

2021 Taiwan National Park Youth Conference and Graduate Thesis Competition

Program Guide

I. Purpose of this Program

Taiwan's national parks are tasked with the crucial mission of preserving and sustaining Taiwan's unique natural and cultural environments and rich biodiversity. Faced with the threat of climate change and increasing need for public participation, it is imperative that we foster more innovative thinking and capable individuals to effectively manage and run our national parks.

The purpose of the National Park Association in Taiwan is to promote academic research relating to national parks along with environmental education and conservation. To this end, we organized the present program to encourage younger generations to get involved in national park conservation and management, encourage innovative thinking, and cultivate new talent and specializations in resource conservation.

II. Supervisor

Construction and Planning Agency, Ministry of the Interior

III. Organizer

National Park Association in Taiwan

IV. Co-Organizers

Kenting National Park Headquarters, Yushan National Park Headquarters, Yangmingshan National Park Headquarters, Taroko National Park Headquarters, Shei-Pa National Park Headquarters, Kinmen National Park Headquarters, Marine National Park Headquarters, Taijiang National Park Headquarters, and National Nature Park Headquarters

V. Program Schedule and Details

Time	Content	Location
Thursday, September 2 08:30–12:30	National Park Management Workshop	Yangmingshan National Park Headquarters at Qingtiangang Special Landscape Area
Thursday, September 2 14:00–17:00	National Park Youth Forum	Lecture Hall, Taipei In-Service Teachers' Training Center
Friday, September 3 09:00–17:00	National Park Graduate Thesis Competition	International Conference Hall, Center for Condensed Matter Sciences (CCMS), National Taiwan University

VI. Program Description

1. National Park Management Workshop & Youth Forum

The United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) “Vision for 2050” is to “seek a harmonious coexistence between man and nature”. This vision is echoed in the responsibility of national parks toward conservation, recreation, and education, and finding ways to balance these mandates remains an important issue in national park management. This vision also lays the foundation for the subject of our conference: how to manage national parks in a way that effectively promotes a harmonious coexistence between man and nature. Conference participants will visit the Qingtiangang Special Landscape Area to see how national parks are managed and operated first hand, hear a keynote address by researcher emeritus Dr. Lucia Liu Severinghaus of Academia Sinica, and engage in thoughtful discourse on innovative conservation ideas and actions.

2. Graduate Thesis Competition

This competition is open to all current master's degree students, doctoral students, and AY 2020/2021 graduates from any domestic university, college, or junior college who have written a thesis concerning national parks. Accepted submissions will undergo a comprehensive thesis assessment and oral examination, and outstanding submissions will be selected to receive First Place, an Excellence Award, or Honorable Mention along with a cash prize. Upon completion of the event, winning works will be compiled into a thesis anthology, and winners will also be encouraged to submit their work to the Journal of National Park for consideration.

VII. Eligible Participants

1. Park Management Workshop

- (1) Current employees of a national park headquarters age 40 or under, or who joined the national park system within the last 3 years (no age limit).
- (2) Thesis competition entrants (no age limit).
- (3) Members of the general public age 40 or under who have an interest in how national parks are managed and operated.
- (4) Event attendance is limited. If the number of participants exceeds the venue capacity, applicants in categories (1) and (2) above will receive priority access.

2. Graduate Thesis Competition

- (1) Eligibility is open to current master's and doctoral students (including general master's and doctoral programs, international postgraduate programs, and professional master's or doctorate degree programs) and AY 2020/2021 graduates from any university, college, or junior college in Taiwan approved and accredited by the Ministry of Education.
- (2) The research topic and content of the submission must be related to national parks in Taiwan.

- (3) The forum and conference are both open to the general public. Attendance is limited, and registration is on a first-come, first-served basis.

VIII. Program Schedule and Submission Guidelines

1. Online registration (<http://www.cnps.org.tw/>) must be completed by Saturday, July 31, 2021. Notice of acceptance will be sent to applicants deemed eligible by the Association to participate in the park management workshop and thesis competition.
2. Thesis competition candidates are asked to fill out the attached submission form containing their basic information and merge it with their paper into one (1) PDF file and send to taiwancnps@gmail.com before midnight on the deadline date. Submissions must be received by the deadline in the specified format to be eligible for consideration. Submissions should be sent using the email subject line "National Park Graduate Thesis Competition Submission", and the submitted file should be named using this format (without quotes): "2021NP Thesis_Last Name, First Name". The list of accepted submissions will be announced on Monday, August 16, 2021 on the program website, and accepted participants will be notified by phone.

IX. Thesis Competition Subject Categories:

1. The thesis research subject should fall into one of three categories: (a) Environmental Science; (b) Humanities and Social Sciences; or (c) Management
2. A category must have at least three submissions for it to be included in the competition. If fewer than three submissions are received for a category, the candidate(s) in that category will receive a participation award and a certificate of participation.
3. The organizer may adjust the categories depending on the number of submissions received.

X. Thesis Competition Registration Documents:

1. Basic Information Form.
2. Copy of graduation certificate (for graduates) or copy of student ID (for current students).
3. Unabridged thesis; must be 20 pages or less (see Journal of National Park submission guidelines for formatting requirements).
4. Applicant must be the first author of the submitted paper.

XI. Thesis Competition Selection Criteria:

1. The organizer will review each applicant's registration qualifications. Those who pass the initial screening round will enter the second round consisting of a thesis assessment.
2. Scoring is divided into two parts: "Thesis Assessment" (80% of total score) and "Oral Examination" (20% of total score).
3. To maintain fairness, the thesis assessment will be conducted using a blind peer review process wherein the names of the candidate's school, department, and advisor will not be disclosed.

4. The main scoring criteria are set out below. If two candidates have the same total score, the final winner will be determined based on the Thesis Assessment score. If there is still a tie, the winner will be determined based on the relative importance and contribution their submission has to national park management:

Thesis Assessment (80%)	Oral Examination (20%)
Importance and contribution to national park management (60%) Thesis originality and value (40%)	Presentation performance (50%) Q&A session (50%)

5. The Thesis Assessment Committee will comprise 3 to 5 experts from industry, government, and academia for each competition category. The number of committee members may be increased depending on the number of submissions received. Co-organizers will each appoint 1 expert to conduct the Oral Examination review round. Thesis advisors of competition candidates may not serve on any review committee
6. The Oral Examination will consist of one 15-minute presentation per candidate followed by 5 minutes for Q&A. If a candidate does not participate in the Oral Examination, they will automatically forfeit their competition eligibility.
7. Thesis and oral presentation must be in Chinese or English.

XII. Thesis Competition Reward Rules:

Subjects	Awards	Rewards
Humanities and Social Sciences	First Place: 1 recipient Excellence Award: 2 recipients Honorable Mention: 3 to 5 recipients	Award, certificate, and cash prize of NT\$50,000 Award, certificate, and cash prize of NT\$30,000 Award, certificate, and cash prize of NT\$10,000
Environmental Science	First Place: 1 recipient Excellence Award: 2 recipients Honorable Mention: 3 to 5 recipients	Award, certificate, and cash prize of NT\$50,000 Award, certificate, and cash prize of NT\$30,000 Award, certificate, and cash prize of NT\$10,000
Management	First Place: 1 recipient Excellence Award: 2 recipients Honorable Mention: 3 to 5 recipients	Award, certificate, and cash prize of NT\$50,000 Award, certificate, and cash prize of NT\$30,000 Award, certificate, and cash prize of NT\$10,000
Headquarters Award	Each park headquarters selects 1	Award, certificate, and cash prize of

	recipient	NT\$10,000
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Note 1: Organizer reserves the right to adjust the number of award recipients based on the number of submissions.

Note 2: Each park headquarters reserves the right to select, at their own discretion, a submission for receiving the Special Park Headquarters Award based on its relevance to their respective park office.

XIII. Miscellaneous:

1. Winning papers will be compiled into a printed thesis anthology; the organizer may also assist candidates, subject to their consent, with submitting their work to the Journal of National Park for consideration.
2. All submitted papers must be original works created by the submitter and comply with the provisions of the Copyright Act. In the event of copyright infringement, the submitter assumes sole liability and indemnifies and holds harmless the supervisor, organizer, and co-organizer against any and all claims, suits, actions, or liabilities arising therefrom. If a research thesis is found to contain plagiarized content, the submitter's eligibility shall be immediately revoked, and all awards, prizes, and certificates shall be rescinded and recovered.

XIV. Contact Information

Yu-ting Lin, Secretary of the National Park Association in Taiwan

Phone: 02-7749-1632 Email: taiwancnps@gmail.com

Basic Information Form

First Name		University/Institute	
Last Name		Department	
Phone no.	(O) (M)	Supervisor	
Email			
Eligibility for registration	☐ 2020 graduate		☐ Humanities & Social Sci.
	☐ 2021 graduate		☐ Environmental Sci.
	☐ current student	☐ Master	☐ Management
		☐ PhD	
Title of Thesis			
Abstract Max. 150 words			

線上報名欄位

姓名 Name		性別 Gender	
出生日期 Date of Birth(DD/MM/YY)		身分證字號 ID/Passport no.	
機關/組織/學校 Organization/University/Institute			
單位/系所 Department			
職稱 Job title			
聯絡電話 Phone No.	(O) (M)		
E-mail			
參與場次 Session	☐ Workshop & Youth forum 青年論壇&現地參訪 ☐ Graduate Thesis Competition 研究生論文競賽		
用餐方式 Diet Preference	☐ 葷食 Meat ☐ 素食 Vegetarian		