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to Boldly Change the World

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Renowned Nanoelectronics Expert
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Chen-Ching Ting
Meng-Yun Chung
Hsu-Yu Ho

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Yi-Shan Weng



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AI Can Provide Answers, but Cannot Determine Values

President Yi-Jun Jen Encourages Graduates to Boldly Change the World

National Taipei University of Technology (Taipei Tech) held its 2026 Commencement Ceremony on June 13. In his remarks, President **Yi-Jun Jen** encouraged graduates to embrace the opportunities and responsibilities of an era shaped by rapid advances in AI and the global transition toward sustainability.

"AI can provide answers," President Jen noted, "but it cannot determine which questions are most worth solving. AI can improve efficiency, but it cannot assume responsibility for the choices we make." He urged graduates to become not only users of technology but also creators of solutions and agents of change.

President Jen emphasized that a graduation certificate marks the completion of one stage of learning, not its end. **He also shared the story of distinguished alumnus Charles Liang, founder of Supermicro, whose guiding principles of "perseverance" and "love" inspired graduates to stay committed to their direction even before results are visible.**

Minister of Environment **Peng Chi-Ming** encouraged graduates to discover what they are truly passionate about and to move forward with



both a grounded mindset and a forward-looking vision. Doctoral graduate **Hsiao-Po Bao** shared how he transformed personal loss into research on AI, digital avatars, and voice and image reconstruction, demonstrating how technology can respond to emotion and memory in meaningful ways.

At the ceremony's close, President Jen expressed his hope that graduates will embrace challenges, take responsibility, and create a better future for the next generation as they boldly step into the world.



When AI Takes the Stage, Trust Follows Two Paths



Taipei Tech Research Reveals How Rational and Emotional Cues Shape Consumer Confidence in AI Avatars

A doctoral dissertation study from National Taipei University of Technology (Taipei Tech) found that consumer trust in AI avatars is not derived from a single factor, but is simultaneously built through cognitive and affective trust, which further influences product trust and behavioral intention. The research findings provide an important reference for human-computer interaction design in applications such as AI avatars, virtual anchors, and live-stream marketing.

As AI avatars increasingly appear in live commerce, digital marketing, and online interaction scenarios, the challenge businesses face is no longer merely whether to adopt the technology, but whether consumers are willing to trust it. In AI avatar live-streaming e-commerce scenarios, consumer trust is not formed via a single path but rather involves two concurrent psychological processes: rational evaluation and emotional connection. Both pathways ultimately influence product trust, which in turn affects behavioral intention.

This research was completed by doctoral candidate **Bao Hsiao-Po** under the supervision of Dr. **Keng Ching-Jui**. The dissertation, titled "A Study on the Structural Model of the Formation and Transformation of Two-Layer Trust in AI Avatar Live Commerce Scenarios," focuses on how consumers build trust when interacting with AI-based interactive agents amid the rapid development of generative AI

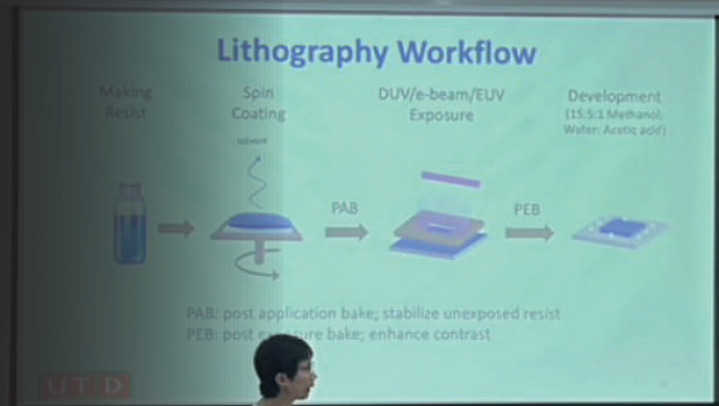
and live commerce, and how this trust further influences decision-making.

Studies indicate that previous discussions on trust have largely been based on interpersonal interactions or traditional e-commerce scenarios, while a systematic explanation of trust formation toward virtual interactive agents such as AI avatars remains lacking. Especially in highly interactive environments rich in social cues such as live commerce, consumer trust is not merely a rational judgment but is also shaped by emotional connection.

The research results show that interaction quality and perceived quality substantially enhance rational trust, while anthropomorphism and social endorsement contribute to the formation of emotional trust. In addition to directly influencing product trust, rational trust can also indirectly enhance product trust through emotional trust. Ultimately, product trust serves as an important bridge connecting AI avatar trust and behavioral intention.

The study collected 508 valid samples from consumers with live-stream viewing experience and used Partial Least Squares Structural Equation Modeling (PLS-SEM) for analysis. The findings indicate that when businesses implement AI avatars, the key is not merely technological implementation but the design of a human-computer interaction experience that incorporates both rational credibility and emotional connection, thereby fostering consumers' dual-layer trust and enhancing behavioral intention through trust transfer.

Taipei Tech Recruits Internationally Renowned Nanoelectronics Expert Prof. Julia W. P. Hsu



Yushan Scholar Award Recipient to Advance Interdisciplinary Research in AI and Materials for Flexible Electronics, Green Energy, and Biomedical Sensing

The Department of Materials and Resources Engineering at National Taipei University of Technology (Taipei Tech) has recruited **Julia W. P. Hsu** (Wan-Ping Hsu), Distinguished Chair Professor at the University of Texas at Dallas (UTD) and recipient of the Ministry of Education (Taiwan) Yushan Scholar Award. Beginning in May 2026, Prof. Hsu will return to Taiwan for three months each year to collaborate with interdisciplinary research teams at Taipei Tech, advancing materials development, flexible electronics, green energy, and biomedical sensing, and strengthening the university's internationally recognized research capabilities.

Professor Hsu has maintained close ties with Taipei Tech since 2011, visiting Taiwan almost annually. Appointed Honorary International Chair Professor in 2020, she has actively promoted collaborative initiatives, culminating in a dual master's degree agreement signed in 2022 between Taipei Tech's Department of Materials and Resources Engineering and UTD's Department of Materials Science and Engineering, establishing a strong foundation for ongoing research collaboration.

Professor Hsu earned her Ph.D. in Physics from Stanford University and her B.S. in Chemical Engineering from Princeton University. She currently holds the Texas Instruments Distinguished Chair in

Nanoelectronics at UTD and previously served at Bell Laboratories and Sandia National Laboratories. With more than 30 years of research experience, she has published over 270 papers in international peer-reviewed journals, accumulating more than 13,000 citations and an h-index of 63. She is a Fellow of the American Physical Society (APS), the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), the Materials Research Society (MRS), and the Institute of Physics (IoP).

The Yushan Scholar Program integrates research strengths across Taipei Tech's colleges to establish five interdisciplinary teams specializing in theoretical calculations, thin-film processing, flexible electronics, green energy, and biosensing. By combining artificial intelligence with materials science, the program aims to advance smart materials and green energy technologies. In recent years, Professor Hsu has collaborated with Professor Tonio Buonassisi at MIT to accelerate the development of perovskite solar cells using Bayesian optimization.





Sustainability & Community

Taipei Tech Launches Compassion Award, Backed by Supermicro Founder and Hong Kong Philanthropist

New Platform Weaves Together Philanthropy, Humanistic Values, and AI for the Public Good

National Taipei University of Technology (Taipei Tech) held the inauguration ceremony for the Taipei Tech Compassion Award on June 2, 2026. The award was jointly established through donations from **Tian-Maw Lin**, Founding Executive Chairman of the globally recognized Chinese Compassion Award, Honorary Doctor and Distinguished Alumnus of Taipei Tech, and **Charles Liang**, Chairman and CEO of Supermicro, Honorary Doctor and Distinguished Alumnus of Taipei Tech.

President Yi-Jun Jen stated that the establishment of the Taipei Tech Compassion Award is far more than the creation of a philanthropic award — it also marks an important starting point in the university's efforts to advance "Technology for Good" and sustainable citizenship education. By recognizing exemplary contributions to philanthropy and fostering a virtuous cycle of giving, the award will encourage more faculty, students, and alumni to engage in social outreach and sustainability initiatives.

Charles Liang founded Supermicro, a global leader in AI servers and high-performance computing. Beyond his achievements in technology, Liang has long been committed to environmental sustainability and philanthropic initiatives — from driving technological innovation to supporting tree-planting projects in the Sahara Desert — demonstrating a strong sense of global responsibility through concrete actions. He has also remained a steadfast supporter of AI education at Taipei Tech, donating H100 AI servers to advance generative AI research,



Charles Liang



Tian-Maw Lin

smart campus initiatives, and cross-domain AI applications.

Tian-Maw Lin founded Taishan Trading Company and built a successful business spanning Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan, and mainland China. Embracing the philosophy of "philanthropy without seeking recognition," he established the global Chinese Compassion Award in 2006 to honor individuals whose quiet acts of service have made a meaningful difference in society. For nearly two decades, the award has promoted the belief that "every drop of compassion can flow together into an ocean of goodwill."

To ensure the integrity and social impact of the Taipei Tech Compassion Award, the university has assembled a distinguished selection committee comprising prominent figures with longstanding commitments to philanthropy, education, and public service.

President Jen emphasized that beginning in Academic Year 2026–2027, Taipei Tech plans to introduce a course titled "Sustainable Citizenship in Practice," nurturing future talent equipped with both professional expertise and a strong sense of social responsibility — encouraging students to evolve from learners into changemakers and from professionals into globally minded citizens capable of creating meaningful social impact.



Global Engagement

Harvard's Radcliffe Pitches Return to Taipei Tech for a Second Cross-Pacific Musical Exchange

A Cappella Performance Deepens Inter-University Friendship and Expands Students' Global Perspectives

The Office of Student Affairs at National Taipei University of Technology (Taipei Tech) recently hosted the international music exchange event "Woven in the Quiet•息未盡，歌已起" at the university's Shih-Hsiung Auditorium. **The Radcliffe Pitches**, Harvard University's premier soprano a cappella ensemble, returned to Taipei Tech for a second performance, delivering a cultural experience that blended music, the humanities, and global perspectives while further strengthening the enduring friendship between the two universities.

The event's dual themes - "Woven in the Quiet" in English and "息未盡，歌已起" in Chinese - evoke the same imagery rather than serving as direct translations: before the first note is sung, breath, anticipation, and attentive listening have already been quietly woven together. This captures the essence of a cappella music, in which performances rely solely on the human voice, breath, and unspoken harmony, without instrumental accompaniment.

The friendship between Taipei Tech and The Radcliffe Pitches dates to May 2024, when the Pulu Technology, Culture, and Arts Foundation, established by Taipei Tech alumni, facilitated the inaugural "Bridging Voices" A Cappella Music Evening at the same venue. Founded in 1975, The Radcliffe Pitches is Harvard University's oldest soprano/alto a cappella group and has toured extensively throughout Asia and Europe. Their return one year later reflects the continued growth of the friendship between the two institutions.

In his welcome remarks, Taipei Tech Vice President Tun-Wen Pai stated, "From Harvard University to Taipei, we have crossed not only geographical distance but also cultures, languages, educational experiences, and cherished memories of youth. Tonight, we hope that through music, voices from diverse backgrounds will be heard, understood, and resonate with one another in the same space."

Beyond the formal performance, the event provided students from both universities with opportunities to share campus experiences, extracurricular activities, and musical traditions through a dinner reception, deepening mutual understanding and strengthening cross-cultural communication skills. Taipei Tech looks forward to further deepening this partnership, enabling more students to broaden their horizons and create lasting shared memories through music.





Design Drives a Sustainable Future

Taipei Tech's 2026 Industrial Design Graduation Exhibition Transforms SDGs and USR into Real-World Solutions

National Taipei University of Technology (Taipei Tech) has long integrated the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and University Social Responsibility (USR) into its industrial design curriculum, cultivating students' ability to address global challenges through design. At the 2026 Young Designers' Exhibition, graduating students from the Department of Industrial Design demonstrated through a diverse range of projects that design is not only a means of solving problems but also a powerful driver of sustainable development.

Addressing global trends in energy transition and net-zero emissions, the project "**f(Hualien)=√ΔT**" draws on the unique marine environment of Heping, Hualien, to propose a conceptual design for an ocean thermal energy conversion (OTEC) facility. By utilizing the temperature difference between surface and deep seawater, the design generates renewable energy while integrating algae cultivation and environmental education, transforming an energy-generation site into a public space with educational, tourism, and ecological value.



To address the exhibition industry's long-standing challenge of excessive waste generation, "**MycoLink**" uses agricultural waste and mycelium-based materials to develop modular, interlocking, stackable exhibition units. After exhibitions, the units can be repurposed as plant pots before ultimately biodegrading and returning to the soil, embodying a comprehensive circular design approach.

In response to the growing demand for mountain rescue services, "**Suburban Aid Point**" improves the efficiency of emergency medical support in peri-urban mountainous areas through a modular, reconfigurable system integrated with underground storage, connecting mountain trails into a resilient emergency support network.



Cultural heritage preservation and community revitalization are equally central to the exhibition. "**Realm of Overlapping Shadows**" uses architectural storytelling and immersive sensory experiences centered on the historic Gaobinge building to reconnect local history with community memory, while "**Folding Time**" transforms the former Shilin Paper Mill site into an open public space supporting cultural experiences and community engagement.

Additional projects include "**Building a Home with Wood**", which highlights the value of domestically sourced timber through multisensory engagement, and "**Shou Xin Kiln**", which integrates passive energy-efficient design strategies with a collaborative pottery workshop.



Taipei Tech stated that it will continue to encourage students to integrate disciplinary expertise with societal needs, further strengthening sustainability education through curriculum development, interdisciplinary collaboration, and international exchange, working toward a more resilient, inclusive, and sustainable future.

