

APRIL, 2024

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國立中興大學
一百週年校慶



NCHU JOURNAL APRIL 2024



Ascension
Research
Collaboration
Heritage

Multifaceted Dialogues with
Humanity, Culture, Technology and Nature

NCHU JOURNAL



Oia

OFFICE OF
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
NATIONAL CHUNG HSING UNIVERSITY



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NCHU Greenway

Photo credit | Siuo-Ling Cheng

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The Brilliant Century Leap

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Ascension

NCHU Kang Ti

Photo credit | Computer and Information Network Center, NCHU

Research

Provincial Agricultural College 1957-1961

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Little Auditorium 1961-present

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Collaboration

Photo credit | Siuo-Ling Cheng

Heritage

Illustrated by Ching-Yang Siang, Office of International Affairs, NCHU

Preface

Discover the Seventh Issue of NCHU ARCH Magazine

Inspired by the desire to share the excellence, values, and aesthetic charm of National Chung Hsing University (NCHU) with our global audience, the creation of the NCHU ARCH took shape. ARCH, an acronym that stands for our foundational pillars - Ascension, Research, Collaboration, and Heritage, represents more than just a publication. As an adjective, "arch" implies leadership and principle, mirroring our commitment to spotlight academic innovation in alignment with our international educational goals.

In our seventh issue, we embark on an exploration of multifaceted dialogues encompassing the essence of humanity, technology, cultural heritage, and the natural world. These dialogues form the core of our four thematic units as follows.

In the opening unit **Ascension**, we feature Professor Fuh-Jyh Jan, the newly appointed president of NCHU, the empathetic leader who actively engages with faculty, students, and staff, advocating for their welfare, promoting flexible learning pathways, and strengthening international support.

The **Research** unit proudly presents Dr. Kun-Hung Cheng, Professor and Director of Graduate Institute of Library & Information Science, and his dedication to exploring the pedagogical potential of augmented reality (AR) and virtual reality (VR) technology.

In the **Collaboration** unit, we highlight NCHU's active involvement in the Ministry of Education's "Taiwan Huayu BEST Program" by dispatching Mandarin Chinese teachers to overseas institutions and offering scholarships for international students to come and study in Taiwan.

Heritage illustrates the establishment of the Indigenous Students Resource Center (ISRC) and its core value to strengthen the sense of belonging and cultivate a deeper cultural identity among Indigenous students through diverse initiatives and supportive services.

In our final unit, we invite you to experience the collections of NCHU Art Center, where you can immerse yourself in the oil paintings presented by Mr. Hui-Tang Lin and Ms. Ying-Hui Ge. The exhibition takes you on a visual journey, showcasing the interplay among human beings, the earth, and the universe, and invites contemplation of our existence through the paintings.

Last but not least, I wish to extend my heartfelt gratitude to Dr. Kai-Jung Chi, Ms. Jen-Wen Chang, Ms. Siuo-Ling Cheng, Ms. Yu-Ying Chen, Ms. Ching-Yang Siang, and Ms. Inger Tsai for their contributions to the seventh issue of NCHU ARCH. We hope you enjoy the captivating content within these pages and thank you for being a part of our magazine's journey.

Chou ChuChung

Chi-Chung Chou

Oia

Senior Vice President for International Affairs
National Chung Hsing University

Major Events

From July to December 2023

July

- Graduate Institute of International Politics received funding from the Ministry of Education for overseas internship program for visiting the European Union and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.
- NCHU, in partnership with Texas A&M University, received a grant from the U.S. National Science Foundation-Taiwan National Science and Technology Council "Advanced Chip Engineering Design and Fabrication Program (ACED Fab)" for semiconductor collaboration.
- Landscape and Recreation Department alumna and her team secured first place in the Paris Student Architecture Design Competition titled "VERS PARIS 2050, affronter ensemble les défis de notre siècle".
- NCHU's interdisciplinary student team proudly clinched the championship in the 2023 Design for Dementia College Contest.

August

- NCHU continued its strong partnership with UC Davis, sending three students for the 3+X Master's program this year, along with one million NT dollars in scholarships.
- Environmental Engineering Department's collaborative faculty-student team won first place in the 2023 Net Zero Tech International Contest among 146 teams from 10 countries.
- NCHU hosted the "International Forum on the Current Development of Soil Carbon Sink and ESG of Enterprise", bringing together domestic and international experts to discuss related topics and solutions.
- The iEGG and Animal Biotechnology Center research team developed a novel breeding technology platform, overcoming challenges in avian gene transfer to create new poultry and livestock breeds.

September

- OIA recruited a volunteer team of 17 faculty and students who traveled to rural India with over 100 kilograms of supplies to serve nearly 500 children.
- NCHU Choir won a silver prize at the Tokyo International Choir Competition.
- College of Law and Politics launched the International Master Program in Asia and China Studies (IMPACS), fostering globally-minded talent.
- Colleges of Science and Life Sciences jointly organized the "2023 International Symposium on Advanced and Sustainable Science and Technology", bringing together experts from Japan, the United States, South Korea, Vietnam, and other countries for academic exchanges.
- College of Engineering hosted the symposium "UAV Applications with AI, Smart Agriculture & Sustainable Environment," featuring experts from Estonia and Switzerland who shared their experiences and insights in various country contexts.

October

- The chair and delegation from the Association of Indian Universities visited NCHU to enhance interaction, exchange, and cooperation between higher education institutions in Taiwan and India.

- Stanford University recently released the 2023 list of "World's Top 2% Scientists," and NCHU boasted a total of 58 scholars on the list, ranking sixth among all universities in Taiwan.
- Professor Chang-Wei Hsieh (Food Sciences and Biotechnology Department) and Professor Tzu-Pi Huang (Plant Pathology Department) were honored and received the 47th Top Ten Outstanding Agriculturists Award.
- Four NCHU research teams received 2023 Future Tech Awards: Professor Ming-Chun Lu (Heavy Metal Recovery from Wastewater), Professor Ming-Der Yang (AIoT Rice Harvest System), Professor Yao-Tung Lin (Smart, Environmental-Friendly Real-Time Freshness Indicators), and Professor Cheng-Chung Chang (Comprehensive Detection Platform).



Fuh-Jyh Jan
President,
National Chung Hsing University (2023-present)
Lifetime Distinguished Professor,
Dept. of Plant Pathology

November

- NCHU signed an MOU with the African-Asian Rural Development Organization (AARDO) to establish cooperation in research, higher education, and rural development projects with member countries and institutions.
- NCHU hosted the 17th International Symposium on Biocatalysis and Agricultural Biotechnology (ISBAB), bringing together nearly 50 distinguished international scholars to foster international collaboration.
- The world-renowned leading expert in psyllid systematics visited NCHU and exchanged valuable specimens from the Natural History Museum, Basel, Switzerland.
- NCHU received two highest honors at the 16th TCSA Taiwan Corporate Sustainability Awards: the "Platinum Award for University Sustainability Report" and the "Taiwan Sustainable Exemplary University Award."
- Taiwan's largest "Talent and Technology Cultivation Base for Smart Production Development" launched at NCHU.

December

- NCHU joined the University Academic Alliance in Taiwan (UAAT) and signed a cooperation memorandum with the University of Texas System (UTS) and the Texas A&M University System (TAMUS) to attract exceptional international students for studies and employment in Taiwan.
- NCHU ranked among the top 500 globally and the top 100 in Asia in the 2024 QS World University Sustainability Ranking.
- Three NCHU teams received the prestigious "National Agricultural Science Award" in 2024: Professor Chih-Feng Chen (Chung Hsing Red-Feather 1982), Professor Huey-Ling Lin (Taiwanese Premium Guava Takes Complete Cold Chain Logistics to Conquer International Markets), and Professor Hsing-Juh Lin for (Development of Natural Carbon Sink Measurement Techniques and Promotion Strategy).
- NCHU, in collaboration with Taichung Veterans General Hospital, formed a research team to develop nanoelectronics devices capable of detecting Alzheimer's disease within two minutes.



ASPIRATION

NCHU Kang Ti
Location National Chung Hsing University
Photography Computer and Information Network Center, NCHU

Advancing the Legacy with Pioneering Leadership: President Fuh-Jyh Jan

Source The Office of Secretariat, National Chung Hsing University
Edited by Jen-Wen Chang, Office of International Affairs, Jia-yi Lin, Secretariat Office

Coordination, Enthusiasm, Innovation, and Action: these are the important core philosophies held by Professor Fuh-Jyh Jan, the 17th President of National Chung Hsing University (NCHU) since taking office. As an alumnus of NCHU for 37 years, a teacher with 23 years of service, and an administrator with 18 years of experience, President Jan carries a deep sense of gratitude for the fulfillment of his aspirations to shoulder the mission of upholding the century-old legacy of the university.

President Jan's approach to forming the administrative team is meritocratic, which is why the appointed top executives come from diverse colleges, spanning the humanities, agriculture, science, engineering, life sciences, veterinary medicine, management, and law and politics. He believes that advancing the university's affairs requires the collaborative support of each college; therefore, he places a strong emphasis on coordination among internal units and leveraging the enthusiasm of faculty and staff. In the meantime, he recognizes that the university's demonstrated strengths in agriculture, life sciences, and veterinary medicine can pave the way for the humanities and social sciences to develop their own unique niches as well. He encourages interdisciplinary collaboration among colleges to ignite new sparks of innovation. Under the professional guidance of President Jan, NCHU will continue toward becoming a world-class, top-tier international institution.



Inauguration Ceremony
Photo Credit | The Office of Secretariat, NCHU

An Empathetic Ear: Creating a Friendly Campus



President Jan and OIA welcome the delegation from Mapua University, the Philippines
(Left to right: Dr. Ming-Chun Lu, Dr. Delia B. Senoro, President Dr. Dodjie S. Maestrecampo, President Fuh-Jyh Jan, Dr. Kai-Jung Chi and Dr. Edith Su)

Being an empathetic listener is the first impression President Jan leaves on the faculty and students. Since assuming office, he has initiated open dialogues with the university's faculty, students, and staff, including conducting discussions with faculty members from various colleges, hosting the first-ever appointments with staff, and consistently holding appointments with students. He is also a strong advocate for faculty and staff welfare, leading him to implement legislation that allows teachers who are pregnant or have

children under the age of two to request a reduction of 2 hours in their weekly teaching hours and secure government funding for the establishment of a daycare center for children aged 0-2. Additionally, he plans to reinstate the previously discontinued winter and summer vacations in 2024, aiming to provide a more supportive working environment for NCHU's faculty and staff.



Dr. Katharina Holzinger, President of the University of Konstanz, Germany, and President Fuh-Jyh Jan

In terms of academics, President Jan encourages students to explore and take relevant courses if they do not have an interest in their major or a desired interdisciplinary specialty at the time of enrollment. NCHU is a comprehensive institution with a complete range of fields, providing optimal interdisciplinary learning resources for more flexibility and diversity. After taking office, President Jan asked all departments to relax graduation thresholds and the course accreditation criteria and process under the premise of maintaining educational quality. This approach allows students to choose double majors, minors, module curriculum for cross-disciplinary secondary specializations, cross-disciplinary micro-credit programs, and micro-courses based on their own interests. Meanwhile, the "Taiwan Comprehensive University System (TCUS)" and the "National University System of Taiwan" (NUST) jointly promote cross-university course selection, minors, and double majors. He hopes that every student can access the best learning resources and cultivate themselves into outstanding talents.

Innovative Service: Strengthening International Administrative Support

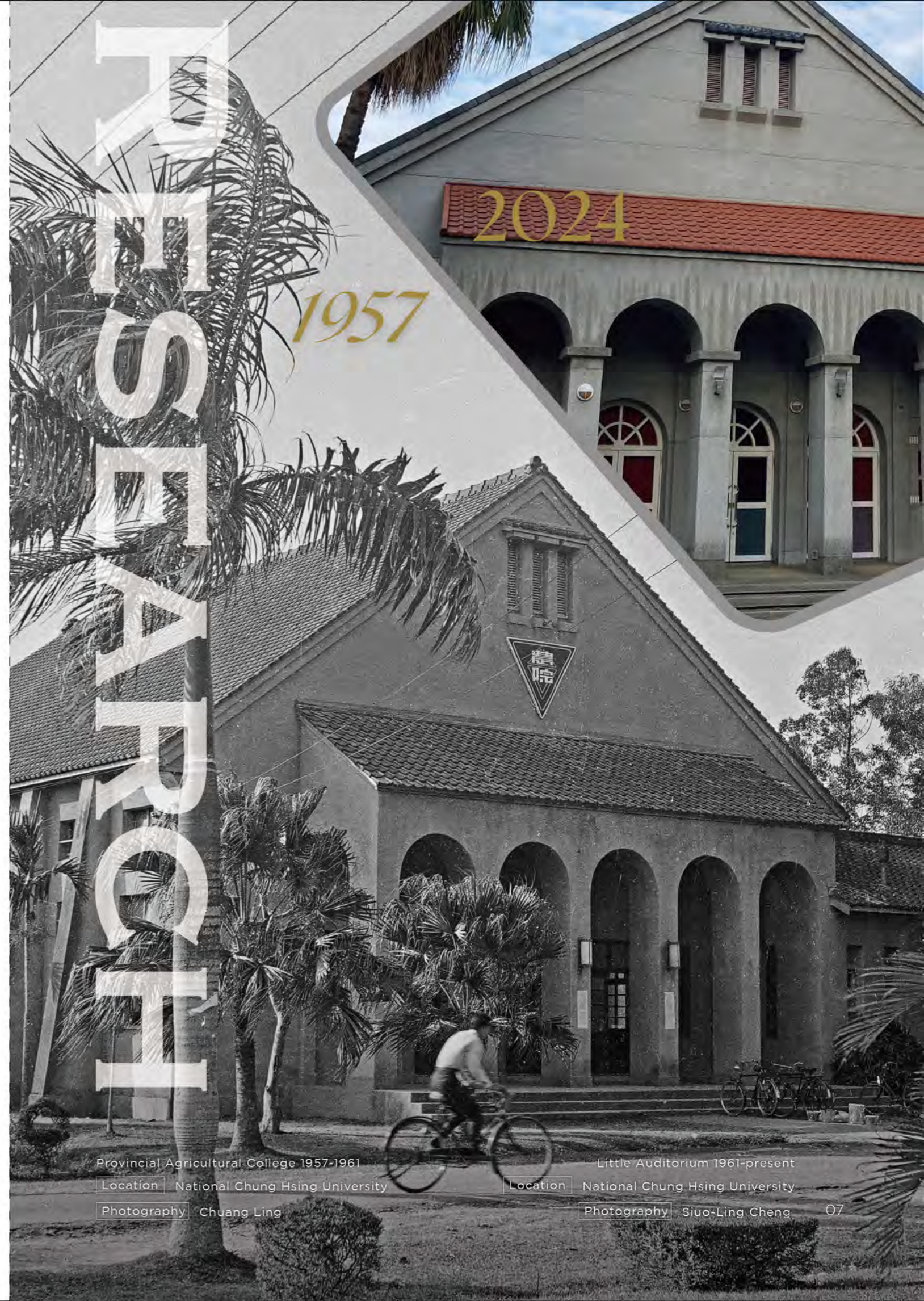
"Grounded in NCHU, eyes on the World" is the cornerstone of creating a friendly international environment at NCHU. President Jan has persistently promoted the construction of student dormitories, ensuring that international students have access to sufficient and high-quality accommodation. Efforts have also been made to enhance the international administrative support system. The bilingual information platform "ASK NCHU," developed by the Office of International Affairs (OIA), is now officially online. It provides international students and faculty with essential information and answers to their questions. A dedicated office has been initiated to offer one-stop services to assist international students and faculty in overcoming language barriers and information gaps. The comprehensive administrative support helps them acclimate to the environment and engage in their teaching, research, and studies seamlessly.



The inauguration ceremony of "Office of International Administrative Support (OIAS)."

Vision

In the future, National Chung Hsing University (NCHU) will not only persist in developing its Nantou Branch into a zero-carbon university town, but also transform the Fu-Xing Campus into a groundbreaking Smart Healthcare Hub. President Jan, with his unwavering commitment to the university's mission and pioneering leadership, strives to harness NCHU's academic research capabilities to propel local development and fulfill the university's social responsibility. He remains steadfast in the spirit of communication, empathy, and local prosperity, guiding NCHU towards the pinnacle of international excellence.



Provincial Agricultural College 1957-1961

Location National Chung Hsing University

Photography Chuang Ling

Little Auditorium 1961-present

Location National Chung Hsing University

Photography Siuo-Ling Cheng

Exploring Virtual Technology: Dr. Kun-Hung Cheng's Research on Augmented/Virtual Reality Applications in Education

Source: Kun-Hung Cheng, Professor and Director of Graduate Institute of Library & Information Science, NCHU
Director of Digital Humanities and Information Application Program
Director of Continuing Bachelor Program in Digital Humanities and Creative Industries

Dr. Kun-Hung Cheng, a professor at National Chung Hsing University (NCHU), has dedicated over a decade to research in technology-enhanced learning, making crucial impacts on international educational research. His impactful work has earned him recognition among the world's top 2% of scientists in 2021, 2022, and 2023. Building on Dr. Cheng's previous research in Internet-based learning, such as online academic help-seeking and online peer assessment, he has devoted himself to exploring the pedagogical potential of virtual technologies including augmented reality (AR) and virtual reality (VR) since 2013.



Dr. Cheng gave a speech for introducing the practice of virtual tour in a workshop



An AR book system developed by Dr. Cheng for introducing Hakka culture in Taiwan

Through a series of research studies involving child-parent shared reading using AR picture books, Dr. Cheng explored what children can be cognitively benefited in the learning activity and how children and their parents interact with each other by analyses of behavioral patterns. From parents' perspectives, Dr. Cheng identified several categories of the parents' conceptions of and approaches to AR learning with their children through a phenomenographic method. Parents' user experiences of child-parent shared AR book reading were also probed through the lens of parents' perceptions, expectations, and intentions. Based on these findings, Dr. Cheng proposed a framework for interactive AR book systems to support child-parent shared reading, which serves as a foundation for further research and application in the field of AR-based learning in informal settings. In addition to targeting young learners, Dr. Cheng explored post-secondary students' perceived cognitive load, motivation, and attitudes when reading an AR book that introduces Hakka culture in Taiwan. This work provided valuable insights for future AR-related studies exploring the interplay between cognitive load and learning performance while considering motivational factors.

One of Dr. Cheng's important studies is his pioneering work in providing an overview of the affordances of AR in science learning and proposing future research directions for AR-based learning. This work has been recognized as a highly cited paper in the Web of Science (WOS) database. Dr. Cheng also paid attention to issues related to reading with the aid of AR technology.



Demonstration of the virtual scene in an immersive VR application titled "A Letter from Father, 1949" for literary reading



The interactive virtual elements in the application titled "A letter from father, 1949"

Educational issues regarding learning by immersive VR technology are Dr. Cheng's recent major research interest. First, he and his colleagues published a review that analyzed the networking structure among VR-supported education research from a citation-based perspective. The research examined the trends and expansion of contemporary VR education studies over the last five years. It introduced an innovative citation-based approach, offering new insights and evidence that shed light on the intellectual structure of VR-supported education, contributing a fresh perspective to the field. Second, to understand how virtual technology could

be exploited in the field of primary education, a series of studies were conducted to examine teachers' perceptions, students' learning experience (e.g., motivational beliefs and strategies, perceived immersion, and attitudes), and teacher-student interaction behaviors during immersive virtual field trips for learning.

The findings of these studies have contributed to the proposal of instructional strategies designed to effectively guide students in the immersive learning experience of virtual field trips within classrooms. These strategies take into account learners' psychological characteristics and perceived immersion, holding the potential to significantly benefit the future development of immersive virtual field trip learning systems. Thirdly, Dr. Cheng has recently committed to exploring how epistemic curiosity influences learning through immersive VR technology. Apart from investigating the roles of epistemic curiosity and situational interest in students' attitudinal learning within immersive VR environments, he has innovatively proposed an epistemic curiosity-evoking model for designing immersive VR narrative reading in an innovative way. The proposed instructional model was verified and further applied to the development of two immersive VR learning systems with narrative design, namely "A letter from father, 1949" and "The banned book, 1956." The results of these works were published in the top SSCI journals (e.g., *Computers and Education*). To further enhance research in the field of VR learning, Dr. Cheng has persistently dedicated efforts to explore the potential of immersive virtual technology for educational purposes.



A learner using an immersive VR application titled "The Banned Book, 1956" for history learning



COLLABORATION



When Mandarin Becomes Taiwan's Wings: NCHU's Huayu BEST Program

Source Ching-Yang Siang, Office of International Affairs
Edited by Yu-Ying Chen, Office of International Affairs



Left: Michael Davies-Hughes (Superintendent of Schools for Humboldt County) joyfully high-fives with the children
Right: US delegations' calligraphy experience at Du-Xing Elementary School

Prologue

"How are you?"

"I'm in Taiwan, and I'm doing well!"

Strolling through the Chinese Language Center (CLC) at National Chung Hsing University (NCHU), foreign students can be seen participating in lively conversations with their language teachers. The classroom resonates with cheerful laughter and voices, encapsulating the spirit of language acquisition. It's worth noting that this scene now also appears in universities in the United States, all thanks to Taiwan's Ministry of Education's "Taiwan Huayu BEST Program".



Student's in-class final oral presentation (picture provided by Ms. Wan-Ling Wei)

The Ministry of Education (MOE) initiated the "Taiwan Huayu BEST Program" to advance Mandarin Chinese language education and strengthen partnerships between universities in Taiwan and institutions in the United States and Europe. Within the framework of this program, Mandarin instructors are dispatched to teach at universities abroad, and scholarships are provided to students from partner institutions to come to Taiwan for language learning. In 2023, NCHU participated in this program by sending two dedicated educators to the United States. Mr. Chang-Ching Lin is stationed at Brigham Young University, while Ms. Wan-Ling Wei teaches at Brooklyn College, City University of New York (CUNY). For them, the Taiwan Huayu BEST Program extends beyond the transmission of knowledge; it also acquaints students with the cultural facets of Taiwan—a country known for its delectable cuisine, breathtaking scenery, and heartfelt hospitality.

Integrating Taiwan's Culinary Heritage into Teaching for Engaging Learning Experiences

"At the Brooklyn College, CUNY, many non-Chinese students are getting their first introduction to Taiwan. So, I often start with tapioca milk tea, and many students are surprised to learn that this delicious drink was invented in Taiwan!" Ms. Wan-Ling Wei shared with enthu-

Collaboration



End-of-semester group photo (picture provided by Ms. Wan-Ling Wei)

siasm. Her specialty in teaching Chinese as a second language led her to be chosen by NCHU for a teaching assignment at the Brooklyn College, CUNY. Using elements of popular culture such as memes and bubble tea, she successfully kindles students' passion for learning Mandarin.

Considering that the "Taiwan Huayu BEST Program" will offer scholarships for students to learn Mandarin in Taiwan, Ms. Wei has incorporated Taiwanese culture into her teaching. For instance, when teaching numbers, she creates scenarios related to Taiwanese currency and shopping, allowing students to gain a deeper understanding of life in Taiwan. She also recommends watching Taiwanese YouTube videos and TV shows to get accustomed to the colloquial language used in daily life. Additionally, improving reading skills in Chinese characters can effectively support language learning while living in Taiwan.

Customized Mandarin Course Exemplifies Taiwan's Educational Soft Power



Left: The Chinese Flagship Center's calligraphy experience activity during the Mid-Autumn Festival event (picture provided by Mr. Chang-Ching Lin)

Right: Students' in-class presentation on the "U.S.-China Trade War" (picture provided by Mr. Chang-Ching Lin)

Meanwhile, Mr. Chang-Ching Lin, who teaches at Brigham Young University, is committed to providing students with customized and highly effective instructions. He believes that "teaching is not just a one-way transmission but a two-way communication. Mandarin teachers abroad must possess the crucial skill of using students' native language to help them understand the appropriate usage contexts." Mr. Lin is known for his meticulous and thoughtful teaching style, and he often tutors students in his free time. His dedication has earned praise at Brigham Young University, encouraging many students to actively pursue studies in Taiwan. Taiwan's educational soft power shines brightly on American campuses thanks to teachers like Mr. Lin.

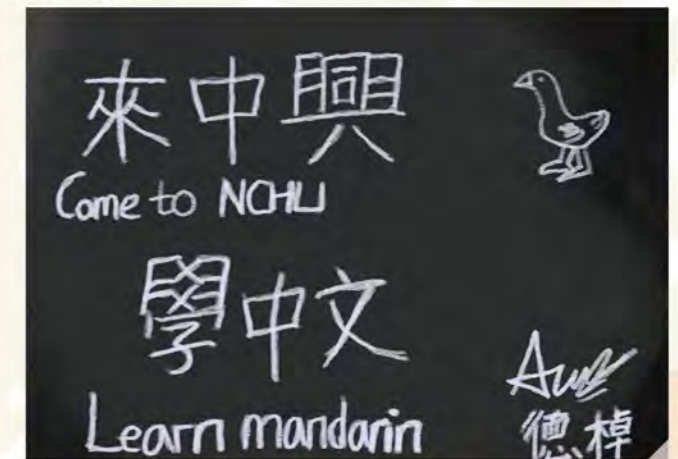
NCHU: The Top Choice for Learning Mandarin

National Chung Hsing University (NCHU), located in Taichung, offers excellent Mandarin teaching faculty, a beautiful campus, and abundant learning resources, making it the best place for foreign students to learn Mandarin in Taiwan. Mr. Lin mentioned that Taichung has a pleasant climate, lower living costs, and is centrally located in Taiwan, allowing students to easily explore both the north and south on weekends. Therefore, NCHU provides foreign students with the best quality of teaching and living within a reasonable budget.

The collaborative efforts of the Chinese Language Center (CLC), which provides immediate support to Mandarin teachers both on campus and abroad, and the Office of International Affairs (OIA), responsible for the well-being of international students on campus, have successfully drawn students from various institutions such as Brigham Young University, Brooklyn College, CUNY, and the University of Texas at Dallas, to learn Mandarin at NCHU in 2024. Beyond higher education, the collaboration in Mandarin language education has extended to K-12 education. For instance, the International Leadership of Texas (ILTEXAS) plans to send high school students to NCHU for a Mandarin summer camp in the summer of 2024.

Using Mandarin Chinese to Showcase Taiwan to the World

In June 2023, NCHU hosted an educational forum for U.S. administrative executives in collaboration with the Ministry of Education (MOE). The forum aimed to connect local primary and secondary schools in central Taiwan and promote cultural exchange between foreign and local students. This initiative encourages the practical use of Mandarin to build friendships among students from both countries.



Indonesian student Aditya Gautama's handwriting

The Chinese proverb "言文行遠" beautifully captures the essence of Mandarin education in Taiwan: With Mandarin as their wings, those eager to explore can embark on journeys to distant worlds. This language opens the door to the magnificent island of Taiwan, creating splendid adventures in learners' lives.



HERITAGE

國立中興大學

NATIONAL CHUNG HSIUNG UNIVERSITY



Dialogues with the Homeland: Inheriting Indigenous Cultural Heritage and Recognizing the Diverse Ethnic Identities

Source Indigenous Students Resource Center (ISRC), National Chung Hsing University
Edited by Kai-Jung Chi, Office of International Affairs, Jen-Wen Chang, Office of International Affairs

In the year 2000, Jared Diamond, a renowned biogeographer and anthropologist, published an article titled "Taiwan's Gift to the World" in the prestigious journal *Nature*, in which he introduced to the world the influence of Taiwan, a small island nation located in the north-west Pacific, on the cultures of the Austronesian language family. Taiwan's Indigenous languages encompass nine out of the ten major subgroups of the Austronesian language family. Currently, Taiwan officially recognizes 16 Indigenous ethnic groups, each with its own distinct language and culture, all belonging to the Austronesian ethnic group. National Chung Hsing University (NCHU), located in the heart of Taiwan, is situated close to several Atayal and Seediq communities and therefore bears the responsibility of protecting, preserving, and passing on Indigenous cultures.

National Chung Hsing University (NCHU) currently enrolls 165 Indigenous students from various tribes, including the Amis, Atayal, Paiwan, Bunun, and Puyuma, among others. In 2017, the university established the Indigenous Students Resource Center (ISRC) guided by the core spirit of "原起不滅 (The Original Never Fades) —Together We Shine". The center aims to provide enriched learning resources and foster high-quality interactive communication among Indigenous students. It strives to strengthen the sense of belonging and deepen cultural identity among these students through its initiatives and support services.



Unveiling Ceremony of ISRC, NCHU

Dialogue with History and Culture: Uncover the Heart's Home

In 2023, the ISRC led students to the Lijia Tribe in Taitung, where they learned to sing the beautiful songs of the Paiwan tribe and cultivate Indigenous crops, such as millet. Through intensive training, they inherited valuable knowledge of Indigenous culture. Lin, a Paiwan student majoring in Horticulture, mentioned in the sharing session that the millet culture in his tribe was gradually diminishing, but thanks to this activity, he had the valuable opportunity to acquire millet cultivation techniques through hands-on experience and understand the diversity of native millet varieties in Taiwan. In the future, he hopes to bring millet back to his hometown, reviving this fading cultural memory and ensuring its preservation.



Demonstration on the operation of the traditional weaving machine



Visiting the Qing Liu Tribe in Nantou, students learned about hunting and archery culture from the Seediq people

Furthermore, in April 2023, the ISRC organized an educational expedition for students to explore Indigenous communities. They visited the Qing Liu Tribe (Alang Gluban) in Ren'ai Township, Nantou County, the place where the Seediq people, who fought against colonialism during the Japanese invasion, were forcibly relocated. With the guidance of tribal members, students gained profound insights into the Musha (Wushe) Incident of the 1930s and had the chance to delve into the Seediq tribe's hunting culture and hemp weaving techniques.

Dialogue with Ethnic Communities: Cultivate Cultural Identity



After intensive training, students performed the Puyuma traditional dance and music at the opening ceremony of the "Kivala" exhibition

In May 2023, the ISRC also held the "Kivala Tribe Exhibition Corner". "Kivala" means "visit" in the Paiwan language. The event featured thematic exhibitions on topics such as ethnology and issue-based literature, hands-on experiences in Indigenous craftsmanship like bracelet and bookmark weaving, as well as displays showcasing various aspects including tribal totems, aboriginal languages, native plants, spices, and daily life items. Through the exhibition, participating faculty and students gained a deeper understanding of the diverse cultural facets of Taiwan's Indigenous peoples, including topics like microaggressions, identity laws, and other social issues that Indigenous communities often encounter. Through sensory experiences that engage sight, sound, taste, smell, and touch, participants appreciated the beauty of Indigenous cultures. By visiting tribes, engaging in dialogue, and gaining understanding, faculty, and students worked to dispel biases and discrimination stemming from ignorance; ultimately, faculty and students learn to respect and appreciate the unique and rich cultural heritage of all the different ethnic groups on this island.

Together We Shine

For many years, the ISRC has provided abundant resources to Indigenous students who are far from home, helping them find a sense of belonging and become closer to their own culture. Consequently, these students have obtained self-assurance, radiated with brilliance and displayed their talents. The campus has further embraced diversity and inclusivity through the interaction and mutual understanding of various ethnic groups. NCHU is committed to nurturing the cultural identity and heritage of Indigenous communities on and off campus, with the aspiration that the rich tapestry of Taiwanese culture will continue to shine brightly on the global stage.



ART CENTER

18 Ying-Hui Ge, *Two Worlds*, Oil on Canvas, 50F, 2023.

中興大學藝術中心

The Art Center of National Chung Hsing University

The Universe is Unyielding: Exploring the Oil Paintings of Hui-Tang Lin and Ying-Hui Ge

Imagery possesses infinite creative potential, and artists wholeheartedly immerse themselves in it, expressing their thoughts and emotions through their works. In this exhibition, we showcase the remarkable works of two artists, Mr. Hui-Tang Lin who focuses on presenting the energy of the universe in his creations, and Ms. Ying-Hui Ge, who is committed to ecological care. They hope to guide viewers on a journey to experience the flow and bonds among human beings, the earth, and the universe, inviting exploration of the various dimensions of our existence through their paintings.



Left: Ying-Hui Ge, *Natural Disasters II*, Oil on Canvas, 60P, 2011.
Right: Ying-Hui Ge, *Where is My Home*, Oil on Canvas, 50F, 2023.



Artist: Ying-Hui Ge

Ying-Hui Ge, graduated with a master's degree from the Western Painting Department at the Institute of Fine Arts at Tung-Hai University, Taiwan. Her works have been selected for the 11th Hundred Oil Painting Exhibition at the Taichung Port Art Center. "Nature" has always been an endless source of creative inspiration for Ms. Ge, a symbol of infinite vitality. In recent years, she has focused on ecological issues, conveying warnings about global warming and the ecological disasters caused by human pollution through her arts. Her works express concerns about the future of the earth, but at the same time, she also paints the beauty of nature through images of flowers, using vibrant colors to heal the viewers' souls. Her aim is to return to a harmonious, gentle, and joyful state and to inspire people.



Artist: Hui-Tang Lin

Hui-Tang Lin had served as the director of the Taichung City Cultural Affairs Bureau and engaged in cultural administration for over two decades, witnessing the development and transformation of cultural construction in Taichung City, Taiwan. In recognition of his contributions, he received the Taichung City Government Senior Distinguished Artist Award in 2018. Mr. Lin possesses a profound understanding of the importance of culture and art in human life, and he assimilates these concepts into his unique representation of "Temmoku on Canvas". Whether depicting the passage of time (day and night), the use of space (the great universe), the wisdom of ancestors (I Ching), or modern technology (Avatar), his paintings convey the inseparable connection between humans and the vast universe.



Hui-Tang Lin,
Fuxi (Before Heaven)
Trigram: Open(Tui),
Oil and Acrylic on Canvas,
50F, 2019.

Art is not only a language but also an idea, capable of expressing the complexity of meaning, the eternity of existence, and the expansion of space. Artists craft tangible or abstract visual images using diverse media, drawing from their life experiences to exhibit their thoughts, concepts, and emotions. Each artwork is a testament to the artist's lifestyle and cultural influences, encompassing a deep sense of humanistic care and the cultivation of multifaceted perspectives.



Hui-Tang Lin,
Libra,
Oil and Acrylic on Canvas,
50F, 2022,
Collected by the Art Center of NCHU.



Hui-Tang Lin, *Prehistoric Age III*,
Oil and Acrylic on Canvas, 10F, 2022.

