

LANYANG CAMPUS TO IMPORT OXBRIDGE-STYLE HOLISTIC EDUCATION

In September next year 300 freshmen are expected to enter the new arcadia of Tamkang University—the Lanyang Campus. The first phase of the new campus will consist of seven departments in three colleges, operating on the principle of Oxbridge-style holistic general education. All students shall live on campus; English will be the main language of instruction, supplemented by Chinese.

Director of the Lanyang Campus, Prof. Lin Jyh-horng, announced last Tuesday the organization and the personnel in the preparatory office of the new campus. The College of Entrepreneurial Development (headed by Lii Peir-chyi, Chair of Department of Management Sciences and Decision Making) includes four departments: Tourism and Hotel Management, Marketing and Distribution Management (with Lii Peir-chyi as preparatory chair), Information and Communications Technology Management and Software Engineering (with Tsai Jeng-yan, assistant professor of Department of International Trade, as preparatory chair). The College of Global research and Development (headed by Chen Kuo-hua of Graduate Institute of Futures Studies) includes two departments: Global Studies on Politics and Economics (with Chen Kuo-hua as preparatory chair), and Global Culture and Language Studies. The College of Continuing Education and Professional Development has one department, Applied Foreign Languages, with Prof. Lin Jyh-horng as preparatory chair.

Prof. Lin explained that the Lanyang Campus would adopt a mode of college-based integrated education: “The whole system will be very different from that at the Tamsui Campus in terms of curriculum and teaching; for instance, there won’t be mid-term or final exams.” The new system is based on “terms” as opposed to “semesters”: a term is eight weeks long. During each term students are to study for between 6 and 12 credits.

To graduate, it requires 128 credits. Students will be expelled if failing two-thirds of the credits for three terms.

At Lanyang Campus, Mondays through Thursdays are reserved for classes, field trips, student counseling, and extracurricular activities. Fridays will be scheduled for weekly tests, a test lasting for 50 minutes, or weekly reports. The College of Continuing Education and Professional Development, like the continuing education program at Tamsui, will have classes in the evenings and on weekends. Moreover, day students are likely to study abroad in their junior year.

Prof. Lin has also plans for social events: formal dinners, as those describe in the Harry Potter series, at the end of each term with intercollegiate or interdepartmental participation. He aims to create at Lanyang Campus an Oxbridge-style holistic education, which features the cultivation of “gentleman scholars”. Teachers who are prepared to teach in English, are enthusiastic student counselors, and specialize in the areas of the above-mentioned departments are cordially welcomed by Prof. Lin to join him at Lanyang. For more information, please contact the Department of International Trade.

2010/09/27