



▶ KMU Academy of Life held orientation activities and gala in the Sports Dome – The activity “Passing on Love”

Center of General Education

Characteristics and Honors

Recipient of the excellent Service Learning Program by the Ministry of Education in 2008

Professor Emeritus Ying-Lin Chen, of the General Education Center, won the 18th Annual Medical Dedication Award for Special Contribution and Devotion in 2008. Professor Chen was recognized for his “Amoeba Philosophy—I Never Regretted My Study on Amoeba”

Establishment of KMU Academy of Life in 2010.

Recipient of the Cultivating Citizenship Competence grant by the Ministry of Education from 2011 to 2015

Enrolling all freshmen incoming as members of KMU Academy of Life in 2013, with core indicators of education “Gratitude, Enthusiasm, Respect, Courtesy, Esprit de corps, and Caring”



▶ Chuanxi Hall held a “Calligraphy” Learning Event



▶ Huaiai Hall held a “Listen to Her Storytelling” Learning Event in Kaohsiung City’s Women’s Building

The General Education Center (GEC) was previously named the “General Education Curriculum Department” set up in August, 1972. When Kaohsiung Medical College changed its name to Kaohsiung Medical University in August 1999, “the General Education Center” was established. In order to schedule and promote curricular affairs, “Humanities and Social Science Section,” “Science and Fundamental Science Section,” “Physical Education Section,” “Service Learning Section,” and “Language Education Center” were set up successively from 2004. On August 1, 2012, the College of Humanities and Social Sciences was founded. The “Physical Education Section” and “Language Education Section” in the GEC were transferred to the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, expanding into the “Physical Education Center” and the “Languages and Culture Center”. Similarly “Humanities and Social Sciences Section,” and “Science and Applied Science Section” were upgraded into the “Humanities and Arts Education Center” and “Fundamental Science Education Center” and placed under the nascent college. Teachers in the GEC were assigned to different centers according to their specialties. The GEC hopes to strengthen students’ cooperation in teamwork, to cultivate communicative ability and altruism. It also fosters to integrate knowledge and practice through official and unofficial curricula. In so doing, the objectives of “life and ethics, humanities ethos, social concern, and basic skills in using language and information technology” will be attained.

Currently, the GEC is responsible for scheduling the general education courses of KMU. Students have to take 28 credits of such courses including basic general knowledge and liberal arts courses. In August 2015, the general education courses will be revised as follows:

1. Adjustment of General Education Courses

Marginally general education and professionally lopsided courses will be allocated to the professional curriculum as required or elective courses. The general courses will have to strengthen the Liberal Core Curriculum. The seven domains of the core courses will be intensified and integrated into a new Liberal Education Program. These seven fields include citizenship nourishment, localization of globalism, critical thinking and inferring, aesthetics appreciation, environment and general science, and integration of interdisciplinary knowledge. Students have to take at least one course each of the seven fields (two at the most) to develop a holistic concept of general education. Besides, the GEC will open up “integration of interdisciplinary knowledge” to allow individual departments to offer courses in ethics.

2. Adjustment of Basic General Courses

Chinese and English advanced courses will be added: students will be exempted to take “freshman English” or “freshman Chinese” courses if they pass the proficiency test or meet the criteria at the end of the first semester. Instead, they can take courses on Chinese and English classics to upgrade their appreciation of the inspiration of masterpieces. In addition, “Application of Computer Information” is changed to be a noncredit course. If students have approved certificates or have passed an evaluation examination, they too do not have to take the course.



▶ KMU Academy of Life held a dinner in the Sports Dome. President Ching-Kuan Liu handed meals over to tutors, symbolizing continuation of Academy spirit

3. Adding “Physical Education” to the General Education Curricular frame

KMU’s physical education belongs to the General Education category but has not been included within the general education curricular framework. Therefore, the GEC will add “Physical Education” to the general education curricular frame.

4. Adding “Experience Program” to the General Education Curricular Frame

“Getting Started in College Life” is the deepening course of general education, as the course contents include introduction to the Academy of Life Education and related services. It requires students to participate in the Academy’s activities and experiencing “learn from doing.” As a result, the GEC plans to include this course and “Service Learning” in the “Experience Program”.

KMU Academy of Life is one of the characteristics of GEC. At the beginning of its establishment in early 2010, on the basis of KMU’s core value—“Respecting Life, Pursuing Truth”—and the traits of medical universities, the Academy takes “life exploration” as a special feature of its experimental classes. Since 2013, the objects of the experiment have been expanded to all KMU freshmen. The Academy is composed of five thematic halls, including “Jishi, Chuanxi, Huaiai, Rixin and Housheng” so as to promote the educational core indicators of “Gratitude, Enthusiasm, Respect, Courtesy, Esprit de corps, and Caring”. These are supplemented by the five citizenship nourishments (Ethics, Democracy, Science, Media and Aesthetics) as pillars to enrich the life learning environment of students’ dormitory.

The Academy will hold ongoing lectures on literature, history, philosophy, arts, and society and aesthetics activities to create a campus full of literary and cultural environments. At the same time, the formation of a democratic campus will be completed by formulating dormitory conventions, autonomous room management, campus media and electronic bulletin boards, and student participation in discussing public issues.

In the future, based on the existing foundation, the GEC will promote quality general teaching modules to all general education curricula by holding workshops and activities for teachers, and enhancing citizenship nourishment through renovative teaching approaches to shape up a cultural milieu on campus. The GEC will help students learn from the “experience program,” and strengthen teamwork, communication, negotiation, and altruism through practical activities so as to carry out knowledge and action at the same time. Finally, through the Academy of Life, official and unofficial courses will be connected, which will help students internalize what they have learned before. The GEC thus hopes to cultivate modern medical professionals with professional expertise, medical humanitarianism and a sense of citizenship in their mission of maintaining and improving human health and welfare.



▶ Housheng Hall held a “Cleaning the Beach” Learning Event in CiJin District



▶ Students joined Making and Realizing A Dream Project under the Cultivating Citizenship Competence grant, and held “I See You” storytelling activity to encourage sick children