

**Press Release** from National Tsing Hua University

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**National Tsing Hua University Senior  
Vice President Da Hsuan Feng  
delivered keynote at 2012 World  
Engineering, Science & Technology  
Congress (ESTCON) in Kuala  
Lumpur, Malaysia**



Hsinchu, 19, 2012.

Da Hsuan Feng, Senior Vice President of Global Strategy, Development and Evaluation of National Tsing Hua University in Hsinchu, Taiwan, delivered on June 12, 2012 one of the two keynote speeches to some 1,200 participants from 40 nations at the opening session of the 2012 World Engineering, Science & Technology Congress (ESTCON) in Kuala Lumpur. The venue of the Congress is the ultra modern and massive Convention Center. The title of Feng's keynote is ***“Asia Pacific Higher Education Roles and Responsibilities: Humanity Global Challenges in the 21st Century.”***

The other keynote speech was delivered by Professor Michael Celia, who is Theodora Shelton Pitney Professor of Environmental Studies of Princeton University. The title of Professor Celia's keynote is ***"Sustainability, Energy, and Civilization: Issues and Options."***

This is the second time ESTCON was being organized by Universiti Teknologi Petronas (UTP,) a new and rapidly developing private university of Ipoh, Malaysia. Despite the fact that it only has a history of 15 years, UTP today is already aiming to achieve “research” status. Such a status will be bestowed by the Malaysia's Ministry of Higher Education when the institution reaches a set of national research goals to promote the intellectual capacity and competitiveness of Malaysia.

As stated succinctly in the website of ESTCON, *“The World Engineering, Science and Technology Congress (ESTCON2012) is an excellent “centre stage” for knowledge sharing, intellectual discussions and also networking on various areas of interest; for all academics, researchers, scientists, engineers, interest groups and industry experts from all around the world.”*

*“As a former citizen of Southeast Asia, I am extremely honored to be chosen to represent National Tsing Hua University to deliver one of the two keynote speeches of ESTCON 2012. Even though this is only the second Congress, its enormous breadth and depth already manifest its*

*importance to palpably promote intellectual dialogues and enhancements, from hard sciences to management to humanities,” said Dr. Feng.*

*“Undoubtedly, Asia Pacific, especially Southeast Asia, is transforming politically, intellectually and economically in dizzying speed. For example, there are three monumental infrastructures that are currently being planned: High Speed Rail from northeast Asia to Singapore, underwater transportation tunnel between Malaysia and Indonesia and ISKANDAR, the Malaysia and Singapore joint massive economic and intellectual development project. These bold initiatives which will be completed in the first quarter of the 21<sup>st</sup> century are simply unimaginable in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. History teaches us, just as what the ancient silk route, the 19<sup>th</sup> century North American transcontinental railway and the aim to reach the moon were able to achieve, that such infrastructures will give rise to new economic, intellectual and cultural landscapes. Far more important, it will also give people a new sense of purpose and confidence,” said Feng.*

*Feng further said that “it is for this reason that I am particularly excited to have such an opportunity to engage in serious dialogues in this Congress in Kuala Lumpur with so many experts throughout the world, especially those from Asia, about how we could collectively prepare our educational infrastructures for this exciting eventuality.”*

*“For this reason, ESTCON 2012 is already a major milestone in Asia Pacific’s march towards its place in history in the 21<sup>st</sup> century,” concluded Feng.*

### **About National Tsing Hua University (NTHU)**

*National Tsing Hua University is a research university with a long and proud tradition. Since the re-establishment in Hsinchu in 1956, the university has been known for her excellent academic programs as well as her spacious verdant campus. NTHU initially began in Taiwan with nuclear sciences studies, and gradually expanded to include general sciences and engineering; in the past twenty years, the social sciences and humanities, life sciences, information sciences, and management sciences were added. Over the last fifty-five years, NTHU has transformed herself into a comprehensive university and is recognized globally in many disciplines.*

*There are thirteen Academia Sinica Academicians on the faculty, and sixteen professors awarded with various National Chair Professorships. Among the fifty thousand alumni, there is one Nobel Laureate Yuan Tseh Lee and twelve Academicians. The university development, with active participation from all staff members, has been built on a transparent and progressive platform, and the campus life is visibly permeated with vitality and enthusiasm, with the eight colleges complementing each other in scholastic endeavors. The per-student funding from the Ministry of Education's "Toward World-Class Universities Project" surpasses all other universities in Taiwan.*