

The 17th Asia-Pacific Conference on Giftedness takes place on July 7 to unleash talent!

(Division of Education for Indigenous Peoples and Special Education)



The K-12 Education Administration, Ministry of Education, held the four-day 17th Asia-Pacific Conference on Giftedness (APCG) at the National Taiwan Normal University from July 7, 2022 through July 10, 2022, to explore the current situation and future evolution of gifted education in the Asia-Pacific region under the theme of Inclusion of Differences and Unleashing Talent. A total of nearly 1,000 special education scholars, experts, teachers, and practitioners from 41 countries or regions around the world participated in this grand event. In addition to ten keynote speeches, three forums, and two workshops, there were 102 paper presentations and 70 poster presentations taking place at this event as the largest international academic exchange event in the gifted education field in our country in recent years. Due to the impact of the pandemic, this conference was held through dual track, physically and online.

The opening ceremony was held on the morning of July 7, 2022 at the Union Building, National Taiwan Normal University, and presided over by both Tsai, Ching-Hwa, Political Deputy Minister of Education and Wu, Cheng-Chih, President of National Taiwan Normal University. President Tsai stated that as a country is counting on its talents, Taiwan attaches great

importance to the development of gifted education, actively seeks gifted talents, and cultivates students' independent research ability to unleash their potential for creativity and leadership, thereby increasing international talents with both empathy and competitiveness.

Following the opening ceremony was the first keynote speech by Professor Robert J. Sternberg from Cornell University, who discussed the transformation of giftedness from an international perspective and the impact of the traditional definition of giftedness on human beings. Professor Lisa Sigafos from University of Texas delivered the second keynote speech and shared the ideas of the identity empowerment and inclusive education promotion for people with disabilities in higher education. Moreover, internationally renowned scholars, including Professors Joseph Renzulli and Del Siegle from the University of Connecticut, Professor Jonathan A. Plucker from the Johns Hopkins University, and Professor Yeh, Yung-Hsuan, a member of Academia Sinica, also shared their unique perspectives in different sessions of the conference, providing a variety of information to the participants.

According to the K-12 Education Administration, the APCG is a biennial event held in countries in the Asia-Pacific region. Taiwan hosted the 2nd and 9th APCG in 1992 and 2006. To increase the visibility and influence of Taiwan's gifted education in the world, it made endeavor to secure the host of this event. After 16 years, Taiwan was able to host this event again, with the aim of increasing the momentum in Taiwan to develop gifted education in the Asia-Pacific region, facilitating academic exchanges in the Asia-Pacific region, and enhancing the quality of gifted education in Taiwan.