

NOT RECONCILING TO THE DECLINE OF “EGG ROLL PLAZA” , HSIEH CHI - HUA CONSTRUCTED THE BBS WEBSITE

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“Tamkang University (TKU) is famous for its information-oriented education, but why isn’ t there a presentable BBS of Tamkang?” said Hsieh Chi-hua, a senior of Dept. of Electrical Engineering. Because Hsieh did not reconcile himself to the decline of “Egg Roll Plaza” (the BBS of TKU, bbs.tku.edu.tw), he constructed the website “Tamkang Club” (bbs://club.tku.edu.tw) by himself at the end of last semester, and within several months, more than 1,000 persons have registered.

In former days, “Egg Roll Plaza” was the hottest BBS in Taiwan, but the prosperity did not last anymore. PTT (the BBS of National Taiwan University) becomes popular all at once, leaving others far behind. Hsieh and many board-friends板友 hope that the BBS of TKU can recapture the throne lost in those days, so they shuttle between every BBS of different universities, using the “sign file” 簽名檔 to advertise “Tamkang Club” in the hope of enhancing its visibility.

Hsieh’ s equipment for constructing websites is inherited from his seniors at school, and its function is as powerful as PTT’ s. He constructs and manages “Tamkang Club” all by himself. “My dream is to provide the best circumstance so that when students of TKU mention BBS, they will think of “Tamkang Club” immediately, “ said Hsieh.

The most important thing he considers at the moment is to raise the number of visitors who attend the website because the more people attend, the more information and message boards there will be. There are 73 boards in “Tamkang Club” now, including the hottest one “Handsome Guys and Beautiful Girls” . If you want to know the handsome guys and beautiful girls in school, you absolutely can find them here. The board of “Rotten Stores” is also the favorite of users, which introduces the awful stores around TKU campus. In addition, at the beginning of a new semester, the

boards of clubs and classes are also very popular.

However, comparing to PTT's more than 1,000 boards, "Tamkang Club" still has a lot of space to improve. When PTT was set up at first, only 60 persons attended the website per day. After it developed toward the large-scale comprehensive boards, more and more people joined the members of PTT because of its detailed classification and plentiful information. At present, 120,000 persons have registered at PTT and more than 20,000 users attend the site per day. Even journalists love to get in to discover the news, making it the most widely known BBS.

Hsieh indicates that the features of PTT such as "Keeping Accounts", "Scheduling", "Calendar", "School Timetable", "Praising or Booing an Article", "Game and Gambling", even "Raising the Chicken at PTT" can all be done by "Tamkang Club", but he emphasizes that the position of "Tamkang Club" differs from PTT's. He hopes that whether the user belongs to TKU or not, anyone can participate in this BBS. However, he insists that "Tamkang Club" is the BBS of TKU, and the ideal of constructing the site is to create the centripetal force and the feeling of belonging to TKU students, so "Tamkang Club" must have its own characteristics. "How wonderful if we can share gossip, make complaints and exchange information in our own BBS," Hsieh said with full expectation.

Nevertheless, the most important thing for a good website is still management, or it will become the second "Egg Roll Plaza". Hsieh considers learning from the management pattern of PTT, organizing a group of omni-directional board leaders, so that through combining the expertise of different colleges, "Tamkang Club" can have broad vision, complete function and multi-dimensional boards in the future.