

IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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FORMOSA FOUNDATION CONCLUDES 2011 AMBASSADOR PROGRAM Stressing Why Taiwan Matters to American Law Makers

WASHINGTON, D.C.—22 future leaders graduated on June 24 from the ninth annual Ambassador Program hosted by the Formosa Foundation. The Program is a two-week “congressional boot camp” where college and graduate students from the United States and Taiwan learn the art of public diplomacy and how to operate as a Washington insider. The Ambassadors devoted the last four days of the Program to meet with their elected representatives in Congress to discuss U.S. policy towards Taiwan. The 2011 Class held a total of 133 meetings with individual members of Congress and their staff, including 95 House and 38 Senate meetings.

In each meeting the Class of 2011 Ambassadors emphasized the importance of Taiwan to the U.S. in terms of economic and strategic interests, as well as the democratic and human rights values shared by both countries. The Ambassadors urged each member of Congress to (1) support Taiwan’s human rights and democracy; (2) ensure peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific region by maintaining Taiwan’s self-defense capabilities, including the sale of the F-16 C/D fighters; (3) strengthen the U.S.-Taiwan economic and trade relationship by resuming dialogue on a Trade and Investment Framework Agreement; (4) facilitate Taiwan’s participation in international organizations and entrance into the World Health Organization (WHO); and (5) grant visa waivers to the people of Taiwan. The Ambassadors also requested members of Congress to sign a House resolution and a letter to the President, urging for his approval on the sales of F-16 to Taiwan.



House Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL) met with the Class of 2011



Ambassadors visited Rep. Jim Costa (D-CA)



Ambassadors met Bono (U2) in Senate while advocating for Taiwan

The 2011 class also attended a full-committee congressional hearing on “Why Taiwan Matters” held by the House Foreign Affairs Committee on June 16. Four expert witnesses, who are also regular speakers of the Ambassador Program, testified at the hearing: Dr. June Teufel Dreyer of the University of Miami; Randall Schriver, former Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and the Pacific; Rupert Hammond-Chambers, President of the U.S.-Taiwan Business Council; and Dr. Nancy Bernkopf Tucker of Georgetown University.

One of the Formosa Foundation’s goals is to bring the Taiwan issue to the forefront of the American political agenda. For over a year, the Foundation worked closely with Chairman Ileana Ros-Lehtinen and her staff to bring the important issue of “Why Taiwan Matters” to the attention of Congress and the American people. “This hearing represents a historic step in demonstrating the United States’ continued support for the people of Taiwan and their democracy,” said Enoch Chang, the Foundation’s Chairman.

In addition to announcing that she will introduce legislation supporting Taiwan, Ros-Lehtinen indicated that she intends to hold a second hearing on Taiwan later this year. The Formosa Foundation will continue to work with the Congresswoman and her committee on these important matters and anticipate more good news to come.

Based in Los Angeles, the Formosa Foundation is a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting greater understanding of the relationship between Taiwan and the United States and preserving and enhancing democracy, human rights and freedom for the people of Taiwan.

Students participating in the 2011 Formosa Foundation Ambassador Program are listed below. A detailed profile of each participant can be found on the Formosa Foundation website: www.formosafoundation.org.

Last	First	Hometown	State	University	State	Major	Degree
Chang	Cathleen	Houston	TX	Rice University	TX	Asian Studies	BA
Chang	Demi Tung	Auckland	AZ	UCLA	CA	Econ, Eng, Psychology	BA/BSc
Chang	Irene	Walnut	CA	UC Irvine	CA	Business Admin	BA
Chang	Jessica	Redwood	CA	UCLA	CA	Ecology	BA
Chen	Ketty	Plano	TX	Oklahoma Univ.	OK	Poli Sci	PhD
Chen	Michael	Taipei	TW	Stanford Univ.	CA	Poli Sci	BA
Fu	Wei-Che	Taipei	TW	National Taiwan University	TW	IR, Poli Sci, Sociology	BA
Hsu	Nagy, Yu-Chung	Taipei	TW	National Taiwan University	TW	Law	MS
Huang	Pi-Cheng	Taipei/ Inter	MT	American Univ.	DC	Diplomacy	BA
Kung	Michelle	Claremont	CA	Claremont McKenna	CA	Journalism	BA
Lee	Nicole	Torrance	CA	UC San Diego	CA	Bioengineering	BA
Lin	Hank Tsung Han	Pasadena	CA	UC San Diego	CA	Computer Sci	BA
Lin	Beryl Wen-Pei	Honolulu	HI	Hawaii Pacific	HI	TESOL	MA/BA
Liu	Ann Ying-Chen	Taichung	TW	National Taiwan University	TW	Linguistics, Law	BA
Lun	Pearle	La Canada	CA	Stanford Univ.	CA	History/East Asia	BA
Ou Yang	Jennifer Tsu- Chun	Taipei	TW	Nat'l Taipei Univ of Technology	TW	English	BA
Shih	Caroline Chia- Chen	Taipei	TW	National Taiwan University	TW	Political Science	BA
Siegel	Christopher	Watsonville	CA	UC Santa Cruz	CA	Poli Sci	BA
Sun	Vicky	Taipei	TW	Wagner College	NY/MA	International Politics	BA
Tsao	Claire Man-Tsu	Taipei	TW	National Taiwan University	TW	Agricultural Chemistry	BS
Tsui	Chiayi	Crawfordsville	IN	Univ. of Chicago	IL	Library Science	MA/BA
Wu	Ginny	Norco	CA	UCLA	CA	Business, Economicd	BA

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