



**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: Even low radiation dose can take toll: scientist; Government launches 5-year plan for indigenous education; NTU graduates top choice for most local businesses, according to survey; Number of overseas students in Taiwan tops 110,000 in 2015; Dropout rate in Taiwan up marginally in 2014-2015 academic year; Taiwan has 930,000 wearable device owners: survey; Taiwan develops 'X-ray eyes' system for surgeons; Taiwan-US team develops driverless electric vehicle; Two Kaohsiung students invent new selfie stick; Taiwan university introduces portable wind turbine; and TTRI unveils new glow-in-the-dark textile technology after years' research.

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Science

Even low radiation dose can take toll: scientist (The China Post, 27.01.2016)

Animals exposed to even low doses of radiation suffer a higher incidence of physical abnormalities, a world-leading ecologist said in Taipei on Jan. 26.

Timothy Mousseau, an ecologist at the University of South Carolina, is a pioneering expert on what radiation does to organisms. For decades, he and his research team have studied Chernobyl, Ukraine — site of the world's worst nuclear disaster in 1986 — and Fukushima in Japan.

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Education

Government launches 5-year plan for indigenous education (The China Post, 05.01.2016)

A new program aimed at enhancing the education of aboriginal students was introduced on Jan. 4 by the Ministry of Education (MOE) and the Council of Indigenous Peoples (CIP).

Aboriginal experimental schools and courses will be the main feature of the program, which includes a total of 148 measures to be gradually implemented from 2016 to 2020, ministry officials said.

NTU graduates top choice for most local businesses, according to survey (The China Post, 23.01.2016)

Local businesses favor graduates from National Taiwan University (NTU) the most, a survey found on Jan. 22. The country's top-ranked university beat out long-time favorite, National Cheng Kung University, which ranked second in the survey by online job broker 1111 Job Bank.

National Chengchi University, National Chiao Tung University and National Tsing Hua University rounded out the top 5 list, according to the 3,396 employers who responded to the survey conducted Nov. 2-30, 2015.

Number of overseas students in Taiwan tops 110,000 in 2015 (Focus Taiwan, 30.01.2016)

There were more than 110,000 overseas students enrolled at universities in Taiwan in 2015, accounting for 8.27 percent of all university students in the country, the Ministry of Education said Jan. 30. The number of foreign students rose by 16,537 last year to reach 110,182, according to ministry statistics.

Dropout rate in Taiwan up marginally in 2014-2015 academic year (Focus Taiwan, 31.01.2016)

The dropout rate at Taiwan's elementary and junior high schools was slightly higher in the 2014-2015 academic year than in the previous year, according to figures released Friday by the Directorate-General of Budget, Accounting and Statistics (DGBAS).

A total of 4,214 elementary and junior high school students dropped out during the 2014-2015 school year, translating to a dropout rate of 0.21 percent.

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Technology

Taiwan has 930,000 wearable device owners: survey (Focus Taiwan, 03.01.2016)

About 930,000 people, or 4 percent of Taiwan's population, owned wearable devices in 2015 mainly to collect and track medically useful health information, according to the results of a survey recently released by the Institute for Information Industry (III). Citing the survey's results, the government-sponsored III's research arm Foreseeing Innovative New Digservices (FIND) said the number of wearable owners was double the number in 2014, and the penetration rate was 2.3 percentage points higher than a year earlier.

Taiwan develops 'X-ray eyes' system for surgeons (Focus Taiwan, 05.01.2016)

A Taiwanese research team has developed what it dubs an "X-ray eyes" system, which will allow surgeons to peer directly into the designated location for surgical treatment when using angiography guidance, without the need to constantly stare at a screen to monitor the condition of blood flows.

Taiwan-US team develops driverless electric vehicle (Taiwan Today, 11.01.2016)

A driverless electric vehicle developed by researchers from Taiwan and the U.S. was launched Jan. 10 in Taipei City, a significant step forward in establishing Taiwan as a leading global provider of smart transportation solutions. Jointly created by state-run Institute for Information Industry under the ROC Ministry of Economic Affairs and Massachusetts Institute of Technology Media Lab, the Persuasive Electric Vehicle is the first high-profile innovation project of Taiwan Air Force innovation base.



Two Kaohsiung students invent new selfie stick (Focus Taiwan, 13.01.2016)

Two Kaohsiung fifth-graders on Jan. 11 said that their motivation to invent an award-winning selfie stick that can be operated with one hand was to make the popular gadget more convenient to use.

Kaohsiung Dongguang Elementary School students Yen Po-cheng's and Wang Tai-hsiang's invention, which won a gold medal at the International Exhibition for Young Inventors in November last year, enables people to extend the stick with only one hand.

Taiwan university introduces portable wind turbine (Focus Taiwan, 13.01.2016)

National Cheng Kung University Tuesday introduced a portable wind power turbine that can fold for portability and is less than one meter in height when fully assembled.

In sharp contrast to the huge size of wind turbines typically used by power suppliers, the mini device is convenient for consumers to carry outdoors for activities such as going to a picnic, said inventor Chen Yu-jen.

TTRI unveils new glow-in-the-dark textile technology after years' research (The China Post, 24.01.2016)

Lumi Long glow-in-the-dark fiber had been released to the public the third week of January, after seven years of research, as the latest featured technology by the Taiwan Textile Research Institute (TTRI).

President of TTRI Bai Chi-chung said the fiber was named "Lumi Long" because it could glow for long periods of time. Its main fluorescent material is enveloped in thin fibers, and it is safe for human skin, stressed Bai.

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