

**The President of Paraguay visited Taiwan Tech, acknowledging the "Taiwan-Paraguay Tech University" as an exemplary model of Taiwan's higher education export.**

The President-elect of Paraguay, Mr. Santiago Peña, together with his wife, Mrs. Leticia Ocampo, and a delegation of 11 esteemed members, including the Minister-designate of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Ramírez, and the Secretary-General-designate of the Presidential Office, Ms. Jiménez, visited Taiwan Tech on the morning of July 13th.



*A group photo was taken during the visit of Mr. Santiago Peña, the President-elect of Paraguay, and his delegation at Taiwan Tech.*

President Jia-Yush Yen of Taiwan Tech warmly welcomed the distinguished guests and presented a comprehensive overview of the fruitful outcomes achieved in the five years of implementing the Universidad Politecnica Taiwán Paraguay project. The notable achievements included the establishment of teaching laboratories, the dispatch of highly qualified faculty members to Paraguay, the facilitation of one-and-a-half-year student exchange programs for third-year students, and the arrangement of internship opportunities in Taiwan for final-year students.

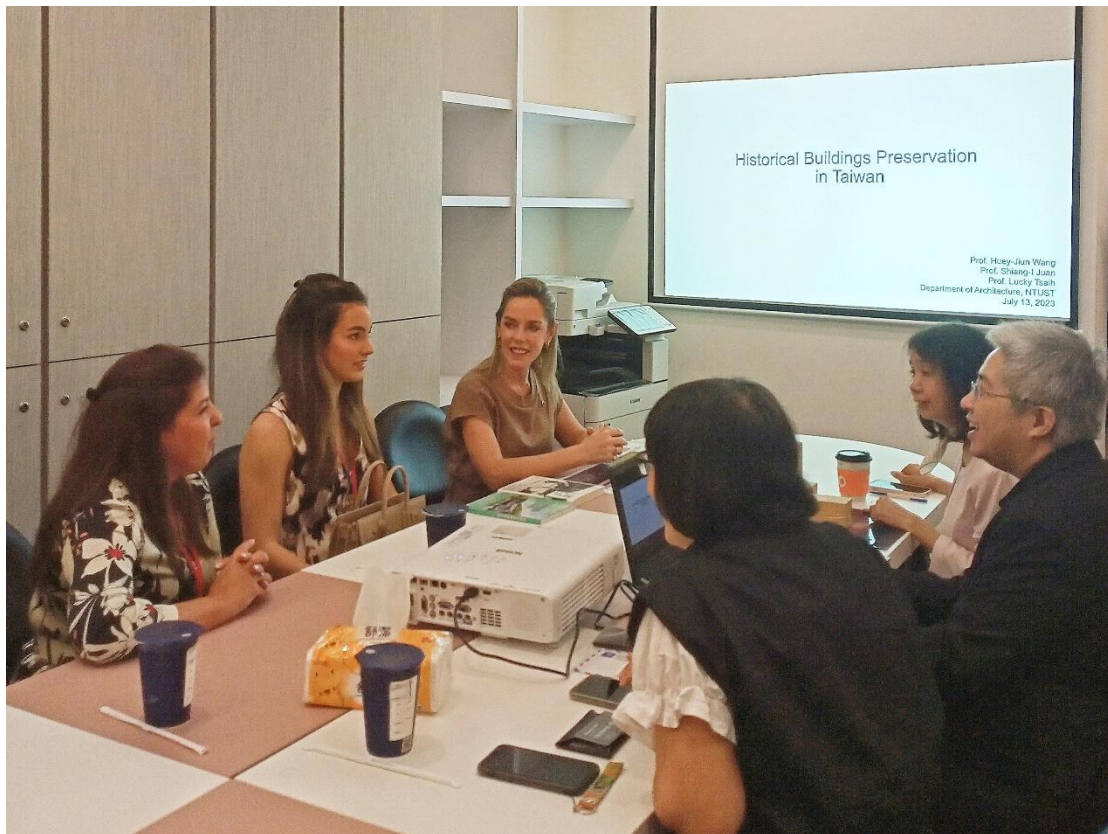


*A group selfie was taken with Mr. Santiago Peña, the President-elect of Paraguay, and the students from Universidad Politecnica Taiwán Paraguay.*

Since its establishment in 2019, Universidad Politecnica Taiwán Paraguay has admitted a total of 514 students. The first group of 72 students completed their studies by the end of 2022 and have embarked on various engineering careers, while a few have chosen to pursue master's degrees overseas, with one already accepted into the graduate program of the Department of Mechanical Engineering at Taiwan Tech. This student will return to Taiwan in the fall semester to continue their studies.

Taiwan Tech has welcomed 286 exchange students from Universidad Politecnica Taiwán Paraguay, with 16 of them having the opportunity to stay in Taiwan for the first time this year and engage in internships at companies such as Mobiletron Co., Ltd, Gran Systems Co., Ltd, Sinotech, CECI, Pioneer Machinery Co., Ltd., and Sinto. The chairman Yong-Hui Zhou of the China Engineering Consultants, Inc., a nonprofit organization, also attended the meeting and sponsored nine company lectures and three field visits during the students' stay in Paraguay, contributing to cultivating engineering talents in Central and South America.

During the meeting, President Peña had a meeting with the student representatives currently studying in Taiwan from Universidad Politecnica Taiwán Paraguay. In addition to inquiring about their learning progress, he expressed his appreciation for the contributions made by Taiwan Tech over the past five years. In the speech, he emotionally discussed the history of Paraguay, which was once the most prosperous country in Central and South America. He expressed his hope that Paraguay would learn from Taiwan in terms of economic development, education, technological advancement, and the diligence of its people to quickly catch up and restore its former glory. The young president showed great affability, taking the time to speak to the students in Spanish and expressing his interest in their learning experiences. Finally, the meeting concluded with a joyful moment of group selfies, and President Peña even posed as a human billboard for a group photo, creating excitement among the students who were eager to share the photos with their families.



*Mrs. Leticia Ocampo, the wife of the President-elect, and Professor Huey-Jiun Wang from Taiwan Tech engaged in a discussion on the preservation of historic architectural sites.*

Given Mrs. Ocampo's background in architecture, Taiwan Tech arranged for her to have an exchange of experiences and insights with Professor Huey-Jiun Wang, an expert in the field of historic building maintenance.

Ms. Ying-Jung Yeh, the Director of International Affairs at Taiwan Tech, expressed that the students at Universidad Politecnica Taiwán Paraguay are primarily undergraduate students and considerably younger compared to the foreign graduate students at Taiwan Tech. The enthusiasm brought by these students from South America has injected a different vitality into the campus. She mentioned that the football competitions on campus are particularly exhilarating, with students from Universidad Politecnica Taiwán Paraguay showing remarkable skills. Apart from sports, students from Universidad Politecnica Taiwán Paraguay also participate in various academic competitions alongside their Taiwanese peers.

Dulce Maribel Delgado Urdapilleta, a senior student at Universidad Politecnica Taiwán Paraguay, shared her initial impression upon arriving in Taiwan, which was observing the absence of litter on the streets. She remarked, "These are the results from a carefully designed system and the cooperative efforts of kind-hearted people." Throughout her 16-month stay in Taiwan, she expressed her intention to bring back such values of trust and a sense of responsibility to Paraguay and integrate them into their own system.

Universidad Politecnica Taiwán Paraguay, officially known as Universidad Politécnica Taiwán Paraguay (UPTP), is a university established through collaboration between Taiwan Tech and the Paraguayan government, entrusted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Located in the capital city of Paraguay, Asunción, UPTP currently offers four departments: Mechatronics Engineering, Information Engineering, Civil Engineering, and Industrial Engineering. The program requires students to complete approximately 4,300 hours of study within four years, including a one-and-a-half-year exchange program in Taiwan. The curriculum comprises a wide range of required and elective professional courses offered by Taiwan Tech, as well as visits to advanced engineering projects in Taiwan, such as the Tamkang Bridge and Terminal 3 of Taoyuan Airport, along with specialized engineering lectures.



*Mr. Santiago Peña, the President-elect of Paraguay (left), engaged in a friendly discussion with Carlos Giuliano Crichigno Hidalgo, a senior student from the Department of Mechanical Engineering at Universidad Politecnica Taiwán Paraguay (right).*