

EngageAsia

Taiwan Trip Report : 2/28 ~ 3/5/2019

By Stomu Miyazaki

The purposes of the trip ;

1. Hold an orientation meeting with the Taiwanese teachers (Rita and Joan) selected for EA's 2019 summer program to prepare for and review the summer program.
2. Meet with Prof. Pei ying Chen and Paul Hsu to discuss future collaboration.
3. Research for the 2020 program in Tainan.

3/1 in Taipei

10 : 00 ~ 14 : 00 Orientation meeting

- * Rita and Joan were very enthusiastic and excited about participating in EA's summer program in NYC (7/21 ~ 8/1).
- * They are in ASK team which works on creating new curriculum, offers teacher professional development & leadership programs, as well as mentoring program for teachers in Taiwan funded by the Ministry of Education (MOE).
- * They often visit schools in the island to conduct workshops.
- * They are also going to participate our 2020 program in Tainan as the supporting moderators.



Joan (Left) Rita (Right)



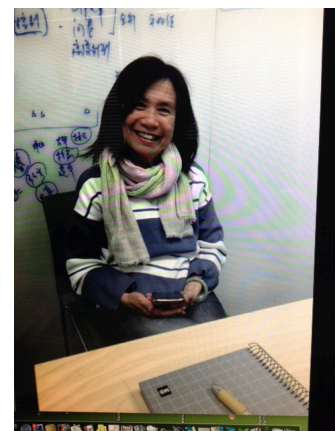
15 : 00 ~ 18 : 00 Meeting with Prof. Peiying Chen and Paul Hsu

Prof. Pei ying Chen (National Taiwan Normal University) is the director of ASK team who manages 13 team members (educators).

Mr. Paul Hsu is the co-founder of Lotus Creek Foundation which supports ASK team.

As EngageAsia and ASK team have the same mission, Ms. Chen and Mr. Hsu were very excited about working with us. They are going to collaborate with us for our future activity in Taiwan.

Prof. Pei ying Chen



3/2 in Kaohsiung

I moved from Taipei to Kaohsiung to meet with Bob Chang (Taiwan director).
We reviewed all the detail of 2019 trip logistics and the programs.

3/3 in Kaohsiung and Tainan

9 : 00 ~ 10 : 30 Meeting with Ms. Lin Fong-Ying (Tracy) in Kaohsiung

Tracy is the coordinator of International Communication & Media at Shu-Te Home Economic & Commercial High School in Kaohsiung. She coordinated our school visit last summer.
Aimee and Tania had a wonderful discussion with Shu-Te teachers.

The purpose of our meeting was to explore possible collaboration for our 2020 program in the southern Taiwan.
She was very enthusiastic about our 2020 program.



12 : 00 ~ 14 : 30 Meeting with Ms. Tung Yi Cheng (Lily) in Tainan

Lily is a teacher at National Tainan Girls Senior High School who participated our Design Thinking workshop in Taipei last summer. Also, she is a PhD. (in education) candidate in National Cheng Kung University in Tainan.

She was very interested in participating and coordinating our 2020 program in Tainan.

Tainan is the oldest city in Taiwan which has a very rich history and culture. We hope to conduct our cultural research and workshop programs in Tainan with her help.

15 : 00 ~ 17 : 00 Meeting with Prof. Jen-Sue Chen

Professor Chen is a very experienced international educator. During her position as the CEO of Foundation for International Cooperation in Higher Education of Taiwan, Professor Chen successfully lead universities in Taiwan to build international partnerships with all the prestigious universities worldwide. Now, she is a full-time professor in the Department of Materials Science and Engineering, National Cheng Kung University (NCKU).

Prof.Chen is going to be our key advisor for the 2020 program in Tainan.



3/4 Exploration in Tainan

It was the first time for me to visit Tainan city. After all the fruitful meetings and heading back to NY next day, I finally had a free time to see Tainan and imagined what Formosa cultural research program would be like in 2020.

We are going to have 2 Japanese teachers and 2 American teachers in 2020. The Japanese team is going to research Taiwan-Japan's historical relationship and the American team is going to research the rich culture of Tainan.

It seemed Tainan would be the perfect place to do Formosa program.

It was only early March but the temperature was 85F ! From 35F freezing world in NY to 85F tropical world in Tainan, I could not walk around for a long time...So, I visited an old town, Anping district. It was so wonderful !



Summary

It was a very productive and fruitful trip !

For this summer program in NYC, everything is ready to go and looking forward to having Rita and Joan.

For the 2020 program in Tainan, Bob and I checked all the logistics (lodgings, local transportations, workshop space, major cultural research areas). The all are perfect.

With Lily and professor Jen-Sue Chen's help, we will be able to conduct great programs !

Regarding to the workshop program in 2020, we are going to do STEAM / Creative Thinking workshop again.

We are going to have an experimental workshop this summer and we will improve it for the 2020.

We are planning to have 2 Japanese, 2 Americans and 8 Taiwanese teachers (5 from Tainan and 3 from Kaohsiung).

With Rita and Joan's help, we will be able to manage this large group of teachers in 2020.

Another surprise news !

When I met professor Pei ying Chen in Taipei, she told me that her husband was working on a revitalization project for a rural village in a mountain 2 hours drive from Taipei city. We are also planning to have our 2021 program in Hiroshima & Osaki-kamijima island and the focus will be "Revitalization of rural area's population, traditional cultures and economy through school educational revolution". What a coincident !!

We were planning to have American and Taiwanese teachers and Taiwanese municipal officers to show them how Osaki-kamijima island's school educational revolution had been beneficial for the island. The purpose of this program is to see how education can play important role in society and economy.

However, we had no connections to the local municipal offices in Taiwan... But, here comes Prof.Chen's husband, a savior ! He already showed strong interest in our 2021 program and he circulated our 2021 program info to his colleagues. They are all excited and are planning to participate it !

If his project team meets the island's team, that would be awesome !

With all the outcomes from the trip, we feel very positive about our future activity !