



Microsoft Global OEM
Manager Shares Career
Plan of Innovation for
TAIPEI TECHnists



Three Designs from Taipei
Tech Shine at the iF
Concept Design Award
2012



Welcome to Nobel
Prize Winner Dan
Shechtman's Lab



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International Conference

2012 International Quasicrystals Conference at TAIPEI TECH

The year 2012 marked the 30th anniversary of the discovery of Quasicrystals. TAIPEI TECH has chosen to celebrate it by holding the International Quasicrystals Conference, and invited scholars from all over the world, most especially 2011 Nobel Laureate Prof. Dan Shechtman, the father of the Quasicrystals field.

During the three day conference from May 7 to 9, twenty prestigious scholars in the field of Quasicrystals from ten different countries gathered at TAIPEI TECH to exchange their ideas on this extraordinary crystalline structure and discussed possible practical applications with potential commercial implications. These respected scholars include Prof. Sven Lidin, the Chairman of Nobel Committee for Chemistry; Prof. Denis Gratias co-author of the first Quasicrystals thesis released in 1984 with Prof. Shechtman; and outstanding TAIPEI TECH alumnus Prof. An-Pang Tsai, who is now teaching at Tohoku University.

Prof. Shechtman attributed his success and winning the 2011 Nobel Prize in Chemistry to the scholars who have dedicated themselves to the research. He also expressed his desire to persist in the research on this field in the hope of making even more fruitful discoveries.

Accompanied by TAIPEI TECH professors, the scholars visited the research centers, laboratories, and the History Museum of TAIPEI TECH. They were impressed by the transformation that TAIPEI TECH has undergone since 1912 and were left with a remarkable impression of TAIPEI TECH and of Taiwan. Consequently, twenty scholars have agreed to become international chair professors of TAIPEI TECH after the Quasicrystals conference.



Microsoft Global OEM Manager Shares Career Plan of Innovation for TAIPEI TECHnists



by Belle Huang

Though the connections of an outstanding alumnus and previous global staff of Microsoft, TAIPEI TECH is honored to invite Mr. Murray Vince, General Manager at Microsoft, to deliver a special speech regarding Individual Career Planning to more than 200 students at TAIPEI TECH on June 1, 2012.

A Microsoft veteran, Murray has served for more than ten years at this company. He works in Redmond, Washington and manages the global technical sales and services team supporting Microsoft's Global Embedded Field, and ODM partners. Prior to joining the OEM Division, Murray was the General Manager of Online Services Business Development at Microsoft.

Murray's speech aimed at individual career planning in the new Era of Amazing Innovation in the 21st century, discussion how advantages and value proposition, miniaturization, digital content, connectivity, interfaces, computer power, market efficiency, power and energy and globalization may exert an influence on the career planning hierarchy for the individual. In

addition, he also talked about such aspects as the importance of personal passion and desire for personal growth, the willingness to investigate new things in life and networking. Importantly, he spoke of establishing oneself as a quality brand by being trustworthy, being passionate in life and compassionate in humanity, risk-taking, problem-solving and having the willingness to learn.

Murray further shared tips on what to expect during an interview including creating a first impression, projecting knowledge, and having a progressive ramp plan. Finally, Murray encouraged the students in the audience to always express appreciation to the interviewing panel at the end. Students were inspired by and astonished by the insights and wonderful speech delivered by Murray. The students and associates eagerly asked questions, and enthusiastically requested to take pictures with him after the event.

After delivering his speech, Murray met students (Tzu-Chi Chen, Hsuan-Wei Tang, and Shuo-Han Chen) from the Department of Computer Science and

Information Engineering of TAIPEI TECH. They were winners of the 2012 Microsoft ImagineCup Taiwan Finals, also known as the Olympic Games of computer science, hosted by Microsoft, and currently the most premier student technology competition in the world. The students gained the honor of being the champions in Game Design: Phone Taiwan Finals. Their design was inspired by energy crisis. Students named their design "Elementum," the Latin word for "Element."

Concurrently, Murray expressed his sincere gratitude for TAIPEI TECH's thoughtful arrangements and the warm enthusiasm with which he was greeted by the students. TAIPEI TECH was privileged to present Murray with the title of "International Chair Professor in High Technology" in which he served with extraordinary excellence. He promised to visit the university again, and the students looked forward to his return in November. For those who did not get their chance to ask questions, Murray advised them to "please come to my Facebook and let's have a profound discussion on them."



Three Designs from Taipei Tech Shine at the iF Concept Design Award 2012

Design 1: Wave Painting Bucket

The bucket and lid are designed to be wave-shaped. This design enables users to open cans without using any other tools. In addition, it also makes picking up the lid easier, and the painter is less liable to get paint on their hands.

Design 2: Smart Exit

When a fire breaks out, it is vital to exit a building as soon as possible. However, there is always the risk of smoke and fire on the other side of the exit door. This exit design consists of a smoke detector with an indicator. If the carbon monoxide (CO) concentration on one side of the door is higher than the dangerous level set by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), the indicator on the other side of the door will show "DO NOT EXIT" in red. In this case, people can utilise the "golden 180 seconds" to find alternative exits.

Design 3: Fear Not

Hitting a tiny nail with a big hammer can be quite a challenge as it may hurt the fingers, especially when it is done at an angle of 45 degrees. This new type of hammer has a detachable device at the end of the handle that is designed to help the user fix the nails in position even with an angle of 45 degrees or 90 degrees, thereby eliminating the risk of injury.

by Belle Huang

Three design artworks from Taipei Tech were chosen in the top 100 designs at the iF Concept Design Award 2012. They are "Wave Paint Bucket" designed by three senior students namely, Yin-Kai Li, Fu-Yu Tsai, and Shou-Ren Hsu from the Department of Industrial Design and supervised by Dr. Cheng-Kuei Fan; "Smart Exit" and "Fear Not" both designed by Chih-Wei Lai and Chi Wang from the Graduate Institute of Innovation and Design and supervised by Dr. Tzu-Kun Huang and Yen Hsu.

Dr. Fan stressed that Taipei Tech had only one design selected last year, so the increase of designs chosen this year proves that Taiwanese students are becoming more competitive in global design competitions. Further worth mentioning is that students Chih-Wei Lai and Chi Wang also won the Red Dot Award in 2011, and their talent has again been recognized by the iF Concept Design Award this year. Professors and students were extremely delighted when they first heard the news. There were 10,566 pieces of designs registered at the iF Concept Design Award 2012, breaking previous records.

In the first run of selection in March, 368 out of all designs submitted were selected, 12 of which were from the Department of Industrial Design and Graduate Institute of Innovation and Design, Taipei Tech.

Welcome to Nobel Prize Winner Dan Shechtman's Lab



Prof. Dan Shechtman, the winner of the Nobel Prize in 2011, visited National Taipei University of Technology (TAIPEI TECH) on May 8 of 2012, and delivered a very distinctive lecture on quasicrystals.

During the lecture in TAIPEI TECH, the lecture hall was filled with students. Together with Prof. Shechtman, they watched crystals through transmission electron microscopes. Prof. Shechtman took the students back to the scenario when he first found quasicrystal 30 years ago, a discovery which created a revolution in the fields of physics and chemistry. The students

were also extremely curious about the process of discovery. They posed many questions to the professor, such as what brand of microscope the professor used 30 years ago when observing the quasicrystals, and what it was like being in the spotlight. They were amazed and inspired by the professor's wit and humor. Like people said, great people are often humble and easy to get along with—a lesson students learned in Professor Shechtman's lab.

The visit was the result of "The Pearl Fund Project." In 2012, over a hundred million dollars was donated by

university alumni; thus, "The Pearl Fund Project" was officially launched to invite 25 prestigious scholars to visit TAIPEI TECH and give lectures and speeches in order to enhance students' overall global awareness and level of technological competence. Everyone agreed that the conference was an outstanding success.



Students were also extremely curious about the process of discovery. They posed many questions to the professor.

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Wish you have a great day ahead,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Wenlung Li". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

President

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