OIC 2010 Retrospect: Cooperation and Exchange Section (CES)

A starry night has fallen upon the National Cheng-chi University (NCCU), and if you drop by the administrative building and see the eighth floor lights still on, it’s where the Office of International Cooperation (OIC) is located. These lights mean that probably the staff of CES (Cooperation and Exchange Section) are once again working late. If you listen carefully you could probably hear the busy sounds of the printer printing, mouse clicking, or screaming, because someone’s coffee spilt again.

As one of the most important sections in OIC, CES plays the key role in international cooperation between NCCU and its partner schools. Since 2010, the number of partner universities has rapidly grown to 350. CES’ mandate is to coordinate international cooperation, and this includes developing and maintaining partnerships, dealing with our fair share of red tape. A highlight for CES is entertaining international visitors, and of course expanding the NCCU to the outside world. This is the reason why the staff of CES, led by Prof. Ruei-chi Wang (王瑞琦), Director of CES, are always actively pursuing the internationalization of NCCU.

The A-star staff in CES including (by alphabetical order) Caroline Tsai (蔡景霏), Claire Tao (陶韻惠), Kelly Wang (王植婷), Nina Hsu (許純琦), and Rebecca Lin (林京瑋), a combination of coordinator and superwomen. Since 2010, CES has received more than 100 academic institutes from overseas. These distinguished visiting institutions include BEM Business School, Tubingen University, and Chinese Hong Kong University and many others. Currently there are at least 303 NCCU students studying abroad in our partner institutes.

Besides hosting receptions of our distinguished visiting guests, CES has been active in major international annual conferences and events such as NAFSA, EAIE, and APAIE. In April 2010, APAIE was held in Queensland, Australia, NAFSA in Kansas, US from May to June, and EAIE in Nantes, France in September. CES has also joined the 2010 Indonesian Higher Education Fair in Jakarta, Aceh, and Yogyakarta, to broaden the range of selection for those would like to go abroad in the Southeast Asian.

During this year-long effort, CES has become even more active in the year 2011, countering the coming challenges in pursuit of the best way of internationalization of NCCU. In 2011, to promote not only the number of our partner institutes, but also the quality of our cooperation and exchange, CES will strive for the best for both NCCU students and incoming international students.

STORY/PHOTO BY David K. W. Wu

NCCU to impress the APAIE 2011 Conference and Exhibition on March

Free Chinese Course (SA)
Mar.
Contact: rebecca.cwlin@gmail.com (Rebecca)#62829

Hualien trip (SA)
Mar. 19-20
Contact: rebecca.cwlin@gmail.com (Rebecca)#62829

http://oic.nccu.edu.tw
OIC 2010 Retrospect:
Development and Planning Section (DPS)
International Education Section (IES)

For many foreign students currently studying in National Chengchi University (NCCU), this Chinese New Year is not anymore just a Google translation, something they vicariously participate in, but a lived experience and vivid memories that used to be out of reach.

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As the first-line coordinator between the school and the students, IES attempts to make NCCU a friendly environment for incoming international students.

Buddy Program, for example, is expected to help international students adapt to the school life easier, explore the culture deeper, and enjoy their stay in Taiwan. Besides short-term exchange and degree-seeking, last year’s two-session International Summer School (ISS) serves as another channel to get a quick glimpse of Taiwan issues, attracting 53 international students from 16 countries, almost doubling the number the year before.

Besides welcoming international students coming in, IES continued its efforts to provide local students with more channels to go abroad and easier access to needed information. Last year’s five-day long Study Abroad Fair from Oct. 25 to Oct. 29 has not only informed local students of currently available channels to study abroad and apply for various scholarships, but also provided chances for prospective outgoing students to take advice from previous exchange students and consult directly with representatives from their targeted partner schools.

In addition, the International House (I-House) officially opened on Dec. 17 also counts as another big step ahead toward an international campus. Lynn Cheng (鄭玲), one of the DPS members said that the full registration for the spring semester reflects a high satisfaction with its hotel-level service and equipment after the trial operation from Nov. 16 to Dec. 31.

To introduce such an international student dormitory into the nearby community, Cheng believes it also benefits the local community as NCCU’s international spirits are brought outside the campus.

To increase more cultural exchanges in the real life context and establish intimate cross-country friendships outside the classroom, International Youth (IY) and Student Ambassador (SA) have held various activities through which genuine interactions spontaneously take place in a relaxing environment. Established last year, IY held a series of activities called OICU-Oh I see you-corner, including making Chinese dumplings and Tang Yuan, watermelon-eating competition, and spring roll ice cream testing.

IEY also arranged a one-day trip to National Palace Museum and Danshui. Tina Liang (梁惠雯), one of the DPS staff, said “taking the bus and MRT by themselves renders it possible for international students to really experience the city life,” a city which is still alive and changes every day and therefore cannot be fully captured in books.

Similarly, “ghost story telling” is not at all a regular Halloween event, Liang said, but “a chance to share their unique customs concerning ghosts, and further reflect on their culturally specific philosophy on life and death.”

For next semester, DPS will continue to work on the promotion of NCCU, making the propagation even free from temporal and spatial limitation by uploading on-line pictures and videos. As NCCU expands its influence outside the Asia, for every local student here in this campus, chances to go global are just in hand.

http://oic.nccu.edu.tw
International students Orientation

STORY/PHOTO
BY Shenny Chang

The new semester is just about to start. Over 55 international students gathered at the 7th floor of Administration Building for the Orientation held by OIC (Office of International Cooperation) and Student Ambassador (SA). 25 SAs took part in this orientation, preparing the presentation and activities as a welcome gift for the exchange students for this semester.

Giving the atmosphere of Chinese New Year, two presenters from SA, Nicolas Chang and Susan Wu, dressed up in traditional Chinese costumes. To greet the newcomers, the dean of OIC, Professor Chen gave a speech, and then the international student counselor, Prof. Berman, showed the exciting life in Taiwan from the viewpoint of foreigners, and the problems they might encounter in their future.

Because it happened to be Lantern Festival on that day, SAs prepared some sweet rice balls for all the students during the break time. SA also gave some useful information about the campus life by showing photos and playing little dramas. “We tried to make this orientation more interesting with the pictures and dramas, in this way they could understand well and also, feel our passion and energy,” said Shenny Chang, one SA coordinator.

In the afternoon, SAs in yellow shirts introduced the feature of every building in every corner of NCCU. International students ran around with a campus map, “Campus Tour Game,” a part of orientation. The prizes for the game were hidden in traditional Chinese red envelopes. The luckiest one will get a free field trip to Hualien (worth 2500NTD). Other prized included free hotpot meals, ICASH of 7-11 and McDonald latte. One of the SAs, Ashley Hsieh said, “We were a little bit worried because this was our first time having this kind of gram. Thanks to the weather and everyone’s cooperation, it went pretty well.” The activity finished at around 3PM, with more than 60 students participation.
NCCU to impress the APAIE 2011 Conference and Exhibition in March

STORY
BY Mindy Kuo

National Chengchi University (NCCU) is ready to display her ambition of continuing expanding its international network by attending the Asia-Pacific Association for International Education (APAIE) 2011 Conference and Exhibition hosted by National Taiwan University from March 9 to 11.

To seize the opportunity, the Office of International Cooperation (OIC) at NCCU initiates a special gathering on March 8 named “Open House Day” in which more than 30 partner schools and other institutions will meet on NCCU campus for a half-day visit, including cultural briefing, campus tour and panel discussion.

The Coordinator of OIC Caroline Tsai (蔡景雰) said that the arrangement of campus tour helps the participants get a better idea of the environment NCCU provides for the students and then a panel discussion will be set for OIC faculty to answer participants’ questions as well as to bring all the schools into a closer tie.

Surrounded by a number of outstanding universities, Tsai said that NCCU stands out with its eminent performance in research and teaching and, most important of all, its resourceful English-taught courses and double accreditations for NCCU’s College of Commerce (CNCCU).

“We have approximately 500 to 600 courses taught in English every semester, which is one of the most in non-English speaking countries,” she said.

Developed in such an internationalized environment, the CNCCU acquired the European Quality Improvement System (EQUIS) accreditation in the end of April in 2010. This is the second international accreditation that CNCCU got in the wake of the business and management accreditation from the Association of Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) in 2006.

“These are surely the features that make us more competitive in the higher education field,” Tsai said. Another merit emphasized is the Chinese language program at NCCU. As this is the first time that APAIE organizers arrange a special area to promote Chinese-learning programs, the school snatchs the chance by assigning five staff members from Chinese Language Center to promote their reputable over-25-year-old program.

So far, NCCU has established partnership with 203 schools across continents and sent out 303 local students to 128 partner schools across 37 countries all over the world. It seems that she is not satisfied with the numbers and still works on more cooperation opportunities with other schools.

Tsai said that NCCU would like to take advantage of the high influence of APAIE Conference and Exhibition to display her achievements both in research and teaching and win herself more exposures on the world stage.

“We are well-prepared,” she said. “All we need now is a chance to present ourselves.”

Founded in 2004, APAIE was regarded as one of the three major international education associations together with National Association of Foreign Student Advisers (NAFSA) and European Association for International Education (EAIE).

As the largest of its kind in the East, APAIE works as an international non-profit organization to activate and reinforce the internationalization of higher education in the Asia-Pacific region and around the world by holding an annual exhibition for its members to nurture dialogue and action.