



**Press Review Taiwan  
Science, Technology and Education**

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This month, Taiwan’s science, technology and education press review includes the following news articles: NTU team sheds light on aging process, tumor cells; New method may help catch cancer; Taiwan team finds way of boosting plant growth, Taiwan makes plate tectonics study breakthrough; Research team identifies possible acid rain trigger; Curriculum guideline changes at a glance; Ministry touts ‘top universities’ results; New Taipei school raises student food awareness; Hung Hsiu-chu says more vocational training needed; Taiwan company wins WEF technology award; Drones, high-tech weaponry to be on show at exhibition; and Microalgae-based carbon capture tech developed.

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## Science

### **NTU team sheds light on aging process, tumor cells (Taipei Times, 06.08.2015)**

On August 5, a National Taiwan University (NTU) research team published research into an intercellular mechanism they say is behind the aging process and the proliferation of tumor cells, which scientists said offers possibilities for cancer treatment and reinvigorating people in poor health. The project, funded by the Ministry of Science and Technology, is the first to establish that the aging process is caused by changes within an area of the nucleus known as the telomere.

### **New method may help catch cancer (Taipei Times, 08.08.2015)**

A research team from National Taiwan University (NTU) has identified a genome trait highly correlated with lung cancer using rapid whole-genome sequencing technology and the discovery might improve the diagnosis of early-stage lung cancer.

### **Taiwan team finds way of boosting plant growth (Taiwan Today, 14.08.2015)**

A research team from Taipei City-based Academia Sinica recently discovered a special protein capable of enhancing plant growth during drought.

### **Oldest millet found in Tainan (Taipei Times, 15.08.2015)**

Archeologists announced the discovery of 5,000-year-old grains — the oldest remains of locally grown cereals — at an excavation site near the Southern Taiwan Science Park in Tainan.

### **Taiwan makes plate tectonics study breakthrough (Taiwan Today, 19.08.2015)**

A research team from Taiwan recently made a new discovery relating to the underthrusting of continental crust during orogeny, shedding new light on the decadeslong debate over how mountain belts on the island were formed.

### **Taiwan academician wins Guinier Prize (Taiwan Today, 28.08.2015)**

An academician from Taipei City-based Academia Sinica recently won the prestigious Guinier Prize for outstanding contributions to the field of small-angle scattering.

### **Research team identifies possible acid rain trigger (The China Post, 30.08.2015)**

A research team at Academia Sinica, Taiwan's leading academic research institution, has identified active molecules that may be critical to the formation of aerosols and acid rain.

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## Education

### **Curriculum guideline changes at a glance (The China Post, 01.08.2015)**

Taiwan's high school history curriculum has existed in a state of flux ever since the end of martial law and subsequent democratization. The most recent curriculum guideline changes in Taiwan and the resulting student protests have received widespread coverage, but current changes need to be seen as an ongoing continuum of political skirmishes that have produced changes with little social consensus.

### **Taiwan tops Asian high school debate championship (Taiwan Today, 10.08.2015)**

Taiwan students performed with aplomb at the inaugural Asian High School Mandarin Chinese Debate Championship Aug. 6-9 in Kaohsiung City, underscoring the intellectual acumen and verbal finesse of the country's youth.

### **Five Taiwanese students win British Council's NT\$100,000 IELTS Prize (The China Post, 19.08.2015)**

Five Taiwanese students received the NT\$100,000 IELTS prizes from the British Council on Aug. 11. With an aim of connecting people with learning opportunities, the British Council launched the IELTS Prize in 2011 and since then it has supported a total of 123 students in the East Asia region in entering universities worldwide.

### **Ministry touts 'top universities' results (Taipei Times, 22.08.2015)**

On August 21, The Ministry of Education showcased results in the fields of humanities and social sciences from its "top universities" project and demonstrated how research in the two fields can benefit from technological trends, such as big data and wearable devices.

**New Taipei school raises student food awareness (Taiwan Today, 27.08.2015)**

A school in New Taipei City is raising food awareness among students through a tailored course highlighting the benefits of healthy eating and locally sourced produce.

**Hung Hsiu-chu says more vocational training needed (Taipei Times, 29.08.2015)**

On August 28, Chinese Nationalist Party (KMT) presidential candidate Hung Hsiu-chu presented her second policy aimed at "breaking the low-income spell," calling for more and enhanced vocational training centers and promising "empowerment vouchers" for young unemployed people to receive free training.

**Majority of school teachers want to quit, forum told (Taipei Times, 29.08.2015)**

Six out of 10 public-school teachers want to quit their jobs, according to Lee Tao, chairman of the Taiwan Cultural and Educational Foundation, a charitable organization affiliated with local TV station TVBS.

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**Technology****Taiwan company wins WEF technology award (Taiwan Today, 06.08.2015)**

A Taiwan firm specializing in transforming household waste into high-performance materials was recently named a 2015 Technology Pioneer by World Economic Forum, the first time for a local outfit to claim the prestigious honor. Miniwiz Ltd.'s groundbreaking approach incorporates proprietary technologies, in-house engineering and architecture practices to create a new generation of resources utilizing recycled electronic and food waste, packaging and plastics.

**Drones, high-tech weaponry to be on show at exhibition (Taipei Times, 13.08.2015)**

The military is to showcase an array of domestically developed unmanned aerial vehicles and weapons, including missile and rocket systems, at a defense technology exhibition in Taipei opening on August 13.

**Microalgae-based carbon capture tech developed (Taipei Times, 18.08.2015)**

An inter-university research team has developed a microalgae-based carbon capture technology and established the nation's largest pilot microalgae farm at a university in Tainan in hopes of helping the nation conserve energy and reduce its carbon emissions. Microalgae are the most productive organism for capturing carbon because of their high photosynthetic rate, said the team, headed by National Cheng Kung University professor Chang Chia-hsiu.

**Asustek's humanoid robot likely to debut in 2016: chairman (Focus Taiwan, 18.08.2015)**

Taiwan's Asustek Computer Inc. is developing a humanoid robot similar to Japanese mobile carrier SoftBank Corp.'s Pepper that is expected to debut next year at the earliest, according to company chairman Jonney Shih. In an interview published on August 17 by tech news site Engadget, Shih "teased" that he is personally driving a robotics project that aims to come up with a machine that can proactively interact with humans.

**Taiwan's ETC wins 2015 ITS World Congress (The China Post, 21.08.2015)**

Taiwan's electronic toll collection (ETC) system developed by Taipei-based Far Eastern Electronic Toll Collection Co. (FETC) has won the 2015 Intelligent Transport System (ITS) World Congress Industry Award, according to the ITS Taiwan.

**TKU garner 5 gold medals in Fira Roboworld Cup (The China Post, 23.08.2015)**

A robot soccer team from Tamkang University (TKU) took home five gold, four silver and two bronze medals at the recent Fira RoboWorld Cup in South Korea.

**Taipei International Electronics Show set for October (Focus Taiwan, 28.08.2015)**

The 41st Taipei International Electronics Show, TAITRONICS, jointly organized by the Taiwan External Trade Development Council (TAITRA) and the Taiwan Electrical and Electronic Manufacturers' Association (TEEMA), will kick off October 6 at Taipei Nangang Exhibition Hall 1.

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