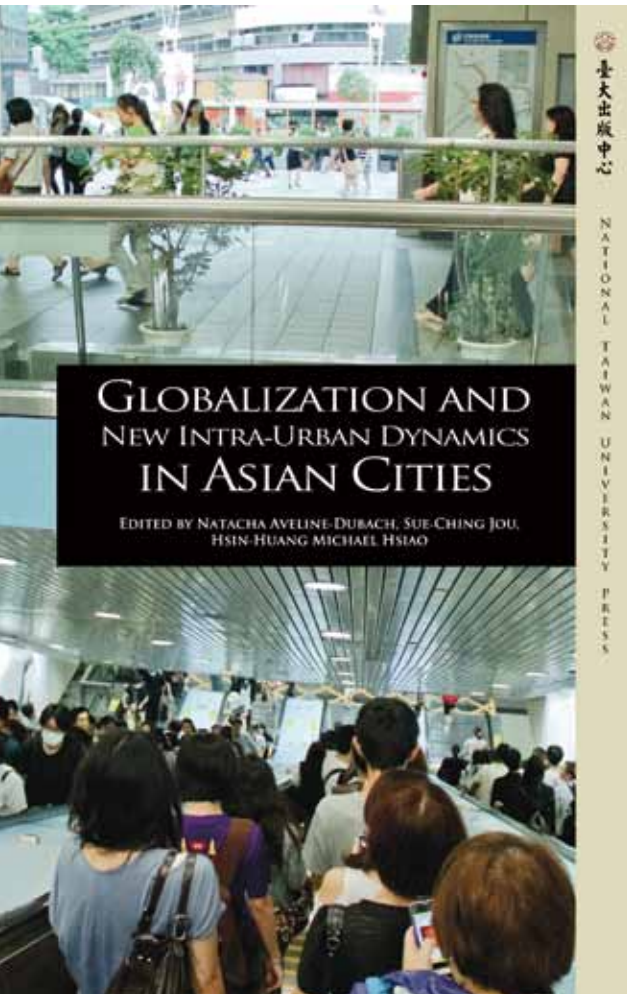
Exchange Student Adviser

Education Abroad





NEW BOOK EXPLORES CHANGING ASIAN CITIES UNDER GLOBALIZATION



The book is a collaboration between Taiwanese and French scholars, including geographers, sociologists, urban planners, anthropologists, and economists. It is also co-funded by institutes from the two countries, including support from Taiwan's Ministry of Science and Technology, Academia Sinica, NTU, as well as the French National Center for Scientific Research and Institute of Research for Development.

The book juxtaposes the research subjects and approaches adopted by Taiwanese and French researchers in their investigations of the globalization-driven dynamic developments taking place in Asian cities from Northeast Asia to Southeast Asia. It is essential reading for scholars interested in issues of globalization and East and South Asian studies.

The urban areas studied in this book include Taipei City and Kaohsiung City in Taiwan as well as Tokyo and Osaka, Japan; Penang and Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia; Surabaya, Indonesia; Hanoi, Vietnam; and Delhi, India. The compilation organizes its essays under the four main themes of culture-led regeneration projects; dynamics of second-tier cities; urban redevelopment and land issues; and new urban spaces of regulation, associational life, and civic action. The insightful essays give readers greater perspective on the realities and theories of urban development, and, as the authors focus on a range of different cities, readers are also able to compare the distinctive research approaches applied by Taiwanese and French scholars.

Besides the thought-provoking observations presented in the essays, the authors themselves are a noteworthy team of ambitious international scholars that are actively promoting research within the discipline of Taiwanology, which they see as a separate branch of Sinology. The scholars are gradually expanding beyond research in the humanities, within which anthropology, linguistics, and literature have been emphasized to cover philosophy and social sciences. They also show a deep interest in such topics as Taiwan's economic system, the influence of government policy on trade, the intensification effect of China on Taiwan, the direction of Taiwan's democratic system, Taiwan's elections, as well as the constitutional system.

*The new book *Globalization and New Intra-Urban Dynamics in Asian Cities*, just published by NTU Press in August, is a collection of English-language essays jointly compiled by co-editors French geographer Natacha Aveline-Dubach, Prof. Sue-Ching Jou of the NTU Department of Geography, and Dr. Hsin-Huang Michael Hsiao, director of the Institute of Sociology at Academia Sinica.*

Research Achievements

Workshop in Japan Assesses Progress of Joint Materials Science Centers

Several NTU materials scientists travelled to Japan to participate in a joint workshop held on the Namiki campus of the National Institute for Materials Science on August 29. The NTU-NIMS SMART Center Workshop was arranged as an opportunity for the researchers of the two institutes to assess their continuing progress since jointly establishing SMART Centers (Center of Strategic Materials Alliance for Research and Technology) on their respective campuses in July of 2013. The workshop was also held so that the centers could discuss their research collaboration plans for the year ahead.

NTU and NIMS first signed a comprehensive collaboration agreement as partner institutions in February 2012. They followed up by holding a joint workshop and signing an international cooperative graduate school agreement in January of the following year.

Since signing the agreements, the deep interest in cooperation displayed on both sides, as well as the staunch support of NTU's leadership, has yielded significant cooperation between the two centers, including joint research on various advanced materials, exchanges of researchers, and the joint use of research facilities. The SMART Center has also served as the main driver of research between NTU and NIMS.





NTU Students Help Elderly Neighbors Create "Life Storybooks"

- 1 Students join their elderly partners in playing warm-up games during the "Life Storybook" project exhibition.
- 2 A service learning student and her partner share a heart-to-heart exchange while taking a break from their project.
- 3 An elderly participant receives creative help on her Life Storybook from her student partner.

NTU's Service Learning Program offers a variety of engaging courses that have given students a chance to gain practical experience by helping others. The students of the mandatory course have worked with communities in the mountains and near the sea, and have even traveled as far as northern Thailand to complete the program.

This year, NTU's Life Education Center teamed up with Prof. Pei-Shan Yang of the Department of Social Work in offering one service learning course that helps out much closer to home—so close in fact that the students work with senior citizens living in neighborhoods just next door to the NTU Main Campus. Called "Life Storybook," the course guides its students in helping their

elder partners compile and design handmade storybooks that depict the fascinating adventures of their personal histories.

Before the students begin meeting with the senior citizens, the course's instructors lead two classes that ask the students to reflect on society's stereotypical impressions of seniors so as to help them become familiar with appropriate concepts of aging. The students also learn to conduct interviews and receive training to enhance their creativity and handicraft skills in preparation for their service work. These classes help the students, who often feel anxiety over interacting with older people or making handmade art, develop confidence while equipping them with useful skills they can apply during and after the program.

For two hours each week the students and their much older classmates meet for a class where the instructor starts out with warm-up games that create an energetic atmosphere before moving on to the interviews and hands-on work of creating the storybooks. Walking into the "Life Storybook" classroom, one inevitably hears the sounds of laughter as the unlikely friends engage in idle conversation as if they were old friends enjoying an everyday encounter.

"This course is not like other service learning courses," says a former student, "because when we come here, it feels as if we have come to meet with a friend who just so happens to be from a different generation." Since their relationships are uncomplicated, it is easier for the participants to open their hearts and talk freely about subjects that they might not have been able to discuss with their closest friends. It is the beautiful times shared in heart-to-heart exchanges that always earn this unique service learning course positive reviews from the students and the older participants alike.

Teaching and Learning



"Behavioral Game Theory"

– New Online Course Added to Coursera

NTU has expanded its offering of courses on Coursera, the massive open online course (MOOC) platform, by adding four exciting new courses this semester.

"Experimental Economics I: Behavioral Game Theory"



Award-winning Prof. Tao-Yi Wang's use of economic experiments to observe human nature has made studying economics exciting!

Students also get to learn complex economic theories through game and play on the Moblab online classroom gaming platform.

"Computer Programming"



In his debut on Coursera, the popular Prof. Pang-Feng Liu takes students through the basics of C programming through his unique teaching approach. Students will also get to develop their programming skills by using the online ideone.com programming platform.

"Professionalism"

Prof. Chang-Fen Felice Chen incorporates her ample experience in the private sector with her passion for education

to help students become competitive in the professional workplace. The course will enhance the students' communication, management, and leadership skills, while decoding for them the secrets behind business etiquette.



"The Red Chamber Dream 2"


Prof. Li-Chuan Ou's "The Red Chamber Dream" was listed as one of the world's top-four most popular Chinese-language courses on

Coursera in 2013. In response to popular demand, Prof. Ou has added this sequel to the original course, this time focusing on maternal strength and the idea of the Goddess in interpreting the Chinese classic.





Photo Exhibition Held in Unique Corner of History Gallery



Three arched portals dissect the south wall of the Gallery of NTU History's central exhibition hall. The arches to the left and right serve as passageways connecting the entrance hall to the central exhibition hall, while the central arch is fitted with a transparent glass doorway that leads to a secret location unknown to even the most senior staff at NTU.

Beyond the mystery door, visitors are invited to descend a winding stairway to a confined space just below the gallery's central exhibition hall. An intermediate floor, this once-forgotten niche of the NTU campus began housing a book repository in 1932 when the central exhibition hall was still a reading room of the previous NTU Library.

Back then, students were prohibited from browsing the library's book shelves, and a book checkout and return counter blocked the central arch that led to the repository. Accessible only by the cramped stairs, the repository below was once a restricted area. Following the construction of the new Main Library, however, the repository was relegated to an ordinary storage space, and ultimately, a wall was built to seal off the chamber behind the archway.

Following the opening of the history gallery in 2005, the wall was torn down and the old repository resurrected. Now a unique corner of the Gallery of NTU History, the space has been temporarily transformed into the NTU Photography Club's semester-end exhibition venue, drawing over 900 visitors.



內付
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