

The 33rd International Biology Olympiad – Taiwan Wins 3 Gold, 1 Silver

(Division of Academic Senior High Education)



Taiwan's delegation made fantastic achievements in the 33rd International Biology Olympiad hosted by Armenia, with the results announced on July 17. Among the 238 student participants from 62 teams representing 65 countries, Taiwan earned three gold medals and one silver. The gold medals were awarded to Yu-Chen Huang from Taipei Municipal Jianguo High School and Chen-An Liu and Liang-Hsin Huang, both from National Chiayi Senior High School. The silver medal went to Kai-Chieh Hu from Taichung Municipal Taichung First Senior High School.

The delegation was trained by a team of over 20 professors from local universities. Four students were chosen out of 3,909 applicants to represent Taiwan in the Olympiad through a four-stage selection process including a first-round selection, second-round selection, selection camp, and final selection camp.

This year's delegation was led by Professor Jiin-Tsuey Cheng from the Department of Biological Sciences at National Sun Yat-sen University, with Associate Professor Shu-Chan Hsiao from the Department of Life Sciences at National Chung Hsing University as deputy

leader. Assisting with the translation of test questions and arbitration of results were Professor Ying Wang from the School of Life Science at National Taiwan Normal University; Professor Yi-Ling Yang from the Department of Biochemical Science and Technology at National Chiayi University; Kuei-Hua Yeh, a faculty member in biology at National Chiayi Senior High School; Professor Yu-Chung Chiang, Associate Professor Shen-Horn Yen, and Professor Jong-Kang Liu from the Department of Biological Sciences at National Sun Yat-sen University; Professor Hao-Jen Huang from the Department of Life Sciences at National Cheng Kung University; and Professor Han-Jia Lin from National Taiwan Ocean University. The Olympiad was held from July 10 to 18, and the results were announced and the closing ceremony held on July 17.

In order to reward students for exceptional performance, the Ministry of Education established Regulations Governing Academic Advancement Incentives for Students with Great Performance in International Mathematics or Science Olympiads and International Science Fairs. By these regulations, the winners of gold, silver, and bronze medals in this Olympiad, among others, will be guaranteed admission to the corresponding department at a college or a university or be recommended to any department at a college or a university. In addition, gold, silver, and bronze medalists will receive scholarships of NT\$200,000, NT\$100,000, and NT\$50,000, respectively, from the Ministry of Education. The higher amount will also be awarded to those who receive two or more awards in the same discipline or in different disciplines in the same year.

Taiwan has participated in the International Biology Olympiad since 1999 and has won 70 gold, 23 silver, and three bronze medals in total. The K-12 Education Administration stated that the Olympiad will be hosted by the United Arab Emirates next year, and Taiwan will continue to select and train outstanding students to participate in the competition to promote international exchange and strive for honors.