

國立勤益科技大學

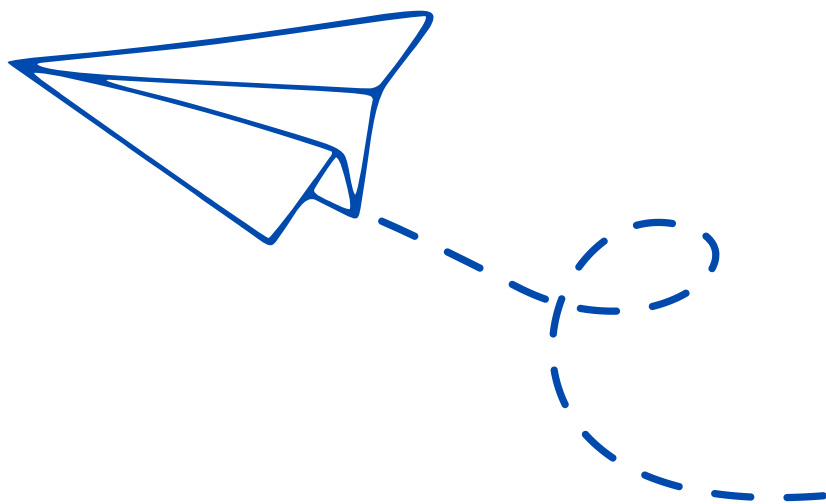
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NCUT Hosts “Semiotics of Mountain City” International Design Forum to Promote Cross-Cultural Creative Design Education



To promote international exchange in cultural and creative design education and strengthen students’ cross-cultural design thinking, innovation, and entrepreneurship, National Chin-Yi University of Technology’s Smart Taichung Maker Base and Department of Cultural and Creative Industries held the “Semiotics of Mountain City: International Design Forum and Innovation & Entrepreneurship Design Workshop” on May 8. The event explored how local culture, aesthetic design, and symbolic translation can reinterpret regional memories and everyday life through contemporary design language.

Associate Professor Chen Wei-Han of the Department of Cultural and Creative Industries stated that “Mountain City” symbolizes the image of Taiping, where NCUT is located, surrounded by mountains and rich local lifestyles. “Semiotics” refers to visual symbols and cultural meanings from different cultures. Through this forum, NCUT hopes to guide students to draw inspiration from their own hometowns, local stories, industrial memories, and cultural landscapes, transforming these elements into brand identity, cultural products, visual design, and cultural curation.

The forum invited Professor Lee Min-Hyung from the Department of Visual Communication Design at Induk University in Seoul, Korea, to share Korea’s experience in contemporary design and the visual translation of local culture. Ms. Hou Li-Ching, Deputy Head of the Visual Arts Department at the Malaysian Institute of Art, discussed cross-cultural design and the innovative application of Asian cultural elements from a Southeast Asian perspective. Renowned Taiwanese designer Hsiao Ching-Yang, who has been recognized by the Grammy Awards for his design work, also shared his international design experience, focusing on music design, cultural aesthetics, and Taiwan’s visual creativity.

NCUT stated that through the forum and workshop, it hopes to inspire students to reinterpret mountain-city culture through design and transform local culture into a contemporary design language that can be understood, experienced, and shared through visual, spatial, branding, and cultural creative forms, further expanding the possibilities of local revitalization and cultural innovation.

NCUT Hosts Austronesian Cultural Week, Showcasing Indigenous Heritage and International Cultural Exchange



NCUT's Indigenous Student Resource Center held the "Austronesian Cultural Week" from May 4 to 8, with the "Indigenous Voices by Ming-Hsiu Lake Concert" taking place on the evening of May 8. Centered on the theme "Austronesian Culture Interwoven on Campus," the event combined cultural exhibitions, hands-on craft workshops, Austronesian food sharing, traditional

cultural experiences, and musical performances. Nearly 1,000 participants, including NCUT faculty, students, graduating students, and guests from colleges in central Taiwan, joined the event, highlighting NCUT's commitment to multicultural inclusion, ethnic harmony, and international exchange.

NCUT noted that Austronesian culture is one of the world's major maritime cultural systems, extending from Taiwan to New Zealand, Hawaii, and Madagascar. Taiwan's Indigenous cultures play a significant role in the development of Austronesian languages and cultures. Through this event, NCUT aimed to help students and faculty understand the strong connection between Taiwan's Indigenous peoples and Austronesian culture while building a culturally friendly campus. The program included an exhibition of traditional clothing, daily utensils, crafts, cultural symbols, and the migration history of Austronesian peoples. On May 8, activities such as hemp-bag weaving, phone-chain making, plant dyeing, traditional archery, Paiwan wedding swing, and Tsou nose flute experiences were offered. Indigenous and international students also served as cultural workshop instructors.

The evening concert featured Indigenous songs, traditional chants, performances by club instructor Lin Wen-Ming, and dances, folk songs, and Angklung performances by Vietnamese and Indonesian students. Food booths featuring Indigenous and international cuisine added to the festive atmosphere.

Dean of Student Affairs Lin Yun-Tsan said this year's event expanded from Indigenous culture to include 161 Indigenous students and 932 international students, making the program richer and more meaningful. NCUT will continue promoting Indigenous cultural education and cross-cultural exchange to create a more inclusive and culturally vibrant campus.



NCUT Holds Five-Sense Mind Festival to Promote Student Mental Health



National Chin-Yi University of Technology held the “Five-Sense Mind Festival: Lawn Movie Night” on May 14 on the lawn in front of the Machine Tool Building to address students’ mental health needs. The event integrated campus counseling resources and collaborated with external partners, including the Taichung City Health Bureau and the Taichung Association of the Deaf, transforming mental health education into a five-sense experience.

Activities included a stress-relief clay workshop, essential oil scent association, singing bowl sound healing, a silent waffle experience, and an evening outdoor movie screening. Through sight, hearing, smell, taste, and touch, students were guided to become more aware of their emotions, relax their minds and bodies, and reflect on personal growth. The event also incorporated life education, gender equality education, and special education advocacy, demonstrating NCUT’ s efforts in promoting social-emotional learning and whole-campus counseling.

Vice President Chao Kuei-Hsiang stated that although NCUT is known for engineering and technology education, students also need cultural nourishment and psychological support. He praised the Student Affairs Office and related units for creatively bringing mental health and campus care into students’ daily lives.

Dean of Student Affairs Lin Yun-Tsan noted that the event integrated several counseling programs and attracted more than 100 faculty members and students. Film critic Chang Yen-Tuo, editor-in-chief of Filmaholic, was invited to lead a discussion on Life of Pi, guiding participants to reflect on resilience and self-exploration.

The “Heart Words Umbrella” art installation was another highlight, symbolizing the university’ s support for students during difficult times. After the event, the umbrellas will become shared “care umbrellas” on campus, allowing warmth and support to continue in everyday life. NCUT will keep promoting holistic care and mental health education to build a more supportive and friendly campus. 3

NCUT to Host ACRA 2026, Focusing on AI Smart Air Conditioning, Data Center Cooling, Low-Carbon Refrigerants, and Net-Zero Technologies



NCUT will host the 12th Asian Conference on Refrigeration and Air-Conditioning (ACRA 2026), with the opening ceremony scheduled for 9:00 a.m. on May 18, 2026, at the Evergreen Laurel Hotel Taichung. Experts, scholars, and industry representatives from Japan, Korea, Taiwan, and other Asian countries will gather to exchange the latest research and industry trends in refrigeration, air conditioning, energy, heat pumps, building energy efficiency, smart control, low-carbon refrigerants, and cold-chain technologies.

ACRA is a major international conference in Asia's refrigeration and air-conditioning field, held every two years by leading professional associations in the region. This year's conference is chaired by Chair Professor Yen-Te Kuan, Dean of NCUT's College of Engineering and President of the Taiwan Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers. Topics include HVAC and heat pump systems, low-carbon refrigerants, magnetic levitation and permanent-magnet chillers, AI smart air conditioning, AI data center cooling, building energy conservation, cold-chain technology, and AI big data applications in HVAC&R.

NCUT President Kun-Sheng Chen stated that the university has long developed strong expertise in refrigeration, air conditioning, and energy engineering. Hosting ACRA 2026 not only demonstrates NCUT's academic and industrial strengths, but also allows students to participate in an international conference in Taiwan and learn about global technologies and trends.

Chair Professor Kuan noted that the HVAC&R industry is undergoing a major transition toward energy saving, smart control, and high-efficiency operation. AI smart air conditioning can support precise energy management, fault prediction, and system optimization. The conference will also highlight new technologies such as magnetic levitation centrifugal compressors, variable-frequency high-temperature heat pump chillers, and low-GWP refrigerant R-1234ze, supporting the industry's move toward low-carbon and net-zero transformation.

NCUT Electrical Engineering Alumni Association Explores Career Choices and Time Flexibility



NCUT's Electrical Engineering Alumni Association held a career lecture titled "Career Options and Differences in Time Flexibility" on May 27. The event invited industry experts and outstanding alumni back to campus to share professional experience and help students better understand different career paths, work patterns, and levels of time autonomy, enabling them to plan their future development earlier.

Organized by the Electrical Engineering Alumni Association and co-organized by the Department of Electrical Engineering, the event featured speakers from automation, machine tools, smart machinery, electromechanical integration, and related industries. Guests included Nan-Ching Lee, General Manager of Taiwan Fagor CNC Automation; Hsi-Huang Hsiao, Manager at ITRI's Intelligent Machinery Manufacturing Division; Chih-Wei Lee, Chairman of Si-Da Precision Co., Ltd.; Ming-Chun Chang, Vice General Manager of Yongyuan Electric Co., Ltd.; Wen-Liang Yang, Chairman of Jiuzheng Machinery; Chen-Hao Liu from Jiulu Electromechanical; and several school principals and industry representatives.

The newly appointed association chairman, Wei-Tseng Chiang, is an alumnus of NCUT's Graduate Institute of Electrical Engineering and currently serves as General Manager of Chuan-Li Technology Co., Ltd. Since 2003, the company has focused on the machine tool industry, representing high-speed and high-precision drives from the UK brand Control Techniques. It also develops CNC high-speed spindle motor testing systems and bearing temperature acquisition run-in equipment, earning strong recognition for its technical expertise.

NCUT Vice President Kuei-Hsiang Chao stated that the Electrical Engineering Alumni Association serves as an important bridge among the university, alumni, and industry. Through career lectures and industry sharing, students can better understand industrial trends and workplace skills. NCUT will continue integrating alumni and corporate resources to strengthen industry-academia collaboration and cultivate competitive professionals with both technical and practical abilities.

NCUT International Students' Mandarin Speech Contest Highlights Multicultural Exchange



NCUT's Language Center held the International Students' Mandarin Speech Contest on May 20, 2026, inviting international students from Vietnam, Indonesia, Japan, and Germany to showcase their Mandarin skills and multicultural perspectives.

With the theme "Introducing Taiwan in My Eyes," the contest encouraged international students to share their observations and experiences of life in Taiwan through Mandarin, deepening their understanding of Taiwanese culture.

To ensure professionalism and fairness, the organizers invited Professor Ma Hsing-Yi, Chair of the Department of Language and Literacy Education at National Taichung University of Education, Professor Tsai Chiao-Yu, and Lecturer Shih Li-Hsiang as judges. Contestants were evaluated on pronunciation, content, presentation skills, and stage presence.

A total of 24 international students participated, including students from NCUT, Feng Chia University, and Providence University. The contest was divided into two groups based on Mandarin proficiency: A2 Basic Level and B1 Intermediate Level. Participants introduced Taiwan's food, festivals, tourist attractions, and Indigenous cultures with fluent Mandarin and heartfelt expression.

After a competitive contest, Nguyen Thi Hong Yen won first place in the A2 group, while Nguyen Ngoc Nhu Y won first place in the B1 group.

Language Center Director Lin Chia-Ching said language is an important bridge for cross-cultural communication. She was deeply moved to see international students introduce Taiwan in Mandarin. The center will continue promoting Mandarin learning and cultural exchange, encouraging international students to explore Taiwan's diverse and inclusive culture.

NCUT Students Shine in National Practical Project Competition, Winning First and Third Place



The results of the 2026 National Practical Project Competition for Technical and Vocational College Students have been announced. This year’s competition attracted 1,167 entries from 48 schools nationwide. After a rigorous review by 48 experts from industry, government, academia, and research institutions, 137 projects from 33 schools advanced to the finals and exhibition, with 64 projects receiving awards. Six teams from National Chin-Yi University of Technology advanced to the finals, winning first and third place and earning strong recognition from the judges.

The project “Intelligent Grasping System for Glossy Hand Tools Integrating 2D-3D Perception and Omniverse-Enhanced Data,” guided by Professors Peng Ta-Jen and Chen Chih-Jung from the Department of Intelligent Automation Engineering, won first place in the Electrical Engineering category. The student team solved a long-standing industrial challenge: robotic arms often fail to grasp glossy workpieces due to mirror-like reflections. By integrating YOLO, PCN point cloud completion, and Omniverse synthetic data, and through validation with local company Re-Dai Precision, the team increased the grasping success rate from 25% to over 98%.

Another project, “An Innovative Platform for the Digital Transformation of Traditional Religious Fortune Interpretation Services,” guided by Professor Lin Chun-Jung from the Department of Computer Science and Information Engineering, won third place in the Management category. The project integrates 3D divination blocks, voice interaction, knowledge-base retrieval, and AI interpretation services to modernize temple fortune-telling while preserving traditional religious culture.

NCUT stated that these achievements demonstrate the university’s long-term commitment to practical, hands-on education and industry-oriented learning. The university will continue encouraging students to apply professional knowledge to real-world needs and cultivate innovative technical talent.

NCUT Wins Two Championships at Victor Taichung CNC Multi-Axis Machining Competition



The 4th Victor Taichung CNC Multi-Axis Machining Skills Competition concluded on May 24 at the Workforce Development Agency's Taichung-Changhua-Nantou Regional Branch. Co-organized by Victor Taichung, National Formosa University, and the regional branch, the competition attracted 33 teams from 11 universities and vocational high schools across Taiwan.

NCUT achieved outstanding results, winning championships in both the turn-mill machining category and the five-axis machining category. NCUT students Shih-Chen Lin and Yi-An Lin won first place in the turn-mill category, while You-Cheng Lin and Shih-Yao Chiu, representing the Workforce Development Agency Taichung-Changhua-Nantou Regional Branch/NCUT, won first place in the five-axis category. NCUT students Wei-Chih Chen and Ting-Yu Chan also earned second place in the five-axis category.

Victor Taichung stated that the competition tested not only machining skills, but also process planning, CAM application, tool strategy, machining accuracy, measurement verification, and on-site problem-solving, closely reflecting industry needs.

NCUT said the achievements demonstrate the university's long-term commitment to hands-on learning, industry-academia collaboration, and smart manufacturing talent development. The university will continue encouraging students to pursue precision manufacturing and intelligent machinery, contributing new technical energy to Taiwan's machine tool industry.