

## **New Student & Parent Orientation Meeting to Help Familiarize with Campus Life**

On September 2nd, the Office of Student Affairs held a "New Student and Parent Orientation Meeting" on the 7th floor of the Shao-Mo Memorial Gymnasium. The meeting was presided over by President Huan-Chao Keh and attended by Academic Vice President Hui-Huang Hsu, Administrative Vice President Chun-Hung Lin, Vice President for International Affairs Hsiao-Chuan Chen, deans of various colleges, and first- and second-level supervisors of relevant units. Nearly 700 students and parents participated, and through face-to-face interactions, the event aimed to help new students better understand campus life.

President Keh first introduced an overview of the school, explaining that Tamkang University has four campuses: Tamsui, Taipei, Lanyang, and the online campus. The university has a long history of promoting the "Three Objectives of Education," designing the "Three Circles of Curricula," deepening the Five Educational Disciplines, and cultivating students with eight essential qualities to become outstanding Tamkangians with excellent souls. In terms of academic achievements, the university has consistently ranked among the top in various national and international rankings. According to the 2024 QS World University Rankings and the 2023 THE (Times Higher Education) World University Rankings, Tamkang University ranked 18th nationwide. It also achieved the 15th position in the U.S. News & World Report's Global Best Universities ranking. Tamkang University has ranked No. 1 among private universities for 26 consecutive years in the Corporate Favorite Graduate survey by Cheers magazine. In Global Views Monthly magazine's Taiwan's Best Universities Rankings, Tamkang University is also the top private university. Therefore, the university's performance is superior to most national universities. Furthermore, the university's vision for academic development, "AI+SDGs= $\infty$ ," has received certification from the Intellectual Property Office of the Ministry of Economic Affairs and has become a registered trademark of Tamkang University. The university will continue its efforts to promote this vision, aiming to cultivate students with interdisciplinary competence in

"AI and sustainability."

During the discussion session, parents and students raised questions regarding military service, course selection, accommodation, study abroad exchanges, as well as minors and double majors. The supervisors of various units provided individual responses and explanations. Dr. Hsiao-Chuan Chen explained that the university offers various avenues for students to participate in international exchanges. Apart from studying abroad, our partner universities also provide short-term or summer courses, and the International Affairs Office organizes numerous overseas exchange activities during the semester. All students are encouraged to actively participate. Dean of Academic Affairs, Dr. Tzong-Ru Tsai, encouraged students to explore second majors through the interdisciplinary learning system. He also reminded students with disabilities that they can request special exams and academic assistance through the Academic Affairs Office. Dr. Ruey-Shiang Shaw, Dean of General Affairs, explained the university's parking fee policy. Dr. Shih-Jung Wu, Dean of Student Affairs, explained that students in need of housing can find suitable rental accommodations through the Housing Service Center, operated by the Military Training Office, ensuring a safe and comfortable living environment.

After the orientation meeting, students were taken to various campus buildings by their respective departments for department-specific activities. Each department chair introduced the unique features and provided relevant information about their department, fostering discussions. Chen-Yu Wu, a first-year student majoring in International Tourism Management, shared that he had already researched information related to course studies online. However, after attending the event and listening to explanations on campus today, he gained a deeper understanding of minors and double majors. Chen-Chun Yang, a first-year student of Electrical and Computer Engineering Department, mentioned that after participating in the orientation meeting, he now has a clearer understanding of various aspects of campus learning.

From August 19th to September 2nd, the Office of Alumni Services and Resources Development, along with local alumni associations across Taiwan,

jointly organized a total of 19 orientation meetings for new students and their parents. Administrative Vice President Chun-Hung Lin, President of the Tamkang University Alumni Association Headquarters Lawrence Lin, Dean of Student Affairs Shih-Jung Wu, and the Executive Director of Alumni Services and Resources Development Chun-Young Perng, along with their colleagues, traveled to various regions across Taiwan to attend these meetings. The chairpersons of local alumni associations also participated in hosting these orientation meetings. Dr. Lawrence Lin expressed that Tamkang University is full of treasures, and he hopes that new students will come to the university to learn and explore these treasures thoroughly.

The New Student and Parent Orientation Meeting in Taichung took place on August 19th at Taichung Municipal Chungming Senior High School. Dr. Chun-Hung Lin, who has previously served as the Dean of Student Affairs and Dean of Academic Affairs, answered numerous questions from parents at the event, helping to alleviate concerns and provide reassurance to new students. Dr. Lawrence Lin shared that he graduated 40 years ago and earned his master's and doctoral degrees at the University of Massachusetts Lowell (ranked approximately 100th in the U.S.). Last year, he was also awarded an honorary doctorate. He facilitated the establishment of a sister school relationship between Tamkang University and UMass Lowell for further exchanges. He expressed his gratitude for having participated in the Student Affairs Clubs Seminar back in the day, where he gained enriching academic and extracurricular experiences. He encouraged his younger schoolmates to make the most of their time at Tamkang University.

The orientation meeting held in Hsinchu City on August 26th was attended not only by new students and parents but also by many alumni, with approximately hundreds of people in attendance. Mr. Chie-Shi Chou, the founding president of the Hsinchu City Alumni Association, who is 91 years old, delivered a speech. He mentioned that the first orientation meeting for new students and parents was organized by the Hsinchu City Alumni Association, which can provide nearby services to meet the needs of new students and parents. The current chairman, Ru-Ying Lan, a Mass

Communication alumna, also stated that the Hsinchu County and City Alumni Associations have formed sister associations with the Keelung City Alumni Association and the School of Computer Science and Information Engineering Alumni Association. Together, they are creating "竹基" (footprints) and "資竹" (contentment), emphasizing the strong connection and cherished relationship they have with Tamkang University.

The Keelung City Alumni Association held a New Student and Parent Orientation Meeting on August 26th at the Tongfong Civic Activity Center in Keelung City. The event was jointly hosted by the Chairman of the Keelung City Alumni Association, Hsiao-Hsien Chiu, and Cheng-En Wu, an economics sophomore at the university. Over 60 people attended, and there was active participation with enthusiastic discussions, creating a warm and lively atmosphere. Several alumni were also present to welcome the new students to the Tamkang University family. On the same evening, the alumni association held its 2nd meeting of the 13th Member Meeting at the Keelung Gang Seafood Restaurant. A total of 47 alumni attended the meeting, and it happened to be Hsiao-Hsien Chiu's birthday. Everyone celebrated by singing "Happy Birthday," and the alumni gathered together joyfully.

The Kaohsiung City Alumni Association held a meeting on August 20th at the City Council Auditorium. Parents of new student attended enthusiastically, with approximately 130 people participating. Among them, alumnus Chi-Chang Wu served as the chairman of the Parent Association at Kaohsiung St. Dominic Catholic High School and is a strong supporter of his alma mater. Last year, 14 students from that school entered Tamkang University, and this year the number doubled to 28. He hopes to see this number continue to increase in the coming years. Wei-Sheng Huang, the Chairman of the Kaohsiung City Alumni Association, expressed gratitude, saying, "Thanks to President Lawrence Lin, Vice President Chun-Hung Lin, and Chief Secretary of the Board Wen-Chih Huang for coming down to join us. We also appreciate the alumni association team for their assistance in venue setup and other matters, which contributed to the successful completion of the discussion meeting."



