A Warm Welcome to the President of the Republic of Kiribati

The President of the Republic of Kiribati, H. E. Anote Tong, paid a visit to NPUST on January 1, 2011 with a delegation from his country. President Guu of NPUST gave the guests a warm welcome and a brief introduction. The purpose of the visit was to see the results of agricultural research and visit the Tropical Orchard. President Tong also came to visit the students from Kiribati, and get feedback on their studies at NPUST. H.E. Anote Tong arranged to visit the noni orchard and derivative products from noni in Linbian Township, Pingtung County.

Dr. Sun Yat-sen Bronze Statue Unveiled First at NPUST by His Grand-Daughter

The Sun Yat-sen Foundation for Peace and Education donated 100 Dr. Sun Yat-sen, bronze statues to communities, schools and institutes around the world. Among those, six were donated to Taiwan’s universities to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the Republic of China. NPUST was the first university in Taiwan to receive the statue. Sun Yat-sen’s grand-daughter, Dr. Sun Sui Fong, was invited to give remarks at NPUST during a special unveiling ceremony hosted by president Guu. Vice Minister of the Overseas Compatriot Affairs Commission, Mr. Hsia Shen-hua, was also invited to join the heartwarming unveiling ceremony.
The College of International Studies
A Newly Established Faculty

The College of International Studies was officially set up at NPUST in 2010, and an opening ceremony was held to unveil the brand-new college on the 18th of February, 2011. The college is temporarily located in the Chinese Language Center, on the second floor of the College of Humanities & Social Sciences. The opening ceremony was hosted by the Dean of the college of International Studies, Prof. Jia-chi Pei, and the President of NPUST, Prof. Mike Y.K. Guu, with other faculty members in attendance.

NPUST and the Taiwan CDC
Break Ground on the “Anit-Venom for Horses Project”

On January 7th, The Center for Disease Control, Taiwan, in collaboration with NPUST, broke ground on a newly established “Horse Vaccination Program.” The plan is set to be finished before the end of the year 2011. NPUST was granted the honor of the CDC’s collaboration because of the excellent faculty and facilities it possesses. With Livestock Production, Veterinary, Biotech and Animal Vaccine departments, as well as an on-campus Animal Hospital and Ranch, NPUST makes a perfect partner for the project. After the program is established, it is estimated that it will be able to produce 5,000 bottles of snake anti-venom for horses – enough to supply the whole country for emergency use. It will also be able to provide help to other countries in this field, thereby strengthening diplomatic relations.
**New Products Come From Chenopodium Formosanum Koidz, A Folk Plant**

Chenopodium Formosanum Koidz is the scientific name of the common Lambsquarters Goosefoot, which is used in aboriginal religious ceremonies. A joint research team, consisting of Professors Pi-Jen Tsai and Tzou-Chi Huang of the Department of Food Science and Professor Yau-Lun Kuo of the Department of Forestry, was formed in 2006 and a research office for Chenopodium Formosanum Koidz was set up. The research project was established by the Forestry Bureau, part of the Council of Agriculture, Executive Yuan. In addition to publishing papers, some relevant products were developed from Chenopodium Formosanum Koidz, such as yoghurt, bread and drinks, furthering the aim of this project, which is to improve and promote the economic development in aboriginal communities.

**Fire Ants in Flora Expo Stopped in their Tracks by Beagles**

The appearance of fire ants resulted in a potential disaster at the Taipei Flora Expo last November. In order to prevent the fire ants from causing problems again, the Operational Headquarters from the Taipei Flora Expo asked for help from the Institute of Physics, Academic Sinica. In response, two beagles began to patrol the Expo one or two times per month. These two lovely beagles were trained together by Institute of Physics, Academic Sinica and Training Center for Detector Dogs, NPUST. These well trained detector dogs have a lot of experience in tasks such as the detection of fire ants, having worked at Taiwan Taoyuan International Airport, Taoyuan Gymnasium, Taoyuan County and their surrounding areas. They also worked with customs for luggage and drug inspections at Taoyuan International Airport and Kaohsiung International Airport.

**NPUST Working Dogs Ally & Rhys Graduate Get Ready to Start a New Life**

The “Taiwan Assistance Dog Association,” in cooperation with NPUST's “Working Dog Training Center,” has established the “Professional Dog Training Service Group”, in order to assist seeing, hearing and physically handicapped persons in their daily lives. The center is the first and the only such professional training institute set up on a university campus in Taiwan with qualified trainers and facilities to train Guide Dogs, Hearing Dogs and Service Dogs. On the 28th of March, the center conferred certificates and celebrated the graduation of Ally, the first Hearing Dog in Taiwan, along with her partner, the Guide Dog Rhys.
A Trophy for “Creative Water and Sport Design Competition”

Undergraduate students, Lin Nian Tzu, Chen Ruei Tzang, Huang Lin Yuan and Lin Huei Shiu, from the Department of Recreational Sports and Health Promotion, formed a team to participate in the “Creative Water and Sport Design Competition” hosted by the Ministry of Education. They used a canoe as a core design concept in their courses. The activities included entertaining teaching methods for canoeing, games in activities and safety education for the sport. The design competition promotes and motivates the participants and fosters their enthusiasm for water sports; it has the side benefit of reducing the risk of drowning in similar activities. Congratulations! The team, supervised by Dr. Wu Chang Yang, Head of the Department, won the First Place Award of the annual competition, 2011, from among 36 teams from universities all over the country.

Taking First Place in the “National Vision 2020: Youth Creative Proposal Contest”

Four students, supervised by Dr. Deng-Mao Tsai, Head of the Industrial Management Department, participated in the “National Vision 2020: Youth Creative Proposal Contest”, hosted by the Ministry of Economic Affairs, on January 13, 2011. They won the national championship against stiff competition from 44 teams from universities all over the country. The contest provides a platform for students to observe, analyze and solve problems that are happening around them by proposing innovative and creative solutions. These students were volunteers participating in disaster relief activities in Taitung County right after Typhoon Morakot hit the mountainous areas seriously in August, 2009. Therefore, being experienced volunteers, they proposed a theme title of “Relief supplies and problems analysis for integrated disaster system development” to improve relief processes in Taitung County.

Congratulations!!

1. Dr. Chi-Hsien Chien, Associate Professor of Veterinary Medicine, received the Promotion of Year Award for 2011 at the General Assembly of the Chinese Society of Veterinary Science.
2. Dr. Chao-Nan Lin, Assistant Professor of Veterinary Medicine, also received the Best Paper Award for 2011 at the General Assembly of the Chinese Society of Veterinary Science.
3. Dr. Ming-Chang Wu, Professor of Food Science, received the Honor Award for 2011 for his academic achievement in Food Science at the Member Conference of Taiwan Association for Food Science & Technology.
Three post-graduate students of the Graduate Institute of Landscape Architecture and Recreation Management participated in the 2010 Landscape and Floriculture Competition in Kaohsiung, and won the gold medal. The Awarding Ceremony was held by the Kaohsiung City Government at the square of Central Park on the 18th of December, 2010. The NPUST team received a trophy, certificate of award and prize from Ms Chu Chen, The Mayor of Kaohsiung City.

Dr. Ching-Ji Wu, of the Ministry of Education, awarded an annual prize for Technological and Vocational Education to Mr. Jian-wen Lai, a four-year under-graduate student in the Wood Science and Design Department. This award represents not only his personal achievement but also a successful technological and vocational education at NPUST. Mr. Lai won a gold medal for Taiwan on “Wooden Furniture Work” in the 40th World Skills Competition in Calgary, Canada, 2010.

In late March, Dr. I-Fang Chung, Assistant Professor of the Department of Modern Languages, NPUST, was invited to visit Thai Nguyen University, Vietnam, to share her knowledge and experiences in teaching English. There were lectures, intensive meetings and group discussions to the Master of Arts in Teaching English Program. Although the visit was short, Dr. Chung was able to broaden her horizons and learn a bit about Vietnamese culture (in particular food) and people. Also, she met teachers and professors from Hong Kong, the Philippines, and Australia. Whatever their nationality, all the faculty members were very friendly. Thanks to Thai Nguyen University for their great hospitality during the visit!

Ms. Ching-Hsiu Hsieh, Assistant Professor in the Fashion Design and Management Department, supervised three of her students and participated in the “2010 National Taiwan Hairstyling and Beauty Cup”, hosted by the Changhua County Government and the Chinese Lady’s Perm and Beauty Unions. In a truly stunning performance, they took home the Award of Excellence, the Second-Place Award and the Fourth –place Award, respectively.
Technical University of Lodz, Poland
The Rector of Technical University of Lodz, Poland, Prof. Dr. Stanislaw Bielecki, and the Vice-Rector, Prof. Ireneusz Zbicinski paid a visit and signed an MOU with NPUST, on March 24, 2011. After meeting with President Guu, the guests visited the Department of Food Science, Center of Agriculture and Aquaculture Product Inspection and Certification, and the Graduate Institute of Biotechnology. The Rector, Prof. Dr. Bielecki, was impressed with the achievements in R&D at NPUST and would like to strengthen the academic cooperation between the two universities.

Rotary International - Finland Area
The delegation from Rotary International - Finland Area paid a visit to NPUST on March 17, 2011. The guests visited the Research Farm for Sustainable Agriculture and the Pingtung Rescue Center for Endangered Wild Animals on campus. They were impressed with the advanced agricultural technology being used at NPUST.

Democratic Movement of Mozambique, Republic of Mozambique
The director of Democratic Movement of Mozambique, Mr. Daviz Simango, visited NPUST on March 28, 2011 with Mr. Agostinho Ussore, a member of congress of Mozambique. They visited Innovation and Practical Training Center and the Department of Aquaculture. They also discussed future academic and student exchange with NPUST.

The Minister of Line and Phoenix Islands Development, Republic of Kiribati
The Minister of Line and Phoenix Islands Development, Republic of Kiribati, Hon. Mr. Tawita Temoku, paid a visit to NPUST on March 11, 2011. After meeting with President Guu, the guests visited the Department of Food Science and the Department of Hotel and Restaurant Management. Those departments provide the kind of education students from Kiribati need in order to develop food processing and tourism in Kiribati.

University of the West, USA
The President of University of the West, USA, Professor Dr. Chin-shun Wu, paid a visit to Prof. Dr. Yuan-Kuang Guu, President of NPUST, on December 24, 2010. Both Presidents signed a MOU and agreed to set up a closer partnership on academic and exchange programs.

Nottingham Trent University, UK
The Delegation, Mr. David Bailey, Director of International Development Office, and Miss Vicky Chadderton, from Nottingham Trent University (NTU), UK, paid a visit to NPUST on March 9, 2011. The guests, represented the School of Animal Rural and Environmental Sciences, arranged to visit the Department of Food Science and the Department of Animal Science. Further potential proposals for cooperation and academic exchange programs were also discussed during the meeting with relevant Department Heads and faculty members afterwards.

Yunnan Academy of Agricultural Sciences, China
The delegation of Yunnan Academy of Agricultural Sciences, China paid a visit to NPUST on January 19th, 2011. They got a briefing about NPUST, and visited the College of Agriculture and Research Farm of Sustainable Farm to observe some of NPUST’s achievements in agricultural research.
Universiti Malaysia Sabah
The Vice-Chancellor of Universiti Malaysia Sabah, Prof Datuk Seri Panglima Dr Kamaruzaman AMPON paid a visit to NPUST on Feb 17, 2011 with a delegation from UMS. The guests had a meeting with President Guu, talking about future cooperation between the two universities. After signing an Intention of Understanding, they arranged to visit the Center of Agriculture and Aquaculture Product Inspection and Certification and the Graduate Institute of Biotechnology.

Maejo University, Thailand
The President of Maejo University, Dr. Channian Yosraj, paid a visit to NPUST from March 2-3, 2011 with a delegation from MJU. After meeting with President Guu, the guests visited the Department of Food Science, the Center of Agriculture and Aquaculture Product Inspection and Certification, the Department of Plant Industry and the Department of Veterinary Medicine. Every year, NPUST and Maejo University receive short-term exchange students from each other. Also, MU now offers an additional two internship scholarships to students from the Department of Animal Science every year, and now there are 8 MU graduate students registered at NPUST pursuing higher degrees.

Dr. Ching T. Hou, Senior Scientist of the National Center for Agricultural Utilization Research, ARS, USDA
Dr. Ching T. Hou, President of International Society of Biocatalysis and Biotechnology (ISBB), was invited to pay a visit to NPUST on March 15, 2011. Dr. Hou now is a Fellow of the American Academy of Microbiology, a Fellow of the Society for Industrial Microbiology and a Fellow of the American Oil Chemists’ Society. He is also a Senior Scientist of National Center for Agricultural Utilization Research, ARS, USDA. Dr. Hou delivered a presentation titled “Life Sciences and Agriculture Biotechnology” to the post-graduate students from the Graduate Institute of Biotechnology, Graduate Institute of Bioresources and Department of Life Science. Dr. Hou had met with some faculty members in relevant fields and invited them to submit papers to ISBB and the society’s upcoming conferences.

King Mongkut’s Institute of Technology Ladkrabang, Thailand
The Dean of Faculty of Agro-Industry of King Mongkut’s Institute of Technology Ladkrabang, Dr. Wanna Tungjaroenchai, paid a visit to NPUST from March 2-3, 2011 with two Vice-Deans, Dr. Praphan Pinsirodom and Dr. Porjai Thamakorn, from KMITL. After meeting with President Guu, the guests visited the research institutes of Agriculture, Departments of Food Science and Hotel and Restaurant Management. Further academic exchange and dual degrees between the two universities were discussed. Dr. Wanna showed great interest in exchanging faculty and students with the Graduate Institute of Biotechnology.

Student Affairs, Kasetsart University, Thailand
A delegation from the Office of Student Affairs (OSA), Kasetsart University, Thailand paid a visit to NPUST on March 28, 2011 to exchange their experience in managing student affairs with us. In the meeting, the delegation was given a brief overview of NPUST and an introduction to each division in OSA, the counterpart of KU. The meeting with international students from KU and a campus tour including a visit to some offices of OSA were arranged. KU and NPUST have built a close partnership over a period of more than 10 years. Faculty and student exchange activities have been executed routinely every year. There are 3 KU graduate students now registered at NPUST pursuing degrees.

The University of Danang, Branch in Kon Tum, Vietnam
The Director and the delegation of the University of Danang, Branch in Kon Tum, Vietnam paid a visit to NPUST during March 15-16, 2011. The guests visited President Guu, the College of Management, the Department of Tropical Agriculture and International Cooperation, and the Graduate Institute of Biotechnology. A student exchange program was discussed, and an international implementation minute was signed between the two institutes.
Generators Donated to Disaster Areas in Japan

An earthquake with a magnitude of 9.0 on the Richter scale hit northern Japan, and it left victims in disaster areas with inadequate resources and electric power. The students of NPUST feel as though they experienced the earthquake themselves, and in order to alleviate the suffering of the victims, they held a charity fundraising event to collect generators for donation through Fo Guang Shan Buddhist Foundation. The initiator, Hao-Lin You, the chairman of the Student Union Council at NPUST, represented seven associations in delivering twenty generators, through the abbot Master Hui-Seng, Kaohsiung Buddhist Chapel, to disaster areas to help increase access to electricity in Japan.

2010 TICA CUP

2010 TICA CUP was held by Taiwan ICDF at the Gymnasium of National Pingtung University of Science and Technology from December 11-12th, 2010. There were about 300 international students from 16 colleges and universities attending this activity. In addition to international students, delegations from the embassies of Belize, the Republic of the Gambia, Burkina Faso, Saint Christopher and Nevis, and Nicaragua joined in the activities, too. The main purpose of this competition is to promote interaction between the Taiwan ICDF scholarship students and local students. Throughout the games, students from the various universities can make friendships and at the same time advance their mental and physical health. The champion of this year’s event was National Pingtung University of Science and Technology. Yuan-Ze University won the second prize and National Chengchi University was third.

2011 Program of International Affairs

Mr. Ying-Jung Yeh and Miss Wei-Ning Wei, students of the Department of Veterinary Medicine, have been accepted into the Program of International Affairs Training in United States for two months during this coming summer. There are a total of 25 students from universities across the country selected to participate in this activity. This program is sponsored by International Leadership Foundation and the Overseas Compatriot Affairs Commission.

Tyler Smith, a Student from USA

I came to Taiwan four and a half years ago to study Chinese. While I still struggle with the language, I have learned it well enough to begin pursuing a master's degree in a Chinese-taught program. I chose to study at National Pingtung University of Science and Technology because it is the only university to offer a master's degree in Agribusiness. I have now been studying here for almost an entire school year and have thoroughly enjoyed the process. NPUST has an extremely diverse student body and I have been very fortunate to make friends from the Americas, Asia and Oceania. It has truly been an eye-opening experience. Furthermore, everyone has been extremely nice; teachers have been accommodating and supportive and the learning environment, on the whole is very good. Living and studying in Taiwan has been a fantastic experience; I wouldn't trade it for anything.

Disclaimer:

NPUST Newsletter is prepared by: The information Section, Office of International Affairs, National Pingtung University of Science and Technology. The purpose is to disseminate NPUS T news and other related information of interest use. This is not a university official document.

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