

Taiwan MOE – Washington University Fellowship Program

Partnering to Educate Doctoral Students Since 2012

Washington University in St. Louis and the Taiwan Ministry of Education (MOE) will be continuing their partnership to attract and educate highly talented students for their PhD.

Since 2012, the Taiwan MOE-WashU fellowship program has supported 39 PhD students in a range of programs such as biomedical sciences, engineering and applied sciences, and various social sciences. The Taiwan MOE has provided half of the tuition and fellowship funding, and Washington University has provided the other half. After graduation, the students have gone on to positions in academia, industry and government across the world.

The results?

Since the program started, the partnership led to a **40% increase in applications** from Taiwanese students to attend Washington University to pursue PhD degrees.

The continued success of this program is reflected in the career trajectory of its alumni. Two graduates have already returned to academic positions in Taiwan. Wan-Jung Cheng, a McDonnell Scholar from National Taiwan University received her PhD in economics and is currently an assistant research fellow/assistant professor, Institute of Economics at Academia Sinica in Taiwan. Washington University graduate student Chao Wang received his PhD in computer science and is an assistant professor in the department of computer science & information at National Taiwan Normal University. Other students have gone onto faculty and post doc positions at universities in the United States, including California Institute of Technology, Louisiana State University, and Washington University. Alumni also hold meaningful roles in industry or government. Kuan-Yu Michael Shen is currently a research engineer at Intel Corporation in Oregon, and Hsun-Chia Hsu is a scientist at the Food and Drug Administration.



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HSU

One of the key impacts to the success of the program is the **McDonnell International Scholars Academy**. This unique institution was launched by Washington University in 2006 to support top international graduate students and to facilitate collaborations with international universities. Over its 15 year history, the McDonnell Academy has enrolled 26 students from Taiwan as McDonnell Scholars, and 19 of these students were also MOE fellows. The McDonnell Academy provides leadership training, along with the opportunity to develop relationships with students from across the globe. Beyond its support of students, the McDonnell Academy fosters strategic partnerships with international institutions, including National Taiwan University and National Chiao Tung University. Washington University faculty with deep ties to Taiwan, such as [Prof. Tuan-Hua David Ho](#) and [Prof. Jr-Shin Li](#), serve as ‘ambassadors’ to help advance this mission.

The McDonnell Academy is a key mechanism developed by Washington University to support the success of international education and research.

“Washington University is very proud of this partnership and what it has achieved. The program has been a great success for everyone involved – most of all the students. It has created the opportunity for many students to pursue their education and ultimately make important contributions to society.”

Kurt Dirks

Vice Chancellor for International Affairs
Director, McDonnell International Scholars Academy
Washington University in St. Louis

Stronger Partnerships

By the Numbers

Given the track record of success of the Taiwan MOE/WashU Fellowship, the program will be extended for five more years (2022-2027). This involves admitting up to 5 new fellows each year with students supported for up to 4 years. The MOE and WashU will fully share the cost of supporting the students' tuition and living expenses.



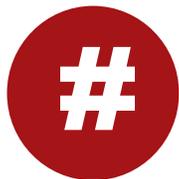
40% Increase

Taiwanese PhD Candidates to WashU
from Start of Partnership



Tuition & Stipend Support

for 20 Students per Year



5 Year Extension

Taiwan MOE/WashU Fellowship Program



CHANCELLOR ANDREW MARTIN SIGNS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN TAIWAN MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY IN ST. LOUIS