



Peking University

NEWSLETTER

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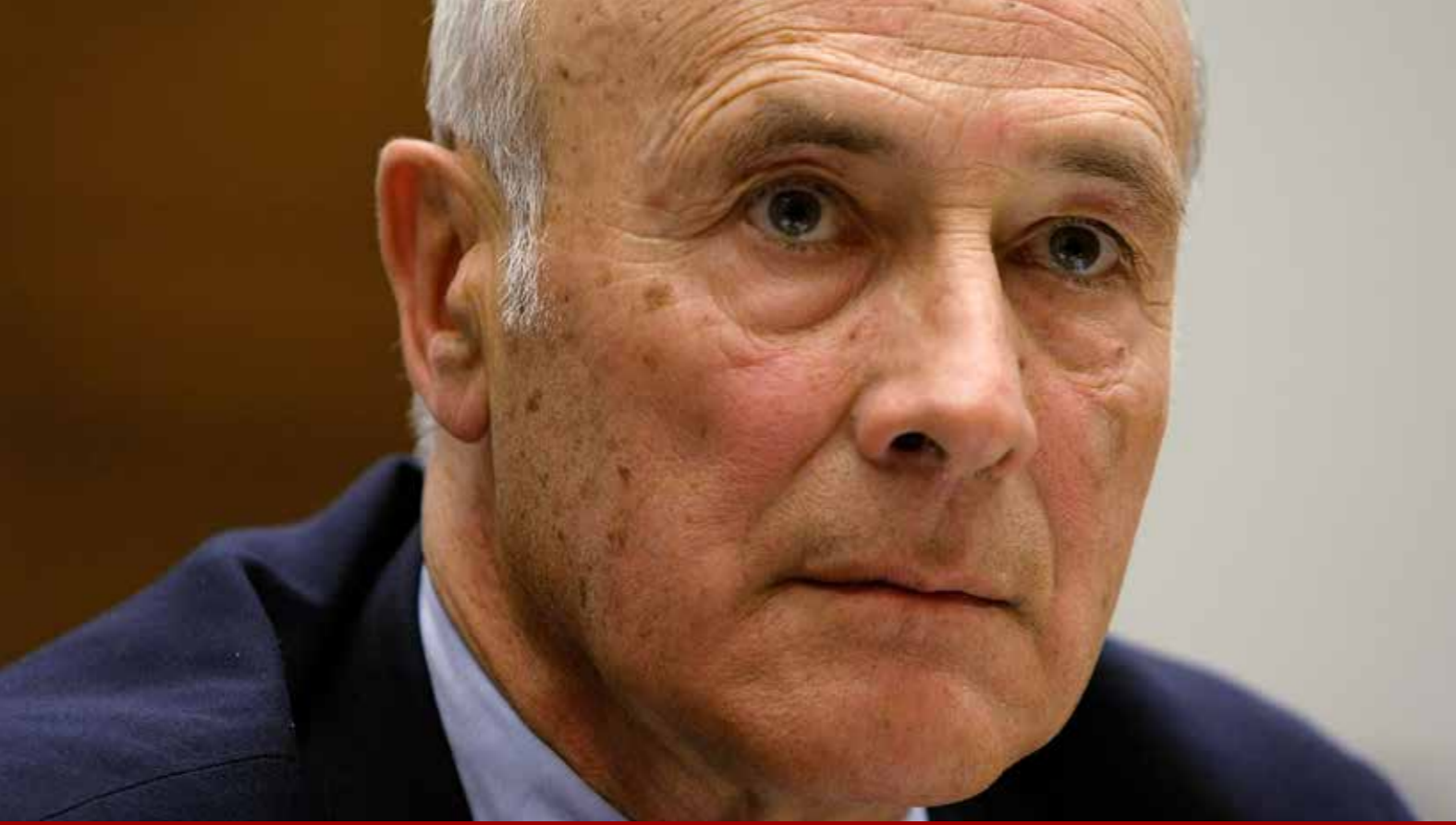
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Joseph Nye “Is the American Century Over?”

➤ Christian Steidl

According to some polls, many Americans hold the opinion that the United States is currently losing its role as a dominant power to China or it will soon be doing so. Together with the “rise of China”, some also proclaimed the end of American supremacy. Hearing these voices, Joseph S. Nye set out to answer the question: “Is the American Century over?” Nye, Distinguished Service Professor at Harvard University and known around the world for his pioneering work in soft power and smart power, was welcomed on October

21, 2016, at the Peking University School of International Studies by a large crowd of students, some of which arrived as early as two hours before the scheduled start of his lecture in order to get a seat.

When Did the “American Century” Begin?

Right at the beginning of his talk Nye issued the caveat that naming a century as belonging to any specific country might be misleading and pointed out that he simply referred to this term due to its common use. Drawing on the historical example

of the British Empire, Nye outlined that labelling a century like this hinges on that very country’s ability and willingness to provide global public goods such as maritime security. After the end of the British hegemony and after ceasing to provide these public goods, no other country stepped into its position. Despite being a major economic and military power in the 1920s and 1930s, the US did not act as a global superpower but rather turned inward. Nye therefore dated the beginning of the “American Century” back to 1941, when the term was first used by Henry

Luce to convince the US to give up its isolationist stance and join the war. In contrast to its retreat from the international stage after the First World War, the US kept its global influence after the Second World War, demonstrated for instance by the Marshall Plan of 1948 and the foundation of NATO in 1949, and thus built its supremacy.

The Fear of Decline: “The Americans Are a Strange People”

Nye continued by putting the American “anxiety of decline” into historical perspective. He pointed out that ever since its foundation, Americans feared decline. Even Washington and Jefferson were allegedly already afraid of possible political decay. This fear has also been visible in the last century after the launch of Sputnik in 1957 by the Soviet Union or the Japanese economic boom in the 1980s, and was more recently triggered by the “rise of China”. These “waves of anxiety of decline” led Nye to analyze whether the recent fears of the end of the “American Century” can be based on facts.

Absolute and Relative Decline

To answer this question, Nye distinguished between absolute and relative decline and referred to the fate of Ancient Rome. Growing through conquest and not inter-

nal productivity growth, Ancient Rome, showing absolute decline, succumbed to its own deficiencies rather than to another emerging superpower. Contrasting this destiny to the US, Nye indicated that the latter is clearly not in absolute (albeit relative) decline and he named four reasons: First of all, while Europe is imminently facing major demographic obstacles, the US is expected to be the third most populated country in 2050 after India and China. Second, thanks to

abnormally high share of global output due to the destruction of all major economies with the exception of the American one during the Second World War. Looking briefly at Europe, Russia, India, and Brazil as well as pointing out the most urgent problems in each of them, he concluded that China is the most likely country to challenge the US in its status as a superpower. But Nye also put this prediction into perspective. While estimations of when China will overtake

“ Looking at the relative decline of American economic power, he argued that recent developments rather constitute a return to the long term normal, starting from an abnormally high share of global output due to the destruction of all major economies with the exception of the American one during the Second World War. ”

new technologies like the exploitation of shale gas and shale oil, the US is likely to become energy independent. Third, Nye mentioned the American lead in technological innovation, underpinned by, fourth, the presumably best higher education system in the world. Taken together, all this would not look like absolute decline, says Nye.

Looking at the relative decline of American economic power, he argued that recent developments rather constitute a return to the long term normal, starting from an

the US economically often use current growth rates, Nye pointed out that economic development is likely to slow down in every country that experienced comparably high growth rates. Taking this into consideration would mean that China will overtake the US later than predicted, and, even then, will not match America’s per capita GDP.

Economic Power and Soft Power

In addition, there are other

dimensions of power than merely economic power, like, of course, military power as well as soft power. China's soft power is arising from the attractiveness of Chinese traditional culture, its staggering

that it is crucial to "get power relations right". In contrast to many historical examples when the rise of one country resulted in violent power struggles, the US and China have more time to figure out a

analyze in the beginning: On the one hand, the "American Century" is not over in the meaning that another superpower would replace the US; but, on the other hand, the US cannot unilaterally control the

world, and in this way, the "American Century" has been over for some time.

Nye then finished his lecture and opened the floor to questions. During the Q&A session Nye further elaborated on some points of his reasoning and added examples. On economic interdependence he pointed out that a symmetric relationship results in little mutual power, which is partly substantiated in China-US economic relations.

Concerning the aforementioned cooperation he conceded that this might not be completely possible in all areas, one example being cyberspace. Nye answered the final question on what Chinese policy makers could take away to work towards a "Chinese Century" by praising China for setting up the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, its engagement in peacekeeping missions as well as the collaboration between the US and China on reaching a common ground for the Paris Agreement. In this sense, as Nye stressed again, the future will increasingly see cooperation between these two powers.



economic growth rates as well as its contribution in alleviating poverty. But, Nye explained China has problems materializing this soft power due to more nationalistic tendencies towards some of its neighbors: "It is not enough just to set up a Confucius Institute in another country if at the same time you are having a dispute with them about a border." While American soft power largely emerges from its pop culture, the influence of Chinese pop culture is stifled by tighter government control.

"Don't Succumb to Fear"

In conclusion, Nye pointed out

peaceful relationship that can be cooperative. Instead of fearing its rise, especially as this fear is mostly unsubstantiated, Nye advocated inviting China to contribute to the provision of global public goods. Despite the existence of many competitive issues like the South China Sea, Nye indicated that possibilities for cooperation prevailed, naming various fields, such as global climate change, combating terrorism, the provision of monetary stability, and the containment of pandemics. Cooperation would therefore in many areas be more beneficial to both countries than competition. Nye then went on to answer the question he set out to

President of the Republic of Belarus Speaks at PKU

✘ *Huang Fangyuan, Wei Yuchen*

On Friday, September 30, 2016, at Yingjie Overseas Exchange Center of Peking University (PKU), the President of the Republic of Belarus, Alexander Grigoryevich Lukashenko visited Peking University. The Chairman of the Peking University Council Zhu Shanlu; Vice President Li Yansong; the Dean of the School of Foreign Languages Ning Qi; and the Exec-

utive Vice Dean of the Institute of International and Strategic Studies Peking University Guan Guihai met with President Lukashenko.

It was President Lukashenko's ninth visit to China since he entered politics but this was the first time that he delivered a speech in front of Chinese university students. Lukashenko spoke highly of the decisive roles that Peking University played in the modern era. He

said that Peking University "has the motto of inclusiveness, freedom, and democracy" and "contributed a lot to the development of the whole Asia and even the whole body of mankind." Peking University fostered many famous people such as Lu Xun (Zhou Shuren) and Chen Duxiu and is sending a new generation of politicians, economists, diplomats, and entrepreneurs onto the world stage.





President Lukashenko described himself as the “first man in Belarus-China relations”. He recalled, “When I was a senator I said that, we should reserve and refine the political and economic system of both countries and act as a successor of beneficial heritage, which is exactly the road we chose. I feel it is my honor to become the first man in Belarus-China relations.”

Reflections on Current International Relations

Nowadays, along with the increasingly competitive global environment, many severe chal-

lenges have appeared, such as middle-east conflicts, terrorism, the Syrian civil war, North Africa conflicts, the Ukraine issue, and the refugee crisis to name a few. The contemporary era is made up of unpredictable elements, and as Lukashenko explained, “Although we achieved positive progress, we have to admit that after so many years, we not only failed to overcome these old problems, but also felt quite helpless with new hazards.”

President Lukashenko believes that “the imbalance of development is undermining public interests and personal rights.” For

example, some countries topple governments, intervene in domestic affairs, and even conduct military intervention under the pretext of protecting human rights, which leads to international disruptions with severe casualties. “Even the best goals cannot be achieved by bad measures”, he said.

Lukashenko then explained Belarus’s stance in global politics, “we believe deeply in participating in the international and regional politics, blending into the global road harmoniously, and calling for corporate responsibility.” He also mentioned Belarus’s strong opposition to any form of external

pressures. Thus, Belarus strives to enhance cooperation and communication with all neighboring countries. However, all the collective actions and efforts should be based on equality. In regard to this, Belarus and China have successfully reached a consensus on the idea of cooperation.

Belarus advocates equal, impartial and multilateral international order, which is also the foundation of further development. China and Belarus have exactly the same position on this issue. Only a multilateral order could keep the world from being destroyed. No system will survive with only one pillar. Lukashenko explained that Belarus supports the idea of peaceful coexistence and mutual support, which is one of its contributions to the global order.

National Development of Belarus After the Transition

After the transition, Belarus found the best road of national development on the basis of the Soviet Union’s heritage. This pattern is context specific and effective, leading to high standard of social security. It was able to solve the food security problem and was able to make Belarus self-reliant.

In the post-Soviet Union era, Belarus is in a leading position in many fields. For example, Belarus’s

education and sanitation per capita are all in the top 30. Belarus also focused on industrial development, worked with the best manufacturers in the world and achieved many accomplishments, such as tractors, TVs, refrigerators, clothing, and other goods. “We meet wide demands domestically and abroad”, he said.

Meanwhile, Belarus put a strong

not to fall behind the global trend”.

Belarusian-Chinese Relations: A Brand New Partnership

Prior to President Lukashenko’s visit to PKU, he and President Xi Jinping signed a Belarus-China declaration on establishing relations of trusting comprehensive

“Only a multilateral order could keep the world from being destroyed. No system will survive with only one pillar. Lukashenko explained that Belarus supports the idea of peaceful coexistence and mutual support, which is one of its contributions to the global order.”

emphasis on the development of advanced and green technology. For instance, Belarus is currently doing a great deal of investment in nuclear energy, spaceflight, bioengineering, and more. Belarus has started many large high-technology projects, such as satellite launching in Xichang, reconstruction of railways and highways, construction of the modern housing system, especially the industry parks, and attracting enterprises from all over the world. Lukashenko said that the direction and tendency of Belarus is “consistent with the world, trying

strategic partnership and mutually beneficial cooperation. The joint declaration reads: “Thanks to joint goal-oriented efforts at the highest level, mutual political trust, and mutually beneficial cooperation between Belarus and China have reached an unprecedented level. Relations of comprehensive strategic partnership between the two countries have reached a new stage. Guided by principles of mutual respect, mutually beneficial cooperation, the two sides set out to continuously advance mutual political trust and coop-

eration in various areas, step up contacts between the nations and humanitarian exchange programs, enrich the comprehensive strategic partnership component of Belarusian-Chinese relations, promote friendship 'in any weather', and create a community of common interests and a community of common fate."

In his speech, Lukashenko traced the Belarus's diplomatic history with China back to January 20, 1992, when Belarus developed diplomatic relations with China. In twenty years, which is shorter compared with other countries, Belarus has upgraded its relationship to comprehensive strategic

partnership and cooperative relationship. "Only four countries have such close relations which China, including Belarus", he said, "so we feel very proud about that."

Lukashenko regards China's One Belt, One Road Initiative as the right strategy, helping neighboring countries become close friends and partners. Specifically, establishing an exemplary science park in the middle of Eurasia, thereby enhancing cooperation between Eurasia and China. Thus, Lukashenko compared the China-Belarus Industry Park, an important part of the Silk Road Economic Belt to "a genuine bright pearl in the Silk Road". Belarus will

strengthen cooperation in bilateral trade, education, and innovation in science and technology, and will work together with other Eurasian economic alliances to speed up the construction of the China-Belarus Industrial Park.

Lukashenko concluded his speech by saying, "We all know that to achieve a great goal, we need efforts from both sides. You can never clap with one hand. It's my ninth time visiting China, and every time I come, I feel like visiting a new country. I really admire your progress." He hoped that the friendship between Belarus and China would deepen and be consolidated in the future.



PKU's Social Support Systems and Student Emotional Wellbeing

✉ Anthony Ng

You are Not Alone

We've all had that same dream. Where no matter how fast we run, the slower our movement feels. How louder we scream, the more silent we become. This is a dream for many, but a reality for some. When we feel bullied, harassed, under pressure, and feel as if we are stranded on the top of a mountain—lonely and alone.

Before university we may have experienced similar feelings of helplessness; it may be from pressure from school work, our parents and family's concerns about grades or what we should (or perhaps more likely shouldn't) be doing with our lives. Maybe we feel as if things are just piling up on us too much and too fast. Back then, before university, we could call on our closest friends and family for help and support, and someone would always be around to listen to us. Psychological support is, as humans are social animals, so desperately needed.

During our university studies, those same systems of social support, at first glance, may not appear to be as strong. They are there but maybe we just don't know where to look for them. This article will try to provide a roadmap for us to better navigate through those negative feelings that arise both



from external and internal issues and how to take advantage of the support that PKU provides.

Friends at PKU

For those people who have personalities that seem to be able

to adapt to any new social environment, never feel like outsiders, and are always part of the conversation, more often than not, will be able to make friends wherever they go. And these new friends, those that we've made over the past few weeks since we arrived, may even become more



meet with them and appease their interests before our own. An opportunity cost that may be too much.

Does this mean we don't need friends? No, it doesn't. It just means, for those of us with relatively fewer friends, we needn't feel alone. The world is ever more connected and those connections do not have to be necessarily physical – they can be virtual,

than just transient. They may indeed become our friends for life, and in some cases more than just friends: partners in business, and maybe even become romantically involved.

What about for those of us who find it more difficult to adapt, who find it harder to express our thoughts and feelings. For those who always feel as if they are on the outside of the group, they've never been able to find where or with whom they fit in, and they find it difficult to make conversations. Having friends and being a part of social groups are highly correlated with happiness and wellbeing, but that does not mean we cannot lead fruitful, meaningful lives with fewer rather than more friends. Think of it this way – you are being selective with your time and being selective gives us more time for other things – to read, to write, to experience things which others may not want to do and where, if we had “too many” friends, we may feel obligated to

political, economic and even spiritual connections we make, and it is from these connections that we derive our meaning and purpose. This lack of purpose is what causes the truest feeling of loneliness and that doesn't in all instances require friendship to create—it requires insight. And insight can come from many sources, which PKU has in abundance: our professors, colleagues, classmates (i.e. people at PKU, not necessarily your friends) all can stimulate forms of insight from which we can derive our own meaning and purpose. In this sense, the environment that PKU provides to stimulate such insight is great.

But friends are also there to support us when we are down and feel like we are overburdened. They'll be there for us when we feel like we've been unjustly treated or wronged. We need to lean on them in those difficult times. This is even more so when we feel like we may have been treated in an abusive

way—psychologically, verbally, and maybe even physically.

Bullying and Harassment

“During my previous studies at other universities, culturally (and because of many recent events in the US), students more openly discussed their experiences regarding sexual harassment. This kind of open discourse and close support system allowed some victims to find some comfort in difficult times.” Sunghee Tark, PKU master's degree student from Korea

If I say the name “Trump”, aside from the obvious “President-elect”, a number of images and adjectives will arise in your consciousness. Depending on your political and social leanings, some more negative others positive. No matter your political bent though, what you may think of is a man who has said (and allegedly done) some inexcusable things which he's ascribed to so-called “locker room” banter.

Sexist and racist talk is always around, and it takes many different forms, but this does not mean it should be tolerated.

Kang Chenwei, a student at another university in Beijing, explains that incidents of sexual harassment on his campus was far more prevalent than one might have expected in today's civilized society. It is incidents like those that Chenwei shed a light on, and those which indicate the potential for abuse like the “locker room” talk of Trump, where we need a system which helps us prevent, and at the very least, detect incidents like this

at the earliest point in time. Any behavior such as this need not be tolerated nor expected in a civilized and tolerant society. This is where we need to be brave enough to speak out and this is where our friends can help empower us to speak out.

Support at PKU

“There are ample opportunities for student involvement in clubs, activities, and events” Brendan Millan, PKU master's degree student from the US.

Students and professors at PKU are all unique and exceptional, and we are reminded of this every day as we walk on campus or hear a lecture—whether it be on history, computer science, economics, or politics. Your interest in a topic you may not even be studying can be piqued through many of the numerous student societies available to us, which allows you to pursue a multi-disciplinary education which is if you want to truly succeed, required in today's world. Many of you will go on to do some incredible things through the benefits of the education provided by PKU. But all of us can reach a point where our capacity is exceeded by our feeling of burden. Many of us can still have those same feelings of helplessness and of being bullied. And, in some very rare instances, even feelings of harassment—physical or psychological. We cannot afford to let these things just slide.

What about if we're really feeling down and we feel that there is no way out. We've seen this happen

too many times for all the wrong reasons. We've irrationally ascribed such behavior to those of us who are “weak” and “cowardly” rather than simply not understanding other people's situations and difficulties. When and if you feel pressured at any time you need to raise your voice. The louder you are, the more you will be heard. The faster you run from the shadow chasing you, the further you will be from that shadow.

There are many support systems on campus outside of our colleagues, our peers, classmates, and friends, which we may not be aware of. There are also more than a hundred student unions and associations available for that additional layer of support you may need if you are really far from home, either in the physical sense of distance or feelings.

There probably is still room for a formal student union to be set up for international students who want to know more about bullying and harassment, and to provide a “safe space” for students to discuss their experiences, which they may not be comfortable sharing outside of a formal association. The PKU Psychology Counselling Support Center is available to us, and they can cater to international students, however, due to resource constraints, they primarily provide Chinese-language services. At the end of this article are the contact details for the Center.

View Yourself as the Ultimate Arbiter of What and How You Feel

Pressure can be managed with the right tools and techniques, and the beautiful thing is that these are not physical resources that can be exhausted, and they are completely within your control as to when and how to use them – they are psychological and mental processes that can be learned over time. And, the more you use them, the more useful they become—compounding over time.

Generally ensuring you get the right amount of sleep. These hours can also be “banked” for future use if you know you are not going to be sleeping much in the near future. You can sleep more over the preceding days to ensure that if you don't have enough time to sleep closer up to your deadline you will be less likely to be adversely effected.

Regular exercise can help your mind just as much as your body, and ensuring that you eat and drink as healthily as possible are all ways you can alleviate stress and improve your wellbeing.

Managing your internal stress and telling others about your feelings to responsible people who will keep these things confidential is the first step in alleviating the fear that there is no one on your side. Someone is always there. You just need to know where to look.

PKU Counseling Center

Address: *New Sun Student Center, 4th floor*

Tel: 62760852

Email: xinlizhongxin@pku.edu.cn

Website:

<http://counseling.pku.edu.cn>

Studying at ISSCAD When South Meets South

▣ Gao Kailin

The Institute of South-South Cooperation and Development (ISSCAD) is both a distinguished and mysterious name on the PKU campus. Initiated and announced by Chinese President Xi Jinping during the High-Level Roundtable on South-South Cooperation at the United Nations in 2015, the ISSCAD was officially established at the National School of Development, Peking University, in April 2016. Given China's compelling story of dramatic growth and poverty reduction over the past three decades, the new institute aims to promote sustainable growth by sharing this knowledge and experience, especially with developing and underdeveloped countries.

However, who has come to this program and how do they feel about ISSCAD? Full of curiosity, I stepped onto the beautiful Langrun Garden and interviewed three ISSCAD students. This short account cannot fully demonstrate the complexity and diversity of this new institute, but at least it can give us a closer look at the sparks of excitement ignited when the South meets the South.

Ibrokchim Karimov (Uzbekistan)

"I came to Beijing in February

this year, to study Mandarin in Kuangyedaxue (China University of Mining and Technology)" Ibrokchim Karimov told me. He comes from Uzbekistan, a country undergoing a period of sustainable economic growth in central Asia, and a nation sharing the memory of the ancient Silk Road with China. His pronunciation of the Mandarin name of the Institute surprised me with its accuracy, especially in his use of tones.

"ISSCAD is a new program, but really diverse. Going through its curriculum, I found that it is something that requires a lot of effort!" Ibrokchim showed me his student handbook. Going through it, I discovered that ISSCAD has six

required courses and one elective this term. These courses include Microeconomic Analysis, Political Economy Analysis of Cotemporary China, and Statistics in Social Science Research. It is much more than the usual four courses that a first year master's or PhD student undertakes.

He had offers from other universities too, for example, the Management Science program at Beijing University of Science and Technology, as well as an offer from the Harbin Institute of Technology, but he decided to study economics, because he thought this was the field that could help his country overcome its obstacles.

"Nowadays Uzbekistan is considered one of the steadily developing countries around the world. My country gained independence 25 years ago after the Soviet Union dismantled. It is now mainly focusing on essential fields of economic growth such as agriculture, information technology, and education."

Before coming to ISSCAD for his PhD, he had worked for Inha University at Tashkent for two years, a university with a great emphasis on information technology. "Our university is the first one in Uzbekistan to launch an online application and online supervision system for students and parents," he took great pride in the effort that his university had made. He himself also has an acute sense of the utility of technology that China has itself applied.

He was amazed at how the WeChat payment system has facilitated domestic consumption in China. "Studying in China allows



me to enhance priceless skills and experiences that are going to be practical in my homeland. But when talking about technology, it is not only about the hardware but also the software, for instance, the usage of a communication tool like WeChat can be applied in the educational and financial institutions. In order to keep up with the grand goals of the One Belt and One Road plan, we need to catch up with technology and gather all needed resources."

Studying at ISSCAD is an enjoyable experience for him. "I am learning from people that are experts in their own fields, about practical skills that can be implemented rather than just theories," he said excitedly, "The courses here give me a closer look at what has been done in China, no matter

success or failure, for example the Great Leap Forward and Land Reforms. In the China Immersion Program, we also had great opportunities to attend lectures given by previous high-ranking officials, such as Chen Deming, Former Minister of Commerce and Li Zhaoxing, Former Foreign Minister."

Talking about his classmates at ISSCAD, he thinks that studying with African and other countries' officials is both interesting and rewarding. "They have ten to twenty years of work experience in government. Mingling with them sometimes makes me feel like a child!" he laughed. "But I do learn a lot from them," and he admires the courage and determination of his classmates getting back to school after working for over ten years. "That is a lot of sacrifice, but of course we can learn a lot at ISSCAD so that our country won't get stuck with the same problems that once confronted China."

Our conversation ended on the way to his next class, Development Economics. "Our schedule is too intense that I rarely have chances to meet with other PKU students, but this is the life of PhD student" he smiled and entered the classroom.

Ousmane (Senegal)

"Why have you done so many masters?" I was surprised when I learned that Ousmane has already done three master's degrees before coming to ISSCAD. He comes from Senegal, a country located in the western part of Africa, and he finally decided to come to China for his





PhD after ten years' experience of serving the government. He finished his first master's degree in 2005 and started to work for Senegal's government as a junior economist, and every two years he goes back to university to continue his studies.

"But I was so afraid to be involved in a PhD program, simply because seeing my friend doing five or seven years of PhD without working was just scary for me," Ousmane said, "But later, when our previous dean asked me 'Ousmane, why are you doing so many masters, we need you as a lecturer', I changed my mind, and I thought that was the time for a PhD."

Talking about the reason why he chose ISSCAD, he said the background of the professors was his first consideration, "I learned about ISSCAD from the Chinese Embassy in Senegal. I was amazed at the fact that almost all faculty members here have done their PhDs in very prestigious universities throughout the

world; for example, Justin Yifu Lin studied at the University of Chicago and Yao Yang studied at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. As a student, the first priority is always the qualification of teachers, not to mention that PKU ranks within the top 50 in the world."

He was also very grateful for the Chinese Government's initiative to open its best educational resources to the world, "We have several scholarships for African countries each year. But even France, which colonized us, and the US, a big power, were not able to offer African students the opportunity to go to the best universities in their countries. No one did it before, but China is doing it."

"When seeing Justin Yifu Lin in the flesh at ISSCAD, I felt like I was in space! Justin Lin is the advisor for our president. He is really well-known in Africa. He offered advice on the construction of an economic zone in Senegal." Having read Justin

Lin's book *The Quest for Prosperity: How Developing Countries Can Take Off*, he really likes the idea of going back to Adam Smith and that countries need to develop based on comparative advantages, "My country tried to industrialize, but we never thought about comparative advantages, and we failed. Observing China's practice of the division of labor is really inspiring for me." Last week, his class went to Baigo in Hebei Province for a field trip. There they witnessed the entire process of manufacturing bags and suitcases on an assembly line. "Such division of labor does not exist in Senegal. In my country, one person still produces the entire thing," he said. The development of Shenzhen, the first special economic zone in China, struck him the most: "My thesis will focus on how to build industrial parks in Senegal drawing on the experience of China, just like how Shenzhen started from scratch in China."

After living in China for several months, he was very impressed by the education level in China. "People in China are really educated. I never faced two people arguing and insulting each other, but it is really common in Africa. The problem is not about the nature of people but about education. We have 14 million people in Senegal, but only 4% receive higher education. And we don't have enough accommodation for students either."

Regarding his future plans, he told me he would go back to Senegal after graduation and serve his country, "My country, my government, and my people have given me all the resources. They paid for my education and they hired me. Even though I have served the government for ten years, it is not enough. At the end of my studies, I want to pay back my country and offer my experience to help my people improve their lives." He even started to write a book, "I am lucky to be here. I am the only Senegalian at ISSCAD. I want to write something to help Chinese people understand African problems and to help my country develop its economy. I have not yet decided all of the topics, but it will be my pursuit in the long run."

Elena Balbekova (Ukraine)

"Immediately after finishing my third degree at LSE, I felt I would never study again," Elena Balbekova said jokingly. She comes from Ukraine, a fascinating country located in Eastern Europe. "It is not like doing degrees in your own country, the requirement and scor-

ing system in London is completely different, not to mention that it is not your native language. But after a year or so, I started to think about what would be the next step for my career, and I thought a PhD might be a good option."

She thinks that the cooperation opportunities between China and Ukraine have been largely overlooked. It is also one of the major reasons why she chose ISSCAD. "Interest in China is growing rapidly. Learning about China's reform approach is more than valuable for my country. There are very few think tanks in Ukraine studying China. Studying at ISSCAD helps me gain life experience from China, and this program is unique for Ukraine and China's cooperation under the New Silk Road."

She is working for the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade and serving as an advisor to the First Vice Prime Minister of Ukraine. "He asked me to advise him about economic cooperation in China. I think what has been underutilized is Ukraine's free trade agreement with the EU. Chinese firms can open the European market through Ukraine and the recently reformed PPP law in Ukraine will be a nice way for us to cooperate. However, this amazing opportunity has not been utilized at all so far." She thinks the major problem is that very few Chinese know about Ukraine: from the number of people in the country to information about market demand. "I myself cannot solve the problem entirely, but at least I can contribute something," she recently

returned from the "One Belt, One Road" Development Forum in Hangzhou, speaking on the potential of Ukraine-China cooperation.

When asked about whether the workload at ISSCAD was more than that at LSE, she gave me a surprising answer, "Absolutely, yes! Like yesterday, I was doing a statistics assignment until half past eleven at night. The other night I was analyzing a 40-page article from Professor Fu Jun. That was just one article, but we have seven subjects! When I was at LSE, I had four courses, three mandatory and one elective. Of course ISSCAD is more intense in terms of homework." She still needed to study two extra Mandarin classes by herself to get into a more advanced class. "Courses keep you so busy, making you incapable of doing anything else. But I understand that we need to have a tight schedule to make the program informative and constructive," she sighed and smiled.

Wherever she goes, she can pick up the local language, that was, until she met Mandarin. "I learned German, French, Spanish, Polish, and Greek. Language has never been a problem for me, until I came to China. I thought people on the streets will speak English in China, but this is not the case! I cannot really communicate and find my way. This is rather uncomfortable. And Food is totally different too. In Ukraine, you have much less sauce and oil."

However, what she likes about China is also the unexpectedness. "I am very grateful for my life. It is quite unpredictable. I am not sure

whether I was thinking thoroughly before going to China. I could have studied in the EU or the US for my PhD. They are much easier since I have been to those places many times. Studying at ISSCAD is something very unexpected. But exactly because of the unexpectedness, I am very grateful for this opportunity and that I am able to pursue it. The experience that I am going through here is something that is both valuable for me and for my country." She hopes to bring back Chinese scholars and public officials and let them share their experiences in Ukraine

"Politics of International Economic Relations, the elective, is my favorite course. Professor Zha has given us an interesting perspective, less economic, but more about common studies. It is very unexpected and unconventional," she shared with

me her comments on the courses on the walk back to Langrun Garden. Unexpectedness, for her, is part of the beauty of life.

Conclusion

After I finished my interviews with Ibrokhim, Ousmane, and Elena, ISSCAD is no longer an unfamiliar name. Students at ISSCAD come from twenty-seven different countries, including Sudan, Ethiopia, Zimbabwe, Tajikistan, Nepal, and Australia. Their previous working experience as highly-accomplished public



sector officials and their visionary thinking have made them exceptional on the PKU campus. Learning about China's story and students' sharing their own stories at ISSCAD will continue to be both an enjoyable, exciting, and fruitful adventure for all involved.

The (Not So) Confusing World of Chinese Internet Lingo

✎ Carson Ramsdell

dzzzzzz, dzzzzzz I cracked open my eyes, slid my finger across the bottom of the screen (this was way back when you still had to do that to open your iPhone) and heard the little "click" of the virtual lock. A blinding light was sent forth from the little box in my hand, slowly my eyes adjusted and I was able to see what was so important that it had to wake me from my slumber. Another

WeChat group that I forgot to turn off the notifications for...great. A group of students in the Peking University Tea Studies Club wanted to go to Mǎ Lián Dào and, for some reason, they wanted a "lǎo sī jī" (老司机) to take them there. Why on earth did these college students want an "old chauffeur" to bring them to go buy tea when surely any method of transportation would

do? I was stumped.

Fortunately for me, this wasn't the first time I ran into an issue like this, and soon enough I even had an idea of what was going on. In the past, I had run into people who had "holes in their brains", students who flat out told me they were "drunk" in class, and even people being referred to as "exotic flowers". What the screen in front of my face

beheld, etched in pixels, was likely just one more example of Chinese internet lingo known colloquially as "wǎng luò cí yǔ" (网络词语). On the Chinese internet, forums, and even WeChat, not every word or phrase is what it seems and whether your foreign self is confounded by the ostensibly "easy" to understand, "I am also drunk," or the bizarre and more recently popular, "skinny, blue shitake," you might sometimes be stuck wondering if your Chinese friends had a little too much baijiu, a kind of Chinese liquor, to drink before they pressed "send" on that last message. Don't worry, though! You're not alone, and today you're going to finish reading this article with a few more hip and funky words in that big, juicy word bank just above your eyes.

As it turns out, my "tea friends" (茶友; chá yǒu) going to Mǎ Lián Dào didn't want an "old chauffeur" to drive them at all, but something altogether different. In situations such as the one described, "lǎo sī jī" doesn't refer to a chauffeur, but rather a veteran: well-versed and experienced in the techniques, methodologies, and regulations of a particular field, industry, or area; or to put it another way, someone with plenty of experience and knowledge in a certain area—in the case mentioned above: tea. It is used as a noun to denote someone meeting these criteria and often indicates a sense of reverence or esteem. "Lǎo sī jī", in its earliest incarnation, comes from a Yunnanese mountain song (老司机带带我; lǎo sī jī dài dài wǒ), but gradually began being popularized into its current



form on various online and social media platforms in 2015. Initially, "lǎo sī jī" was used in reference to those people in major online communities who had mastered an abundance of network resources, but its use has since spread throughout other subcultures and even become popularized in the mainstream. "lǎo sī jī" is a quintessential example of Chinese internet jargon currently in use, but it's absolutely not the only one; it's possible you've been stumped by some even stranger phrases in the past.

Have you ever been talking to a Chinese friend, only to suddenly discover that they were "also drunk"? You probably didn't even know you were drunk too at the time. That's the situation I found myself in the Fall of 2014. We were talking about taboos in the United States, when a student of mine declared in front of the whole class, "I'm drunk, too!" It's not good to be

drinking during the day, much less when you are going to class. It was through stern inquiry that I came to find that I needn't be so harsh, but my student was translating directly into English yet another slice of internet vernacular: 我也是醉了 (wǒ yě shì zuì le). This phrase can be utilized in a variety of circumstances and as such has a variety of different meanings. Most commonly, however, it's used when one cannot possibly understand another's way of thinking and they will not listen to reason, but you don't necessarily know how or don't want to take the time to argue with them. At its most basic level, it also indicates a dissatisfaction with another person, their way of thinking, or something they said or did. In hindsight, I probably should have been more upset with my student than I was at the time. Anyway, next time trying to reason with someone who just won't listen to you, you can tell them you're

“drunk too”.

No list of new internet vernacular would be complete without a very new usage of a not-so-new word in the Mandarin lexicon: 奇葩 (qí pā). You may have heard this word being tossed around on campus—probably because of its sheer utility. That said, the first time I ran across it was when I was back in Philadelphia talking to a Chinese friend. She told me her ex-roommate was really “qí pā”. I hastily grabbed my phone and opened up my dictionary and typed “q-i-p-a”, and the result was “exotic flowers”. Well that didn’t help me too much. Fortunately, my friend’s English was there to save the day. Qípā means really, really weird. It’s an adjective that describes something or someone that is weird to the utmost extent. Save it for those special times and people who are truly deserving of it. In fact, qípā may just be the perfect word to describe this next little phrase, especially if you don’t know the origins of it.

I was casually, impulsively scroll-

ing through my WeChat friend circle one day when all of a sudden, from the bottom of my screen, emerged a bizarre and potentially nightmare-inducing image, accompanied by a four character caption: “Lánshòu xiānggū” (蓝瘦香菇). “Lán shòu xiānggū” is probably the most recent incarnation of internet jargon in this very short list, first appearing in October of 2016. On its surface, “lánshòu xiānggū” simply means “nánshòu xiǎng kū” (难受想哭), or in English (more or less) that somebody is upset, feels bad, and wants to cry. So why not just write that? Well, to understand that, you have to trace the origins of this internet jargon back to its debut online in the form of a poorly shot cell phone video, and you also have to understand a little bit about local dialects in China and the way they affect pronunciation. Let’s take a trip over to Nanning city in Guangxi, where after a failed relationship, an e-bike salesman named Wei Yong uploaded a video to the internet espousing his incred-

ible disappointment and heartache. In the video he was mourning his unrequited love, and, at one point, in a heavy Guangxi accent said, “...难受, 想哭...”. However, because his accent changes some tones around and makes ‘n’ sound like ‘l’ and ‘g’ sound like ‘k’, it came out as “lánshòu xiānggū”. Well, some loving “netizens” took it upon themselves to do a great and noble service and type out what Wei Yong said phonetically, forever meme-ifying him for the enjoyment of this and future generations.

Like many people around the world, Chinese people derive great pleasure from playing around with their language and finding new and novel ways to use old words, phrases, and characters. As such, the Chinese corner of the internet is fruitful ground for the fostering and creation of new jargon. There isn’t enough space in this article to talk about all of the various and nuanced meanings of the words mentioned in this article, much less to print a complete list of internet jargon, so I hope you’ll forgive me for having to leave some things out. Anyway, at least now you might be a little less confused when you hear or see some of these new phrases and words. Next time you hear a Chinese friend declare, “wǒ yě shì zuì le!”, or request a “lǎo sījī”, or tell you they are “lánshòu xiānggū”, you might not think they’re so “qípā”, and remember that not all of these phrases or words are exactly as they seem. In fact, many things aren’t as they appear, especially on the internet.



A Historian’s History Interview with Hendrikus Van Wijlick

by Lee Jae Young

It is autumn here in Beijing, and the foggy, dry, and desolate atmosphere covers the whole campus. Yet, the old Yenching University campus site, situated beside the renowned central library and the Weiming Lake, stands more antique and elegant than ever. When I stepped into the Old Chemistry Building, I could feel the calm scent of tradition, and among the offices of prominent professors, was the office of a passionate Dutch historian, Dr. Hendrikus Van Wijlick.



A Lifelong Journey

Dr. Van Wijlick currently works as an Assistant Professor in the department of History in Peking University. He specializes in ancient Western history, and has studied “History of Western Civilization” and Latin for two years at PKU. As a Dutch born, English educated scholar who teaches in the heart of China, his experience was very intriguing and deserving of interview.

“My education actually started in the Netherlands,” said the professor. He finished his bachelor’s degree and master’s degree in the Netherlands, there he decided to focus on ancient Western, specifically ancient Roman history. After he graduated his five-year course in his home

country, he transferred to Durham University, where he got his second master’s degree in Classical Studies. His education finished in 2013, the year in which he received his doctoral degree. In 2014, he came to China. He mentioned during whilst reminiscing, “basically I have been in education for a very long time as a student.”

It was the challenge that motivated him to come to China for research. He stated that life in Durham had become suffocating: The city was very small in size, and he felt it would be good for him to make a change.

The Chinese Environment

Professor Van Wijlick was

exposed to Chinese culture through his family, so it was relatively easy for him to blend into China. Despite his belief that it is important to adjust to new environments, he still thinks that it is especially difficult for European scholars to get used to Chinese living conditions. “They like to come here briefly as a visiting scholar, but they find it very difficult to adjust to the Chinese way of life and the way things go here. For example, they are very scared to do easy things like crossing roads in China despite the presence of traffic lights.” He stressed more straightforward opinions on academic facilities in China, and gave practical diagnosis. “At least for the field of classics, China is still in a developing stage. Some great

progress has been made over the past thirty years or so – it has to be admitted – but there is still scope for improvement, such as in ancient language acquisition, research skills and academic facilities. Overall, at Peking University, the situation is better than elsewhere in China, but the Department of History and the Center for Classical and Medieval Studies are nevertheless working very hard to expand the facilities and develop the undergraduate program in order to improve both the student experience and quality of research.” Yet, he feels he is very fortunate to work here at PKU. “I have been very pleased to find the students very motivated, and I gain great pleasure from teaching them.” In addition, he feels freedom in designing courses. “Speaking of course content, I think it is good that I have a lot of freedom, much more than at some European universities, where the program is determined by a departmental committee, and it is more difficult

own view of history, and how he interprets it plays a critical role in his life. Dr. Van Wijlick believes that historians should not necessarily be ‘old-fashioned’ or ‘backwards’, rather they should enjoy learning about the past but live in the present. “If one historian likes Roman history and live like a Roman in the present time, we cannot call him a good historian.” In his mind, history is like a mirror, it is a good tool to look back, yet the content has to be actionable in the present.

Sights Towards Ancient History

Dr. Van Wijlick emphasizes that ancient history is an integral part of history to learn from, especially if one wishes to understand modern Europe. In his view, the incidents which happened in the past still influence the world we see today. “It is very difficult to understand Europe when you only look at the modern society. A lot of current

“Speaking of course content, I think it is good that I have a lot of freedom, much more than at some European universities, where the program is determined by a departmental committee, and it is more difficult to make adjustments.”

to make adjustments.” In terms of teaching, Dr. Van Wijlick believes that PKU is a very excellent place.

What History Means in his Life

Every historian has his or her

Europeans generally view antiquity in a positive light. “In modern Western Europe, a lot of people have no affinity with Christianity anymore, they are done with it, churches are getting empty and closing down, and they sometimes see the ideas of Greece and Rome superior to religion. They like to mirror their own ideas to the ancient ones. Besides religion, some political ideas in Europe were also first introduced in antiquity.”

While the interview was going on, he asked an interesting question: “Why should classics be studied in China? What do you want to achieve in China by studying ancient history?” He mentioned that the antiquity of Chinese history can provide some decent and appropriate answers to questions in modern Chinese society.

Thoughts on Contemporary Research

Dr. Van Wijlick then introduced a trend of the modern historical field. “In recent years, there has been a tendency to draw comparisons and analogies between ancient Rome and the Han dynasty. If you look at the publications regarding this, mainly Western scholars are working on this, and it seems that these scholars are trying to export this idea to China as well.” He is not critical about comparison itself. “I think they are a useful tool in doing research. One of the arguments that historians often use are analogies from evidence. A very similar instance can provide a very good evidence that you can imple-

ment in your original research. Especially scholars in China could draw analogies between Rome and the Han dynasty.” Yet, Dr. Van Wijlick is suspicious of the recent trend of making such comparisons. “It seems to be a comparison for the sake of comparison, and I am very hesitant to do this.” A recent ‘movement’ in research begun by Professor Walter Scheidel at Stanford University, which focuses on global history, specifically conducting comparisons between empires, is mentioned as an example of this trend. “A major problem is the lack of a solid source-critical foundation. For example, Scheidel makes limited use of sources, and instead relies on the works of other scholars to support his views. There is a kind of rationality to his approach, but if you want to become a good historian, the basis has to be focused on the sources.” He worries that this model is being directly adopted by Chinese scholars. “If the basis is not done well, whatever reasoning that it built upon... the basis is going to be very shaky.”

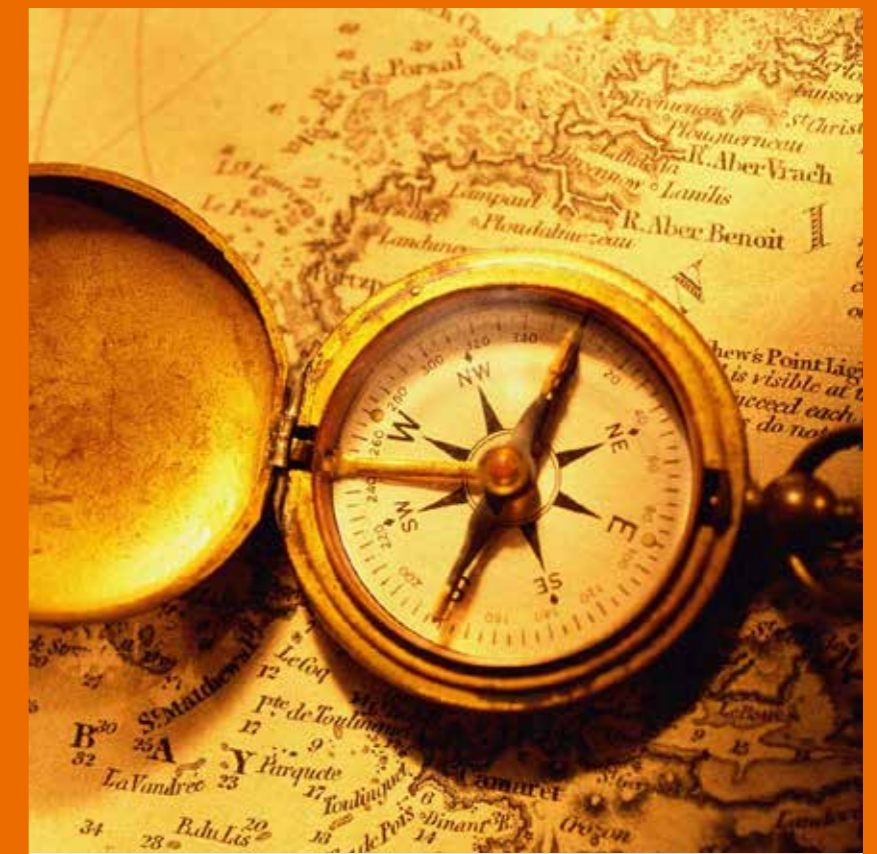
Dr. Van Wijlick believes that the Chinese academic field in the current environment, has great potential to do research in the Classics. That the Chinese current and prospective scholars lack development in their respective facilities does not mean that they do not or cannot achieve more. “The ambition has to be very high,” he says.

For Future Historians

“Try to be passionate about learning history, it is difficult but

it is also fun, you should enjoy it,” urges Dr. Van Wijlick. “There are a lot of different areas in history, and I think that students should actually follow that by which they are very motivated.” In addition, he emphasizes the importance of referring to sources once again. “Do not be hesitant. There has been a tendency of students, which is normal, of depending heavily on textbooks. Textbooks are very effective, and they are very good introductions. But that is what they are.” The Professor came up with an excellent analogy: “If you enter a building, then the entrance is the introduction written in textbooks. But you only go in once. After that, you are in the building. You do not go through the entrance again unless you have gone out, in other words unless

you have left academia. Textbooks should only be used as an introduction, and then the second step has to be actual sources, monographs, and articles. Then you can get into research that scholars conduct.” Dr. Van Wijlick, already trained in reading and making commentaries to sources since his study in England, believes that this process enables students to raise their critical thinking ability. The professor concluded by mentioning, “you have to think critically on how to assess the sources. And this is a skill that you eventually have to apply when you become a scholar. I don’t like to make it easy for the students by giving too many handbooks. We should get into the real stuff, and we should be familiar with what actually happened!”



The Yenching Academy of Peking University Holds Business Seminar in Coordination with the Mexican Chamber of Commerce in China

✎ Alena Potekhina

How to start a business in a globalized world? What conditions should be noted in order to make the international company as successful as possible? What opportunities are there for China-Mexico joint businesses? Which Mexican companies have branches in China? These and lots of other questions were raised during the China- Mexico Business Seminar on October 25, 2016.

The “Seminar on Branding, Entrepreneurship and Start-ups” was organized by the Yenching Academy of Peking University in cooperation with the Mexican Chamber of

Commerce in China, supporting the initiative of Yenching Scholar Hector Zavala, a graduate of the National Autonomous University of Mexico.

During the opening remarks, Hector Zavala mentioned that the Seminar was conceptualized five months before with the idea to promote the image of Mexico, within the Yenching Academy and Peking University. Organizers of the event invited students from several prestigious Chinese universities, diplomats, businessmen, media representatives, and academics from more than 20 countries. In total about 150 people from different



institutions gathered together for this unprecedented event.

In spite of the fact that the representatives are very busy, and it was difficult to find appropriate time for the event, all of them reacted with interest to the invitation and were excited by the possibility to give a talk at Peking University. Among the participants, there were representatives from important institutions like Ivan Chiu, President of China at Grupo Bimbo; Efen Calvo, President of the Mexican Chamber of Commerce in China (MexCham); Victor Cadena, Vice-President at MexCham; Antonio Riva Palacio, delegate from the Beijing Representative Office of CURTIS; Iran Monroy, representative of HNA Group; and John Holden, Associate Dean of the Yenching Academy of Peking University.

The Seminar was split into two sessions, with a short coffee break in the middle. The theme of the first session was “Branding and Marketing Strategy”. During this panel, representatives discussed what kind of marketing strategy is best. It was said that the company should rely on its founding ideas, understand customers’ needs and try to make its brand name a kind of a quality guarantee for the customer.

The second session, titled “Entrepreneurship and Start-ups in China”, had representatives of four startup companies (Softtek, Hurakan, Bi’An Project, Weiresearch) talking about how to start an international business in China. It is important to comprehend the difference in cultures in order to adapt products for customers from differ-



ent countries and provide successful operation in general. John Holden, Associate Dean of the Yenching Academy of Peking University emphasized that the Chinese market in comparison with the world market has its own peculiarities and foreign companies should make fully understand Chinese consumer demands and rationally allocate investment.

Throughout the Seminar, the audience was involved in the discussions, and students asked a lot of questions. All the students had the opportunity to interact with Mexican companies in China, and some multinational organizations, as well as recently created startups. The students also asked for some advice in how to start their professional careers. It was also a good opportunity to meet people in business, academic, social, and diplomatic spheres. Hector Zavala said that he personally learnt how to orga-

nize a large-scale event involving several institutions with teams from different countries facing a multicultural work team, and this will be a competitive advantage in the future since he plans to be involved in diplomatic missions in relation with China and Mexico.

The China-Mexico Business Seminar can be considered a very important step in the future business and academic collaboration between Mexico and China. Efen Calvo, President of the Mexican Chamber of Commerce in China, said Chinese and Latin American foreign investment should open the potential of local businesses, and these investments should encourage mutually beneficial outcomes with local partners, and that these investments should be in line with local society and culture so to achieve common and localized development, which is indeed the China-Mexico Business Seminar’s goal.



Peking University Scholars Survey Dunhuang's Mural Art

Sienna Luk

The Dunhuang Mural Art exhibition is organized by China Dunhuang Grottoes Conservation Research Foundation; the Dunhuang Academy; the PKU School of Humanities and Social Sciences; and the Sackler Museum of Art and Archaeology from September 10 to October 18. "The Public Exhibition of Dunhuang Mural Art Treasures at Universities" project hosted the exhibition to display more than forty pieces of the Dunhuang art pieces at the Peking University

Sackler Museum of Art and Archaeology. The modern high-fidelity digital technology enables the selected copies to closely resemble the quality of the original relics. The exhibition fascinated students and enlightened visitors to preserve the priceless cultural heritage.

Dunhuang—also known as the Silk Road—was the main gateway from China to the West a thousand years ago. The convergence point of Indian, Middle Eastern, and Central Asian civilization at Dunhuang created a unique cultural and histor-

ical heritage. The uniqueness of each culture is demonstrated by their arts based on the Han and Jin dynasty art foundation, which later absorbed and mixed with exotic art style. The integration of architecture, color statues, and mural art into its composition is an incredible feature of Grottoes arts. The Mogao Grottoes is the biggest, oldest, and most well-preserved grottoes in China, containing a rich ancient heritage and also exquisite Buddhist arts. In all, the study of Dunhuang Grottoes is not only significant to



the art history of both China and the world, but it also corresponds to China's policy of advocating cultural preservation.

The scholars observed from historic, artistic, and ancient technology perspectives to understand the significance of Dunhuang arts. The historic perspective develops thesis on the historical facts of influential clans and their role in the era. The portraits of wars and chaos reflect the bureaucracy and foreign policy of different governing foreign regimes of that time. Besides the historical facts, several grottoes' art paintings portray the details of the ancient society's customs, such as marriage, occupation, trade, sport activities, and others.

The artistic expression perspective explains the Dunhuang Grottoes' construction is parallel with the ancient China art foundation establishments and the Buddhism art establishment in China. Buddhism art and stories are shown in grotto art; yet, its style has changed gradually as it absorbed various elements and transformed to a unique art form. The paintings portray dancing and musical performances, which is incredibly valuable as the two art forms are hard to preserve. Furthermore, the architecture in the portraits include temples, palaces, hotels, bridges, and furnished accessories, and provides detailed information to fill the historical blanks of that time. The ancient technology shown in the mural arts reveals details of agriculture practice, transportation structure, and weapon engineering. Frequently appeared delicate handcrafts in the

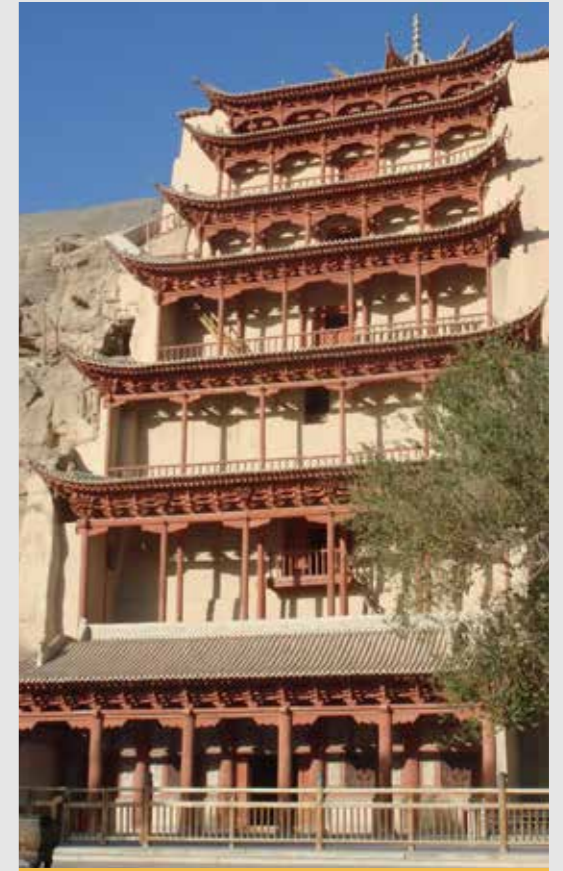
portraits are made of colorful glasses and some of them possess styles of Sassanid (Persia) and Rome, which is obviously evidence of trade with the west.

One Saturday, my curiosity on the mystic Dunhuang compelled me to explore the museum. As I entered the exhibition, to my surprise, the museum was so crowded that I could hardly walk through. The museum is occupied by the mural arts, and some colorful statues of Bodhisattvas. A kindergarten teacher leading a group of kids and parents and amusingly

acquainting the group with the details of every display. Her stories attracted the group and the stories fascinated the children. The children's expression vividly indicates how well the religious fables behind the arts captivated them. Though the parents better understand the profound meaning of each story, they are equally amused as their children. I realized that the ultimate truth behind the portraits is immortality and they never lose their value. In other words, no matter it is in the past, present, or the future, people can always receive profound messages from the ancients.

Dunhuang art is identifiable by its prevalence of the colors red, bluish green, brown, and white, which delivers a healing and soothing atmosphere. And most Bodhi-

sattva sculptures depict a serene, elegant, and relaxed temperament on their surface, as if the spirits of Buddhism can permeate through one's soul. I personally opine "The Thousand-hand and Thousand-eye Bodhisattva" as the most worth seeing illustration in the exhibition, which originated in the third cave of the Mogao Grottoes. Thousand eyes enable Bodhisattva to see the people in need, and thousand hands represent the Bodhisattva's limitless power to save people from suffering. The expression of mural art is not three-dimensional, but the silhouette of each figure is thus distinct from each other due to various drawing techniques. For instance, the contour of a face and the clothes are expressed differently; the previous would be much lighter



in order to show the kindness of goddess, as the later would be more thick and complicated. In addition, during the art tour, the guide brought up an interesting question regarding the gender of Bodhisattva. The volunteer explained that the earlier depiction of Bodhisattva as a male form, and also specified the mustache in the figure. However, later on, the figure transformed as the female figure looks more benevolent. Nevertheless, the question doesn't really matter, because Bodhisattva can change into different identities when helping people in need. One display in the exhibition shows Bodhisattva helping people. That is to say, Bodhisattva is definitely benevolent almighty.

Buddhism is the main element of mural arts and usually the paintings use fables to convey religious philosophy. Among all the stories, what

impressed me the most is the Jataka of Prince Mahasattva. The painting, which displayed on a huge rectangular wall, is divided into three portions, and should be read in the sequence of S-shape. The story is as follows: In ancient India, a prince encountered a hungry lioness with her seven cubs, and the lioness decides to feed herself to her cubs. To save the cubs, the prince decides to sacrifice himself to the lioness. Since the lioness is too weak to prey, the prince cuts himself and jumps off the cliff to feed the hungry lioness. By knowing the story, the family built a memorial for him. It doesn't make sense to me hearing this story for the first time, but the moral is that Buddhism emphasizes to perform best and don't limit oneself in present life but the next life.

The museum has also set a small model cave for people to experience

the scene in Dunhuang. By stepping inside, people can almost feel the coolness in the air from the stone cave. The delicate portraits cover the cave's walls and ceiling. The place is quiet, unusual, sacred, and very suitable for meditation and avoiding the hustle and bustle of our everyday lives.

Although the exhibition didn't display the original relics, it is amazing that the replicas are so true to life. The relics demonstrate great values not only of history, but also a spiritual and religious importance to the modern world. As we don't want to lose the message preserved for a thousand years, we should continue to preserve the relics in their entirety. It is also my hope that we can unveil even more mysteries of Dunhuang, and share its beauty and significance to the world.

The 13th Annual International Culture Festival PKU Celebrates Diversity

✎ Deniz Cem Ozensoy

On October 23, 2016, Peking University (PKU) hosted the 13th annual International Culture Festival with the theme of "Vision: Voice & Action". The festival offered an opportunity for the diverse multicultural student community of PKU to share unique aspects of their countries and culture. The event was widely attended by people in and outside of the campus. The main



attractions were student run country pavilions, center stage performances, and the 'Food Fiesta'.

Most pavilions featured numerous interactive activities with unique gifts as incentives. The Canadians sketched temporary tattoos to visitors who found the hidden Drake pictures. The Nepalese and Kazakhs photographed visitors in giant twitter frames. The Mexicans too offered a number of photographing opportunities. The Mongolians established fully furnished nomadic tent for visitors to visit. The South Koreans and Singaporeans both offered face painting.

Few pavilions were fashioned like interactive museums. The Indonesian pavilion had brought a traditional wood instrument called the angleklung. An angleklung is a hand held instrument that accurately produces a musical tone at each shake. Furthermore, the Indo-

nesian pavilion introduced their national heroes using large replicas of Indonesian currency. Many other pavilions offered gifts to visitors who participated in the games. Some pavilions, like Egypt, Mongolia, Japan, Russia, Kazakhstan, Indonesia, and Canada introduced iconic and traditional clothing of their countries and cultures.

Food played a central role in the cultural festival and proved food unites different cultures together. Many people waited in very long queues to taste the food of different cultures. Argentinian, Korean, and American dishes were offered in the Food Fiesta court. In addition to food, the pavilions also offered drinks. The food and drinks offered in the pavilions are diverse, resembling the diversity of student's community of PKU. Mongolian students offered cheese, Argentinian students offered wine and tea, Span-

ish students also offered wine, and Turkish students offered a national alcoholic beverage made from grapes called 'raki', and black tea. The Korean pavilion in partnership with the Korean Agro-Fisheries & Food Trade Corporation looked like a supermarket that featured everything truly magnificent from Korean tea to kimchi, instant noodles, and lunch boxes.

One of the most popular prizes of the 13th Annual International Culture Festival was an offer at the Turkish pavilion of a free two-day vacation to Cappadocia of Turkey. Zhen Qian, a Peking University Turkish studies student was the first to answer four questions on Turkish history and claimed the prize. The trip sponsored by Turkish Airlines offers a round trip ticket to Turkey with flexible dates, and covers accommodation expenditures, and a hot air balloon excursion.

The 34th World Congress of Art History Convenes in Beijing

✎ Liu Xiaoqing

The 34th World Congress of Art History opened in Beijing on September 16. The five-day event is jointly sponsored by the Congress of the International Committee of the History of Art (CIHA), the Chinese Central Academy of Fine Arts, and Peking University. A total of 21 seminars were organized to showcase the latest achievements of China and the world's study of art history.

Zhu Qingsheng, Professor in the Department of History of Peking University and secretary-general of the Chinese CIHA Committee said, "After eight years of efforts, the

2016 CIHA Congress will witness the gathering of over 300 experts from 43 countries and regions, and moreover, 1000 foreign experts will come all the way to China to attend the congress." The congress has been organized every four years since 1873, and this year is the first time a non-Western country has hosted the congress.

Shao Dazhen, director of the Chinese organizing committee of the congress, said, "Universality and diversity are always the most interesting and intriguing topics in art history studies." He hoped that the academic discussion would not



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The 34th World Congress of Art History

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only strengthen friendship between Chinese and foreign scholars, but also contribute to the diversity of world art and deepen understanding of Chinese art history."

Ulrich Grossmann, chairman of the International Committee of



the History of Art, said, "Art and art history have a significant influence on the advancement of society, the development of young students, and the improvement of our living conditions." He was optimistic that the congress would build a bridge between Eastern and Western art

history.

The 2016 CIHA Congress analyzed different concepts of art in diverse cultures, and aimed to achieve three goals: the first is to respond to the latest development of art history as a global discipline; the second is to explore art through

different definitions that underline its relationship to respective cultural frameworks, and the disparities between different cultures in various periods throughout history; the third is to gain a more comprehensive understanding of art as an essential part of human culture.

PKU President Lin Jianhua and Delegation Visit the United States

✎ Zhou Manli

From September 22 to 27, 2016, the President of Peking University (PKU), Lin Jianhua, and other delegates visited Chicago and San Francisco in the United States, attending the Seventh North American Congress of Peking University Alumni Associations, the Times Higher Education World

Academic Summit, as well as the Florence Fang Peking University Humanities Library Fund Donation signing ceremony. President Lin Jianhua and the delegation also visited some partner institutions, including the University of Chicago, the University of California, Berkeley, and Stanford University.

September 23, 2016

President Lin and delegation visited the University of Chicago. The delegation received a warm welcome from Provost Daniel Diermeier. Both sides expressed sincere appreciation towards the other's progress. Furthermore, those achievements were regarded as the basis of deepening and expanding cooperation between two universities in future.

During the trip, the PKU delegation visited the Consulate General of the People's Republic of China

in Chicago and received a warm welcome from the Consul General, Hong Lei. Mr. Hong briefly introduced Chicago society, education, as

well features of the development of China's students studying in America. President Lin Jianhua gave an introduction of PKU's reforms in



recent years and cooperative developments with educational institutions within the Chicago consular district.

September 24, 2016

The Seventh North American Congress of Peking University Alumni Associations was held in the Evanston campus of Northwestern University. Aiming to reinforce connections among alumni in North America and improve PKU's international influence, the Congress welcomed more than 200 alumni from nearly 20 PKU alumni associations in North America.

Keynote speeches were delivered by President Lin Jianhua as well as several PKU distinguished alumni, including Xia Tingkan, Senior Partner of Locke Lord Bissell & Liddell LLP, Jin Zhongxia, Executive Director of IMF, Liu Qing, Executive President of Jiangsu Industrial Technology Research Institute. With a theme of 'Share Our Future', President Lin Jianhua introduced the progress made by China and PKU in recent years, especially in regards to on-going PKU's comprehensive reforms,

postgraduate education reforms, and academic system reforms. He also encouraged alumni to get more invested in PKU's development and to contribute valuable suggestions for PKU's transformation into a greater university.

September 26, 2016

The delegation visited University of California, Berkeley. After President Lin Jianhua and Chancellor Dirks had candid talks, they together witnessed the signing of a series of memorandums that had important implications in two universities' cooperation in fields of environment, public health, new materials, etc.

Next, the delegation visited Stanford University. Two universities' presidents talked about their long-term cooperation in multiple fields in retrospect. President Lin Jianhua extended his sincere congratulation to Professor Tessier-Lavigne, the new president of Stanford University. Furthermore, he also invited Professor Tessier-Lavigne to attend the fifth anniversary celebration activity of Stanford Center at Peking University

in March 2017. Expectations about the cooperation in medicine between two institutions were also well conveyed.

Finally, Mrs. Florence Fang, the chairwoman of Pan Asian Company of the U.S. and Florence Fang Family Foundation as well as an honorable trustee attended the PKU donation ceremony held in Stanford University. With the generous support from Florence Fang, the Publication Fund for Peking University Humanities & Social Science Works was successfully established.

September 27, 2016

President Lin Jianhua attended the Times Higher Education World Academic Summit at the University of California, Berkeley with a theme of 'world-class universities and the public good'. He participated in the discussion of public goods, in which he introduced China's achievements in higher education. He also pointed out the different challenges faced by colleges and universities in China, Europe, and America could only be overcome by openness and cooperation.



International Symposium on "Cross-cultural Exchanges and Dialogue between Civilizations"

Wang Xi

On September 25-26, 2016, the International Symposium on "Cross-cultural Exchanges and Dialogue between Civilizations" was held at Yingjie Overseas Exchange Center of Peking University (PKU). Politicians, business people, and academics from various institutes gathered to explore the topics. Assorted media such as the CCTV Arabic Channel, Xinhua News Agency, People's Daily Online presented reports on the event.

During the opening ceremony hosted by Lin Fengmin, associate professor in the Arabic department of PKU, as well as the Arabian representatives stressed the importance of cross-cultural exchanges and dialogue between civilizations, and introduced the main contents and principles of related

bilateral exchange programs. They also expressed sincere wishes for strengthening cultural understanding between Islam and other parts of the world. Afterwards, Yang Fuchang, former foreign minister of China, declared his agreement with the Arabian sides on the attitudes China held towards the topic.

The sponsors, Peking University and Saudi Arabian Islamic Affairs, reached an agreement on the goal of the symposium: "To clear up misunderstandings between different civilizations and religions and to help build a more harmonious world through such communication". Based on the goal, several keynote speeches were given.

Apart from the keynote speeches, the symposium also established eight sub-forums, including Islamic Culture and Confucian Culture,

Islamic Culture and Contemporary China, Cultural Discourse in Eastern and Western Literature, Globalization and Identity, and others. Besides, participants of the symposium led a spirited discussion on several issues mentioned in the reports, hoping the future could witness more chances like this for them to exchange ideas and develop academics.

During the closing ceremony, both the Arabian and Chinese delegates articulated their acknowledgement of the achievement made in the symposium, and expressed their heartfelt gratitude to the participants from all over the world.

The symposium is also a branch of the Saudi Arabian Cultural Communication Program, which has been held in many places across the globe.



Svetlana Alexievich Shares Her Literary Experience

By Ou Kun

On August 26, 2016, the 2015 Nobel Laureate in literature Svetlana Alexievich attended a roundtable discussion entitled "To Record an Era with the Sound of Words" as the keynote speaker at the School of Humanities, Peking University (PKU). She was accompanied by Li Jingze, Vice Chairman of the Chinese Writers' Association, and Wu Zhipan, Executive Vice President of PKU. The event was co-organized by the PKU Chinese Department, PKU Office of International Relations, Zhongxin Press, and Tencent, Inc., with Professor Chen Xiaoming from the PKU Chinese Department as the host.

The discussion commenced with a short opening speech by Executive Vice President Wu. The event became increasingly insightful as Alexievich and the other guests engaged in discussions.

"Why it always took me so long to finish a book"

In answering the question of what special interviewing techniques enabled her to guide her interviewees to reveal their sufferings and speak out their true feelings, Alexievich talked about the effort she made in arranging each interview:

I tried to include people of all walks in my books. For instance, for the topic of wars, I talked with pilots and machine gunners fighting day and night in fierce combat, guerrillas who had to kill the German soldiers, who were their

former acquaintances, and nurses who lost their femininity in the frontline. All these efforts are made to give a full picture of the topics in my books. In arranging interviews, I paid attention to every detail, like whether the appointment should be made in the morning, in the evening, or some other time, or whether or not to allow the presence of other people during the talk, and so on. For every interviewee whose speech was included in my books, I conducted interviews with them at least three to four times. This is why it always took me so long to finish a book. I have always enjoyed talking to people, and when I talk to my interviewees, I totally forget that I am doing an interview. Instead, I simply feel I am chatting with a friend.

"My works are not a collection of human plights"

In addressing the question of how documentary writings show their literariness, Alexievich said:

As is known by us all, Solzhenitsyn's The Gulag Archipelago is regarded as documentary writing. It is not just a literary work based on a set of collec-

ted materials, but a demonstration of Solzhenitsyn's thoughts and world view. Similarly, my works are not merely a collection of human plights. Actually, what I try to collect is something spiritual. I want to show their understanding of life.

When asked what the distinction is between good and bad literary works, poet Joseph Brodsky once said, "The fundamental difference between them is whether the work possesses metaphors." In my literary creation, I try to search for the relationship between the universe and our reality. In my books, I try to show the immortality in my interviewees, who have experienced wars and crisis, personal and national plights. They have passed bitterness, wars. They have transcended time.

In the end of the discussion, Wu Zhipan, as the representative of PKU, gave Alexievich a clay plate engraved with the image of the PKU west gate as a gift. The audience applauded continuously to show their gratefulness for this inspiring intellectual exchange event and their reverence for the admirable time recorder.



UN 2030 Rebuilding Order in a Fragmenting World Order

By Harriet Kariuki

On Friday, October 21, the 26th Australian Prime Minister, Hon. Kevin Rudd, made a speech to an audience at Peking University on "The Future of the United Nations and Global Order".

Mr. Rudd chaired the Independent Commission on Multilateralism (ICM), a two-year independent review of the United Nations' multilateral system, which was launched in September 2014 by Terje Rod-Larsen, President of the International Peace Institute. The ICM's purpose was to make recommendations on how to make the UN more "fit for purpose" for the demands of global governance in the 21st century and for the next secretary general to consider at the beginning of her or his new term in January 2017. The ICM looks into the major challenges facing the 21st century global order; whether the UN multilateral system is fit to meet these challenges and if not, what changes need to be made to the UN's function, structure and resources to fill the emerging deficit in effective global governance.

The United Nations Still Matters

Mr. Rudd acknowledged that "the United Nations was not created to bring us to heaven, but in order to

save us from hell." He further added that the UN still matters because it is still a cornerstone of the postwar

"The United Nations was not created to bring us to heaven, but in order to save us from hell."

order. The United Nations, which is now 70 years old, was created in a world vastly different from the world today. The main question that Mr. Rudd poses is whether this postwar institution remains "fit for purpose" to meet the needs of the international community and if not, Mr. Rudd researched what could be done in practical terms to bring its mission, structure, and resources up to date to meet the formidable challenges ahead.

The United Nations Ending Up Like the Holy Roman Empire

Mr. Rudd noted that the international community increasingly takes the United Nations for granted, causing the institution to slowly drift into irrelevance. He further acknowledged that the UN is not broken but instead, is in trouble because many states are increasingly

"walking around" the UN, seeking solutions to major global problems elsewhere. Mr. Rudd fears that this will cause the UN to end up "like the Holy Roman Empire, a simple institutional shell to which we pay tribute not remembering precisely why."

Despite this, Mr. Rudd believes that the UN is capable of re-inventing itself, which is no longer optional but now a matter of urgency.

The United Nation's Record of Achievement and Failures

Mr. Rudd pointed out a number of UN achievements from its role in helping avoid another global war, imposing sanctions, promoting human rights, providing humanitarian support among other successes. He, however, drew more emphasis on China's contribution to UN's peacekeeping operations and political missions, where Beijing's new contributions can be seen in issues ranging from controlling nuclear proliferation in the Korean peninsula via the UN Security Council and the Six Party Talks, and peace keeping operations in Haiti. The Chinese military has additionally

played important roles in anti-piracy escort operations in the Gulf of Aden and in the shipping of chemical weapons out of Syria for destruction. "Most operations of China's military in our neighborhood are helping some countries to deal with natural disasters," he further added. Mr. Rudd also lauded UN's significant contribution to poverty elimination, economic development, and environmental sustainability. Global poverty has been reduced by 50% since 1990, where China played a significant role when its government policies lifted 600 million people from extreme poverty.

Mr. Rudd acknowledged the need to recognize with equal candor the challenges, problems, and failures of the UN system and

the impact these have had on the institution's international standing. He further argued that the UN's cumulative failures threaten the system's credibility to the point where the UN might lose its unique status and be seen as "just another NGO". Some of the failures that Mr. Rudd pointed include its failure to prevent mass atrocities, limited response to global terrorism, repercussions from the invasion of Iraq, lack of involvement in countering the North Korean nuclear threat, and many more cases.

China's Role in Deciding Which Direction the World Will Head

Mr. Rudd reinforced the idea that China has long been central to

the UN and the global order and will only become more central in the coming years. China's change of its diplomatic style from a passive observer to what Mr. Rudd describes as "new multilateralism", has clear implications for the future of the UN. Mr. Rudd further argued that "China will contribute, with other great powers, to actively shape the order, including the rules and mechanisms which govern it." He further explained that China's growing role and importance in world affairs is crucial in deciding which direction the world will head. However, Mr. Rudd addressed that whatever China wishes to see in a reformed global order remains to be seen, since this order will result from its interactions with other great powers, such as the U.S. and

Russia. Mr. Rudd added that the ICM report would act as a "menu of options to reform and revitalize the United Nations which, I hope, may be of some use to member-states."

Organizing Principles for a More Effective UN

Mr. Rudd reported that the ICM report details more than 50 specific recommendations in the domains of peace and security, sustainable development, human rights, humanitarian engagement, as well as budget and resources management. He presented the following basic principles for UN reform: political reaffirmation to the fundamental principles of multilateralism by member states at the summit level through a second San Francisco Conference; reaffirm the role of the UN in building bridges

between the great powers themselves; reaffirm the role of a UN secretary-general to take initiatives under Article 99; adoption, inculcation, and implementation of a comprehensive doctrine of prevention across the UN; establish an effective implementation machinery

a new approach to global youth; development of a UN whose culture is driven by the prioritization of operations; structural integration of the UN's peace and security, sustainable development, human rights and humanitarian agendas; development of a "Team UN" in the field and the capacity of the UN to efficiently, effectively, and flexibly act within the reality imposed by ongoing budgetary constraints.

Concluding Remarks

Mr. Rudd concluded that the way we learn from the system's failures and successes is the key to building a more effective UN, fit for purpose and the challenges of the 21st century. He expressed his hope that "this report can make a modest contribution to global policy deliberations on this great question of our time."

“Mr. Rudd concluded that the way we learn from the system's failures and successes is the key to building a more effective UN, fit for purpose and the challenges of the 21st century.”

for agenda 2030; full integration and employment of women at the core and across the entire UN;



Andrew Abbot on Processual Sociology A Theory of 'On-the-Way'

✉ Huang Fangyuan

Professor Andrew Abbot started with a passage that captures the essence of the processual position in *Dream of the Red Chamber* (Hong

Lou Meng). The Daoist replies to Liu Xiang-lian, "I don't know where this place is any more than you do. Nor do I know who I am. It is a place for resting a little while before going

on elsewhere." This extraordinary remark is the central statement of the entire *Dream of the Red Chamber*. Abbot compared processual sociology to the island of illusion and the

paradise of truth in the classics-- there is nothing constant. Quite the contrary, there is only here (whatever that is) and now (whenever that is) and the momentary versions

The world is composed of nothing more than a string of events, and the reality is like that of a waterfall, wherein stability is nothing more than an accidental outcome of

and constituents of the social world and the way they relate to each other. Moreover, change cannot be an occasional explainable outcome of a fixed, stable system.

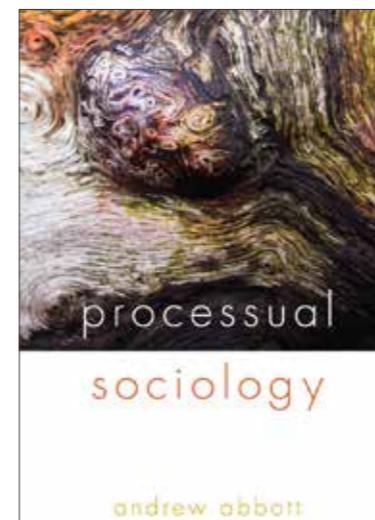
Given this, there are three puzzles to be handled to get to processual sociology, namely horizons, duality, and overlap. The puzzle of horizons which consists of a number of different concentric variables. Duality means continual changes are made up of occupational changes and individual changes where one can't fix either one of the two changes. The only way forward is thus to take as one's unit of analysis

“ To be human is precisely to deepen, to further, and perhaps to improve our illusions. ”

of ourselves that are passing through this here and now.

The point Abbott wanted to draw from *Dream of the Red Chamber* is the momentary version of ourselves.

changes. It is fair to assume that all that exist is the present, there is no past, no karma, only the sequence of the present form, the past to the present when exploring the units



the intersection of the two systems. Individuals and social structures (occupations) are not hierarchically related--they are coplanar. Furthermore, the social process is viewed as orders (social structure, individual, body, structure). What matters about orders is that they are loosely separable, non-hierarchical (that is, coplanar), and independent (that is, irreducible one to another). When it comes to the social structure, the individual, the body and the structure, they constrict or facilitate one another rather than dispose themselves onto different levels.

A different concept is useful in addressing the problem of overlap. That is the concept of tolerances, because most of social life does not have sharp boundaries but gradual changes without a sharp mark. Specifically speaking, tolerance is reflective but not transitive.

For example, in Europe, people speaking one language can understand people speaking another language as long as they live within the span of fifteen miles. So there is no such tightly-defined

boundary between every two groups. Therefore, it is possible for Madridtas and Athenians to understand each other and follow the flowing chains of understandability. Most social relations are formed this way.

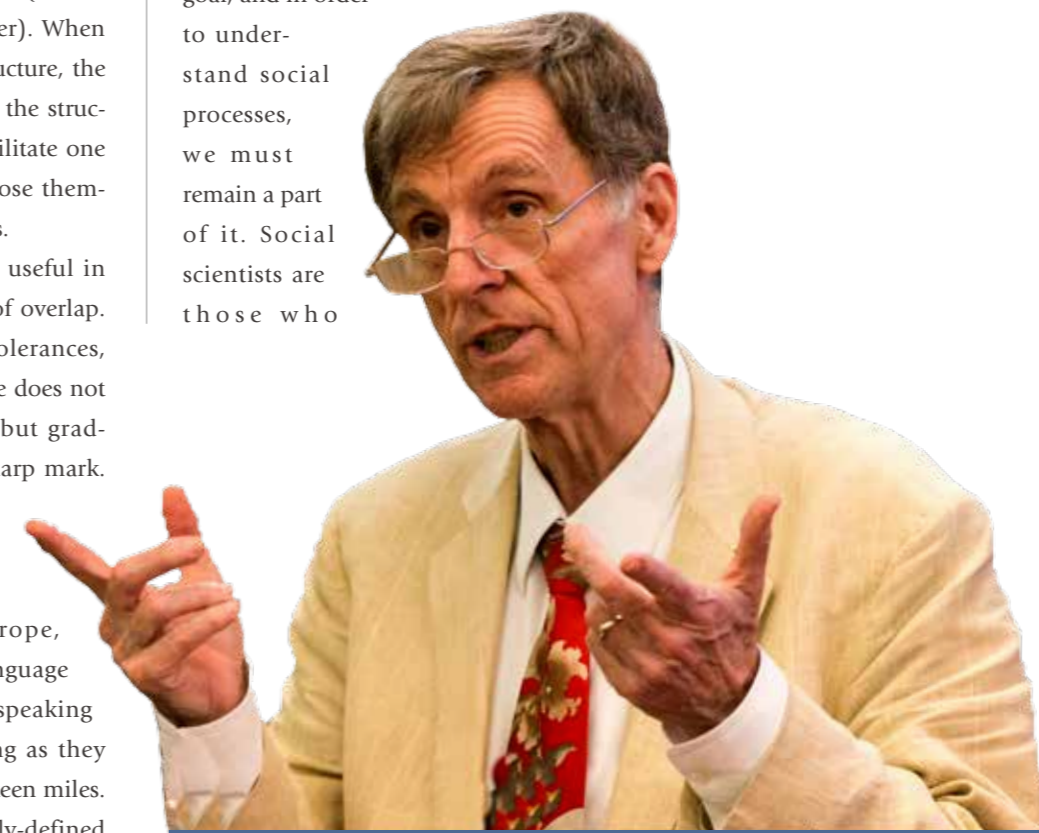
Abbot next got down to the problem of locality and lineage. The meanings of what happens in particular in social space is largely relative to what is happening in its neighborhood, and the meaning of what happens to us today is a function, in large part, of its relation to what happened to us today. All of this is necessary to undertake the main task of "processualism", which is to explain why so much of the social process appears to be stable.

Abbot explains a whole new approach to social sciences: As scientists, understanding is our goal, and in order to understand social processes, we must remain a part of it. Social scientists are those who

watch what we study, who support it, who occasionally challenge it, but who, in the end, live it. To be human is precisely to deepen, to further, and perhaps to improve our illusions. Perhaps that is the ultimate implication of processual theory, with its restless search for the next good illusion. Each of us here this afternoon is indeed only a series of events on the way to somewhere else.

Notes:

Reflective: A equals A
Transitive: A equals B, B equals C, thus A equals C.





Australian National University Vice-Chancellor Speaks About Sino-Australian Education Relations

✉ Harriet Kariuki

On October 12, 2016, Nobel Prize-winning astrophysicist and Australian National University's (ANU) 12th Vice-Chancellor, Professor Brian Schmidt, paid his second visit to Peking University (PKU) over the past year. Professor Schmidt first visited PKU in September 2015 when he gave his first talk on astronomy and astrophysics.

"Today I will reflect on the deep-seated relationship on education that Australia has with China", Professor Schmidt begun his

speech on Australia's education and research partnership with China.

Sino-Australian Relations

Professor Schmidt reiterated the importance of ANU-PKU collaborations to strengthen the already deep Sino-Australian relations. He further mentioned that in 1963 an Australian radio astronomer, Wilbur Norman (Chris) Christiansen, single handedly laid a foundation not only for Australia and China diplomatic relations but also between

the Western world and China. Today, Australia has been involved in several partnerships with China from the Australia-China Council that works to provide policy advice to governments and deliver projects that work towards foreign and trade policy objectives of both countries to the China-Australia Free Trade Agreement (ChAFTA) signed in Nov 2014, which has created significant benefits to businesses in different sectors of economies in both countries. Professor Schmidt acknowledged that "the

Australia-China partnership is economically the biggest partnership Australia has and education plays a vital role within this relationship." He further pointed out that China and Australia are mutual economic benefactors and as China transitions

from an export-driven economy to a consumer-based economy, changes in the bilateral relationship are required to keep up with the transition. "This creates opportunities for China and Australian services and research centers to collaborate and improve prosperity of our people", he further added.

History of Strong and Fruitful ANU-PKU Collaborations

ANU and PKU collaboration in 1980 was the first agreement between PKU and any major Western university. Long-term bilateral programs and continued collaborations between the two institutions have led to stronger ties, evident with the increasing number of Chinese students from none back in 1994 to 3474 students who compose 50% of the international student body in ANU. To add to this data, ANU currently has 50 scholars working on China and more than 100 Chinese scholars working in different ANU departments. In 2015, ANU had over 200 publications with Chinese universities, 20 of which were with

PKU, and a couple of which Professor Schmidt is party to. ANU also has a joint doctoral degree program with PKU, which offers an opportunity to increase collaborative research in earth sciences, astronomy, and further plans to

“ANU has been with PKU from the very beginning and will be with you to the very end.”

expand into the social sciences and humanities.

The China Center for Economic Research (CCER), presently known as the National School of Development (NSD), is as Professor Schmidt put it, "the only active and successful partnership between two foreign universities in the world". NSD was established in 1994 by returning PKU professors and has made innovative contribution to China's scientific research and economic education. Modeled after the ANU's Japan-Australian Research Center, the NSD involved a lot of China-Australian collaboration through regular visits of young Chinese academics like Professor Justin Yifu Lin to ANU. This led to the deepening of trust between the two institutions creating networks that were crucial for the development of the role and reputation of NSD.

Other ANU engagements include the Australia-China Joint Economic Report, a comprehensive collaboration between the ANU East Asian Bureau of Economic Research and the China Center for International Economic Exchanges (CCIEE). Professor Schmidt acknowledged

the "need for bi-national investment in human capital and institutional mechanisms necessary to deepen high level cooperation between Australia and China". He further compared this cooperation with the 1949 Australian-American Fulbright Commission, a bilateral independent institution that promotes bilateral academic and cultural exchange between Australia and United States and manages bilateral exchange programs for postgraduates, senior scholars, researchers, and professors. "I met my wife at Harvard University because of this program," Professor Schmidt emphasized of the need for such bilateral engagements to build important networks and do great and unpredictable things like "a Nobel Prize in astrophysics 20 years later". He argued that unlike this commission, the Australia-China Joint Economic Report is "broader in scope and supports other things like academics, policy, government, community, political, business, or cultural exchanges". It will further create a foundation to consolidate deeper bilateral activities and will be "the key strategy to growing the 200-billion-dollar relationship with China to something far more sophisticated, bigger, better, and more stable for mutual benefit in the future". He further explained that this commission will involve other institutions, such as the Chinese Scholarship Council, the Central Party School, Renmin University of China, Fudan University, Tsinghua University, and the National School of Development

together with other Australian institutes and universities.

ANU Commitments to Understanding China

Professor Schmidt emphasized that “at ANU, we teach Mandarin and also teach Classical Chinese because it has been emphasized to me that you cannot understand China without understanding the whole Chinese culture tracing back a thousand years”. He indicated his commitment to build unique world leading university courses that focus on cutting edge research as well as offering students work opportunities within government councils, businesses, and research institutes. He further argued that there is need to better understand China because

of its growing role in Australia’s future. Professor Schmidt reminded the audience that ANU is home to former Prime Minister Kevin Rudd, the leading China specialist outside of China in the world, and the Australian Center on China in the World (CIW), which is also former Prime Minister Kevin Rudd’s brain child. CIW offers a broad, holistic view, and engages multidisciplinary expertise in areas including Chinese history, thought, culture, media, politics, gender, environment, and foreign policies to better understand the role of China in the world across academic, policy-making, and community audiences both nationally and internationally. The Center is a research body led by humanities working in collaboration with social sciences and also connects the

upcoming generation of Chinese scholars.

Our Partnership is Here to Stay

Professor Schmidt concluded that PKU and ANU should “use this opportunity to step up and use academic relationships to create a much deeper relationship and help solve great problems that the world faces, such as climate change, by working together using all aspects of knowledge to create humanitarian, political, social, and technological solutions that allow us to live on Earth successful”. He also assured the audience that “ANU has been with PKU from the very beginning and will be with you to the very end”.



Mao Wenchao Dare to Think Differently and Try as Fast as You Can

► *Kuang Huolingxiao*

Innovation is the only reason that this world still needs start-ups. Otherwise, no one can compete with those large corporations said the founder and CEO of “The Red Book (RED)”, one of the most popular overseas shopping applications in China. Mao Wenchao, an entrepreneur in his early thirties who graduated from Shanghai Jiaotong University in 2007 and Stanford University in 2011, shared his entrepreneurial

stories in the “No Pain, No Gain:

The Stanford Entrepreneurs and their Stories Forum held by Stanford the Graduate School of Business at the Stanford Center at Peking University on the 20th of October, 2016. Frank Hawke, the China director of the Stanford University Graduate School of Business, and Richard Lim, the managing director of GSR Ventures, attended the event as the forum’s opening guests. After Mao’s speech, Professor Haim

Mendelson of the Stanford Graduate School of Business had an in-depth discussion with Mao about the lessons he had learned from his own story and his advice to young talents who share the same dreams as he does.

Partners, Direction, and Sponsors

Partners, direction, and sponsors are the three factors that can exert



decisive influence on one's journey in starting a business. Among the three, direction, which determines whether you share the same visions with your partner and the possibility to have investment capital, is of greater importance. In efforts to find his direction, Mao did field work in Tianzifang, Shanghai, a popular tourist spot, by asking people about the problems they had during their travel. After studying the answers collected from different groups of interviewees, he discovered that a large proportion of people found it difficult to get information on popular products, such as updated shopping information regarding the newest versions of Shiseido skincare products or the limited edition of Chanel makeup. It then occurred to Mao that perhaps this could be the foundation for his business model. Thus, Red was born.

Try as Fast as You Can

Many of us will find it hard to believe that the first edition of Red was just a PDF version of a Hong Kong shopping guide book. "Maybe this is not the perfect model, but this is your start of realizing your thoughts," Mao said. Right after his survey, Mao went back to the United States and started his small business. It was in October 2013, right before the peak season of shopping in Christmas, when he decided to release his application on Apple App Store. However, he was met with frustration as the App was only downloaded 793 times on the first day. He then called all of his friends to ask what else he could do. A common answer was that they wanted to know the way to buy those products. To discover possible shopping methods. After receiving

their feedback, he immediately flew to Hong Kong and bought a lot of things on his own to experience the shopping process. Afterwards, the content of the application was greatly improved. He also put shopping guides written by a number of friends on his application. To his surprise, in 10 days, people in Korea, the US, and Japan started to download and register on the shopping application. "Wow, we cannot name the app Hong Kong anymore so we changed it into Red," Mao explained.

Mistakes are the only thing in this world that are not worthy of being afraid of since all people make them. What really matters is the speed you choose to try new things out. Once you discover your mistake, you must find the right direction before going forward as fast as possible. Mao shared to the

audience about the mistakes he made, and he regarded those obstacles as the precious treasure of his life. He encouraged young people to try as fast as they can because this is the most effective way to find out what is valuable and what fits for them.

Ask the Right People and Dare to Think Differently

Red didn't enjoy perfectly sound development afterwards, although it gained some popularity in the market. Since the frequency of overseas travelling is low for ordinary tourists, users may delete Red from their cell phone right after their vacation. Once again, Mao did a quick survey aimed at finding out what Red could do to retain its users. What is important here is that all of the interviewees were application users. In a short time, the answer was known: Let consumers buy in a convenient and reasonable way.

"Many claim that it's impossible," Mao said with a gentle smile. "To combine shopping information with e-commerce in a perfect way was a task that no company at that time finished." By establishing its own warehouses in Zhengzhou, Shenzhen, Hong Kong, even in Japan, Korea, and Los Angeles through cooperation with free-trade zones, Red created its own product source. This thus decreased the high shipping costs to a great extent and also gave consumers a guarantee on the quality of the product. Not

only that, in order to enable China's young people to have access to the latest fashion trends, Mao actively negotiated with internationally famous brands to give them the rights to sell. This turned out to be a huge success. People may ask how

As for the advice he gave to young people, he took Red as an example. People often ask for the reason on why Red allows users to post their own content instead of creating content itself to promote profitable products. Mao replied, "This is how

“ Mistakes are the only thing in this world that are not worthy of being afraid of since all people make them. What really matters is the speed you choose to try new things out. Once you discover your mistake, you must find the right direction before going forward as fast as possible. ”

those brilliant ideas came about, but Mao's answer is simple, "by asking the right people and making the impossible possible."

In the final part of his speech, Mao emphasized that this is an era of innovation, especially for young entrepreneurs who want to change this world in their own way. To find a direction that the world needs to move forward is always an essential step in starting any kind of business. To have someone with you, not only your partners who always come up with brilliant ideas but also your end users who can guide you to adjust your plan for the future. To have a sponsor who truly understands and agrees with your plan is a long-term financial need that you will need in your business. These three things are a must. Without any one of them, the other two will collapse in a short period of time.

we think differently." Thinking from the customer's perspective allows him to understand what his users need. This way, a healthy and long-term relationship is established between Red and its consumers. However, only a few people dare to think about this perspective. This profit-oriented society worries people, and they don't want to think too differently in fear of failing. He pointed out that successful entrepreneurs, especially in the information technology industry, enjoy the same innovative spirit. This spirit serves as an inspiration for us to improve our products and come up with more brilliant ideas. "So don't hesitate. Dare to think differently and try things out as fast as you can are the two most important things that I want to share with every young man or woman who is on their way to creating a start-up."





PKU Researchers Made Progress in Emoji Use on Mobile Services

✎ Fu Fenju

Recently, the research group led by Professor Huang Gang and Associate Professor Liu Xuanzhe from the School of Electronics Engineering and Computer Science (EECS) of Peking University, the Key Laboratory of High Confidence Software Technologies (PKU), and the Ministry of Education, made significant progress in the research of emoji service under mobile internet environment.

Cooperating with the research group led by Associate Professor Mei Qiaozhu from the University of Michigan Electrical Engineering and Computer Science and Kika Tech, as well as utilizing the huge database of the behavior of emoji use covering 212 countries including 388,000,000 mobile internet users, the group innovatively incorporated correlation theories of computer software methodology, social and behav-

ioral sciences into the research. To conduct such an extensive study on popular user preferences regarding emojis includes factors such as cultural backgrounds of different countries and regions. The value of this research is that it extends to behavioral analysis of mobile internet users, context awareness and sharing, new human-computer interface design of mobile computing system. At the same time, it additionally provides a feasible

guide for customized mobile internet services, optimizing user experiences, as well as providing new ideas and methods for future artificial intelligence interaction development. The thesis of research achievements was published in ACM International Joint Conference on Pervasive and Ubiquitous Computing, UbiComp2016 titled "Learning from the ubiquitous language: an empirical analysis of emoji usage of smartphone users". It

is the largest-scaled research which studies the behavior of using emoji for the mean time.

UbiComp is a flagship in universal computing area and the top one percent conference in human-computer interaction universal calculation field included in Chinese Computer Society Recommendations of International Academic Conferences and



Journals Directory.

This research is sponsored by the National Natural Science Foundation of China and the 863 program (State High-Tech Development Plan).

Tiny Mirror Improves Microscope Resolution for Studying Cells

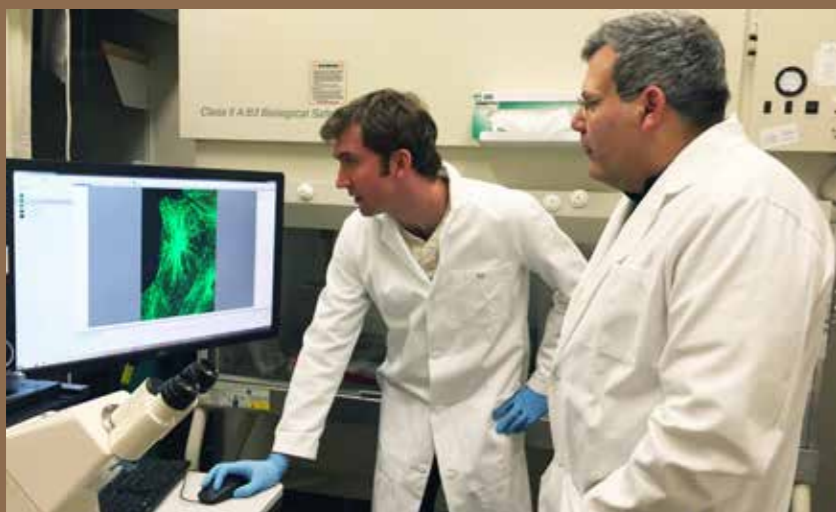
✎ Zixi Lin

axial excitation confinement beyond the diffraction limit is crucial to the development of next-generation, super-resolution microscopy. Recently, Professor Peng Xi's team from College of Engineering, Peking University and their collaborators Philip J. Santangelo from the Georgia Institute of Technology, and Dayong Jin from the University of Technology Sydney (UTS) found that the axial thickness of the point spread function (PSF) during confocal excitation can be easily improved to 110nm by replacing the microscopy slide with a mirror. The technique, called mirror-enhanced axial-narrowing super-resolution (MEANS), is reported in the nature journal *Light: Science & Applications* on

June 17, 2016.

The confinement of excitation light is the key for optical microscopy to resolve sub-cellular fine structures against their neighboring background. Optical interference has been used to enhance the axial resolution by generating different types of excitation modulation in wide-field fluorescence microscopy. Xi's team found that when a mirror is placed behind the specimen, the interference between the excitation point spread function (PSF) and its reflection creates, at a single plane within the cell, an axially narrowed PSF away from the mirror surface, ~ 110nm in dimension and significantly improved resolution in the Z-axis -- what scientists see as they look directly into a cell perpen-

dicular to the slide. Therefore, working in the far-field regime, this mirror-enhanced axial-narrowing super-resolution (MEANS) technique enables a more than six-fold higher axial resolution than the optical diffraction limit (to 110 nm) and lateral resolution two-fold for Stimulated Emission Depletion (STED) nanoscopy (to 19 nm). Axial sectioning can be obtained with wavelength modulation or by controlling the space between the mirror and the specimen. With the axial sectioning capability and two-fold improvement of the MEANS-STED super-resolution, the inner ring structure of the nuclear pore complex, as well as the tubular structure of a viral filamentous virion, have been revealed success-



fully with optical microscopy for the first time. Because biological specimens and the fluorescent dye can be photodamaged by high laser power, MEANS-STED has improved indeed both the lateral and the axial resolution without increasing the laser power in a very remarkable way.

Being able to see these tiny structures may provide new information about the behavior of cells, how they communicate and how diseases arise in them, said Peng Xi. "Previously, the vision of biologists was blurred by the

large axial and lateral resolution. This was like reading newspapers printed on transparent plastic; many layers were overlapped. By placing a mirror beneath the specimen, we can generate a narrowed focal spot so there is only one layer of the newspaper to read so that every word becomes crystal clear."

The new system, he noted, allows scientists to see the ring structure of the nuclear pore complex for the first time, and the tubular structure of the human respiratory syncytial virus

(hRSV). "With this simple, but powerful weapon, biologists can tackle many interesting phenomena that were invisible in the past because of poor resolution," Xi added.

The team says that MEANS is compatible with various confocal microscopy schemes including two-photon imaging, spinning disk microscopy and laser scanning. It is believed that the technique could find broad applications for scientists using fluorescence microscopy to examine cells and subcellular structures. Further research could lead to improvements such as the ability to make the mirror's surface movable, allowing more control over how the cells can be imaged.

The time differences between Australia, China and the United States provided a challenge for the team's collaboration, but the researchers say the work was very worthwhile for it is a great example of what collaborative, international and multi-disciplinary research can achieve.

and Hebei. This provides a reliable guidance for policies on air quality management.

The rapid development of the energy, transportation, and industry sectors have caused severe air pollution in China, which has also led to public health problems such as a increasingly high incidences of lung cancer.

Combating pollution in the Beijing, Tianjin, and Hebei (BTH) region is a top priority of our country and is also a great challenge due to its severity. Beijing is the capital of China, adjacent to Tianjin, while Hebei is the province surrounding the two megacities. The BTH region occupies only 2.3% of the total national land area; however, in 2010, it had 8%, 11%, and 12% of the national population, gross domestic product, and energy consumption, respectively. Many believe that the pollution of the BTH region is connected with its special geographical location and the consumption of fuel, therefore prioritized restrictions was imposed on major pollution sources such as vehicles and power plants. However, the source of solid fuels in household devices from residential sectors remains unrecognized, thus its control is relatively weak.

In order to evaluate the share of residential emissions to regional air pollution, the team has designed three scenarios for studying, which falls in the BTH region. BASE is

the baseline scenario, in which the Multi-resolution Emission Inventory of China was used by a WRF-Chem simulation in January and February

2010. In the Beijing (BJR) scenario and the Beijing, Tianjin, and Hebei regional scenario (BTHR), residential emissions were excluded respectively.

The goal was to estimate the total contribution of the residential sector to regional outdoor air pollution by analyzing the differences between the data of the WRF-Chem BASE scenario and the BJR/BTHR scenarios.

The study showed that eliminating residential emissions in January to February 2010 in Beijing alone resulted a decrease of $14 \pm 7 \mu\text{g}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}$ ($22 \pm 6\%$) in the PM_{2.5} concentration in Beijing, whereas removing residential emissions in the whole of the BTH region brought a decrease in the PM_{2.5} concentrations of $28 \pm 19 \mu\text{g}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}$ ($40 \pm 9\%$), $44 \pm 27 \mu\text{g}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}$ ($43 \pm 10\%$), and $25 \pm 14 \mu\text{g}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}$ ($35 \pm 8\%$) in the three provinces in Beijing, Tianjin, and Hebei, respectively. This has proved that

residential emissions do serve as a major and under-appreciated ambient pollution source which needs to be addressed more efficiently. In addition, it was found that rather than controlling residential emissions solely in Beijing, controlling residential emissions in the whole BTH region resulted in twice as much a reduction in PM_{2.5} concentrations, illustrating the significance of an inter-regional vision in future air quality management.

Their study was also supported by the National Natural Science Foundation Committee of China and the European Seventh Framework Program Project PURGE (Public Health Impacts in Urban Environments of Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reductions Strategies).

Professor Tong Zhu from State Key Joint Laboratory of Environmental Simulation and Pollution Control is the corresponding author of the article. Denise L. Mauzerall from Princeton University and Kirk R. Smith from University of California, Berkeley are the joint-corresponding authors. Dr. Jun Liu, student of Professor Zhu, is the first author of the article.

PKU Team's Research Shows Significance of Residential Emissions as Pollution Source

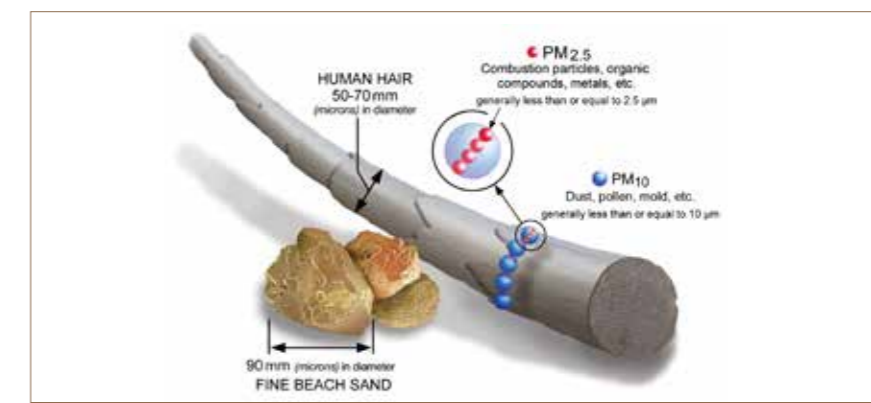
✉ Huang Yongheng

A team led by Professor Zhu Tong from the College of Environmental Sciences and Engineering has published an article titled "Air pollutant emissions from Chinese households: A major and underappreciated ambient pollution source"

in the journal Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America on July 12, 2016.

Using the Weather Research and Forecasting model coupled with Chemistry (WRF-Chem), the team found out that residential emissions,

though often underestimated, is a great contributory factor to the highly polluted Eastern-China region, especially during winter. The article also pointed out that Beijing would witness dramatic improvement of air quality if they put more emphasis on regional pollution control in Tianjin



Statistical Analysis of Air Pollution in Five Major Cities in China

✉ Ghulam Mustafa

On September 13, 2016, five Chinese researchers published in the Atmosphere section of the *Journal of Geophysical Research* a statistical analysis of the air pollution in Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou, Chengdu, and Shenyang. The article, entitled “PM2.5 data reliability, consistency, and air quality assessment in five Chinese cities” was written by Xuan Liang, Shuo Li, Shuyi Zhang, Hui Huang, and Song Xi Chen. Of the five authors, Xuan Liang, Shuyi Zhang, Hui Huang, and Song Xi Chen are from Peking University.

As China joined the World Trade Organization in 2001, its energy

consumption, meaning electricity, coal, and other energy sources, increased sharply. Official statistics state a total increase in the energy consumption from 1555 million tons in 2001 to 4260 million tons in 2014. Due to the air pollution, there has been a tremendous increase in the amount of severe and chronic air pollution in the near earth atmosphere over a substantial part of China.

The study says that one of the main constituents of air pollution is fine particulate matter (PM2.5). PM2.5 consists of airborne particles with aerodynamic diameters less than 2.5µm. They are known to adversely affect human health

and potentially have lasting negative effects on agriculture, climate, ecosystem, and many aspects of society.

In order to perform the statistical analyses of the presence of this hazardous particle PM2.5, researchers studied the hourly level of PM2.5 given by US embassies and consulates and the Chinese Ministry of Environmental Protection in Beijing, Guangzhou, Shanghai, Chengdu, and Shenyang.

As PM2.5 concentrations are strongly influenced by meteorological conditions, a statistical approach has been chosen to produce weather-adjusted monthly averages and percentiles of PM2.5 concentrations for each site. The average, median, and 90th percentile calculated enabled to quantify the characteristics of the PM2.5 detailed distributions in the five cities.

The study concludes that there is a sharp decline in the PM2.5 concentrations in these five cities and the most significant decline happened in 2015 but the present percentage of PM2.5 is still far above the World Health Organization (WHO) tolerance levels. The average level found is around 60µg/m³ while the tolerance threshold is around 10µg/m³ according to the WHO.

Seminal Analysis of the 1989 Revolution in East Germany by PKU Professor Dr. Stephan Jaggi

✉ Zhang Yixuan

Professor Dr. Stephan Jaggi is currently teaching and researching at the Peking University School of Transnational Law. In his new book, *The 1989 Revolution in East Germany and its Impact on Unified Germany's Constitutional Law – The Forgotten Revolution?* (Hart and Nomos 2016), he provided a “path-breaking” and “seminal analysis” of East Germany’s 1989 revolution, questioning the previous mainstream opinion of an all-out takeover of East Germany, acclaiming the significance of citizen movement in East Germany which pushed the integration of their own constitutional agenda in the Basic Law (Grundgesetz; hereinafter GG) after reunification.

In all the academic research accomplished prior, the focus has always been on the dominant role played by West Germany in the jurisprudence system. It seems like after the reunification, West Germany has a leading role in pushing forward new political agenda. It apparently neglected the huge influence exerted by the citizen movement and public appeal from East Germany in the integration process.

Dr. Jaggi pinpointed this limitation: “My thesis is that German



unification was much more than an unconditional adoption of the GG [Basic Law]. It was a process during which the East Germans applied legal instruments in order to preserve at least some of their revolutionary constitutional achievements by transferring them to unified Germany. Such legal instruments were the Unification Treaty and the constitutions of the new states. They included revolutionary constitutional principles that were not in, and sometimes even contradicted the GG and transferred them to unified Germany’s constitutional order.”

In his book, Professor Jaggi takes the position that it is wrong to reduce the meaning of the 1989 revolution in East Germany to

bringing about German unification and an unconditional adoption of West German constitutional law by the East German states. He argues that the revolution had its own constitutional agenda, parts of which were transferred to unified Germany and integrated, mostly by the Federal Constitutional Court, into the West German constitutional order. Professor Jaggi’s analysis demonstrates that unified Germany’s constitutional law is, at least partly, a co-production of East German revolutionaries and the old Federal Republic, thereby offering a groundbreaking new perspective to this field of legal and historical scholarship.

According to Hart Publishing, “The book promotes a completely

new understanding of constitutional lawmaking in Germany. A thorough analysis of the 1989 revolution in the GDR demonstrates that it is wrong to reduce the revolution's meaning to bringing about German unification and an unconditional adoption of West German constitutional law by the new states. Instead, the author shows that the revolution had its own constitutional agenda, at least parts of which were transferred to unified Germany. And it is in the new Germany where the Federal Constitutional Court integrated most of the laws into the West German constitutional order. Case analyses reveal that unified Germany's constitutional law is a co-production between East German revolutionaries and the old Federal Republic."

Richard Albert from the Boston College Law School acclaimed its significance for further legal studies with the reference of 1989 revolution in his review. "Jaggi concludes his book by answering the question he poses in the title of the book. Is the 1989 revolution a forgotten revolution? The meaning of the 1989 revolution

is not lost, Jaggi writes, because its principles are alive in the jurisprudence of the Federal Constitutional Court. But he cautions that two fundamental challenges stand in the way of remembering the 1989 revolution in an efficient



way: the present conservative effort to undermine the revolutionary achievements of 1989 and the difficulty of establishing a culture of "public freedom" in ordinary politics. Jaggi's book ensures that those who seek to preserve the memory of the 1989 revolution will always have a compelling account of its unfolding and its impact."

Stephan Jaggi is a constitutional law expert focusing on German, U.S., and comparative constitutional law and constitutional theory. Most recently, he worked as Judge at the Court of Appeals of the State of Schleswig-Holstein in Germany. He joined Peking University School of Transnational Law in 2013.

Job Training, Skills Enhancement, and Rural-Urban Migration in China

▣ Jonathan Ly

Over the last four decades, rural migrants coming to urban areas constituted one of the major drivers of the labor market. Nevertheless, as China is increasingly integrated into the world economy and as former rural areas are progressively urbanizing, return migration has been observed recently, and it seems to negatively affect urbanization. But, according to a thesis and analysis written by HSBC Business School

students Qing Wang, Ting Ren, and an independent collaborator Ti Liu, the data on rural urban migration in China suggests that migrants are most likely to choose permanent residence when they have the opportunity to receive corporate training and upgrade their skills.

Since the economic reforms Deng Xiaoping undertook in the late 1970s, rural-to-urban migration was one of the key drivers of the double-digit growth of China from the

1980s to the pre-2008 era. Indeed, small and medium state-owned enterprises (SOE) were privatized and companies could hire and fire people with more free will than when the State was in charge of all labor contracts. This privatization of SOEs coupled with a relaxation of the household registration ("hukou" system) enabled migrants to move from remote rural areas to urban areas in the early 1990s when China was on the verge of its integration in

a multipolar world economy.

This rural-to-urban migration was not only vital and necessary to the economic growth of China, but it was also a way for millions of low-paid (sometimes unemployed) redundant agricultural workers in rural areas to find jobs in urban cities. The dual economic and political reforms therefore generated an efficient redistribution of the human resources according to the specific quantitative labor needs of each geographic area. In the 2010 census in China, 210 million people were 'inter-migrants' or 'intra-migrants'.

Another interesting fact is the socio-economic gap between migrants and urban residents. Migrants tended to be younger, less educated, more likely to be self-employed or working in the private sector and more often as sales or production workers. Urban residents tended to work in SOEs and more as professional employees and clerks. According to the analysis by Qing Wang, Ting Ren, and Ti Liu, over the last decades before 2010, the wages of the migrants increased by 10% every year but remained still lower than the wages of the urban residents.

Nevertheless, despite these generous economic conditions, migrant workers would eventually return to their hometowns. Males

before 30 and females between 25 and 35 would return for work in their hometowns, family issues, or marriage. Moreover, inadequate access to social insurance, education for children, and housing ownership because of the 'hukou' system made it difficult for migrants to stay for the long term. Also, as migrants aged, their settlement willingness correlatively decreases.

But, for the migrants who gained work experience, those who had less connections with hometowns over the years and those who acquired a strong urban human capital, the settlement willingness increased significantly according to their statistics. In their analysis, the authors showed that somehow in Europe, corporate trainings added a strong value to their employees whereas it was very moderate in the US. In China, migrants with strong on-the-

job trainings in cities tend to have stronger preferences to settle even if they could find job opportunities or launch entrepreneurial projects back in their hometown.

Finally, one other interesting aspect of the thesis is that China achieved advance urbanization efficiently in two ways. First, by providing more skills to rural migrants in urban cities, migrants were able to more easily integrate into cities and contribute to urban prosperity. Second, for migrants who returned to their hometowns in the medium term, as these acquired skills in the firms, they tended to balance the education gap between rural and urban areas (geographic differences, mastering of Mandarin versus local dialects) and rebalance the current mismatch between labor supply and demand for post-high school jobs in rural areas.



BHP Billiton-Peking University Donation Agreement Signed

✎ *Xin Yuan*

On June 6, 2016, BHP Billiton signed a donation agreement with Peking University (PKU), which ensured that BHP Billiton would donate 7.37million US dollars to PKU in the coming three years to support PKU for implementing a Carbon Capture, Utilization and Storage (CCUS) Project. Andrew Stewart

Mackenzie, Chief Executive Officer of BHP Billiton; Jam Adams, the Australian Ambassador to China; Lin Jianhua, President of PKU, and others attended the signing ceremony. Li Yansong, Vice President of PKU, officiated the ceremony.

BHP Billiton is an Anglo-Australian multinational mining, metals and petroleum company headquarter-

ed in Melbourne, Australia. It is the world's largest mining company measured by 2015 market values. And it has been aiming to contribute to economic development by maximizing

the social and economic benefits and minimizing the environmental footprint through innovation, productivity and technology.

The CCUS Project is one of the methods that can promote the development of low-carbon-emission technology, and thus help Chinese corporations cut emission of greenhouse gases. The signing of the donation agreement would hopefully lay a solid foundation for the development of CCUS technology in China, which will lead Chinese iron and steel industry towards a more eco-friendly direction and contribute to slowing down of the climate change process in the future.



PKU Chinese Art Global Communication Yang Quanhai Fund Establishment Ceremony

✎ *Mina Sohn*

On September 19, 2016, a ceremony for the PKU Chinese Art Global Communication Yang Quanhai Fund Establishment was held at the Yingjie Overseas Exchange Center. To promote the development, especially the global



communication of Chinese art, Dr. Yang Quanhai, Chairman of Beijing Yihai International Cultural Communication Center, generously donated to support School of Arts of PKU for promoting global communication theory research of Chinese art and cultivating talents, and it was awarded as the PKU Education Contribution Award.

Chen Xuguang, Vice Dean of the School of Arts of PKU, introduced about the history of art education at PKU and the development of the School of Arts. Then, Dr. Yang Quanhai expressed that he was very glad to have a chance to establish a special-purpose fund in PKU. He wished that the fund could motivate more people to devote themselves

to the development of Chinese art, discover more amazing works, and to show Chinese unique charms to the world. At last, Hu Jun, Vice Secretary-General of PKUEF (Peking University Education Foundation), remarked that it would help PKU to cultivate more talents and promote the communication between China and abroad.

Zhang Shiyong Aesthetic Philosophy Scholarship Established at PKU

✎ *Mina Sohn*

On the morning of September 2, 2016, the Zhang Shiyong Aesthetic Philosophy Scholarship Establishment Ceremony was held at the Li Zhaoji Academy of Humanities, PKU. The scholarship was donated by China Sea Holding Group Company. Lu Zhiqiang, member of CPPCC National Committee, Vice-Chairman of China Chambers and Associations, Chairman of China Sea Holding Group Company; Zhu Shanlu, PKU Chairman of the University Coun-

cil, and other guests attended the ceremony for the establishment. The company established the fund to develop the academic spirit of Zhang Shiyong, Professor of the Department of Philosophy and to award the famous scholars who made outstanding academic contributions and young scholars who had pioneering research in the field of philosophy, aesthetics, and art.

Chairman Zhu represented Peking University to express his gratitude, and Chairman Lu hoped that the fund could carry forward



the personality and academic style of Professor Zhang. The 95-year-old Zhang Shiyong expected that the fund put the academic criteria at the first place for evaluation so that it could play an important role in the cultural development of our times.

How to Give

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Ming He Garden

Ming He Garden, also known as the Singing Crane Garden, is located on the north side inside the west gate of Peking University. Along with Jing Chun Garden, it was once a part of the Shu Chun Garden. In the Qianlong Dynasty, the Shu Chun Garden became a part of Yuan Ming Yuan. In the Jiaqing years of the Qing Dynasty, the Shu Chun Yuan was divided into the Ming He Garden and the Jing Chun Garden.

Built by the Manchu prince Mianyu in the mid-nineteenth century, the Ming He Garden was intended to serve as a refuge from the clutter of daily life near the Forbidden City. In 1860, during the Anglo-French war in China, the garden was destroyed. Peaceful Western involvement began in 1986, when ground was broken for the Arthur Sackler Museum of Art and Archaeology. Completed in 1993, the museum and the Jillian Sackler Sculpture Garden stand on the same grounds today.

Photo: Wang Wenquan

