

National Chiayi University

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NEWS

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NCYU Online Signing Ceremony in the Post-Covid-19 Era: Setsunan University, Japan, Added to the List of Overseas Sister Schools



Despite the continuing Covid-19 pandemic and border closure restrictions, National Chiayi University continues to promote international exchanges in the post-Covid-19 era. In the afternoon of Jan. 19th, an online signing ceremony between NCYU and Setsunan University, Japan, took place at the professional studio, complete with a large video screen, of the Computer Center in the Lantan campus. NCYU President Chyung Ay and Setsunan University President Ogita Kiyokazu signed a cooperation memorandum. With this sister school agreement, NCYU has a total of 115 sister schools around the world.

Setsunan University is located in Neyagawa City, Osaka Prefecture, Japan. Founded in 1922, it has six faculties ranging from Science and Engineering, Pharmaceutical Sciences, Foreign Studies, Business Administration, Law to Economics. Exchanges between both schools began under Dr. Curtis Shu-Sun Chu, a former teacher at the NCYU Language Center. During last October and November of last year (2020), the university invited NCYU students to engage in online teaching activities initiated by the Setsunan University. The students were provided chances to learn the Japanese language and culture, join in discussions on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted by the United Nations (UN), traveling and other topics. Substantial exchanges have been consistent between both universities.



President Chyung Ay indicated that, as the Covid-19 pandemic has not shown any sign of abating since its outbreak in 2020, NCYU has been consistently carrying out substantial exchanges with its sister schools in Japan thanks to the information technology. The online signing ceremony with Setsunan University, Japan, enabled teachers and students of both universities to engage in further exchanges. According to the memorandum, they will commit to, for example academic research cooperation, teacher exchange and research presentation, and prepare for future selection and recommendation. According to the Office of International Affairs, there will be up to two students selected for the exchange program each semester for both universities in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic. During the exchange program, the recipients will be exempt from tuition fees at the host school, and enjoy assistance in accommodation.

2021 Tri-University Symposium among CMU-NCYU-KU

will be held on September 1, 2021



2021

Tri-University Symposium between CMU-NCYU-KU

Opening Ceremony
14:00-16:00, Sep 1, 2021

The virtual Tri-University Symposium is jointly organized by Chiang Mai University, (CMU), Thailand, Kagawa University, (KU) Japan, and National Chiayi University, (NCYU), Taiwan. The Opening ceremony of the Symposium will be held in the afternoon of September 1, 2021. This symposium provides an avenue for academics, administrators, and students from the three institutions of higher learning to share and create a network that will be of exceptional value. The theme of the symposium is based on SDGs and COVID-19 pandemic criteria, and the topics of sessions include sustainability and health, sustainability and food, sustainability and technology, sustainability and education, and students' lives under COVID-19 pandemic outbreak.



By taking this opportunity, the three institutions will sign Memorandum of Cooperation for Joint Symposia at the opening ceremony. With the objective of strengthening mutual cooperation, the three institutions anticipate to promote the development of deeper research and educational activities by holding joint symposia. Each University will hold a joint symposium every 2 years to foster research collaboration, academic activities, and student mobility. The host university of the 2022 Tri-University Symposium will be Kagawa University.

NCYU highly values international partnerships and collaborations. The international partners bring together different perspectives and insights adding value to our education and research. NCYU has built strong connection with CMU and KU by cooperating with faculty and student mobility, virtual learning workshop, and various fields of research collaboration. We hope to continue intensifying existing collaborations, and develop innovated programs in education and research with the two institutions in the near future.



Research Momentum Undeterred by Pandemic: Significant Growth in Number of NCYU Student Research Projects Approved

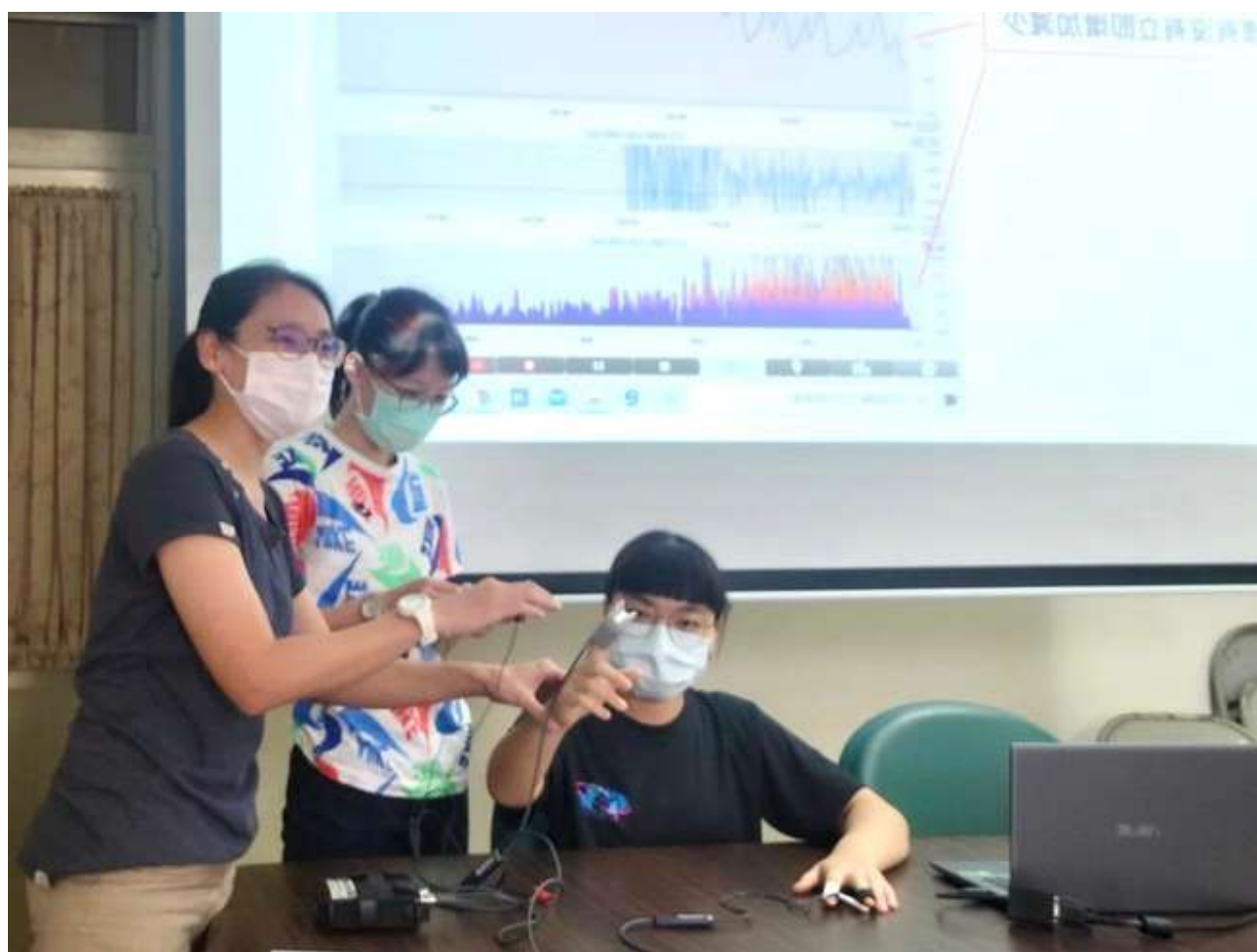


As the Covid-19 pandemic continues to spread around the globe, and has severely impacted Taiwan this year, it has changed the way we used to live our lives. However, it does not affect the enthusiasm of the teachers of National Chiayi University to guide students to participate in research projects. This year, there were a total of 201 applications from NCYU for the College Student Participation in Research Projects of the Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST).

Among them, 61 applications were approved, compared with 41 in 2020, which shows an increase of 20. Singled out from more than 3,000 applications, 200 students have been awarded with grants of the College Student Participation in Research Projects by MOST each year.

In 2019 and 2020, 5 NCYU students won the College Student Research Creativity Award, including Mai Shu-Chi and Lu Yi-Zhen from the Department of Education, Li Jia-Yu from the Department of Physical Education, Health and Recreation, Cai Tang-Hui from the Department of Foreign Languages, and Cai Yi-Lian from the Department of Landscape Architecture. These were hard-earned successes indeed.

NCYU is the only national comprehensive university with the longest history and the largest scale in Chiayi City. The teachers are dedicated to teaching and professional research, and spare no effort to guide undergraduate students to apply for research projects. Despite restrictions or inconveniences caused by the pandemic, their enthusiasm for research is unabated. The teachers and students have been carrying out research work and discussions via telephone or online communication. This year, a total of 61 applications from NCYU were approved for the MOST College Student Participation in Research Projects. Grants were given to 10 students from the Department of Computer Sciences and Information Engineering, 6 from the Department of Food Science, and 5 from the Department of Microbiology, Immunology and Biopharmaceuticals. Their research covers a wide spectrum of domains, including smart beehives enhanced with edge computing, attack data sets construction and defense mode using virtual platforms and physical IoT devices, deep learning in automated tongue diagnosis and cutting applications, strengthening milkfish scale collagen using transglutaminase, analysis of functional components of soybean tempeh co-fermented by gamma-mutated *Rhizopus* and lactic acid bacteria, etc.



NCYU President Chyung Ay indicated that a teacher is one who could propagate the doctrine, impart professional knowledge, and resolve doubts. He expressed thankfulness to NCYU teachers who have been assisting undergraduate students in applying for professional research projects. During the 8 months of research, they have been offering selfless guidance to the students, who have learned from practice, and developed independent thinking as a researcher and problem-solving skills. He hoped to increase the visibility of the academic community of NCYU teachers and students through enhancement of research capacity.



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