A Presentation of the Exeter 2020 HEYTA Summit

WHO WE ARE

Since its establishment in 2016, the China-UK Association for the Humanities in Higher Education has held conferences among scholars for three years, already making a tremendous social impact. The University of Exeter is one of a small number of founding members, all of which are international leaders in humanities research. In order to expand academic discussion and cooperation in the student community, the China-UK Higher Education Young Talent Alliance (HEYTA) was launched in 2018 as part of the Association's plan for student communication and collaboration, complementing the Association's current structure. The Young Talent Alliance is operated by a Working Committee formed of students from universities affiliated with the China-UK Association, including Tsinghua University and the University of Exeter.

OUR AIMS

● To promote and attract more students to participate in global conversations surrounding the humanities

● To explore new and continuous ways for students to engage in humanities-related conversations in China and the UK

● To offer students a cross-cultural platform where they can exchange ideas, broaden their cultural understanding and cultivate their global competence.

中英高等教育人文联盟青年学生论坛
China-UK Higher Education Young Talent Alliance

BEIJING 2019

On 18th-20th April 2019, the first China-UK Higher Education Young Talent Alliance Summit was successfully held at Tsinghua University, Beijing, and hosted by the Secretariat of the China-UK Association for the Humanities in Higher Education. The theme of the HEYTA Beijing Summit was "Exploring Beauty in Humanities and Innovation, Bridging the Communication between China and the UK".

During the few days in Beijing, delegates engaged in a range of visits, lectures and workshops which explored the protection and development of the humanities. This included communicating with an expert in Chinese cultural relics, investigating creative cultural products in the Forbidden City, and visiting a converted ordnance factory, now a contemporary art district, to see how sustainable development in art can be achieved. Throughout the week, participants carried out relevant academic research to prepare for presentations at the closing ceremony where they provided suggestions for the continued development and inheritance of the humanities.

EXETER 2020

This year, Tsinghua passed the baton on to the University of Exeter, who are pleased to be the host university of the 2020 HEYTA Summit. The delegates will consist of students from several member universities of the China-UK Association for the Humanities in Higher Education; 15 from China and 15 from the UK. Delegates will be assigned a research group for each topic, based on their interests and areas of expertise, and will work together throughout the week to produce an academic report addressing their chosen theme.

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China-UK University HEYTA 2020 Events
Schedule (February 10th–15th 2020)

	TIME	INVITED GUESTS	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
	Evening of 10th Feb		Student representatives arrive in Exeter and check-in	Accomodation in town
DAY 1 (11TH)	Morning	Vice Chancellor Steve Smith Dr Phil Wickham Prof Sally Faulkner Prof Adam Watt	Opening ceremony for the 2nd HEYTA summit in Exeter Discuss pre-research project and proposal in groups	Digital Humanities Lab (opening ceremony)
	Afternoon	Prof Sonia Cunico	Lunch – Reed Hall University of Exeter Campus tour Workshop with Prof Sonia Cunico on International Communication (2 hrs) Trip to city centre and Exeter Cathedral tour/talk	Reed Hall Queens Building Exeter city centre Exeter Cathedral
	Evening		Dinner and ice-breaking activities	Firehouse Restaurant
DAY 2 (12TH)	Morning		Digital humanities lab tour	Digital Humanities Lab
	Afternoon	Dr Beverley Loke	International Relations talk – Dr Beverley Loke Trip to the Royal Albert Memorial Museum	International Relations talk – Dr Beverley Loke Trip to the Royal Albert Memorial Museum
	Evening		Visit to Exmouth	Exmouth

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DAY 3 (13TH)	Morning	Dr Phil Wickham Dr Zhiguang Yin	Bill Douglas Cinema Museum and talk with Dr Phil Wickham Modern Languages (Chinese department) event – Dr Zhiguang Yin	Bill Douglas Cinema Museum Queens Building
	Afternoon		Film screening – Studio 47	Studio 47
	Evening		Group discussion / preparation for presentations	
DAY 4 (14TH)	Morning		Presentations & closing ceremony Students go home (Chinese delegates leave for London)	Digital Humanities Lab

THEMES

Following on from the thought provoking themes of the HEYTA summit in Beijing, the themes for the summit held in Exeter will include International Communication, International Relations and Digital Humanities.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS - This theme will focus on the role that information and misinformation have played on the development of the modern world, in particular the role of 'communication technologies' and the media. Students will discuss whether the rise of information technology has helped to make global interaction freer and fairer and what the role of transnational companies and governments are in the making of today's world order.

DIGITAL HUMANITIES - New technology now allows scientists, historians and other researchers to analyse manuscripts and fragments of art and archeology at high-resolution all around the world. This theme ecompasses the application of modern computational tools which enable scholars to research at a scale that was once impossible. Gender bias, content similarity and other aspects of source analysis are all greatly advanced by access to over millions of documents which are handled and understood in a virtual space, protecting the original artefacts for future generations.

INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION - Globalisation has led to increased exposure to cultures from around the globe and therefore and increased need for correct cultural understanding between parties. This theme will explore the role of language and identity in intercultural communication, and the barriers to effective verbal and non-verbal communication with people from other cultures. Many misunderstandings come as a result of the different values cultures have regarding relationships, time, hospitality, among others. Understanding and sensitivity are needed for diplomats and businesspeople to successfully navigate their way around cultural differences if greater partnerships are to be formed in the future.

These three themes are not only extremely relevant to the humanities in China and the UK, but will be of benefit to participating humanities students as they aim to advance their understanding within and around their academic disciplines. As demonstrated in the timeline above, we will engage in a variety of activities which will bring about opportunities for students from both the UK and China to converse and continue working towards the goal of sustaining a long-term platform for cross-cultural communication surrounding the humanities. Furthermore, they will provide an opportunity for students to exchange thoughts with visitors from the some of the best universities in the world. The closing ceremony of the summit will include the chance for delegates to present their proposals to fellow students, bringing all ideas and discussions together – a way to lead on to other forums in the future.

After the 2019 Beijing summit, many delegates expressed that international student forums, such as the HEYTA Summit, are crucial to fostering strong ties and strengthening cross-cultural communication between students. Summits such as this are increasingly important as China continues to develop and take its place on the world stage, and as the UK steps into new international partnerships. The success of such events reminds us of the importance of communication among university students, who may become future global leaders in our respective countries. The China-UK Higher Education Young Talent Alliance is a platform for student communication between both countries, enabling students to become leaders who will embrace future global challenges in an open, tolerant, and cooperative manner.