Spring Break Study Abroad Trip - Moving (and Eating) Around Taiwan

**What I Learned**

As planners of transportation systems, we need to...
- Recognize that it takes more than logistics for people to take transit.
- Make public transportation preferable to driving a private vehicle by creating a user experience.

**Impact on Academic, Personal, and Life Goals**

While in Taiwan, I made connections and friendships with OSU grad students and students at National Taipei University - one of them even visited us here in Columbus! My experiences reinforced my interest in international infrastructure and transportation planning, and I learned how much I have yet to learn!

**Personal Impact**

My experience in Taiwan opened my eyes to just how big the world is.

If you have never been on a 14-hour plane flight, let me tell you that it is a LONG time.

In a country with a population density 22 times that of the US, it was easy to feel inconsequential among so many people.

Taiwan also opened my eyes to what I could handle.

Taking in a new place with a new culture and language, all while meeting a slew of new people (especially as an introvert) was honestly quite challenging at times.

**My Favorite Part**

A couple of my favorite parts of my study abroad experience were biking along the Tamsui River to the coast and eating Xiaolongbao (soup dumplings).

**Destination Stations**

Adventures of a Transportation Nerd in Taiwan

- Kaohsiung MRT Control Boards
- Sanxia Old Street Temple
- Soldier Demonstration at Memorial Hall
- Daan Park Station
- Formosa Boulevard “Dome of Light”
- Signage and Stamps
- Shaved Ice Like You’ve Never Seen Before

**True Heart Restaurant**

**City Government and Rapid Transit HQ**

**Bikes Galore: Rented and Shared**

**Learning Stretches from a Local**

**People Everywhere**

**Me and My Friend Ivy at the Beach**

**Group Selfie on a High Speed Train**

**Group Selfie on a High Speed Train**

**Viola Visiting Us in Columbus**

**Basking in the Glory of Some Xiaolongbao**