

## **International Academic Exchange at National Tsing Hua University**

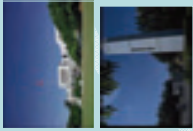
**Shih-Lin Chang**

National Tsing Hua University, Hsinchu, Taiwan 300

### **ABSTRACT**

To achieve academic excellence and broaden educational spectra, international academic exchange is one of the main focuses on which almost every university has put on a lot of efforts. At Tsing Hua University in Hsinchu, Taiwan, the international academic exchange program has been the major task of the Division of International and Continuing Education, which is under the Office of Academic Affairs. In this presentation the missions and strategies of this international program will be described and the current status be reported. Issues and challenges in promoting and pursuing international academic exchange will be also addressed.

## International Academic Exchanges at National Tsing Hua University



Shih-Lin Chang  
National Tsing Hua University, Hsinchu, Taiwan

2. 01, 2007

National Tsing Hua University

1

## Outlines

- Missions
- Statistics of international students
- Statistics of exchange students
- Strategies
- Future goals
- Issues and suggestions



National Tsing Hua University

2

## Missions

- Achieve academic excellence recognized internationally
- Train outstanding students with global view
- Encourage students to study abroad
- Recruit more international students
- Enhance teaching and research excellence



National Tsing Hua University

3

## Statistics of International Students

### 2004-2006 Profile of International Students

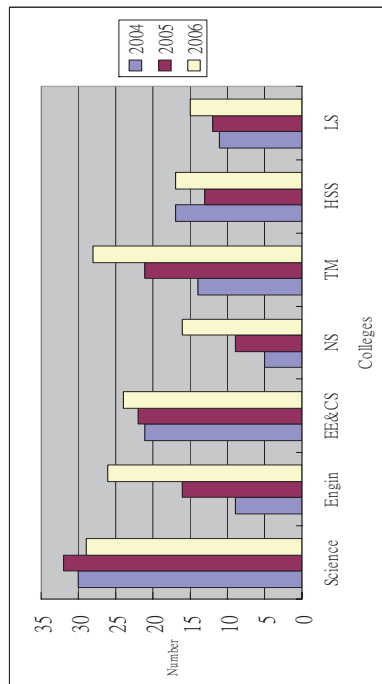
Year	Number of International Students			Total	Students of NTHU	Ratio of International Students at NTHU
	Bachelor	Master	Doctoral			
2004	23	40	44	107	10265	1.04%
2005	25	47	53	125	10640	1.17%
2006	33	60	62	155	11014	1.41%

- Goal : Increase 50 international students per year and reach 3% ratio in 2010

National Tsing Hua University

4

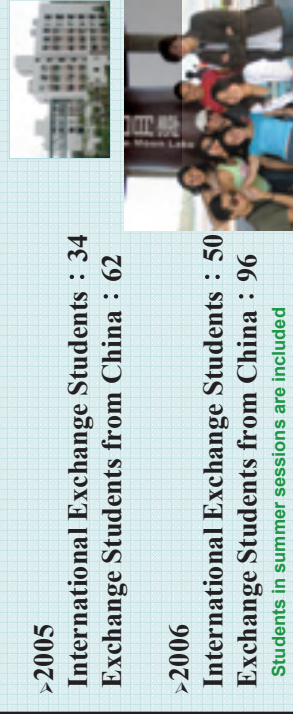
## Statistics of International Students



5

National Tsing Hua University

## Statistics of Int'l Exchange Students

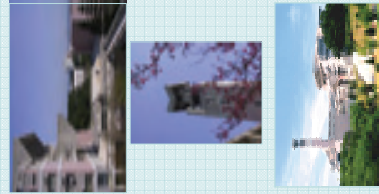


6

National Tsing Hua University

## Strategies

- > Develop dual degree programs
- > Scholarships for studying abroad
- > Scholarships for studying in China
- > Scholarships for international students
- > On-line application system for international students
- > Offer programs specifically for International students
- > Encourage faculties to teach courses in English
- > Tuition waive for exchange students
- > Establish offices for international affairs



7

National Tsing Hua University

## Strategy: Develop Dual Degree Programs

### Department / Institute

- National Tsing Hua University
- > Physics
  - > Materials Science and Engineering
  - > College of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
- Linkoping University (Linkoping Institute of Technology)
- Master's Program in System-on-Chip for Communication and Media (SOCWARE)
  - Master's Program in Materials Physics and Nanotechnology

8

National Tsing Hua University

## Strategy: Develop Dual Degree Programs

### Degree Plan and Requirements

- > Study Abroad : First semester of senior year
- > Study Period : 2 years
- > Degree Requirements : Complete undergraduate courses in NTHU  
Take graduate level courses and thesis in Linkoping University
- > Degree Awarded: Bachelor of National Tsing Hua University  
Master of Linkoping University

National Tsing Hua University

9

## Strategy: Scholarship for Studying Aboard

### NTHU Scholarship for International Exchanges

- > Objective : students gain global view and international experiences
- > Qualification : sophomores
- > Quota : 8 students per year
- > Study period : one year



National Tsing Hua University

10

## Strategy: scholarship for Studying Aboard

### MOE Taiwan Merit Scholarship

- > Objectives : students enhance research experiences, skills, and/or knowledges
- > Qualification : undergraduate and graduate students
- > Study period : 3 months to 1 year
- > Visit labs and/or take non-degree courses

National Tsing Hua University

11

## Strategy: Scholarship for Studying Aboard

- > Objective : academic exchanges between Taiwan and China
- > Qualification : sophomores or juniors
- > Quota : 60-70
- > Study period : 6 weeks in summer session
- > NTHU establishes the exchange program of undergraduate research with the following 10 universities in China

1. Peking University
2. Tsinghua University
3. Fudan University
4. Lanzhou University
5. Soochow University
6. Zhe-Jiang University
7. Harbin University
8. Xian Jiaotong University
9. China University of Sci.& Tech.
10. Shandong University



National Tsing Hua University

12

## Strategy: scholarship for Studying Aboard

- >Taiwan Scholarship  
2006 Recipients : 37
- >Scholarship of International Cooperation and Development Fund (ICDF) 2006 Recipients : 23
- >Scholarship of Taiwan International Graduate Program (TIGP) 2006 Recipients : 19
- >Tsing Hua International Student Scholarship  
2006 Recipients : 59

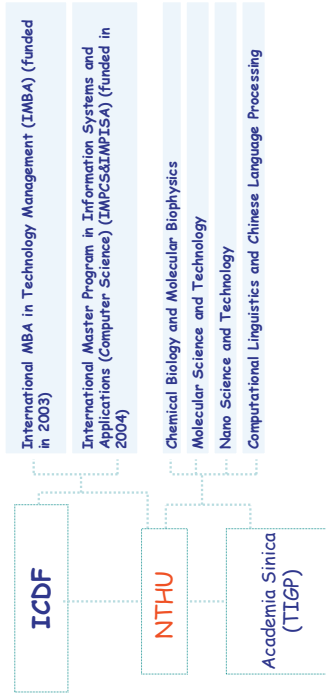
89% of international students receive one of the scholarships.

## Strategy: On-Line Application System for International Students



## Strategy: International Programs

NTHU cooperates with ICDF and Academia Sinica to establish programs in English



## Strategy: International Programs

Number of Students in ICDF's Program

Year	IMBA	IMPCS	IMPISA
2003	5		
2004	4	2	
2005	7	3	
2006	7	IMPICS is renamed as IMPISA	6

## Strategy: Courses Offered in English

### 11% of Courses Offered in English in 2006

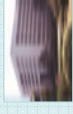
Academic Year	Courses Offered in English (Professional Courses)	Number of Courses Offered (Professional Courses)	Ratio of Courses Offered in English (Professional Courses)
2006 Spring Semester	142	1363	10.4%
2006 Fall Semester	158	1385	11.4%

#### > Incentive for offering courses in English (one of three)

- Financial support for TA's
- Financial support on teaching materials
- 50% more course credits

## Strategy: Tuition Waive and Scholarship for Exchange Students

- > Application deadline : six weeks prior to the study
- > Study period : fall semester, spring semester, and/or summer session
- > Students from sister universities can waive tuition and credit fees
- > Exchange student scholarship

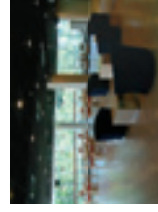
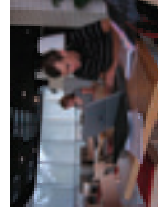


## Strategy: Offices for International Affairs

Office	Function
Office of Research and Development Division of Academic Cooperation	* MOU and agreements with sister universities and research institutes * Guest visit
Office of Academic Affairs Division of International and Continuing Education	* Admissions for international students and exchange students * Documents for visa applications * Scholarships for studying abroad
Office of Student Affairs Division of Oversea and Foreign Student Affair	* Provide assistance in living, international student activities, and etc. * Scholarships for international students

University Center on International Affair for the coordination of international affairs

# UCIA



## University Center of International Affairs

## Goals

**Number of International Students Reaching 3%**



**15% of Courses Taught in English**

**Achieve Academic Excellence Recognized Internationally**

National Tsing Hua University

21

## Issues and Suggestions (1/6)

- ◆ **Not many people are familiar with NTHU, which limits the number of international applications.**
  - Aggressively attend education fairs and visit foreign universities to recruit international students.
- ◆ **Tuition and living expenses in NTHU might be expensive for international students from developing countries.**
  - Provide scholarships and part-time jobs for international students.

National Tsing Hua University

22

## Issues and Suggestions (2/6)

- ◆ **Students from some countries are difficult to obtain Taiwan visa.**
  - Ministry of Education should help international students to resolve any visa problem.
- ◆ **Only 10% of all courses are offered in English.**
  - Provide more incentives for professors to offer courses in English and also more learning tools for local students to get used to English.

National Tsing Hua University

23

## Issues and Suggestions (3/6)

- ◆ **Mathematics and science backgrounds of some admitted international freshmen are not comparable with the backgrounds of local students.**
  - Design mathematics and science evaluation sheets for international applicants to answer voluntarily.
- ◆ **Courses in listening, speaking, reading, and writing Chinese language for international students are needed.**
  - Establish more such courses to help international students to fit in Taiwan culture and the campus life.

National Tsing Hua University

24

## Issues and Suggestions (4/6)

- ◆ The required General Education courses such as History, Constitution, and Sociology are very difficult for some international students.
  - Revise course requirements such that international students can take Chinese language courses instead of the General Education courses.
- ◆ Dormitories do not have sufficient facilities to accommodate different cultures and living habits of international students.
  - Build or remodel dormitories in the consideration of international students.

National Tsing Hua University

25

## Issues and Suggestions (5/6)

- ◆ Most documents and University regulations do not print in English.
  - Require all documents and regulations to have English versions.
- ◆ Few living and travel information such as food menu and directions are created specifically for international students.
  - Encourage local students to collect materials and establish web sites that provide information for foreigners.

National Tsing Hua University

26

## Issues and Suggestions (6/6)

- ◆ Tuitions of foreign universities may not be affordable for our students.
  - Establish more sister universities with MOU that offers tuition waive for our exchange students.
- ◆ Our students do not have strong motivation to study aboard.
  - Encourage students to study aboard by providing more scholarships, English learning courses, and international fairs.

National Tsing Hua University

27

Thank you

National Tsing Hua University

28