

NTU and Chinatrust Establish Child and Youth Welfare Think Tank



Taiwan's declining birth rate entails an urgent need to promote research on child and youth welfare. Therefore, NTU and the Chinatrust Charity Foundation (CTCF) have established the NTU and Chinatrust Charity Foundation Child, Youth and Family Research Center as a think tank. The center's mission is to draw society's attention to issues of child and youth welfare to improve the wellbeing of children and young people.

The two parties chose to promote research on the problems faced by children, young people and families because this area of concern draws scant attention from either the government or the private sector and to counter the marginalization of child and youth issues. The new think tank will actively encourage scholars and young academics to undertake research on the welfare of children, young people and families and to conduct cross-country comparisons, publish journal

articles and develop approaches for integrating the resources of industry, government and academia to provide effective assistance for solving these problems. As a research platform, the center will build a local database of child and youth research. Moreover, it will hold regular Taiwan Child and Youth Welfare Forums and release white paper reports to help the government and private organizations improve the lives of the nation's children and young people.

The CTCF is providing NT\$51 million over five years to support the think tank. CTCF's Light Up a Life campaign has raised funds for disadvantaged children and families for 27 years. Last year, it began providing microloans to disadvantaged families to help them escape poverty.

New Center to Study Policy for National Development and Wellbeing

The Center for Public Policy and Law (CPPL) opened with a special ceremony as well as an exhibition of research achievements made in 2011 on March 29. Presiding over the ceremony, president Si-chen Lee declared that the CPPL's mission is to integrate NTU's researchers who work on public policy related to overall national development and public wellbeing so as to present feasible policy and legal recommendations.



The opening of the CPPL was made possible through a NT\$10 million donation provided by Attorney Jerry P. Yu, publisher of *The Law Monthly*.

President Lee was joined by Legislative Yuan President Wang Jin-pyng, Attorney Yu, NTU Vice President for Administrative Affairs and CPPL Director Tzong-ho Bau, Dean of the College of Social Sciences Yung-mau Chao, and Dean of the College of Law Ming-Cheng Tsai in unveiling the new center's sign. More than 60 honorable guests attended

the ceremony.

Research topics to be addressed by the CPPL this year include: a study of no-fault compensation schemes for medical injuries and a preliminary examination of public attitudes towards such schemes in Taiwan; a study of medical service and management problems; problems related to the wealth gap; new poverty and disparities between northern and southern Taiwan; and recommendations for building a framework for cross-straits peace. The center is also holding three public forums this year. The topics will include: recommendations for improving the existing tax system starting from capital gains taxes; problems and solutions for higher education; and the nation's food safety mechanisms and public health.

