



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



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Science

Taiwanese team discovers key molecule in fighting sepsis (Focus Taiwan, 06.06.2016)

A Taiwanese research team has discovered a molecule in human cells that can regulate inflammation when infections caused by invasive pathogenic germs occur and help protect the body from systemic inflammation, known as sepsis. Every year, about 110,000 patients in Taiwan die from sepsis triggered by terminal cancer or surgical infections, said Kuo Cheng-chin, an associate researcher at the Institute of Cellular and System Medicine under the National Health Research Institutes (NHRI), when presenting the findings on Jun. 6.

Taiwanese team wins Fishackathon 2016 (Focus Taiwan, 09.06.2016)

A team from Taiwan was announced by the U.S. Department of State Wednesday as the winner of this year's Fishackathon, a science and technology contest that seek to address sustainable fishery challenges. Team Akubic, which won the Taipei leg, held Apr. 22-24, making it eligible to compete in the global contest, triumphed over 39 other teams from cities in the U.S. and around the world with its "Great Lakes Savior" proposal, according to the Department of State announcement.

Three scientists win Tang Prize in biopharmaceutical science (Focus Taiwan, 19.06.2016)

Emmanuelle Charpentier, Jennifer Doudna and Feng Zhang were named the winners of the second Tang Prize in biopharmaceutical science on Jun. 19 "for the development of CRISPR/Cas 9 as a breakthrough genome editing platform that promises to revolutionize biomedical research and disease treatment." Taiwanese Nobel laureate Lee Yuan-tseh, who chairs the Tang Prize Selection Committee, made the announcement at a press conference in Taipei.

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Education

Taiwan, Thailand ramp up education exchanges (Taiwan Today, 13.06.2016)

Taiwan talents will expand education exchanges with their counterparts in Thailand, as a visiting high-level Thai education delegation in late May highlights the President Tsai Ing-wen administration's priority to boost ties with Southeast Asian countries under its New Southbound Policy. This is the first time an education delegation from a member of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations visited Taiwan after Tsai took office May 20.

Taiwan to host US Department of State language program (Taiwan Today, 15.06.2016)

Taiwan has been selected for the first time in recent decades as a location for Chinese language instruction under the U.S. Department of State's Critical Language Scholarship Program. Founded in 2006, CLSP is one of the important ways the U.S. Department of State offers instruction in 14 key international languages such as Arabic, Chinese, Indonesian, Japanese, Korean, Russian and Turkish.

Protesters rally against ministry's meeting on university fee raises (The China Post, 19.06.2016)

Protesters with the Anti-commercialization of Education Alliance rallied against university tuition fee price hikes outside of the Ministry of Education (MOE), Jun. 18. According to the alliance, the ministry was scheduled to conduct a meeting at 10 a.m. to discuss price adjustment requests proposed by 14 universities and colleges last year, which requested an increase of 1.1 percent to 3.5 percent from the original fees.

James Liao assumes office as head of Academia Sinica (Focus Taiwan, 21.06.2016)

James Liao, a professor at University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), officially assumed his new position Jun. 21 as president of Academia Sinica, Taiwan's most prestigious research institution. Liao received the seal of Academia Sinica from its acting president Wang Fan-sen at a ceremony that was also attended by the country's Vice President Chen Chien-jen.

Taiwan sees mixed results in 2016 Times Asia University Rankings (Focus Taiwan, 21.06.2016)

Taiwan saw another decline in the number of universities in the top 100 list of the Asia University Rankings 2016 released Jun. 20 by Times Higher Education magazine, but the country's highest-ranked National Taiwan University (NTU) improved from last year. A total of 10 Taiwanese universities made it into the list of top 100 Asian universities, another slip from 11 in 2015, 13 in 2014 and 17 in 2013, the latest rankings published by the London-based magazine showed.

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Technology

Taiwan startup wins FbStart Apps of the Year Awards (Taiwan Today, 03.06.2016)

Taiwan startup VoiceTube is winner of FbStart Apps of the Year Awards, beating out more than 1,000 teams from 89 countries and territories to claim the grand prize of US\$50,000 in cash and US\$50,000 in Facebook ad credits. Announced at RISE startup conference May 28 to Jun. 2 in Hong Kong, the honor is the first for a Taiwan outfit in the second edition of the annual awards launched by popular social network Facebook to help global startups grow and expand their business.

'Pepper' robot applications contest kicks off in Taiwan (Focus Taiwan, 05.06.2016)

A robot application competition kicked off in Taiwan Jun. 5 to encourage innovative ideas to expand and improve the functions of the humanoid robot dubbed "Pepper." Until Jun. 29, anyone interested in the development of software applications for "Pepper" can take part in the contest, according to an announcement by the organizer, Star Rocket.

Asustek hoping Zenbo robot to go on sale before Christmas (Focus Taiwan, 08.06.2016)

Taiwan-based PC brand Asustek Computer Inc., which has intensified efforts to diversify its product portfolio, said Jun. 8 that it hopes its home robot -- Zenbo -- will go on sale over the Christmas holiday. Speaking at the company's annual shareholders meeting, Asustek Chairman Jonney Shih said outside developers working on the project with the company have been urged to create more content for Zenbo before it hits markets, and they have agreed.

Taiwan wins 23 gold medals at largest invention fair in U.S. (Focus Taiwan, 10.06.2016)

Taiwan bagged 23 gold medals, 31 silver medals and eight special awards, including the Largest Delegation Award, at the 31st Invention and New Product Exposition (INPEX) held Jun. 7-9 in Pittsburgh. Nearly 700 inventions from 22 countries were showcased at the three-day show, and 74 of them were from Taiwan, which won the most medals of any country represented at the show for the fifth consecutive year.

NDC approves 'Asian Silicon Valley' plan (Focus Taiwan, 13.06.2016)

The National Development Council (NDC) on Jun. 13 approved a plan to establish an "Asian Silicon Valley" in Taoyuan in northern Taiwan. The NDC, which approved the plan during a committee meeting, said it will submit the plan to the Executive Yuan for approval and for the Executive Yuan to set a budget for the plan before it is launched. The planning agency was unable, however, to provide an estimate of the size of the budget that will be needed to get the project going or explain how existing budgets would have to be adjusted.

Aerospace industry show takes off in Taichung City (Taiwan Today, 17.06.2016)

The inaugural Aerospace Industry—AIM and Productivity 4.0 Industrial Technology Matching Exhibition opened Jun. 16 in central Taiwan's Taichung City, highlighting concerted efforts among government, industry and the academia to boost the sector through enhanced coordination and integration of public-private sector resources.

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