

Korea’s NARPI Summer Training Program , with Tamkang University Strengthening Northeast Asia’s Non-Governmental Peace Network

The “2026 Summer Peacebuilding Training,” jointly organized by the Northeast Asia Regional Peacebuilding Institute (NARPI), a South Korean NGO, and Tamkang University’s Department of Diplomacy and International Relations, was held for one week and around Tamkang University’s Tamsui Campus. This year’s program brought together nearly 60 peace practitioners, scholars, and young participants from South Korea, Japan, Mongolia, Taiwan, and other parts of the Asia-Pacific region. Through historical field visits and intensive coursework, participants explored a wide range of topics, including nonviolent conflict transformation, environmental peace education, and restorative justice.

At the opening ceremony, NARPI Executive Director Jae Young Lee reviewed the organization’s history and invited participants to read its mission statement together. He expressed the hope that people who have personally

experienced war and military violence, as well as second- and third-generation members from different countries, could work together toward a shared dream: that no one should ever again have to experience the fear of war. He envisioned NARPI as a place where people can learn from one another, engage in dialogue, build networks, and acquire peacebuilding skills through a variety of approaches.

The program began with three days of field study. This was followed by five intensive days of core courses designed to help participants use education, dialogue, and practical skills to transform cultures of militarization and fear into just and sustainable peaceful societies.

The program also brought together experts from Taiwan and scholars from Japan, South Korea, Singapore, Thailand, and Australia for cross-

national discussions on restorative justice, deepening participants’ understanding of practical experience across different fields.



The 2026 NARPI Summer Training Program, where peace practitioners from various countries introduce themselves during the opening ceremony.

Tamkang Team Presents Research at IFLA Annual Conference, Showcasing Academic Excellence and AI Applications



Tamkang University Professor Sohail Inayatullah (second from right), UNESCO Chair in Futures Studies, Department of Education and Futures Design; Dean Wen-Yau Lin (third from right) of the Chueh Sheng Memorial Library; and library staff pose for a group photo at IFLA WLIC 2026.

The International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) held the 90th World Library and Information Congress (WLIC 2026) in Busan, South Korea, Tamkang University demonstrated a strong presence at the event. Professor Sohail Inayatullah of the Department of Education and Futures Design, UNESCO Chair in Futures Studies, was invited as a featured speaker. Wen-Yau Lin, Dean of the Chueh Sheng Memorial Library, led three library staff members in delivering one oral presentation and two poster papers. Faculty members and students from the Department of Information and Library Science also presented a poster paper and visited libraries and universities in South Korea.

With the theme “Libraries Powering Transformation,” this year’s congress highlighted the evolving role of libraries in an era of rapid change. Sohail Inayatullah’s keynote speech, titled “From Keepers of the Collection, to Innovators

in the Gardens, to Truth Tellers.” Through an interactive discussion, he explored possible directions for transforming libraries in the age of AI. In academic research, Lin and researchers from the National Institute of Applied Research jointly delivered an oral presentation on the results of the Taiwan Open Access Journals (TOAJ) project, supported by the National Science and Technology Council. Two posters presented by the Chueh Sheng Memorial Library also showcased the library’s achievements in using AI to enhance professional services.

Two assistant professors from the Department of Information and Library Science led 11 master’s students in attending the congress. Assist. Prof. Yu-Fan Wu and first-year master’s student Yi-Zhen Hou presented the poster “Tear-Off Calendars as a Medium for Change: A Pilot Study of an Unconventional Reading Medium in Reminiscence Care for Older Adults.”

Tamkang University Chemistry Department Signs MOU with Vietnam’s Dong A University, Focusing on Sustainable Agriculture and Student Exchange

Tamkang University’s Department of Chemistry continues to expand its international academic partnerships, achieving another milestone in global engagement, signed an MOU with Dong A University’s Institute of Agriculture and Rural Development on August 8. Future collaboration will focus on student exchange, graduate student training, joint publications, and sustainable development in central Vietnam, further strengthening academic ties between the two institutions.

Witnessed by Yau-Hung Chen and Dong A University Vice President Dinh Thanh Viet, the MOU was signed by Chih-Hsin Chen and Tran Ngoc Thanh, Director of the Institute of Agriculture and Rural Development, on behalf of their respective institutions. Chih-Hsin Chen explained that the two sides will combine their expertise to pursue substantive cooperation on selected research topics. In

particular, central Vietnam is rich in agricultural resources and is one of the world’s major coffee-producing regions.



Chih-Hsin Chen (left), Chair of Tamkang University’s Department of Chemistry, and Tran Ngoc Thanh, Director of the Institute of Agricultural and Rural Development at Vietnam’s Dong A University, sign an MOU.

The partnership will therefore focus on local agricultural resources and sustainable development in coastal areas, gradually developing joint research themes and expanding collaboration in green and sustainability-related fields.

Chih-Hsin Chen expressed particular appreciation to Distinguished Professor San-Lang Wang for helping make the partnership possible. Wang has been actively engaged in Vietnam for more than a decade and has established long-term cooperative relationships with several universities in central Vietnam. He has also generously shared his academic and professional networks. Many of the Vietnamese students he has supervised now teach at local universities, serving as important bridges for academic exchange between Taiwan and Vietnam and providing substantial support for Tamkang University’s efforts to expand its international partnerships.

Office of Student Affairs Leads Students on Gongliao Field Trip to Experience Local Culture and Explore Regional Revitalization

Tamkang University’s Office of Student Affairs organized two regional revitalization exploration programs, titled “Gongliao Life Beyond the City,” more than 30 local and international students were taken on immersive visits to the Aodi fishing village and Jimuling community in Gongliao District, New Taipei City. Through ecological exploration, food and agricultural education, and regional revitalization activities, participants learned about Gongliao’s distinctive mountain and coastal culture while experiencing firsthand the diverse values of local sustainable development.

The Office of Student Affairs and local

revitalization partner Taste Gongliao jointly planned the programs. Activities included hands-on workshops making agar jelly and sweet potato cakes, an experience washing seaweed with local ama divers, guided tours of Aodi Fishing Harbor and the intertidal zone, and walking tours of the Jimuling terraced rice paddies and the Tamsui-Kavalan Historic Trails. An 80-year-old local ama diver was specially invited to lead participants into the intertidal zone at low tide. Students observed sea cucumbers, starfish, hermit crabs, limpets, and other marine life up close before returning them to their natural habitat, putting the principles

of marine ecological sustainability into sea, and the warmth of its people.” practice.

Students also learned about the journey of food “from farm to table” by discovering local ingredients such as Gelidium seaweed and edible seaweed, as well as participating in agricultural activities such as harvesting dragon fruit and wax apples. Through these experiences, they gained a deeper appreciation of Gongliao’s unique culture, characterized by “delicacies from the mountains, flavors from the



Tamkang University’s Office of Student Affairs organized a regional revitalization exploration program, with a local ama diver guiding participants through the intertidal zone to experience the area’s marine ecology.