



Press Review Taiwan
Science, Technology and Education



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Science / Technology .....2
Nangang biotech cluster deal signed (Taipei Times, 1.5.2018) .....2
Taiwanese scientists identify gene responsible for cancer spread (Focus Taiwan, 2.5.2018).....2
Macquarie Capital invests in Taiwan's driverless car development (Focus Taiwan, 3.5.2018).....2
Fast self-test for dengue virus to be introduced in Taiwan this year (Focus Taiwan, 3.5.2018) .....2
MOST showcases cutting-edge medical devices developed by local startups (Taiwan Today, 4.5.2018) .....2
German biologist wins Tsungming Tu Award for foreign scientists (Focus Taiwan, 8.5.2018) .....2
Taiwan's new supercomputer now operating (Focus Taiwan, 8.5.2018).....2
Taiwan wins six gold medals at innovation contest in Paris (Focus Taiwan, 8.5.2018) .....2
VP Chen reaffirms Taiwan's commitment to biotech industry development (Taiwan Today, 8.5.2018) .....2
Taiwan to prioritize cultivation of smart machinery talent: president (Focus Taiwan, 8.5.2018) .....2
Taiwan University wins award at Asia supercomputer challenge (Focus Taiwan, 9.5.2018) .....3
Taiwan wins at International Nanotechnology Olympiad in Tehran (Focus Taiwan, 9.5.2018) .....3
New Taiwanese tech companies set sights on Startup Thailand (Focus Taiwan, 14.5.2018) .....3
Taiwan bags five awards at Intel fair (Focus Taiwan, 19.5.2018) .....3
Tang Prize founder awarded honorary doctorate by IAACC (Focus Taiwan, 21.5.2018) .....3
Kaohsiung unveils first medical 3D printing cluster (Taipei Times, 23.5.2018) .....3
Taiwan university develops remotely operated underwater vehicles (Focus Taiwan, 23.5.2018) .....3
HTC forms VR partnerships with MLB, F1's McLaren (Focus Taiwan, 25.5.2018).....3
Microsoft developer conference opens; big crowds expected (Focus Taiwan, 28.5.2018) .....3
HTC to launch platform for AI innovations (Focus Taiwan, 29.5.2018) .....3
Taiwanese part of black-hole search (Taipei Times, 30.5.2018) .....3
Computex Taipei to spotlight the newest in tech (Focus Taipei, 30.5.2018) .....4
Education.....4
Expatriates seeking vocational education in Taiwan increases (Focus Taiwan, 20.5.2018).....4
Indian university teams up with Taiwan to start a degree program in Mandarin Chinese (Taiwan News, 23.5.2018) .....4
NTU listed among world's 100 most-esteemed universities (Taiwan News, 31.5.2018) .....4



## Science / Technology

### **Nangang biotech cluster deal signed (Taipei Times, 1.5.2018)**

The Taipei City Government on 30 April announced the launch of a biotechnology industry cluster as a build-operate-transfer (BOT) project in the city's Nangang District, which it estimates could serve as an industry growth driver to generate an annual economic output of more than NT\$50 billion (US\$1.69 billion).

### **Taiwanese scientists identify gene responsible for cancer spread (Focus Taiwan, 2.5.2018)**

A team of Taiwanese scientists has identified a gene that is largely responsible for the spread of cancer in the body, giving rise to hope that the medical community can develop a targeted treatment against it and prolong the lives of cancer patients.

### **Macquarie Capital invests in Taiwan's driverless car development (Focus Taiwan, 3.5.2018)**

Australia-based Macquarie Capital said on 3 May that it plans to set up a joint venture with a Taiwanese driverless car company by the end of this year to tap into the green energy market. The banking service company will work with 7Starlake Co., the Taiwanese agent of France-based driverless shuttle manufacturer EasyMile, to provide financial and technical assistance, said Ryan Chua, director of Macquarie Capital's Taiwan office.

### **Fast self-test for dengue virus to be introduced in Taiwan this year (Focus Taiwan, 3.5.2018)**

A new device to self-test for dengue and zika viruses in less than 10 minutes will hit the market in Taiwan in August, the company that developed it said on 3 May. The startup medical firm, BluSense Diagnostics, which has bases in both Taipei and Copenhagen, has designed the device to use one drop of blood for the test, its Executive Vice President Jessie Sun said.

### **MOST showcases cutting-edge medical devices developed by local startups (Taiwan Today, 4.5.2018)**

Two cutting-edge medical devices developed under a Ministry of Science and Technology R&D support program were showcased on 3 May in Taipei City, spotlighting Taiwan's research prowess and incubation measures for innovative startups.

### **German biologist wins Tsungming Tu Award for foreign scientists (Focus Taiwan, 8.5.2018)**

German biologist Wolf B. Frommer received on 8 May the 11th annual Tsungming Tu Award, a Taiwanese award for foreign scientists who have made great discoveries in their fields and can collaborate with their counterparts in Taiwan. Minister of Science and Technology Chen Liang-gee presented Frommer with the award, which included a cash prize of US\$75,000.

### **Taiwan's new supercomputer now operating (Focus Taiwan, 8.5.2018)**

Taiwan's new supercomputer, the "Taiwania," started officially operating on 8 May, which, according to an official of the Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) will contribute tremendously to the country's tech and research development.

### **Taiwan wins six gold medals at innovation contest in Paris (Focus Taiwan, 8.5.2018)**

Taiwan won six gold medals at the Concours Lépine International Paris, an international innovation competition held in Paris, France on 7 May. Among the many innovations showcased at the 117th annual competition, Taiwan submitted 86, including gold medal winners like the be\*U Speeh app, which allows speakers of different languages to communicate using images, and a smart air filter mask.

### **VP Chen reaffirms Taiwan's commitment to biotech industry development (Taiwan Today, 8.5.2018)**

The government is committed to transforming biotechnology into a trillion New Taiwan dollar industry through fostering research expertise and boosting collaboration between local firms and leading international enterprises, according to Vice President Chen Chien-jen on 7 May.

### **Taiwan to prioritize cultivation of smart machinery talent: president (Focus Taiwan, 8.5.2018)**

President Tsai Ing-wen instructed her Cabinet on 8 May to strengthen the cultivation of professionals and talent in the smart machinery industry, after visiting the central city of Taichung to inspect smart machinery-related projects there. Smart machinery is one of the seven focuses Tsai's administration is targeting with its "five plus two" industrial innovation development program.

**Taiwan University wins award at Asia supercomputer challenge (Focus Taiwan, 9.5.2018)**

Taiwan's National Tsing Hua University (NTHU) won the "Highest Computing Performance Award" for its supercomputer at the 2018 Asia Supercomputer Community (ASC) Student Supercomputer Challenge, which concluded in China on 9 May.

**Taiwan wins at International Nanotechnology Olympiad in Tehran (Focus Taiwan, 9.5.2018)**

Taiwan emerged victorious at the first International Nanotechnology Olympiad (INO) in Tehran in April, winning the best overall project prize for its nanotechnology solution to near-zero liquid discharge, National Cheng Kung University (NCKU) said in a press statement on 9 May.

**New Taiwanese tech companies set sights on Startup Thailand (Focus Taiwan, 14.5.2018)**

Fifteen startups in Taiwan will participate in Startup Thailand 2018, the biggest tech conference in Southeast Asia, later this week to explore business opportunities in Thailand, the Executive Center for the Asian Silicon Valley Plan announced on 14 May.

**Taiwan bags five awards at Intel fair (Focus Taiwan, 19.5.2018)**

Taiwanese high school students won five awards at the annual Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania on 18 May. The 2018 competition, said to be the largest international pre-college science competition in the world, brought together nearly 1,800 students from 81 countries for the seven-day event from 13 to 19 May.

**Tang Prize founder awarded honorary doctorate by IAACC (Focus Taiwan, 21.5.2018)**

Samuel Yin, founder of the Tang Prize and chairman of the Ruentex Financial Group, has been awarded an honorary doctoral degree in leadership management by the International Academic Accreditation and Certification Committee (IAACC), the Tang Prize Foundation said on 21 May. The Tang Prize is a set of biennial international awards bestowed in four fields: sustainable development, biopharmaceutical science, Sinology, and rule of law.

**Kaohsiung unveils first medical 3D printing cluster (Taipei Times, 23.5.2018)**

The nation's first 3D printing industrial cluster for medical devices has taken shape in Kaohsiung, the Ministry of Science and Technology said on 22 May, adding that medical devices for body parts from head to toe can be created there. The ministry in December 2017 unveiled the first demonstration site for 3D-printed medical devices and smart manufacturing at the Southern Taiwan Science Parks branch campus in Kaohsiung's Lujhu District.

**Taiwan university develops remotely operated underwater vehicles (Focus Taiwan, 23.5.2018)**

National Sun Yat-sen University has developed several remotely operated underwater vehicles (ROVs) that can go as deep as 4,000 meters in search of combustible ice, the Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) said on 23 May. With the ability to withstand water pressure at a depth of 4,000 meters, the ROVs can be used to explore combustible ice, also known as methane ice, in Taiwan's southwestern seas, the ministry said.

**HTC forms VR partnerships with MLB, F1's McLaren (Focus Taiwan, 25.5.2018)**

Taiwan-based smartphone vendor HTC Corp., which is stepping up efforts to enter the virtual reality business, said on 25 May it is partnering with the American Major League Baseball (MLB) and Formula One (F1) team McLaren in VR development.

**Microsoft developer conference opens; big crowds expected (Focus Taiwan, 28.5.2018)**

The three-day 2018 DevDays Asia conference, organized by Microsoft Taiwan and described as the largest software developer event in Asia, began on 28 May and is expected to attract the participation of as many as 300,000 people.

**HTC to launch platform for AI innovations (Focus Taiwan, 29.5.2018)**

Taiwanese smartphone brand HTC Corp. said on 29 May it will unveil an artificial intelligence platform to speed up the pace of innovations in that field. In a statement, HTC said its healthcare division DeepQ will launch the DeepQ AI platform on 30 May at a graphics processing unit (GPU) technology conference, which will be held in Taipei by American integrated circuit designer Nvidia.

**Taiwanese part of black-hole search (Taipei Times, 30.5.2018)**

A team of scientists, including researchers from Academia Sinica's Institute of Astronomy and Astrophysics, has set up a new radio telescope in Greenland and look forward to capturing the world's first image of a black hole, Taiwanese team members said on 29 May.

**Computex Taipei to spotlight the newest in tech (Focus Taipei, 30.5.2018)**

This year's Computex Taipei, one of the world's largest information communications technology exhibitions, will showcase five cutting-edge technology trends -- artificial intelligence (AI), 5G, Internet of Things (IoT), virtual reality (VR), and blockchain technology, organizers said on 30 May.

[Top of the Document](#)

**Education****Expatriates seeking vocational education in Taiwan increases (Focus Taiwan, 20.5.2018)**

More overseas Taiwanese students living in Southeast Asia are returning to Taiwan for vocational education as part of the government's New Southbound Policy to enhance cultural and talent exchanges with Southeast Asia, a government official said on 20 May. Since 2015 the number of Taiwanese from Southeast Asia enrolled in the 3+4 vocational education program for overseas compatriots, run by the Overseas Community Affairs Council (OCAC), has increased from 754 to 1,531 this year, said the council's head, Wu Hsin-hsing.

**Indian university teams up with Taiwan to start a degree program in Mandarin Chinese (Taiwan News, 23.5.2018)**

Amity University in India will start a three-year degree program in Mandarin Chinese from 2019, said Dr. Balvinder Shukla, Vice Chancellor of the University. He was addressing about 100 participants of the second two-day "India-Taiwan Bilateral Forum on the Mandarin Chinese Teaching Materials for Indian Learners" at the school. It was sponsored by the Ministry of Education, Taiwan, and was organized by Amity University, Noida, Program Office for Taiwan Education Center in India, National Tsing Hua University and National Kaohsiung Normal University.

**NTU listed among world's 100 most-esteemed universities (Taiwan News, 31.5.2018)**

National Taiwan University (NTU) has been named one of the world's top 100 universities with the best reputation for research and teaching in 2018, making it the only Taiwanese university to make the list. NTU's ranking fell in the 51-60 slot, the same as in 2017, in the World Reputation Rankings 2018 survey released on 30 May that covered 105 universities around the world and was conducted by Times Higher Education (THE), a leading provider of higher education data for the world's research-led institutions.

[Top of the Document](#)