

## **TKU STUDENTS RECEIVE A NOD FOR THEIR STABILITY AND STAMINA**

In a survey named “college graduated students preferred by 1000 enterprises in Taiwan, 2004” published in the issue of March 16 of Cheers Magazine, TKU graduates are considered the third best in the category of “stability and stamina against stress”. The other university that ranks third in the same category is the National University of Taiwan (NUT). However, when the result of this category is added to the overall evaluation that includes seven categories, TKU ranks No. 10, which is two places lower than that of last year, overtaking by National Sun Yet-san and National Central Universities for the first time since the survey started.

For this survey, Cheers Magazine asked, as usual, 1000 enterprises to select top five from 108 universities and colleges in Taiwan. Their selection was based on the evaluation they gave to the graduates in terms of the following 7 categories: Professional knowledge and skills; international exposure and foreign language skills; team spirit; stability and stamina against stress; originality and finally, willingness to learn and potential in developing problem solving techniques. The results show that nearly all the top five universities favored by enterprises of each category are national ones.

Similarly, Cheers also asked the enterprises to rank their preference to graduates according to the colleges they graduated from (i.e. those of Liberal Arts, Engineering, Science, and Business). For example, TKU business graduates rank sixth in preference, whereas liberal art graduates tenth. Pleased by the result, the Dean of TKU’s College of Business, Shiau Fung-shyung wants to hire at least 10 more high-quality faculties with a Ph. D in order to deliver top-notch teaching—a worthwhile investment, as he believes that it will enhance the employment rate of his

graduates. Kao Po-yuan, the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts at Tamkang, is also proud of the result. He contributes the positive feedback from the enterprises on his students to the multidisciplinary learning and easy accessibility to information his college offers, which in turn shape the flexible and adaptable characteristics of his students. “Our education secures a competitive edge and team spirit to our graduates, so that they can do well in their professional life.”

University ranking aside, the survey reveals some interesting facts that have not much to do with the prestige of the university. For instance, 90 percent of the respondents do not consider a college degree correlates with the quality of an applicant. They prefer to choose graduates who have the potential to develop into an efficient employee rather than the name of their universities. 87.5 percent of the respondents believe that newly graduated students, regardless of the universities they come from, are most fragile in terms of stability and stamina. 67 percent of them admit that they do not hire people on the basis of applicant’ s university. The latter can be verified by Wu Yu-chen’ s, a second-year graduate student at the Chemical and Materials Engineering Department, personal experience that a friend of his, who is a graduate from a prestigious university, Ching Hwa, failed to be selected while applying for a job at a bank. Instead, the job went to a TKU graduate who was considered to possess ‘stamina and exceptional dedication to service’ .

Finally, the irrelevance of the university name was reinforced by 74.9 percent of the respondents who believe that the willingness to learn and trainability are the most significant qualities they look for in an employee. In other words, a national university degree is not a sure thing in attaining a job.