

E-LEARNING AND INTERNATIONAL STUDENT RECRUITMENT

Ministry of Education (MOE) announced last month (October) the final evaluation results of the “University’s International Competence Promotion Project” for the 2004 academic year. Tamkang’s two projects that included “Foreign Language Teaching Improvement Plan—Multi-Language E-learning Project” and “International Student Recruitment Project” were approved and received grants from MOE, which will make substantial contribution to Tamkang’s goal for her internationalization. According to the report by MOE, a total of 46 colleges and universities have applied for this project, and 27 schools that include Tamkang University, Taiwan University, Chengchi Universtiy, Tunghai University, and Fu-Jen University have been awarded the grants. The total amount of the subsidy is \$36,200,000 NT dollars. Tamkang’s reputation for recruiting international students and her achievement of internationalizing the campus have impressed the officials of MOE, and the grants have given priority to the recruitment of international students.

Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. Chao-kang Feng, was the director of the two projects, and dean of College of Foreign Languages and Literatures, Dr. Mei-hua Sung, served as executive-in-chief for the project of the web-based Multi-Language E-learning Project; its team members included Dr. Stella Guo, Dr. Ying-hsueh Hu in English Department, Mr. Chao-pu Pei in Spanish Department, Professor Jung-chin Wei in German Department, Professor Chuen-yang Peng in Japanese Department, Professor Shwu-yann Su in Russian Department, and Professor Hun-hui Hsu in French Department. All team members participated in the creation and editing of the teaching materials in six languages. Having demonstrated and shared their web-based teaching materials with teachers in College of Foreign Languages and Literatures, they have helped formalize professors in the College with the instructional technology applied in foreign language education. Their ultimate goal was to create an e-learning environment for all students to learn foreign languages.

Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Feng pointed out that Tamkang has established her reputation as a primary foreign language teaching institute since the day when it was founded; based on such a solid foundation, Tamkang has also embarked on projects for internationalization and information-oriented education. This project of Multi-Language E-learning has provided a valuable opportunity to re-organize six departments in the College and to improve the quality of foreign language learning at Tamkang. In addition to available facilities that include Teaching Support Platform, Multi-media Classrooms, and digitalized long-distance learning, College of Foreign Languages and Literatures plans to facilitate an internet-based language learning classroom, providing students with a complete e-learning environment. The curricular design for an e-learning environment will follow the practical needs and enable the learners to emancipate from the limits and restrictions of traditional curriculum and thus to enhance the efficiency of foreign language learning.

As for the project of international student recruitment, Vice President Dr. Feng indicated that Tamkang has made continuous efforts for academic and administrative exchanges with colleges and universities around the world, especially her enthusiasm and achievement of cooperation with many sister universities. Tamakng has also made efforts to promote Taiwan's unique and excellent educational environment, hoping to attract more international students to come to study at Tamkang; those efforts included encouraging faculty to present papers in international conferences, increasing scholarships for international students, and organizing overseas promotion delegations, among others. Exchange program has been a logo of Tamkang, and it will continue to be one of the focal elements that compose Takang's international competence.

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