



Press Review Taiwan
Science, Technology and Education



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## Science / Technology

### **CSIST signs research pact with Geosat Aerospace (Taipei Times, 2.4.2018)**

The Chungshan Institute of Science and Technology (CSIST) has signed a memorandum of understanding with Geosat Aerospace Technology for research into a remote-controlled aerial chemical detection platform to detect air pollution and help government agencies with disaster-prevention efforts, sources said on 1 April.

### **Hon Hai continues to top tablet computer shipment list in Q4 (Focus Taiwan, 7.4.2018)**

Taiwan's Hon Hai Precision Industry Co. remained the world's number one manufacturer shipping tablet computers in the fourth quarter of last year, according to U.S.-based market information advisory International Data Corp. (IDC). Citing a research report, IDC said Hon Hai, also known as Foxconn in the global market, accounted for 25 percent of total slate tablet shipments and 43 percent of total detachable tablet shipments during the October-December period, to remain top of the global rankings.

### **Taiwan-Philippines tech meeting to focus on medicine, agriculture (Focus Taiwan, 7.4.2018)**

The sixth Taiwan-Philippines science and technology meeting will focus on outlining bilateral medical and agricultural cooperation projects, Minister of Science and Technology Chen Liang-gee said on 6 April.

### **Taiwan wins big at Moscow innovation fair (Focus Taiwan, 9.4.2018)**

Taiwan took home big prizes from the recent Moscow International Salon of Inventions and Innovation Technologies, ranking second only after the host country in terms of total score, the Taipei-based Chinese Innovation and Invention Society (CIIS) said on 9 April.

### **Taiwan to invest NT\$70 million per year in quantum computer R&D (Focus Taiwan, 10.4.2018)**

The Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) said on 10 April that it will invest NT\$70 million (US\$2.39 million) annually in a quantum computer development initiative over the next three to five years. Shawn Hsu, director general of the ministry's Department of Engineering and Technologies, said the money will be used to fund research and development by three to five teams per year in the area of quantum computer and computing.

### **MOHW, Acer launch AI-powered flu forecasting website (Taiwan Today, 12.4.2018)**

An artificial intelligence-based forecasting website for influenza was jointly launched by the Ministry of Health and Welfare and Taiwan technology company Acer Inc. on 11 April in Taipei City as part of government efforts to safeguard public well-being. The site displays predicted flu infection trends and the likely number of patients to visit clinics or seek emergency treatment over the following four weeks.

### **Taiwan bags 22 gold medals at Geneva invention fair (Focus Taiwan, 14.4.2018)**

Taiwanese inventors bagged a total of 41 medals, including 22 gold medals, at the International Exhibition of Inventions Geneva in Switzerland this year, the Taiwan Invention Association said on 14 April. More than half of the displayed inventions this year are related to the biotech industry, said association head Chen Tsung-tai, who led the Taiwanese delegation at the event.

### **Asustek No. 5, Acer No. 6 in global PC shipment rankings: Gartner (Focus Taiwan, 16.4.2018)**

Asustek Computer Inc. and Acer Inc., two of Taiwan's leading personal computer brands, took fifth and sixth positions, respectively, in the worldwide PC shipment rankings for the first quarter of this year, while the two firms witnessed their shipments falling in the quarter, according to market information advisory firm Gartner Inc.

### **MediaTek teams up with Microsoft on Internet of Things development (Focus Taiwan, 17.4.2018)**

MediaTek Inc., the largest integrated circuit designer in Taiwan, has joined forces with U.S.-based tech giant Microsoft Corp. on development of the booming Internet of Things (IoT), the Taiwanese firm said on 17 April. Under the cooperation with Microsoft, MediaTek said it is scheduled to launch the first-ever Azure Sphere chip, coded the MT3620, which is expected to enhance IoT innovation with built-in security and connectivity.

### **Clinical trials with gene-editing tools to start: Tang Prize laureate (Focus Taiwan, 22.4.2018)**

Chinese American biologist and 2016 Tang Prize winner in biopharmaceutical science Feng Zhang said on 21 April that initial clinical trials using gene-editing technology to help people with genetic diseases are expected to start this year or next.

**ITRI wins Clarivate Analytics Top 100 Global Innovators Award (Taiwan Today, 24.4.2018)**

Taiwan's state-backed Industrial Technology Research Institute is a winner of the latest Clarivate Analytics Top 100 Global Innovators Award for its R&D and intellectual property development and protection achievements. Based in northern Taiwan's Hsinchu County, ITRI is a two-time recipient of the prestigious annual honor assessed on the patent-related criteria of total volume, application-to-grant success rate, global reach of the portfolio and influence as evidenced by citations.

**Hacking contest to focus on AI security: minister (Taipei Times, 25.4.2018)**

A hacking contest aimed at boosting artificial intelligence (AI) security started taking applications on 24 April, Minister of Science and Technology Chen Liang-gee said. The nation must boost its information security, especially at a time when it is committed to developing AI technology, he added.

**University planning to take tumor-detecting technology to market (Focus Taiwan, 26.4.2018)**

A professor at National Chung Cheng University (NCCU) who invented a chip that can detect tumor markers in the early stages of cancer in just 30 minutes is looking to partner with medical suppliers and producers to introduce the technology to the commercial market. Besides looking for business partners to commodify the technology, Lee is also working with a Russian research team to develop a similar technology for the detection of Alzheimer's disease.

**Premier Lai touts 10-year development plan for Taiwan's science parks (Taiwan Today, 27.4.2018)**

The 10-year development plan for Taiwan's three science parks will foster growth in innovative sectors by strengthening networking among industry clusters and promoting the facilities as proving grounds for emerging technologies, according to Premier Lai Ching-te on 26 April.

**Microsoft, Taiwan to join forces on mixed reality (Focus Taiwan, 28.4.2018)**

American tech giant Microsoft Corp. has agreed to partner with Taiwan to develop hardware standards and sample applications for mixed reality (MR) technology, Minister without Portfolio Audrey Tang said on 28 April. Microsoft will bring to the partnership its MR technology, which combines augmented and virtual realities, while Taiwan's input will be its information communication technology supply chain, Tang said.

**President Tsai visits top aerospace firms, pledges to bolster Taiwan's defense industry (Taiwan Today, 30.4.2018)**

President Tsai Ing-wen said on 27 April that cutting-edge technology and smart manufacturing techniques are strengthening the local aerospace sector's capacity for producing indigenous aircraft and bolstering Taiwan's defense industry.

**Innovation is key to accelerating competitiveness: Tsai (Focus Taiwan, 30.4.2018)**

President Tsai Ing-wen on 30 April called on entrepreneurs and companies in Taiwan to prioritize innovation in order to further accelerate their competitiveness on the international market. Speaking at the Presidential Office for the Presidential Innovation Award ceremony, Tsai said that as long as companies persist with innovation regardless of the industry they are in or scope of their business, they could create a niche in the market.

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## Education

**Disgraced cancer researcher worried about tainting Taiwan's image (Focus Taiwan, 1.4.2018)**

Chen Ching-shih, a cancer researcher and Academia Sinica principal investigator, said on 1 April that he hopes the accusations against him of falsifying research data will not tarnish Taiwan's academic reputation. Chen, who served as director of the Academia Sinica's Institute of Biological Chemistry from 2014 to 2017, has been accused of misconduct in the publication of eight academic papers between 2006 and 2014 during his tenure as a professor at Ohio State University (OSU) in the United States.

**Foreign student work permit process simplified: labor ministry (Focus Taiwan, 12.4.2018)**

The Ministry of Labor said on 12 April that it has implemented a new measure that makes it easier for international students in Taiwan to apply for work permits. For the estimated 40,000 international students expected to apply each year for permission to work part-time in Taiwan, it means they no longer have to provide a consent form from their schools, a full-year academic transcript, or school identification card, Chiu said.

**Taipei offers scholarships to Indian, Malaysian postgrad students (Focus Taiwan, 13.4.2018)**

Taipei City government has teamed up with local universities and businesses to offer an NT\$116,000 (US\$3,959) annual scholarship to Indian and Malaysian master's and PhD students studying information communications technology (ICT) or engineering.

**Taiwan, Indonesian universities sign cooperation agreements (Taiwan Today, 19.4.2018)**

A memorandum of understanding signing ceremony was held between Taiwan and Indonesian universities on 17 April in Taipei City, highlighting rapidly expanding academic exchanges between the two sides, according to the Ministry of Education. Accords were inked by 40 local universities and 25 tertiary institutions in Nahdlatul Ulama, the Southeast Asian nation's largest Islamic organization. Under the agreements, the universities will work to establish platforms for collaboration in talent cultivation.

**Tsai launches college scholarship program in Swaziland (Taiwan Today, 19.4.2018)**

President Tsai Ing-wen launched a Taiwan-backed scholarship program while visiting Swaziland College of Technology on 18 April in Mbabane, underscoring the government's commitment to cultivating the next generation of talents in the diplomatic ally.

**Working holiday trial to begin in June (Taipei Times, 25.4.2018)**

A working holiday program for young Southeast Asians is expected to begin its trial run in June, but its official operation needs more discussion with other ministries, Council of Agriculture (COA) officials said on 24 April. The program would be offered to young people from Vietnam, Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand — the countries from which most of foreign spouses of Taiwanese come, Department of Farmers' Service Director-General Chu Chien-wei said.

**New minister aiming to inject more science into education system (Focus Taiwan, 25.4.2018)**

Taiwan's new Education Minister Wu Maw-kuen said on 25 April that the young generation must be equipped with the ability to solve problems such as global warming and that the country's education system needs to keep pace with new technologies. He said it is most important that the next generation becomes aware of the difficulties ahead and gains the ability to overcome those challenges.

**Drafts would allow degrees based on achievements (Taipei Times, 27.4.2018)**

The Executive Yuan on 26 April unveiled draft amendments to the Degree Conferral Act, which propose that art, sports and engineering students be allowed to earn degrees using practical achievements in their field of study instead of passing an oral defense of their thesis.

**Southeast Asian students outnumber Chinese: data (Taipei Times, 27.4.2018)**

The number of students from Southeast Asia studying in Taiwan in 2017 surpassed that of Chinese students for the first time, Ministry of Education statistics showed. There were a total of 117'970 overseas students studying in Taiwan last year, of whom 37'999 were from nations that are the focus of the government's New Southbound Policy, the data showed.

**Taiwan AI Academy hosts first graduation (Taipei Times, 29.4.2018)**

The nation's first artificial intelligence (AI) academy on 28 April had its first-semester graduation ceremony at Academia Sinica in Taipei, where MediaTek Inc and other businesses were eager to hunt talent. The Taiwan AI Academy, which opened its doors on 27 January, offers two courses: a skills training program and a weekend program for business managers, which admitted 210 and 320 students respectively, mainly from the electronics, information and manufacturing sectors.

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