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LONG-TERM VALUES STRESSED AT THIS YEAR'S COMMENCEMENT

- a** NTHU President Hocheng Hong stressed the importance of long-term values.
- b** Professor Shih Chin-tay pointed out that "Innovation has to go hand-in-hand with personal integrity."

The commencement for graduate students was held in the morning on June 4, with speeches delivered by NTHU president Hocheng Hong and Professor Shih Chin-tay, both of whom happened to stress the importance of having proper values. President Hocheng said that those who achieve their goals are those who have long-term values and hold fast to them even though others may be moving in a different direction. Shih, the founding dean of the College of Technology Management, reminded the graduates that "Innovation has to go hand-in-hand with integrity, and development has to have a clear sense of direction."



Graduate Yan Manru, recipient of this year's Life Champion Award, on stage with her parents.

President Hocheng said that holding proper long-term values gives a person something to rely on and a sense of direction and meaning in life. He also said that lots of recent graduates get caught up in chasing after fame and fortune, but the one-sided pursuit of such short-term values tends towards anxiety, indecision, and discontentment. Thus he exhorted this year's graduates to select long-term values that accord with the principles of justice and moral integrity, which in the long run conduce to peace of mind.

Professor Shih was invited to offer a blessing to the graduates. He said that while serving as the president of the Industrial Technology Research Institute (ITRI) his focus was on technology, but that after coming to NTHU he became more concerned about how to use technology to make life better. For Shih, technological innovation is only meaningful when it is guided by positive human values, so that we use technology to fulfill genuine human needs, rather than becoming its unwitting slaves.

Shih also reminded the graduates that to keep Taiwan's economy competitive, it is important to continually update one's professional knowledge, since in this rapidly changing world "what you learned at school might quickly be superseded by something new."

The commencement ceremony for undergraduate students was held at the Main Auditorium in the evening. The commencement address was delivered by distinguished NTHU graduate Joseph Huang, CEO of the E. SUN Commercial Bank. Huang said that a good way to understand yourself is by



observing your parents, since most people are more like their parents than they might imagine—or would like to admit—due to their genetic inheritance and/or the imperceptible influence of growing up in a certain family.

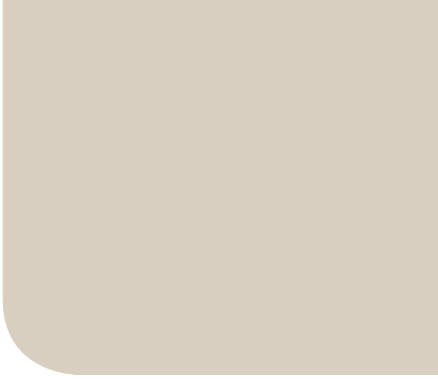
To illustrate this idea, Huang said that in his junior year at NTHU, one day his father came to campus to look for him, and some of his classmates ran over to him and said, "Joseph, a professor wants to see you!" In fact, his father had only studied business from an early age, and never attained a high level of formal education. So when he heard from his son about this case of mistaken identity, he had a smile on his face for the rest of the year. Huang added that even though he's a banker, new acquaintances often guess that he's a teacher.

Some 30 years ago Huang graduated from NTHU's Department of Power Mechanical Engineering, but later moved to the financial industry, and recently received NTHU's Outstanding Alumni Award. His advice to the new graduates was to master the compass of life by knowing yourself and following your heart.

In addition to observing your parents, Huang offered a number of other tips for gaining self-understanding, including asking friends' advice and daring to move outside of your "comfort zone," adding that, "the best job



The class of 2017.



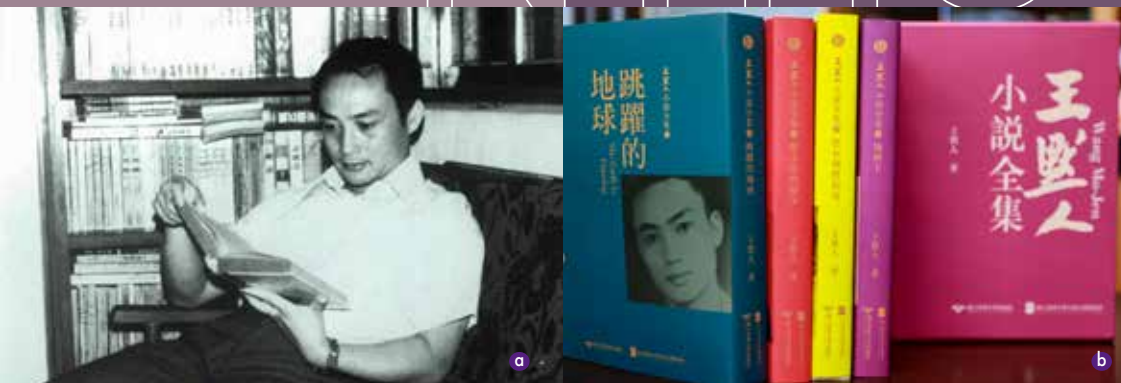
you can get is the one that it will bring you happiness, zest, and a sense of fulfillment." This year the Mei Yi-Chi Memorial Medal—NTHU's highest academic honor—was awarded to eight students: Chen Chihwei of the Interdisciplinary Program of Life Science; Huang Jingwen of the Department of Mathematics; Lin Yuanting of the Department of Electrical Engineering; Catherine Chang of the Department of Foreign Languages and Literature; Chan Yuhsin of the Department of Physics; Liu Yahan of the Double Specialty Program of Management and Technology; Liao Yijun of the Department of Chemical Engineering; and Li Yuzhe of the Department of Engineering and System Science. The ceremony at the Nanda Campus was held in the afternoon, during which each graduating student was presented with

a seal carved with the student's name and embossed with "NTHU" and "NHCUE" on opposite sides. During the ceremony each graduate opened a letter they had written to themselves four years earlier expressing their hopes and expectations for the future. The ceremony concluded with the singing of both school anthems.

Another highlight of the ceremony was the awarding of this year's "Life Champion Award" to Yan Manru, who graduated this year from the Department of Environmental and Cultural Resources. Ten years ago Yan lost both legs and suffered severe burns on her hands and face in a fire which killed her elder brother. In her acceptance speech Yan said that although she looks different from others, this hasn't stopped her from gaining all sorts of unexpected insights. She thanked her classmates for making her feel like part of the group, and her parents for being by her side during the long and arduous rehabilitation process, during which time she had to wear compression garments to prevent the scars from proliferating, even on really hot days, making "a second feel like a year." Following Yan's acceptance speech her parents came on stage, and as she gave her father a big hug while her mother tearfully looked on, everyone broke into a loud round of applause.



Graduates at the Nanda Campus reading the letters they had written to themselves four years earlier expressing their hopes and expectations for the future.



NTHU NOMINATES WANG MO-JEN FOR THE NOBEL PRIZE IN LITERATURE

NTHU has recently nominated Wang Mo-jen for this year's Nobel Prize in Literature. In recognition of his outstanding literary contributions, NTHU has compiled the many awards and accolades received by Wang over the years and forwarded them to the Swedish Academy, which presides over the selection process. The Nobel Prize in Literature aims to recognize the best work in the field of literature. Due to their historical value and realistic depictions of the actual situation of the people occupying the lower echelons of society, Wang's novels are deserving of worldwide attention. Wang was born as Wang Antai in 1934, in Huangmei County, Hubei Province. At the end of 1948 he arrived in Taiwan together with retreating Nationalist troops. During his long career he has served as a reporter for the *China Daily*, the *United Daily News*, and the *Economic Daily*, and as an editor and staff writer for the *China Times*. Since the 1950s Wang has also been continuously engaged in creative writing, mainly in the form of novels. More than 100 of his works have been published in various newspapers, including *Some Other Place*, *The Lower Stratum*, *Alian Returns to the River Gorge*, and *The Wingless Bird*.

Wang's works highlight the psychological turmoil, emotional upheaval, and clash of values triggered by Taiwan's rapid transformation into an industrial society. Writing in a style that is simple yet incisive, he masterfully adapts the tone of a newspaper article to the format of a novel. His delicate and profound descriptions of diehard characters wrestling with dilemmas and predicaments leave a lasting impression. In 1985, Wang relocated to the United States, where he served as the interview director at the *International Daily News* in San Francisco, the manager of the *China Times*, and the editor-in-chief of Overseas

- a Wang Mo-jen.
- b Tsing Hua University Press recently re-published *The Complete Works of Wang Mo-jen*.
- c Wang Mo-jen (center) in 2015 receiving an honorary doctorate in literature from NTHU.

Chinese Communications. In 2015, he received an honorary doctorate in literature from NTHU. He now resides in San Francisco with his wife, Chou Anyi.



NTHU Press recently re-published *The Complete Works of Wang Mo-jen* in four volumes, as well as his wife's new book, *Let's Not See Each Other Any More*. On April 27 both books were launched at the opening session of the Wang Mo-jen and Chou Anyi Lecture Series organized by the Institute of Taiwanese Literature. Although Wang and Chou couldn't attend due to poor health, members of the literature circle gathered to discuss the impact of this set of works. NTHU president Hocheng Hong praised Wang's tenacity in writing about topics he felt were important, even though this was risky business during the martial law era, and said that the



tremendous passion with which he wrote fully embodies the spirit of NTHU. President Hocheng also indicated that he admires Wang for the noble ideas reflected in his work, and that NTHU is pleased to have the opportunity to recommend him for the Nobel Prize.

During the event, Li Ruituan, dean of the College of Liberal Arts at National Central University pointed out that the enduring merits of Wang's novels are their realistic depictions of the many hardships and travails suffered by the mainlanders who fled to Taiwan during the middle of the last century, especially those consigned to the lower levels of society. Li added that the characters depicted in Wang's novels also include lots of native Taiwanese, such as farmers, factory workers, miners, and other ordinary people, whose struggles against the contradictions and injustices of a rapidly developing society makes for compelling reading.

Li also said that Wang's use of a historical framework and realistic portrayal of characters is a highly effective way of telling the story of Taiwan, in all its diversity.

Professor Lin Ruiming, director of the National Museum of Taiwanese Literature, also attended the book launch. He suggested that in addition to recommending Wang for the Nobel Prize, it would be a good idea to nominate him for the National Award for the Arts.

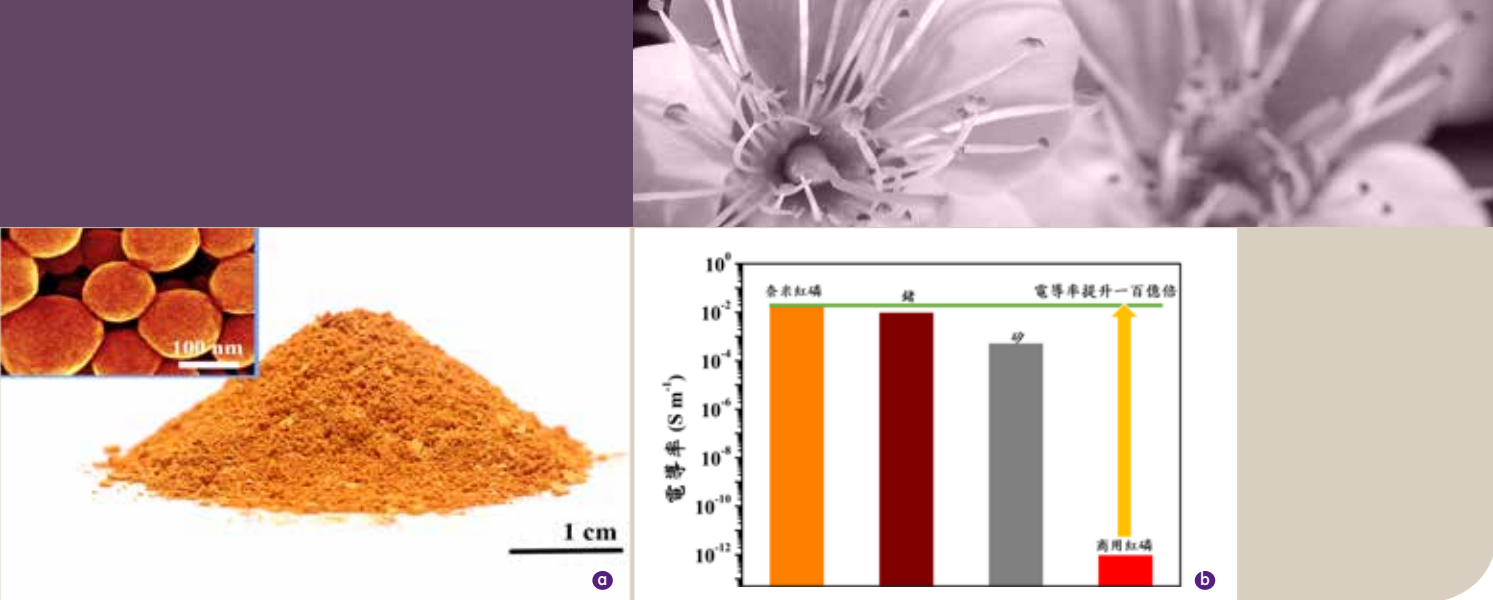
A SHORT BIBLIOGRAPHY OF WANG MO-JEN

Wang's literary career spans 58 years. His first short story, *Survivors*, was published in 1952, and his most recent novel, *The Earth is Dancing*, was published in 2010. Wang has donated the entire manuscript of *The Earth is Dancing* to NTHU.

Wang has penned 71 middle-length novels and short stories. His full-length novels include *Some Other Place* (1972) and *The Earth is Dancing* (2010). His collections of short stories include *Solitary Tears* (1958), *Can't Hold Back the Pace* (1968), *The Bird Without Wings* (1974), *The Lower Stratum* (1976), *Zhou Jinmu's Comedy* (1979), *The Wang Mo-jen Anthology* (1979), and *Alian Returns to the River Gorge* (1984).



The book launch at NTHU.



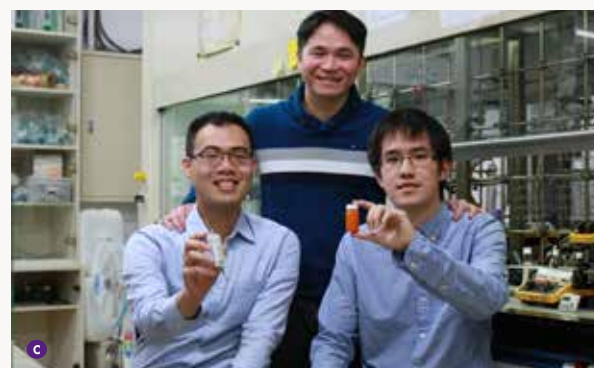
A MAJOR BREAKTHROUGH IN BATTERY TECHNOLOGY

At present, one of the greatest challenges in research related to consumer electronics is to develop batteries which are smaller and have a higher storage capacity. A research team led by Prof. Tuan Hsing-yu at the Department of Chemical Engineering, NTHU has recently developed a new battery material called "iodine-doped red phosphorus nanoparticles." In comparison to graphite—the electrode material currently used in lithium-ion batteries—this new material has a theoretical capacity seven times longer and a significantly extended lifespan, but at a cost only one-sixth that of graphite, making it a new milestone in battery research. In addition to developing this new battery material, Prof. Tuan's team has also used it to make the world's first usable battery with red phosphorus as the negative electrode. Their outstanding research results have recently been published in the prestigious journal *Nano Letters*, and have also been featured in *Chemical & Engineering News*, the most influential chemical engineering journal in the US.

Tuan said that at present lithium-ion batteries are widely used in consumer electronics, but their storage capacity can't be further improved, due to the limitations of the graphite used to make their negative electrode. Some researchers have attempted to substitute phosphorus, the theoretical capacity of which is up to seven times that of graphite, but this proved impossible, since phosphorus is such a poor conductor of electricity. And even if it were possible to make it accept a charge, due to its rapid expansion, the phosphorus material would easily shatters after charging and discharging a few

times. Attempts were also made to mix phosphorus and carbon, but it was found that diluted phosphorus has a much lower charging capacity.

Over the course of more than a year, the research team conducted tests on hundreds of different materials. Finally, using phosphorus triiodide as the raw



- a Powdered red phosphorous. Over the course of more than a year, after conducting tests on hundreds of different materials, using phosphorus triiodide as the raw material, Tuan's research team developed a method for synthesizing "iodine-doped red phosphorus nanoparticles" in only five minutes at room temperature.
- b The conductivity of nanometer red phosphorous is higher than that of germanium and silicon, and over 100 times higher than that of commercial phosphorous.
- c Professor Tuan with team members Chang Wei-chong and Tseng Kuan-wei.



material, they developed a method for synthesizing "iodine-doped red phosphorus nanoparticles," which can be synthesized in only five minutes at room temperature, has a conductivity 10 billion times greater than ordinary red phosphorus, and better yet, it doesn't crack even after hundreds of charges and discharges.

Team member and first author of the article, Mr. Chang Wei-chong revealed that "reverse thinking" was their key to success. He said that in the past, researchers trying to synthesize nanophosphates mainly used high temperatures to release the precursor of phosphorus, but such high temperatures made it impossible for it to form into a

nano-material. However, in one of his experiments Chang got surprising results when he used a precursor with a slightly lower boiling point: phosphorus triiodide. Afterwards, they redesigned their experimental system and succeeded in producing "iodine-doped red phosphorus nanoparticles," the first time a nano-material has ever been synthesized out of red phosphorus at room temperature.

Demonstrating this seemingly simple experiment, Mr. Chang added the black phosphorus iodide solution to the reduction solution containing a surfactant, and after some vigorous mixing, a bright orange-red material became visible: red phosphorus. When dried and turned into powder, red phosphorus can be used to manufacture electrodes for use in lithium-ion batteries. Inspired by his discovery, Chang has developed a special liking of orange-red color, and can often be seen in the laboratory wearing orange socks. Team member Tseng Kuan-wei said that the experimental procedure was like looking for an optimal combination in the vast sea of chemical compounds, and that after hundreds of failures, finding the right combination was an experience that is hard to describe.

According to Tuan, since phosphorus is one of the most plentiful elements on the earth's surface, it is cheap and easy to obtain, giving it great potential in the development of batteries that are smaller, lighter, and have a longer lifespan. Take, for example the latest Apple iPhone7, which has a graphite battery that weighs about 6 grams. A battery with the same capacity, but made with "iodine-doped red phosphorus nanoparticles" would weigh less than 1 gram.

Tuan's research team has already applied for a multi-national patent for "iodine-doped red phosphorus nanoparticles." They are now planning to adapt the same material for use in sodium batteries, an application which would reduce the cost of a large-scale energy storage grids while increasing their capacity, thereby ushering in a new era of battery technology.



The softshell battery made by Tuan's research team.



NTHU RACING GEARING UP FOR JAPAN

NTHU Racing is a student club comprised mainly of students of the Department of Power Mechanical Engineering. After building their own racing car, they participated in the Student Formula Japan competition held in September 2016. Eager to achieve better results, they have recently completed an upgraded version of their race car. Dubbed "NTHU II" and weighing a mere 225 kg (125 kg less than the previous generation), the car can accelerate from 0-100 km in a mere 4.2 seconds—nearly twice as fast as its predecessor. Brimming over with confidence, they are currently preparing for the next round of Student Formula Japan to be held in September this year.

Team captain Wu Chung-Hsin said that in order to make the car faster, they put a lot of effort into reducing the weight of the frame and components. They achieved this mainly by reducing the vehicle's total length from 3 meters to 2 meters and designing a suspension system using lightweight, high strength titanium alloy. Leaving no detail aside, they even managed to reduce the weight of the brake pedal and driver's seat. Such good results were gained by the concerted efforts of the entire team, which spend many a night burning the midnight oil. Even during winter vacation, they spent nearly every day working on the design of NTHU II. Team member Chen Xian-Ying said that even after Wu fell ill due to excessive pressure coupled with lack of sleep, he kept coming to the workshop as usual, and that his dedication to the project really helped to boost the team's morale. According to Wu, a firm believer in the power of synergy, a good car comes from a good team.

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- a** Last year NTHU Racing entered the Student Formula Japan competition for the first time.
 - b** Welding the frame of "NTHU II."
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NTHU Racing has already caught the attention of a number of industry players, several of which have become sponsors. For instance, the Wel & Cut Company, a major manufacturer of arc cutting and welding equipment, has provided welding equipment and free welding courses worth NT\$100,000. Deputy general manager Tseng Min-Chi personally took the team on a tour of the factory and explained the production process; and when the team encountered difficulties while welding the frame, Tseng came up to NTHU from Kaohsiung to help them complete the welding.

One major difficulty the team encountered was with the custom-made drive shaft, since every manufacturer they contacted required an order of at least 100 pieces. As the deadline for completing the car drew near, and nobody seemed to know how to proceed, the father of one of the team members suggested that they contact the Taiway manufacturing company. As it turned out, Taiway was able to manufacture the custom-made drive shaft, and they were willing to do it free of charge! This was a watershed moment for the entire team. Once the new race car was nearly ready,



they recruited three drivers, each of whom is in top physical condition and has nerves of steel. Furthermore, during the three months leading up to the contest, each driver will undergo intensive training sessions two or three times per week.

The team's mentor is Professor Lin Chao-An, who will accompany the team to Japan in September. Lin complimented the members of NTHU Racing for their ability to solve problems independently, only seeking outside assistance as a last resort, adding that in the process they have gained a lot of valuable experience.

Team member Lin Zhan-Jun said that last year was the first time they participated

in the competition, and that although they were the top team from Taiwan, they came in 65th amongst the 92 teams from around the world, indicating lots of room for improvement. Aware that they will have difficulty finding more support if they don't do better this year, the team's goal is to break into the top 30. In addition to fine tuning their racing strategy, the team is currently working on raising funds for shipping their car to Japan.

Formed in 2015 by students of the Department of Power Mechanical Engineering, this year NTHU Racing has been joined by students from various other departments, including the Department of Engineering and System Science, the Department of Physics, the Department of Electrical Engineering, the Department of Industrial Engineering, and the Department of Computer Science.



Members of NTHU Racing with "NTHU II."



NTHU RESEARCHERS DISCOVER ANCIENT HOKLO DICTIONARY

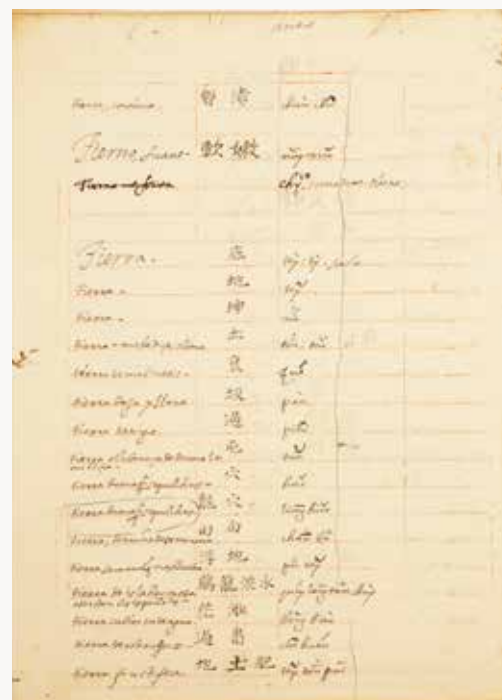
A team of researchers from NTHU's Research Center for Humanities and Social Sciences, the Institute of Taiwanese History at Academia Sinica, and Spain's University of Seville and Pompeu Fabra University in Barcelona have recently discovered a lexicon that provides important clues about the Hoklo language (or Holo, commonly known as Taiwanese) of the 17th century. Titled *A Lexicon of the Changzhou Language* (Spanish: *Vocabulario de la Lengua Chio Chiu*), the manuscript is about four hundred years old and consists of over 21,000 words and characters; its discovery is considered to have considerable value to the study of the pronunciation of Hoklo in both Manila and Northern Taiwan during the Ming dynasty.

Sponsored by the Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation for International Scholarly Exchange, over the past few years the research team has visited various archives in Spain, the Philippines and elsewhere looking for dictionaries and other ancient books relating to Hoklo. Thus the entire team was delighted by their discovery at the University of Santo Tomas in the Philippines of this lexicon which sheds considerable light on the Hoklo language as used by the overseas Hoklo community during the 17th century.

Team member Fabio Lee of the Institute of History said that in 1571 the Spaniards began to import large amounts of silver from the Americas to the Philippines, leading tens of thousands of Hoklo people to emigrate to Manila. It was from these emigrants that the Spaniards learned about the geography and trade potential of Taiwan, and in 1597 they made the very

first complete map of *Hermosa* (Taiwan), including the ports of Beigang, Jilong, and Danshui.

Eager to spread both Christianity and their trade network, the Spaniards enlisted Hoklo people living in Manila to help compile a number of books in and on the Hoklo language, the most significant achievement of which was the *Changzhou Lexicon*, in



The page of the *Changzhou Lexicon* including the entries for Jilong and Danshui (fourth from the bottom).



which Jilong and Danshui were described as the two areas occupied by the Spanish. Lee also pointed out that these two entries indicate that the manuscript was produced during the Spanish occupation of northern Taiwan, which lasted from 1626 to 1642. Thus the *Changzhou Lexicon* predates the *Kangxi Dictionary*, begun in 1711, by nearly 100 years. It's also the largest extent lexicon of Hoklo produced during the 16th and 17th centuries, and one-third of the entries include phonetic transcriptions indicating the pronunciation in both Hoklo and Mandarin. Lee also said that the *Changzhou Lexicon* provides a wealth of useful information on the vocabulary used by Hoklo emigrants at the beginning of the 17th century, as well as various details relating to their geographical knowledge and daily life. For example, some

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- ④ Members of the research team examining ancient manuscripts held in the archives of the University of Santo Tomas.
 - ⑤ Fabio Lee of NTHU's Institute of History; Regalado Trota Jose, archivist of the University of Santo Tomas; and José Luis Caño Ortigosa of the University of Seville (left to right).
-

of the expressions found in the *Changzhou Lexicon* are still in use in the Hoklo spoken in Taiwan, such as *sey muy hong*, literally "washing the lintel," and figuratively "to restore one's honor."

Previously, the most important historical document on the Hoklo language was a grammar book consisting of some 60 pages and explaining nearly 2,000 terms titled *Arte de la Lengua Chio Chiu*, which was discovered by the late Sinologist Piet van der Loon.

According to Lee, the discovery of the *Changzhou Lexicon* will provide a major boost to our understanding of the Hoklo diaspora, since it provides a wealth of information about their language and way of life, as well as how these have developed over the past four centuries.



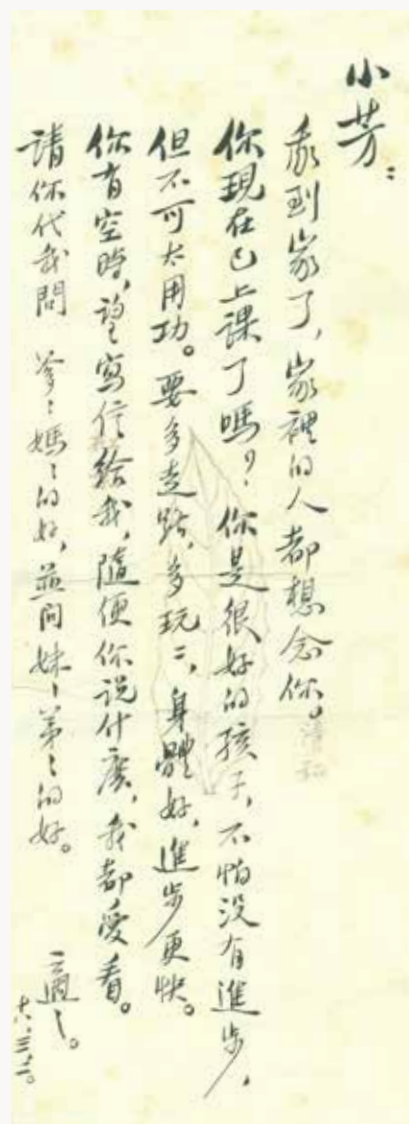


GOOD TEACHERS ARE WORTH THEIR WEIGHT IN GOLD

NTHU recently celebrated its 106th anniversary and the 61st anniversary of its reestablishment in Taiwan. As part of the celebration, NTHU and Tsing Hua University in Beijing held a joint exhibition of the letters, manuscripts, and calligraphy of a number of their notable alumni. Titled "An Exhibition of the Letters of Tsing Hua Scholars," amongst the many items on display was a handwritten document by Mei Yi-Chi, the first president of NTHU when it was reestablishment in Taiwan. From Mei's letter we can catch a glimpse of the many difficulties he had to surmount in bringing his task to completion, especially in recruiting well-qualified teachers.

In a letter written by Hu Shi to his friend's daughter, he offers the following timeless guidance: "You're a fine child, and you need not worry about falling behind. Be diligent, but don't forget to play and walk a lot; for a good health is essential for making rapid progress."

The exhibition ran until May 10 on the ground floor of the Main Library, and included over 60 items by scholars who have made notable contributions to academia and society as a whole. Amongst the most interesting items on display are those written by the "Four Luminaries of Chinese Studies": Liang Qichao, Wang Guowei, Chen Yinke, and Chao Yuanren. Lin Furen, director of the NTHU Library, said that in November last year the idea for the joint exhibition was proposed by the Art Museum of Tsing Hua University in Beijing, and then picked up by Professor Yang Rubing of the Department of



A letter written by Hu Shi for Tao Weizhen.



Chinese Language and Literature.

The exhibition includes fascinating documents written by a wide range of eminent scholars, including Nobel laureates.

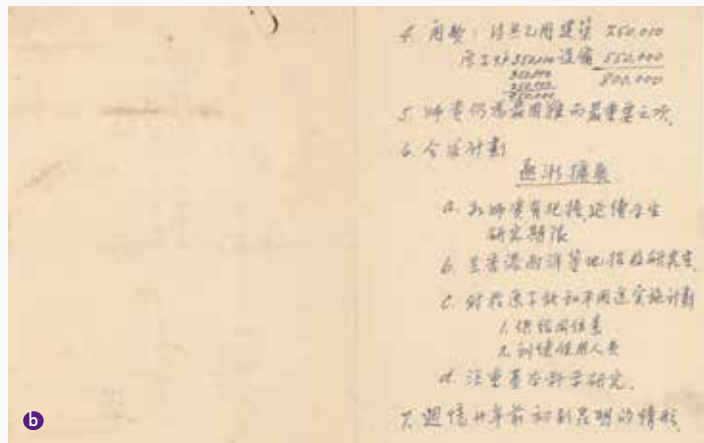
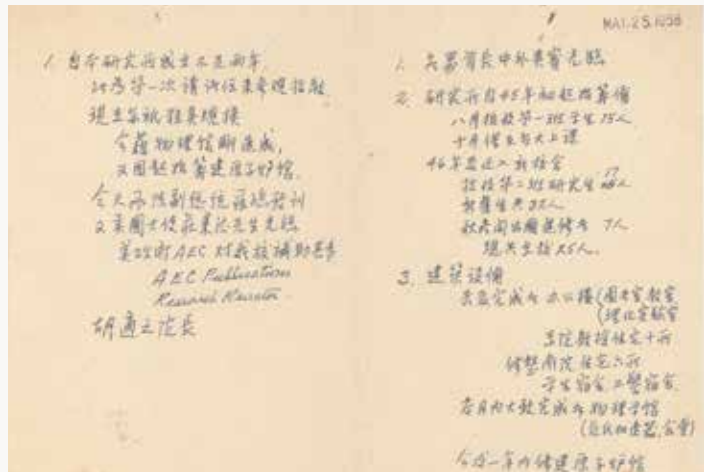
Director Lin pointed out that one of the most significant documents in the exhibit was a memorandum handwritten by Mei Yi-Chi relating to the construction of the Physics Department, the nuclear reactor, and various other school buildings, as well as faculty recruitment and the procurement of essential equipment.

From a letter written by Chu Ziqing, we learn how, despite his straightened circumstances, he somehow managed to send a nominal amount of money as wedding gift to his beloved nephew. In 1948 Chu Ziqing famously refused to accept US relief grain, but died later that year due to illness.

In conjunction with the exhibition, in the afternoon of April 21 a symposium was held featuring a number of enlightening lectures by noted scholars from both sides of the Taiwan Strait.

a Visitors at An Exhibition of the Letters of Tsing Hua Scholars.

b A memorandum written by Mei Yi-Chi relating to the construction of the Physics Department.





Participant at an education camp held in Belize in 2015.

BENEFITTING SELF AND OTHERS: INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEER SOCIETY CELEBRATED ITS 10TH ANNIVERSARY

Over the past ten years, NTHU's International Volunteer Society has carried out projects in a variety of countries, including Nepal and Tanzania. Quite a few of its members have already graduated, many of whom recently returned to NTHU to celebrate their alma mater's anniversary. Looking back on their overseas experience, many said that even though the practical benefits they brought to the people they were supposed to help may have been quite limited, they themselves got a lot out of the experience of serving others. In fact, many said that the few short weeks they spent as overseas volunteers has had a major impact on their outlook and the course of their lives.

In 2007, the first batch of volunteers went to Nepal, Indonesia, China, and Malaysia, and in later years this was expanded to include such nations as Tanzania, Sierra Leone, Kenya, Ghana, and Belize. Designed to meet the local needs, the Society's projects have included education, health care, hygiene, and documenting local cultural history. By 2016, a total of 519 NTHU students have participated in such projects, and an additional 62 are getting ready to ship out this summer.

Jackie Cheng, co-founder of Gogolook, went to Indonesia in 2007 as a member of the International Volunteer Society. His message for those interested in participating in an overseas project is that, in addition to matching the right people with the right project, it's essential to give due consideration to sustainability. In his experience, it's a pity that lots of college students who went overseas totally overlook this factor, with the result that all they leave behind is a half-built cement wall or a few unusable second-hand computers.

Kao Peiting was a member of the International Volunteer Society in 2011, and is currently a psychologist at the Kid's Bookhouse, a nonprofit organization based in Taitung. In her view, it's essential to establish a cooperative relationship with those you are trying to help, and to avoid regarding them as merely recipients of handouts. Quoting another volunteer, Ju Zhigeng added, "only when the local people solve the problem themselves, can the problem really be solved."



Former members of NTHU's International Volunteer Society, along with director of extracurricular activities Professor Michael Lu (back row, first from left) and Professor Wang Jyun-cheng (back row, third from left), who helped establish the Society.



The International Volunteer Society was established ten years ago by President Hocheng Hong, who at that time was the dean of student affairs. He is very pleased to see the Society's commendable achievements, and to hear that so many graduates have benefitted from their participation in it. When encouraging students to expand their range of experience, he often exhorts them to "walk ten thousand miles, read ten thousand books, and serve ten thousand people."

President Hocheng said that Jackie Cheng once told him that the experience he gained as an international volunteer has been instrumental in his becoming a successful entrepreneur. During his two sojourns overseas, Cheng acquired a

number of valuable skills, such as the ability to formulate a strategy, make detailed plans, and to understand people of different cultural background—none of which could be easily learned while sitting in the classroom.

President Hocheng gave a special word of thanks to the many groups and individuals who have served as bridges between the volunteers and their host communities, including a number of Catholic priests who provided assistance in Tanzania, and a Buddhist organization which helped to coordinate several projects in Indonesia.

Also present at the ten-year reunion of the International Volunteer Society were Wang Hsiao-fang, the founding director of Volunteer Link Taiwan; reporter Tsao Funian; freelance photographer Weng Ziheng; and Liao Cheng-yu and Yen Yu-Tzu, the co-directors of Let We Care, a social service organization bringing together youths and senior citizens.



The International Volunteer Society's reunion was attended by former deans of student affairs: senior vice president of academic affairs Professor Chen Sinn-wen (front row, fifth from left); President Hocheng Hong (front row, fourth from left); and dean of general affairs Professor Ping-Chiang Lyu (front row, third from left).



OUT OF TAIWAN LAUNCHED AT NTHU

On March 18 Liu Chao-shiuan, the director of the Foundation of Chinese Culture for Sustainable Development and a former president of NTHU, held a book launch for his new novel *Out of Taiwan* at the Main Library's Idea Hub. During the event Liu donated the 12 volumes of his original manuscript, totaling over 210,000 characters, to NTHU.

Former president Chen Lih-juann and Library director Lin Furen commented on the close connection between the molten salt reactor described in the book and similar technologies being developed at NTHU.

Written under the pen name Shang Guanding, in addition to energy technology, *Out of Taiwan* also describes the conflicts between such Middle Eastern nations as Turkey, Iraq, and Syria, as well as the struggle of the Kurds to establish their own nation. The book also describes the strategic value of the molten salt reactor, an idea related to the development of a nuclear reactor at NTHU, which makes the acquisition of the manuscript a valuable addition to the NTHU archives.

Liu said that the idea for the plot was inspired by his bodyguards he had while serving as the premier, who, despite their cultured appearance, were highly skilled in the use of weapons. Thus the two main characters are police

officers trained as snipers, one of whom is a woman who grew up in an air force family compound in Hsinchu, a type of upbringing not very different from that of Liu himself. As indicated by the title, the story mostly takes place outside of Taiwan, hinting at Taiwan's increasingly prominent role on the world stage.

The event was well attended by book fans and the NTHU community, and included a stimulating question-and-answer session. During the past three years Liu has penned three novels, each written in a different



Liu Chao-shiuan (left) presenting the original manuscript of *Out of Taiwan* to NTHU, represented by library director Lin Furen (right) and former NTHU president Chen Lih-juann (center).

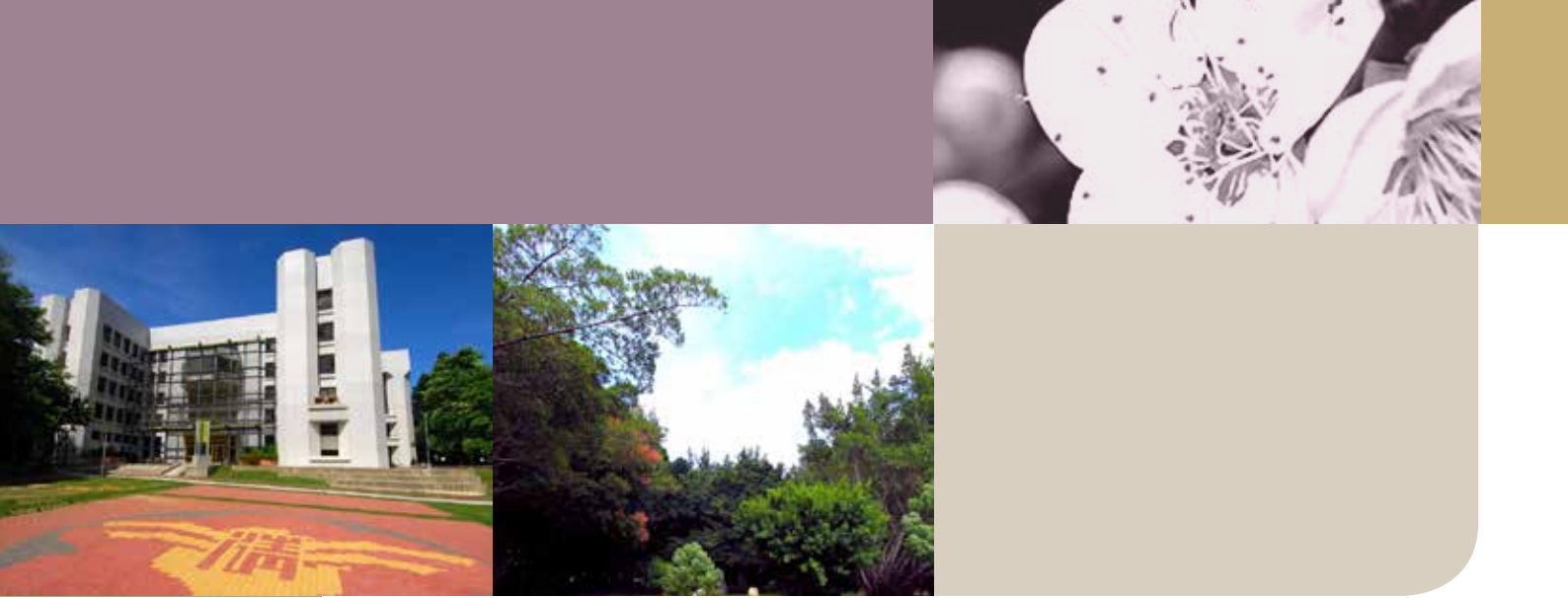


style and set in a different period—the Ming dynasty, World War Two, and the present—leading his readers to wonder if his next novel will be set in the future. Liu, however, said that he has yet to select the theme of his next work, but if it is set in the future, it won't be your average science fiction; rather, he would prefer to write about a topic of momentous importance to the future of humanity.

Liu also said that he is currently working on the script for a film adaptation of *Out of Taiwan*, the producer of which is planning to use a montage technique to make the plot even more compelling.



Liu Chao-shiuan and book fans at the launch of *Out of Taiwan*.



NTHU CELEBRATES ANNIVERSARY WITH A NEW RENDITION OF SCHOOL ANTHEM

On April 23 NTHU celebrated its 106th founding anniversary and the 61st anniversary of its reestablishment in Taiwan. This was the first anniversary celebration since National Hsinchu University of Education (NHCUE) was merged with NTHU. The celebration featured students from the Department of Music singing the new rendition of school anthem, as well as the unveiling of the new Outstanding Alumni Trophy, symbolizing the beginning of a new era for NTHU.

During the assembly President Hocheng Hong stated that the 61st anniversary of the school's reestablishment in Taiwan also marks the beginning of a new 60-year cycle. He noted that this was the first time the celebration has been held since NHCUE merged with NTHU last year, a milestone marking the beginning of a new era for NTHU. Finally, he took the opportunity to encourage the entire NTHU community to continue to strive forwards into this new era with unshakable diligence, so as to make NTHU an international paragon of excellence. In addition to informing the students, faculty, and alumni in attendance about a wide variety of accomplishments over the past year, President Hocheng also outlined the school's future development. He said that since its completion last year, the new building of the Innovation Incubation Center has already become a focus of dynamic enterprise in northern Taiwan. He added that the completion later this year of the nearby NTHU Laboratory will greatly strengthen our capacity to carry out interdisciplinary research. He added that a number of new buildings are planned for the South Campus, including the

College of the Arts, the College of Education, and a student dormitory.

President Hocheng pointed out that NTHU has a long history of innovation and that its outstanding alumni can now be found around the globe. He also emphasized NTHU's commitment to benefitting all segments of society, is clearly demonstrated by its wide variety of student recruitment programs. In closing, he stressed that the central mission of NTHU is to equip students with the knowledge, skills, and attitude that will make them first-rate professionals in the diverse and globalizing world of the future.

NTHU's original school anthem was



NTHU President Hocheng Hong delivering his speech during the anniversary ceremony.



composed around 1923. The lyrics were written by Professor Wang Luanxiang, the music was added by Chang Lizhen, the wife of the director of English Archives, and a choral arrangement was later made by the famous linguist and composer Chao Yuan Ren. For nearly a century this anthem has been sung at NTHU's anniversary celebrations in a variety of styles. For instance, one year members of the NTHU Student Chorus suddenly appeared throughout the hall and led the audience in a rousing rendition of the school anthem, and in another time a memorable acapella version was performed by the Seagull-K Vocal Band. This year's rendition was sung by a group of 14 students from the Department of Music directed by Su Fanling, dean of the College of the Arts. The solemn four-part arrangement consisting of soprano, alto, tenor, and bass began with a vigorous yet tender tone, giving

ample expression to the august and stately atmosphere of the event, and concluded with a soaring harmony that perfectly conveyed the optimistic and pioneering spirit of NTHU.

The chorus was accompanied by a ten-member wind ensemble, including flute, oboe, clarinet, French horn, and trumpet. The performance was artfully arranged by Su to accentuate the unique timbre of each instrument and to create a majestic and elegant ambience.

Hsiao Ming Tun, director of the Department Arts and Design, modeled the new Outstanding Alumni Trophy on the *Pillar of Learning* sculpture at the campus main gate. Embossed with the Chinese characters *Tsing Hua zhi guang* (the glory of NTHU), the trophy is a symbolic manifestation of the vitality and excellence of NTHU that has produced so many outstanding alumni.

This year the Outstanding Alumni Award was presented to Academia Sinica Academician Cheng Ching-shui of the class of 1972, and to Jerry Liao of the class of 1979, chairman of the Great Eastern Resins Industrial Company (GRECO).

After graduating from the Department of Mathematics, Academician Cheng went to the US and earned a doctorate in mathematics at Cornell University. In recognition of his diligence

and leadership, he was twice appointed director of the Institute of Statistical Science at Academia Sinica, and has been instrumental in its development into a world class institute.

In his acceptance speech Dr. Cheng said that he was grateful for the guidance he received



Students of the Department of Music performing NTHU's new school anthem.



from all his teachers at NTHU, especially Yang Juemin of the Institute of Nuclear Engineering and Science, Li Yiyen of the Physics Department, and Hsu Daoning of the Department of Mathematics. When he met Hsu at the assembly he made it a point to give him a deep bow. Cheng also mentioned that during his time as an undergraduate at NTHU it was a seminar led by Professor Huang Guangming that steered him onto the path of academic research.

Jerry Liao has been leading GRECO for nearly three decades, under his leadership the company developed top-notch adhesives which have been used by both Adidas and Nike. In connection with GRECO's partnership with the DuPont company in the US, Liao once toured a DuPont factory which had over 800 employees and an impeccable safety record over a 25-year period. Impressed, Liao studied the plant's safety management system and implemented it at GRECO.

With a strong concern for public welfare, Liao has made significant contributions in assisting underprivileged children and encouraging students to study chemistry. In his acceptance speech, Liao said that although he majored in Chemistry, he was also an avid athlete, and joined the NTHU baseball team, basketball team, and track and field team. He laughingly mentioned that on returning to NTHU to receive the award, more teachers in the Physical Education Office remembered him than did the teachers in the Department of Chemistry. He said that during his time at NTHU he gained not only valuable professional knowledge, but also a healthy physique. After completing a master's

degree in the US, he returned to Taiwan to take over the family business, which he soon transformed into a high-tech enterprise. Liao expressed his gratitude for the excellent education he received at NTHU, and reaffirmed his commitment to supporting his alma mater.

During the assembly Alumni Association President Hsieh Yongfen affirmed that last year's merger with NHCUE was carried out with a high degree of administrative finesse. She also congratulated President Hocheng Hong on his reappointment, and encouraged all alumni to continue supporting the development of NTHU.



VIPs at the assembly (right to left): Jerry Liao, Cheng Ching-shui, Xie Yongfen, NTHU President Hocheng Hong, Wang Keyan, Xinzhu deputy mayor Shen Huihong, and He Mingguo, President of Tatung University.



HOMEcoming PICNIC UNDER THE BREADFRUIT TREE

Since its founding in 1940, NHCUE has undergone numerous reincarnations, and following its merger with NTHU plans are afoot to ensure that its legacy lasts well into the future. As a way of emphasizing that the spirit and history of NHCUE remains alive and well, the Office of the Secretariat of the Nanda Campus held a homecoming party for NHCUE alumni on April 28. The event featured a picnic and entertainment by the student vocal group the Qingjuan

Ambassadors. Over 200 alumni were on hand to witness the inauguration of the College of Education and the College of Arts.

During the inauguration ceremony for the College of Education and the College of Arts, one of NHCUE's outstanding alumni, retired Professor Tsai Changsheng, was invited to make inscriptions for the two colleges.

Also during the event, the NHCUE Outstanding Alumni Award was presented to four graduates who have excelled in their respective fields: noted artist Liu Deliang; Chang Wenzheng, currently artist-in-residence at the Asia-Pacific Institute of Creativity; Professor Chou Wen Huei of the

Department of Digital Media Design at National Yunlin University of Science and Technology; and Ya'aw kalahae' kaybaybaw, the principle of the Donghe



From left to right: Li Anmin, dean of the College of Education; NTHU President Hocheng Hong; Chen Hwei-pang, special advisor to the Office of the President; and Chang Mei-Yu, former dean of the College of Education.



Guests of honor unveiling the new sign of the College of the Arts.

Elementary School in Miaoli County.

Following the sumptuous picnic, students and alumni performed on the stage located next to the breadfruit tree and athletic field. During their performance, the Qingjuan Ambassadors, which consists of NHCUE alumni, said that lots of visiting alumni have told them that they have such fond memories of studying under the breadfruit tree that they have planted one near their homes.

They also dedicated to their fellow alumni a song which always conjures up memories of their singing classes of yesteryear. Another highlight of the afternoon was an interactive magic show put on by the class of 1999.

In addition to providing specially prepared picnic mats and lunch boxes, the organizers also presented a handsome souvenir to all the visiting alumni.



The NHCUE class of 1954 celebrating their 50th class reunion under the breadfruit tree.



NTHU



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