



26th International Olympiad in Informatics

# Newsletter

7 / 13 / 2014

## WELCOME NOTE

from

# Dr. Greg Lee

Chair of the IOI 2014

On behalf of the 26th IOI Organizing Committee, I sincerely welcome all members of the IOI community to participate in the 2014 International Olympiad in Informatics held in Taipei, Taiwan from July 13th through the 20th.

Taiwan is located in the far east of Asia and is well known for her leading role in information technology sector. However, that's not all Taiwan has to offer. From old mining town of Jiou Fen to seaside Fuchi fishing village, from the treasured collection of ancient Chinese arts at the National Palace Museum to modern Franz porcelains, and from exquisite Chinese dishes in the restaurants to authentic Taiwanese delicacy in the night markets, there are many faces of Taiwan waiting for you to see, to explore and to experience.

With the help of government sponsorships, including the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Science and Technology and the Taipei City Government, as well as key corporate sponsors, including Acer, Chunghwa Telecom, Cisco, Intel, Schneider Electric, and Easy Card Corp, we are confident that IOI 2014 will be a successful and memorable IOI for all. Hope you have a great time in Taiwan.



Distinguished Professor of the National Taiwan Normal University, Taiwan

## Introduction to IOI 2014

The 26th annual International Olympiad in Informatics is held in Taipei, Taiwan on 2014/7/13 to 2014/7/20. The 26th IOI will be jointly organized by Taiwan's Ministry of Education and Ministry of Science and Technology and co-organized by Department of Computer Science and Information Engineering - National Taiwan Normal University and Taipei City Government. The sponsors of the 26th IOI are Acer, Chunghwa Telecom, Cisco, Intel, Easycard Corporation, and Schneider Electric, with supporters including Eljakim, Google, Ring Line Technology, Taifon, Taiwan Stock Exchange, Taiwan Futures Exchange, Taiwan Deposit and Clearing Center, and GreTai Securities Market.

culture (e.g., National Center for Traditional Arts, Lan Yang Museum, Taipei Confucius Temple, and Baoan Temple), natural landscape (e.g., North Cost National Scenic Area), architecture and history (the Presidential Building, Chiang Kai-Shek Memorial Hall, the National Theater Concert Hall, National Dr.Sun Yat-sen Memorial Hall, and the Taipei 101), and Taiwan's famous attractions (Yangmingshan National Park, Maokong Gondola, Tapei Zoo, Taipei Expo Park, Beitou hot spring area), as well as a variety of Taiwanese cuisines.

Different tours will show the competitors that Taiwan is not only famous for its technology development but also for its gourmet food and culture diversity. With the 26th IOI, we are able to introduce Taiwan's culture, history, natural sceneries, gourmet, and people to the competitors from 82 different countries.

For the remaining days, cultural and recreational events are organized. Competitors will enjoy tours to learn and experience Taiwan from traditional

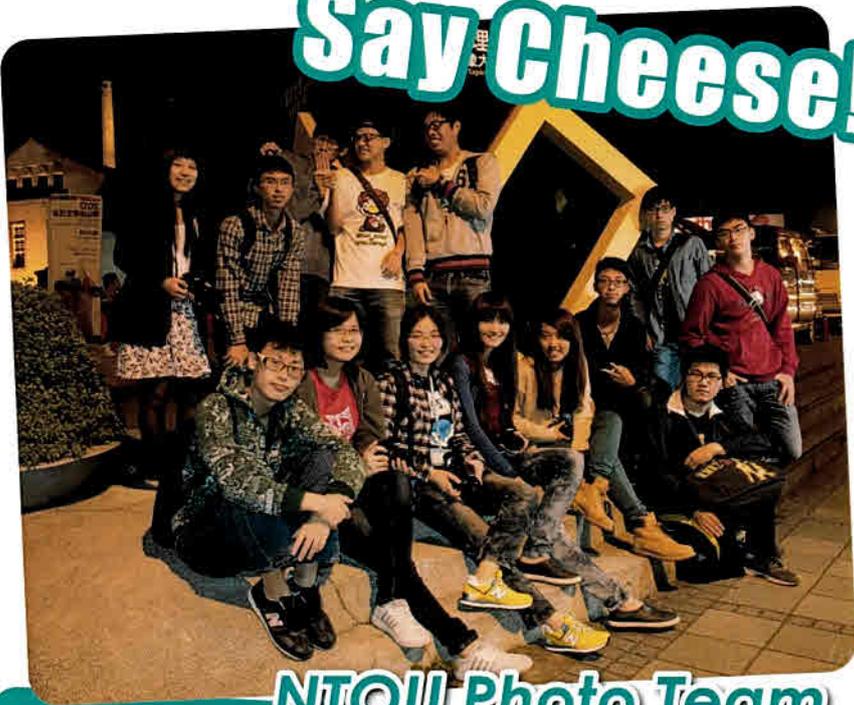
7/13

### Weather Report

AM ☁️ 28~35°C

PM ☔️ 28~32°C

# Say Cheese!



## NTOU Photo Team

During the course of this 8 day contest, whenever you see one of these guys, please give them a smile as they will be recording all aspects of 2014 IOI with their camera. They are the National Taiwan Ocean University Photography Club. They will be accompanying most of the events, writing stories and recording histories with their lenses. If you want special shots to be taken, please do not hesitate to ask them!

## Weather

Summer is really hot and humid. Daytime (if sunny) humidity will be around 50% with a temperature of 37 degrees or more. If a typhoon or other rain comes it will cool down to around 28-30 degrees but with much higher (90%+) humidity levels.

July in Taiwan is hot and humid. Average low and high temperatures are 26 °C (78 °F) and 28 °C (83 °F), but temperature often hits 35 °C (95 °F) during the day. Please expect frequent afternoon thunderstorms and bring the umbrella that the 2014 IOI provided in case. Occasionally, typhoons (hurricanes) can happen. Please check with the 2014 IOI for backup plans.



## Taipei MRT



## Day 1: Sunday 13 July 2014

Time	Contestants	Leaders	Guests
06:30-07:00	<b>Arrival / Free Time</b>		
07:00-08:00			
08:00-09:00			
09:00-10:00	<b>Registration / Free Time</b> Fullon		
10:00-11:00			
11:00-12:00			
12:00-13:00	<b>Lunch</b> Fullon Lotus Banquet Hall		
13:00-14:00			
14:00-15:00	<b>Taipei Zoo (13:30)</b> <b>Registration / Transport to Hyatt / Free Time</b> Fullon / Hyatt		
15:00-16:00			
16:00-17:00			
17:00-18:00			
18:00-19:00	<b>Dinner</b>	<b>Registration / Dinner</b> Hyatt Café / Ziga-Zaga	
19:00-20:00	Fullon Lotus Banquet Hall		
20:00-21:00	<b>Talent Show</b>	Free Time	
21:00-22:00	Fullon		



Established in 1976, Acer is a hardware + software + services company dedicated to the research, design, marketing, sale and support of innovative products that enhance people's lives. Acer's product offering includes PCs, displays, projectors, servers, tablets and smartphones — tools our customers need to explore beyond limits and experience more. Acer employs 7,400 people and ranks No. 4 for total PCs globally (IDC 2013). Revenues for 2013 reached US\$12.02 billion. Please visit [www.acer.com](http://www.acer.com) for more information.

Sponsor

# Taipei Survival Guide101



## Buses

Taiwan's public transit system is extremely well developed, especially in Taipei where it covers practically every possible destination with relatively few transfers. Along with the Taipei MRT, the bus system accepts the EasyCard and provides an excellent, convenient way to get around the city.

Most buses are bilingual in Chinese and English, however, the bus system is not as standardized as the MRT. The bus system is operated under cooperation between 15 private agencies, so translation and romanization is not always consistent. It is recommended to always keep a Chinese written version of your destination for comparison.

Fares are calculated using a fare zone system. Most busses have three distinct

fare zones. If the bus is showing a 上 (pronounced shàng, "on") character, pay NT\$15 by cash or EasyCard upon boarding the bus. If the bus is showing a 下 (pronounced xià, "off") character, pay NT\$15 by cash or EasyCard upon alighting the bus. If you are on the bus when the 上 (first zone) switches into a 下 and enters the third zone, pay a second time when alighting because you have crossed into another fare zone. You do not need to pay again if still in the second fare zone (the buffer zone). The fare zones are indicated by small triangles on the route maps. The safest method is to swipe an EasyCard. If you do not have to pay fare again, the machine will simply reject the swipe.

**Hours of Operation:** Each bus company has a different schedule for each route. In general, the first busses depart around 5AM and the last busses around 12AM midnight.

## 24HR Convenience

Forgot something? No problem! Taiwan's convenience stores are some of the most convenient in the world. 24 hour convenience stores are spread across the city, such as 7-Eleven, FamilyMarts, Hi-Life, and OK-marts. With the highest 7-Eleven outlet density in the world, it is not an unusual scene seeing two 7-Eleven shops stand face to face in a same intersection in Taiwan. Boasting more than 10,000 convenience stores in an area of 35,980 sq. km and a population of 23 million, Taiwan has Asia Pacific's and perhaps

the world's highest density of convenience stores per person!

These stores provide a ballooning array of services including groceries, snack foods, candy, toiletries, soft drinks, tobacco products, newspapers, dry cleaning, train and concert ticket reservations, parking fees, traffic fine and utility payment, hot sit-down meals, mail drop-off and book pickup. They also deliver everything from refrigerators to multicourse banquets that feature fatty pork stacked in a pile, half a dozen varieties of chicken feet and a nearly 8-pound suckling pig that rotates on a battery-powered spit.



## Taxi

TWD \$70 for the first 1.25KM, and TWD \$5 for each following 250M (TWD \$20/KM).

Idling and waiting fee is TWD \$5 per 1m:40s. Heavy traffic usually increase your fare 5% to 10% due to idling.

Using the car trunk may be charged an extra TWD \$10, however, most drivers waive this fee.

During the midnight service hours 11PM

to 6AM, an extra TWD \$20 will be added to your charge.

Not all taxi's accept credit cards or EasyCard. Only taxis with credit card and EasyCard symbols accept electronic payments, otherwise, cash only.

**Taxi Tour Services**

Want to see more of Taipei? For Tour? For Business? The Taipei Taxi tour service provides drivers and tour guides who can take you around to see, feel, and get more taste of Taiwan.

Email: [info@taipei-taxi.com](mailto:info@taipei-taxi.com)



## Tipping

Except for bellhops and service personnel in International Hotels, tipping in Taiwan is generally not expected.

For restaurants (especially in large hotels), if there is a tip to be taken, they will just add 10-15% to your check. Even very small family style Taiwanese restaurants are doing this now (usually no more than 10%), so if you are sensitive to service charges -- ask first. But in general don't worry about tipping when you are eating out! If you are from the USA, this may take some getting used to.

It is not necessary to tip Cabbies -- in fact it will confuse them. But if the balance is not too much (say, 5 yuan) and you leave it (i.e. tell them to keep the change - "bu yong dzao" ), it will be appreciated.

There are other exceptions to the no-tipping culture too - for example, if you are adventurous and go to a spa or "beauty parlor". You should slip the service person 10% or maybe NTD \$100 (about \$3USD) for good service. However, if you are at this level, you probably know a native that you can ask for advice.



## Etiquette

Never stand your chopsticks up in your rice bowl - it is seen as food left for the dead, which is usually done at funerals.

When beckoning someone over, eg., a waiter, your hand should be palm down to be polite, not palm up as in the western world. Tapping your thumbs on the table is a compliment when eating (Just don't do drum rolls.) A gracious host will tell you the food isn't as good as he wanted it to be. If you tell him that it is much better than you've had before, he will appreciate the comment, but may still tell you it could be better. That is common and because of them wanting to be humble.



The former Taipei zoo was established by a Japanese man Oe in 1914, which started out as a private zoological garden at Yuan Shan in the northern suburbs of Taipei City. The Japanese Government in Taiwan purchased the property the following year and transformed it into a public park. Following World War II in 1946, the Taipei Zoo was formally taken over by the Taiwan Government and maintained by the Taipei City Government. In 1970, the amusement park adjacent to the zoo was consolidated into a 5.8-hectare park, providing entertainment and education for several generations of children and adults.

With the increase of social awareness concerning natural conservation and environmental education, the Taipei Zoo, well-equipped with expertise regarding animal care and the knowledge of natural history, has committed itself to serving as a leader in environmental education and wildlife conservation. The original site of the zoo was constrained by its limited area, and a plan to build a modern zoo for Taipei was undertaken in 1973.

After thirteen years of planning and construction, the former zoo was officially closed on August 15, 1986, which marked the end of the Yuan-shan era. The new zoo, located in the Muzha district in the southern part of Taipei, held its grand opening on New Year's Day the following year.

The four main functions of the Taipei Zoo are conservation, education, research and

recreation. More than four million visitors attend the Zoo on an annual basis; it has also hosted several international conferences on conservation-related topics. In addition, Taipei Zoo has planned and executed several city-wide educational activities pertaining to wildlife conservation themes over the years.

The Taipei Zoo is the largest city zoo in Asia. Upon entering the grounds, you will find an extremely popular panda facility on your left. If you can't find the cute pandas, don't worry; they're probably sunning themselves! Next, take the visitors' tram. Listen to the recorded guide as he takes you along to the bird sanctuary, the Amphibians and Reptile House, the Penguin House and other areas such as the Tropical, African, Australian, Desert Animal Areas. In the Insect House, it is possible to come in contact with insects up close.

On holidays, explanations are given at each site. Free-guided tours are also available upon advanced reservation. And if you love animals, you can consider adopting an animal and becoming its babysitter!

Today, the Zoo's combined area is 165 hectares, with 90 hectares being open to the public. The facilities comprise exhibition buildings (the Education Center, the Penguin House, the Koala House, the Amphibian and Reptile House and the Insectarium), as well as exhibition areas (the Formosan Animal Area, the Children's Zoo, the Asian Tropical Rainforest Animal Area, the Desert Animal Area, the Australian Animal Area, the African Animal Area, Bird World and the Temperate Zone Animal Area). There is also an outdoor nature observation area, a wetland park, and a special exhibit house.

## Zoo Hours:

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

(no entry after 4:00 p.m.)



## Game

After a recent marathon, the following was noted.

- Alan finished after Simon.
- Ian finished after Kevin.
- Simon finished after Brian.
- Kevin finished before Alan.
- Brian finished after Kevin.
- Brian finished before Alan.
- Simon finished before Ian.
- Alan finished before Ian.

Who finished where?