

6 Doctoral Freshmen, Including Kun-Duo Weng, Awarded NSTC Research Scholarships

Campus focus

6 new doctoral students admitted to Tamkang University in the 2024 academic year, including Kun-Duo Weng from the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, have been awarded the "National Science and Technology Council Doctoral Research Scholarship." Each recipient will receive a monthly stipend of NT\$40,000 for 3 consecutive years, along with the honorary title of NSTC Graduate Research Fellowship.

The scholarship selection is based on criteria such as the applicant's academic performance, development potential, experience in participating in projects, and research topics. The recipients are: Kun-Duo Weng (Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering), Ya-Hui Li (Department of Chinese Literature), Zong-Jhe Hsieh (Ph.D. Program in Applied Sciences, College of Science), Ci-Yuan Lin (Department of Management Sciences), Wei-Hsiang Hung (Department of English), and Penubarthi Guru Varun (Department of Mechanical and Electro-Mechanical Engineering).

The 6 recipients have demonstrated exceptional research capabilities. Kun-Duo Weng has published 2 journal papers and 5 conference papers. Since his undergraduate studies, he has received multiple awards in AI and robotics, including the "Master's Thesis Award" from the Robotics Society of Taiwan and the "Outstanding Award" in the AI category at the 2023 National AI Project Competition, highlighting his potential in robotics research. Ya-Hui Li has presented papers at graduate forums hosted by Fo Guang, Soochow, Dong Hwa, and Fu Jen universities, focusing on topics related to philosophy and education. Zong-Jhe Hsieh, who completed his undergraduate, master's, and doctoral studies at Tamkang, plans to focus his research on producing clean energy.

The other 3 recipients also possess valuable research experience gained during their master's programs. Ci-Yuan Lin and Wei-Hsiang Hung both served as learning assistants for NSTC-funded projects. Hung has received

awards for excellence and outstanding performance as a teaching assistant, applying his literary expertise to teaching and research. Indian student Penubarthi Guru Varun, who has achieved Chinese proficiency at the A2 level since arriving in Taiwan, has hands-on experience in 3 laboratories and is currently engaged in numerical and experimental research on 3D-printed TPMS structures.