

President Keh Presents Flag to Encourage Tamkang Athletes, Who Remain Top Among Universities Without Sports Departments at NIAG

Campus focus

The closing ceremony of the 2025 National Intercollegiate Athletic Games (NIAG) took place on May 2 at Chang Jung Christian University. Tamkang University sent 11 teams to compete in track and field, swimming, badminton, tennis, taekwondo, judo, fencing, karate, soft tennis, woodball, and rugby, achieving impressive results with a total of 5 gold, 6 silver, and 14 bronze medals. Additional honors included 2nd place in the men's sabre team and 3rd place in the women's sabre team (fencing), 2nd place in the women's team event and 4th place in the men's team event (soft tennis), 4th place in the men's team sparring (taekwondo), 2nd place in the men's team event and 6th place in the women's open division (karate).

The flag presentation ceremony was held at 12:20 p.m. on April 23 at the 4th floor of Shao-Mo Memorial Gymnasium, where President Huan-Chao Keh presented the flag to Dean of Physical Education I-Cheng Chen. Also present were Dean of Academic Affairs Tzong-Ru Tsai, Dean of Student Affairs Shih-Jung Wu, and several faculty members who encouraged the athletes as they prepared to give their best performances. President Keh praised Tamkang's continued excellence at NIAG, frequently ranking first among universities without sports-related departments. He expressed hope that this year's athletes would surpass previous achievements. He also highlighted that one of the university's eight core competencies,

“Cheerful Attitude and Healthy Lifestyle”, is achieved through athletic activities. Thanks to the dedication of two successive deans of physical education, Professor Shu-Feng Hsiao and Professor I-Cheng Chen, Tamkang's sports development has flourished, earning five Outstanding Sports Promotion Awards from the Ministry of Education, tied with National Taiwan University for the highest number.

The competition venues spanned across southern Taiwan, from Xinying District in Tainan to Kaohsiung. During the games, Dean I-Cheng Chen

personally visited various venues to support the athletes and even offered meal allowances as encouragement. He noted that Tamkang University won 5 gold, 7 silver, and 11 bronze medals last year, and this year earned a total of 25 medals, ranking 11th out of 129 participating institutions, and 1st among universities without sports-related departments. He expressed deep appreciation for the coaches' hard work, congratulated all medalists, and commended non-medalists for their efforts and determination, encouraging them to keep improving.

Event Highlights: **Track & Field:** Chia-Hui Lee (Mass Communication, Year 4) won gold in Women' s Triple Jump and bronze in Long Jump **Badminton:** Yu-Chi Chang (Information Management, Year 4) won gold in Men' s Singles, Kuan-Lin Wu (Transportation Management, Year 4) and Pei-Hua Chang (Aerospace Engineering, Year 4) won silver in Men' s Doubles **Karate:** Po-Wei Lu (Electrical and Computer Engineering, Year 3) won gold in the Men' s Second Weight Class **Swimming:** Bo-Ya Chuang (Accounting, Year 2) won silver in Women' s 200m Backstroke, Fang-Chieh Chen (Architecture, Year 3) won silver in Women' s 100m Breaststroke **Taekwondo:** Hung-Jhen Wu (Mass Communication, Year 1) won gold in Men' s 63kg Sparring. **Soft Tennis:** Po-Hsuan Wu (French, Year 4) and Yamasaki Ichika (International Tourism Management, Year 4) won silver in Women' s Doubles and silver in Women' s Team Event **Fencing:** Gold in Men' s Sabre Team Event, silver in Women' s Sabre Team Event.

Captain of the fencing team, Yen-Chen Chang, a junior in Banking and Finance, stated that during the winter and spring breaks, the team held intensive training sessions tailored to each member. He expressed gratitude to Coach Shun-Min Wang and alumni who returned to assist in training and simulate team competitions, which enhanced both practical experience and team interaction. Captain of the swimming team, Fang-Chieh Chen, a junior in Architecture, noted that this year placed greater emphasis on underwater training, focusing on improving water sensitivity. Coach and Physical Education Professor Jui-Chen Chen recorded swimmers' strokes using underwater cameras, enabling them to review and adjust their techniques through video analysis. "In addition to formal practices, team members

also actively engaged in self-directed training, aiming to perform their best during competitions while ensuring safety.”

Chia-Hui Lee, who won two medals in track and field, performed beyond expectations, achieving her best at the competition, making her both happy and emotional. She admitted that she had sustained an injury during training. On the advice and encouragement of her coach, Associate Professor Tien-Wen Chen of the Physical Education Office, she switched to jumping off her left foot. Though initially nervous about the change, her outstanding performance became the best graduation gift to herself.

“This is the first gold medal for a national men’s singles in my life. Fulfilling this dream makes me incredibly happy!” said Yu-Chi Chang, a senior in information management. He explained that before the competition, he focused on weight training to get into top physical condition and approached the matches calmly. He also studied footage of his opponents to develop strategies. He thanked his coach, Chief of Physical Education Instruction and Activities Section Kuei-Shu Huang, and Assistant Professor Hui-Min Tsai of the Physical Education Office, as well as his teammates who supported, trained, and encouraged him throughout the journey.

“This is the most meaningful gold medal I’ve ever won,” said Hong-Jhen Wu. Due to the large number of participants in the 63 kg category and the intensive schedule, the competition demanded significant physical endurance. He had to push his limits continuously to achieve a strong result. In addition to thanking his coach and the Dean of Physical Education, he expressed gratitude for his 13 years of unwavering persistence. He stated that he will continue to give his all and strive to bring more honors to the university.















