

## Industry Practitioners Involvement in Taiwan Vocational Education

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**Abstract :** Today's rapid development of industrial pulsation, how to reduce the gap between the academics and industry need become an important issue in vocational education. Beginning in 2015, a two-year program for teaching excellence, funded by the Ministry of Education Taiwan, is implemented by Meiho University, with a total project funding of \$ 1.5 million USD. One of the innovated highlights of this program is to invite 188 industry practitioners to participate in collaborative teaching for 175 classes and 28 industry practitioners to be as mentors too. 56 industry practitioners are also invited to participate in curriculum planning and design. Students' overall satisfaction with the program was more than 4.5 (out of 5.0). This paper aims to evaluate the effectiveness and discusses the limit of the practitioners program. This study has revealed and provided some valuable perspectives how to best ensure the ongoing involvement of industry practitioners in vocational education. The findings of this study are valuable to those involved in designing collaborative teaching curriculum and delivering a course for vocational education.

**Keywords :** collaborative teaching, industry practitioners, mentor, vocational education

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