UHM CHINESE FLAGSHIP SNAPSHOT BULLETIN

Taiwan Edition



Summer 2022 Issue 3

FRIDAY 7/1

HSINCHU TRAIN STATION SQUARE 火車站, CITY GATE 城樓, 814 DATONG POPSICLE 大同冰店, HSIN FU CHEN BAKERY 新復珍商行, CHENGHUANG TEMPLE NIGHT MARKET 城隍廟

Friday, July 1st, was our first trip out and around the Hsinchu area. We took a taxi to the train station and then walked around to different popular snack places. We ate everything from ice cream to baozi to mochi. This was a fun experience because we got to try the different flavors of Taiwan all in one day. After the cultural event, we went to Big City, which is a huge shopping center filled with many international and local goodies. I really enjoyed this first adventure as it was exciting to get out and stretch our legs from sitting in a classroom all week. (Molly Wolyn)



Group photo in the Hsin Fu Chen Bakery

Photo Credit: Monica Mau



Waiting around the Chenghuang Night Market to regroup and decide where to go next, either back to NTHU or go to Big City



Students waiting around the 814 Datong Popsicle store for their orders

On Friday, July 1st, we went to the Hsinchu train station and walked to see the many different eateries in the area. We got to sample a vast variety of different foods and experience Hsinchu's rich cuisine. Some of my favorite foods included a Matcha ice cream bar, oyster pancake, and a Boba-filled bun. We also visited a tea shop with three different levels where we browsed a variety of artisan tea. This excursion was our first look at Hsinchu outside of the University, and I was really excited to be able to see what the city was like and how different it was from Taipei that we had just visited. (Yi Lin Lei)



Students trying to decide which flavor mochi to get

Kai, Monica, and Molly taking a quick photo while waiting to get on the Old Mountain Line Rail Bike

On Saturday, July 2nd, we went to a pottery studio and got to experience shaping our own little bowls, which we are able to take home with us. After the pottery, we went to a place where we had made our tea with ingredients such as peanuts, black sesame seeds, and white sesame seeds, and they made it into a delicious tea for us. We also got to experience a bike pedaling activity on the train tracks to a small town. It was a pretty fun experience to pedal to and back to the mini station. The small town had multiple stalls along the street that sold different types of food, including ice cream, small knickknacks, juice, wine, bread, and many more. It was an enjoyable trip. (Yi Lin Lei)



Kai, Molly, and Monica making their "leicha," a traditional Hakka drink



Eva, Cara, Anna, and Jui-Yang Ting Laoshi also making their own pot of "leicha"

SATURDAY 7/2

MIAOLI COUNTY 苗栗縣: HAKKA CULTURE LEARNING TOUR 客家文化參訪

On Saturday, July 2nd, we traveled all the way to Miaoli and got to experience a more countryside vibe. We first went to a mountainside to bike up into the valley, where we saw a little tourist town. It was fun and tiring as we had to bike up a rail, but we had a motor helping us along the way. We then got to try family-style food, which was exciting as they had many foods that I had never tried before. After eating many delicious foods, we got to experience making our pottery, choosing from either a plate, bowl, cup, or flower vase. We even got to carve our own designs into it! The last event was making our own mix of tea, which we had ground from various ingredients. It was an exhausting day but definitely worth it. (Molly Wolyn)



Group photo in front of the 春田窯 Chun Tian Arts/Spring Kiln sign



Eva, Yi Lin, Alysa, Michelle, Anna, Paul, Monica, Noelani, Molly, and Michelle in front of their pottery (top to bottom, left to right)



"Leicha" before and after as well as this chewy brown sugar dessert

FRIDAY 7/8

HSINCHU SCIENCE PARK EXPLORATION MUSEUM 新竹科學園區

This Friday, we made a trip to the Hsinchu Science Park Exploration Museum. Through the guided tour we learned about the history of this building and some of the showcased new technology. The building we visited was one of the many first-generation factories built in the 1980s and was later converted to the exhibit used today in 2007. The first floor contains the "The Innovation Award Section," which was organized to encourage local companies to be more involved with research and development to create more innovative and competitive products, which showcases new innovative products. An exciting product showcased is the Foamagen, which "was developed for dura reconstruction after brain and spinal surgeries...replacing the time-consuming and risky suturing techniques for dura mater repair." The second floor tells more about the growth of the technology industry in Taiwan, specifically the development of semiconductors and the importance of this component in many technologies. We also learned about how the negative impact of unstable electricity could cause an in-production semiconductor to be unusable. (Vivian)



Group photo in front of the Hsinchu Science Park Exploration Museum

SATURDAY 7/9

TEA CULTURE AND PASTRIES 茶文化與糕點

The following day on Saturday, as part of the tea culture experience, we were invited by the Sanxia Farmer's Association and Yan Lu Tea Trading to the Lee Tea Plantation to learn how to pick tea leaves to turn them into tea and the different processes for making green and red/black tea. They even got a red banner made that said "歡迎夏威夷大學、清華大學 中文領航暑期營," welcoming UHM, NTHU, and the Chinese Flagship Summer Program.

Once we finished picking a certain amount of tea leaves, we were transported to their processing factory to learn more about the tea-making process. Here, we learned that for making green tea, the leaves are first left to wither, typically naturally for some of the moisture to evaporate before roasting the tea by stirring it around to get additional moisture out. Once this step is done, it goes through a kneading process that folds the tea leaves together to start the fermentation process before it is dried over heat to remove the last bit of the moisture.



Guide sharing details on this hydrogenpowered moped



Group photo in front of the red banner

The main difference between red/black tea and green tea is the degree or length of fermentation. Before we left, they even gifted us a bag of green and black tea leaves to each of the students and accompanying teachers and brought in some Cow's Horn Bread (croissant-like bread though a bit denser in texture) for us to try, along with a tasty bottled honey lemon drink.

After lunch, in the afternoon, we went to the Kuo Yuan Ye



Molly, Paul, Monica, Le Yi, and Yi Lin standing in the tea leaves field



Students lining up to get their bottle of cold-brewed biluochun 碧螺春 tea, which is a a type of green tea



Students and teachers spreading the tea leaves out for the natural moisture removal process



Teachers and students getting a hand at the kneading and twisting part of the tea making process

Museum of Cake and Pastry to learn about the role and importance of traditional pastries for different milestones of life. Here we learned that in the past, three days after a baby comes into this world the parents would share this excellent news with their neighbors by sharing some mixed sticky glutinous rice and other sweet or savory goodies. As a part of this cultural excursion, we also got a chance to get handson with making one of Taiwan's well-known goodies, pineapple cakes. And we also learned why a lot of the commercially sold pineapple cakes also include wintermelon in their filling because, without it, it will be on the tarter side and will have a shorter expiration date. (Vivian)



The guide sharing the different traditional treats that are made and eaten starting from when a child is born



Students smelling the displayed white, green, and black tea



Photo of Megan, Cara, Michelle, and Ting-Yu Wen Laoshi after they began working on the pastry part of the pineapple cake



Packing away the handmade pineapple cakes and eating one fresh out of the oven



Photo of Yi-Xiu Lin Laoshi, Monica, Yi Lin, and Le Yi working on creaming the butter

FRIDAY 7/15

TSING HUA OPEN POOL REACTOR 清華大學原子爐參訪

On Thursday, July 14, we had the opportunity to visit a nuclear reactor site on the National Tsing Hua University campus. It was a very unique experience because it was such a close walk from our dormitory, and we were able to see inside the facility as well as a bunch of different fascinating machines. One which is a very deep machine filled with water called THOR, which stands for Tsing Hua Open-pool Reactor. It was indeed a once-inalifetime opportunity to be able to visit this place. We were even able to go into the nuclear core area, which was very hot but definitely worth the look. Our tour guide/director of the facility was very knowledgeable, and we also got to see the effects of having too much nuclear exposure, which was very informative and interesting to see. In addition, we had the opportunity to visit the patient room of how Tsing Hua University uses nuclear therapy, with their machine BNCT (Boron Neutron Capture Therapy), to try kill the cancer cells and slow down the degradation of cancer patients' health. (Molly Wolyn & Le Yi Feng Zheng)





Group photo in front of THOR

SATURDAY 7/16

FREE TIME 自由活動

On the weekend of Week 5 in Taiwan, we went to 台中 (Taichung). Taichung is an artistic city that has multiple shopping areas and art museums. On our first day there, we went to the renowned Fengjia night market, one of the biggest night markets in Taiwan. We tried many new foods and bought some aifts to bring home. On the second day, we walked around central Taichung and browsed the National Taiwan Museum of Fine Arts, where we saw many abstract and creative pieces made by Taiwanese people. We also found a famous street where artists go to express their art style. That night we went to a shopping mall popular among the Taiwanese youth, with three buildings with ten-plus floors. On the next and final day, we went to Taichung Train Station, which we had the opportunity to try the famous ice cream shop recommended by local Taiwanese. We spent the rest of the day leisurely walking around the train station before returning to campus in Hsinchu. (Molly Wolyn & Le Yi Feng Zheng)



Ice cream from the shop near the Taichung Train Station Photo Credit: Le Yi Feng Zheng



Le Yi, Monica, Molly, and Yi Lin on the exercise equipment located in a park in Taichung Photo Credit: Yi Lin Lei



Students walking around in Taichung
Photo Credit: Le Yi Feng Zheng



Yi Lin, Monica, Molly, and Le Yi's night out in Taichung Photo Credit: Monica Mau

FRIDAY 7/22

TAIWAN SEMICONDUCTOR MANUFACTURING COMPANY (TSMC) MUSEUM OF INNOVATION 台積創新館

Taiwan's TSMC tour was very impressive and unique. Before coming to Taiwan, I had no idea that TSMC had such a significant impact on both Taiwan's economy and the rest of the world. Throughout the tour, we learned much about Dr. Morris Chang, the founder of TSMC, and its aradual development over the years. My favorite part was participating in a very futuristic virtual reality simulation, which allowed students to truly see the great technological achievements produced over the years. (Anna Backus)

I am glad we were given the opportunity to vist the TSMC Museum of Innovation. In our class, we already learned about the uniqueness and success of TSMC, but it was great to have a guide giving us a detailed tour about this development and to physically see it before my eyes. The museum itself was filled with high-tech displays about the history, products and words from Dr. Morris Chang, the founder of TSMC. (Cara Tan)



Group photo in front of the TSMC Museum of Innovation



Le Yi, Yi Ln, Hsin-Chen Chang Laoshi, Molly, and Monica after trying the VR simulation with Noelani

Photo Credit: Le Yi Feng Zheng

SATURDAY-SUNDAY 7/23-7/24

HUALIEN TRIP: 2 DAYS AND 1 NIGHT 花蓮: 兩天一夜

The weekend trip to Hualien was packed with activities like archery, canoeing, and using traditional Amis methods to pound mochi. It started in the morning with a four-hour train ride, during which we got to see Taiwan's scenic coastlines and enjoy the special Railway Bento. The weekend's most memorable part was visiting Taroko National Park. As our bus driver navigated us through the winding mountain road, the feeling of being surrounded by the mountainous landscape was surreal, and the views were breathtaking. (Cara Tan)

Hualien was a quick trip full of beautiful scenery and exposure to local culture. My favorite moment from the trip was going to Hualien's Amis Indigenous Harvest Festival, which featured traditional dances, indigenous artists performing live, and many food stalls to walk around to enjoy the happy festival. This festival is considered the most sacred and holy festival by the Amis, used to represent giving thanks back to the gods. Although we watched a short video of the dance performance before arriving, nothing could prepare me for such an exotic atmosphere. Everywhere you look, people are wearing beautiful embroidered dresses, vibrant-colored headpieces, and beaded jewelry. You can feel the rhythm of the loud music beating in your chest and see the joyful spirit reflected in people's smiles and passionate dancing. The feeling of such unity and pride was overwhelmingly powerful and will always have a special place in my memory. (Anna Backus)



Group photo with NDHU at the Taroko National Park's Visitor Center while waiting for our guide



Group photo with NDHU in front of the campus library

As part of this weekend trip, we were invited as a group to visit the National Dong Hwa University (NDHU), where we were given a campus tour and did some activities with their Huayu BEST Scholarship Program students. After an afternoon packed with activities with NDHU's students on Saturday, we were invited to dine together at NDHU President, Dr. Han-Chieh Chao's favorite restaurant in Hualien. Once we were done with dinner, we all traveled to participate in the first Hualien County Joint Indigenous Harvest Festival, where we got to try different foods, like chewy donuts made from rice flour.



Entrance to the Hualien County Joint Indigenous Harvest Festival



Noelani and Monica trying out the virtual reality headsets



Students on the night train to go back to Hsinchu from Hualien

On the campus tour on Sunday, we got to see their version of "Taipei 101," which is the top floor of their campus library; there, we got a very nice scenic view of the mountains, and we were lucky to have such a clear blue sky

that day. In addition to the campus tour, we were also invited to check out their virtual reality lab and a brief introduction to what can be done with this technology, like creating a 3D scan/image of an item or person, which took a lot faster than we imagined it would take. After the demonstration, we got a chance to check out the virtual reality headset ourselves by logging into STEAM to access Google Earth and try playing a few games on STEAM with the headsets. The last activity of the day was kayaking around the lake at NDHU. (Vivian)



Scenic view on top of NDHU's "Taipei 101"



NDHU's President, Dr. Han-Chieh Chao gifting both NTHU's Vice President, Dr. Shih-Chang Hsin, Dr. Song Jiang, and all UHM students a gift bag



Anna getting a 3D scan of herself and the data was later emailed to her



Le Yi, Yi Lin, Molly, Monica, and Noelani getting ready to kayak (left to right, back to front)



Selfie of Monica, Noelani, Cara, Eva, Anna, and Hsin-Tzu Jen Laoshi at NDHU's "Taipei 101" (left to right, front to back)

Photo Credit: Monica Mau



Anna, Noelani, Cara, Meng-Ting Lin Laoshi, Alysa, Kai, Michelle, Megan, Maysa, Le Yi, and Molly shaping the rice noodles for further drying and packaging (left to right)



Group photo at the Old Pot Rice Noodles



Eva, Noelani, Anna, and Cara getting hands-on with the ang ku kueh rice flour dough

SATURDAY 7/30

HSINCHU RICE NOODLES CULTURE 新竹米線文化: OLD POT RICE NOODLES 老郭米粉

Here during the last cultural excursion, we arrived at the Old Pot Noodles store in Hsinchu to learn more about the rice culture there and learned to make sweet and savory ang ku kueh, also known as red tortoise cake, which is a soft, sticky glutinous rice flour skin wrapped around sweet or savory fillings. We were taught how to tell when there is enough water in the dough for us to begin wrapping the savory vegetarian white radish/daikon filling and sweet red bean filling. Once finished wrapping, we lightly coat the molds to imprint the ang ku kueh with our desired design before it is steamed and ready to be eaten. While

we waited for the ang ku kueh to be cooked, we got a tour of the store and learned the history of rice noodle making and how the owner purchased and brought over the rice noodle making tool from Mainland China to Taiwan. Next, we got a chance to try how to partition partially dried rice noodles for additional moisture removal before packaging. Our guide sure made it look easier than done. (Vivian)



La Vi. Vi. In Hein Chan Chang Laoshi Mally and Maniga

Le Yi, Yi Ln, Hsin-Chen Chang Laoshi, Molly, and Monica after trying the VR simulation with Noelani Photo Credit: Le Yi Feng Zheng





