NCCU holds forum with Harvard and Berkeley

International Doctoral Program in Asia-Pacific Studies (IDAS) had its first conference with graduates from Harvard and Berkeley in a forum focusing on the upcoming Economic Cooperation Framework Agreement (ECFA) on June 3.

As the host school, IDAS Chairman Lai Tsung-yu (賴宗裕) said the program demonstrates NCCU’s academic standing and resources through the forum.

“Our performance can compete on the top tiers of the ‘international level,’” he said. “This forum did help promote IDAS to outside of Asia.”

IDAS program secretary Paloma Ho (何其慧) said that the exchange started this semester when students went over to join seminars and take courses at Harvard and Berkeley. “When our student initiated the idea, both schools eagerly embraced the concept,” she said.

Timothg Tan, an IDAS student, said that as both Harvard and Berkeley are considered prestigious schools in the field of Asia-Pacific affairs, and that having the opportunity of attending their programs opened him up to a variety of viewpoints.

“Most important of all, it helps us understand our competitiveness in such a global environment,” he said. “We have developed our own fields of expertise in comparison with Harvard and Berkeley.”

Claire Tao (陶韻惠), the international coordinator of Office of International Cooperation (OIC), said that the cooperation agreement with Berkeley was signed by the delegation during a recent visit and that it is expected to be put into practice next semester.

Ho said that as IDAS has only been established for two years, it is an honor to have built relationships with Harvard and Berkeley so quickly.

“This forum is still a department-to-department activity so far,” she said. “We are looking forward to a deeper level of university-to-university cooperation and will soon extend it to an annual event.”

IDAS, established in 2001, together with the other three international programs, is the first in Taiwan to offer an English doctoral program in Asia-Pacific Studies where a broad range of cultural, political, and economic experiences is given to train professionals both in practice and theory.
ImaginAsia —
NCCU and Tokyo

ImaginAsia, an international project organized by the College of Communication at National Chengchi University (NCCU) has launched its 2010 summer cooperation workshop between Taipei and Tokyo on June 1 with a three-day visit of professors and students from Meiji University’s Digital Content Studies Program.

The workshop held by Lu Fei-i(盧非易), vice president of College of Communication and attended by the visiting delegation of professors and students. During the first of the workshop, eight Taiwanese and Japanese students presented their projects including Nakabayashi Ryusuke’s Camera Shake Sequencer and Takanashi Kozue’s i-D. Each session was followed by a question and answer period.

Irina Markova, a Russian student in NCCU’s Graduate Program of Radio and Television, attended the workshop and enjoyed the workshop as it was another example of the international cooperation projects the College of Communications has hosted.

“NCCU’s College of Communication is well-equipped and we have one of the best dedicated communication libraries in Asia,” Markova said, “I can easily access school resources and equipment, and one of the best aspects of studying here is that I can connect academic theories with practical techniques.”

NCCU students will pay a visit to Meiji University at the end of July to further deepen cross-cultural relations.

Byron Ko (柯嘉偉), a senior majoring in NCCU English Department and also a member of the ImaginAsia project, said that it was a very special experience to participate and meet the visiting Meiji University students.

“For me, it was a chance to learn from each other and also to reexamine my own abilities between the cultural and academic exchange with the Meiji graduate students,” Ko said.

Launched in 2009, ImaginAsia, has invited Japan’s Meiji University and Thailand’s Chulalongkorn University to NCCU’s College of Communication. At the end of June, a group of NCCU faculty members and students will visit Meiji University.

NCCU hosts University of Richmond in language and cultural studies

Students from the University of Richmond (Richmond), Virginia arrived in Taipei to begin their study of Chinese language and culture.

For two months this summer the students will undergo intensive Mandarin courses as well as learn about Chinese cultural through participation in field trips and activities. National Chengchi University (NCCU) will host the group, allowing them to experience life as a student in Taiwan.

The program called “2010 Summer Mandarin Study Tour,” arranged by NCCU’s Office of International Education will provide the students with a daily three hours of classroom instruction in Mandarin followed by two hours of private tutoring.

On Friday evening students will learn culture through hands-on experience by participating in workshops such as calligraphy, including trips to culturally rich areas such as the National Palace Museum and historic towns located outside of Taipei.

The students accompanied by Richmond Chinese professor Su-Lin Tai, will instruct the first four weeks of lessons at NCCU’s Chinese Language Center (CLC). Nationally acclaimed for its teaching and facilities, the CLC maintains a 7-1 class size ratio and has resource center offering studying materials.

In addition, program participants will have the opportunity to make use of other campus resources including the health center, sports facilities, and libraries.”

For the first month, students will stay in NCCU’s International House, a dorm specially established to house international students while studying at NCCU. The second month of their stay, students will move into general campus dormitories.

Yang Ming-huan a visiting student stated he came to NCCU with many goals such as to “study Chinese, make new friends, and prepare to apply for a master’s program.”

Richmond ranks among the top liberal arts schools in the U.S. with a business school ranked as one of the highest in the U.S.
NCCU’s perfect weekend getaway

Chinese-Korean cultural exchange promoted through pop

A Chinese-Korean pop culture exchange gave visiting students an opportunity to interact through pop music on May 29th.

Before the contest, students singed up individually or formed self-selected groups to rehearse choreographed dance moves to accompany their song. All performances were divided into two groups; Chinese students singing Korean songs, and Korean students singing Chinese songs. The teams were then scored by a panel of judges.

The event held by the NCCU Korean department attracted a large crowd as students and community members filled the Si Wei Tang building to cheer on the performances. More than 30 teams of Chinese and Koreans performed during the four hour show. The top prize awarded to the highest scoring team was round trip plane tickets to Korea. The event attracted many sponsors such as Samsung, LG, and Korea Tourism Organization.

The students’ renditions of Korean and Chinese pop songs elicited rousing support from the audience. Among the songs selected included pieces by the Korean groups After School and Beast, as well as selection from Taiwanese artists Christine Fan and Show Luo.

K-pop has become increasingly popular in Taiwan following the rise of the Korean Wave, the term used to describe the Korean pop culture in Asia.

Chinese-Korean cultural exchange

Wakefield Li and his host family spend time visiting YiLan cultural center.

Group of Taiwanese NCCU students perform.

Distinguished Guests at NCCU

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