

NEWS

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Acer and Fubon Chairmen Inspire Graduates at NYCU’s 2025 Commencement



NYCU holds its commencement ceremony on June 7 to bid farewell to graduating students.

Edited by Chance Lai

In a heartwarming and hopeful atmosphere, National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University (NYCU) celebrated the graduation of 6,916 students today, as they embark on their next chapter in life, inspired by powerful send-offs from two of Taiwan’s top business leaders — Acer Chairman Jason Chen and Fubon Group Chairman Daniel Tsai.

The commencement ceremonies were held simultaneously at NYCU’s Yang Ming Campus in Taipei and Chiao Tung Campus in Hsinchu. Jason Chen and Daniel Tsai were invited as keynote speakers, each delivering compelling addresses that blended personal insight with forward-looking advice for the graduating class of 2025.

Optimism Is a Competitive Advantage: Jason Chen’s Message to Graduates

Speaking at the Taipei ceremony, Acer Chairman Jason Chen urged students to embrace an attitude of optimism, calling it a crucial edge in a rapidly evolving world. Quoting TSMC founder Morris Chang, he shared the memorable line: “Optimism is a competitive advantage.”

Chen encouraged graduates to see opportunities, not just problems, once they enter the workforce. He emphasized the importance of articulation, language proficiency, and intercultural fluency as keys to thriving in global environments. “It’s not enough to be globally mobile — you need a grounded global mindset,” he remarked.

Chen spoke from experience about life decisions: “When facing choices, it’s always a struggle. But looking back, you’ll find that having a choice is always better than having none.” His words resonated with students preparing to navigate uncertain paths in both their personal and professional lives.



Acer Chairman Jason Chen encourages graduates: “Optimism is a competitive advantage.”

Self-Reflection, Empathy, and Planetary Thinking: Daniel Tsai’s Three Pillars

At the Hsinchu ceremony, Fubon Group Chairman Daniel Tsai offered a different triad of wisdom: self-reflection, empathy, and planetary consciousness.

Citing his experience leading the development of Taiwan’s High-Speed Rail project, Tsai highlighted the power of inner dialogue in managing pressure and staying true to one’s values. He emphasized that self-awareness is foundational to realizing one’s strengths, while empathy is essential in building sincere connections — whether with family, coworkers, or friends.

His third principle — planetary thinking — encouraged students to combine their professional expertise with a commitment to sustainability and social good. “Start with yourself,” Tsai urged, “and work toward a better world for everyone.”



Fubon Group Chairman Daniel Tsai encourages graduates to embrace three guiding principles: self-reflection, empathy, and a global perspective.

When asked by students how to prepare for the age of AI, Tsai emphasized “slow thinking and deep learning” as antidotes to the era’s breakneck pace. He championed lifelong learning and interdisciplinary agility as critical for cultivating innovation and resilience.

“Step out of your comfort zone,” he said. “Try new things. That’s the only way you’ll discover the path that’s truly yours.”

President Lin’s Closing Words: Confidence, Learning, Conviction

NYCU President Chi-Hung Lin offered his final words to graduates with a succinct mantra: “Confidence, Learning, Conviction.” These three elements, he said, are indispensable for navigating a world where uncertainty is the new normal.

He closed with a thought-provoking English proverb:

“The road to heaven feels like hell; the road to hell feels like heaven.”

“Don’t give up on the road that matters,” Lin urged. “The difficulty of the journey is precisely what makes it worthwhile.”

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Yangming Campus

Address : No. 155, Sec. 2, Linong St. Beitou Dist., Taipei City 112304, Taiwan Address Phone : +886-2-2826-7000

Chiaotung Campus

Address : No. 1001, Daxue Rd. East Dist., Hsinchu City 300093, Taiwan Address Phone : +886-3-5712121