

Beijing Normal University



Newsletter

Spring 2021 / Issue 6



Organized by:

Office of International Exchange & Cooperation, Beijing Normal University

Co-organized by:

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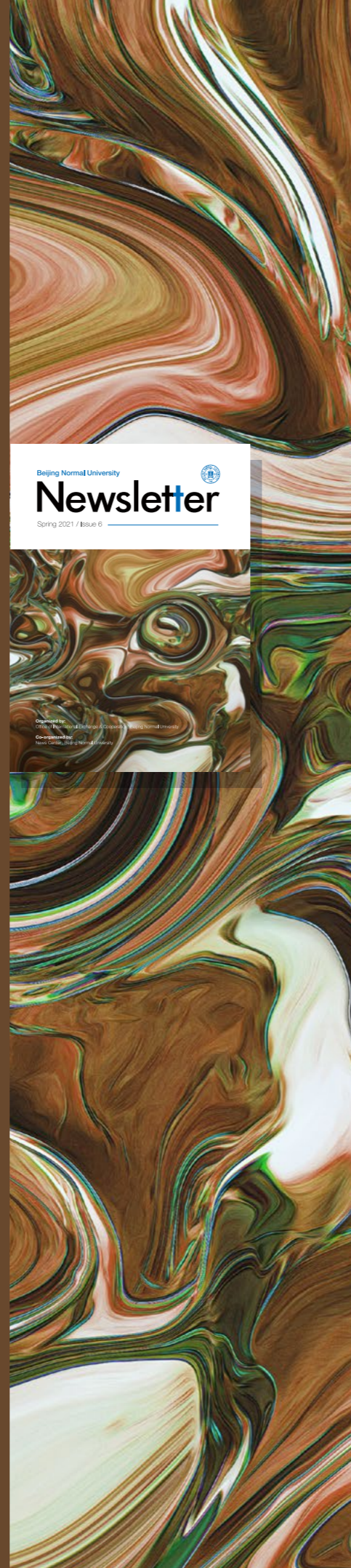
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International Forum on AI and the Futures of Education 2020 Held in BNU

Article source: Office of International Exchange and Cooperation | Release date: 2020-12-11

From December 7th to 8th, 2020, International Forum on AI and the Futures of Education, sponsored by UNESCO, Ministry of Education of the PRC and China National Commission for UNESCO, and organized by Beijing Normal University, the International Bureau of Education of UNESCO and the UNESCO Institute for Information Technologies in Education, was held in our university. With the theme of "Developing Competencies for the AI Era", the forum discussed

the core qualities that human beings need to possess in the AI era, and studied the future education development strategy and education methods. The meeting was held in the form of combination of online and offline. Chen Baosheng, Minister of Education, attended the opening ceremony and delivered a speech. Agapito Mba Mokuy, chairperson of the Executive Board of UNESCO, as well as Stefania Giannini, Assistant Director-General for Education of UNESCO, delivered online speeches. Heads of Education administrative

departments and experts from more than 40 countries, including Slovenian and the UAE ministers of education, attended the meeting online. Tian Xuejun, Vice Minister of Education and Director of China National Commission for UNESCO, presided over the opening ceremony. Zheng Fuzhi, Vice Minister of Education, Zhu Yongxin, Vice Chairman of the Central Committee of the China Association for Promoting Democracy, Dong Qi, President of Beijing Normal University,

and others attended the offline opening ceremony.

In his speech at the opening ceremony, Chen Baosheng, Minister of Education, introduced China's practice, exploration and prospects in fully implementing the 2030 Agenda for Education and accelerating the modernization of education. He pointed out that new technologies such as artificial intelligence have shown great potential for changing education to mankind. Countries should speed up the development of higher quality education, make it more equitable and inclusive, more suitable for everyone, and more open and flexible. He said that China is willing to continue to hold the International Forum on AI and the Futures of Education, join hands with all parties to strengthen policy dialogue, promote mutual learning, share high-quality resources, implement the *Beijing Consensus* adopted by the Forum in 2019, and work together to achieve the goal of education in 2030.

in the AI era under the background of future education. He believes that to meet the requirements of talent training in the AI era, we must start to build the corresponding curriculum and textbook system, promote teaching reform, and effectively change the school talent training mode.



Tian Xuejun, Vice Minister of Education, pointed out in his speech at the closing ceremony that it is a common and urgent task for mankind to accurately recognize changes, scientifically respond to changes, grasp opportunities, and promote active reform in education. We will give full play to the leading and coordinating role of UNESCO in the field of intelligent education, discuss cooperation mechanisms, build exchange platforms, share high-quality resources, jointly promote the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Education, and build an education community in the AI era.

In his speech at the closing ceremony, President Dong Qi said that in recent years, BNU has made full use of its disciplinary advantages to actively cultivate discipline groups oriented to scientific and technological innovation and future development, such as big data, artificial intelligence and intelligent education, vigorously

carry out collaborative innovation across disciplines, industries and fields, and serve the major strategic needs of the country and the future development of education. BNU is willing to carry out extensive and in-depth cooperative research with experts and scholars from all over the world with, hoping that through the joint efforts of global educators, problem solving can be promoted, the two-way empowerment of education and science and technology can be realized, and the deep integration development of artificial intelligence and education can be accelerated.



The forum lasted for two days, including opening and closing ceremonies, a plenary meeting, a special meeting, two high-level dialogues and three parallel meetings. The theme of the plenary session is "Defining and cultivating people's core literacy of in the AI era in the context of future education". The special session is the China consultation meeting of UNESCO's flagship action plan, "Futures of Education". The themes of the parallel sessions are "Curriculum and Teaching material construction in the AI era", "Ethical and practical AI teaching application" and "Supporting African education to meet the AI era".



In the high-level dialogue, Zheng Fuzhi, Vice Minister of Education, combined with the practical experience of China's basic education reform and development, made a keynote report on how to define and cultivate people's core literacy



Beijing Normal University Held the 11th "Song of Togetherness – Beijing International Students' Night" Online

Article source: Office of International Exchange and Cooperation | Release date: 2021-02-22

On February 10th, 2021, the 11th "Song of Togetherness – Beijing International Students' Night" themed "Global Online Reunion" was successfully held online. The International Students' Night was broadcast online on Beijing Normal University's Weibo, Douyin, Kuaishou, Baidu accounts, and other platforms. More than 50 international students and Chinese students from more than 20 countries and regions participated in the performance; more than 87,000 people watched the event online. At the grand gathering, BNU international students extended their wishes for the arriving New Year and the Spring Festival.

This year marks the 11th year of this flagship event -- Beijing International Students' Night. This year animation hosting, live broadcasting on various platforms, and diverse program styles were used to bring teachers and students a new form, new look, and unique theme. This gala event was divided into three chapters: Weather The Storm Together, Letters from The World, and Spring Is Not Far Away. The theme, "Global Online Reunion", shows the sincere friendship between Beijing Normal University and



international students in the global fight against the epidemic, displayed the life and learning status despite affected by the pandemic, and conveyed the deep understanding between Beijing Normal University and students from various countries. In particular, "Little Crow", who is well known to teachers and students of Beijing Normal University, was chosen as the host of the whole party. The cordial and lively "Little Crow" added familiarity of Beijing Normal University to this online gala.

At the beginning of the gala, Prof. Zhou Zuoyu, Vice President of Beijing Normal University, first addressed all the international students, expressing Beijing Normal

University's care for students from all over the world and encouraging students to take adequate precautions and advance their studies. He believes that the day of reunion on campus will finally come.



The video "I Am with You," the song "Firmly Believing That Love Will Win," and the student's original song "White Veil" brought back the touching moments of teachers



and students working together in times of difficulties in the past year, highlighting people's shared love and wishes. The video "Our Life at Beijing Normal University," the lively and exciting sketch "Online Classes Everywhere" and "Love Letters from Indonesia" by Russian and Indonesia students vividly depicted the study and life stories of international students all over the world. They also expressed gratitude to the faculty and staff for their efforts and expressed their yearning for Beijing Normal University. The host, "Little Crow," took the audience worldwide through performances featuring distinctive elements of different countries around the world. Performances such as the Mongolian song "Beloved Hometown," the African dance "African Warrior," the brass band performance "Mojito," the

Thai student's Peking opera "Empty City Strategy" performance, the Korean dance "Time Flies and Expect Reunion," did not only enable the audience to enjoy the characteristics of different countries but also reflect the rich artistic accomplishment of the students, thereby highlighting the



incredible ensemble of the Chinese and foreign cultures. The event ended with a performance of the song "We Are the World." Teachers from the Faculty of Education, Chinese Language and Culture College, Business School, School of Environment, School of Social Development and Public Policy, and other Beijing Normal University faculties/schools/colleges sent the Chinese New Year wishes to students.

As the Chinese saying goes, "bosom friends are close even when they are thousands of miles apart." Although we might face various challenges in the future, this "Global Online Reunion" entrusts the teachers and students of Beijing Normal University with a common expectation for a better future. In the future, all teachers and students of Beijing Normal University will continue to uphold the vision of a community with a shared future for mankind, work together to create a more inclusive campus atmosphere, enhance the friendship between peoples of the world, and promote multicultural exchanges.

Premier Li Hold Symposium with Foreign Experts, BNU Professor Robert Walker Attended and Made a Speech

Article source: english.www.gov.cn; China Academy of social management/School of Sociology | Release date: 2021-02-10

With the Spring Festival approaching, Premier Li Keqiang held a symposium with representatives of foreign experts working in China at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing on Feb 2nd.

Premier Li extended festival greetings and best wishes to foreign experts in China and foreign friends who support China's modernization drive across the board.

Since reform and opening-up, groups of foreign experts have come and worked in China with their intelligence and strength. The Chinese people are grateful to them for their contributions to China's modernization drive.

Soliciting foreign experts' suggestions on China's government work is conducive to scientific and democratic policy-making. And it is in harmony with both domestic and international development trends, the Premier said.

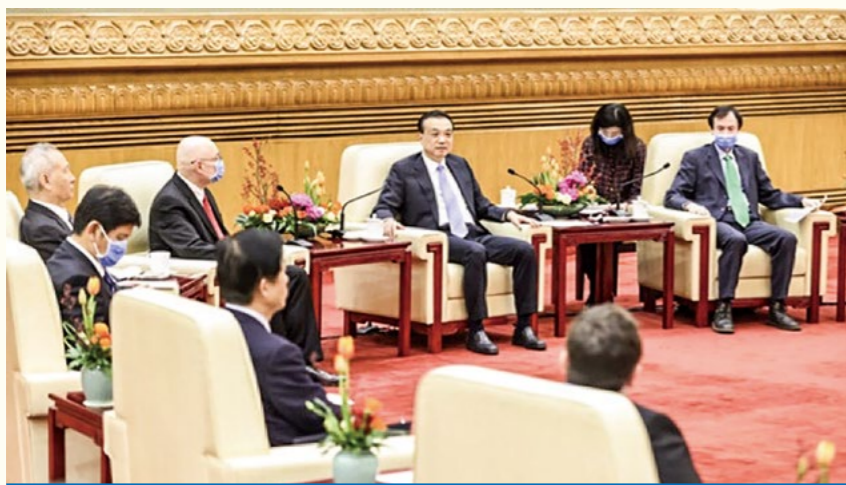


Professor Robert Walker sincerely congratulated China on winning the battle to eliminate absolute poverty in rural areas. He praised

the great achievements of China's epidemic prevention and control, and felt honored to witness this great historical moment and contribute to a certain extent. He also suggested that we should further coordinate urban and rural development and actively promote the work of eliminating relative poverty during the "14th five-year plan" period.

Experts from the United States, Italy, Singapore, Nepal, the United Kingdom, and France shared their views and suggestions on China's economy and finance, basic scientific research, COVID-19 prevention and control, education, innovation in science and technologies, environmental protection, and more.

Having heard experts' statements, Premier Li said the COVID-19 outbreak delivered a severe blow to the whole world in 2020. Under the strong leadership of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China with President Xi Jinping at the core, China's economic development made a hard-won achievement and saw positive growth for the whole year with Chinese people's joint efforts, and

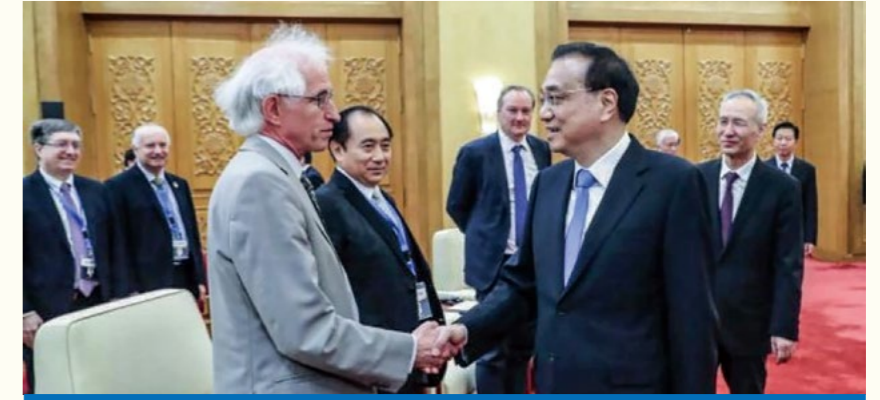


contributions from foreign experts.

Efforts will be made to make sure the economy is running within an appropriate range, and the fundamentals sustaining China's long-term economic growth remain stable, the Premier said.

He welcomed more foreign experts to come to China, adding that the Chinese government will constantly improve the system of attracting foreign talents, providing more convenience for them to live and work in the country.

In 2019, Professor Robert Walker was invited to attend the symposium with foreign experts in China ahead of the Lunar New Year for the first time and met with Premier Li. He is one



of the few foreign experts who have been invited to attend and speak at the Spring Festival forum.

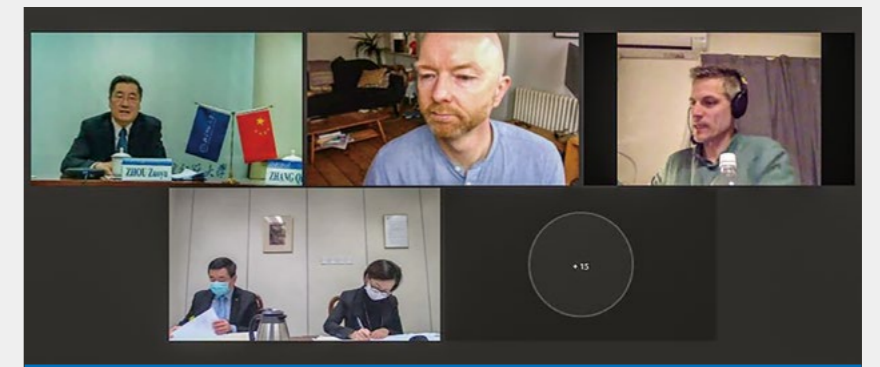
Robert Walker is a professor of the China Academy of social management / School of Sociology at Beijing Normal University. In early years, he was a professor at Green Templeton College, Oxford

University. He is also a member of the British Academy and the European Commission on Social Sciences, and was awarded the "British academic Lifetime Achievement Award" by Queen Elizabeth II. Devoting all his life to the study of poverty, Robert Walker was one of the founders of modern European poverty and social security theory.

Zhou Zuoyu Attended Video Conference of Executive Committee of University Social Responsibility Network Alliance

Article source: Office of International Exchange and Cooperation | Release date: 2021-02-08

On February 5th, 2021, the executive committee meeting of University Social Responsibility Network (USRN) alliance was held online. Zhou Zuoyu, Vice President of Beijing Normal University, was invited to attend and speak at the meeting. Dr. Miranda Lou, Executive Vice Chairman, and Professor Ben Young,



Vice Chairman of USRN presidium, as well as nearly twenty representatives from eleven universities, including the University of Cambridge, Kyoto University, University of Pretoria in South Africa, Manchester University, University of São Paulo, Yonsei University, Tufts University, University of New South Wales and the Hong Kong Polytechnic University, attended the meeting to jointly review the work and future development plan of the USRN alliance.



At the meeting, the USRN presidium first reported the implementation of the project discussed and approved by the last Executive Committee and the work progress report for 2019-2020. Then members of the Executive Committee discussed the regulations of the USRN Executive Committee and of the Steering Committee, the work focus and planning for 2021, and the time and place of the next USR summit and seminars. In addition, University of Pretoria of South Africa, the organizer of the USR summit in 2021, reported on the holding of the summit; Kyoto University promoted the USRN-MOOC *Introduction to University Social Responsibility* jointly developed and launched by it and the Hong

Kong Polytechnic University.

At the meeting, Zhou Zuoyu put forward opinions and suggestions on the future work of USRN, pointing out that we ought to consider formulating a strategic development plan for the next five years, closely unite member units to carry out work and obtain more resource supports, so as to produce greater results. At the same time, in order to better promote USRN's work against the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), experts and scholars in economic, social and educational fields should be recruited to set up academic committees to provide a platform and link for university scholars to carry out transnational

and cross regional research under the framework of SDGs. He also pointed out that we should strengthen the brand building of USRN, build brand projects and brand achievements, and

further enhance the global reputation of USRN.

Professor Zhang Qiang, of the School of Social Development and Public Policy, and Professor Yang Saini in the Faculty of Geographical Science of Beijing Normal University, respectively gave suggestions on the future development of USRN. Zhang Qiang suggested that a step-by-step study in the form of a comprehensive model should be carried out on the 17 development goals involved in SDGs in a planned way. In the meanwhile, the exchange and dialogue under the USRN framework should not be limited to universities, but should also absorb relevant practitioners from UN agencies and national agencies. Yang Saini mentioned that BNU has reached an intention to cooperate with a number of UN agencies in Beijing to develop a short-term global competency training course to cultivate students with a sense of global responsibility. The course includes online teaching and practice. In the meantime, she called on the alliance



universities to jointly develop the course and design corresponding teaching units according to their own resources.

Director Wu Yujun and Deputy Director Ai Xin of the Office of International Exchange and Cooperation of Beijing Normal University attended the meeting with relevant staff. Professor Zhang Qiang, and Jiang Yueling, a student from the School of Chinese Language and

Literature respectively attended the scholar forum and student forum of the USR Summit 2021 held from February 3rd to 5th and made wonderful speeches.

The USRN was founded in 2015 by the president of the Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Ruan Zengyuanqi, and its secretariat are located in the Hong Kong Polytechnic University. The purpose is to build an international platform

to promote cooperation in teaching, scientific research and social services among famous universities from all over the world, so as to jointly improve college students' sense of social responsibility and promote social development. Its members include 25 universities, including Beijing Normal University, Peking University, University of Cambridge, University of São Paulo, Manchester University and University of New South Wales.

The Final of the 2020 Global Competition on Design for Future Education was Held

Article source: Smart Learning Institute of BNU | Release date: 2021-02-05

From January 18th to 20th, the final of the 2020 Global Competition on Design for Future Education was held. The gist of the competition is "See the future through pandemic. View the world through students. Observe education through design". Hosted by Beijing Normal University, it is organized collectively Office of International Exchange & Cooperation of BNU, Students' Association of BNU, and the Smart Learning Institute of BNU etc., sponsored by the UNESCO Institute



for Information Technologies in Education and the Organizing Committee Office of Beijing Design Week, and especially cooperated by Beijing Design Society. The competition aims to raise awareness of inclusive education, promote the achievement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, and prepare rich and effective solutions for uncertain future education based on the perspective of university students globally.

The chairman of the organizing committee is Zhou Zuoyu, vice president of BNU, and vice chairman, Huang Ronghuai, co-dean of the Smart Learning Institute of BNU. The team of 18 mentors consists of experts from China, Italy, Tunisia, Iran, Palestine, the Philippines, Japan, Germany and other countries, giving instructions in fields including education, design and computer science.

The Global Competition on Design

for Future Education has been successfully held twice from 2018 to 2019. Due to the pandemic, the competition this year was held both online and offline. The competition adopted the Internet platform in global recruitment participation and coverage far exceeded the

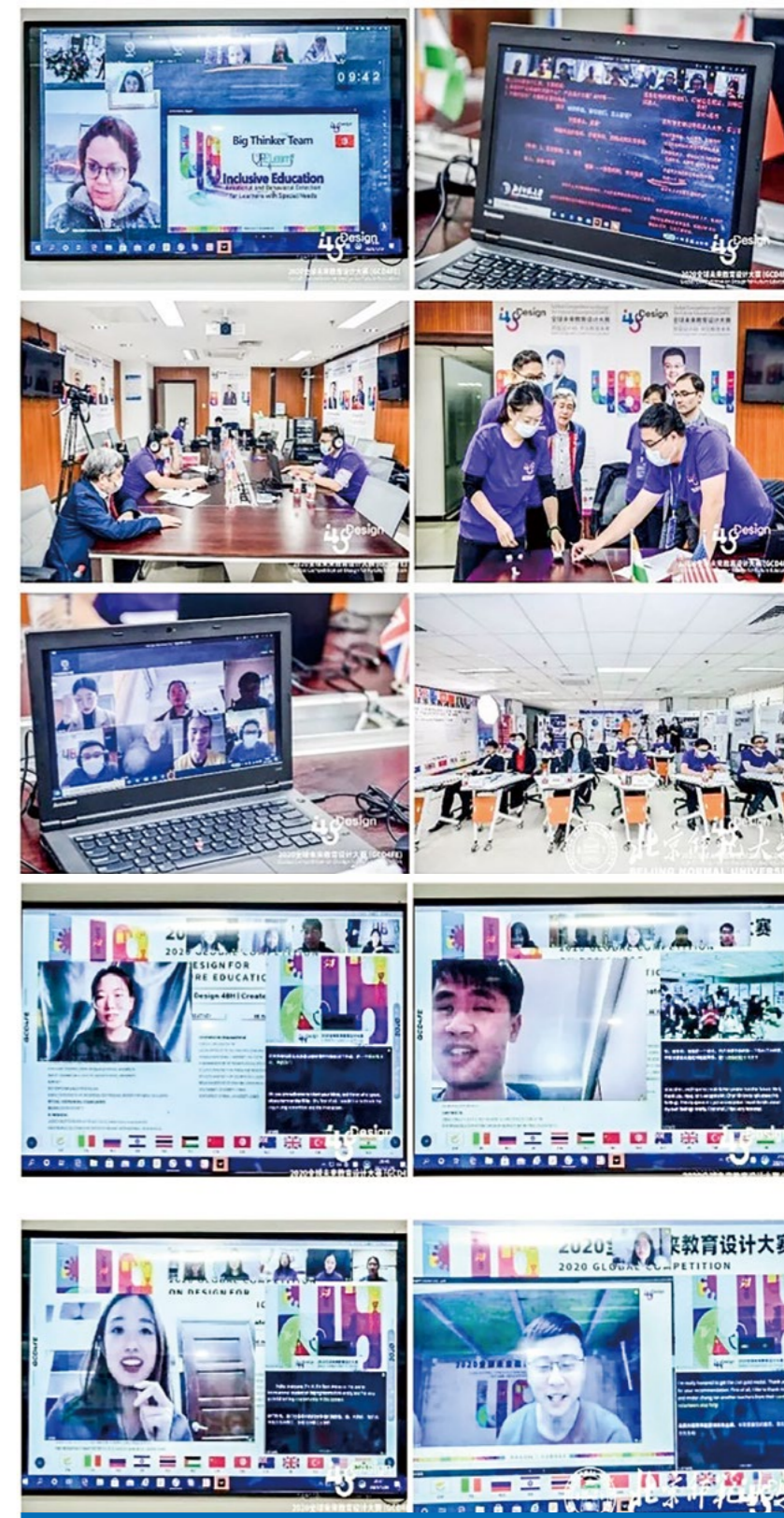
previous two sessions. Since its launch on September 1st, 2020, the competition has attracted more than 500 students from 157 institutions in 13 countries. Through online collaboration, students at home and abroad teamed up, participated and worked hard in the competition. Their



multi-dimensional communications have broken the limits of the locations, time zones, majors and language barriers, showcasing the multiple possibilities to solve diverse problems in the future. The competition is oriented to the future and inclusive education. Many teams focused on poverty alleviation, left-behind children, autism and other special groups of people, and tailor-made systemic solutions, which reflected a high degree of social responsibility of contemporary college students.

In this year's 48-hour final, 22 teams from 36 institutions around the world began intense design under the real-time online guidance of 18 mentors online. Focusing on education in crisis, personalized education, special education, and rural education, the teams proposed creative solutions to explore the future path of education. During the three reports and one roadshow, each team in turn stated the design concept and displayed results. In the meantime, the mentors online were always ready to give guidance as well as supervision in accordance to their respective conditions.

Finally five teams won the awards. The GOGO team composed of students from Northwest Normal University, Xinjiang Normal University, Central China Normal University and Diablo Valley College in the US, as well as ALL See Love team composed of students from BNU shared the first place. Six other teams received mentor nominations and nine received honourable mentions.



BNU Team Won the Third Place in the National Chinese Cultural Knowledge Competition for College Students from Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan

Article source: Office of International Exchange and Cooperation | Release date: 2021-01-04

On the afternoon of December 27th, 2020, sponsored by the Office of Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan Affairs of the Ministry of Education, the finals of the 2020 National Chinese Cultural Knowledge Competition for College Students from Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan came to an end. More than 100 colleges and universities participated in this game, and the team of Beijing Normal University won the third place. The team is composed of Zhao Yujun, a 2018 undergraduate from School of Foreign Languages and Literature, Yu Wanrong, a 2020 undergraduate from School of Mathematical Sciences, and Xu Chenrui, a 2019 undergraduate from School of History.

The competition lasted for nearly four months and was divided into three parts: the preliminary competition, the national semi-finals and the national finals. Our university attaches great importance to this game, and actively mobilizes and organizes our students from Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan to take part in it as a platform to show the elegant demeanour of them. The contest was strongly supported and



assisted by the BNU TV station, the School of Continuing Education and Teacher Training, and General Affairs Office. The "Circumstance & Policy" group was entrusted to undertake the selection and training of contestants.

The on-campus preliminaries attracted students from Hong Kong, Macao

and Taiwan who study at Beijing and Zhuhai campuses of BNU to take part. Through comprehensive quality inspection and strict selection, three students, Zhao Yujun from Macao, Yu Wanrong from Taiwan and Xu Chenrui from mainland China, are selected to participate in the preliminary competition. In the middle and late

October, the team went to Beijing Kongmiao and Imperial College museum, Fu Jen campus and other places to shoot the works for the second round competition, and invited the student anchor of the BNU TV station as a consultant to carry out recitation training for the contestants, and invited the student reporter group of the BNU TV station to assist in shooting the video and post-production. In the end, with the original work *A Long Song to Bless China*, the team of BNU stood

out from more than 100 colleges and universities participating in the second round and advanced to the final.

Due to the impact of the epidemic, the finals will be played online by the way of broadcast of entries and online recitation. Our team's original work *A Long Song to Bless China* selects three typical scenes in the history of Chinese education, including the Imperial College of Confucius Temple in Beijing, the

former site of Fu Jen Catholic University and the campus of BNU. It combines the original poetry with the cultural classics such as the Analects of Confucius and the Book of Songs, as well as the patriotic poems of Qiu Fengjia and others, supplemented by the performance of Dong Xiao flute and ocarina, presenting the theme of *A Long Song to Bless China* Chanting which fully shows the continuity of Chinese culture after the vicissitudes and



tribulations, manifests the passion of Chinese people to serve the country when facing the national crisis, and expresses the great ambition of the youth of both sides of the Straits and Hong Kong and Macao in the new era to shoulder the historical mission, inherit the golden voice of Muduo, carry forward Chinese culture and

promote the national rejuvenation. Sponsored by the Office of Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan Affairs of the Ministry of Education, the 2020 National Chinese Cultural Knowledge Competition for College Students from Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan aims to carry out a comprehensive investigation

in various fields centred on traditional culture, so as to make college students from Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan more deeply understand Chinese classic poetry, enhance the cohesion of traditional Chinese culture, and promote the exchanges between the college students of both sides of the Taiwan Strait and Hong Kong and Macao.

BNU Held the Work Deployment Meeting of Global Development Strategic Planning

Article source: Office of International Exchange and Cooperation | Release date: 2020-12-24

On December 22nd, Beijing Normal University Work Deployment Meeting of Global Development Strategic Planning and Work Seminar of International Exchange and Cooperation in the post epidemic era were held in Yingdong academic hall. Nearly 100 people attended the meeting, including Zhou Zuoyu, Vice President of Beijing Normal

University, leaders and foreign affairs secretaries of 38 faculties and departments, and the leading group and staff of Office of International Exchange and Cooperation.

Zhou Zuoyu presided over the meeting and delivered an opening speech. He pointed out that 2020 is the year of the end of the "13th Five-year Plan", the year of the layout of

the 14th one, as well as the year of the start of a new round of evaluation of the "double first-class" construction of the University. COVID-19 has made a great impact on international exchanges and cooperation, but the whole university has made very fruitful achievements in its creative work. On June 15th, the University officially released *Global Development Strategic Plan of Beijing Normal*



University (2020-2025), which is a general plan at the university level, not only limited to international exchanges and cooperation, but also involving discipline construction, personnel training, scientific research, social services and cultural communication. The main topics of the meeting included policy communication, experience exchange and deployment implementation.



Ai Xin, Deputy Director of Office of International Exchange and Cooperation, introduced the core contents of *Global Development Strategic Plan of Beijing Normal University (2020-2025)* to the participants, and interpreted it from the aspects of the compilation process, the national education opening policies, the opportunities and challenges of the university's global development, the concept and principles of the Plan, the strategic plan and action plan, and the guarantee of conditions.



Li Xin of School of Statistics made an expert report on the topic of

Analysis of Monitoring Indicators of International Competitiveness of Faculties and Departments. She introduced the establishment principles of monitoring indicators system of international competitiveness of faculties and departments of our university and the comparative analysis of internationalization indicators between our university and "double first-class" A-type universities, and made a detailed analysis report on the performance of international competitiveness of faculties and departments of our university through quantitative analysis.



Zhu Xudong, Dean of Faculty of Education, Wang Jun, Vice Dean of Faculty of Psychology, Dong Xiaobin, Vice Dean of Faculty of Geographical Science, Yang Lihui, Vice Dean of School of Chinese Language and Literature, and Yu Dan, Dean of Beijing Institute of Culture Innovation and Communication, delivered speeches on behalf of different disciplines, sharing the ideas, paths and practices of the departments in promoting international exchanges and cooperation.

With the title of *Insisting on Opening up and Cooperation to Enhance the International Influence of China's Education Disciplines*, Zhu Xudong introduced that the Faculty of Education regards international

exchange and cooperation as an important starting point for improving personnel training, academic research, teachers' team and the ability to serve the international community, and the core concept of promoting comprehensive internationalization. He focused on sharing innovative, exploration of ideas, paths and strategies, as well as the guiding principles of international exchange and cooperation during the epidemic.



Wang Jun introduced the core goal of Faculty of Psychology to build a "world-class, urgently needed" psychology discipline, and the ideas and achievements of promoting discipline development by building a high-end first-class international cooperation platform, "basic research + application practice" dual capacity building, enhancing "international influence + discipline discourse power" and "focusing on the basis, introducing talents to innovate, and improving ability". Then, she shared the future planning of promoting the implementation of *Global Development Strategic Plan*.



Dong Xiaobin introduced that Faculty of Geographical Science

actively promoted the transformation of foreign affairs work “from passivity to initiative, from quantity to quality, from individual to whole”, took the construction of first-class disciplines of Geography as the core, comprehensively promoted the global development concept of talent training and discipline construction, and the working idea of "going out, introducing in, building relations, and establishing platforms", as well as the achievements in international brand conferences, high-level academic research and the position in international organizations. He also looked into the distance to how to face the global governance pattern in the post-epidemic era, the domestic and international double circulation background and the high-quality development needs of the platform.



Yang Lihui shared the exploration and practice of the Chinese Academy of culture in the field of overseas Chinese culture with three key words, "importance, responsibility and action", introducing that School of Chinese Language and Literature effectively assisted significant measures of national strategies, such as “Chinese Culture Going Global”, “the Belt and Road Initiative”, and the construction of a community of shared future for all mankind, by establishing overseas Chinese Language Institute, an undergraduate course

“Chinese Language and Culture”, Confucius Institute, International Writing Center, international journal, and mutual learning activities with countries along “the Belt and Road”.



Yu Dan shared the ideas and achievements of the Institute that it plays the advantages and features of think tank to promote mutual learning of civilizations and effective cross-cultural communication through the "beauty of Chinese characters" series of cultural activities, the construction of cross-cultural communication case base, major project research, and the international communication of traditional culture. Yu Dan stressed that the urgency of enhancing the discourse strategy in international communication during the post-epidemic period is more prominent. We should promote the integration of colourful civilizations in dialogue, and take the cultural consensus as the starting point to activate public diplomacy and explore the digital space exchange of "Internet+".



Wu Yujun, Director of Office of International Exchange and

Cooperation, made a report entitled “Promoting the Implementation of *Global Development Strategic Plan (2020-2025)* in the Post-epidemic Era”, proposing that Office of International Exchange and Cooperation would increase the international experience of students, help the internationalization of scientific research, enhance the global influence of cultural communication, standardize the development of foreign affairs, and help faculties and departments to carry out international exchanges and cooperation and to promote the implementation of the Plan.



Zhou Zuoyu made a summary of the meeting and highly affirmed that all parties attending the meeting fully summed up their experience and comprehensively gathered consensus. He put forward three suggestions to promote the implementation of *Global Development Strategic Plan*: First, improve the political position and take responsibility; Second, implement the global development strategy solidly and put the Plan into the work of all units; Third, comprehensively promote the implementation of the Plan, faculties and departments should take the initiative to benchmark *Global Development Strategic Plan*, and clarify the implementation map of the unit. Zhou Zuoyu put forward six

suggestions on how to continuously promote the implementation of the Plan: Support two-way perspectives, meet the needs of the country, integrate high-end networks, build high-quality platforms, hold the achievement orientations, and establish long-term ambitions. He stressed that the implementation of *Global Development Strategic Plan* requires the joint efforts of the

whole university, and all faculties and departments should take positive actions to jointly promote the global development of the University.

In the afternoon, the members of Office of International Exchange and Cooperation had a "one-to-one exchange" with the heads and staff of foreign affairs in seven faculties and departments, including Faculty of

Education, School of Foreign Languages and Literature, School of Systems Science, School of Statistics, School of Continuing Education and Teacher Training, College of Water Sciences, and Institute of New Materials, to discuss the issues in promoting *Global Development Strategic Plan*. During the meeting, Office of International Exchange and Cooperation also carried out business consulting activities.

The Unveiling Ceremony of Phoenix School and 2020 BNU Phoenix Forum Held on Zhuhai Campus of Beijing Normal University

Article source: Zhuhai Campus, Beijing Normal University | Release date: 2020-12-24

On December 22nd, 2020, Beijing Normal University at Zhuhai held the unveiling ceremony of Phoenix School and the first Phoenix Forum of Beijing Normal University 2020, the topic was "Global Symbiosis—Education for the Future". Luo Yonggang, Deputy Director of Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in the Macao Special Administrative Region, Wang Dong, Representative of Acting Commissioner of the Macao Office, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Zheng Xinyou, Director



of the Ministry of Information and Public Diplomacy; Wang Zhiwei, Deputy Director of the Office of Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan Affairs, Ministry of Education, Sun Hongpei, Vice Chairman of the University Council and Secretary of Discipline Inspection Commission of Beijing Normal University, Wang Shoujun, Vice President of Beijing Normal University and other officials attended the ceremony. Leaders and guests from brother universities, publishing houses, primary and secondary schools and kindergartens in Guangdong-Hong Kong - Macao Greater Bay Area also attended the opening ceremony. Wei Wei, Chairman of the University Council of Beijing Normal University Zhuhai Campus presided over the ceremony.

At the ceremony, Sun Hongpei read out the approval of the establishment of Phoenix School and the appointment of the dean. Luo Yonggang, Zheng Xinyou, Wang Zhiwei, Wang Hongbing, Chen Zhilin and Wang Shoujun jointly



inaugurated the establishment of Phoenix School.

In his speech, Wang Shoujun said that Beijing Normal University, taking the leading role of teacher education in China, has been an active practitioner and promoter in the opening-up of education to the outside world and international exchange. The *Beijing Normal University Global Development Strategic Plan (2020-2025)* released this year sets the goal of participating in global cooperation and development of higher education with a more open attitude and more energetic dynamics, serving the

great cause of the rejuvenation of the Chinese nation and the building of a community with a shared future for mankind. On that basis, Phoenix School of Beijing Normal University Zhuhai Campus was born. Phoenix School will extensively integrate high-quality educational resources around the globe to build an open, independent and diversified platform for the cultivation of international talents, pressing ahead the internationalization of school education, and optimizing the cultivation system of "talents with global competence". The International Education Forum "Global Symbiosis - Education for

the Future" is a starting point for Phoenix School.



Wang Zhiwei noted BNU Zhuhai has been giving full play to its advantages in educational resources in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area. Relying on the Ministry's "Ten-Thousands Talents Program" and other projects, the cooperation with the University of Hong Kong, the University of Macao and other universities has been strengthened. The official inauguration of Phoenix School is another brand-new exploration of BNU Zhuhai and an important embodiment of the construction principle "high standard, new mechanism and internationalization". The establishment of Phoenix School is of great significance in playing the University's leading role in developing basic education with high quality and in serving the education of Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area in a deeper and broader scope.



Gou Renmin, Vice Director of the Education and Youth Work Department of Liaison Office of the Central People's Government

in the Macao Special Administrative Region, expressed that the current situation of education in Macao is satisfying, which also contributes to the successful practice of "one country, two systems" policy in Macao. But for the medium and long-term development and stability of Macao in the future and in 30 years, education has to be further consolidated for stable and promising prospects. The establishment of Phoenix School has brought new opportunities to Macao, and Gou hopes that Zhuhai Campus and Phoenix School can provide assistance in the cultivation and training of teachers in Macao. In the end, Gou expressed his belief and sincere wishes that under the active efforts of Beijing Normal University and the Administrative Committee, BNU Zhuhai, with the care and support of the Ministry of Education, the Diplomatic Office, the governments of Zhuhai and Macao Special Administrative Region, the schools and the relative educational societies, Phoenix School and BNU Zhuhai will surely improve further and further!



Chen Xi, Dean of Phoenix School said that Phoenix School, with the goal of promoting the development of international education and

training high-level talents with a global vision, will insist on the principles of "carrying on the fine tradition of BNU, enhancing cultural exchanges, committing to the cultivation of talents, and promoting international education", fully absorb the teaching resources of first-class universities at home and abroad, and form an all-round, wide-ranging and multi-level educational platform which opens up to the outside world under the guidelines of "mutual learning, inclusiveness and inter-connection". She also mentioned that Phoenix School will promote international education in terms of developing high-quality international education projects, opening some courses of professional dual degree and specialty programs, carrying out training projects in Hong Kong and Macao, establishing a multilingual and interactive language village and optimizing the international spread of Chinese civilization.

Sheng Jianxue, Secretary-General of China Scholarship Council secretariat; Zhang Xiuqin, Vice President of China Education Association for International Exchange and Former Ambassador of China to UNESCO; Dr. Huvanandana, a famous educator, former vice president of Ministry of Education, Thailand and President of China-ASEAN Education Association, and Pan Qingzhong, Executive Vice Dean of Su Shimin College of Tsinghua University all expressed their congratulations on the establishment of Phoenix School via video link.

At the opening ceremony of the Phoenix Forum of BNU (2020) held



on the afternoon of December 22nd, experts and scholars from institutions and organizations, including the International Center for Higher Education Innovation under the auspices of UNESCO (UNESCO-ICHEI), Zhuhai Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, Guangdong Education Association for International Exchange, Macao Xinhua School, American University of Sharjah, Tsinghua University, Peking University, Beijing Normal

University, Sun Yat-sen University, Harbin Institute of Technology (Shenzhen), University of Macao, Macao Polytechnic Institute, Macao University of Science and Technology, and Macao International Center for Chinese Studies and Education, etc, gave keynote speeches on the topic of "Global Symbiosis and Education for the Future—A New Track for International Education in the New Era", and also held in-depth discussions on the following two

topics "Globally Competent Talents Training" and "Integration and Development of Chinese and Foreign Education".

In addition, the first Phoenix Lecture of BNU is approaching. The Phoenix Lectures of BNU, with the aim of developing students' global vision and cultivating talents with global competence, provides a platform for students to acquire diversified and international knowledge.

BNU Held the International Forum "In the World: The Subjectivity of Chinese Civilization"

Article source: Academy for International Communication of Chinese Culture, Office of International Exchange and Cooperation | Release date: 2020-11-29

On November 27th, 2020, the international forum "In the World: The Subjectivity of Chinese Civilization" sponsored by Academy for International Communication of Chinese Culture of Beijing Normal University was held at Jingshi Hall. This International Forum coincided with the 10th anniversary of the "third polar culture" theory, the 10th anniversary of the implementation of the "Looking China Youth Film Project" and the 10th anniversary of the establishment of Academy for International Communication of Chinese Culture. A series of

theoretical, academic, teaching and communication achievements were intensively displayed during this forum. The theme of the forum was "In the World: The Subjectivity of Chinese Civilization". The theoretical achievements of the "third pole culture" theory aroused heated discussion among Chinese and foreign scholars, and the current world epidemic situation and civilization exchange dialogue, as well as the international communication of Chinese culture in the contemporary context, have become topics of discussion. The forum was

held in the form of online-offline interaction and more than 200 experts and scholars from the United States, France, Germany, Slovenia and China attended the on-site meeting or global connection.

The forum began with the 10th anniversary of the establishment of Academy for International Communication of Chinese Culture and the opening ceremony of the "third pole culture" knowledge and practice exhibition. Cheng Jianping, Chairman of the Beijing Normal University Council, Long Xinmin,



Member of the Standing Committee of the 12th CPPCC, Deputy Director of the Committee of Culture, History and Learning, Executive Vice President of the Chinese Communist Party History Society, and consultant of Academy for International Communication of Chinese Culture, Liu Chuansheng, former Chairman of the Beijing Normal University Council, Vice President of China Association of Higher Education, Zhou Zuoyu, Vice President of Beijing Normal University, Qi Mingqiu, former Party Secretary and Executive Vice President of China Soong Ching Ling Foundation, Su Shishu, member of China Central Institute for Culture and History, Vice Director of Painting and Calligraphy Institute of the CPPCC, and President of China Calligraphers Association, and Shen Weixing, former Deputy Editor-in-Chief of Guangming Daily, attended the opening ceremony. Cheng Jianping and Long Xinmin jointly unveiled the exhibition.

The exhibition focused on the development achievements of Academy for International

Communication of Chinese Culture of Beijing Normal University in pushing Chinese culture to the world and contributing to the construction of multicultural world on the basis of the seven aspects of "seeing", "asking", "discussing", "researching", "journalizing", "creating" and "meeting" since its establishment 10 years ago. Senior Professor Huang Huilin, President of the Academy for International Communication of Chinese Culture, Beijing Normal University, delivered an opening speech. She said that the Academy would continue to keep its original intention in mind, and forge ahead to write the chapter of the next decade.



22 Chinese and foreign universities and institutions, including University of Oxford in the UK and Boston University in the United States, sent enthusiastic congratulatory letters to the Academy, and

highly praised its achievements in the past decade. University of Oxford said in the letter that the undertakings of Academy for International Communication of Chinese Culture have multiple meanings of inheritance and innovation. "Looking China" is a great project, which records cultural history and promotes cultural communication. The series of celebrations and this international forum set an example for global exchanges during the epidemic period.

Zhou Zuoyu pointed out in his speech that the "third pole culture" theory conforms to the needs of the development of the times, and once again Chinese culture has obtained cutting-edge and strategic theory support. He welcomed experts and scholars from all over the world who came to BNU to bring the collision and exchange of multi culture, ideas and wisdom. At the same time, he hoped that Chinese and foreign friends could make full use of the platform of international forum to enlighten ideas and collide wisdom, and jointly write a new chapter of prosperous cultural exchanges between China and foreign countries.



The main forum speech was started by Huang Huilin's *Inheritance and Generation: Contemporary Thinking on the Subjectivity of Chinese Civilization*. Starting from pandemic's

huge resistance to the modern world civilization and the economic situation, Huang Huilin put the "third pole culture" into the background of the times to observe and think. From the theory and practice of 10 years, she felt a cooperative force based on common emotions, rationality and aspirations of mankind. In the post epidemic era, the highest criterion for handling state relations is to seek win-win cooperation through communication and dialogue among different civilizations. She also took the "Looking China" project in 2020 as an example to show that under the epidemic and between global civilizations, difficulties can be overcome through communication, and the goal of win-win cooperation can be achieved.



At the main forum, Chinese and foreign scholars actively and deeply discussed the thinking of the "third pole culture" and expressed their understanding of the overseas communication of Chinese culture from different dimensions. AMES Roger, Vice President of International Confucian Association and professor of Peking University Berggruen Research Center, defined the concept of "pole", traced back the thought of cultural polarity, and predicted that Confucianism as a pole culture would play an important role in



shaping a new world cultural order. BELLASSEN Joël, Professor of Institute national des Langues et Civilisations Orientales and former Chief Inspector of Chinese of Ministry of National Education (France), quoted Su Shi's poem "Of mountain Lu we cannot make out the true face, for we are lost in the heart of the very place." Through language, characters and culture, he discussed the phenomenon of the difference between the objective understanding and the essential understanding of things in the process of the spread of Chinese language and culture. He believed that the understanding of the truth and panorama of things should go beyond the narrow scope, remove subjective prejudice, and strengthen communication and discussion. Su Yantao, President of EDI Media Inc. and Chairman of the Organizing Committee of Chinese American Film Festival and Chinese American TV Festival, considered that the subjectivity of Chinese civilization as the Chinese wisdom of mankind, the Chinese plan of the world, and the spiritual power of the new era. It has three characteristics: unity, fusion and

integration. As a representative of one of the "third pole culture" (European culture), Professor David Bartosch (Germany) of Beijing Foreign Studies University specially pointed out that China's Millennium wisdom can help the world to explore a path of peaceful development of the world economy, and the concept of "peace and harmony" and "benevolence" promoted world peace and development, especially China's wisdom in COVID-19's prevention and control and conflict of wars.

Besides the perspective of Chinese culture, there are experts and scholars who have carried out research on the achievements and development direction of the "third pole culture". Meng Jian, Professor of Fudan University, summarized the important academic contributions of Huang Huilin's theory of "third pole culture" in three aspects: expounding the multiple logic of civilization development, highlighting the historical necessity of civilized dialogue, and integrating the requirements of the times of a community of shared future for

mankind. Su Hao, Professor of China Foreign Affairs University, classified the world civilization in a hierarchical way based on his own research. Qi Mingqiu, former Party Secretary and Executive Vice President of China Soong Ching Ling Foundation, believed that the development of "third pole culture" needs to "return to the original and open up new", and attach importance to the culture of the times. Zeng Qingrui, Professor of Communication University of China, also reckoned that "third pole culture" is a modern presentation of the development trend of human civilization and culture, and is in line with the laws of human social civilization and cultural development. Zhang Tongdao, Professor of Beijing Normal University, combined with his own practice and exploration in the field of documentary, pointed out that documentary should undertake the cultural mission from three aspects: recording the reality and witnessing the times; reflecting on history and preserving memory; talking about civilization and communicating ideas, and put forward constructive suggestions on the international communication of Chinese culture.



Xiang Yunju, Distinguished Professor of Beijing Normal University and Executive President of Academy for

International Communication of Chinese Culture, presided over the opening ceremony and main forum discussion.

The three round-table forums were also launched online and offline, with heated discussions. Round-table forum *History and Reality of World Civilization* closely focused on the core issue of "how to spread the influence of Chinese culture", and discussed the historical process of world civilization and contemporary social reality with specific cases in different fields. The second one has sounded the "drum of Chinese art and culture that is not outside the world". From the perspectives of Chinese culture, Chinese art, Chinese film, Chinese music and short video,

the forum further analysed the understanding and application of the third pole culture theory. The discussion of the third forum, *Conflict and Integration of the Subjectivity of Civilization*, could be divided into two parts, one was about the overseas communication of Chinese literature, the other was to explore the subjectivity of Chinese civilization from the perspective of culture and philosophy. In the "three pole culture dialogue", Professor Wang Yiwen had a dialogue with Professor David Bartosch from Germany and Chinese scholars Guo Guang, Zeng Qingrui and Zhao Hui and they provided new insights on the "third pole culture" from international and domestic perspectives.



Seminar on "Innovation and Information Technology in Normal Education" Held by Sino Russian University Education Alliance

Article source: Office of International Exchange and Cooperation | Release date: 2020-12-22

On December 18th, 2020, an online seminar on "Innovation and Information Technology in Normal Education" sponsored by Russian members of Sino Russian University Education Alliance was held. Deputy Minister of Education of the Russian Federation BASYUK Victor, and the Vice Consul of Consulate of the people's Republic of China in Kazan, Russian Federation, Cheng Wei delivered opening speeches respectively. Lubukov, President of Moscow State Pedagogical University and Vice President Zhou Zuoyu of Beijing Normal University respectively delivered welcome speeches on behalf of the two secretaries of the alliance. The meeting was presided over by Galiakberova Alfinur, President of Cherne National Normal College. Experts from 19 member universities, including Beijing Normal University, East China Normal University, Northeast Normal University, Central China Normal University, Moscow State Pedagogical University, Cherne National Normal College and Herzen University, attended the



meeting. Professor Yu Shengquan, Executive Director of Advanced Innovation Center for Future Education of Beijing Normal University, delivered a keynote speech, and relevant responsible comrades of Office of International Exchange and Cooperation attended the meeting.

In his speech, Zhou Zuoyu fully affirmed the experience and practice of the alliance's members working together to fight the epidemic, sharing experience, and promoting development through mutually beneficial cooperation. He pointed out that this education seminar

responded to the theme of 2020-2021 national year of scientific and technological innovation of China and Russia, which is just the right time. Today's world has entered a new era marked by new technologies such as artificial intelligence and cloud computing. Thus, education will no longer be the past one, especially the promotion of large-scale online education during the epidemic period, which shows us the great potential of new technologies to promote educational reform. He said that after six years of construction, the alliance has made joint efforts to build a number of brand activities with wide influence, such as the



"go to Russia" and "go to Beijing" Olympic Games, the "Sino Russian Exchange Week" Art Troup Tour, and the International Graduate Forum "Russian Studies". This seminar will further promote exchanges and pragmatic cooperation between China and Russia in the fields of science, technology and information. It is hoped that the members of the alliance will make full use of new technologies, gather forces from all parties, discuss, build and share together, make high-quality education resources benefit more people, narrow the digital divide, jointly create new forms of cooperation, and contribute more wisdom to the reform and construction of the global governance system to make important contributions to promoting the reform of global governance system

and building a community of shared future for mankind.

This education seminar focused on how to improve teachers' professional quality and enhance their information processing ability under the digital background of modern society. The conference held a plenary session and four parallel forums: "Innovation and Information Technology in Talent Training of Normal Universities", "Function of Innovation and Information Technology in Future Teacher Training", "Innovation and Information Technology in Teacher Professional Development and Retraining of Education Major" and "Innovation and Information Technology in Teaching Activities of Rural Teachers", where scholars from various universities had full exchanges and discussions.

The keynote speech of Yu Shengquan, Executive Director of Advanced Innovation Center for Future Education, was entitled "Artificial Intelligence + Teachers' Collaborative Path". He pointed out that fundamental changes are taking place in the teaching service space. The future education is an era of cooperation between human and artificial intelligence. Giving full play to the different advantages of machine and human is the key to improve the productivity of education. Artificial intelligence will replace the simple and repetitive mental work. Thus, teachers should give full play to the greater advantages of human innovation, complex decision-making, emotional care and motivation. The speech received a warm response and was positively affirmed by the representatives of China and Russia.

"Sino Russian University Education Alliance" was established in 2014, led by Beijing Normal University and Moscow State Pedagogical University. Currently, 11 Russian Universities and 8 Chinese universities are included. Since its establishment, the alliance has always been committed to high-level talent exchange, joint training, cooperative research and think tank construction between Chinese and Russian Universities. In the future, the alliance will further pool the resources of all members, break the boundaries of space and disciplines, enrich the content and mechanism of people to people exchanges between China and Russia with a more flexible cooperation mechanism, and consolidate and strengthen the comprehensive strategic cooperative partnership between China and Russia.

2021 International Day of Education-China Celebration

[Background]

Education is a human right, a public good and a public responsibility. The United Nations General Assembly proclaimed January 24th as International Day of Education (link is external), in celebration of the role of education for peace and development. Without inclusive and equitable quality education and lifelong opportunities for all, countries will not succeed in achieving gender equality and breaking the cycle of poverty that is leaving millions of children, youth and adults behind. Today, 258 million children and youth still do not attend school; 617 million children and adolescents cannot read and do

basic math; less than 40% of girls in sub-Saharan Africa complete lower secondary school and some four million children and youth refugees are out of school. Their right to education is being violated and it is unacceptable. At this moment when the world is celebrating the International Education Day, UNESCO calls on worldwide governments and all partners to make universal quality education as their top priority.

On January 20th, 2021, Beijing Normal University (BNU) and China Education Association for International Exchange (CEAIE) jointly organized 2021 International

Day of Education – China Celebration in order to respond to the UN General Assembly Resolution on International Day of Education, promote education to contribute to global peace and the realization of sustainable development goals and promote education exchanges and cooperation between China and foreign countries for mutual learning and mutual benefit. With the theme of Educational Equality and Sustainable Development in the Post-Pandemic Era, the event highlights the goals set in 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the important role of education in achieving sustainable development.

[Scene of the Event]

Article source: Office of International Exchange and Cooperation | Release date: 2021-01-22



In response to the spirit of the resolution "International Day of Education" of the general assembly of the United Nations, to push forward the realization of the goal of education contributing to the global peace and sustainable development agenda, to promote the development of China's foreign exchange and cooperation in education, and to expand the connotation of bilateral and multilateral international exchanges of mutual learning and mutual benefit, Beijing Normal University and China Education Association for International Exchange jointly held the "2021

International Day of Education – China Celebration" on January 20th, 2021. With the theme of "Education Equity and Sustainable Development in the Post-Pandemic Era", the event focused on reiterating the development goals of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the importance of education to achieve sustainable development.

The activity was held in the form of combination of online and offline. Tian Xuejun, Vice Minister of the Ministry of Education of China and Director of the National Committee of UNESCO of China attended the

event online and delivered keynote speeches. Liu Limin, President of China Education Association for International Exchange attended the event and made welcoming remarks. Dongqi, President of Beijing Normal University, Tijjani Muhammad-Bande, President of the 74th United Nations General Assembly, Stefania Giannini, Assistant Director-General for Education of UNESCO, Djauhari Oratmangun, Ambassador of the Republic Indonesia to the PRC, Laurent Bili, French ambassador to China, Elisio Benedito Jamine, Deputy Representative of Temporary Office of the African Union Representative to China, Matt Burney, Minister of Culture and Education at British Embassy, and Igor Pozdnyakov, Representative of the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of the Russian Federation in China attended and delivered speeches online. Chen Dehai, Secretary General of ASEAN-China Center, and Han Jun, Deputy Director of National Center for Educational Technology, attended and delivered speeches. Zou Lianke, Director of Department of Education of Guizhou Province, Chen Liqun, a lifelong honorary principal of Taijiang National Middle School in Qiongdongnan Miao and Dong Autonomous Prefecture, Guizhou Province, and Gulijahan Aimaiti, an outstanding alumna of BNU who works as a teacher in Yecheng NO.3 Middle School in Kashgar Prefecture, Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, participated in the online activities and made speeches. Qin Changwei, Secretary General of China's National Commission for UNESCO, and Fang Jun, Deputy

2021联合国国际教育日—中国活动
China Celebration of the International Day of Education 2021
Education Equality and Sustainable Development in the Post-Pandemic Era
 Date: 09:30-11:40 January 20th, 2021 (Wednesday)
 Hosted by: China Education Association for International Exchange, Beijing Normal University

WELCOME REMARKS
 LIU Limin, Council Chair and President of CEAIE

KEYNOTE SPEECH
 H. E. TIAN Xuejun, Vice Minister, Ministry of Education, China, Chairperson of the Chinese National Commission for UNESCO

OPENING REMARKS
 H. E. Prof. Tijjani Muhammad-Bande, President of the 74th Session of the UN General Assembly
 H. E. Ms. Stefania Giannini, Assistant Director-General for Education, UNESCO

REMARKS
 H. E. Ambassador Djauhari Oratmangun, Indonesian Embassy to China
 H. E. Ambassador Laurent Bili, French Embassy to China
 Mr. Elisio Jamine, Charge d'affaires and Deputy Head of the African Union Permanent Mission to China
 Mr. CHEN Dehai, Secretary General of ASEAN-China Center
 Mr. Matt Burney, Minister of Culture and Education at British Embassy to China
 Dr. Igor Pozdnyakov, Representative of the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of the Russian Federation in China

FEATURED SPEECHES
 DONG Qi, President of Beijing Normal University, China
 ZOU Lianke, Director-General of Guizhou Provincial Department of Education, China
 HAN Jun, Deputy Director-General of National Center for Educational Technology, China
 CHEN Liqun, Lifelong Honorary Principal of Taijiang National Middle School in Qiongdongnan Miao and Dong Autonomous Prefecture, Guizhou Province and former Principal of Hangzhou Xuelin High School, Zhejiang Province, China
 Gulijahan Aimaiti, History teacher at No.3 High School of Yecheng County, Kashgar Prefecture, Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region of China

Moderators
 WANG Yongli, Secretary-General of CEAIE
 ZHOU Zuoyu, Vice President of Beijing Normal University
 SHEN Xuesong, Deputy Secretary-General of CEAIE

Director General of Department of International Cooperation and Exchanges of Ministry of Education of China, attended the offline activities. Secretary General Wang Yongli and Deputy Secretary General Shen Xuesong of China Education Association for International Exchange, as well as Zhou Zuoyu, Vice President of Beijing Normal University, presided over different sections of International Day of Education - China Celebration. Nearly 1,000 people from governments at all levels, envoys to China, Chinese and foreign educational institutions, social organizations, outstanding representatives of the education sector and business circles participated in the activities in the cloud.



Tian Xuejun, Vice Minister of Ministry of Education of China and Director of China National Commission for UNESCO, delivered a keynote speech, introducing the situation of China's education in fighting against the epidemic to the world. Comparing this with the achievements of education 2030 development goals, including the experience of targeted poverty alleviation in education, he issued four proposals, "Confirm confidence to jointly promote the realization of sustainable development goals; forge innovation to push

forward science and technology for education; lead the world in value to cultivate international talents with global competence; work together to build an education community in a global scope."



Liu Limin, President of China Education Association for International Exchange, pointed out in his speech that *China's Education Modernization 2035* and the concept of Rethinking Education advocated by UNESCO echo each other, reflecting the common judgment and common consensus on today's global situation and development trend. He said that we have the obligation to build a fairer and higher quality education system, cultivate excellent talents more in line with the development of the times, shape stronger human resources, and consolidate the foundation of friendship with more mutual trust.



Dong Qi, President of Beijing Normal University, said in a speech with the theme of "Attaching great importance to educational equity

and actively promoting sustainable development" that Beijing Normal University, as an important place of teacher training and educational scientific research in China, is committed to promoting educational equity and improving the quality of regional education. He urged the educational circles of all countries to take active actions to carry out collaborative research and international cooperation on the key issues restricting global education equity, join hands to promote the inclusiveness and equity of education, and make new and greater contributions to promoting education equity and sustainable development.



Tijjani Muhammad-Bande, President of the 74th United Nations General Assembly, sent a congratulatory video, expressed great appreciation to China for hosting International Day of Education, and proposed that countries strengthen their support for education in all aspects and emphasize the importance of international cooperation and partnership. He pointed out that education is the cornerstone of development, and science and technology will play an increasingly important role in the future education. He stressed that COVID-19 is both a crisis and a

new opportunity. We need to take strong action and determination to expand international cooperation and seize the opportunity to promote the sustainable development of education in the post-epidemic era.



Stefania Giannini, Assistant Director-General for Education of UNESCO, stressed in her speech that education is a public welfare undertaking, which requires close global cooperation, sharing knowledge around inclusiveness, equity and education quality, mobilizing resources and reforming the system, so as to guide our society onto a more sustainable road.



Djauhari Oratmangun, Ambassador of the Republic Indonesia to the PRC, indicated that in the information age, both Indonesia and China have put education in a more prominent position. Educational cooperation is part of the commemoration of the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Indonesia and China, which is also an excellent opportunity for India and China to exchange ideas, experiences and practices.



Laurent Bili, French ambassador to China, said that although there are cultural differences in education between China and France, the basic values of education popularization and education equality coincide. France receives 10,000 Chinese students every year. It is also the country with the largest number of Chinese learners in Europe. Thus, we should unite to fight for the right to education.



Chen Dehai, Secretary General of ASEAN-China Center, said that educational exchanges and cooperation have a leading role in ASEAN-China Relations and play a crucial role in close cultural exchanges and mutual trust between the two sides. Promoting educational exchanges and cooperation between China and ASEAN countries has always been a key area of Center's work.



Elisio Benedito Jamine, Deputy Representative of Temporary Office of the African Union Representative to China, showed that China and the African Union are long-term partners. China has played an important role in the sustainable development of African education. Although the epidemic continues, it will not shake the determination of the AU and China to strengthen education cooperation.



Matt Burney, Minister of Culture and Education at British Embassy, pointed that the education community had unprecedented changes in the past year. The "2021 International Day of Education - China Celebration" gave us an opportunity to reflect on the past and look forward to the future. He reviewed the current situation of educational cooperation between China and Britain, and stressed that educational cooperation is an important part of the people to people dialogue between the Chinese and British governments.



Igor Pozdnyakov, Representative of the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of the Russian Federation

in China claimed that educational cooperation is an important part of the strategic relationship between Russia and China. Besides, as the Russian-Sino joint schools are most important cooperation platform, he hoped new Russian-Sino cooperative institutions can be opened and educational exchanges between Russia and China can be continued.



Zou Lianke, Director of Department of Education of Guizhou Province, shared the practice and exploration of poverty alleviation in Guizhou with the theme of "Taking education as a long-term cause in poverty-stricken areas and doing a good job".

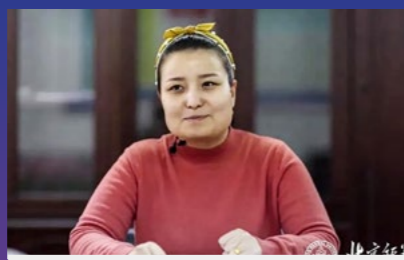


Han Jun, Deputy Director of National Center for Educational Technology, shared the successful experience of cloud platform during the epidemic. He pointed out that the important task of education informatization in the post-epidemic era is to make up for the shortcomings and promote innovation. He hoped that multi-party cooperation would

continue to steadily promote the development of education informatization, promote education equity, improve the quality of education, and realize reform and innovation.



Chen Liqun, a lifelong honorary principal of a lifelong honorary principal of Taijiang National Middle School in Qiandongnan Miao and Dong Autonomous Prefecture, Guizhou Province, former principal of Hangzhou Xuejun High School in Zhejiang Province and model of the era of poverty alleviation, shared the teaching support stories in the mountains of Guizhou Province, and introduced the development of teaching work in poor areas. He pointed out that both the education support and assistance are temporary, and it is the most important to enhance the function of sustainable development in poor areas.



Gulijiahan Aimaiti, an alumna of Beijing Normal University, made a speech titled "Sticking to the

original intention, being worthy of the times, and blooming youth in the place where the motherland needs the most". In the speech, she shared her mental journey from a public normal student of BNU to teaching support teacher and finally to a grass-roots people's teacher. She said that she should start from herself, be grateful for self-improvement, and contribute to the development of the motherland and the construction of her hometown.



Zhou Zuoyu, Vice President of Beijing Normal University, presided over the typical speech session and pointed out that China has made great efforts in promoting the realization of the UN 2030 sustainable development goals and provided the world with Chinese experience. To promote inclusive and high-quality development of education, countries all over the world need to innovate, share experience, encourage each other and make progress together. He hoped that the "International Day of Education - China Celebration" would become an important platform for sharing educational wisdom and a beacon for leading educational practice.

At the event, China Education Association for International Exchange signed cooperation

agreements with Beijing Normal University, Beijing Da Sheng Zhi Xing Technology Co., Ltd. and iFLYTEK to support the development of teachers in central and Western China and promote educational informatization.

This activity was of great significance to achieve the sustainable development goals through promoting the quality education equity in the post-epidemic era. The event not only provided a dialogue platform for experts from all countries in education to discuss the global development of education, and to share excellent experiences and programs of education, but also made new contributions to jointly promote the early realization of 2030 education goals and to jointly build a global education community.



[Collection of Speeches Delivered at 2021 International Day of Education—China Celebration]

Welcome Remarks by Professor Liu Limin, President of China Education Association for International Exchange, on the occasion of the China Celebration of International Day of Education 2021



His Excellency Prof. Tijjani Muhammad-Bande, President of the 74th UN General Assembly,
Her Excellency Ms. Stefania Giannini, Assistant Director-General for Education of UNESCO,
Mr. Tian Xuejun, Vice Minister of Education of the People's Republic of China, Chairperson of Chinese National Commission for UNESCO,
Excellencies and distinguished guests,
Ladies and gentlemen,
Dear friends,

Good morning! On behalf of China Education Association for International Exchange, I would like to welcome all participants in the China Celebration of International Day of Education 2021 under the patronage of UNESCO. Our deep appreciation goes to the Chinese National Commission for UNESCO and Department of International Cooperation and Exchanges of Ministry of Education China for your guidance, and I wish to express my gratitude to the co-host Beijing Normal University!

The past year has brought an array of unprecedented challenges and threats caused by the pandemic to our life. Along with every other nation around the globe, China is battling against COVID-19 and its impacts with an all-of-society effort and response which are based on collective approach and global solidarity. Educators stepped up and acted decisively throughout the outbreak of the pandemic, trying to ensure the continuity of education for 1.6 billion students who are unable to attend school by virtue of the raging pandemic. China's collective efforts, gathered from all domains, in reducing the influences of interruption of education include conducting remote teaching and learning on an unprecedented scale. From providing the alternative solution—digital and distance learning, to implementing preventive measures to contain the spread of COVID-19 on campus, China has restored its education system and ensured the continuation of education for 280 million students from 2020 fall semester. We have also shared our practices on reopening schools, hoping that it can shine the light and accelerate the process of recovery in education.

The pandemic will end as we begin to see the light at the end of the tunnel growing brighter, and we will not be able to return to the world as it was before. Education in the post-pandemic

era has great impacts to our future since it is at the core to human development. In other words, it is our responsibility to build a solid basis for the revival of education for the future of mankind. The theme of the China Celebration of International Education 2021 focuses on "Educational Equality and Sustainable Development in the Post-Pandemic Era." The observance rests on the resourceful network and the aggregated platform of China Education Association for International Exchange in people-to-people exchanges within China and abroad, answers the call of the resolution on International Day of Education adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations in 2018, and aims to drive the realization of Sustainable Development Goals proposed in 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The celebration seeks to establish a platform for dialogue and share experiences in responding to the major educational crisis; aims to enact long-term plans that tackle the negative impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic to the society and implement those measures to recover and revitalize education. We, as the organizer of the China Celebration of International Day of Education 2021, look forward to the sharing and enhanced international cooperation ahead in this regard.

Excellencies,

The launch of UNESCO's publication "Rethinking Education: Towards a global common good?" was following the adoption of Education 2030 Framework for Education. The publication is monumental as it recognizes education as a public good. It also pinpoints the benchmarks to sustainable development. The publication rests upon a foundation of humanistic vision and calls for the establishment of an "international normative framework for flexible learning path" driven by moral forces. China's "Education Modernization 2035" sets the direction for the development of education, building a modern education system of lifelong learning that provides equitable quality education, with universal access. There is a global consensus as the new blueprint echoing with UNESCO's publication, delivering a strong message that education has the agency to reshape our journey to sustainable development.

The consensus in this regard reaches on account of the common challenges and threats. We are living in unprecedented times, witnessing a series of rapid changes ranging from the rise of multipolar global governance, economic globalization, informatization of modern society and the diversification of cultures. Inextricable connections between people from different parts of the world have grown tighter. Uncertainties brought by economic recession, rise of unilateralism and protectionism, issues related to cyber security, prevalence of infectious disease, and radical climate change threaten and jeopardize the stability of international relations as well as global governance. Slowed economic growth, compounded by declined interests in investment, has resulted in high unemployment rates. It means recent graduates will have to prolong their education so that they would have more time before they can become competitive enough in the job market.

The transformation hides in the aftermath of a crisis. This is time for us to act collectively and to look for opportunity for educational development. It is our responsibility to re-construct an education system that provides equitable and quality education, and cultivates talents that speak to the new time, setting a solid social foundation for sustainable development that is built upon mutual trust and friendship.

Distinguished guests,

Founded in 1981, China Education Association for International Exchange (CEAIE) is the largest non-profit organization in education cooperation in China. CEAIE is committed to delivering a wide variety of programs aiming at expanding international cooperation in education at all levels, introducing new communication platform and channel, promoting development of education, culture, science and technology, and strengthening mutual understanding and friendship among peoples in a global context. Its programs also serve the needs of educational development in China. For example, CEAIE helps people and organizations of poverty stricken areas to conduct international cooperation by means of its international partners.

CEAIE has established long-term partnerships with more than 170 educational entities and organizations located in over 50 countries. CEAIE has established formal cooperative bonds with United Nations and its organizations. CEAIE was also the first organization that was granted UN Economic and Social Council's "special consultative status", and later was granted the official relations with UNESCO. Last October, CEAIE successfully organized the 21st China Annual Conference for International Education & Expo, using both online and offline platform. Representatives from UNESCO, embassies, administrative department and executives of educational institutes in China and abroad attended the conference. The 2020 theme was on "Education Globalization: For A Community with A Shared Future for Mankind," attracting around two hundred and ten thousands online participants in total during the series of conferences of CACIE 2020, which became a big gathering for colleagues of international education.

It is my pleasure to celebrate educational development at the China Celebration of International Day of Education with old and new friends. Today's event will highlight educational achievements and progress made in the world, honor efforts and contribution that people have made to enhance equity and quality of education, and encourage discussion on the future of education from a perspective centering on common humanity and sustainable development. We believe, global solidarity will guide us through the darkest time in the recent human history and transform our society to a better one.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

2021 also marks the 40th anniversary of CEAIE. In the past 40 years, there are ups and downs. CEAIE owes the achievements and positive outcomes to the grand supports coming from our partners around the world. This year is a milestone year for our organization, and we will continue devoting to international cooperation in education and enhancing international cooperation. We believe in the power of collaboration and hope we can become a leading driving force in constructing a community that shares the same destiny.

Best wishes for a successful celebration!

Thank you.

**STATEMENT DELIVERED
BY
H. E. PROFESSOR TIJANI MUHAMMAD-BANDE, OFR
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF NIGERIA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ON
THE OCCASION OF THE MAIDEN CELEBRATION OF
INTERNATIONAL DAY OF EDUCATION IN CHINA
UNDER THE THEME
"EDUCATION EQUALITY AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN
THE POST-PANDEMIC ERA"**



**Your Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen**

At the outset, I would like to begin by commending China for its invaluable support during the process of negotiations and adoption of the landmark Resolution. I would also like to commend the organizers and our hosts for putting this event together, as well as by extending an invitation to me to deliver the opening remarks on this auspicious occasion.

With barely less than nine years left to the expiration of the global community's timeline for the realization of our collective aspirations as clearly articulated in Agenda 2030 on Sustainable Development, this first celebration of the International Day of Education by China with the theme "*Education Equality and Sustainable Development in the Post-Pandemic Era*" could not have been more timely and urgent.

Excellencies,

There is no denying the fact that education remains a significant aspect of development. It is a fundamental pillar for unleashing the potential of the human mind. From health advances and agricultural innovations, to efficient public administration and private sector growth, the one key tool that has made these possible worldwide is education. The phenomenal advancement of China is one prime example, where education has served to spur job creation and poverty eradication, among others. For all countries, progress has been recorded for more accessible and inclusive education since the turn of the millennium. The Covid-19 pandemic is, however, threatening to reverse many of the gains we have made so far.

It is so sad to note that many people in the developing world are still facing significant barriers to access to free and qualitative education. The adoption on 3rd December 2018 of the landmark Resolution, declaring 24th January every year as International Day of Education has, thus, provided opportunity

to explore more innovative ways of increasing the reach of education and enhancing partnerships that would make quality education not only more accessible but also more sustainable. This is even more so as the ethical principle of Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development enjoins us to leave no one behind, a reminder in particular to pay special attention to those in vulnerable situations.

Excellencies,

It is no exaggeration to say that Covid-19 has been devastating for education. As the pandemic unfolded, over 192 countries closed their schools in an attempt to stop the spread of the virus. By April 2019, over 1.6 billion students had been affected, with most being sent home. For people daily struggling with insecurity, poverty and hunger, this is only one more obstacle in their life. For girls and people living with disabilities in poorer countries, the closures could signal the end of their school careers altogether.

This Pandemic has caused the most serious disruption to educational opportunity in at least a century. It has amplified social, economic and digital inequalities, putting a generation at risk of a learning catastrophe, as the UN Secretary-General warned in his Policy Brief on Education and Covid-19.

Excellencies,

This is a grim picture of how the Covid-19 Pandemic will shape the education landscape and the future for the next decades to come. As with the health impact of the pandemic, the educational impact will be mediated by how we respond, by the actions or omissions of students, parents, teachers, schools and governments. Some responses are more likely to mitigate the educational impact than others. The worst response from political and educational leaders would be to ignore the educational significance of the pandemic, to pretend that this is not an educational issue, that it would be short lived, or that the consequences on education would be minimal.

Clearly, some lessons are being learned so far from the pandemic: that education cannot be totally dependent on delivery models bound to a specific time and/or location. Technology will continue to play an even stronger role in the future of education. Distance learning platforms will improve and provide more virtual and adaptive experiences and assimilate them into the instructional process. Open educational resources and pedagogy will be more greatly integrated into the curriculum, broadening the community of teachers and learners. However, the resilience of the systems would depend on several of factors, such as financing, training, infrastructure and above all cooperation and partnerships between and among states.

Excellencies,

The prospect that Covid-19 will worsen existing education inequalities is a grim one, but it is not inevitable. Indeed, the pandemic could be a critical catalyst to propel us to action. The solution to this, as to many other problems, especially concerning education, depends on national actions, international cooperation and partnerships. We need to look into the future with determination and commitment in order to turn this crisis into an opportunity. It has shown the capacity of systems to innovate, expanding the frontiers of learning possibilities; the enterprise of teachers to ensure learning continuity; and highlighted the immense value education holds for learners, families and communities. Its implications for national development are also very clear.

As I conclude my remarks, I should like to emphasize that Covid-19 has begun a transformation in the world. We cannot afford to miss the momentum created by the changes now taking place

to decisively tackle educational gaps and the related inequalities that exist. I, therefore, call on all governments and stakeholders to address the systemic and structural issues that hamper access to education, so that together we can create a world truly fit for all, where no one is left behind. In many respects, actions in response to the disruption caused by the pandemic has unlocked and inspired new partnerships, which should be sustained.

I thank you for your attention.

Speech of H. E. Ms. Stefania Giannini Assistant Director-General for Education of UNESCO



Happy International Day of Education!

On behalf of UNESCO, I would like to thank the China Education Association for International Exchange for organizing this virtual event as we celebrate the power of education around the world.

I extend gratitude to His Excellency Mr Tian Xuejun, Vice Minister of Education of the People's Republic of China, and to Beijing Normal University for co-hosting this event.

This third International Day of Education takes place under unprecedented circumstances that have affected every student, educator and community.

Today, about half the world's student population is still facing major interruptions to their schooling, ranging from school closures in over 20 countries to reduced or part-time academic schedules in many others.

Your event today focuses on education equality and sustainable development in the post-pandemic era.

These are the key words of the recovery to heal from a crisis that has widened inequalities and to recognize education's transformational role.

The future of a generation is under severe threat: 24 million children and youth are at risk of dropping out because of the pandemic's economic impact.

Prolonged and repeated school and university closures are increasing learning losses and taking a rising toll on the mental health of students.

The global shift to remote learning left nearly 500 million students unable to access education. We cannot allow this pandemic to wipe out decades of progress in learning.

Now is the time to power education by stepping up collaboration and international solidarity to place education and lifelong learning at the centre of the recovery.

Over the past year, we have witnessed a wide mobilization to ensure learning continuity. On this Day, we celebrate all those who acted with great resourcefulness and dedication to leave no learner behind during school closures.

We can build on the spirit of innovation and partnership that has marked this unprecedented period, including through UNESCO's Global Education Coalition, in which China is active. We need a serious recovery package for education that takes stock of lessons learned over the past year.

Every society's top mission is to reopen schools safely and inclusively, taking all measures to protect the health and well-being of learners, teachers and educators.

For this, teachers and educators must be considered a priority group in vaccination campaigns. They are frontline workers and the most important actors in the educational recovery. They require quality professional development to teach in learning environments that are more dependent on technology.

An inclusive recovery makes a commitment to ensure that the most marginalized learners return to school, receive academic and socio-emotional support and access to health and nutrition programmes.

The recovery must not only be inclusive, but build resilience to future shocks. Governments, public and private partners must step up action to narrow the digital divide, extend connectivity and develop quality open educational resources.

This Day is an opportunity to share innovations that pave the way towards more resilient and inclusive education systems.

It is high time to reimagine education to respond to the interdependent nature of our times – to ensure that learners gain the knowledge, skills and mindsets to steer our societies down a more sustainable path.

On International Day of Education, let us remind the world that education is a public good. It requires intensive global cooperation to share knowledge, mobilize resources and transform systems around the principles of inclusion, equity and quality.

I thank China for encouraging a global dialogue on this transformation, including by hosting the recent Forum on Artificial Intelligence and the Futures of Education.

May this event set the ground for prioritizing education on national and global agendas in the coming year.

I thank you for your attention and on behalf of UNESCO, I wish you a happy education day and a great event ahead!

Keynote Speech by Mr. Tian Xuejun, Vice Minister of Education of the People's Republic of China, Chairperson of Chinese National Commission for UNESCO, On the occasion of the China Celebration of International Day of Education 2021



His Excellency Prof. Tijjani Muhammad-Bande, President of the 74th UN General Assembly,
Her Excellency Ms. Stefania Giannini, Assistant Director-General for Education of UNESCO,
Professor Liu Limin, President of China Education Association for International Exchange,
Excellencies and distinguished guests,
Ladies and gentlemen,
Dear friends,

Good morning!

It is my great pleasure to participate in the celebration of the third International Day of Education. On behalf of the Ministry of Education of China, I would like to extend my warm congratulations on China's first convention to celebrate the International Day of Education! I also would like to express my sincere gratitude to the United Nations and UNESCO for their strong support. Furthermore, I would like to welcome all our guests here at the venue, as well as friends who join the live stream online. I wish to express my highest appreciation and respect to all education workers for your dedication to education!

The year 2020 is an extraordinary year in recent human history. The resurgence of COVID-19 pandemic around the world has led to catastrophic results, in which public health system is devastated and the well-being of people is threatened. At the same time, the pandemic has brought profound impact on education, forcing 1.6 billion students out of school during the peak of the pandemic. Governments and education sectors around the globe have stepped in to fill that void and to ease the disturbance and fought against the pandemic to protect students' right to education. They showed us how to prevail in the face of major disasters with mankind's courage and wisdom. In the past year, China has also taken all measures in protecting the lives of students and teachers from the prevalence of this newly emerging disease-COVID-19.

In the face of the pandemic, China has upheld the principle of people-first and life-first. This approach put teacher and student's safety and health in the first place. In this regard, China has successfully ensured the safety of 280 million Chinese students, 270 thousand on-campus international students in China and 17.32 million teachers by mobilizing all possible resources in a scientific and precise way.

In the face of the pandemic, China has implemented the contingency plan "Suspending Classes without Stopping Learning" which launched the National Online Cloud Classroom, a free online learning platform for students from primary and secondary schools, and provided more than 30,000 free online courses to higher institutions across China. The unprecedented time in education demands educators to move to online teaching and learning at an unprecedented scale in order to meet the needs of home-based learning for 200 million students. Through the combination of regular epidemic prevention and control measures and targeted management, education is restored with schools reopened at all levels from the fall semester in 2020.

In the face of the pandemic, China has been proactive in international cooperation. We share our experiences in pandemic prevention and control with the international community, introduce high-quality online educational resources and platforms, and provide free high-quality online resources to African countries. We believe in the power of working together in overcoming the challenges that we face today.

UNESCO is the key actor in navigating the development of education sector and promoting international cooperation and peace through educational, scientific and cultural exchanges. This year, UNESCO identified the theme of 2021 International Day of Education as “Recover and Revitalize Education for the COVID-19 Generation”. China Celebration, in response to the official theme, focuses on “Education Equality and Sustainable Development in the Post-Pandemic Era”, aiming to tackle the unprecedented challenges and issues imposed upon the education system, emphasizing the fundamental role of education in promoting sustainable development. With this regard and amid a raging pandemic, hosting the 2021 International Day of Education—China Celebration reflects the new reality and resonates with China’s mission for sustainable development.

Ladies, and gentlemen, and friends,

The first five years of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development coincided with the period of 13th Five-Year Plan for Education in China. In the past five years, the Chinese government has placed education in a more prominent position, regarding education as the core to personal development, improvement of comprehensive qualities, and national rejuvenation. Most importantly we believe that the societal changes are most resilient and enduring when it is driven by education. In the context of “China Education Modernization 2035”, the Chinese government prioritizes the educational needs of people and recognizes UN 2030 Agenda as an integral part of China’s education modernization process. China will participate in the global education governance and contribute our share of responsibility under the guidance of “a community with a shared future for mankind”.

China is managing the largest education system in the world. In 2019, there were altogether 530,100 schools of all levels and types in China, with 282 million enrolled students. The gross enrollment rate has increased rapidly in which preschool level reached 83.4%, high school level reached 89.5%, and higher education reached 51.6%. The numbers above indicated that China’s education system has officially transformed from the stage of massification of higher education to the stage of universal access. We can see that a modern education system under the “lifelong learning for all” framework has been initially established. 50.9% of the new labor force in 2019 received higher education, and the average length of education completed reached 13.8 years. The overall pattern of Chinese education has shifted.

China is on its way to a more equitable education system. The Chinese government has always committed to poverty eradication. Poverty assessing, targeting the poor through registration process and screening for example, help to secure the access to quality education for the poor and also reduce the dropout rates of the poor. Developing education in poverty stricken areas has empowered tens of millions of poor students through learning, and it is education that leads the way to a better life. The level of public education services has also been improved. For example, public kindergartens cover 76% of per-school children, and compulsory education has been basically universal in all regions across China. We are happy to witness that school conditions in rural areas have been improved significantly, and overall quality of the teaching staff has been greatly enhanced. The enrollment rate of disabled children reached 93%. With the establishment of student financial aid and support mechanisms that covers the entire education period of a student, 391 million student-times living in poverty have benefited from the special fund (a total amount of 773.9 billion yuan) in the past five years.

China is on its way to high-quality education. Efforts have been made towards an education system that emphasizes all-round development of students and fosters positive youth development in moral, intellectual, physical, aesthetics and labour competence. Also, we aim to establish an aggregated education system. It includes integration pertaining to a framework of collaboration that featured coordinated efforts to promote industry-education integration and S&T-education integration, and encourage collaboration of industries, education sector, research institutions and employers in joint human resources development, and partnership of schools and parents. In addition, implementing educational assessment reform and strengthening evaluation of educational supervision enhance the delivery of education to a higher level. Furthermore, China continues to increase its investment in education. National expenditure on education as a share of GDP is above 4% for eight consecutive years. Built on this solid foundation of investment, primary and secondary schools across China are equipped with digital education resources. Progress is being made to promote the high-quality and open educational resources.

China is on its way to next level educational open up. At present, China not only has become the world’s largest source of international students, but also shows a growing appeal as the destination for study. Increases in high-level joint institutes and programs between China and overseas partners entail an enhanced level of mutual trust and cooperative bonds. China also has initiated its overseas programs at all levels, especially among “the Belt and Road Initiative” countries. Establishment of Chinese International Schools is an example. Last year, the Chinese government released a new policy on furthering and accelerating the opening-up of education in the new era. The document explicates China’s tenacity in educational open-up which embodies openness and inclusiveness and a wide array of cooperation. At the same time, China values the multiple effects of education and international cooperation in poverty eradication. Sharing experiences and the best practices in poverty alleviation will help developing countries to train their talents in management, scientific research and working skills.

In October 2020, the Fifth Plenum of the Nineteenth Chinese Communist Party Central Committee approved the plan proposal on China’s 14th Five-Year Plan. It sets priorities for the next five-year development and 2035 modernization plan. Riding this momentum, China is embarking on a new journey to build China into a modernized socialist country. China’s education has also entered a new stage that focuses on educational equality, stability and sustainability. Establishing a resilient education system that delivers quality and equitable education, seeks to serve life-long learning for all and meets the needs of all learners, and creates the opportunity to allow all people to enjoy lifelong learning.

Ladies and Gentlemen, Friends,

Education bridges the past, present and future as it is what makes us who we are and what we will be. Education is the strong instrument to human development. Mankind is confronted with a range of challenges and reforms at the moment. With the growth of technological innovation, a new round of scientific and technological revolution, compounded by the COVID-19 pandemic is now driving the global education reform. There is a pressing need for all stakeholders to work together to deal with emerging challenges in the future. On that note, I would like to propose the following four initiatives:

I. We must accelerate the delivery of Sustainable Development Goals with tenacity. The pandemic has an undeniable negative impact on delivering the Sustainable Development Goals, especially for Goal 4 on education. The closure of schools has further imperiled the continuity of education by depriving educational opportunities from those who have already had trouble completing their studies. It is at the moment like now, we have to stand firm in our belief. Multilateral organizations such as UNESCO have a central role in the future of global education governance. With no questioned legitimacy, international organizations are encouraged to

lead the way to the realization of sustainable development as the hub for competency gaining, standard and policy-making, information exchanges, as well as the catalyst for international cooperation.

II. We must take the advantages of technological innovation to turn this crisis for education into opportunity. Under the fourth industrial revolution, the world is practicing artificial intelligence, new materials, virtual reality, quantum information, etc. We are witnessing a radical transition of innovative solutions from quantitative changes to qualitative changes. The revolution will definitely change the way of life and the world we know now. In other words, the scope and boundaries of education sector is underway to be re-imaged and redefined. We must make full use of the major opportunities brought about by technological innovation, by which science and technology can become a breakthrough for global crises and a transformative force that leads to the realization of Sustainable Development Goals.

III. We must educate for global competence. The interconnected world that we live in right now requires the young generation to be competent in living and working in a diverse environment. Education for global competence, therefore, becomes one of the primary goals for the education sector. Education for global competence aims to strengthen education on sustainable development and to help students understand that mankind lives in a community that shares the same future. It also seeks to promote student's understanding of other cultures, teaches them to appreciate the differences, fosters their ability in examining issues with a global perspective, and cultivate in them a will for the well-being of mankind. The students should be armed with knowledge, skills, perspectives and values for global sustainable development.

IV. We must stand together to build an educational community on a global scale. People throughout the world live in the same global village now, and countries are more interconnected as we have become a community that shares the same destiny. We can only achieve lasting stability and development through strengthened solidarity, partnership and cooperation. Achievement of the educational goals of the Sustainable Development Goals, not only depends on the governance capabilities and trajectory of development for each country, but also relies on the dynamic of global education governance. To this end, it is important to uphold the principal of consultation that meets the interests of all and to protect the international system which embraces multilateralism and positions the United Nations at its center. Under such a framework, we need to place peaceful development and justice as the core objective for health trajectory of sustainable development, encourage innovations on cooperative mechanism and bilateral/multilateral cooperation, and build an education community that embraces openness and inclusiveness, mutual learning and mutual benefit.

“Everybody cherishes his or her own culture, and if we respect and treasure others’ culture, the world will be a harmonious one.” International Day of Education is an important platform to raise public awareness of education, celebrate educational achievements, and examine and reflect educational issues. China is willing to further strengthen communication and cooperation with other countries and international organizations such as UNESCO on the issues we face collectively in achieving sustainable development of education. China is willing to take an active part in global education actions and education governance. China is willing to contribute to the availability of learning products for education and to provide educational assistance within its capacity to developing countries. China is willing to contribute its share in delivering the Goals of Education 2030 Agenda!

The year of the Ox will arrive in 20 days, and I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a happy Chinese New Year and a wonderful year of the Ox ahead! And I wish our cause for education great prosperity!

Thank you!

**2021 INTERNATIONAL DAY OF EDUCATION (IDE)
IN CHINA
"INDONESIA-CHINA EDUCATION COOPERATION IN THE
POST COVID-19 PERIOD"**

**AMBASSADOR REMARKS
H.E. DJAUHARI ORATMANGUN,
AMBASSADOR OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA TO
THE PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC OF CHINA AND MONGOLIA**



Honorable Dr. Liu Limin, Board Chair and President China Education Association for International Exchange;

His Excellency Dr. Andrey Denisov, Ambassador of the Russian Federation to China

His Excellency Ambassador Rahamtalla M. Osman, Permanent Representative of the African Union (AU) to China;

Distinguished guests,
Ladies and gentlemen,

I feel honored and privileged to humbly appear before you, to become part of this important event, hosted by Chair and President China Education Association for International Exchange (CEAIE) and Beijing Normal University .

First of all, allow me to express my profound gratitude and appreciation to China Education Association for International Exchange (CEAIE) for the excellent works in which this event is being organized. Indeed, today's event will further enrich the cooperation in the education sector between Indonesia-China, and strengthen the people-to-people exchange between our two countries.

Together with all of you, I stand ready to bring this relationship to a higher place, as mandated by the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership signed in 2013.

Distinguished guests,
Ladies and gentlemen,

I am pleased to have this opportunity to share with you, my views on the development of Indonesia-China relations. In particular, I would like to highlight the fact that this year we are celebrating the 70th anniversary of diplomatic relations since it was started in April 13th 1950.

The relationship between Indonesia and China includes centuries of coexistence and cooperation. However, the mutually beneficial cooperation between the two countries has been immensely flourished in more recent times.

The spirit of cooperation under the framework of the Strategic Comprehensive Partnership will continue to bring progress and prosperity for both Indonesia and China, and will further contribute to the peace, stability and prosperity of the region and the world.

Our friendship and cooperation will become the source of strength to overcome various global challenges, particularly in this time of uncertainty amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

Cooperation in all sectors continues to be implemented, various potential for new cooperation continues to be explored, especially in education cooperation

Distinguished guests,
Ladies and gentlemen,

The Covid-19 pandemic has prompted rapid structural changes. Schools need to quickly adapt to digital systems to facilitate distance learning. As consumers and businesses increasingly depend on technology, the industry needs to accelerate the digitization process to remain relevant and increase efficiency.

Education is one of the important task of the Government of Indonesia. In 2020, the Indonesia Government work hard to achieve the improvement of the quality of learning, while ensuring to meet all the needs in education sector during the Covid-19 pandemic.

During the Covid-19 pandemic, the Indonesian Government made a number of breakthroughs to ensure that pandemic will not hamper all efforts in educating the nation's future generation. Related ministries in Indonesia are also taking steps to support government policy to improve quality of education.

Indonesia needs human resources that are educated, noble, adaptive, and collaborative to achieve the development targets of 2045. Thus, the development of education in the future will focus to increase human resources facing the industrial revolution 4.0 and digital economy era.

In this digitalization era, both Indonesia and China have placed education in a more prominent position. Cooperation in education will be part of efforts to commemorate the 70th anniversary of Indonesia-China diplomatic relations.

Distinguished guests,
Ladies and gentlemen,

Our task is to make sure that the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership established is implemented with concrete programs for the benefit of our two peoples.

In the 70 years of diplomatic relations, the two countries have many achievements, including the increasing trade value, increasing investment activities, and close people-to-people interactions.

We have also seen high performance figures for economic cooperation between the two countries,

which shows a positive signal that the friendship for 70 years has been manifested in a framework of cooperation and partnerships that are beneficial to both people.

China is on its way to be the largest economy in the world while Indonesia is leading ASEAN to be the 4th largest global economy by 2045. It is indeed this vision of a new regional and global geo-economic landscape that should be the guidance for deeper and broader cooperation beyond the 70 years anniversary point.

With these current bilateral dynamism, Indonesia and China required more and more human resources with the skills and the abilities which compatible in this new era of expanded opportunity.

I believe that the cooperation will provide opportunities for both Indonesia and China to share ideas, experiences and, best practices in developing methods on education that will create qualified graduates to fill the high demand for special skills.

Thank you.

Speech of H.E. Ambassador Laurent Bili French Embassy to China



From the very early days in France, basic education for the youngest kids was set to be compulsory and free, and it was one of the ways to enable students to enjoy their right to education without burden. Even today, school education is still one of the best means to allow each individual to escape the inevitability of socio-economic predestination and to achieve aspirations through their own merits.

I believe that equality in education is an important principle that we all share.

Another fundamental value of our educational model is plurality, diversity and openness to the world and to opportunities. France, the fourth largest country of international students in the world, hosts 10,000 Chinese students every year, while in normal times, 2,000 French students also choose to study in China every year. France also has the largest number of Chinese language learners in Europe, with 45,000 students studying Chinese at the primary and secondary levels.

These young people bring new hope to the future relationship between the two countries by getting to know each other.

Of course, the pandemic we are experiencing poses challenges to these exchanges, but it also demonstrates the importance of exchanges. The education system, teachers, students and families have all adjusted to ensure that students are not deprived of opportunities because of the pandemic.

However, we can see that our people, schools, teachers, and students are eager to meet, communicate, progress, and grow together.....

I salute the determination of our Chinese education partners, starting with the China Education Association for International Exchange, which remains in close contact with us even under the current difficult conditions.

We are working with Beijing Normal University to strengthen teacher training, promote mutual understanding of both languages and cultures within Chinese and French schools, and encourage exchanges of students and teachers from both sides. These are the top priorities of our educational cooperation in order to create and maintain a new future.

On this International Day of Education, we celebrate this most beautiful mission, a mission that enables our young generations to realize their aspirations, potential and dreams

It is in this spirit that many initiatives and new tools are emerging within the framework of the International Organization of la Francophonie and the Regions and UNESCO to support the education systems of countries in need for the sake of our youth and the youth of the world. Let's unite to fight for the right to education!

This celebration is taking place in a very difficult time marked by the resurgence of the COVID-19 pandemic in many parts of the world, with some countries experiencing second and even third waves.

The advent of the pandemic and its attendant impact on our lives, lifestyles and livelihoods is a shared reality for every single individual worldwide. The pandemic has affected negatively all sectors of activities and the education is not an exception. In Africa in particular, the measures taken to mitigate the impact of the pandemic have resulted in the disruptions of economic and social activities and the educational system have been severely affected due to the total closure of learning institutions, schools, colleges and universities by governments across the continent. Millions of school children and young people were obliged to take the shift of virtual training, or use radio, television and online courses to keep students in learning institutions.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Education has long been recognized as a critical sector whose “performance directly affects and even determines the quality and magnitude of Africa’s development. It is, indeed, in recognition of this fact that the African Union envisions developing a world class human capital to drive Africa’s economic and technological transformation through universal access to quality education. One of the aspirations of the African Union Agenda 2063 is the need to catalyze an Education and Skills revolution and actively promote science, technology, research and innovation, with the ultimate aim of building knowledge, human resources, capabilities and skills for Africa’s future.

With the desire to set up a qualitative system of education and training in the continent, the African Union has developed a comprehensive ten-year Continental Education Strategy for Africa (CESA 2016-2025). This strategy is also intended to provide the African continent with efficient human resources adapted to African core values and therefore capable of achieving the vision and ambitions of the African Union.

To start meeting the targets of the first ten-year plan of Agenda 2063, Africa is focusing on investing in science and technology, including building and/or upgrading research infrastructures; enhancing professional and technical competencies; promoting entrepreneurship and innovation; and providing an enabling environment for Science Technology and Innovation development in the African continent.

Africa is proud to have been a partner of China for many years, in different areas, including on Education and capacity building. The cooperation and partnership on Education is one of the key priorities for African Union and especially because China has a proven track record in elevating Education and turning it into a driving force for economic development and modernization, such experience is invaluable to many African countries.

You would recall Excellencies that, since the agreement on the 2018 FOCAC Plan of Action, we have been engaged and witnessing with satisfaction great moves in the implementation its outcomes, by Chinese intuitions and Africa Union with its specialized agencies. Many different training and capacity buildings have been implemented in areas such as agriculture, industry, infrastructure, information, energy, tourism, investment, and trade. Every year thousands of African civil servants receive vocational

REMARKS BY MR. ELISIO JAMINE, DEPUTY HEAD OF THE AFRICAN UNION PERMANENT MISSION TO CHINA ON THE 2021 CHINA CELEBRATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF EDUCATION



Honorable Vice Minister of Education of China

Excellencies,
Distinguished Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,
All protocol duly observed,

On behalf of H.E. Ambassador Rahamtalla Osman, the African Union Permanent Representative to China, I wish to thank the China Education Association for International Exchange and the Beijing Normal University for inviting the African Union to be part of the celebration of the International Day of Education,

which will officially be marked on 24 January 2021.

training in China at universities, government agencies, and companies in different areas.

In addition to that, China is supporting the construction of hundreds of rural elementary and secondary schools, and provides learning materials and equipment to African universities. It is planning the creation of transportation universities across Africa, and currently supports digital literacy projects in African countries as well as the funding rural agricultural training centers to modernize farming.

However, despite these encouraging successes, challenges still remain to be addressed in many areas, particular in the area of digital education. The insufficient knowledge of infrastructure and the digital divide reveals the limits of Africa's remote areas, to benefit from induced advantages of digital education in order to harness the capacity of Information Communication Technologies (ICT) to improve access, quality and management of education and training systems.

The strengthening of collaboration between Africa and China will help the two sides towards achieving the outcomes that are in line with the aspirations of Africa's Agenda 2063 and in achieving China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) cooperation objectives for the two sides. This partnership will also support Africa to achieve the Sustainable Development targets established under United Nations Agenda 2030.

Allow me to conclude by underlining that China as a consistent partner of the African Union and its member states, China plays a key role in supporting the education in Africa, and as the pandemic is still looming we should strengthen our partnership towards mitigating its negative impacts in the education sector.

I thank you for your attention.

Speech on the Occasion of the China Celebration of International Day of Education 2021

Chen Dehai, Secretary General of ASEAN-China Center



Honorable President Liu Limin, Professor Tijani Mohamed Bande, Assistant Director General Giannini, Ambassador Djauhari Oratmangun, Ambassador Laurent Bili, Secretary General Wang Yongli, Distinguished guests.

It is a great honor to attend the United Nations International Education Day 2021 - China Celebration co-hosted by China Education Association for International Exchange and Beijing Normal University. With the theme of "Education Equity and Sustainable Development in the Post-Pandemic Era", today's

event reaffirms the development goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the importance of education in achieving sustainable development, which is timely and responsive to the needs of the times and international situation.

At present, the pandemic continues to spread and rebound, causing the largest global disruption of learning in history and directly affecting the lives of 1.6 billion students in more than 190 countries. Looking ahead, as countries gradually enter a phase of recovery and development, we are here discussing how to recover and revitalize education for the COVID-affected generation by strengthening international exchange and cooperation in education and sharing experience and measures of countries in addressing school closures and ensuring educational continuity. The event is of great significance in promoting the sustainable development of education in the post-pandemic era.

Education is an important cornerstone of national development and social progress, and is the key to sustainable development. Topics like how to turn the crisis into an opportunity and use innovative technology to empower distance education and promote educational equity and sustainable development, how to ensure that distance education can better benefit remote and poor areas and promote educational equity, how to improve teachers' ability to teach online and students' ability to learn online and guarantee the quality of education and how to play the role of education in serving social and economic development and help countries fight the pandemic and recover development are of common concern for all countries in the world. We should overcome all these challenges for our common interest.

While the pandemic is still raging, education cannot be disrupted. We believe that UN International Education Day 2021 - China Celebration will provide a platform for countries around the world to exchange experiences, build consensus and promote global education equality and sustainable development.

Distinguished guests!

Jointly established by China and ten ASEAN countries, China-ASEAN Center is an intergovernmental international organization dedicated to implementing the important consensus reached by the leaders of both sides and promoting practical cooperation in the fields of trade, investment, education, culture, tourism and information media. Education exchange and cooperation is of great significance in China-ASEAN relations, and plays a vital role in promoting close people-to-people exchanges and enhancing mutual trust between the two sides. Promoting educational exchanges and cooperation between China and ASEAN countries has always been a key task for the Center. During the pandemic, we join hands with relevant institutions to conduct online vocational education and training, hold online seminars on experiences in pandemic control and prevention, and organize on-line exchanges for young students to help regional economic recovery and cultural exchanges. We will continue to promote education cooperation and experience sharing, cooperate fully with ASEAN countries and the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization and other institutions to make our due contribution to the region's education development and economic recovery.

Thank you for your attention!

Speech of Matt Burney Minister (Culture and Education) of British Embassy to China



I'm delighted to be here today in my capacity as Director China of the British Council and Minister (Culture and Education) of the British Embassy in Beijing to celebrate International Day of Education 2021, hosted by our close partner and friend the China Education Association for International Exchange, along with Beijing Normal University.

This year's International Day of Education provides an opportunity to reflect on the events of the past year, which has seen unprecedented changes in the education sector. The shift to online communication and learning has proved a challenge – the sector has needed to adapt quickly, learning how best to collaborate with partners and support students when face-to-face engagement remains impossible. Education institutions have used technology to foster a blended learning environment, in which students can safely develop their skills and knowledge through a wide range of resources.

However, we must acknowledge that online learning and travel restrictions have a disproportionate effect on disadvantaged groups, who may not have access to digital resources, facilities or support. This year's International Day of Education, with the theme of 'Education Equality and Sustainable Development in the Post-Pandemic Era' is therefore an excellent opportunity to reflect on the future of education and its sustainability; going forward, the sector needs to adapt to ensure students are still able to access the high-quality education and resources that they deserve.

The UK-China education relationship is one of the most important elements of our wider bilateral relationship. The UK is currently a top study destination for Chinese students, with almost 130,000 Chinese students choosing the UK as their study destination at the university level. Tens of thousands also come to the UK every year for short-term English language courses. This number has continued to increase over the past few years, with the number of study visas issued to Mainland Chinese students rising by 20 per cent from 2018 to 2019.

The UK is also a leading partner for China in joint transnational education initiatives and research. Over twenty years since the first TNE programme was approved in 1998, there are more than 64,000 Chinese students studying for UK qualifications through these programmes, a figure which has more than doubled in the past two years. The British Council also supported the establishment of the UK-China Joint Institute Alliance in 2017, the first of its kind in China, in order to boost the development and management of high-quality TNE institutes.

Over the course of the pandemic, UK higher education institutions have made a huge shift to online learning, enabling students to continue to receive a high-quality education. Education institutions have also displayed flexibility in supporting international students; some universities have made huge efforts to help students travel to the UK from China, while others have allowed students to begin their studies remotely while they are unable to travel to the UK.

The British Council has also supported Chinese students over the course of the pandemic – we have facilitated communications between students and institutions, ensured prospective students are still able to take the English tests they need, and reassured students through pre-departure briefings and other online events, so they know exactly what to expect from their study experience in the UK.

At the British Council, building connections, understanding and trust between people in the UK and China is at the heart of our work. We strive to create links between the strong demand for international education collaboration in China and the world-class expertise we have available in the UK, facilitating education opportunities for Chinese students and partnerships for education institutions.

These strategic partnerships, collaborative programmes, and other academic and research exchanges help form part of the people-to-people dialogue between UK and Chinese governments, which has been key in building mutual understanding and trust between the two countries.

This is the impetus for the British Council (and more widely, the UK's) work in international education and our key mission in building people-to-people relations globally. Through providing high-quality international education opportunities to our young people, we are supporting the development of global mindsets and cross-cultural understanding that will have a huge positive impact on the social and economic development of our two countries.

The theme of today's event is 'Education Equality and Sustainable Development in the Post-Pandemic Era'; for the sector to achieve this, we will need to adapt the ways we operate, how we deliver education, and the resources we provide. I am confident that the UK and China will continue to work together to integrate technology in their education work in innovative ways, driving the modernisation of our education systems and supporting future generations of students to thrive in an increasingly digital society.

Going forward, the UK wants to work with China to address the challenges in international education brought on by the pandemic, as well as to develop global citizens of the 21st century who are culturally aware and can make a positive contribution – not only to the UK and China's bilateral partnerships, but also to the world as a whole.

Speech of H. E. Dr. Igor Pozdniakov



Dear Vice Minister Tian Xuejun, President Liu Limin, colleagues,

Good morning! It is my pleasure to represent Russian Embassy in China and the Russian Ministry of Education and Science at today's event. For me, International Day of Education is a festival of educational exchanges between the two countries because educational cooperation is an important part of the strategic relations between Russia and China. I think today also offers a good opportunity to introduce you to modern educational exchanges between our two countries.

Last year, about 50,000 Chinese students studied in Russia, 20,000 Russian students studied in Chinese universities and 30,000 citizens of both countries participated in short-term training programs, so the number of participants in bilateral educational exchanges exceeded 100,000. Russian and Chinese universities have signed 2,000 cooperation agreements, developed about 100 educational programs, established 11 Russian-Chinese cooperation institutions, including 10 colleges and one university in Shenzhen, namely, Shenzhen MSU-BIT University. Of course, the pandemic has had an adverse impact on educational exchanges. Many Chinese students could not go back to Russia to study, and Russian students could not come back to China to attend classes, so they have to learn online. It is good to ensure learning is uninterrupted when classes are disrupted.

In May last year President Xi Jinping and the Chinese Communist Party attached great importance to the cause of foreign students coming to China. The Russian side also warmly welcomed Chinese students to study in Russia after the end of the pandemic. Now the main platform for cooperation is the Russian-Chinese joint schools. I hope that this year we will continue our work in this area and open new Russian-Chinese cooperative educational institutions. For example, St. Petersburg State University and Harbin Institute of Technology have already started the relevant procedures, and the Russian State Pedagogical University is considering opening a joint college in China and is looking for a partner school. Our Embassy supports Russian universities in promoting the advantages of Russian education in China and would like to express our gratitude to our Chinese colleagues, friends, and especially to the Chinese Ministry of Education and the China Education Association for International Exchange.

Finally, I wish you all good health and the best of luck in Russian-Chinese educational exchange programs! Thank you.

Attaching Great Importance to Educational Equality and Actively Promoting Sustainable Development

Speech on 2021 UN International Day of Education – China Celebration

Dong Qi

President of Beijing Normal University



Honorable Vice Minister Tian Xuejun, President Liu Limin
Professor Tijani Mohamed Bande, President of the 74th session of the United Nations General Assembly
Ms. Giannini, Assistant Director-General for Education of UNESCO
Distinguished Ambassadors to China, Experts and Scholars
Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen.

Good morning! As International Day of Education is approaching, we jointly organize *2021 International Day of Education- China Celebration* through a combination of online and offline activities to discuss the issues of education equality and sustainable development in the post-pandemic era. On behalf of Beijing Normal University, one of the organizers, I would like to extend my warm welcome and sincere thanks to all the guests attending the conference.

Education is the key to achieving sustainable development, and promoting education equality is an important task to promote global education development. The United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development places special emphasis on the development goal of "ensuring inclusive, equitable and quality education", which has also become the general consensus in the field of education worldwide. At present, against the backdrop of the still severe global pandemic, the improvement and equitable development of education around the world are facing even more daunting challenges, and we need to strengthen global cooperation, and the international community should unite to jointly promote the equitable, quality and balanced development of education.

As an important center of teacher training and educational research in China, Beijing Normal University has always attached great importance to the improvement of education quality and education equity and to promoting the development of education in less developed regions. We promote education development by strengthening teacher training, enhancing curriculum development, applying new information technology, organizing special non-profit educational activities to help the poor, and establishing educational experimental innovation zones in cooperation with local governments. In the past few years, we have worked profoundly with education administrations and non-profit organizations across China to promote poverty alleviation through education, reduce the burden of teachers, improve the efficiency of education

and teaching, and promote the physical and mental health of students. Beijing Normal University undertakes the work of monitoring the quality of compulsory education in China and has also achieved positive results. It provides an important basis for the state and local governments to better conduct education evaluation, understand the problems in education and identify the key factors affecting the development of education. At the same time, we also pay special attention to cooperation with UNESCO and other relevant institutions, and carry out in-depth international cooperation in the field of education, especially in promoting local economic and social development through education, promoting poverty alleviation through education, and improving the labor literacy and labor quality of the young generation.

The UNESCO International Research and Training Center for Rural Education (INRULED) at Beijing Normal University has cooperated with UNESCO's Category 1 and 2 centers and in particular with Africa through "South-South cooperation", which has promoted the sharing of successful experiences and mutual learning in education. During the pandemic last year, we collaborated with the UNESCO Institute for Information Technologies in Education to develop a number of reports, including Handbook on Facilitating Flexible Learning During Educational Disruption: The Chinese Experience in Maintaining Undisrupted Learning in COVID-19 Outbreak, making a positive contribution to the global fight against the pandemic.

Of course, in the process of promoting education equality, we still have a lot to do together. For example, our research and understanding of brain development and learning laws of children and adolescents is not enough; our understanding of how the environment affects brain development of children and adolescents is also insufficient; we do not know much about how to adopt effective "information +" education and "Internet +" "Education, "artificial intelligence +" education and other effective means to improve the quality of education in underdeveloped areas and rural areas, and help children learn and develop better, etc. These have yet to be studied in depth.

In today's era of science and technology empowering education, we have many issues that need to be discussed together. We are willing to discuss these issues with UNESCO and UNESCO's related Category I and Category II institutions to jointly establish a community with a shared future for mankind, promote the development and equality of education so that our children can have a bright future. Beijing Normal University hopes to work with everyone to take International Education Day as an opportunity to deepen the research on the laws of education, share and promote useful experience, join hands to promote the inclusiveness and equity of education and make a greater contribution to educational equality and sustainable development.

Thank you for your attention!

Hold Fast to Original Aspirations and Make Contribution to the Motherland
Guljahan Amat
History teacher at No.3 High School of Yecheng County, Kashgar Prefecture,
Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region of China



Dear leaders and colleagues,

Good morning, everyone! Today, I am honored to be invited to speak online at the "2021 United Nations International Education Day – China Celebration". I would like to thank CEAIE and my alma mater, BNU, for giving me this opportunity. Time flies and in a flash, it has been five years since I graduated from BNU. In the last five years, I have moved from Beijing to Urumqi, and then from Urumqi to Yecheng, a remote border city in Xinjiang. Although people around me do not quite understand why I came to teach in this city, I have never regretted the choices I have made in my life. I

love the children here, so I decided to stay and accompany them to grow up.

I From a big city to a small county town: realizing the value of life

After graduating from School of History of Beijing Normal University in July 2015, I went to be a teacher in No. 23 Middle School in Urumqi, capital of Xinjiang, and in September 2016, I was assigned by the school to teach for one year in Yecheng County, a county I had not heard much about, but what I never expected was that it would become the best place in my life. Now I had to make a decision on whether to work long term in Yecheng or go back to Urumqi. I have a teaching position in a model high school in the provincial capital and the school leaders appreciate my capabilities. Life would be much more comfortable and easier in Urumqi. Yecheng, however, a national-level impoverished county in a difficult and remote area, is 1,500 kilometers away from Urumqi. When my first year of teaching at Yecheng expired, I voluntarily applied to teach for another year. Finally, I decided to settle down and work in Yecheng. .

Why did I choose to stay and work in Yecheng? When I first arrived here, I felt lonely and suspicious. After I adapted to life here, I felt happy and fulfilling. The reason for the change is the children's attachment and growth. My students told me, "Teacher, you must take care of your health. If you go back to Urumqi because you are sick, we cannot go on without you". When I was back to Urumqi on business, my colleagues told me, "Your students kept looking for you all

over the campus, in the dormitory and in the office, and they kept crying when they could not see you, thinking you won't come back". I always like to record and share the moments when I am with my students. I can really feel the value and meaning of my work here, and I feel that the children need me and Yecheng needs me.

Of course, there are some people who questioned my motive. I do not care about their suspicions. The more difficult the road ahead, the stronger my determination and the stronger my belief. I am still young and I choose to make my life worthwhile and meaningful.

II Hold fast to my dream of becoming a good teacher

When I was a kid, I dreamed of becoming a teacher. After I got the highest score in the college entrance exam in my city, I did not hesitate to apply to study in Beijing Normal University. I lived a full and meaningful life in university. My dream of becoming a teacher inspired me to overcome difficulties and move forward fearlessly. Finally I was employed as a high school history teacher in No. 23 Middle School in Urumqi after graduation from university, successfully taking the first step to realize my dream.

When my dream came true, I did not relax at all. Preparing lessons, correcting homework, writing teaching reflections, talking with students, communicating with colleagues, and consulting senior teachers were all compulsory lessons for me every day. I cherish every platform provided by the school to showcase myself and learn and communicate, and for me, whatever I do, I will try my best. The nearly 20 teaching-related awards I have won since working in the school have helped me, a fledging young teacher, to build up my professional confidence. In view of my performance, I was awarded "Outstanding Educator" by the school and I volunteered to teach for one year in Yecheng, a remote and poor border city. My life has been changed by this opportunity, and teaching in Yecheng is a major turning point in my life, which gives me the opportunity to re-examine myself and plan my future.

Looking back on my own growth experience, it is Beijing Normal University that gives me the confidence and courage to pursue excellence, and it is this university that teaches me "to be not only a teacher, but also a future educator", and these years of teaching in Yecheng have enabled me to deeply realize that the youth of courageous pursuit of dreams is the happiest and most fulfilling, and the youth of willingness to give is the most beautiful and unforgettable.

III From dream-seeker to dream-builder: remain true to original aspirations for education

September 9, 2014 was an extraordinary day in my life. On that day, Mr. Xi Jinping, General Secretary of Chinese Communist Party, inspected BNU and had a discussion with teachers and students. As the only student representative, I reported to General Secretary Xi my determination to volunteer to take root in the border area and dedicate myself to education in my hometown, and received his affirmation and encouragement, which became my greatest motivation to pursue

my dream. Six years have passed, and I have grown from a university student to a teacher in the remote area. I keep the general secretary's speech "Become a good teacher for the Satisfaction of the Party and the People" on my desk. When I am confused, tired, or content with myself, I will read it and constantly draw courage and strength from it.

At the symposium four years ago, I was encouraged by General Secretary Xi's statement "If the central and western region is strong, China will be strong", and when I chose to work in the tough border town, I really understood the meaning of it. Only when the youth in Central and Western China are strong, can this region be strong, and only then can China be strong. No child should be left behind. As teachers, we must work hard and happily and train our children. The government has introduced a lot of policies to support the development of teachers, which makes us front-line teachers very excited, such as *National Training Program for Primary and Secondary School Teachers*, *Teacher Education Revitalization Action Plan*, *Program Supporting Rural Teachers*, *Navigation Plan to Train High-quality Teachers*, etc. These policies intend to attract the best talent to the teaching profession so that excellent teachers can cultivate more students with talent.

Realizing the Chinese dream ultimately depends on talent and education, and we young teachers are duty-bound to make every child enjoy a fair and quality education, which is the beautiful vision of the Party and the people and also the goal of teachers. I hope that more young people will join the education cause in the west, and take the initiative to integrate the "small self" into the "big self" and make contributions to the motherland.

Xi Jinping's Seven Years as an Educated Youth in Rural Area is one of my favorite books to share with students. "General Secretary Xi experienced an extraordinary youth, working as a farmer for seven years and experiencing countless hardships and trials. His starting point in life is even lower than most people". I often use these small stories full of positive energy to encourage my students to change the mindset of "waiting and relying on others". While enjoying the preferential policies of the state to Xinjiang and tremendous support from other provinces to Xinjiang, we have to be grateful, work hard to improve ourselves and contribute to the development of our hometown and the motherland. As time passes by, a lot of changes have taken place. However, our original aspirations have never changed. With General Secretary Xi's earnest wishes in mind, millions of young teachers like me are on our way to fulfilling our grand ambitions of becoming excellent teachers and realizing the great dream of revitalizing the country with education.

Wish this event a complete success. Thank you for your attention.



Celebrate Chinese New Year with Warm Hearts

At the beginning of 2021, in order to reduce the risk of epidemic transmission, many regions in China proposed "celebrating the Chinese New Year locally". Senior

leaders and university leaders visited and expressed their concern to the teachers and students who stayed on campus and the staff who stuck to the front line, and sent New Year's

blessings to them. The university also took a number of measures to enrich the life of students in winter vacation and spent the winter vacation with students to celebrate the colorful new year.

Heart-warming Concerns

Deputy Mayor of Beijing Lu Yan and His Party Came to Inspect, Investigate and Visit the Teachers and Students Who Stayed on Campus

Article source: Party Committee Propaganda Department | Release date: 2021-02-10

On the afternoon of February 9th, Lu Yan, Deputy Mayor of Beijing, Liu Yuhui, Deputy Secretary of Beijing Municipal Educational Work Committee

and Director of Beijing Municipal Education Commission, Di Tao, Deputy Secretary of Beijing Municipal Educational Work Committee, Liu Xiaoming, member

of Beijing Municipal Educational Work Committee and Deputy Director of Beijing Municipal Education Commission, came to Beijing Normal University to



inspect, investigate and visit the teachers and students who stayed on campus. President Dong Qi, Vice President Zhang Kai, and Vice Chairman of the University Council Li Xiaobing, participated in the investigation.

Lu Yan and his party inspected the campus epidemic prevention and control management, temperature detection, being on duty and so on. They headed to the dormitory building Xue 16 to visit the students staying on campus, then to the student supermarket and the second floor of Xinlequn Canteen to inspect and investigate the operation security, and expressed concern to the front-line staff.

Lu Yan and his delegation asked in detail about the management of intelligent gate machine for temperature measurement in and out of dormitory, records of dormitory environment disinfection, prevention and management of hidden danger in dormitory safety and management of students staying in the dormitory. They visited students in the dormitory, communicated

with them cordially, learned about their study and life during the winter vacation, encouraged them to make good use of the holiday time, like exercising and enhancing abilities, and send them New Year blessings and love gift packs in the end. In the students' supermarket and the second floor of Xinlequn Canteen, they inquired in detail about the epidemic prevention and control, environmental sanitation, food prices, fire safety, the use of electrical appliances and the disposal of kitchen waste, and sent sincere greetings and new year blessings to the logistics staff who stayed at the front line, and sent them new year gift packs.

Lu Yan fully affirmed the effective measures taken by BNU in coordinating the campus epidemic prevention and control and the management and service of teachers and students during the winter vacation. He stressed that it is necessary to strengthen the environment disinfection supervision and management of dormitory, supermarket and canteen, implement various epidemic prevention and control measures; increase the

investigation of potential safety hazards in various regions, eliminate all kinds of fire safety hazards; strengthen the health and food safety education of canteen staff, improve risk prevention awareness; vigorously promote "Clear Your Plate" campaign of canteen dining, and classify and manage food waste; transform curtain facilities of the supermarket and canteen buildings for teachers and students to get in and out more conveniently; do a good job in study guidance, life concern and psychological care for students staying on campus, so that students can have a safe and rich Spring Festival on campus.

Responsible comrades from Office of the People's Government of Beijing Municipality, Beijing Municipal Educational Work Committee, Office of Beijing Municipal Education Commission and Beijing Emergency Management Bureau, as well as relevant responsible comrades from Office of Party Committee / President, Department of Student Affairs, the General Affairs Office, and Security Office of BNU attended the above activities.

Cheng Jianping Went to Changping Campus to Express Concerns to the Students Staying on Campus and the Staff Sticking to the Front-line

Article source: Office of Party Committee / President, Comprehensive Management Office of Changping Campus, Department of Student Affairs | Release date: 2021-02-06

On the eve of the Spring Festival on February 5th, Cheng Jianping, Chairman of the University Council, and his party went to Changping Campus Area G to express cordial concerns to the students staying on campus during the winter vacation and to staff sticking to the front-line. Then, they investigated the epidemic prevention and control and service guarantee work on campus. Vice President Zhang Kai, and persons in charge of Office of Party Committee / President, Department of Student

Affairs, Comprehensive Management Office of Changping Campus and other units attended the visit.

Cheng Jianping and his party first went to the student dormitory to visit the students who stayed on campus during the winter vacation. They cordially inquired about the students' living conditions and their learning and scientific research progress, and encouraged them to maintain a positive and healthy attitude, strengthen physical exercise, and do a good job in

personal epidemic prevention; Students are supposed to contact with families and friends often, and were encouraged to live a happy new year on campus just like at home. At the same time, they should make effective use of the holidays to study and strive for new academic success.

Afterwards, Cheng Jianping and his party carefully investigated the specific situation of various epidemic prevention and service guarantee work in the health observation area, student canteen,



self-study room, security and fire control room, communicated cordially with the front-line staff, expressed sincere thanks and new year blessings to them, and sent them new year gift packs.

Cheng Jianping stressed that the epidemic prevention and control on campus during the winter

vacation and Spring Festival and the service guarantee work for teachers and students staying on campus during the Spring Festival should be considered with great importance. According to the relevant deployment requirements of the Ministry of Education and Beijing Municipality, we should implement all kinds of work in

detail, do a good job in the work plan, strengthen humanistic care and condition guarantee, and make every effort to ensure that teachers and students staying on campus spend a happy, peaceful, and warm spring festival; Make a plan ahead of the new semester during the winter vacation to make solid preparations.



Dong Qi Paid a Visit to the Students Staying on Campus during Winter Vacation and the Front-line Staff of General Affairs

Article source: Office of Party Committee / President, Department of Student Affairs, Department of General Affairs | Release date: 2021-02-09

On February 8th, President Dong Qi and his party paid a visit to the students staying on Haidian Campus during the winter vacation and the front-line staff of the General Affairs Department. Vice President Zhang Kai, Vice Chairman of the University Council Li Xiaobing, as well as the heads of Office of Party Committee, Department of Student Affairs and Department of General Affairs attended the visit.

Dong Qi and his party visited the students in their dormitories to learn about their reasons for staying on campus and their study, scientific research and life during the holidays. They extended New Year greetings and blessings to the students and their families, and presented books and New Year gift packs. Dong Qi urged the students to arrange their holidays reasonably, pay attention to the combination of study and rest, do a good job in epidemic prevention, and keep more contact with families and friends, so as to have a safe and sound, peaceful and happy new year. In the study room of students' dormitory, Dong Qi investigated the situation in detail, put forward the requirements for the next step of transformation, and stressed that we should strive to create an environment suitable for their living and learning.

Dong Qi and his party also came to the school hospital, Security Office, the property service center, the student apartment service center, the catering service center and other units to express their concerns and thanks to the staff who stick to the front line, extend new year blessings and send living products.

During this winter vacation, the university has taken a number of measures to care for the staff and students, compiled and printed the Guide to Stay on Campus during the Winter Vacation; established a QQ group for students staying on campus, launched series of Wechat articles, "Through-train to the Warm Winter Vacation" and "Celebrate Chinese New Year with Warm Hearts"; issued new year gift packs, provided free meal coupons and carried out lucky draw activities to ensure a healthy, warm and full Spring Festival.



Special Activities

In order to do a good job in the epidemic prevention and control on campus and the service for students staying on campus during the winter vacation, all faculties and departments, guided by the needs of

students, have taken a number of measures to enrich the life of students staying on campus during the winter vacation and help them grow up. With the theme of enriching life, improving growth and maintaining

mental health, they have carried out activities such as visit, experience sharing and group counseling to spend the winter vacation with students staying on campus and to celebrate the colorful new year.

BNU Held New Year's Photo Shooting Activity for Students Staying on Campus

On the morning of February 6th, Department of Student Affairs of Beijing Normal University invited professional photographers to take new year's photos for the students in Jingshi Square, which attracted more than 90 students to participate in, creating a different sense of ceremony for students to stay on campus for the new year.

The university actively paid attention to the needs of students, and made every effort to do a good job of care, support and service guarantee. In the early stage of the shooting activity, the Department of Student Affairs designed and produced a series of new year display boards and spray paintings for the students staying on campus, which were placed in the Jingshi Square to create a joyful and peaceful festival atmosphere. On the day of the activity, the students came to take pictures in groups



with good wishes for the new year, leaving the youth a memory of the new year, before the display boards and spray paintings. Some students came from the laboratory in pairs and took precious group photos with their young classmates; some students dressed up carefully and took a group photo with the character "Fu" in their hands, giving their blessings

to themselves, their families and their alma mater. The scene of the activity was in good order where the students consciously complied with the requirements of epidemic prevention and control, and waited in line to welcome the arrival of the new year with their beautiful young faces. After the event, the Department of Student Affairs displayed the students' New Year's

photos by an article "A Letter to Home" by the WeChat official account "Jingshi Xue Gong" to make students feel warm and to make their families rest assured.

In response to the requirements of

the national epidemic prevention and control, many students chose to stay on campus for the new year and spent a safe and substantial Spring Festival holiday this year. The well-designed campus with a new year atmosphere highlighted the school's

concern, and the new year's photos taken with love carried good wishes. Students expressed that the new year's photo shooting activities were meaningful and tender, and they would greet the new year with a more optimistic and upward attitude.



Enrich cultural and sports life and do a good job of concern Faculty of Education-Visit Students Staying on Campus during the Winter Vacation

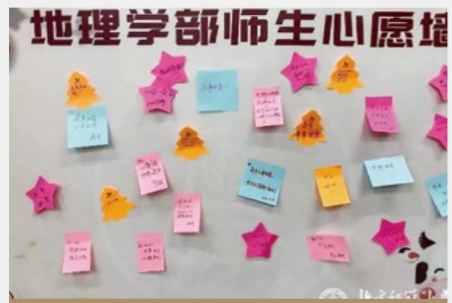
On the afternoon of February 9th, leaders and counselors of Faculty of Education visited the students who stayed on campus. They visited Dormitory Xue 6, Dormitory Xue 7 and Lanhui Apartment respectively to know the reasons for the students' staying on campus and their study and life, and extended greetings and blessings for the new year to the students.



Faculty of Geographical Science

- "Celebrating Spring Festival with Calligraphy" Activity

On the morning of February 10th, the Faculty of Geographical Science held an activity, "Celebrating Spring Festival with Calligraphy", in Room 180 of Shengdi Building. The leaders and teachers of the Faculty and nearly 100 students stayed on campus. They gathered to guess lantern riddles, write couplets, write Fu characters and make new year's wishes. Teachers and students got together to talk about the feeling of the new year on campus and exchanged their new year's wishes.



Faculty of Psychology

- "Everything Comes from the Heart" New Year's Gala

On February 8th, the Faculty of Psychology held the 2021 Spring Festival Gala of "Everything Comes from the Heart" on the Bilibili platform. The videos of the gala were broadcast more than 1,500 times, and the interaction of bullet screen comments were nearly 3,000 people. The New Year Gala created a warm and peaceful festival

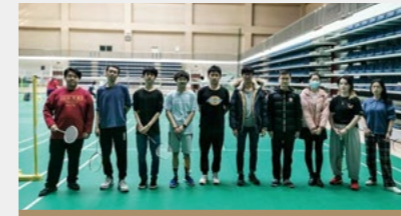


atmosphere, enriched the life of the students staying on campus, and was

widely praised by the teachers and students of the faculty.

School of Philosophy

- "High spirit" Badminton Competition



On the afternoon of February 8th, the School of Philosophy organized the students staying on campus to participate in the badminton competition. In Qiu Jiduan Gymnasium, students were strong

and vigorous, and used their rackets to outline the vigorous vitality. The purpose of this activity was to enrich the life of the students staying on campus and make them have a warm and comfortable new year.

School of Marxism

- Visit Students Staying on Campus

On the arrival of the new year, the School of Marxism visited 26 students who stayed on campus and prepared New Year gift bags for them. Students expressed their gratitude for the

warm gifts in winter. They must abide by the requirements of the school, spend the new year safely, study hard, and make plans and preparations for the next stage.



School of Sociology

- Visit Students Staying on Campus



On February 10th, the leaders of the School of Sociology visited the students staying on campus and sent care and new year blessings to them. While eating dumplings, the teachers and students shared the experience and customs of

the Spring Festival in their hometown. From daily life to study and practice, from Spring Festival customs to professional reflection, they all opened their hearts and enjoyed themselves and spent the wonderful day together.

College of P.E and Sports

- Visit Students Staying on Campus during the Winter Vacation

Before the Spring Festival, the leaders of the College of P.E and Sports and the team of Department of Student Affairs visited the dormitories to express their concerns to the students staying on campus and send their blessings and warmth to them.



School of Chinese Language and Literature

- Visit Students Staying on Campus during the Winter Vacation



The leaders and counselors of the School of Chinese Language and Literature visited the students who stayed in the University during the winter vacation, and distributed New Year gift bags to the students, including food, customized special New Year pictures, sports decompression equipment, etc. The students pasted the college's pictures on the dormitory door to create a strong new year atmosphere.

Chinese Language & Culture College

- "Welcoming the Spring Festival Together" Meeting for Teachers and Students Staying on Campus

The leaders and counselors of the School of Chinese Language and Literature visited the students who stayed in the University during the winter vacation, and distributed New Year gift bags to the students, including food, customized special New Year pictures, sports decompression equipment, etc. The students pasted the college's pictures on the dormitory door to create a strong new year atmosphere.



School of Foreign Languages and Literature

- New Year Gala for Students Staying on Campus

On the afternoon of February 9th, the School of Foreign Languages and Literature held a spring festival party for students staying on campus. The warm atmosphere of the activity eased the students' learning pressure, made them feel the charm of Chinese excellent traditional culture, and guided them to welcome the new year with a more positive and relaxed attitude.



School of Journalism and Communication

- Visit Students Staying on Campus

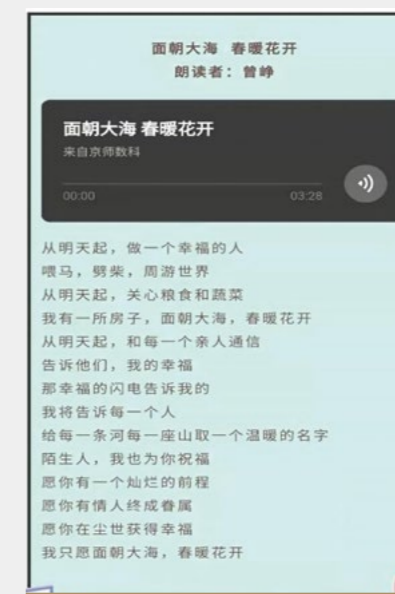
The leaders and counselors of the School of Journalism and Communication visited the students' dormitories on the arrival of the Spring Festival to understand the needs of the students, express sympathy to the students who stayed in school, and send new year special gift bags to the students who stayed at school.



School of Mathematical Sciences

- Online Recitation Activity of "Reading on the Cloud"

To enrich students' holiday life, and to provide a platform for their self-presentation, the School of Mathematical Sciences held an online recitation activity, "Reading on the Cloud" for all students of the School. 33 recitation audios, including poetry, essays, etc., are collected and published in the form of a daily article on the WeChat official account of "Jingshi Shu Ke".



College of Chemistry

- Visit and Communicate with Students Staying on Campus

During the Spring Festival, the leaders and counselors of College of Chemistry visited the dormitories and held an online forum, "Safety Protection and Warm Spring Festival", for the teachers and

undergraduate students staying on campus during the winter vacation. Besides, they visited the students staying on campus for the Spring Festival, bringing warm care and new year blessings to the students.



Astronomy Department

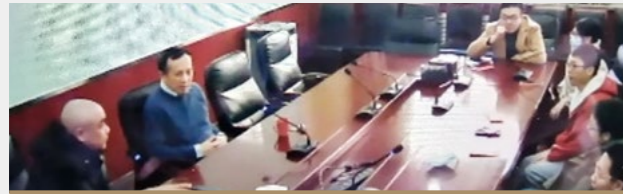
- Express Concern to the Students Staying on Campus and Have a Reunion Dinner Together

On the morning of February 10th, the leaders and counselors of the Astronomy Department paid a visit to the students who stayed on campus, presented carefully prepared gifts for each student, and conveyed the concern and greetings of the whole department to the students.



School of Systems Science

- Spring Festival Forum for Students Staying on Campus



On the morning of February 9th, the School of Systems Science held a Spring Festival forum for the remaining students. The leaders, counselors and all the students on campus participated in this activity.

School of Environment

- Visit Students Staying on Campus

On the morning of February 10th, the leaders and counselors of the School of Environment visited the students' dormitories to express their concern to the remaining students. During the visit, the teachers actively concerned about the health and life of the students staying on campus, exchanged cordially with the students, learned about their study, scientific research and job hunting during the winter vacation, and sent new year blessings and love packages to the students.



College of Nuclear Science and Technology

- Golden Ox Brings Blessings and We Welcome the New Year Together



As the Spring Festival is approaching, to make every student in the College of Nuclear Science and Technology feel the care and warmth, the college carefully prepared the Spring Festival gift packs for the students, wrote the character "Fu" together with the students and sent wishes to each other.

School of Government

- Spring Festival Gala

On February 10th, the School of Government held a spring festival gala in conference room 506 of the main building. The leaders and the remaining students of the School gathered to talk about the new year.



School of Arts & Communication

- Visit Remaining Students

The School of Arts & Communication carefully prepared gift packs for the students who stayed on campus, which was delivered to the students on the day of Chinese Little New Year festival to express their concern and love.



College of Global Change and Earth System Science

- Visit and Have Conversation with Remaining Students

Leaders and counselors of the Institute of global change and Earth System Sciences visited the students staying on campus during winter vacation.



School of Artificial Intelligence

- New Year Forum

On Chinese New Year's Eve, the leaders and counselors of the School of Artificial Intelligence expressed their concern to the remaining students, bringing books such as *The Spirit of the University*, *The Chinese Dream*, *Huawei Story - Accumulation*, and *On Top of Tides*, as well as gift bags of flowers and nuts.



Pay Attention to the Growth and Promotion, and Strengthen the Education Guidance

Business School

- Keeping Fit Game in Winter Vacation

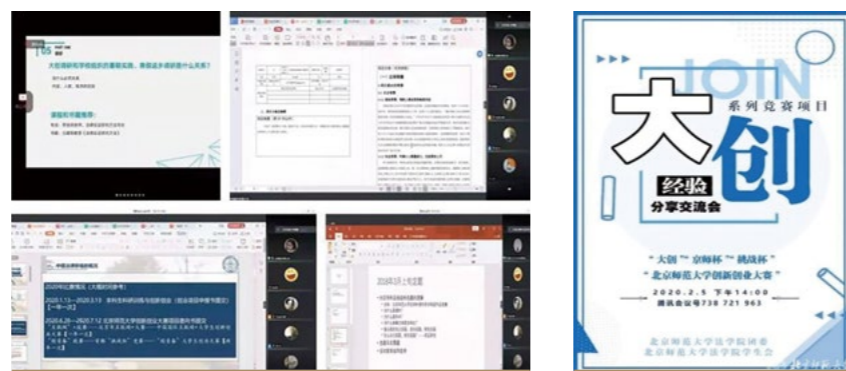
In response to the call of national fitness and to enhance students' physique, from February 11st to 20th, the Business School held a Keeping Fit Game. After the launch of the activity, the students signed up enthusiastically. Each of them got up early and took walking exercise every day, actively maintaining good habits of daily life and daily exercise.



Law School

- Online Experience Sharing Meeting of Subject Competition

On the afternoon of February 5th, the Law School organized online experience sharing among the students who achieved outstanding results in the past three years' competitions of "Guochuang", "Dachuang", "Challenge Cup" and "Jingshi Cup". The students who stayed on campus and returned home actively participated in the meeting where they had full exchange and harvest.



School of Chinese Language and Literature

- Reading Books Activity

During the winter vacation, the School of Chinese Language and Literature established a Wechat group for reading punching in. Participating students need to finish reading any book during the winter

vacation, and share the reading content, reading experience and book photos of the day in the group every day. After completing the daily punching in, they can get creative cultural prizes.



College of Chemistry

- Exchange Activity for Teachers and Students of the Doctoral Graduation Class

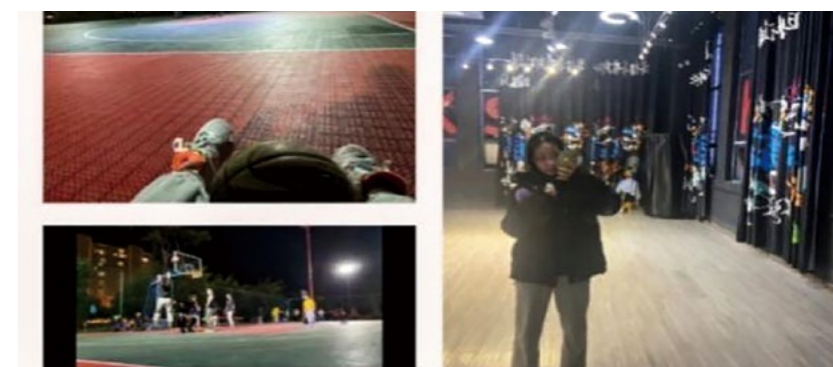


On the evening of January 27th, the College of Chemistry held an online exchange activity for teachers and students of the doctoral graduation class of "Sailing in the Same Boat in the Same Storm" with more than 150 participants. The exchange activity was divided into three modules: scientific research, employment, and life. Teachers and students had in-depth exchanges from doing scientific research, writing articles, using instruments, graduation process, employment process, alumni development, and winter vacation life.

College of Life Sciences

- Right Turning Plan in the Year of the Ox

In order to enable students to make full use of winter vacation time to improve their skills and enrich their holiday life, College of Life Sciences carried out an activity, Right Turning Plan in the Year of the Ox, including academic exchanges, reading punching in, fitness punching in, home / school skills improvement, etc.



School of Arts & Communication

- Exchange Meeting on Job-hunting and Employment

School of Arts & Communication held an exchange meeting on job hunting and employment. The outstanding graduates of 2020 (Zhao Di, an assigned graduate to Heilongjiang Province and Zhang Sai from Experimental Primary School of Beijing Mingyuan Institute of

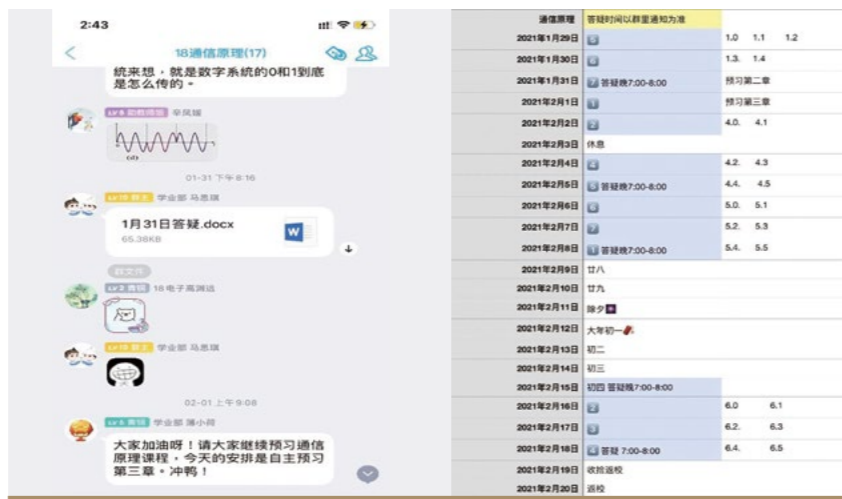
Education) introduced their job-hunting experience to the remaining students. The full-time counselor in charge of the school's employment work publicized the employment policy and guided the students to respond to the call for employment at the grassroots level and in the central and western regions.



School of Artificial Intelligence

- Winter Vacation Preview Study Room

In order to enrich the students' winter vacation life and improve their learning efficiency after the beginning of new semester, School of Artificial Intelligence held the winter vacation preview study room activity. The activity adopted the form of daily learning progress reminder through group chat and senior students answering questions online to improve students' self-discipline.

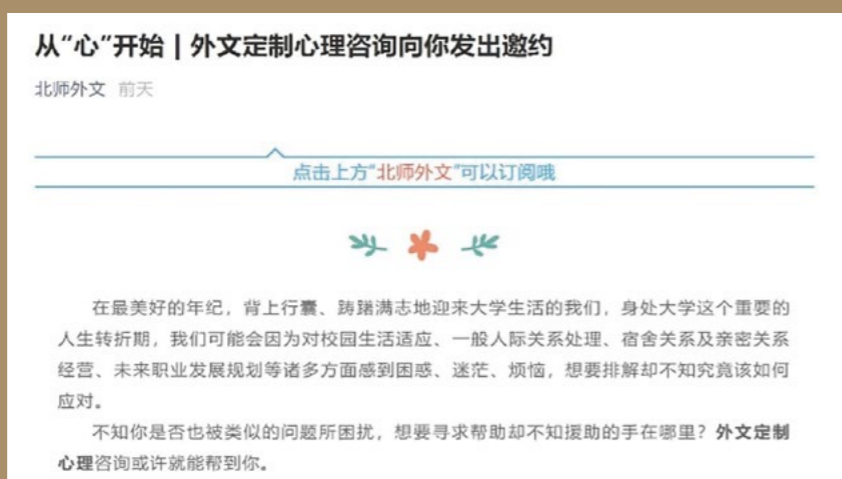


Carry out Psychological Counseling to Ensure Students' Physical and Mental Health

School of Foreign Languages and Literature

- Provide Targeted Psychological Counseling Services for Remaining Students

School of Foreign Languages and Literature invited Mr. Sun Bo, a psychological consultant, to customize online and offline individual psychological counseling services and partner counseling for all students of the School, so as to help students solve problems encountered in campus life adaptation, general interpersonal relationship handling, dormitory relationship and intimate relationship management, and future career development planning.



School of Mathematical Sciences

- Mental Health Services during the Vacation

In order to help students solve the problem of "winter vacation phobia", School of Mathematical Sciences provided an online psychological consultation platform for all students of the School. Dai Jiahang, the school's psychological consultant, provided mental health services for students through Wechat video.



College of Chemistry

- "Different Winter Vacation" Group Psychological Counseling

College of Chemistry invited Wang Yuan, a national second-class psychological counselor and college psychological consultant, to carry out a group psychological counseling activity to help students cope with the pressure of study and life during the winter vacation and enhance their self-confidence and interpersonal skills.



College of Life Sciences

- Lecture on Intimacy

On the afternoon of January 27th, College of Life Sciences held a lecture on intimacy. The lecture was given by Yan Xiangfei, the psychological consultant of the college. More than 100 students attended the lecture online and gained a lot. Teacher Yan encouraged everyone to find their own core needs and deal-breaker from the existing "appropriate" relationship and reflect on whether their core needs are healthy while understanding their own core needs.

Good wishes, and deep love. The warm-hearted measures of all faculties and departments made every student who stayed on campus fully feel the atmosphere of the new year and have a happy, peaceful, safe and full winter vacation.



Keep Moving by Observing and Knowing Astronomy: “Star Chasers” of BNU

Article source: Publicity Department (News Center) | Release date: 2021-01-22

As the old saying goes, we are like mayflies enjoying a flicker of life in this world, and as infinitesimal as a grain in the sea. The vast universe not only contains secrets, but also stimulates the endless curiosity of astronomers.



There is a batch of star chasers in BNU who look up to the starry sky and down to the earth, sticking to this cool career.

November 4th, 2020 is undoubtedly a memorable day for astronomy researchers. On this day, three papers were published on the international

academic journal Nature at the same time, all of which are about the first time that fast radio bursts were observed in the Milky Way, including an article entitled *No Pulsed Radio Emission During a Bursting Phase of a Galactic Magnetar* written by Lin Lin, a young teacher

from Astronomy Department of Beijing Normal University.

What's more, at the end of 2020, this research was selected as one of the Top 10 Scientific Discoveries of 2020 by *Nature and Science* in the meantime.

Devoted to Stars

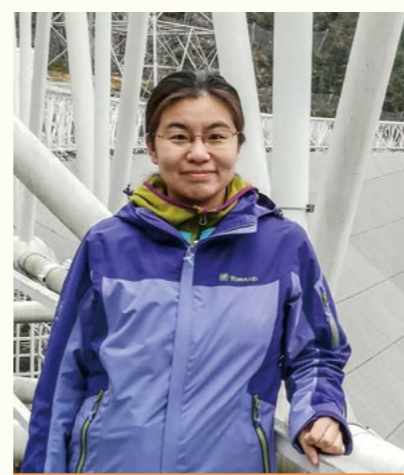
—Only Someone Well-prepared Seizes the Opportunity

Fast Radio Burst (FRB) is the strongest burst phenomenon in the known universe.

They last for a very short time, but release huge energy. There are different opinions on their origins, which is a great puzzle in modern astronomy. At present, the most urgent task in this field is to find the corresponding celestial bodies of fast radio bursts.

These three latest observations in

November this year have confirmed that extremely strong magnetic field neutron stars (magnetars) are one of the sources of rapid radio bursts. This is the first time that astronomers have observed a fast radio burst in the Milky Way, and it is also the only celestial body that can produce a fast radio burst. But at the same time, Lin Lin's article further proved that there are still certain conditions for magnetosphere to produce fast radio



bursts, and that magnetosphere bursts and FRB are not always one-to-one correspondence, but the relationship between them is extremely rare and needs further study.

For many years, Lin Lin has a strong interest in magnetar, a celestial body under extreme physical conditions. Interestingly, Lin Lin recalled that she was initially attracted by astronomy by reading a book *Billions of Suns* in high school, in which the knowledge of dense stars and binary stars coincided with the research direction of Lin Lin 20 years later, and the curious seed buried at that time seemed to be a kind of guidance on her *idolizing for star*.

On April 28th, 2020, Lin Lin received an email in the morning, which made her feel unreal for the next few days. The content of this message just showed that a magnetic star that Lin Lin had been studying, namely SGR J1935+2154 (Soft Gamma-ray Repeater, SGR for short), has entered an active period.

Upon receiving this news, Lin Lin quickly contacted the person in charge of the FRB major priority project team with keen scientific intuition, and applied to use FAST, the world's largest five-hundred-meter aperture spherical radio telescope for observation. Five hours later, with unprecedented response speed FAST began to continuously monitor SGR in its L-band 19-beam receiver.

A few hours later, at about 10:30 pm. Beijing time on the 28th, Canada's CHIME Radio Telescope and America's STARE2 respectively

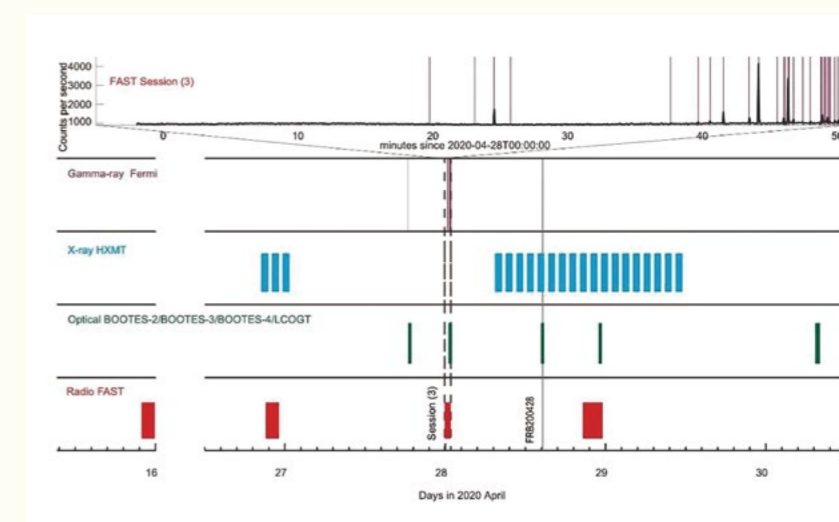
detected extremely bright radio pulse signals originating from this magnetic star. At the same time, X-ray bursts were observed. This new information has become a breakthrough in this research.

The team found that during the 1 hour monitored by FAST on 28th, although there were 29 X-ray bursts produced by Magnetars, FAST did not detect the corresponding FRB. According to the model that magnetic stars can produce fast radio bursts and cooperate with magnetic star bursts, 29 X-ray bursts should produce 29 FRBs, but at these 29 bursts moments, FAST did not detect any pulse.

strictest radio flow limit to this phenomenon so far, which played an important role in promoting the study of the origin and physical mechanism of fast radio bursts.

Publication: Nature, Volume 587, Issue 7832, p.63-65. DOI: 10.1038/s41586-020-2839-y

"It can be said that we stood on the shoulders of the *giant* this time," said Ms. Lin Lin, and the *giant* is the FAST, which is also called *China's Eye*. As early as September 25th 2016, this radio telescope with China's independent intellectual property rights, the world's largest single caliber and the



At first, the team suspected that there was something wrong in FAST's observation process. After many tests, they ruled out the abnormal situation that the equipment was saturated due to excessive FRB energy during observation. Through a series of analysis, it was finally concluded that only one FRB was produced from 30 X-soft gamma ray bursts caused by magnetic stars, thus giving the

most sensitive radio telescope was officially enabled in the karst crater in Pingtang, Guizhou. General Secretary Xi Jinping mentioned in his congratulatory letter that it is necessary to manage and run this major scientific infrastructure well in high level, and make more great results sooner and better." This discovery is exactly using FAST to do things that only FAST can do, which showed once



again that Chinese astronomers can make world-class research results with Chinese telescopes.

However, it is limited for only one person's knowledge, and also for only one country's ability. The birth of a research result is naturally accompanied by an all-round team. What impressed Lin Lin most this time was the harmony and efficiency of the team.

As co-authors of the article, Professor Gao He and Associate Professor Li Zhengxiang, two other young teachers from Astronomy Department of Beijing Normal University, compared FAST to a big pot.

“FAST has many different scientific goals. It was just like use it to make Sichuan cuisine, Hunan cuisine and Shandong cuisine, but different dishes need to be made by different chefs who are good at different cuisines.”

Therefore, at the beginning of this year, a team of high-quality "chefs" aiming at fast radio bursts, was formed by more than 60 astronomers and researchers from more than 10 different units at home and abroad, including the National Astronomical Observatory of Chinese Academy of Sciences, Peking University, University of Nevada, USA.

A wide range of aspects is involved in this research. It is necessary to use FAST to observe radio bands, and also use other equipment such as Insight (Hard X-ray Modulation Telescope) to observe X-rays and other multi-bands to collect data of each band. In addition, it is also necessary to carry out theoretical modelling in hot areas such as the application of cosmology for exploring the physical origin of fast radio bursts. In early stage, the team was divided into observation, data analysis, theoretical models and other groups, and formulated extremely meticulous and complete plans. The plan makes sure everyone can perform their duties and be orderly when they really observe FRB.

"Affected by the epidemic, our exchanges and discussions are basically conducted online and at night." In addition to being an astronomer, Lin Lin is also a mother. During the epidemic, she needed to balance the baby-sitting and research progress, and research time is limited to a great extent. However, no matter what everyone's identities are, "from the end of April to the beginning of May, when the article is finished, we are just as excited as Magnetars. Every day for half a month, I stayed up late, and everyone in the team went all out and invested 100% in the research." It was the excitement of unknown fields and the responsibility of scientific research, which made this team interlocking and dare not slack off.



"Opportunities will always be reserved for those who are prepared." Lin Lin believes in scientists' whimsy, but never relies on such accidents. Only by being down-to-earth and persisting for a long time, can she feel the process of realizing her dreams little by little, and finally reap the inevitable results. This is also the energy that she and other teachers in the Astronomical Department of Beijing Normal University pass on to the students.

Stick to Innovation

—Set off A Revolution in Understanding the Universe

In 2020, Astronomy Department of Beijing Normal University can be described as fruitful. Just two months ago, the National Natural Science Foundation of China announced the approved list of centralized acceptance projects in 2020—the innovative research group project of *Gravitational Wave Astronomy* was approved. The project was led by Professor Zhu Zonghong, and the group members included Cao Zhoujian, Xia Junqing, Zhang Fan, Gao He, Cao Shuo and other young and middle-aged backbone talents. This was BNU's second-approved innovative research group project since 2016. The project funding period was 5 years, and the direct cost was 10 million yuan. The innovative research group project aims to support outstanding young and middle-aged scientists as academic leaders and research backbones, jointly carry out innovative research around an important research direction, and cultivate and bring up research groups that occupy a place in the forefront of international science.

As early as 2014, the discipline conference of Beijing Normal University established the two-wheel drive mode of building key disciplines and supporting interdisciplinary subjects. The Gravitational Wave Frontier Research proposed by Zhu Zonghong, which was jointly tackled by four first-class disciplines, such as astronomy and physics, was also included in the key support plan of



the interdisciplinary model and set up a laboratory for gravitational waves and cosmology. Young teachers such as Lin Lin and Li Zhengxiang also entered this big team one after another. The research direction covers all aspects of gravitational wave astronomy. Compared with other domestic units, it has obvious characteristics and advantages. It has achieved many original achievements with high display in gravitational lens effect of gravitational wave signals, gravitational wave cosmology, and limiting the state of neutron stars by using multiple messenger signals.

“The Astronomy Department of Beijing Normal University aims at 'new', and we have been moving forward in three dimensions: new physics, new world and new window.”

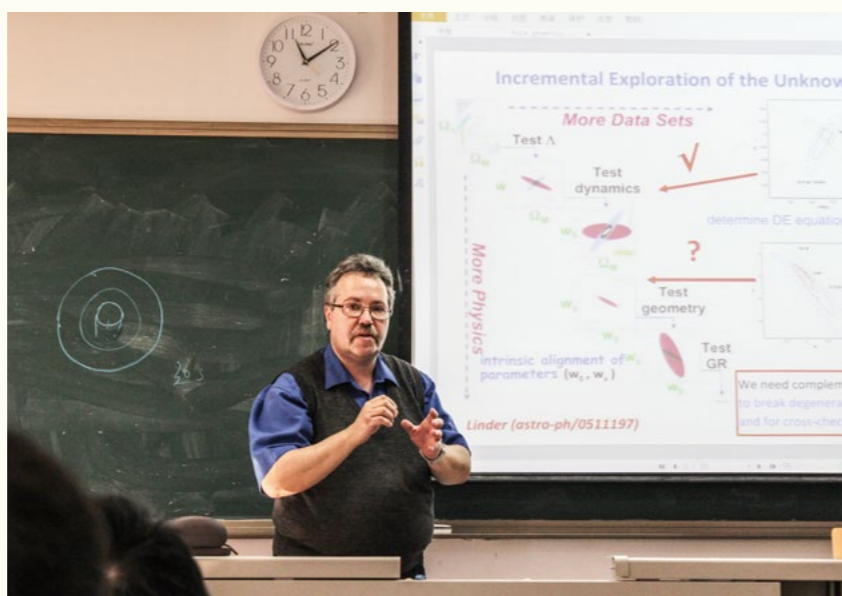
Gravitational waves that Zhu Zonghong's team pays attention to can be regarded as "new" representatives.

What is a gravitational wave? Imagine such a picture: you were in a silent mountain village and several bright lights surrounded you. Naturally, you would think it is just fireflies in countryside. But at this moment, a howl of wild animal appeared in your ears, and suddenly you found that the eyes of wolves were staring at you. Gravitational wave is just like the wolf howling. The appearance of this medium breaks the traditional cognition of electromagnetic wave in astronomy, and the new astronomical view needs to be reconstructed urgently. With the opening of gravitational wave detection window in 2015, gravitational wave astronomy is starting a revolution in understanding the universe and basic physics.

However, a few years ago, gravitational waves were not an academic hot spot, and were not even

valued by academics. It was Zhu Zonghong's long-term persistence to pay attention to gravitational waves, study gravitational waves and build an academic team of gravitational waves in all aspects in a forward-looking way. When faced with the question "why did you make such a choice", he put forward two main reasons— Firstly, grasp the general direction. As Cao Zhoujian said, if we compare whole team as a tank, then the direction of progress needs to be absolutely clear, and the project leader needs to have a strategic vision. At the same time, every team member must make concerted efforts and perform his duties. Under the guidance of this idea, the team almost completely covered the research direction of gravitational waves seen so far. Secondly, aim at the combination of major astronomical problems and basic physics problems. In the process of exploring gravitational waves, the team started with the preliminary measurement of the wave source, then established the model and analyzes the data, and finally returned to the origin and gave output, which cannot be mistaken. It may take months or even years to complete a project. The boring calculation and data analysis have also cultivated the unique qualities of bearing loneliness.

When it came to the bonding with Astronomy, almost every team member said that there were many reasons why they chose astronomy study as a part of their lives, but one thing in common is the interest in astronomy. Their true



hearts were inspired by the deeper desire for physics and truth. Isn't it attractive that so small as human beings can have a chance to know the vast universe?

Inclusiveness is a major feature of the gravitational wave team and the whole Astronomy Department. Instead of putting rigid conventions on students' subject direction settings or talent's introduction, the team

always put interest in first place, and gave opportunities to every teachers and students to study in fields they are good at or like, which bring mutual understanding and support to everyone. Benefited from these, teachers can build groups freely and cooperate efficiently with each other according to their different studying fields, giving birth to innovative value which can't be underestimated.

Through Day and Night: To Build A Domestic Top and International Renowned Astronomy Team

In the past twenty years, Nobel Prize has visited astronomy seven times. It can be said that after a hundred year of development, astronomy has entered a new golden stage. The LAMOST-Kepler project is undoubtedly one of the bright stars that have attracted the attention of astronomical circles at home and abroad in recent years, and Fu Jianning, a professor of Astronomy Department at Beijing Normal University, and his team have made great contributions to the smooth progress of the project.

As a major national scientific project, LAMOST astronomical telescope project was established in the first year of the 21st century, started construction in 2001, completed in 2008 and passed the national acceptance in 2009. After two-year commissioning, the survey was started in 2011. LAMOST creatively applied active optics technology, which broke through the bottleneck that it is difficult to balance large aperture and large field of view of astronomical telescope. LAMOST is the largest telescope with large aperture in the world.

The construction of 4000 optical fibers brought unprecedented advantages to astronomical observation. LAMOST can observe the spectra of 4000 targets at the same time, which is nearly an order of



magnitude higher than the previous similar equipment. Under the vision of LAMOST telescope, the Milky Way was re-pictured, and a larger silver plate was revealed. At the same time, Fu Jianning's team and their partners at home and abroad have also made new research progress in the fields of stellar parameters, stellar pulsation, exoplanets, special stars, stellar activities and flares, and binary stars. However, the research of this project involves many difficulties. For example, which targets the 4000 optical fibers used to direct the telescope are aimed at involves more details of the observation plan. Such subtle and important key issues cannot be separated from the increasingly close international communication and efficient team cooperation under the leadership of Fu Jianning.

The development of LAMOST-Kepler project benefited from Fu Jianning's working experience in Europe for many years. When Fu Jianning attended the academic conference in Germany, he had an exchange with a researcher from the Royal Observatory of Belgium. The ground support observation needs of the Kepler Space Telescope project mentioned by the other party were borne in mind by Fu Jianning, and he was determined to try to use the unique LAMOST telescope in China to cooperate with him across the country. In the next few days, this idea was continuously deepened. At the same time, the National Astronomical Observatory opened up the LAMOST observation project to the whole country to promote the dream to become a reality. Fu Jianning was able to seize this rare

scientific research opportunity based on years of academic accumulation, and the project was successfully supported and cooperated by the National Astronomical Observatory, which further promoted efficient international academic cooperation, and the multinational network conference exchange reduced the inconvenience caused by geographical distance. In 2014, Fu Jianning organized the first LAMOST-Kepler seminar in Beijing, and the second seminar was held in the Royal Observatory of Belgium in 2017. Based on the international academic concept of exchange promotion, the research achievements of various countries are constantly enriched, and the LAMOST-Kepler project has been appraised by the Scientific Committee as the most successful international cooperation project in the country's major scientific projects.

Fu Jianning's goal has always been to build a domestic top and international renowned astronomical team, so he and other research members in the team all have been bearing tremendous research pressure. Astronomical observation is the fundamental source of data and information, and it is also the



necessary barrier for team members to gain recognition. Every researcher in the team needs to go to Xinglong Observatory in person to understand the observation process of LAMOST telescope and the source basis of the obtained data. The fine tradition of "passing on and helping others" within the team continues continuously, which continuously injects vitality and energy into the whole team. Usually, when a novice researcher (such as a new postdoctoral fellow) arrives at the observatory for the first time, he will be instructed by his predecessors more than three times until he can operate the instrument independently. Team members not only have the unremitting pursuit of using LAMOST telescope for cutting-edge research, but also make all members grow up rapidly through the help of word of

mouth, thus creating a few teams in the same field. They share the same interests, go hand in hand in research, and support each other spiritually. More than a dozen hot hearts collide with each other and generate shines more brightly than the stars in the night sky.

LAMOST telescope is not only expensive to use and maintain, but also rarely meets excellent weather conditions in limited use time. In order to obtain accurate and reliable observation data, many researchers, such as postdoctoral fellow Wang Jiaxin, must always pay attention to the weather conditions to stand by at any time, and often have the experience of spectrum shooting from dusk to dawn the next day. At the same time, in order to ensure the sound operation of the instrument, the relevant staff of optical, mechanical and electronic engineering also need to cooperate on duty. It can be seen that LAMOST's brilliant achievements are not made by one person, but by the painstaking efforts of each member.

Zong Weikai, a young teacher in Astronomy Department of Beijing Normal University, has been working in the field of astronomy for ten years. Fu Jianning is his tutor, and all this stemmed from an ask "Would



you like to observe with me?" This ask lingered in Zong Weikai's mind, and Fu Jianning's enthusiasm for scientific research attracted him to give a positive answer. After that, Zong Weikai constantly improved himself step by step, and successively completed the data processing and analysis of millions of stars acquired in the Antarctic Ice Dome A, and got a rare "excellent" result during his doctoral studies at Toulouse University/French Scientific Research Center, and later became a special young researcher at LAMOST. In ten years, he has become a fruitful young scholar in the field of stellar physics from a "layman" who knows nothing about astronomy. His diligent efforts and abundant resources provided by the school and astronomy department are all due. In the astronomy department of Beijing Normal University, Zong Weikai spent the first full harvest decade, and



there is no doubt that he will usher in more decades full of hope and sweat. Wang Jiangtao, a doctoral student, also said with great excitement that his study experience after coming to the Astronomical Department of Beijing Normal University has greatly broadened his personal horizons. The experience of following Mr. Fu to the National Astronomical Observatory has made him meet famous academics who frequently appear on the front pages of professional textbooks. The happiness of star-idolizing has further

stimulated his enthusiasm for in-depth study and research.

Fu Jianning's team proved to us that the power of unity and love can promote the progress of astronomy and bring more attention to the natural science field. It is both an opportunity and a challenge for this young and aggressive team. It is believed that with the support of continuous talents, scientific research equipment and funds from the state and university, they will continue to move forward.

Look Up to the Sky: Using China's Best Equipment to Do Cutting-edge Research

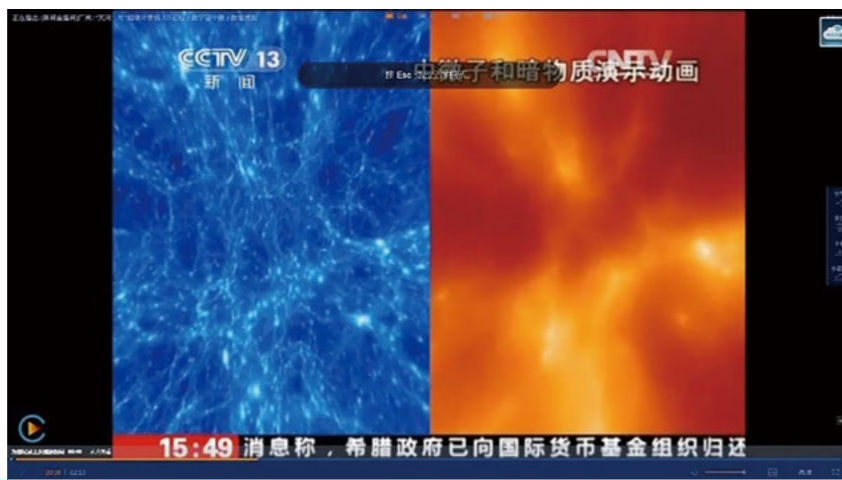
Using China's best equipment to do cutting-edge research is the viewpoint frequently mentioned by Professor Zhang Tongjie, the head of the research team of the Center for Physical Cosmology, Astronomy Department of Beijing Normal University, and it is also the research direction for which Zhang Tongjie



and his team have always made unremitting efforts.

In 2017, the research result of Zhang Tongjie's team, *Numerical Simulation of the World's Largest Cosmic Neutrino*, was published in *Nature Astronomy*, which attracted wide attention from the astronomical circles in the world. It was also selected as the *Top Ten Astronomical Science and Technology Progress* in 2017 jointly selected by the Chinese Astronomical Society and the National Astronomical Observatory of the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

In the research process of neutrino numerical simulation, Professor Zhang Tongjie's team cooperated with Canada, National Astronomical Observatory of Chinese Academy of Sciences, Institute of High Energy, Tianhe-2 Supercomputer, and other teams to carry out numerical simulation research on Tianhe-2 supercomputer, revealing the long evolution process of the universe in 13.8 billion years. For the first time, this simulation found the differential neutrino condensation effect of the universe structure that could not be measured by any previous cosmological numerical simulation: the neutrino mass can be measured by comparing the characteristics of galaxies in the regions with different neutrino abundance (i.e., local neutrino to dark matter density ratio) in the universe. Compared with the "lean" neutrino region, more neutrinos are captured by the mass dark matter halo in the "rich" neutrino region, which leads to the distortion of the mass function of the dark matter halo, and finally leads to the change of galaxy characteristics. Therefore, this condensation effect opens a way to measure neutrino mass



independently in present and future cosmological observations.

To put it simply, neutrino is a kind of particle in the universe, and its mass will affect the average density of the universe, thus changing the future evolution of the universe. In this study, from the astronomical point of view, by simulating the different condensation effects of neutrinos in different regions of the universe, we can detect the mass effects of neutrinos and provide ideas for future observations. The research result of "affecting the fate of the universe" is due to the Tianhe-2 supercomputer, which was once the fastest computer in the world independently developed by China. With its high performance, Tianhe-2 has topped the list of the latest TOP500 global supercomputers published by the international TOP 500 organization for four consecutive times. It can easily crack our bank card password in one second by exhaustive method, and the hard disk can put down 600 billion books with 100,000 words. Zhang Tongjie introduced, "Just like a camera, the higher the pixel, the clearer the shooting, and the faster the calculation speed of our supercomputer, the

more particles that can be simulated. We finally completed the numerical simulation of cosmic neutrinos with 3 trillion particles." The number of simulated particles has also set a new world record.

Recalling the process of numerical simulation research, Zhang Tongjie said that the team actually encountered many difficulties. The original research idea of neutrino numerical simulation was born in a bar in Houhai in 2013. Professor Zhang Tongjie and Professor Pen Ue-Li of the Canadian Institute of Theoretical Astrophysics coincided in conversation, which finally led to the proposal of the project. However, Tianhe-2 had just been put into operation at that time, and almost all the teams were debugging the calculation program in 2014. Until the end of 2014, Zhang Tongjie's cosmology team officially started running the program on the Tianhe-2 computer as the chief unit. As the computing power of Tianhe-2 is only a handful in China, in order not to conflict with the computing time of other research teams, team members still worked overtime during the Spring Festival. Even so, the competition for computing resources



cannot be avoided, and the computing process was interrupted many times, which was very difficult. After 96 hours of CPU calculation on Tianhe-2, the amount of data obtained was beyond imagination. The total amount of data was about 2P(1P=1048576G), which faced great difficulties in storage, transportation, and calculation. Therefore, in order to take into account, the quality and efficiency of data calculation, the team decided to use remote technology to directly process data on Tianhe-2 computer, and almost the whole year of 2015 was also analyzed. This great achievement was finally achieved in 2017 after being honed at various levels.



Zhang Tongjie said that the team now is still doing research on the large-scale structure of the universe and the high-

precision numerical simulation of neutrinos. On the basis of further optimizing the program, the team tried to use Tianhe-2 to run a larger data simulation to explore more accurate results. Using China's best equipment to do cutting-edge research was once again emphasized by Professor Zhang Tongjie. Under this principle, using our FAST radio telescope, the physical cosmology group is currently conducting observation and theoretical research on extra-terrestrial civilization and accelerated expansion of the universe.

As a teacher, in Zhang Tongjie's view, the progress of scientific research cannot be separated from the support of teaching, and the two are closely related. Scientific research can inject new vitality into teaching, so does teaching. Teaching in different stages can complement each other, forming a systematic education system, and at the same time feeding back the vitality of scientific research. At present, Zhang Tongjie's public elective courses, undergraduate

courses and postgraduate courses for the whole school all involve cosmology. The contents of the three stages are organically combined from shallow to deep. During the course of team class and compiling relevant teaching materials, the team members have also deepened their understanding of cosmology, and some inspirations of scientific research can also be generated in the process of cultivating undergraduates. Students of all grades in the team also help each other without reservation, such as group activities for freshmen, projects for senior students and exchange internships in winter and summer vacations.

“ The team gives full support and freedom of choice as much as possible and strengthens the professional foundation while deepening exchanges and cooperation with international academic groups, so that students can better integrate with the international community. ”

This kind of responsibility and care for students also comes from the subtle influence of the Astronomy Department of Beijing Normal University. Mr. Feng Kejia, the first director of the Astronomy Department, advocated harmony and peacefulness are prized as the department culture at the beginning. For many years, the Astronomy

Department has been adhering to this tradition, uniting, and moving forward bravely. Since he joined the Astronomy Department of Beijing Normal University in 1999 and set up a research group on physical cosmology,

Zhang Tongjie has received a lot of support and attention from the department leaders and older teachers and experienced the family warmth of the Astronomy Department of Beijing Normal University.

“ We have the responsibility to build this home, and we have the responsibility to practice and pass on these excellent traditions of the Astronomy Department. ”

Glowing and Shining: Star Chasers are hand in hand

The year 2020 coincides with the establishment of the Astronomy Department of Beijing Normal University. In the past 60 years, the Astronomy Department of Beijing Normal University has made important contributions in astronomy personnel training, scientific research and technological innovation, and popular science education.

“ Viewing and studying astronomy is our motto. Its essence is to observe the mystery of heaven and earth and the truth of studying arts and sciences. ”

Zhong Jiayong, head of the Astronomy Department of Beijing Normal University, said.

As the second astronomy department established in Chinese universities, the Astronomy Department of Beijing Normal University shows its remarkable advantages in many aspects.



After 60 years of development, the Astronomy Department has a relatively complete teaching system, and its training programs, teaching equipment and teachers are at the leading level in China. In particular, astronomical measurement has always been one of its major features, which is closely related to the tradition of the astronomy department. It pays attention to cultivating students' practical ability, allowing them to really participate in

experimental projects and build up a strong interest in astronomy.

Secondly, the Astronomy Department of Beijing Normal University covers a complete range of disciplines with outstanding characteristics. The disciplines covered by the astronomy department basically cover all levels of astronomy at present, including space science, solar and stellar physics, galaxy cosmology, high-

energy astrophysics and so on. As Li Qingkang, secretary of the Party branch of the Astronomy Department of Beijing Normal University, said, "The astronomical field is no longer a single-handed era, but the charge of the group army." In the final analysis, the development of disciplines is that talents play a role. Therefore, the Astronomy Department has always insisted on introducing talents from well-known universities or scientific research institutions at home and abroad and has introduced more than 10 outstanding talents in recent years. At the same time, it takes into account the balance of discipline development, and ensures that the superior disciplines of Astronomy Department are inherited, and the characteristic disciplines are developed. At present, the Department has many excellent disciplines and teams. For example, the gravitational wave cosmology team is one of the earliest established, most effective and active research

teams in China. The research on asteroseismology and interstellar dust also has considerable influence at home and abroad, and there are new development directions such as laboratory astrophysics.

What's more, strong support of BNU and astronomers at home and abroad is indispensable for Astronomy Department's development. Zhong Jiayong said that as an unpopular discipline and a minority discipline, the astronomy department once had a downturn, but the university has been vigorously supporting the development of the astronomy department, such as supporting the construction of gravitational wave cosmology laboratory and 1.9-meter optical telescope, etc., which has aroused good repercussions in the astronomical field. Nowadays, astronomy has entered a golden stage of vigorous development. With the improvement of comprehensive national strength

and the state's investment in large projects and large equipment such as *Wukong*, *Insight* and FAST, more astronomers' research passion has been ignited. "We will pay more attention to and support the development of students and young teachers, and plan their growth routes", and strive to build a discipline with international display and become a research team with international competitiveness and influence.

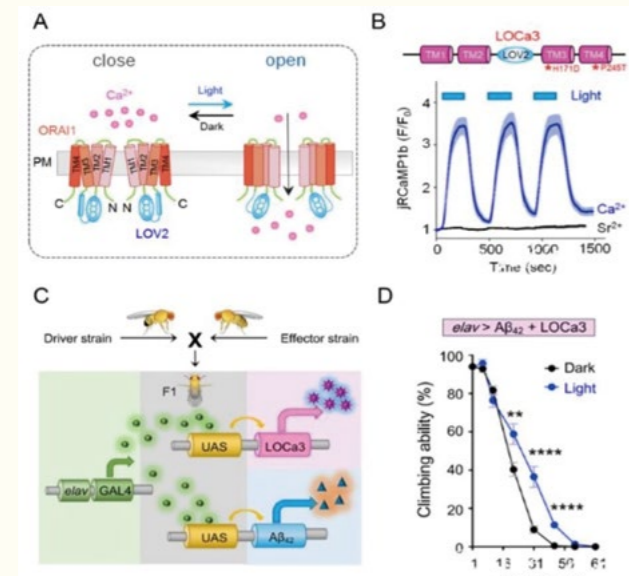
Sixty years passed on with the change of seasons. Diligence, tenacity, simplicity, humility, unity...A few short words can't seem to summarize the common characteristics of astronomers in Beijing Normal University, but the reverence for science and the exploration of the future makes every member of the Astronomy Department keep thinking inertia, keep the initial heart, and live up to the imagination of the starry sky above his head when he was young.



Professor Wang Youjun's Research Group from BNU College of Life Science Published Research Results in Nature Communications

Article source: College of Life Science | Release date: 2021-01-28

On January 12th, Professor Wang Youjun's research group from College of Life Science in Beijing Normal University with collaborated lab of Professor Huang Yun and Zhou Yubin from Texas A&M University published research results in Nature Communications with the help of Professor Dou Fei and Associate Professor Sun Lin. The paper is titled with Engineering of a bona fide light-operated calcium channel. Wang Liuqing, a second-year Ph.D student from Professor Wang Youjun's research group and He Lian, post doctorate from Texas A&M University are the co-first author.



tools are either derived from engineered channelrhodopsin variants without strict Ca²⁺ selectivity or based on the stromal interaction molecule 1 (STIM1) that might crosstalk with other targets. So that the research group describes the design of a light-operated Ca²⁺ channel (designated LOCa) by inserting a plant-derived photosensory module into the intracellular loop of an engineered ORAI1 channel. LOCa displays biophysical features reminiscent of the ORAI1 channel, which enables precise optical control over Ca²⁺ signals and hallmark Ca²⁺-dependent physiological responses. Furthermore, the research group demonstrates the use of LOCa to modulate aberrant hematopoietic stem cell self-renewal, transcriptional programming, cell suicide, as well as neurodegeneration in a Drosophila model of amyloidosis.

This study was supported by National Natural Science Foundation of China and Ministry of Science and Technology.

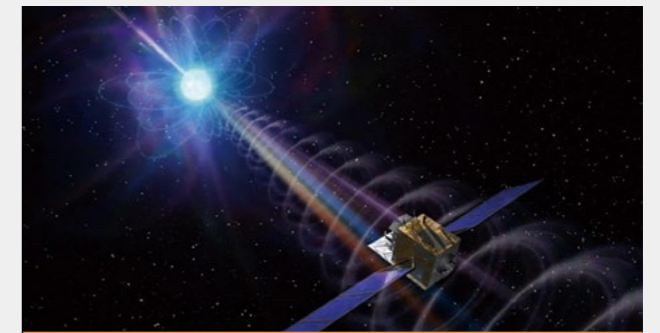
The current optogenetic toolkit lacks a robust single-component Ca²⁺-selective ion channel tailored for remote control of Ca²⁺ signaling in mammals. Existing

Astronomy Team of BNU Use Insight-HXMT to Identify Fast Radio Bursts from Magnetars

Article source: Department of Astronomy | Release date: 2021-03-10

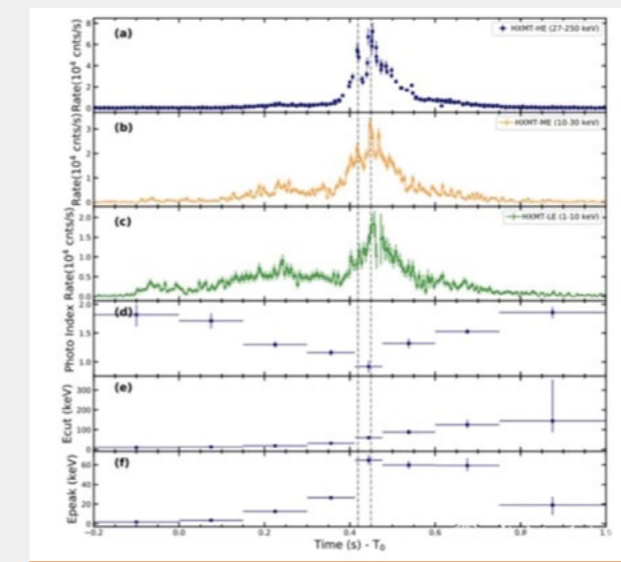
"Fast radio bursts (FRBs) come from magnetars" were listed by the journals Nature and Science as one of the biggest scientific feats of 2020. The feat includes the work of BNU's Lin Lin and her collaborative team (<https://english.bnu.edu.cn/newsevents/latestnews/119258.htm>).

Nature Astronomy published four studies about X-ray burst associated with a fast radio bursts (FRB) in the Milky Way Galaxy.



Insight-HXMT has discovered the very first X-ray burst associated with a fast radio burst (FRB) and has identified that it originated from soft-gamma repeater (SGR) J1935+2154, which is a magnetar in our Milky Way. Insight-HXMT is the first to identify the double-spike structure of this X-ray burst as the high energy counterpart of FRB 200428. This discovery, together with results from other

telescopes, proves that FRBs can come from magnetar bursts, thus resolving the longstanding puzzle concerning the origin of FRBs. These results from Insight-HXMT also help explain the emission mechanism of FRBs, as well as the trigger mechanism of magnetar bursts.



This work was conducted by scientists from the Institute of High Energy Physics (IHEP) of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing Normal University, University of Nevada Las Vegas, Tsinghua University and other institutions. Lin Lin of Department of Astronomy of BNU is the co-first author of this article (<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41550-021-01302-6>).

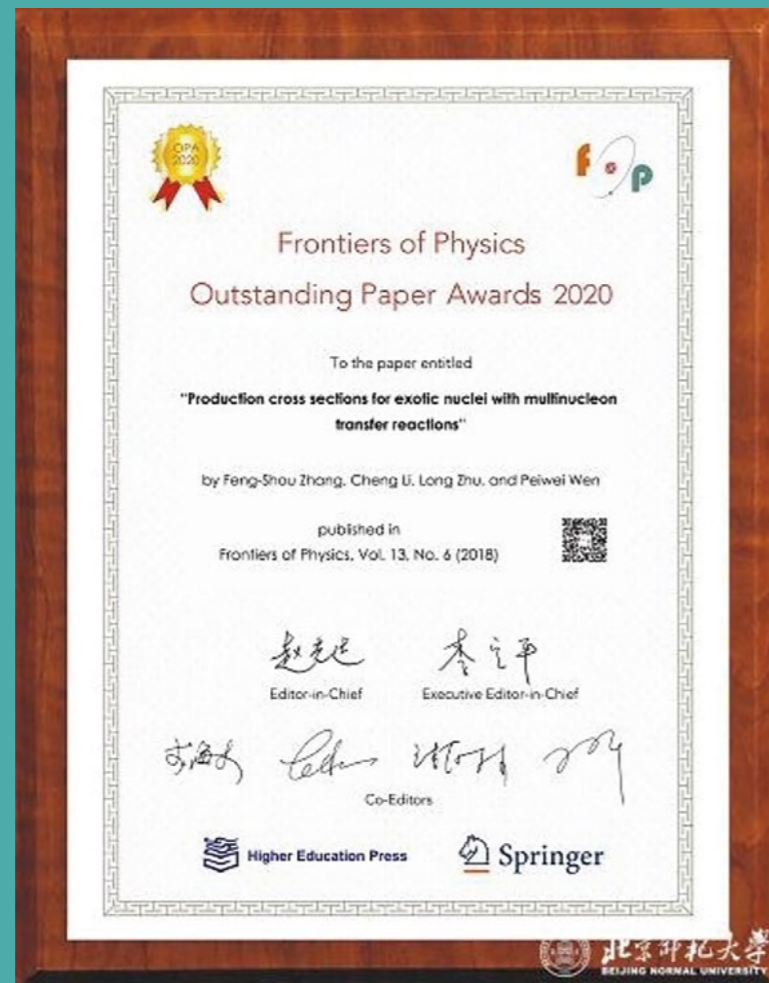
The series of studies analyzes spectral and temporal analyses of 24 X-ray bursts emitted 13 hours prior to the FRB and seen simultaneously with the Neutron Star Interior Composition Explorer (NICER) mission of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and with the Fermi Gamma-ray Burst Monitor (GBM) mission. It demonstrates that all 24 NICER and GBM bursts are very similar temporally to the FRB-X, but strikingly different spectrally. Lin Lin is also the co-author of this article (<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41550-020-01292-x>).

Professor Zhang Fengshou of College of Nuclear Science and Technology of BNU Won the Outstanding Paper Awards of Frontier of Physics

Article source: College of Nuclear Science and Technology | Release date: 2020-12-30

Published by Professor Zhang Fengshou's team of College of Nuclear Science and Technology, BNU in *Frontiers of Physics* (FP) in 2018, the article Production cross sections for exotic nuclei with multinucleon transfer reactions won the Outstanding Paper Awards 2020. The journal FP is jointly published by China's *Higher Education Press* and Springer.

The synthesis of neutron-rich heavy nuclei and superheavy nuclei is the frontier of nuclear science and technology. In this paper, Professor Zhang Fengshou and co-authors Dr. Li Cheng, Dr. Zhu long as well as Dr. Wen Peiwei, who won the prize together, systematically reviewed the research status and progress of multinucleon transfer reactions at energies close to Coulomb barrier and predicted production cross sections for neutron-rich heavy nuclei and the trans-uranium nuclei, which has important guiding significance for future experimental and theoretical research.



Article Link: <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11467-018-0843-6>

Professor Liu Lancui and PhD Student Hou Juanjuan from BNU Business School Published Research Results in Nature Climate Change

Article source: Business School | Release date: 2021-01-15

Professor Liu Lancui and PhD student Hou Juanjuan from BNU Business School participated in a research, and the result A proposed global layout of carbon capture and storage in line with a 2 °C climate target was published online in the journal Nature Climate Change, a subsidiary journal of the Nature Publishing Group.

This paper proposed a global CCUS layout scheme to achieve the goal of two-degree temperature control for the first time in the world, which broke through the point-to-point source-sink matching mode of existing research. It also presented a global source-sink optimization matching scheme based on carbon cluster, which is of great significance for the global deep collaborative emission reduction and the realization of China's carbon neutral target in 2060.

Professor Wei Yiming of Beijing Institute of Technology is the lead author of this paper and Professor Liu Lancui of Beijing Normal University is one of the co corresponding authors. The cooperation units include Chinese Academy of Sciences, etc.

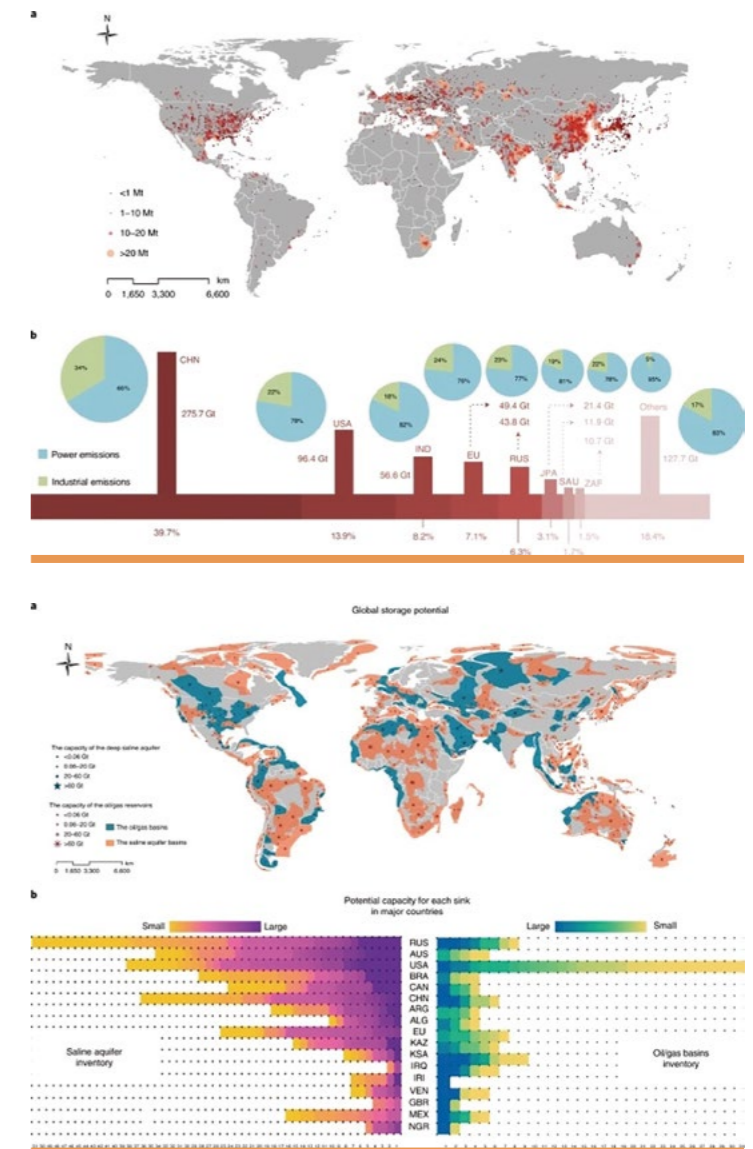




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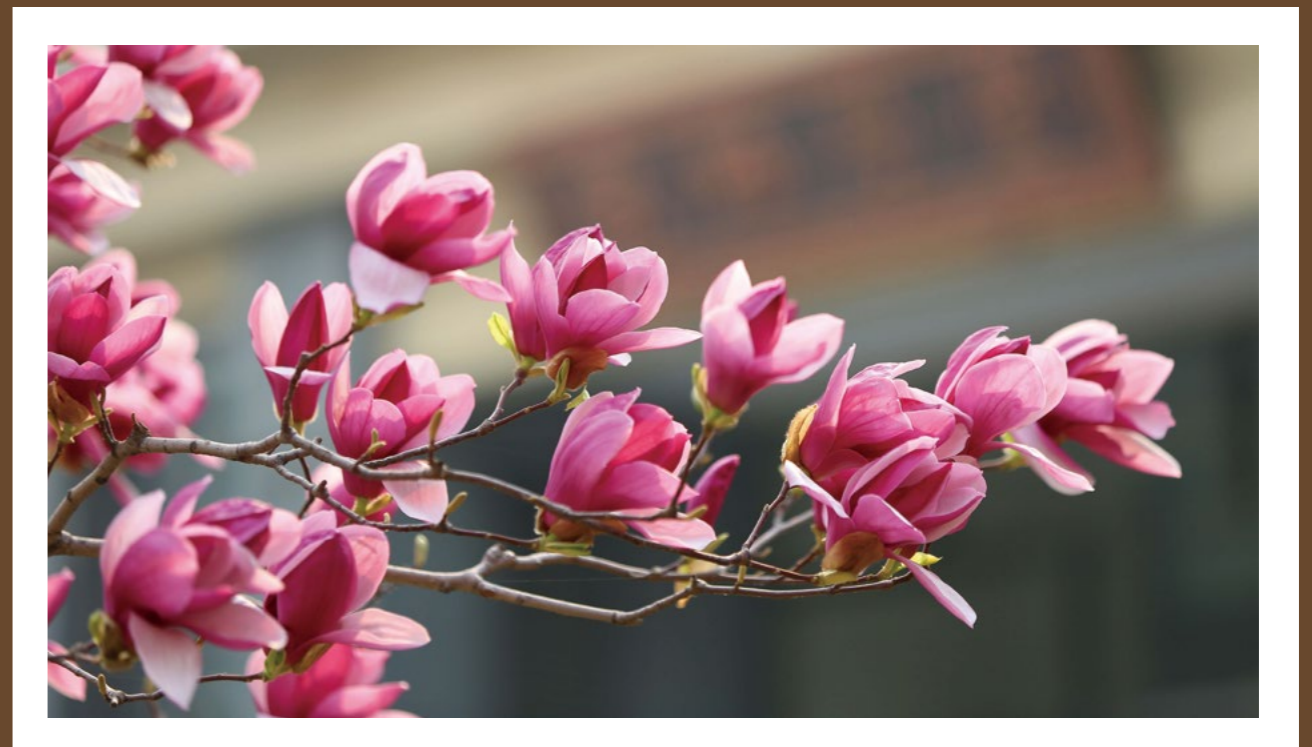


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