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SPOTLIGHT

UIP 2017: THE GRAND OPENING



SCU
NEWS
LETTER
SUMMER
2017 N^o 19

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The Newsletter is published by the International Office of Sichuan University. We aim to share the latest news and events on our campus with our faculty members, students, and alumni of the University, as well as friends around the world. Any suggestions and questions are welcomed from our readers.

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SPOTLIGHT



UIP 2017
UNIVERSITY IMMERSION PROGRAM
SICHUAN UNIVERSITY

UIP 2017

The Grand Opening



The evening of July 2nd saw the launching ceremony of the University Immersion Program 2017 at the gymnasium of Jiang'an Campus, Sichuan University. Over 200 professors and nearly 500 students from over 120 world-class universities, including the University of Oxford, Harvard University, Columbia University (New York), Stanford University, the University of Chicago, Queen Mary of the University of London, London School of Econom-

ics and Political Science, National University of Singapore, and University of Tsukuba from 27 countries or regions, together with the faculty and students of Sichuan University, witnessed this exciting moment. Wang Jianguo, Party Secretary of SCU, President Xie Heping, and all other university leaders as well as heads of relevant departments attended the opening ceremony. Vice President Yan Shijing hosted the ceremony.

world-class universities. He specially pointed out that this year will witness further enhancement of the "University Immersion Program", which has gathered over 200 celebrated scholars and about 500 students from more than 120 world famous universities to explore frontier academic issues, enlighten innovative thinking and share experience of study and life, together with the faculty and students of SCU.

Common Expectations



President Xie Heping delivered a speech on SCU's behalf. Firstly, he extended a warm welcome to the teachers and students from all over the world. In 2016, SCU explicitly set its goal of building itself into a world-class university; the "University Immersion Program" is a major carrier for SCU to implement high-end international education and cultivate talents capable of tackling future challenges, he said. The UIP has been a yearly event in SCU since 2012, during which over 500 foreign experts from world renowned universities, like Harvard University and University of Oxford, have been invited to offer nearly 700 English-based courses, and more than 1600 international students have made special exchanges in SCU. In this way, SCU students have opportunities to access the classes taught by world-famous scholars, and communicate with the students from



Simon Gaskell, President of Queen Mary of the University of London, was the first to address the ceremony as an international representative. He remarked that, SCU's "University Immersion Program" (UIP) has strengthened international understanding and exchanges among universities and students, facilitated cross-disciplinary integration and weakened the boundaries between teaching and research, thus it can be deemed as a journey of self-discovery for these teachers and students concerned.



Scott Alan Snyder, Professor of the University of Chicago, U.S., spoke as a



teacher representative of overseas universities. He expressed his pleasure to visit SCU and Chengdu, hoping that in the next two weeks, all participants could get to know each other, help each other appreciate cultures of different countries and regions, improve their global awareness and promote intercultural communication.



Michael Frommel, Professor of Universiteit Gent, Belgium, noted that, under the international environment, SCU's UIP program makes it possible for the participating teachers and students to

communicate with the professors from around the world without traveling around the globe, hence all teachers and students should embrace this opportunity to learn about each other through exchanges.



Teresa Chahine, representative of young teachers of Harvard University, stressed in her speech that SCU has made fruitful achievements in education of innovation and entrepreneurship, with its entire campus immersed in the atmosphere of innovation and entrepreneurship. The UIP is condu-

cive to expanding students' horizons and stimulating their innovative thinking, she added.



Perry Arrasmith, representative of international students and Harvard University students, said that the constant visit of a growing number of students from Harvard University and other global universities to SCU is bound to promote cultural exchanges between China and other countries, contribute to close contacts among young people of various nations, and deepen mutual understanding and mutual trust.



Chen Yuqing, student representative of Wu Yuzhang Honors College of SCU, gave a warm welcome on behalf of SCU students to the teachers and students from all around the world, looking forward to exchanging ideas and sparking inspiration with the guests in the next two weeks.

Later on, Wang Jianguo, on behalf of SCU, presented Gopalan Jayant Raja, a student from Harvard University, and Dan Ya, a student of Wu Yuzhang Honors College, with the flag of UIP 2017 and the flag of SCU, and announced the official kick-off of "UIP 2017".

A Grand Party

Following the opening ceremony, "Face-changing", a Sichuan opera with rich local cultural appeal, unveiled a feast of art show proudly presented by Chinese and foreign teachers and students. "Free Style", jointly performed by Chinese and foreign students, fully conveyed the theme of blending Chinese and foreign cultures together. The party reached its climax when "A Whole New World", sung by students of Harvard University, the "Glory" and "Grateful Heart" sung by the family of a teacher from University of Notre Dame were staged. Tibetan Dance "Zhuo Mo" exhibited the colorful culture of the Chinese nation, while the song, "Welcome to Sichuan University", voiced the heartfelt welcome to foreign guests. The art show filled with brilliant performances spread youthful breath, songs and laughter to every corner of Jiang'an

Gymnasium.

A Feast of Knowledge and Culture

In the next 2 weeks, more than 200 professors and experts from over 120 world-class universities in 27 countries and regions, including USA, UK and France, will offer 250 English-Teaching courses and many academic lectures for SCU students and teachers. The courses cover multi-disciplines in liberal arts, science, engineering and medicine, exposing the students to both the latest academic information and the general education curriculum that can satisfy diverse demands of students. At the same time, SCU will also set up a series of international exchange camps, consisting of 32 themed activities organized by 30 colleges and related departments of the university. Nearly 500 international students and SCU students will enjoy the gluttonous feast of knowledge and culture in an interactive manner. 🍽️

The 9th Session of The UN High-level Experts and Leaders Panel on Water and Disasters Held in China for the First Time

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On May 19th, the 9th Session of UN High-level Experts and Leaders Panel on Water and Disasters, organized by the School of Post-Disaster Reconstruction and Management of Sichuan University, was held at the lecture hall of the School. The opening ceremony were addressed by the following: Han Seung-soo, UN Secretary-General's Special Envoy on Disaster and Water Affairs, Chairman of the Water and Disaster High-level Expert and Leadership Group, and South Korea's former Prime Minister; Xie Heping, President of Sichuan University; Xie Hong, former Vice Chairman of the CPPCC of Sichuan Province; Melanie Shultz van Haegen, Minister of Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment of the Netherlands; Baski Hadimuljono, Minister of Ministry of Public Works and Housing of Indonesia; Masafumi Mori, Vice Minister of Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan, and Bambang Susantono, Vice President of Knowledge Management and Sustainable Development, Asian Development Bank. Yan Shijing, Vice President of Sichuan University; heads of College of Water resource & Hydropowerpower,

the School of Post-Disaster Reconstruction and Management, the School of International Studies and other related departments of Sichuan University, as well as the experts and scholars from the water and disaster prevention and control areas worldwide were also present at the opening ceremony, which was chaired by Han Seung-soo.

In his speech, Han Seung-soo reviewed the risk of water disaster facing the world. He pointed out that along with rapid population growth and accelerating urbanization process, the globe is tortured by increasingly aggravated and frequent waster disasters with more intense impact and more extensive scope, which have become a big obstacle that hinders human from poverty elimination and sustainable development. In the face of this situation, the United Nations General Assembly in January 2017 passed a resolution to determine the ten years from 2018 to 2028 as the International Decade for Action "Water and Disaster". The United Nations started a high-level expert group on water disaster and issued the "2023 Agenda". The theme discussion of this meeting was meant to provide much stronger support and more

effective implementation suggestions for the forthcoming third session of the UN Water and Disaster Special Conference to be organized by the UN Secretary-General and the UN General Assembly.

Xie Heping indicated that from 1944 onwards, Sichuan University has been sticking to active explorations on water resources development and utilization, water disaster prevention, water environment protection and other aspects, and has made gratifying achievements. President Xie claimed that Sichuan University would actively participate in and promote the framework of International Decade for Action - "Water for Sustainable Development" discussed at this meeting, bring its own strengths into full play in talent, discipline, scientific research and international cooperation platform, and commit itself to devoting SCU's wisdom to innovative research of cutting-edge technologies on global water disaster prevention and reduction, to providing SCU mode of training for international high-end professionals on disaster prevention and reduction as well as major disaster crisis management for international institutions, to making contributions to estab-

lishment of "Global University Alliance on Water and Disaster Research", and to offering the SCU model for exploration and development of an interactive mechanism between world top universities and the response system against major disaster crisis.

Xie Hong hoped that Sichuan could integrate industry, teaching and research in a systematic way by relying on SCU multi-discipline advantages, share its experience with the world, and make its due contribution to disaster risk control and reduction.

Melanie Shultz van Haegen said in her address that the meeting of high-level experts and leadership on water and disaster plays a very important role in

disaster prevention and mitigation at the international level and the implementation of the human's sustainable development goal, and needs to further improve its strategy and attract more countries and international institutions to participate in the action.

Basuki Hadimuljono particularly focused on Indonesia's experience and practices in water disaster management.

Masafumi Mori represented in his address that Japan, as a country frequently stricken by water disasters, has the world's fastest disaster response system and a complete ecosystem and industry system. It is always committed to supporting the work of the high-level expert and leadership group on water

and disaster, and has joined the Sendai Disaster Reduction Framework. Based on its experience of disaster prevention and mitigation over the years, Japan has formed a complete system of structural and non-structural interventions.

On behalf of the Asian Development Bank, Bambang Susantono pointed out that the Asian Development Bank has been committed to strengthening input in water hygiene in Asia and continuing to enhance the ability of local communities to prevent water disasters. He hopes that this conference can be exploited to offset asymmetry and disparity in knowledge and information.

After the opening ceremony, a series of discussions were conducted on such



President of SCU Attends 2nd Session of the Council for Cooperation between Upper and Middle Reaches of Yangtze River and Volga Federal Districts

On June 16th, State Councilor Yang Jiechi co-chaired the second meeting of the Council for Cooperation between the Upper and Middle Reaches of the Yangtze River in China and Federal Districts along the

Volga River in Russia with Babich, representative of Russian President. Relevant representative from ministry of foreign affairs, ministry of culture, tourism bureau and other relevant departments of the two countries, five provinces and

one municipality of the middle and upper reaches of the Yangtze River, and fourteen representatives from federal districts along the Volga River attended the meeting. Xie Heping, President of Sichuan University also attended the meeting by invitation.

topics as water and disaster issues under the framework of International Decade for Action - "Water for Sustainable Development", the high-level expert and leadership group's Action Strategy II, progress of Sendai disaster prevention and mitigation, 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the dialogue with HLPW and the 3rd UN Special Session on Water and Disaster within the framework of the High-Level Panel on Water Disasters (HLPW).

In the afternoon, relative sub forums were presided over respectively by Ms. Melanie Shultz van Haegen, Minister of Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment of the Netherlands, Masafumi Mori, Vice Minister of Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of

Japan, Jerome Delli Priscoli, Chairman of the Global Water Partnership Technical Committee, Toshio Koike, Director of the International Center for Water Disaster and Risk Management, and Gretchen Kalonji, Dean of the School of Post-disaster Reconstruction and Management, Sichuan University. The participating experts and scholars had thematic discussions on related subjects.

On May 18th, the United Nations' Technical Seminar of the High-level Experts and Leaders Panel on Water and Disasters was especially held at SCU. The participating experts and scholars conducted thematic discussions on some critical questions of cross-over point between Geological sciences and water disasters.

At the meeting, Yang Jiechi and Babich jointly inaugurated the website of "Yangtze-Volga" Cooperation Council, signed the Meeting Minutes and the Protocol on Amendment of Yangtze-Volga Cooperation Council Regulations, and witnessed the signing of a number of cooperation documents by local governments from the two sides. After the meeting, they both attended the closing ceremony of the 4th Youth Forum.

It is learnt that the official website of "Yangtze-Volga" Cooperation Council was designed and prepared by Sichuan University as entrusted by the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and its daily operation and management is also undertaken by Sichuan University under the guidance of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; the well-designed launching cer-

emony by Sichuan University was highly appraised by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and relevant departments. Sichuan University and Nizhny Novgorod State Technical University, as the University League's leading university in China and Russia respectively, signed a cooperation agreement, which was one of the eleven agreements signed during the meeting,

marking the formal establishment of the University League of Two River Drainage Basins as one of the key achievements of the meeting more importantly. After the establishment of the league, Sichuan University will maximize the role of a leading university in the league, further enhance the cooperation in education, gear up exchanges between various in-

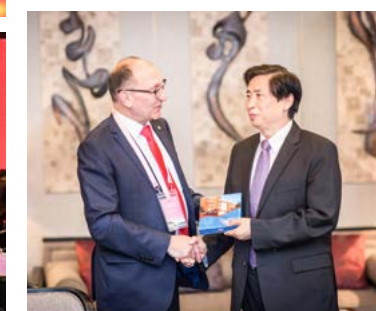
stitutions and specialties, between faculties and students of both sides, foster a group of talents with a good demand of Russian and familiar with different fields as backup reserve for pragmatic Sino-Russian cooperation including regional cooperation.

In the afternoon, President Xie Heping attended the closing ceremony of the fourth "Two River Drainage Basin" Youth Forum and cordially talked with student representatives of the universities in Sichuan. The students happily shared what they saw and heard in the last 12 days, and said they benefited a lot from the forum. Xie Heping encouraged the representatives to take this forum as a starting point, and strive to contribute to the promotion of future regional cooperation between the two areas and implementation of the "Belt and Road" initiative.

Vice President Yan Shi Jing also attended the signing ceremony and the closing ceremony of the fourth "Two River Drainage Basins" Youth Forum.

Vice President Yan Shijing and relevant members of the Sichuan University delegation were present at the meeting with them.

On the afternoon of June 15th, President Xie Heping met with Sergei Mikhailovich Dmitriyev, President of Nizhny Novgorod State Technical University, right before the second session of the Council for Cooperation between the Upper and Middle Reaches of the Yangtze River in China and Federal Districts along the Volga River in Russia. President Xie also celebrated Dmitriyev's 60th Birthday.





President Xie Heping of SCU Honored the "Senior Honorary Academician" Medal of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Moldova

To commend the significant contributions made by Mr. Xie Heping, President of SCU, in driving the friendly exchanges and cooperation between Sichuan University and Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Moldova, Academician Duca, Dean of Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Moldova, on behalf of the Academy, awarded the "Senior Honorary Academician" Medal to President Xi at SCU on May 20th.

The medal was named after Dimitrie Cantemir, a notable philosopher of the 18th century. It's the blue ribbon of Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Moldova, which was once awarded to the Dean of Romanian Academy of Sciences and the Dean of Russian Academy of Sciences.

Xie Heping noted that, on the "B&R" Forum for International Cooperation held recently, Xi Jinping, President of the PRC, stressed that China will thoroughly implement the development concept of innovation, coordination,

green, opening-up and sharing, inject strong impetus to the "B&R", and bring about new opportunities for global development. These all laid a good foundation for deepening the communication and cooperation between Sichuan University and Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Moldova. I hope the visit of Dean Duca could facilitate more comprehensive and in-depth cooperation of both sides in student cultivation and scientific researches, etc, he said.

Mr. Duca, on behalf of Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Moldova, expressed appreciation to Xie Heping for his significant contributions to the friendly exchanges and cooperation between both sides. He noted that, the construction of new Silk Road cannot push forward without the joint efforts of all relevant countries, adding that the exchanges and cooperation between Sichuan University and Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Moldova could accelerate the progress and development



of the two countries.

During the awarding ceremony, Mr. Duca, on behalf of Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Moldova, awarded the "Senior Honorary Academician" Medal to Mr. Xie Heping.

Before the visit, Mr. Duca proposed to award this medal to Xie Heping at the Academician Committee of Moldova, and received the consensus. It's Duca's important mission for this visit to award this honorary medal to Xie Heping. ㊦

Advanced Research and Teaching Joint Center" in Chengdu, Sichuan.

Academician Heping Xie holds a doctorate degree from China University of Mining and Technology, and also some honorary doctorate degrees from Clausthal Technical University, Hong Kong Polytechnic University and University of Nottingham. He has long been engaged in the theoretical and applied research of mining engineering mechanics, and has authored six monographs in Chinese and English and published over 200 academic papers including more than 100 of them in the SCI journals.

As one of the institutions of Oxford with a long history in the world, St Edmund Hall has had a track record of running the academic institution since 1317. Graduates of St Edmund Hall from all over the world have benefited much from its rigorous teaching and inspiring encouragement for hundreds of years, making outstanding and productive achievements in the fields of law, economy, medicine, journalism, science, public service, and arts, etc. ㊦

Academician Heping Xie Appointed as a St Edmund Fellow

On May 31st, Academician Heping Xie, President of Sichuan University, was awarded a "St Edmund Fellowship" by the College in recognition of his leadership of academic collaborations between St Edmund Hall and Sichuan University, in Chengdu, China. Professor Xie has contributed widely to the ongoing collaboration which has brought academic benefits to faculty members and students at both institutions.

Since 2014, St Edmund Hall and Sichuan University have forged a successful partnership at all levels, including the implementation of Visiting Student Programme (wherein students from SCU can be officially enrolled at University of Oxford), Visiting Professor

Programme (wherein professors from SCU can visit the University of Oxford for academic purpose), Distinguished Speaker Lectures (wherein professors from University of Oxford can give lectures at SCU), as well as Youth Teacher Training Program and summer courses focusing on Academic Medicine and Economics & Public Policy.. Moreover, both institutions had explored the feasibility of jointly establishing an "Oxford-Sichuan



Nobel Prize Laureate J. Fraser Stoddart in Chemistry Visits SCU

On May 11, Academician J. Fraser Stoddart, the Nobel Prize laureate in 2016, visited Sichuan University and delivered a wonderful lecture entitled "Molecular Machinery". Prof. Stoddart introduced and demonstrated supramolecular chemistry and other frontier technologies in a vividly way. He shared his experience and perception in over 50 years' chemistry research, and encouraged young students to be diligent enough to research and courageous enough to explore.

After the speech, Yan Shijing, Vice President of Sichuan University, met with Academician J. Fraser Stoddart at VIP Room in Mingde Building. The relevant personnel of SCU attended the meeting.



During the meeting, Prof. Yan extended a sincere welcome to Mr. J. Fraser Stoddart on behalf of SCU and expressed his gratitude to Mr. J. Fraser Stoddart for his years of support to SCU students. He hoped that Prof. J. Fraser Stoddart could visit SCU more frequently and offer more lectures and guidance for the construction of disciplines, personnel training and scientific research of Sichuan University.

Mr. J. Fraser Stoddart said SCU attaches great importance to international cooperation and exchanges, adding that SCU students are passionate about scientific research. I would like to help more Sichuan University students to conduct exchange and further study in first-class universities in the United States.



J. Fraser Stoddart

Mr. J. Fraser Stoddart is 2016's Nobel Prize Laureate in Chemistry, Academician of the Royal Society in London, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the German Academy of Natural Sciences, and the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences. Also, he is one of the most distinguished scientists in the fields of organic supramolecular chemistry and nanoscience; He has received more than 100 awards in various fields, including International Izatt-Christensen Award in 1994, Cope Scholar Award awarded by American Chemical Society in 1999. In 2007, Queen Elizabeth II personally awarded Knight Bachelor to him. At the same year, he won the Albert Einstein World Award of Science.

Jack W. Szostak, Academician of US National Academy of Sciences and Nobel Prize Laureate, visits West China Hospital

On May 26th, Jack W. Szostak, the Nobel Prize Laureate in Physiology or Medicine and Professor of Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH), and Prof. Steven Benner, the Noble Prize Nominee, visited the Laboratory Medicine Department and had a panel discussion with the backbones of the Department.

This was Prof. Jack's third visit to this Department following his visits in September, 2016 and in December, 2016. During their stay, they conducted exchanges, and gained an in-depth understanding into the clinic laboratory of microbiology and clinic molecular diagnosis laboratory. Meanwhile, they had exchanges with the relevant backbones of the Laboratory Medicine Department. Prof. Jack W. Szostak and Prof. Steven Benner introduced their main research fields and directions, and discussed the nucleic acid molecule diagnosis technology, fast diagnosis reagent R&D and other cooperation intentions with the backbones of the Department, which may be of great significance to the fast diagnosis of infectious diseases in western China, especially in the remote areas. The backbones of the Laboratory



Medicine Department briefed the clinic inspection range, inspection scale, and the inspection program types as well as the geographical characteristics of the applications. Both sides put focus on the new research achievements as well as the application and transformation

of diagnostic technologies. Prof. Jack W. Szostak and Prof. Steven Benner expressed their wishes for further cooperation, whilst Prof. Bu Hong and Assistant Dean Cheng Jingqiu also put forward their wills for the joint building of laboratories.

Jack W. Szostak

In 2016, Prof. Jack was employed as the Visiting Professor of West China Medical School, the Member of the Academic Committee of Precision Medicine Center, and the Editorial Board Member of the Precision Clinical Medicine, the World-Famous Biologist, the Professor of Howard Hughes Medicine Institution, Harvard Medical School, and Alex Rich Department of Molecular Biology and Computing Center, the Outstanding Researcher of MGH in General Biology, the Academician of US National Academy of Sciences and New York Academy of Sciences, and the Member of American Academy of Arts and Sciences and American Association for the Advancement of Science. Having discovered the functional mechanism of telomerase, he obtained the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 2009. Besides, due to his outstanding contributions in scientific research, he also won many international awards, including US National Academy of Sciences Award in Molecular Biology (1994), HansSigrist Prize (1997), the Medal of Genetics Society of America (2000), Lasker Award (2006), etc. The exchange and visit will be conducive to further promoting the international cooperation and communication of laboratory medicine, and boosting disciplinary development. 🏆

West China Hospital Representatives Invited to Speak at the 3rd CEEC-China Health Minister's Meeting

On June 19th, the 3rd China-CEEC Health Ministers' Meeting was held in Budapest, Capital of Hungary. Ms. Liu Yandong, Vice Premier of the State Council of China, attended the opening ceremony and delivered a keynote report, and Vice Premier Chamyan of the Republic of Hungary also addressed the meeting. It received over 500 attendants, including 27 ministerial-level officials and 9 ambassadors as well as representatives from the WHO, EU and other international organizations. Mr. Li Bin, Director of National Health and Family Planning Commission of the People's Republic of China, signed cooperation agreements with the countries like Hungary, Romania, and Latvia. The sub-forum covers the matters of cooperation in the fields of public health, hospital, health policy research and traditional Chinese medicine.



After the Opening Ceremony, Vice Premier Liu took a group photo with the hospital deans attending the meeting, and extended appreciation to them for their contribution to the establishment of the China-CEEC "16+1 Cooperation" mechanism. She also hoped that each hospital could continuously play major roles in the medical and health cooperation between China and CEEC.

Wan Xuehong, Executive Vice Dean of West China Hospital, Sichuan University, delivered a special report titled "In-

ternational Cooperation Opportunities in Medical Tourism" on the sideline of the event, and hosted the panel discussion. Global medical tourism consumption amounted to less than USD10 billion in 2000, and exceeded USD600 billion last year, making it become the world's fastest-growing industry. It's expected to exceed USD2.5 trillion in 2025. China and Central and Eastern European Countries share complementary tourism resources and win-win cooperation opportunities. In this aspect,



the cooperation on doctors exchange and specialist doctors training is one of the approaches to expanding medical

tourism.

On June 18th, the members of China-CEEC Hospital Cooperation Alliance's executive committee organized a warm-up meeting at Semmelweis University of Hungary, during which they discussed the first batch of specialist cooperation areas proposed by 26 hospitals from China and 16 CEECs, including cardiology, neurology, oncology, pediatrics, hepatobiliary and pancreatic surgery, rehabilitation, and other domains. 🏆

Nepalese Ambassador to China Pays a Visit to SCU and Delivers a Speech

June 8th, afternoon, a delegation composed of Leela Mani Paudyal, Ambassador of the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal to China, and Binod Prasad Acharya, Nepal's Envoy to

China, together with some other members, paid a visit to SCU, where Ambassador Paudyal delivered a speech titled "the Belt and Road Initiative: Prospects for Nepal".



In his speech, Ambassador Paudyal dissected some major issues related to the bridging between Nepal and the "Belt and Road" initiative. After a brief review of the history of Nepal, he indicated that the construction of "One Belt and One Road" played an immeasurable role in economic and social development, regional cooperation of Nepal, as well as China-Nepal friendship, and that both sides should seize the favorable opportunity accompanied with smooth progress of "the Belt and Road" initiative as well as post-quake reconstruction and benign political situation in Nepal so as to achieve long-term friendship and common development. He also answered the questions raised by scholars

and postgraduates of China, Nepal and India.

Over 80 people, including faculty members and students from the Institute of South Asian Studies, the Collaborative Innovation Center for Security and Development of Western Frontier China, the School of History and Culture (Tourism), and the School of Economics, SCU,

students of the "Belt & Road" Scholarship Overseas Students Training Program from countries like Nepal, India, Afghanistan and Poland, and representatives from Sichuan Center for International Peace & Development Studies, Sichuan Academy of Social Sciences, Sichuan Normal University, Southwest University for Nationalities, and relative firms took part in the event.

After the lecture, Ambassador and his team visited the Centre for Nepal studies under the Institute of South Asian Studies, and had a symposium, covering such topics as enhancing China-Nepal bilateral cooperation, promoting media exchanges and strengthening cooperation between the Institute of South Asian Studies, SCU and Tribhuvan University of Nepal, with SCU faculty and students. ㊦

The Delegation of the Republic of Tatarstan visits West China Hospital

On May 17th, a high-ranking government officials' training group of the Republic of Tatarstan led by Faziliye Yila, Assistant to President of the Republic of Tatarstan, along with 3 vice premier level officials and several top-ranking government officials, visited West China Hospital. The Assistant Dean Gong Qiyong and departmental heads of the Hospital met with the guests.

Both sides introduced separately their development conditions and advantageous resources in health care industry, and expressed positive intention for cooperation. Meanwhile, officials of the delegation responsible for the health care held discussions and exchanges with the experts of the clinic departments in the meeting.

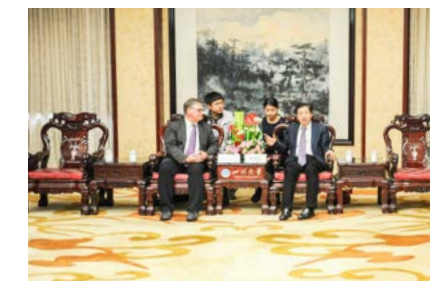
After the meeting the delegation conducted a field visit to the clinic, emergency treatment department, remote clinical center and clinic skill center, and made favorable comments on our hos-

pital's medical equipment, management procedures, and social contributions, etc. They hoped to further study the advanced concept and medical technologies of our hospital. ㊦



VISITORS

Prof. Douglas Schmidt, Canadian Chief Scientist in Rock Physics, Visits SCU



in an effort to pace up the research on rock mass mechanics and earth sciences, tackle world-class puzzles with joint efforts, and make greater contribution to the wellbeing of human beings.

May 2nd, morning, President Xie Heping met with Douglas Schmidt, a tenured professor of University of Alberta, the Chief Scientist in Rock Physics of Canada, as well as a member of Canadian Council of Professional Engineers and an academician in Earth Sciences. Vice President Yan Shijing, together with relevant personnel of SCU, attended the meeting.

During the meeting, President Xie noted that the SCU is gifted with solid foundation and strong research capacity in rock mass mechanics, exploitation and utilization of underground resources, prevention of natural disasters, and so on, supported by series of major research projects. He then expressed an expectation that Prof. Schmidt could join the SCU's relevant research team,

Following a brief introduction of his team's research field and recent research interests, Prof. Schmidt claimed that SCU's researches on rock mass mechanics and natural disasters tally with his own researches; as SCU possesses many innovation and practice opportunities in relevant domains, he is desiring to further the cooperation and communication with SCU's related teams, so as to jointly harvest more fruits of scientific research. ㊦

A Delegation of Lodz City Holds A Round-Table Meeting at SCU

On the morning of May 9th, the president of Sichuan University, Mr. Xie Heping, met with the visiting delegation of the University of Lodz led by president Antoni. Rozalski. Vice President Yan Shijing

and other leaders attended the meeting.

On the afternoon of May 10th, the delegation of Lodz, led by Krzysztof Piatkowski, the Vice Mayor of Lodz,

Poland, visited Sichuan University. Prof. Yan Shijing, the Vice President of SCU, met with the guests. Relevant officers of Chengdu Municipal Foreign & Overseas Chinese Affairs Office and SCU attended the meeting.



During this meeting, Prof. Yan said Sichuan University attaches great importance to the research on European countries, the Center for European Studies is one of the European research demonstration centers recognized by EU. While actively implementing the national strategic requirements of "One Belt and One Road" in recent years, SCU constantly strengthens the cooperation and exchanges with the countries along "One Belt and One Road". In 2016, SCU set up a "Polish+" discipline, with its aim to cultivate compound talents capable of speaking fluent Polish and having certain know-how. Lodz is an important city in Poland and an important node of the "CR+" Express. SCU will dispatch 90 students to study at the University of Lodz in 2018. Meanwhile, SCU also warmly welcomes the faculty staff and students in Lodz University to visit and study here. Through this visit of the delegation of Lodz, we hope to promote the exchanges and cooperation of both universities and both cities on personnel training, scientific research, economic and trade.

Mr. Krzysztof Piatkowski said that Lodz lies in the center of Poland as the third largest city, the third education center in Poland, with a large-scale education

system. He hoped that Sichuan University could build a good relationship of cooperation with Lodz's universities including the University of Lodz, so as to promote the extensive exchanges and cooperation in various fields, and jointly accelerate the mutual

development.

Then, SCU held a round-table meeting with the Lodz delegation.

In addressing the meeting, Mr. Yan Shijing hoped that the round-table meeting could lay a solid foundation for the friendly cooperation between SCU and the universities in Lodz, Poland, and promote the cooperation and exchanges between both sides in various fields.

Mr. Krzysztof Piatkowski noted that Lodz

and Chengdu had become sister cities as early as in 2013, the construction of "CR+" Express will further deepen the exchanges between two sides in the economy and trade, culture and other fields. He hoped the meeting will further improve exchanges and cooperation among the universities in Lodz and Sichuan.

Then, the representatives from the University of Lodz, Technical University of Lodz, Medical University of Lodz, Lodz Academy of Fine Arts and Lodz School of Humanities and Economics, gave a brief speech respectively about the education scale, operating characteristics, training of talents, etc.

Representatives from other universities in Chengdu, including the University of Electronic Science and Technology of China, Southwest Jiaotong University, Sichuan Normal University, attended the round-table meeting and had discussions with Lodz delegation about the matters concerned. 🏠

A Guinean Delegation Led by Mamadi Conde Welcomed at SCU

June 7th, morning, Hou Taiping, Vice-president of SCU, met with Mamadi Conde, Director of Guinea's National Key Projects Office, and

his delegation. Relative staff members of our university attended the meeting.

Hou Taiping remarked in the meeting



that, as a university with a long history and profound cultural deposits, SCU boasts a large scale and a complete range of disciplines, as well as obvious advantages and strong competitiveness. It is an important comprehensive university located in the west of China;

furthermore, SCU is the first one that has established the "Belt and Road Scholarship" for international exchange students; relying on extended projects of the scholarship, SCU would try the best to fuel China-Guinea friendship, and provide support and help for Guinea's

education within its power, he added.

Director Mamadi Conde claimed that Guinea and China have forged a long-standing friendship and that Guinea attaches great importance to establishing cooperative relations with Chinese universities and values high-quality educational resources of SCU. Guinea hopes to establish long-term cooperative relationship with SCU in the fields including international students education and civil servants training.

During the meeting, both parties reached a consensus on the quantity, major and educational level of exchange students to be sent to SCU, as well as some other issues like civil servants training. 🏠

The Delegation Led by Dr. YoslanNur of UNESCO Visits SCU

On June 21st, Prof. Xie Heping, President of Sichuan University, met with the delegation led by Dr. YoslanNur, Program Officer of United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), at VIP Hall of Mingde Building, Wangjiang Campus, accompanied by Vice President Yan Shijing and relevant personnel of SCU.

President Xie briefly introduced rel-





evant conditions of SCU and the Institute for Disaster Management and Reconstruction. He said that, after the 2008 Wenchuan Earthquake, SCU established the world's first-ever Institute for Disaster Management and Reconstruction by adhering to the value of "caring about the general public and contributing to the home country", and the concept that "all people on earth must have disaster awareness and receive disaster knowledge education". In recent years, the Institute has reaped fruitful achievements in major disaster response research, disaster scientific education and publicity, improvement of disaster self-rescue and relief ability, and cultivation of relevant high-calibre talents. He hoped that high-end professionals like Prof. YoslanNur could join SCU's Institute for Disaster Management and Reconstruction, making contribution to the global disaster response and the cause of post-disaster reconstruction.

Prof. YoslanNur expressed appreciation to SCU's warm reception. He noted that, the establishment of the Institute for Disaster Management and Reconstruction is of great significance to the research and development of global disaster science. He is very pleased to give full play to his expertise and advantages in the international organizations, thus contributing his own efforts to the international development of the Institute. ㊦



SCU Inked a Cooperation Agreement with University of Birmingham

On May 22nd, the signing ceremony of the cooperation agreement between Sichuan University and University of Birmingham was held. Vice President of University of Birmingham Mr. Jon Frampton and Vice President of Sichuan University Mr. Yan Shijing along with relevant personnel of both universities attended the ceremony.

On this occasion, Mr. Yan Shijing said that the exchange of the teachers and students of both universities has reaped fruit, and the young scholars participat-

ing in the academic visit have become the mainstream of teaching and research staff in Sichuan University, bringing about a closer tie between the two universities. He hoped that both sides will further deepen cooperation, explore new cooperation mechanism and work together to cultivate outstanding talents, making more contribution to social development.

Vice President Mr. Jon Frampton spoke highly of the significant achievements made from the cooperation between



the two universities. The cooperation between University of Birmingham and Sichuan University is also a path for exchanges between Britain and China, he stressed, adding that a more effective

student exchange mechanism could be set up to provide more mutually beneficial exchange opportunities for the talent teams.

The two sides also exchanged views on issues such as the International Curriculum Week Exchange Project of Sichuan University and the joint training model of the master and PhD students. ㊦

Memorandum of Cooperation Signed Between SCU and Deakin University

June 29th, afternoon, a delegation led by Deakin University President Jane den Hollander paid a visit to SCU, and signed a MOU for inter-institutional cooperation with the host. President Xie Heping, accompanied by vice president Yan Shijing and relevant personnel, met with the delegation.

Xie Heping claimed in the meeting that, SCU attaches great importance to internationalization of students' education, and strives to ensure every one of its student could experience overseas exchange for at least one time through activities including practice, international course week and overseas exchanges, hoping that the signing of the MOU could further the cooperation between the two universities and the exchanges and interaction between their faculties and students.

Jane den Hollander said that, as a famous university in China, SCU enjoys a good reputation in Australia; Deakin University is a young university though,

it has strong strengths in disciplines like materials science and economics; Deakin University is willing to join hands with SCU to promote the exchanges and cooperation in joint research, joint nurturing of talents and other aspects.

Xie Heping and Jane den Hollander signed the MOU for inter-institutional

cooperation on behalf of SCU and Deakin University respectively.

It is learnt that Deakin University, as one of topnotch universities in Australia, ranked top 3% in various global university ranking lists; furthermore, it is rated as a "five star university" by the prestigious Quacquarelli Symonds (QS). ㊦





CONFERENCE

"Youth · Responsibility · Dream"

the 4th International Student Forum
on Disaster Management and Reconstruction Held in SCU

May 12th, the 4th International Student Forum on Disaster Management and Reconstruction -- "Youth · Responsibility · Dream", themed with "disaster management and youth's participation", was held in lecture hall of the Institute for Disaster Management and Reconstruction, Sichuan University - Hong Kong Polytechnic University. More than 200 experts, scholars and representatives of faculty and students, from USA, Russia, Japan, India and other countries and regions, as well as over 20 domestic universities including Peking University, Zhejiang University, attended the forum.

The event was kicked off by standing in silent tribute to the victims of "5.12" Wenchuan Earthquake.

On behalf of the University, President Xie Heping addressed the forum. He indicated that to be successful in building a world-class university influential on the progress of the world and the human, it is necessary to nurture students' responsibilities of caring about the world, the mankind and the future, and that it is a great responsibility and mission for every young student to sum



up experiences gained in the practices against natural disasters, and improve people's awareness and ability concerning disaster prevention and mitigation.

Gretchen Kalonji, Dean of the Institute for Disaster Management and Reconstruction, Sichuan University - Hong Kong Polytechnic University, claimed that, the Institute, targeting at building an example in international disaster prevention, disaster reduction and post-disaster reconstruction, will continue to strengthen interscholastic and international exchanges and cooperation; it will

cultivate a strong, high-level and professional team for international cause of disaster prevention and mitigation, and voice on behalf of SCU in the domain of disaster prevention and reduction as well as post-disaster reconstruction.

Prof. Tom Kosnik, distinguished professor of Stanford University, addressed the Forum on behalf of the experts present. He echoed the viewpoint of "people on the earth must have awareness of disaster and receive disaster education" put forward by President Xie Heping. He added that he will strive to promote



the students of Stanford University to pursue further study in the Institute for Disaster Management and Reconstruction, Sichuan University - Hong Kong Polytechnic University, and further explore ways to expand exchanges and co-operation between Stanford University and Sichuan University.

Ma Haoyuan, President of the Student Union of SCU, made a speech on behalf of SCU students. Feng Hua, a doctoral student at Tsinghua University, spoke on behalf of the students present. They both voiced a firm belief that contemporary young students shoulder missions of the times, bear social responsibility and contribute their youth and strength to the great cause.

At the opening ceremony, awarding ceremonies of outstanding works prizes for National Disaster Prevention and Reduction Education & Science Popularization Works Design Contest



of the University and of the country as a whole was held in Sichuan University.

Prof. Tom Kosnik gave a special report titled "Disaster Prevention, Disaster Reduction and Youth's Innovation" to the students, which mainly introduced the concept, purpose and experience of Stanford University in organizing students to participate in disaster preven-

tion and reduction projects, and shared a series of relevant social activity programs Stanford University students had participated in.

At this forum, the experts and students also had subject discussion, academic exchange and visit, under the theme of "Youth's Innovation and Entrepreneurship, and Post-disaster Reconstruction of Industries".

2017 Annual Conference of American Studies Network (ASN) Convened

On April 21st, 2017 Annual American Studies Network (ASN), jointly sponsored by America-China Education Foundation and American Research Center of Sichuan University, was convened in Chengdu, and the participating experts and scholars were from Columbia University, University of California, Davis, Purdue University, American University, University of Copenhagen, Beijing Foreign Studies University, Beijing Language and Culture University, Institute of Diplomacy, Nanjing University, Sichuan University and other domestic and foreign colleges and research institutes. Moreover, more than 30 graduate students from various colleges also got involved in this event.

In the opening ceremony, Ms. Julia Chang Bloch, the Former Ambassador of USA in Nepal, roughly made an analysis and introduction of US-China relation trend after Trump took office. US-China relation is not only a bilateral relation and big powers' relation, but also a kind of relation with international influence, she said, adding that the two sides could have a deep exchange in all aspects.

Prof. Luo Zhongshu, the Dean of Sichuan University School of International Studies addressed that "Sichuan University always pays attention to American

research, and American Research Center is a gradually perfected academic institution with its own characteristics". US-China relation is undoubtedly the

relation among big powers with strategic meanings, and the two sides should reinforce exchange, communication and understanding. Sichuan University is



not only a window to learn more about USA and promote US-China communication, but also a platform for academic cooperation. Secretary Luo wished the conference a complete success.

Mr. James Thurber, the Government's Distinguished Professor of American University, Prof. Wang Xiaolu, the Academic Committee Director of Sichuan University America Research Center, Sonya Horsford, the Representative of America Nevada Congress, and the Associate Professor of Columbia University as well as Helen Zia, Chinese American Writer successively made keynote speeches under the title of "Trump Phenomenon: Decoding the Current Policy in USA", "Cross-boundary: Americans who Came to China at the Late of 19th Century and the Early of 21st Century", and "Ethnic Groups in American Politics, Gender and Ethnic Minorities", etc.

The panel discussion involved topics such as "the policies and influence within the tenure of President Trump", "American ethnic issues", "the change of American voters", "American foreign policies" and "US-China relation" "restriction and balance: the boundedness of American President". In the three forums for graduate students, more than 30 graduate students respectively discussed issues such as 2016 American Presidential Election, American policies, diplomacy, culture, and ethnics.

This Conference provided a good exchange platform for scholars engaged in American research, and facilitated the communication of Chinese and American scholars with satisfactory effects.

The Second US-China Forum on Obstetrics-Gynecology & Pediatrics Opens in SCU



On May 12th, the Second US-China Forum on Obstetrics-Gynecology & Pediatrics, jointly hosted by SCU and the College of Medicine, University of Florida (UF), and organized by West China Second University Hospital (West China Women's and Children's Hospital, Sichuan University), was held in Huaxi Campus. Prof. Thomas Chiu and Associate Prof. Erin Burnett of UF College of Medicine-Jacksonville, Executive Vice-president of SCU Li Hong and Zhang Lin, Assistant President of SCU and Dean of West China Second University Hospital,

addressed the opening ceremony. 15 gynecologic and pediatric specialists from UF and Baylor College of Medicine, as well as the medical staff, postgraduates and trainees of West China Second University Hospital, attended the event.

Mr. Thomas Chiu stressed in his speech that the successful holding of the 2nd US-China Forum on Obstetrics-Gynecology & Pediatrics marked a good debut of the friendship between SCU and UF. It has provided a significant opportunity for both sides in further cooperation and



exchanges on medical education, medical research and teachers/students exchange program, he added.

Mr. Zhang Ling said West China Women's and Children's Hospital is the single state-level center for women's and children's health surveillance, which has been offering long-term, first-class medical services for women and children across the nation, especially those in western China. The successful hosting of the seminar could provide a golden opportunity for obstetricians and pediatricians from both countries to beef up exchanges and friendship, and conduct clinical and scientific research and substantial cooperation in the areas of common interest, he emphasized.

Erin Burnett expressed great appreciation for the achievements and experience obtained in obstetrics-gynecology & pediatrics by West China Women's and Children's Hospital. She also hoped that both sides could develop joint research and share good ideas on the medical bottlenecks encountered, and further broaden and deepen cooperation and exchanges in medical and scientific fields.

On behalf of SCU, Mr. Li Hong expressed warm congratulations to the Forum. SCU attaches great importance to the discipline development and clinical services of obstetrics-gynecology & pediatrics, he noted. With this Forum, new ideas and technologies on healthcare could be propagated, whilst both sides could deepen their friendship and mutual understanding, thus pushing forward bilateral cooperation and exchanges in a broader range.

This Forum gained the support from the Key Laboratory of Birth Defects and Related Diseases of Women and Children, Sichuan International Joint Research Center for Women's and Children's Health, and the Key Laboratory of Development and Obstetric & Gynecologic and Pediatric Diseases. It comprised of two sessions, including Obstetrics-Gynecology and Pediatrics, during which a series of lectures and seminars on 24 topics were carried out, such as ectopic incision twin pregnancy, progress in treatment of ovarian cancer, multiple-drug resistance tuberculosis and prenatal management and intervention of fetal arrhythmia. ㊦

From May 18th to 21st, SCU's West China Hospital, the School of Post-disaster Reconstruction and Management, the School of Continuing Education, Chongqing Emergency Medical Center, and the Third Military Medical College Southwest Hospital jointly held the 5th West China International Academic Forum of Emergency Treatment in Chengdu, and more than 800 representatives and experts from more than 30 provinces, cities, and municipalities participated in the forum.

Themed with "pursuit, creativity and wisdom", the forum was aimed at deeply discussing the application of innovation and creativity as well as smart medical treatment in the field of emergency treatment and first aid, and exploring the principles and methods of emergency medicine innovation, and the possible breakthrough directions of new concept, new technology, and new mode in emergency discipline and its subspecialties (poisoning, trauma, emergency medical rescue, pre-hospital care, nursing, recovery, critical disease and emergencies).

Totally 127 famous experts from more than 100 domestic and foreign medical institutions delivered speeches and shared their views. The forum particularly invited the former, incumbent chairmen and the chairman candidate of the Emergency Medicine Branch of Chinese Medical Association, and famous professors from Stanford University, Chicago Rush Medical School, Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong Poisoning Consultation Center also made wonderful special reports about hot issues of emergency treatment, such as the construction of key laboratories, the emergency treatment quality con-

The 5th West China International Academic Forum of Emergency Treatment 2017 at West China Hospital



trol, the clinic database construction, medicine VR technologies, trauma center construction, simulation teaching, and poisoning post-management, etc. Besides, 4 workshops before the forum (emergency medical rescue simulation training, bedside ultrasound simulation training, emergency treatment and poisoning simulation training newly added this year, and the trauma advanced life support training) won enough attention, and the students actively participated in the simulation, practice, and

discussion of the workshops. Moreover, the "emergency treatment pioneer" emergency physician lecture competition provided a stage for young physicians to show themselves. As one of the activities in "sunshine hospital" project, the relaxation training and experience activity was conducted at the lunch break, helping the medical staff learn how to relax and adjust themselves by paying close attention to the physical and psychological health of emergency medical staff. These activities obtained a

good praise among the participants.

The participating experts and students of the forum reached a consensus through exchanges and discussions: innovation is a sure path to clinic medicine development, and creativity is a higher realm of innovation. The emergency treatment personnel should not only take actions, but also have the creative awareness and the wisdom to break conventions, so that new development can be realized under new situations. ㊦



Chinanews

SCU's High-Level Sci-Tech Innovation Achievements Reach the World Class

On June 19th, *Chinanews* released a news report named "A Batch of SCU's Sci-tech Innovation Achievements Take a Lead in the World", focusing on major sci-tech breakthroughs that are independently developed by SCU recently and advanced in the world, as well as the construction of high-level discipline clusters with distinctive features in SCU. Following is the full text of the news:

In recent years, Sichuan University has achieved a batch of sci-tech breakthroughs which are developed independently, ranking top level in the world.

These achievements include: the internationally innovative "preparation method of graphene rubber nanocomposites and tyre with latex process", the first-ever large scale production line of China with the key technology in preparation of Li-ion battery separator under foreign monopoly, the first artificial kidney blood dialyzer in China, the first organic chemistry reaction named after a Chinese person—design, synthesis and application of new highly-efficient chiral catalyst marking a breakthrough



in key technologies of special polymer materials and promoting the upgrading of traditional materials, the CO₂ mineralization power generation (CMC) technology enabling CO₂ emission reduction in a profitable way, the world-leading biological material having biological activity and inducible tissue regeneration, the "electromagnetic shielding leather" and "bionic super-hydrophobic leather", as well as the new green flame retardant technology leading the development of international fire safety materials.

These high-level sci-tech innovation achievements rely on the great efforts of SCU to fully give play its multidisciplinary advantages by focusing on the world's frontier technologies and significant regional demands, so as to establish the first-class disciplines and specialty system, comprehensively improve its overall strength in disciplines and specialty, and its international competition. To this end, it has set up several new high-level inter-discipline platforms, shaping a group of distinctive high-level discipline clusters and sys-

tems with predominant disciplines and special research directions.

According to Essential Science Indicators of Thomson Reuters, the number of SCU's disciplines ranking top 1% in the world increased from 6 in 2011 to 14 today, taking the 10th place nationwide. Among them, chemistry and materials science are listed in top 1% in the world, while other 6 disciplines (clinical medicine, engineering, pharmacology, toxicology and biochemistry) are listed in top 5% in the world.

In order to "obtain major projects, win great prizes, and cultivate masters" for the disciplines like science, engineering and medicine, and "generate schools of thought, masterworks, and masters" for the disciplines like arts, SCU has actively undertaken 13 national key R & D projects, for which it received CNY 280 million as special funds, and the total funding for scientific research increased from CNY 1.5 billion to CNY 2 billion.

Currently, the English periodicals—"International Journal of Stomatology" (IJOS) and "Bone Research" sponsored by SCU, have been officially included into the serial journals of "Nature" and cited journals of SCI, becoming the top 1 English journal in Stomatology and Bone in Asia. "Collection of Liao Ping", the significant symbolic achievement of the grand cultural classics "Complete Collection of Bashu", won the first prize of 2015 Excellent Ancient Books and the Sinology Achievements Award of "the 2nd Global Chinese Sinology Ceremony".

<http://www.sc.chinanews.com/bwbd/2017-06-19/70451.html?from=singlemessage&isappinstalled=0>

Prof. Gao Guangping Elected as President of the American Society of Gene & Cell Therapy

During the 2017 Annual Conference of American Society of Gene & Cell Therapy held in Washington D.C., capital of the U.S., Mr. Gao Guangping, an expert of national "Thousand Talents Program" and professor of the State Key Laboratory of Biotherapy (West China Hospital, Sichuan University), was elected as President of the American Society of Gene & Cell Therapy, the first one of mainland Chinese-American scientists in the his-

tory of the Society.

The American Society of Gene & Cell Therapy is reportedly the largest and the most authoritative professional society of the world in the field of gene and cell therapy, which was founded in 1996 under the leadership of Prof. George Stamatoyannopoulos, a notable gene therapy research expert of the UW School of Medicine, with the aim of facilitating the development of relevant knowl-



edge, understanding and education, in an effort to accelerate the fundamental researches and clinical application of human disease gene and cell therapy. Currently, it boasts nearly 2400 expert members from the U.S. and all over the world, showing significant academic influences in the field of international gene and cell therapy.

Prof. Gao Guangping is the tenured chair professor of the University of Massachusetts Medical School, the director of the HORAE Gene Therapy Center of University of Massachusetts Medical School, and the editor-in-chief of magazine *Human Gene Therapy*, acting as one of the leaders in the field of current global gene therapy. Graduated from the West China College of Pharmacy, SCU, in 1982, he has engaged in gene therapy research over 20 years, especially he has made great achievements in the field of the gene therapy and research of AAV (adeno-associated virus). In cooperation with Prof. James Wilson, a pioneer of global gene therapy, and prof. Wei Yuquan, Academician of SCU, they discovered nearly 1000 new-type AAV successively, part of which have been extensively used in targeted gene therapy and research.

Moreover, Prof. Gao Guangping has established several Sino-American international cooperation programs, selected and sent about 80 students from Chinese medical colleges and universities to American famous medical schools' clinical hospital for front-line clinical skills training, selected and sent over 20 scientists engaged in fundamental and translational medicine research, including Prof. Craig Mello, Winner of Nobel Prize, to seven top laboratories

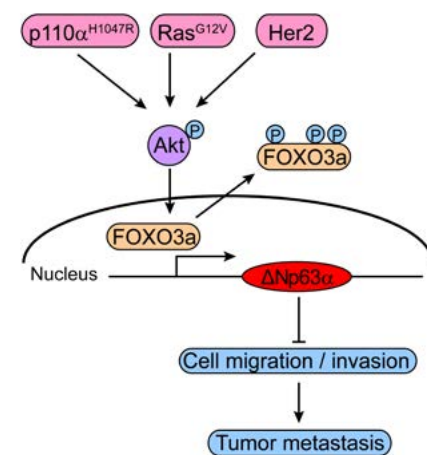
in University of Massachusetts Medical School; Mr. Gao has also recommended many excellent domestic students and young scholars to the U.S. for further study, and assisted in convening the conferences like the biennial

Sino-American gene and cell therapy international academic conference in SCU, making great contribution to the University's academic communications, scientific researches, and talents cultivations, etc. ㊦

Xiao group reveal the new mechanism of cancer metastasis

By Hu Chen College of Life Sciences

Metastasis is the main cause of death in people with cancer and is the difficulty in cancer therapy. Many signals could result in cancer metastasis, however, the mechanisms and key targets remain unknown. Recently, Zhi-Xiong Jim Xiao, Dean and Professor of College of Life Sciences, Sichuan University, and his colleagues published a research article in *PNAS*, a famous international journal, entitled "ΔNp63α is a common inhibitory target in oncogenic PI3K/Ras/Her2-induced cell motility and tumor metastasis", <http://www.pnas.org/content/114/20/E3964>. This study reveals that three oncogenic signals, PI3K, Ras and Her2, promote cell motility and tumor metastasis by suppressing the expression of tumor-suppressor protein p63.



Tumor-suppressor protein p53-related p63 plays a pivotal role in a wide range of biological processes, including cell proliferation, survival, apoptosis, differentiation, cell migration and invasion, and senescence. Because of

an alternative transcription start site, the p63 is expressed as either TAp63 isoforms containing a N-terminal transactivation (TA) domain homologous to that of p53, or ΔNp63 proteins that lack this domain and possess instead a shorter and unique N-terminal TA domain. Alternative splicing at the C terminus generates five different C termini (α, β, γ, δ, and ε), for a total of over ten p63 protein isoforms. TAp63 and ΔNp63 play unique and overlapping roles in cancer development. It has been shown that both TAp63 and ΔNp63 proteins are important metastasis inhibitors.

Activation of phosphatidylinositol 3 kinase (PI3K), Ras, and Her2 signaling plays a critical role in cancer development. Hot spot constitutive activating mutations in oncogenes, such as PIK3CA encoding the p110α catalytic subunit or RAS, as well as overexpression of Her2, are frequently found in human tumors and cancers. It has been well established that activation of these oncogenes profoundly promotes tumor metastasis, whereas decreased expression of ΔNp63α, the major protein isoform of the p53-related p63 expressed in epithelial cells, has been associated with cancer metastasis. In this study, Xiao and colleagues demonstrate that hotspot oncogenic mutations on PIK3CA and RAS, including p110α^{H1047R}, Ras^{G12V}, as well as activation of Her2, all led to suppression of ΔNp63α expression via Akt-forkhead transcription factor 3α (Akt-FOXO3a) signaling, resulting in increased cell motility and tumor metastasis (as shown in figure). Expression of ΔNp63α effectively reversed p110α^{H1047R}, Ras^{G12V}, or Her2-induced cell motility in vitro and tumor metastasis in mouse

models. In addition, ΔNp63α was a direct FOXO3a transcriptional target and that expression of FOXO3a and ΔNp63α was correlated in human cancer biopsy samples. Together, these results demon-

strate that ΔNp63α is a common inhibitory target of oncogenic PI3K, Ras, and Her2, and that ΔNp63α may function as a critical integrator of oncogenic signaling in cancer metastasis. ㊦

Prof. Qian Zhiyong Serves as Editor-in-Chief of *Journal of Biomedical Nanotechnology*

Recently, *Journal of Biomedical Nanotechnology* of the American Scientific Publisher announced that Dr. Qian Zhiyong served as the new editor-in-chief. Dr. Qian is the winner of The National Science Fund for Distinguished Young Scholars, and the professor of the State Key Laboratory of Biotherapy of West China Hospital, Sichuan University. Previously, Dr. Qian was the Asian editor of this journal.

Journal of Biomedical Nanotechnology, founded in 2005, is a comprehensive journal of the American Scientific Publisher, with the impact factor of 3.929. It is aimed at becoming the top journal in the biomedical nanotechnology field, and the published papers of this journal are cutting-edge research results in relevant field. The journal provides broad coverage in all research areas focused on



the applications of nanotechnology in medicine, drug delivery systems, infectious disease, biomedical sciences, biotechnology, and all other related fields of life sciences. The editorial board of the *Journal of Biomedical Nanotechnol-*



ogy is composed of Editor-in-Chief, Asian Editor, Associate Editors and Editorial Board. All of them are experts in biomedicine or related fields. The members of the editorial board ensure the forwardness of the research results published in the journal with their professional academic knowledge.

Dr.Qian is the director, professor and doctoral tutor of Biomaterial and Targeted Drug Delivery Research Lab of State Key Laboratory of Biotherapy, West China Hospital, Sichuan University. He is also the winner of The National Science Fund for Distinguished Young Scholars(2012) and The National Science Fund for Outstanding Young Teachers in University(2015). He plays an important part in the Innovative Talents Promotion Program of the Ministry of Science and Technology of the PRC(2016), and he is the key convenor of the 863 Program of the Ministry of Science and Technology of the PRC in the 11th Five-year Plan period, the invited member of Science and Technology Committee of Sichuan

CPPCC, and the leader of science and technology in Sichuan province. He is among the 11th batch of the leaders of science and technology in Sichuan province, and among the 1st batch of the leading talents of the Health and Family Planning Commission in Sichuan province. While serving as the editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Biomedical Nanotechnology*, Dr.Qian is also the executive vice editor of *Chinese Chemical Letters* (SCI journal, IF = 1.947) and the member of other international academic journals' editorial board, for instance, *Human Gene Therapy* (SCI journal, IF = 4.062), *Journal of Biological Engineering* (SCI journal, IF = 3.0).

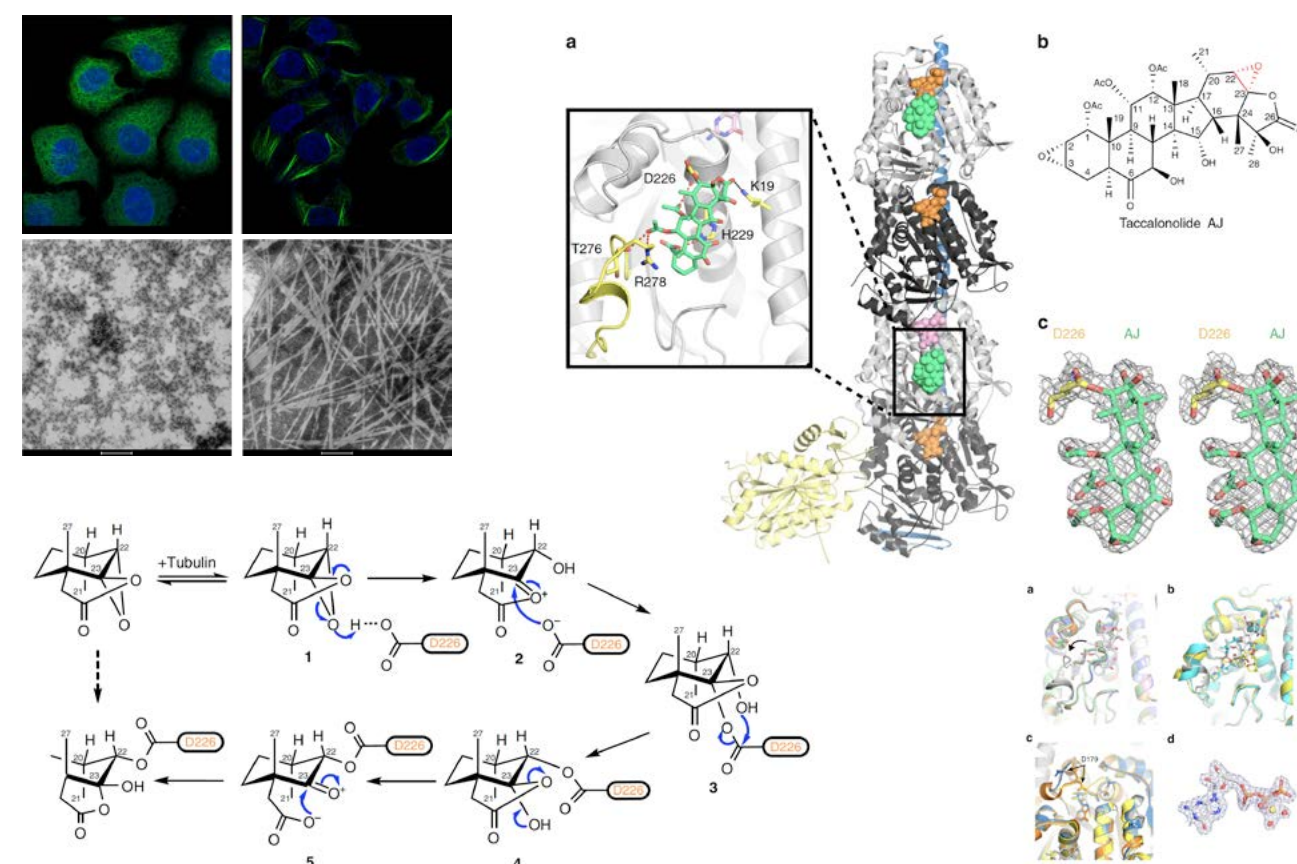
Since joining the State Key Laboratory of Biotherapy of West China Hospital, Sichuan University, Dr.Qian mainly engaged in the construction of nano-biomaterials and researches in tumor therapy and tissue repair. Currently, Dr.Qian has published more than 100 SCI papers as the corresponding author or co-corresponding author in some international academic journals such as *Chem Soc Review*, *Adv Mater*, *ACS Nano*, *Biomaterials*, *Theranostics*, *NPG Asia Materials*. His papers were quoted more than 2000 times by *Nature Materials*, *Chem Review*, *Science Translational Medicine* such academic journals with global fame. Besides, he has declared 17 Chinese invention patents, 15 patents of which have been authorized, and his two patented technology products, taxane nanoparticle formulations and PLEL thermosensitive hydrogel preparation, have reached transfer agreements with enterprises. 🏠

Related Link: <http://www.aspbs.com/jbn.html>

A team led by professor Yang Jinliang, from State/National Key Laboratory of Biotherapy (SKLB), West China Hospital, Sichuan University, published a paper titled "Mechanism of Microtubule Stabilization by Taccalonolide AJ" (link to this paper: <http://www.nature.com/articles/ncomms15787>) in the prestigious international journal *Nature Communications*. Financial support for this work was provided by National Major Scientific and Technological Special Project for "Significant New Drugs Development" (2012ZX09103301-030), and National Natural Science Foundation of China (81372822, 81501368 and 81672722).

As a major component of the cytoskeleton, microtubules consist of $\alpha\beta$ -tubulin heterodimers and have been recognized as attractive targets for cancer chemotherapy. Microtubule-stabilizing agents (MSAs) promote polymerization of tubulin and stabilize the polymer, preventing depolymerization. The molecular mechanisms by which MSAs stabilize microtubules remain elusive. Here the team of Yang Jinliang report a 2.05 Å crystal structure of tubulin complexed with taccalonolide AJ, a newly identified taxane-site MSA. Taccalonolide AJ covalently binds to β -tubulin D226. On AJ binding, the M-loop undergoes a conformational shift to facilitate tubulin polymerization. In this tubulin-AJ complex, the E-site of tubulin is occupied by GTP rather than GDP. Biochemical analyses confirm that AJ inhibits the hydrolysis of the E-site GTP. Thus, they propose that the β -tubulin E-site

Prof. Yang Jinliang's Team Publishes A Paper in *Nature Communications*



is locked into a GTP-preferred status by AJ binding. Their results provide experimental evidence for the connection between MSA binding and tubulin nucleotide state, and will help design new MSAs to overcome taxane resistance.

Chen Qiang, associate researcher as well as co-corresponding author of this paper, has participated in later-

stage data analysis and relevant experiment. Dr. Benoît Gigant, professor of French Academy of Sciences (Cell 2000,102, 809-816; Nature 2004,428, 198-202; Nature 2005, 435, 519-522; Nature structural & molecular biology 2013, 20, 1001-1007.) as well as co-corresponding author of this paper, has provided certain guidance and assistance to this research. Besides, it's worth

mentioning that Dr. Wang Yuxi, first author of this paper, has already explained the interaction between Microtubule-stabilizing agents (MSAs) and tubulin based on the technology of structural biology, and published 3 influential SCI papers in 2016, either as co-lead author or lead author. West China Hospital, Sichuan University has also been lead author as well as the affiliation of lead author. 🏠

Prof. Xu Zeshui was Selected as Fellow of IFSA

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June 27th to 30th, Joint 17th World Congress of International Fuzzy Systems Association (IFSA) & 9th International Conference on Soft Computing and Intelligent Systems was held in Otsu, Japan. The conference released its 2017 list for IFSA Fellow, in which Chang Jiang Scholar Prof. Xu Zeshui from Business School of SCU was elected to the grade of "Fellow of IFSA", the highest honor of IFSA, for his outstanding technical contributions, pioneering applications, and support and development of the infrastructure of the fuzzy community.



decision-making, intuitionistic fuzzy analytic hierarchy process and analytic network process, intuitionistic fuzzy information fusion and clustering, intuitionistic fuzzy calculus, probabilistic preference decision-making, hesitant fuzzy information fusion, clustering and decision-making (listed into global Research Front 2016, and ranked the 1st place among the top 10 fronts in mathematics, computer science and engineering), and systematically established a theoretic and methodological system for complex information decision-making. ㊦

The International Fuzzy Systems Association (IFSA) is an international academic organization prepared from July 1984 in Hawaii, USA, and founded in July 1985 in Spain. IFSA holds IFSA World Congress biennially, with an aim to exchange and promote fuzzy theory and its applications in countries across the world. It was reported that only 3 mainland Chinese scholars have been awarded the honor so far, among which, Academician Liu Yingming of School of Mathematics, SCU, and Prof. Chen Guoqing of School of Economics and Management, Tsinghua University, were granted with the title of "Fellow of IFSA" in 2005 and

2009 respectively.

Prof. Xu Zeshui is not only a Distinguished Professor of Chang Jiang Scholar appointed by the Ministry of Education of China, but one of The World's Most Influential Scientific Minds (2014-2016). Dedicated to the study of decision-making theory and technology, information fusion theory and clustering algorithms, fuzzy mathematics and optimization algorithms, he has explored some new research directions like uncertain linguistic



BRIEF NEWS



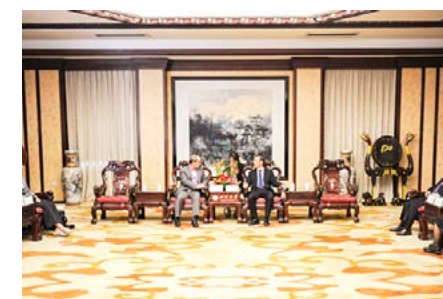
May 23rd

- Gu Liyan, US Consul-General in Chengdu Addresses at SCU with the Topic of "Innovation & Entrepreneurship: American Experience".



May 24th

- Representatives of the School of Post-disaster Reconstruction and Management Attends the 5th "Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction" of the United Nations.



May 11th

- Delegation of the University of Washington Tacoma led by President Mark Pagano visits SCU.



May 11th

- A Delegation of University of Utah Has a Meeting at SCU.



May 22nd

- Russian Press Corps Левин Александр Юрьевич Visits College of Literature and Journalism.



May 3rd

- The 1st Sichuan University- Warsaw University Roundtable on International Relation Studies Held.



May 24th

- A Delegation Led by Ms. Melissa Arduca from Department of Health & Human Services (Victoria, Australia) Has a Round-table Meeting with West China School of Public Health.



May 26th

- Dean and a Student Delegation of the School of Pharmacy, Concordia University Wisconsin Visit West China School of Pharmacy.



May 27th

- Young Entrepreneurs Association of SCU Global Alumni Entrepreneur Is Established.



June 12th

- The 1st World Young Scholars Forum Kicks Off at SCU.



May 30th

- Teachers of Our School of Public Administration Attends 2017 International Congress of IIAS Held in France.



June 4th

- Jurgen Rodel, Vice President of Darmstadt University of Technology, Visits SCU.



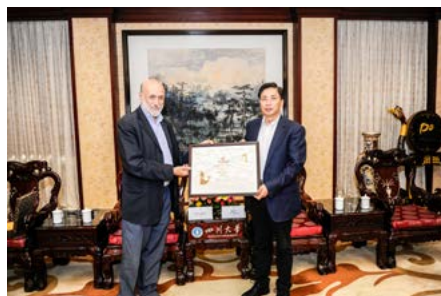
May 27th

- SCU Students Win Award in China Engineering Robot Contest 2017.



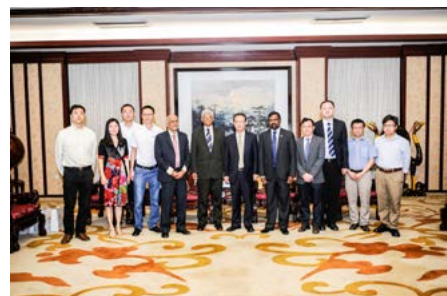
June 22nd

- SCU's Student Wang Chengdi Selected as the "Chinese University Student of the Year".



June 22nd

- Carlo Petrini, President of Slow Food International Meets SCU's Personnel.



June 26th

- Delegation of Sir Lankan Scholars Pays a Visit to SCU.



DISTINGUISHED PROFESSORS

May 25th David A.Wetiz

- Prof. David A.Wetiz of Harvard University Delivers Lectures at the Auditorium in the School of Chemical Engineering.



May 2nd Anke Hein

- Associate professor Anke Hein from the University of Oxford, Gives a Lecture on "Graves as Composite Objects—Developing a Model and Method of Analysis" at School of History & Culture.



May 20th - 22nd Michael Erler

- Professor Michael Erler, Well-known German Expert in Ancient Philosophy Gives Academic Lectures in Philosophy Department, SCU.



May 21st Nancy Carrasco

- Prof. Nancy Carrasco, Fellow of American Academy of Sciences, Yale University, Addresses a Report Titled "The Sodium/Iodide Symporter (NIS): an Endless Source of Surprises" in West China Second University Hospital.



May 24th Didier Astruc

- High-end Foreign Teacher Prof. Didier Astruc Delivers an Academic Lecture with the Title of "From Organometallic Chemistry to Nanosciences" for College of Light Industry, Textile and Food Engineering.



The Delegation of Harvard Kennedy School of Government Visits SCU

By Qimeichen Zhang, Jing Wu

On the morning of May 18th, the delegation of graduate students from Harvard Kennedy School of Government paid a friendly visit to our university and had a nice exchange with us.

Xia zeyou, Secretary of School of Public Administration, SCU, extended a cordial welcome to the delegation. While underlining the importance of improving the talents cultivation pattern of both sides, Dean Jiang Xiaoping pointed out that there are some similarities between SCU and Harvard Kennedy School of

Government in talents cultivation, providing a space for further learning from each other. SCU will actively devote itself to the international development of higher education, and endeavor to foster and develop friendly relationships with Harvard University and other foreign universities, she said.

The student representative of the delegation also made a positive presentation. He said it was a great honor to take part in this friendly exchange activity with SCU. He introduced the academic background of the visiting delegation,

adding that he admires Chinese culture very much, and will firmly seize the opportunity of exchange and study to make contributions to the society and the general public.

During the meeting, Liu Lei, Associate Researcher of the Department of Public Administration under the School of Public Administration, SCU, taking Shenzhen as an example, made a remark on China's environmental policies and related situations, and presented the efforts that our governmental bodies have made in aspect of environmental governance in recent years. He stressed that, as one of the economically developed cities in coastal regions, Shenzhen has taken into account environment conservation in its economic development, yielding a far-reaching influence on its future development; moreover, its environment conservation policy of "focusing on prevention, and combining prevention with treatment" plays a significant role in its social growth. Besides, the management policies on environment conservation are also essential institutional measures for Shenzhen Government--the administrator and supervisor of environmental protection, to perform its functions, thus effectively re-

ducing the environmental issues caused by poor governance.

Then, Prof. Liu Runqiu with the Department of Land Resources and Real Estate Management, delivered a speech on the achievements, problems, and reform suggestions on Chengdu's land system. He indicated that, in recent years, Chengdu has increased the flexibility of current land expropriation system in line with requirements of scientific development and overall urban-rural development, and endeavored to make sufficient preparation for realizing comprehensive reform of land expropriation system by gradually reducing the scope of land requisition based on authentic rights, and implementing appropriate land allocation under non-land expropriation mode. He also talked about the fruits gained in Chengdu's real estate market development, and analyzed the existing problems.

After these teachers finished their speeches, graduates of both institutions raised questions and discussed their concerns, and also expressed their own opinions after the brainstorm. Dean Jiang Xiaoping and teachers of relevant majors answered these questions in detail. When asked about "the role that SCU's School of Public Administration plays in policy making and implementation", Dean Jiang emphasized that the teachers from School of Public Administration positively participate in preliminary work of the government's five-year plan, playing a due role in channeling the government's decision-making. As a think-tank of the government, the School of Public Administration insists on shouldering its social responsibilities and actively assists the government



bodies in solving public service issues. When it comes to the research field and talents cultivation in public administration discipline, she pointed out that, students should not only master professional academic theory, but also devote themselves to social services to accumulate experience by combining theory with reality. Finally, teachers and students of both sides conducted discussions on broad-ranging academic and scientific researches in the domain of

public administration.

SCU always maintains a good cooperation relationship with domestic and foreign universities, and plans to improve continuously its operating level at international scale, enhance international academic exchanges, and consolidate international students' education and management system, thus further catalyzing international humanity communication and international development process. 🙏



A Student Delegation of Utah Confucius Institute Visits SCU

By Kun Yang



On May 31st, 2017, a delegation of students from the Utah Confucius Institute visited SCU for a 9-day Sino-US cultural

exchanges. The delegation consists of 29 members, among whom 25 are senior high school students from Lehi High School. These students are

now studying Chinese language at Utah Confucius Institute. This tour aims to make them gain a further insight into the profound cultural

essence of China. In Chengdu, a city with a profound historical and cultural background and a long-standing history, they can experience the fusion and difference of Chinese and American cultures. It's such a unique and meaningful trip, just as people say, "Chengdu is a city where you will hesitate to leave once you ever come."

Chinese Language Study

As an indispensable part of cultural exchange, Chinese language course conveys a wide range of knowledge in traditional Chinese culture and history. In the amiable atmosphere, all students actively participated in the activities of various forms. They tried to learn about traditional Chinese festivals, and some tourist spots in China. They were also exposed to calligraphy, a Chinese traditional art. They learned two Chinese pop songs called "Friends" and "The Moon Represents My Heart". In the 9-day courses, students had a better understanding of the Chinese language and culture.

Tour Chengdu

These students also made a tour to many local tourist attractions. It is said that the museum is the best place for people to learn about history and culture. So they visited Sichuan University Museum on the second day after their arrival, learning some knowledge about the history of Sichuan University and Sichuan folk customs. On that night,



they also enjoyed the Sichuan Opera, which was listed as one of the first national intangible cultural heritage in 2006. They appreciated the face-changing performance, which is an important component of Sichuan Opera and an attraction to visitors. They felt very joyful in this strong artistic atmosphere all the night. "The museum was really interesting. I thought it was a good learning experience. The opera was fun but difficult to understand", Wyatt Robinson said. Another student stressed it was a unique experience to visit Sichuan University Museum and watch Sichuan Opera, and he was completely obsessed, "a very unique experience, and I thoroughly enjoyed both".

In the next few days, they visited Kuan Zhai Alleys and Jinli Street. Kuan Zhai Alleys, founded in Qing dynasty, consist of 3 alleys including Kuan Alley, Zhai Alley and Jing Alley.

Jinli Street, a commercial street featuring folk arts, is an archaic street rebuilt from the historic architecture style in Western Shu Period. There are many shops on the streets selling local products. Students felt curious about shops and selected souvenirs for their families. Kuan Zhai Alleys and Jinli Street vividly exhibit the ancient Chengdu, making these American students learn more about the culture of ancient Sichuan.

As the famous "national treasure" of China, the giant panda is a sign of Sichuan and even China. Therefore, the Chengdu Research Base of Giant Panda is a frequently visited place in Chengdu. The most exciting thing for these students was to watch the pandas. Upon their arrival, they began to take photos with pandas. It was a wonderful experience for them to watch and interact with so many pandas.

These students also visited some parks and places to experience the local culture and customs of Chengdu, which is an ideal option for American students to know about the traditional lifestyle of Chengdu people. In addition to some old streets in Chengdu, they also visited the New Century Global Center, which represents the modern architecture of Chengdu as the world's largest individual building and also a landmark of modern Chengdu. When asked about the impression of Chengdu, Andrew Wang said "Chengdu is beautiful, very ancient yet modern".

Having said goodbye to pandas, the students went to Leshan City in southwestern Sichuan province, and appreciated the beautiful natural scenery of Sichuan on the tourist coach all the way. In Leshan, they visited Leshan Giant Buddha, one of the world's natural and cultural heritage sites. Once a poet wrote, "the mountain is a Buddha and the Buddha is a mountain". Leshan Giant Buddha, with its great size and exquisite construction technology, won students' great admiration. Needless to say, the students also enjoyed the famous Leshan local snacks.

Join in English Corner

These students headed for the famous English Corner in SCU. Upon arrival, they were instantly surrounded by enthusiastic Chinese students, and had a pleasant chat with the Chinese students on all kinds of topics. These students were very grate-



ful to the Chinese students for their warm welcome. One student said, "Going to English corner was fun for practice Chinese and at the same time helped others." The English Corner was not listed on the schedule, which made an extra surprise for the visiting delegation. Meanwhile, it

is a very valuable activity for Chinese and American students to communicate with each other.

Visit a Local Family

On the day before their departure,



the students paid a visit to local families. In order to visit different families, the delegation was divided into several teams, which received warm reception from these families. While preparing Sichuan cuisine and Western food for the students, these families taught them how to make

dumplings. It was very interesting to make, cook and eat dumplings in a Chinese family. One student even suggested that they should do it again next year. Quincy Evans said, "I loved visiting a local family. It was a wonderful experience I will never forget. It was wonderful getting to

know this family and compare our cultures and traditions." Daniel Davis thought it was a very fun and good experience interacting with native Chinese people.

During this 9-day trip, these American students have got acquainted with Chinese language, tasted local delicacies, visited old streets in Chengdu and giant pandas, had a tour to Leshan Giant Buddha, learnt about the culture of ancient Chengdu and also experienced the enthusiasm of teachers, students in Sichuan University and the people of Chengdu. Dallin Bartholomew said Chengdu is a city full of many friendly people, fun activities and interesting cultures; Quincy Evans said Chengdu is a clean and busy city; Rosie thought it is a beautiful and popular place where the students are friendly; Makayla expressed that, in Chengdu, he had the opportunity to visit many scenic spots, none of which were what he anticipated but they were all amazing; Caden Smith held that, "Our tour of Chengdu was very memorable. It's fun to see different ways everyone acts and see the different cultures. One student summed up his tour of Chengdu in three words, "kind people, yummy foods and fun activities". The trip to Chengdu was a meaningful trip for every student. Each student has been influenced by Shu culture, which is also one of the themes of this cultural exchange. After bidding farewell to Sichuan University and Chengdu, they are about to leave for Xi'an, one of the world's four ancient cities. 🏯



WE
GRADUATED!



||| ECHO |||

*I would like to help
more Sichuan University students
“ to conduct exchange and further study ”
in first-class universities
in the United States.*

— —

J. Fraser Stoddart

Laureate of Nobel Prize in Chemistry



四川大學
SICHUAN UNIVERSITY