

## “Enlivening Skills Training and Bridging the Industry-Academia Gap”

### Inaugural Press Conference for the Skills Competitions Month for National Senior High School Students in the Academic Year of 2017

(Courtesy of Lu, Jia Xuan, Division of Academic and Vocational Senior High Education)



To showcase the achievements made in the skills competitions for senior high schools and the benefits of linking vocational education with the industries, the Ministry of Education organized "The Skills Competitions Month–Inaugural Press Conference for the Skills Competitions Month for National Senior High School Students in the Academic Year of 2017". Organizations that are responsible for hunting for talents for the industries provide job offers in advance. Representative from these organizations and the schools that held the five major categories of skills competitions were all invited to attend the press conference. At the conference, Pan, Wen Chung, Minister of Education, presented the thank note to the representatives while introducing the “Go-Taiwan Mascot: The New Highlight of Skills Competitions.” The student representatives from the five major categories of skills: marine fisheries, domestic techniques, agriculture, business, and industry demonstrated their skills and works at the venue. The goal of this event is to promote the idea of “enlivening skills training

and linking talents with the industries,” i.e. the theme for Skills Competitions month. The Ministry of Education has put a great deal of emphasis on hands-on skills training and the importance of cultivating talents suited for the industries, all the endeavors and efforts have been witnessed through such event.

The annual National Skills Competition among senior high school students officially started with marine fisheries competitions this Wednesday. Pan noted, at the inaugural ceremony in the morning, that skills competitions for senior high school students was one of the activities actively promoted by the Ministry of Education. With the annual skills competition, students will be more motivated to learn and hone their skills, and inter-school teaching experience exchanges and mutual learning will be encouraged; as such, the breadth and depth of students’ skills will be enhanced. In addition, to bring together outstanding students that match the need of the industries, the host schools this year also held vocational education promotion activities as well as events to match employers to talents through providing them with job offers in advance. For this, the Ministry of Education would like to, once again, express its gratitude to the host schools.

Chiu, Chien Kuo, General-Director of the K-12 Education Administration, Ministry of Education, pointed out that in recent years, in order to put into practice the mechanism of continuous skills learning and skills training, the K-12 Education Administration has also been proactively guiding all types of competitions to incorporate industrial resources in the hope of accentuating the purpose and function of the competitions, and training technical talents suited for the domestic industries. Therefore, since the academic year of 2017, the “industry-academia talent matching module” on the National Senior High School Skills Competition Information Platform (see <http://sci.me.ntnu.edu.tw/>) has been set up to strengthen the linkages between various types of skills and the need of the industries, providing competitors in the five major categories of skills with the information regarding industry-academia talent search (including scholarships, salaries, and other benefits). In this way, a sound matching system for the industries will be established and excellent talents can be matched to address the need of the industries.

The Ministry of Education noted that, in order to help outstanding competitions in various categories of skills to hone their skills, it will proactively increase their opportunities to go overseas for further their training so as to enhance their global perspective, strengthen their

skill learning, and cultivate professional technical personnel with international vision, with an aim to increase the country's competitiveness in various sectors in the future.