



The AFL Student's Voice

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Introducing Our New President



Dr. Ching-Der Shih

Dr. Ching-Der Shih is the new president of The Overseas Chinese Institute of Technology. He graduated from the Chinese Culture University and majored in geography, cartography, and cartography measuring. He has been a director of The Geographical Society of China located in Taipei for many years and has written extensively about geography. He has also written many research and periodical papers and seminar essays with his colleagues about Taiwan's history. We can discover easily that our new president is a person who fervently loves geography from the above introduction. We strongly believe that the students at OCIT will become more excellent and outstanding in the future by his prominent leadership.

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Dr. Rachel Lin Assumes the Directorship of AFL



Dr. Rachel Lin

This semester Dr. Rachel Lin assumed the directorship of the Department of Applied Foreign Languages at OCIT. Dr. Lin received her doctorate degree from La Sierra University in the United States.

Dr. Lin brings to her new position an extensive knowledge of TESOL, curriculum development and instruction, and e-learning designs. Her doctorate dissertation was a comparison of motivation and reading achievement using traditional teaching materials, authentic materials and authentic online materials. Many students at OCIT participated in her research.

Dr. Lin assumes the directorship of the AFL department at a critical time in our school's history. The transition from college to university will soon occur. Let's all do what we can to assist her and our department at this important time of change.



Welcoming Our New Teacher

My name is Wan-Jeng Chang. I was born in Taipei. I have lived in the United States for over seven years. During this period of time, I got my Masters and Doctorate degrees. I earned concentrations in both Business Communication and TESOL as part of my doctoral studies in education. Because of my personal interests, I also took some professional courses in protocol and obtained four certificates. Besides, I worked for three years at the Gigatek corporation. I worked as an assistant, and I was in charge of introducing the company's products when there were trade shows. Additionally, I volunteered to teach at Flint Community Schools in Michigan on weekends.

Learning never ends. I am a person with wide interests. My research interests include Business English, modern etiquette, travel English, American culture, learning theories, organizational leadership, public speaking, human communication, business management, human resources management, and research methodologies. I devote myself to teaching and doing research. I hope that my experiences and knowledge can benefit students. I also hope that my continuous research can lead to additional study in related fields.



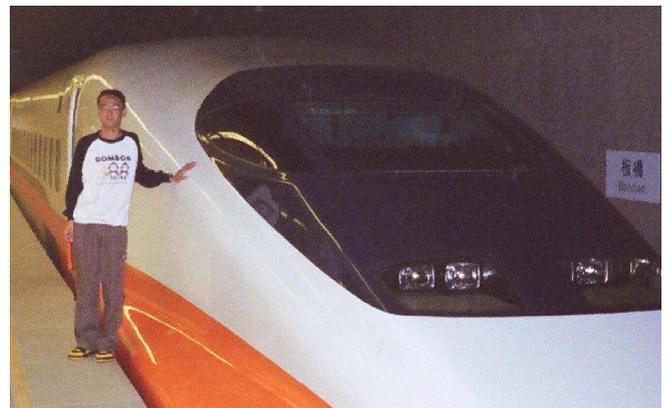
Dr. Wan-Jeng Chang

The First Time I Took the High Speed Rail by Steve 語二乙



It's a sunny day on February 13th. This day is my first time to take the Taiwan High Speed Rail. I felt very excited. It took me half an hour to go to the HSR Taichung Station.

After I arrived, I went to the ticket counter to buy a ticket to Taipei. It cost me 700 NT from Taichung to Taipei. It's a little expensive, but it's fine. Then I went to the platform and waited for the train. Finally, the train came. I couldn't believe the beauty of its orange and white colored body. It's much more beautiful than what I saw on TV before. Then I entered the train to get to my seat. The seat was very comfortable, and it was very clean inside the train. The train started to move very fast. About 50 minutes later we arrived in Taipei. I stayed on the platform and took a lot of pictures. After a while, the driver of the train came out. He was a foreigner, and I said "hello" to him. He was very friendly and we talked for awhile.



This was my first journey on the Taiwan High Speed Rail. I was impressed by the speed of the train traveling from Taichung to Taipei in just 53 minutes. I really liked it!



My New Life at the Dormitory

by Daniel 語三乙



I am a junior college student. I am studying at OCIT, and this is the third year of my school life. Because I live in Yung-Lin and it is far from Taichung, I have to live in the school's dormitory.

At first, I didn't like to reside in the dormitory because it is too far from my house. In the past, I seldom came to Taichung before becoming a student at OCIT, so I didn't know where I could go or visit, or what I should do. But the main reason I didn't want to live in the dorm is because there was no one who was familiar to me or someone I could talk with! Based on this argument, I think everyone can understand why I didn't want to come and live in the dormitory.

During my first few days of living on OCIT's campus, I felt really bored. At that time, I hadn't joined any clubs. I didn't have any good friends here, and I didn't even have a bicycle so I couldn't even go out too far. Every day and every moment I just didn't know what to do. After a few days, however, everything became different on our floor. We started to have more and more communication and we did everything together—lunch, dinner, even basketball! Even just a small thing like buying a drink or something to eat, we would ask our roommates if they wanted to join us. Suddenly, the atmosphere on our floor became something wonderful!



Now things have totally changed. It's great to live on campus! I really like living in the dormitory. Sometimes I even don't want to go home. I want to stay at school and play, or go out with my dorm mates. The dormitory at OCIT is just like a second home to me. I love this feeling and really enjoy the time I can spend with my friends. Most of these times are happy and joyous. So this is my story of how I came to love living on campus. This is my dormitory life and I'm enjoying it. This experience may not be for everyone, but I'm positive it will be one of the best memories in my life and one that I will treasure forever!



My Unforgettable Experience at PSU! by Phinix 夜語四 A

The one-year exchange program at Pittsburg State University (PSU) in Kansas really changed my life!

No one can deny that it is important to learn how to adapt to the food and lifestyle in the United States. And it is not uncommon to see Asians do the cooking and some of them are really good cooks. But don't worry! If you are a rookie there you will learn to do some cooking to save a bunch of money. Moreover, you will make new friends by inviting them to dine at your pad. No matter whether they like your cooking or not, it will definitely be a good start to your new life in the states.



Believe it or not, you are in Kansas!

First and foremost, the cost of living is more expensive in the USA than in Taiwan, but some luxury goods are cheaper. For example, you may spend three times the price getting tissues but spend only half the price for a Mercedes-Benz or BMW. Even so, many people go shopping there. I often shopped at Wal-Mart, the biggest department store chain in the world, or at a shopping mall or outlet store every once in a while. You can find such famous brands as Blue Navy, Abercrombie & Fitch, AMERICAN Eagle, Levi Strauss, COACH, and so on at the malls or outlets. And trust me, you will have a blast and it will not cost you an arm and a leg!

Furthermore, what an enjoyable thing it is to study in the USA. Every student has his or her own advisor who helps you to arrange your class schedule, to solve your study problems, and to give you good advice for approaching your degree. If your advisor is not helpful, you may request a new one. The best part is that every PSU student will have access to enter their online personal system with an easy link to the PSU website. Once there you can make every decision on your own. You can change your major every semester, but be aware of your expecting graduation date. You can receive the most up-to-date on or off campus activity information, such as parties, seminars, sports games, or concerts. Last and most importantly, you can take the courses you like and easily manage your time well with more than one class available at different times. These classes are free for you to take.



Stopping to smell the flowers

There are various facilities at PSU that you can make good use of and numerous activities for you to enjoy. In the Student Center, having a cup of coffee and staying at the café shop with my buddy Johnny, Gokhan, or Brian were my favorite pastimes. Reading a magazine or studying for a test were also enjoyable. I could unwind quite well there. I got free tickets from the Student Center for football games, which fascinated everyone. Otherwise, I played soccer at the soccer field, went swimming at the fitness center, and sometimes played football under the trees, though I was-

n't very professional. Once our team joined the PSU soccer game, and we won the silver medal! I liked to go to the pub, too. I had a good time with friends having drinks and dancing, but you will still want to be careful for your own safety.



Last but not least, the diverse life experiences were so precious that I learned about different cultures, customs, and opinions. I became friends with students from countries like Russia, Finland, England, Turkey, Brazil, Saudi Arabia, India, Korea, Japan, China, Mexico, Thailand, and certainly America. I learned how to say “hello” in all their languages. They also told me stories about their home countries and what’s it like to live there.

Would like to know more? Maybe you would like to study abroad and get some wonderful experiences. If you want to learn more about my year at PSU just ask me!



Studying and relaxing at the same time

My Travels in America by Neo 語三乙

Last summer vacation, I was very lucky to have the chance to go to America. I did not think I could have a chance to visit the US by myself. This was my first time to fly so far without my parents. I certainly felt nervous but also excited. The day I came to America was the Fourth of July, a special day in the states—its national day. I stayed in America for about three weeks. Here are some of the places I visited.

In Las Vegas I saw many casinos. There were always many people playing the slot machines and other games. You can also find many great shows in Vegas. I now understand the reputation of Las Vegas.



The Eiffel Tower in Las Vegas

so big! You could travel around the campus by car. Their dormitory had a tennis court, volleyball court, swimming pool and hot springs they let you use. It’s not called a dormitory; it’s called a hotel! America is so big. It’s hard to visit all the places you want.

If you have the chance to travel—to explore this world—then you must go. When you go to a place, it will change and broaden your horizons. Every journey and every experience can teach you things you didn’t know before. These things never appear in your classes at school. So make the world your classroom and see what you’re missing!

Today we watch movies all the time. They have become a big part of our lives, so I had to visit Universal Studios in California. I found out how they make special effects and the different locations that are part of some of the movies we like to watch. After I visited, I had more knowledge about movies. I also visited Disneyland. It’s a great amusement park. Many young people and children visit every year from all over the world. It’s really huge! You can play all day!

One of my favorite places in America is Irvine, California. It’s a beautiful city. I was lucky enough to visit because my cousin is studying at the university there. I could go onto their campus and visit my cousin in the dormitory. When I was there I thought, “Oh my god, am I at a school or in a city?” It was



Best Ways of Communicating by Joyce 語三甲



What is your notion of teachers and students? Some people think the relationship is no more than “the teacher and the student.” Others think that they can be good friends. In my thinking, I believe teachers and the students can be good companions through better communication. How can we do it? The points I want to mention are as follows. First of all, we need to trust each other. If there isn't any trust between us, we will always be doubtful about people while they are talking. And the students will be afraid of telling everything to their teacher. Second is listening. Teachers need to listen carefully when students want to tell them something and pay attention to their feelings. The last one is also the most important one: having good intercommunication. How can they communicate well? How can they maintain their relationship? I think the manner of speaking is an important part. Students need to be very polite and modest, and teachers have to be patient and give them as much care as possible. Therefore, they can have a good relationship for a long time. In short, I

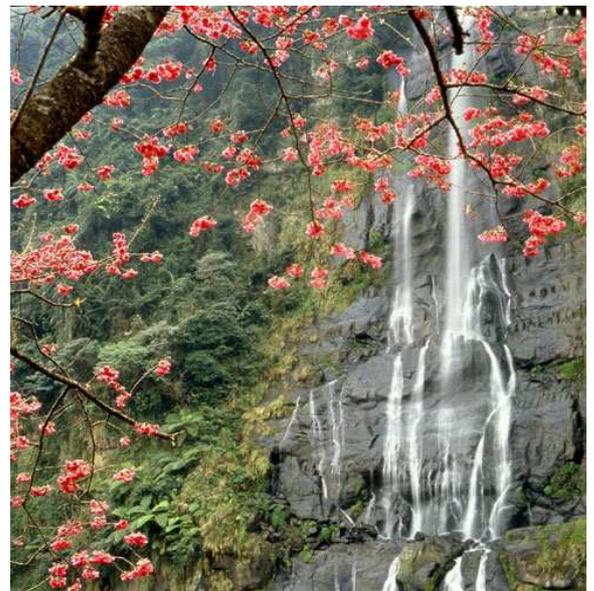
believe if we could practice what I suggest above, every teacher and student will have a meaningful relationship and get along well with each other.

A Great Tourist Spot in Taiwan! by Erin 語三甲

Wulai is a great tourist spot for people who love to take hot springs, eat local specialties, and go hiking. Last summer vacation, I went there with my cousins. They took us to visit some of the best places. We ate our lunch in a traditional restaurant.

They sold edible wild herds in every restaurant, and the food was very delicious. Then we took a walk around the mountain to look for the Wulai waterfall. Everyone must see this waterfall when they go to Wulai.

The hot springs in Wulai are the best known in Taiwan. There are many hot spring hotels. Hot springs have lots of salinity. It can make our skin smooth and can also help us to relax, but you can't stay in the hot springs for a long time because it's unhealthy. The best time is fifteen to twenty minutes. There are many local specialties, like millet wine, edible wild herb rice in a bamboo tube, and bamboo shoots baked wild boar.



There is a very special way of getting around called a “pushcart.” It's very interesting. If you don't want to take a walk, you can take the pushcart. And the pushcart will take you to the Wulai waterfall.

Wulai is a great place for everybody to take vacation. You can try it!

Do You Want to Lose Weight? by Joyce 語三甲



Many people are like the man in the picture. They have problems with obesity. This is what it's called when someone weighs much too much. Sometimes I think that I weigh a little too much. I always wonder what is the best way for me to lose weight. Is it taking medicine or having an operation? However, either of them may not be suitable for everyone to use.

In 2004, 53% of the people in Taiwan were worried about their figure, while 20% of people were concerned that they couldn't keep their figure.

Doctors on TV always tell us that we should find a good way to reduce our weight, and that planning a good eating diet program is the most important thing we can do. First of all, we need to eat food with fewer calories but that still gives us sufficient nutrition. Make sure you have breakfast every day, since it is the most important meal of the day. Then

have a moderate amount for lunch and dinner. And don't eat snacks late at night. Your body can't digest them before you go to bed.

After developing a regular eating program, we should also do some exercise at least five times every week. In short, I believe if I can live up to this plan I can lower my weight. Even though the man in the picture looks happy, I know I would be happier—and healthier—if I didn't look like that!

How to Get an "A" in Class by Judy 語三甲

Actually, isn't so hard to get an "A" in a class. Here are some ways you should work on.

First, you should preview your assignment before you go to class and write down the problems you have. Second, you should try to attend class every day. You should concentrate on what your teachers are teaching, especially on anything that may be difficult for you. Next, you should keep your brain clear. Put something that's confusing you out of your mind. After that, you should review what you have learned that day in school after you arrive home. Then you should go to bed early and get up early. Remember the saying, "Early to bed. Early to rise. Makes a person healthy, wealthy, and wise." If you follow these ways, getting an "A" in a class should not be difficult for you.





2007 Summer Camp – Learn English the Fun Way!

This summer, The Overseas Chinese Institute of Technology will coordinate an island-wide English camp. The camp will be held consecutively throughout Taiwan beginning in the Northern area from July 2 to July 20. During that period, the camp will be held at National Taiwan University of Science and Technology and Takming College.

The camp will then move to the Central area of Taiwan and be held at OCIT and National Yunlin University of Science and Technology from July 23 to August 10.

The last “leg” of the camp will be conducted in the Southern area from August 13 to August 31 at Wenzao Institute of Technology and Tainan University of Technology.

There will be two levels provided to students at each camp. Students may select from either the advanced level or the basic level. Each camp runs for a one-week period, and there are three weeks of instruction during in each period.



Students will be offered a large variety of classes to enjoy. A sampling of the courses that will be given illustrates the diversity of the material. Yet, it all has been designed to provide the students who attend with fun activities in a relaxed setting. There are classes in giving group presentations, sharing cultural and travel experiences, writing words for songs, writing commercials for television, acting in mini-plays, and many, many more topics. There’s even a party at the conclusion of the camp!

Each class is limited to about 20 to 25 students, so it’s suggested that if you are interested (And why wouldn’t you be?) that you act fast and reserve your place in any of these

camps. For more information, you can contact the Language Center at 04-27016855, extension 2167 and ask to speak with Ann or May.



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