

Forty years after graduation, National Taiwan Institute of Technology's honor roll reappears

On July 1st, 112th year, the National Taiwan Institute of Technology announced its honor roll. Instead of anxious young students eagerly checking the list, it was alumni over 60 years old, who had graduated 40 (+1) years ago, accompanied by their families, that anxiously awaited the results. National Taiwan Institute of Technology, currently known as Taiwan Tech, was the only vocational and technical university in Taiwan 40 years ago. It was the dream university for all vocational and technical school students. Students from rural areas who passed the entrance exam would receive congratulations from the entire village in which they pushed the boat out to celebrate.



Reunion National Taiwan Institute of Technology's 40(+1) Year Graduates

The 40-year reunion of Taiwan Tech's graduates started in 2018. At that time, there were three classes that had already graduated over four decades. In order to renew the bonds between the alumni and to ensure that more senior graduates did not miss out on the 40-year milestone, the university, and the alumni association took the initiative to organize reunions. Graduates from the first to third classes were invited, along with the founding president, Mr. Lü-An Chen, and the former faculty members, to gather

on campus and traverse the corridors of time through nostalgic photographs, reviving the nostalgia of the past.

Inspired by the enthusiastic response from the alumni and faculty, these reunions have been organized continuously in subsequent years: 108th, 109th, and 110th. In the 112th year, despite the challenges posed by the pandemic, everyone finally reunited on July 1st. From checking the honor roll, registering on campus, attending departmental meetings, and expressing gratitude at the appreciation banquet, the alumni were given the opportunity to experience the scenes of their graduation, lectures, and the days when the honor roll was released.

The preparations for this reunion were made possible by the organizing committee composed of representatives from various departments and classes. Serving as the chief coordinator, Mr. Pi-Zong Zhan from the Department of Electronics, emerged as an enthusiastic advocate. He humorously acknowledged the risk of being mistaken for a fraudulent organization, all for the sake of reconnecting with fellow alumni. During the preparation period, he frequently shared old photos from 40 years ago and the progress of the reunion on social media, solidifying his role as the perfect spokesperson for the event. Noteworthy contributions were also made by Mr. Sheng-Huang Lai from the Department of Chemical Engineering, who made vigorous efforts to rally nearly 50 classmates and their spouses, making the Department of Chemical Engineering the most represented department in this year's reunion. Expressing gratitude to the esteemed faculty members who made a special trip back to the campus, as well as to the department, the alumni association, and the student association, Mr. Lai recognized the collective dedication required to facilitate the reunion of alumni with their alma mater after 40(+1) years. Mr. Jing-Guo Guo, an alumnus from the Department of Electronics, shared that during the departmental discussion, as the presence of their former professors, Mr. Yong-Da Huang, who taught them linear systems, and Mr. Rong-Hui Qiu, who instructed data communication systems, brought back the memories of their classroom experiences 41 years ago. In representation of his classmates, Mr. Wen-Zong Liao, wrote a letter expressing gratitude to the university for providing a pathway for vocational technicians specializing in repairing vacuum tubes, televisions, radios, refrigerators, and washing machines to elevate themselves into first-class engineers, thus significantly restoring their confidence. Mr. Dong-Yuan Yang from the Department of Mechanical Engineering even organized a gathering the next day with long-lost classmates to conquer the main peak of Yangmingshan Mountain, showing his exceptional enthusiasm.

In addition to the alumni, nearly 30 former faculty members who taught during that time attended the reunion, including the former president and former Dean of Academic Affairs, Mr. Qing-Tian Liu, former President of the Department of Construction, Mr. Shun-Tian Chen, former Director of the Department of Chemical Engineering and former Minister of Economic Affairs, Mr. Yen-Hsiang Shih, former Chair of the Department of Industrial Management and current President of Nanhua University, Mr. Lin Congming, and President Chen Xishun, among others. Mr. Yong-Da Huang, a professor from the Department of Electronics, expressed his delight that, even after so many years, the students still remembered him.

As the alumni gathered in front of the honor roll and reunited with the long-lost teachers and students from their respective departments, laughter, and conversation transported them back to the campus atmosphere of 40(+1) years ago."



The 112th-year reunion of Taiwan Tech brought together over 300 alumni, faculty members, the alumni association, and various departmental alumni associations, commemorating the 40(+1) year milestone since graduation.