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# SCU NEWS LETTER

## AUTUMN

2018 N° 24

### SPOTLIGHT

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Plenary Meeting of  
the 1<sup>st</sup> IAB of Sichuan University Successfully Convened









2018 N<sup>o</sup> 24

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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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The Vandeman Memorial (万德堂)  
Photo by Chen Yuanming

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## Newsletter Online

The Newsletter is also available online at:  
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# The 3<sup>rd</sup> Plenary Meeting of the 1<sup>st</sup> IAB of Sichuan University Successfully Convened

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Plenary Meeting of the 1<sup>st</sup> International Advisory Board of Sichuan University was successfully held on September 13<sup>th</sup> and attended by 19 advisors, including former state councilor Dai Bingguo, former chairman of the Chengdu Municipal Consultative Conference Huang Zhongying, Nobel Prize winner Prof. Ding Zhaozhong, business elites from multinational enterprises, academicians from the National Institute of Engineering and professors from world-renowned universities and other research institutes. They conducted in-depth discussions by focusing on “the mechanism

of interdisciplinary integration for a comprehensive university”, offered suggestions for SCU to build a world-class university. Wang Jianguo, Chairman of SCU University Council, Li Yanrong, president of SCU, other leaders and the heads of all departments attended the meeting.

**Sichuan University’s New Initiatives: Dual-Engine Interdisciplinary Program Centered on “Medical Science+” and “Information +” and Interdisciplinary-Integration-Oriented Talent Cultivation Program.**

Li Yanrong, president of SCU & chairman of IAB, made a keynote report on “Promoting the interdisciplinary integration in an all-round way and accelerating the pace of world-class university construction”. He noted that interdisciplinary development is an inevitable choice for Sichuan University to promote the construction of a world-class university. “The leveraged disciplinary development involving the liberal arts and science, engineering and medicine in Sichuan University has laid a firm foundation for the interdisciplinary integration. Sichuan University is pushing forward three new plans and initiatives: Dual-Engine Interdisciplinary Program centered on “Medical Science+” and “Information +”, Interdisciplinary-Integration-Oriented Talent Cultivation Program, and strong support for interdisciplinary integration. It is hoped that the implementation of these plans will help to forge ahead towards the interdisciplinary integration, yielding a number of internationally influential creative results. I hope that all directors could share your insights and suggestions for the interdisciplinary development of Sichuan University.”





Dai Bingguo said that Sichuan University, as an important comprehensive research-oriented university in western China, should draw on its own advantages and geographical characteristics to conduct extensive international cooperation and exchanges, and make more contributions to national research and South Asian research. "It is hoped that Sichuan University will make greater efforts in explorations and innovations, foster a superb team of leaders and teachers, train top-ranking students and create a top-class creative thinking environment in tune with the development of Sichuan and the nation. Sichuan University should, through efforts of generations in the reform and development, learn from other countries and give play to their own advantages. Finally, all these efforts will turn SCU into a world-class university with Chinese characteristics and unique style."

Subsequently, Prof. Chu Liangyin, Dean of the Academy of Sciences of Sichuan

University, Prof. Wan Xuehong, Executive Vice-Dean of West China Clinical Medical College, and Prof. Fu Qiang, Dean of Polymer Science and Engineering, shared their specific practices in interdisciplinary integration, as well as subsequent results and effects.

**Sharing experience of foreign universities: Innovate the system and mechanism, and build a cross platform to create more achievements**



Three directors were invited to make special presentations on interdisciplinary integration in comprehensive universities, so SCU could gain more suggestions from foreign experts and scholars on such integration.

Prof. Meng Liqiu, Former Executive Vice-Chancellor of Munich Polytechnic University, in a report titled "Interdisciplinary Research and Education in Comprehensive Universities", shared the challenges and problems encoun-







Research Institute, focused on the experience and practice of interdisciplinary integration at the University of California, through the topic themed with the "Interdisciplinary Integration Mechanism of Comprehensive University".

Prof. Qiu Minjing, Dean of Sichuan University-Pittsburgh Institute, introduced the practice and experience of interdisciplinary integration at the University of Pittsburgh.

**Directors discussed the development plans: to strengthen strategic planning, weaken the boundary of disciplines, develop interdisciplinary research and education, and promote the construction of first-class universities.**

"In order to build first-class disciplines and universities, it is necessary to cultivate first-class students, foster their scientific interests and encourage them to conduct in-depth research in areas of their own interest. Only students with the spirit of research and innovative ability can grow into internationally competitive elites," Prof. Ding Zhaozhong said in his speech.

The Third Plenary Meeting of the First International Advisory Board of Sichuan University came to a successful conclusion in the atmosphere of heated discussion. Li Yanrong answered to the opinions of the directors in his concluding remarks, and expressed his appreciation to them again for their suggestions and help. He hoped that all the participants will continue to pay attention to and support the development of Sichuan University and join hands in its journey to build a world-class university. 🙏

tered by comprehensive universities and the opportunities in interdisciplinary development, as well as the experience of Munich Polytechnic University.

Prof. Nicholas A Peppas, member of the National Academy of Engineering of America, Academician of Medical College and member of the Academy of Humanities and Sciences, shared

the initiatives of the University of Texas to promote interdisciplinary integration. The formation of multi-disciplinary team and common physical office space - creator space is a cornerstone for the interdisciplinary integration, he stressed.

Prof. Regis B. Kelly, executive director of California Quantitative Biomedical

# Sichuan University Welcomed the World Outstanding Alumni to Attend the 122<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary

The 122<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of SCU was held in Chengdu on September 29<sup>th</sup> - a clear and cloudless autumn day. The alumni of SCU, who came from all over the world, returned to their 100-year alma mater for a glory of "double first-class".

The activities welcoming the alumni's return officially started on the morning. The theme of this year is "jointly building a world-class university and boosting the development of national central cities". Distinguished guests, including local government officials, a number of well-known entrepreneurs and leaders of Sichuan University, and more than 400 alumni representatives from 84 local alumni associations at home and abroad and from the Global Alumni Entrepreneurs Association, attended the event.

On behalf of the University, Wang Jianguo, Chairman of the University Council, welcomed all the guests and alumni and expressed his gratitude for their long-standing concern, support and help. "Sichuan University, as the top-level university in Sichuan and Chengdu, plays an important role in pooling of talents, ideological guidance, cultural development, sci-tech progress



and international exchanges in Chengdu. Sichuan will actively respond to and repay Chengdu's support and affection. It is hoped that the alumni, the teachers and students could serve and make more contributions to Chengdu and Sichuan", he said.

Sincerity and gratitude expressed to the alma mater. Zhao Changwen, the Head of the Industry and Economics of the Development Research Center of the State Council, and other outstanding alumni representatives, recalled their experiences of living in Chengdu, studying and working in Sichuan University, expressed their appreciation for the

cultivation of their alma mater and the nourishment of Chengdu. They also put forward valuable suggestions on great causes, including further deepening the integration of the city and Sichuan University, accelerating the efforts to build a world-class university, and turning Chengdu into a national central city which fully embodies the new development concept.

"Over the past 100 years, Sichuan University has contributed talents and wisdom to the prosperity of Chengdu culture, sci-tech progress, and innovation and development. We hope that Chengdu will cultivate more talents and con-





tribute more wisdom and strategies to Chengdu. It is expected that the alumni of SCU will always regard Chengdu as their hometown, grow and develop together with Chengdu, and that the students of SCU will move forward to achieve their dreams in Chengdu," Fan Ruiping, Secretary of the Chengdu Municipal CPC Committee, said in his keynote speech.

"Universities thrive because of cities, and vice versa. Cities and universities share common prosperity and achieve mutual success. Facing the future, Sichuan University will be more open to the outside world. It will make greater contributions to Chengdu's development into a national central city which fully reflects the new development concept, by combining the advantages of the university's disciplines, talents, science and technology and platform with the high-quality development

of Chengdu," Li Yanrong, president of SCU, said in his speech.

Three major research platforms jointly build by Sichuan University and Chengdu enterprises were officially unveiled at the meeting.

The Center for Disease Molecular Network Frontier Sciences is an important foundation of "One Center" in the "One Center, One Valley and One Ring" initiative of Western China Medicine. The Center will give full play to the advantages of Western China Medicine and multiple disciplines in Sichuan University, focusing on frontier exploration in five aspects. "Sichuan University - Lenovo Artificial Intelligence Research Center", co-founded by Sichuan University and Lenovo Group, will make full use of the advantages of Sichuan University in image processing, neural

network and industrial Internet, especially the important breakthrough made by the west China artificial intelligence (AI) assistant diagnosis and treatment system, to drive the application of AI into multi-disciplines. "Sichuan University - NetEase Future Network Technology Research Center", co-established by Sichuan University and NetEase, will make the best of the Internet technology foundation of both sides, strengthen the research and development on social applications of block chain and image compression and decoding, and enhance the cross-linking with arts and medicine.

During the summit, the provincial and municipal leaders, the distinguished guests and alumni visited the university's themed exhibition areas to share the construction and development achievements of Sichuan University. 山



# Nobel Prize Laureate in Chemistry, Professor Ada Yonath Visited SCU and Delivered Academic Speech



Nobel Prize Laureate in chemistry, Professor Ada Yonath, visited Sichuan University and delivered a wonderful lecture entitled “Next Generation Species Eco-Friendly Antibiotics” to the faculty and students on September 11, 2018. President Li Yanrong, as well as the heads of relevant departments of this university, met with Ada Yonath and her delegation.

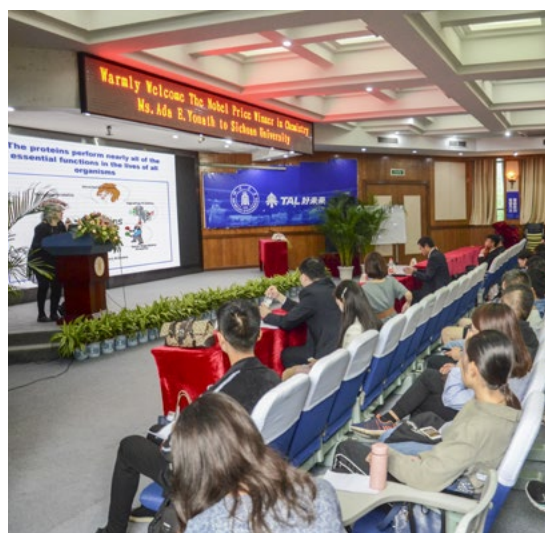
Ada Yonath, an Israeli female scientist, won the Wolf Prize in Chemistry in 2006 for her outstanding achievements in ribosomal protein synthesis and photoreaction in photosynthesis. She also won the UNESCO Achievement Award for Outstanding Women Scientists for her research on bacterial resistance in 2008, and the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 2009 for her remarkable contribution to the research on ribosome structure and function.

President Li Yanrong, on behalf of SCU, greeted Professor Ada Yonath and her delegation. “Sichuan University boasts its good disciplinary foundation in



medical science and chemistry. Professor Feng Xiaoming of the Chemistry College of Sichuan University won the Future Science Award, known as China’s Nobel Prize, this year,” he said. He hoped that both sides could deepen cooperation in medical science and chemistry. He also expressed his gratitude to Professor Ada Yonath for her academic speech to the teachers and students of Sichuan University.

Professor Ada Yonath also expressed her appreciation to SCU for its warm invitation and reception. She was very happy to discuss scientific issues with the teachers and students of Sichuan University. “I am currently engaged in the research in medical chemistry. Sichuan University does well in this field and I hope to further strengthen cooperation with this University in this regard”, she noted.



Afterwards, Professor Ada Yonath gave a lecture entitled “Next Generation Species Eco-Friendly Antibiotics” to the teachers and students of Sichuan University in the lecture hall of Chengyi Building. She focused her lecture on the structure and function of ribosome, explaining that ribosome, as a site for protein synthesis, is responsible for the translation of RNA into protein. “More than 40% of clinical antibiotics are targeted at ribosome, which fight large ribosome with small antibodies, thereby preventing protein synthesis in bacteria”, she said. In order to improve the pertinence of antibiotics, her team

has begun to search for new connection points of antibiotics. In the subsequent interactive activities, students consulted Professor Ada Yonath on “how to do scientific research well”, “how to foster interest in scientific research”, “how to develop good research habits”, and “how to overcome various difficulties in scientific research”. She stressed that, a strong interest and curiosity in science, deep thinking and learning ability are necessary for doing a good job in scientific research, and that a strong team and a happy family are also an important guarantee of success.

After the speech, Professor Ada Yonath received a brief interview with reporters. “Sichuan University is a first-class university, whose students are enthusiastic for scientific research. The university is promoting cross-disciplinary integration, which is far-sighted,” she said. “In the future, science needs a large number of composite talents with multi-disciplinary background. Scientists with multi-disciplinary background need to team up in the research for a common goal in the future. That is an important path to ensure future scientific and technological innovation.” 🙏



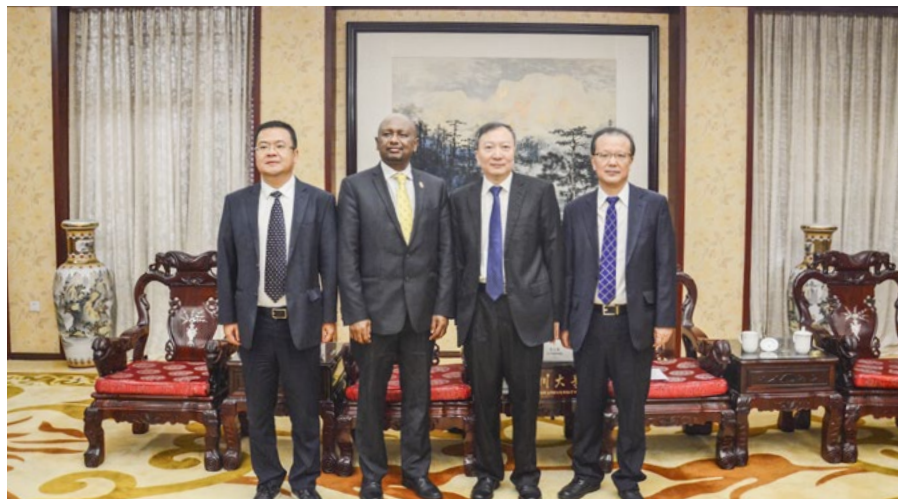
# Visit to Sichuan University by Selassie Beckley, the Minister of Water, Irrigation and Electricity of Ethiopia



Mr. Selassie Beckley, Ethiopia's Minister of Water, Irrigation and Electricity, paid a visit to Sichuan University after attending Beijing Summit 2018 of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation, and gave a special speech to the faculties and students on September 7. President Li Yanrong, as well as Vice President Yan Shijing and relevant professors, met with the guests.

On behalf of SCU, Li Yanrong welcome the visit of Mr. Selassie Beckley and briefly introduced SCU. Li said. "The visit of Minister Selassie Beckley will hopefully further promote the exchanges on science, technology and education between Sichuan University and Ethiopia, deepen the talent cooperation in water conservancy, hydropower, electric power, economic management and other fields, jointly contributing to the sound development of friendly relations between both countries."

Selassie Beckley expressed his gratitude to SCU's warm reception. He said that China is a comprehensive strategic partner of Ethiopia and their relationship dates back to a long time. "Ethiopia is making great efforts to improve the development capacity and quality of scientific research and higher education. It is looking forward to further deepening



ing exchanges and cooperation with Sichuan University. It is believed that the cooperation with Sichuan University will benefit Ethiopia a lot."

After the meeting, Selassie Beckley delivered a lecture on the current situation and prospects of water conservancy and hydropower in Ethiopia. 🏠

# Sichuan Provincial Party Secretary Peng Qinghua Visited Russia along with SCU Delegation

From September 9<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup>, the Sichuan Provincial Party Secretary Peng Qinghua paid a visit to Russia together with his entourage and the delegation of Sichuan University to attend the 4<sup>th</sup> Eastern Economic Forum and the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary commemorative ceremony of the “Ocean” All-Russian Children’s Center.

On the morning of September 11<sup>th</sup>, under the witness of Mr. Peng Qinghua, secretary of the Sichuan Provincial Party Committee, and MR. Тарасенко, Governor of the Russian Primorsky Territory, a cooperation agreement was inked by the Vice President of SCU Yan Shijing and his counterpart, the Vice President of the Russian Far Eastern Federal University Panova. The two universities will cooperate in such areas as the exchanges of teaching staff and students, and scientific research cooperation.

On the afternoon of September 11<sup>th</sup>, SCU delegation participated in the inspection tour to the “Ocean” All-Russian Children’s Center. After the 2008 Wenchuan earthquake, the Russian government invited two batches of over 1,000 primary and middle school students in the disaster area to the center for rehabilitation. Dozens of teachers and students of our university participated in the translation work of the Russian rescue team, the Mi-26 helicopter squad and the rehabilitation group of the primary and secondary school students in the Wenchuan Earthquake. In September 2014, Малышев, Director of the “Ocean” All-Russian Children’s Center, led a delegation to visit Sichuan University and held a grand commemorative ceremony with Sichuan University, fostering a close link between both sides.

On September 12<sup>th</sup>, President Xi Jinping and Russian President Vladimir Putin visited the

“Ocean” All-Russian Children’s Center and attended its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary commemorative ceremony. The delegation from Sichuan University also participated in the event; the presidents of both countries hoped earnestly to strengthen the youth and cultural exchanges between the two countries. President Xi emphasized in his speech that “the great love between the Chinese and Russian people has taken root, blossomed, and produced fruits”, urging young people to “return the Russian people with infinite love, return their motherland, and become the pillar of the country and the communicator of the friendship between both countries”. As one of the “two world-class” universities in central and western China that conducts extensive cooperation with Russia, Sichuan University will stay true to its original mission and work hard to implement the agreed projects for setting an example of mutual communication and exchanges. 🇨🇳





# Chul B Park, A Senior Foreign Professor of SCU, Won the “Tianfu Friendship Award”



Sichuan Provincial Governor Yin Li presented the Tianfu Friendship Award, initiated by the People's Government of Sichuan Province, to Professor Chul B Park, Member of the Royal Canadian Academy of Sciences and the Academy of Engineering, Member of the Korean Academy of Sciences, Senior Foreign Teacher of Sichuan University and Director of the International Advisory Council on Development Strategies of Sichuan University, at the 17<sup>th</sup> Western China Overseas High-tech and High Talents Conference (OHTC) on September 10<sup>th</sup>. Professor Park delivered a report along with several other Nobel Prize winners at the conference.

Sichuan University - the University of Toronto International Polymer Foaming Research Center. A number of cooperative projects at national and provincial levels have helped beef up the supercritical polymer foaming technology in China.

Since 2012, supported by our high-end foreign teacher program, Professor Park has regularly come to Sichuan University to instruct the undergraduate and graduate students in learning the science principle of polymer foaming and cutting-edge technologies, fostering young teachers to engage in scientific research projects. His fruitful cooperation with



the State Key Laboratory of Polymer Material Engineering of our university has built a bridge between Sichuan Province and Canada. 山

Prof. Chul B Park is internationally renowned as the founder of supercritical fluid-polymer foaming and processing technology. Since 2010, he has established long-term cooperative relationship with the State Key Laboratory of Polymer Materials Engineering of SCU. In 2012, he was selected into the National Bureau of Foreign Experts and the Program of Innovation and Intelligence Introduction Base of the Ministry of Education for Polymer Materials Science and Engineering (111 Program). In 2013, he collaborated with Professor Wang Qi and Professor Li Guangxian of Sichuan University in establishing



## David Kerr

An Internationally Well-known  
Oncologist & Academician of the University of Oxford,  
Appointed as Honorary Professor of SCU

Prof. David Kerr, an internationally well-known oncologist and academician of University of Oxford, visited Sichuan University to discuss cooperation matters on October 16<sup>th</sup>, acting as an Honorary Professor of Sichuan University. President Li Yanrong, Vice president Yan Shijing, leaders of West China School of Medicine (West China Hospital), and relevant personnel attended the appointment ceremony.

Li Yanrong expressed that, with appointment of Mr. David Kerr as Honorary Professor of West China School of Medicine, new vigor could be injected into the medicine development of the university. Following a path to develop the best-in-class medicine discipline is regarded as a significant action for future development of the university. He hoped that the relevant teams of West China School of Medicine and the University of Oxford could establish close cooperation, building a world-class platform for treatment and research of gastroenteric tumor, so as to bring more benefits to Chinese people and even people around the world.

Prof. David Kerr expressed gratitude to Sichuan University. He noted that his appointment as Honorary Professor of West China School of Medicine is not only an important personal honor but also a good debut of deep cooperation between both sides in the future. He had built a good partnership with the relevant team of West China School of Medicine (West China Hospital) in the early phase, which laid a solid founda-

tion for realizing high-yield cooperation in the future. It's believed a real substantive partnership could be established with the mutual efforts, thus greatly promoting the scientific research with international influence.

During his tour, Academician David Kerr and his colleagues visited West China Hospital, carried out investigation and survey in the National Key







lege of Physicians, Honorary Fellow of the Royal College of General Practitioners, Fellow of Academy of Medical Sciences, initiative Academician of EACS of European Academy of Oncology, etc. He also made outstanding contribution to the reform of the diagnosis and treatment system in the U.K., and thus he was granted the Knight by the Queen. Moreover, he gained "Harford Global Health Medal: Outstanding Leadership Award" since he organized and launched INDOX and AfrOx projects, and gathered the world's top oncologists to help improve the therapeutic effect on tumor patients in India and Africa, reducing the death toll of tumor patients. Academician David Kerr has made marvelous achievements, especially in the study of colorectal tumor.

Biotherapy Laboratory of Sichuan University, and then made in-depth communication with Academician Wei Yuquan and other experts with regard to the detailed matters of long-term cooperation, such as establishment of the research platform in the tumor center, mutual exchange of staff, cooperation of scientific research and transformation of achievements. 曲

## About

Academician David Kerr has engaged in clinical and scientific studies of tumor for a long time, and made great contribution to health services in the U.K. and even across the world. He is an academician of Royal Col-

# Ken McDonald

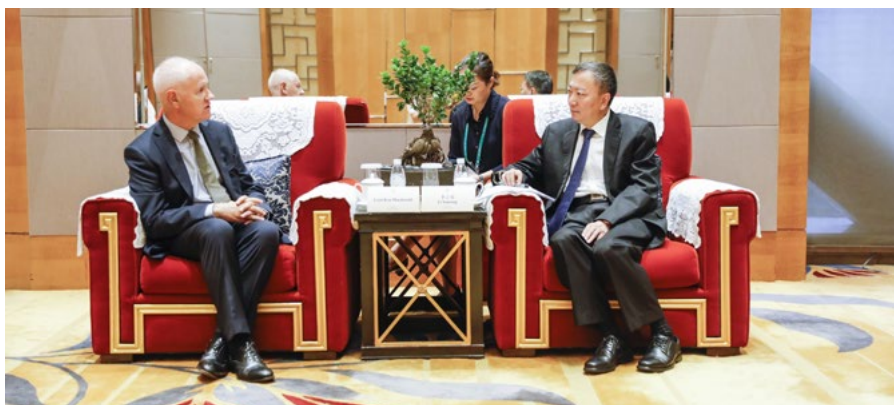
## Dean of Wadham College, Oxford University Visits SCU

Ken McDonald, Dean of Wadham College, Oxford University, paid a visit to Sichuan university On September 9, 2018. President Li Yan-rong, together the heads of relevant departments of SCU, met with the guests.

"Oxford University enjoys a high repu-

tation and has a widespread influence in the international community. It has also established close ties and partnership with many Chinese universities, including Sichuan University. At present, Sichuan University is speeding up the efforts to build one of the world-class universities in an all-round way, meanwhile it

attaches great importance to in-depth and comprehensive exchanges and cooperation with Oxford University and other world-renowned universities. It is hoped that the visit of Ken McDonald and his delegation will further promote the exchange and visits of SCU students, the training and exchange of young SCU



teachers, and the joint creation of interdisciplinary research platforms,” said Li Yanrong.

Ken McDonald briefly introduced the basic situation and recent development plan of Wadham College. He pointed out that Wadham College is Oxford University’s largest college with academic excellence and highest level of internationalization, and has enrolled many Chinese undergraduate and graduate students. Ken McDonald noted, “Sich-

uan University, which is highly internationalized, has a very close relationship with Oxford University and a good foundation for cooperation. We look forward to more possibilities and bright prospects for cooperation in exchanges of teachers and students and joint scientific research.”

During his visit, Ken McDonald also visited some colleges, delivered lectures to teachers and students, and discussed future cooperation with SCU. ㏿

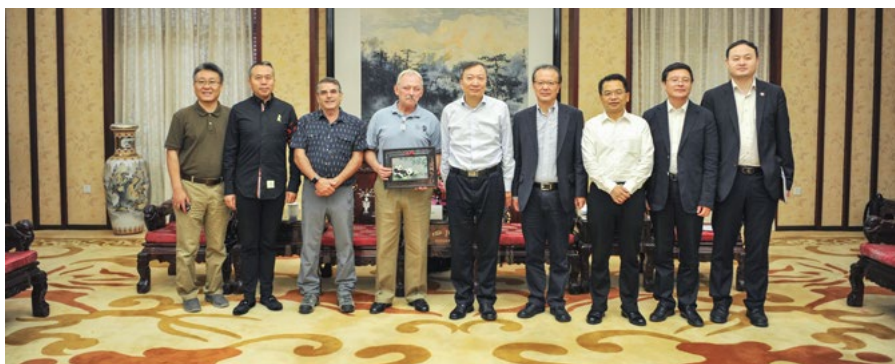
## About

Ken McDonald is a lifetime member of the House of Lords. Before elected to Dean of Wadham College of Oxford University, he served as the Royal Justice, Vice-President of the High Court, Director of the England Prosecutor’s Office, and also a visiting professor of law at the London School of Economics and Political Science. In April, 2011, he joined the Council of the London School of Contemporary Art. In November, 2011, he was elected honorary academician of St. Edmund’s Hall in Oxford, and became president of Wadham College of Oxford University in September, 2012.

## Dr. Max Cynader

Academician of the University of British Columbia,  
Visits Sichuan University

Dr. Max Cynader, founder of the Brain Research Center of the University of British Columbia in Canada, visited Sichuan University on September 18<sup>th</sup>. President Li Yanrong, as well as Vice President Yan Shijing and relevant officials, met with Academician Dr. Max Cynader and his delegation.





# The 5<sup>th</sup> Sino-French Symposium on Virtual Reality Held in SCU

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President Li said, Sichuan University has laid a solid foundation in brain science research. West China Hospital of Sichuan University boasts not only a strong pool of basic research and clinical application research, but also the state-of-the-art platform and national key sci-tech infrastructure for translational medicine. He further noted that, SCU attaches great importance to brain research, especially the computer and human brain integration, known as "Double Brain Project". It is hoped that Cynader and his team will further strengthen their cooperation with Sichuan University in brain science research, especially in frontier research, clinical application, translational medicine, so as to make greater contributions to human brain health, Li continued.

Cynader expressed his gratitude to SCU for its warm reception. Sichuan University has maintained close ties with UBC for a long time, he said. He hoped that this visit could further strengthen cooperation in brain science by drawing on the advantages of both sides in the form of mutual personnel engagement, establishment of cooperative teams and other ways to boost the brain science and human development.

Cynader is an internationally renowned scientist in brain science. The brain research center of UBC ranks top among the world's brain science research institutes and has a wide-ranging influence in the field of international brain science. ㊦



The 5<sup>th</sup> Sino-French Symposium on Virtual Reality, co-sponsored by the China Society of Image and Graphics and the National Institute for Research in Computer Science and Control (INRIA), was held in Sichuan University from August 27<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup>. Present at the opening ceremony were You Zhisheng, Chairman of the Organizing Committee of the symposium and distinguished professor of Sichuan University, Prof. Peng Qunsheng of Zhejiang University, Chairman of the

symposium's Procedure Committee, and Pascal Guitton, Prof. of Université Bordeaux 1 Sciences et Technologie & Director of the International Cooperation Department of the Institut National des Sciences de L'information, etc.

Sichuan University always attaches great importance to the development of virtual reality technology. It has fostered a research team led by Prof. You Zhisheng, and made significant progress in high-end virtual training. As a high-level



academic conference, the Sino-French VR Symposium provides a good platform for researchers in virtual reality, by which the participants could share the progress in VR theory, the development and application of VR technology and system. ㏏

## About

Jointly sponsored by CAD of China Computer Federation, the Professional Committee of Graphics, the Professional Committee of Virtual Reality and the National Institute for Research in Computer Science and Control (INRIA), the Sino-French Symposium on Virtual Reality is planned to strengthen exchanges and cooperation between both

sides in virtual reality research. It has been held every three years since its inception, providing a platform for extensive academic exchanges, especially the latest research results achieved by China and France, such as multi-source and multi-modal virtual reality modeling, virtual environment rendering based on physiology& psychology, harmonious human-machine interface and new research hotspots in hybrid reality, etc.

# The 9<sup>th</sup> Session of International SOLARIS Conference Held in 2018

The 9<sup>th</sup> Session of International SOLARIS Conference (SOLARIS 2018), co-sponsored by Sichuan University and Nottingham University, was held in Chengdu during August 29-30, 2018. More than 150 experts, business representatives and foreign students from China, Britain, Ireland, Sweden, Australia, Cyprus, Israel, India, Japan, Italy and Poland attended the meeting. After 15 years of development, SOLARIS has become one of the most important events in the field of solar energy. This is the first time it was staged in mainland China.

Vice-President Liang Bin of Sichuan University, Vice-President Chen Xuehua of Sichuan Provincial Science and Technology Department and Cecille El Beledidi, Consul General of the British Consulate General in China, delivered welcoming addresses respectively at the opening ceremony.

Liang Bin briefed the history of SOLARIS, the basic situation of Sichuan University and the Institute of New Energy and Low Carbon Technology. He hoped that the conference would provide a platform for mutual exchanges and

broaden our horizons, thus promoting international cooperation and development in solar energy. He also sincerely invited all the guests to exchange experience with peers in Sichuan University.

Cecille El Beledidi, Consul General of the British Consulate General in China, expressed Britain's pride in playing an important role in solar energy cooperation. She hoped that both sides could jointly tackle global challenges and step into a golden age.

Many experts who were invited to deliver





special reports include: Professor Brian Norton, President of Dublin University of Technology, Member of Editorial Board of Solar Energy (SCI journal), Professor Yan Jinyue, Winner of National Overseas High-level Talents Introduction Program and Yangtze Scholar, Academician of the European Academy of Science and Art, President of the Institute of New Energy and Low Carbon Technology, SCU, Tariq Muneer, Professor of the Department of Environmental Engineering of Edinburgh Napier University, outstanding Professor Deo Karan Prasad, Director of Sustainable

Architectural Environment Research Centre in New South Wales, Australia, Professor Philip Eames, Director of Renewable Energy Systems Technology Research Centre of University of Loughborough, UK, Dr. Soteris Kalogirou, Professor of the Department of Mechanics and Materials Engineering of University of Cyprus, Editor-in-Chief of Renewable Energy(SCI journal), and Professor Ji Jie, Director of the Research and Demonstration Center for Comprehensive Photo-Thermal Utilization of Solar Energy of the Chinese Academy of Sciences. Their speeches pre-

sented the latest scientific research results and developments in frontier disciplines.

This conference has helped to set up a platform for international exchange and cooperation among scholars from all over the world. Detailed discussions and exchanges were focused on solar radiation measurement and simulation, solar photo-thermal energy, photovoltaic conversion, solar energy materials, solar energy materials for buildings, zero-energy buildings and other research fields. 🏠

## The 3<sup>rd</sup> Sino-British Cooperation Summit & Advanced Function Materials Forum Kicked off

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Sino-British Cooperation Summit & Advanced Function Materials Forum, hosted by the Overseas Chinese Affairs Office of the State Council and the Sichuan Provin-

cial People's Government, co-sponsored by Sichuan University and the Sichuan Foreign and Overseas Chinese Affairs Office, was held in Chengdu in mid-September. This forum is one of the

main sessions of the 17<sup>th</sup> Western China Overseas High-tech and High Talents Conference. More than 100 people were invited to the forum, including experts and scholars from home and abroad as

well as representatives of universities, scientific research institutions and enterprises.

Material science is a traditional and advantageous discipline of Sichuan University. The university has, for a long time, given full play to its multi-disciplinary advantages, developed a number of national key disciplines such as material science and engineering, atomic and molecular physics, and established many key labs such as the State Key Laboratory of Polymer Materials Engineering and other high-level scientific research institutions, Vice President Xu Weilin of SCU said in his speech. "It is

hoped that this forum will further promote mutual understanding and cooperation between academic institutions and scientists in advanced function materials at home and abroad, effectively accelerate the transformation of the latest scientific research achievements of advanced function materials, thus making new contributions to driving regional economic development, serving the national development strategy and benefiting the people's livelihood," he added.



In five keynote speeches, some experts shared their latest research results and frontier knowledge about cutting-edge function materials, and explored the practical applications and development prospects of advanced function materials. ㊦

# Sichuan University hosted the Second International Conference on Geo-mechanics, Geo-energy and Geo-resources

By Liu Xiao

Recently, the Second International Conference on Geo-mechanics, Geo-energy and Geo-resources took place in Chengdu. This meeting was co-hosted by Sichuan University and Monash University of Australia and organized by College of Water Resource and Hydropower of Sichuan University. Besides, credit should also be given to those co-sponsors for the success of the meeting, including Central South University,





Yalong River Basin Hydro-power Development Corporation, China University of Mining, Beijing University of Science and Technology, Wuhan Institute of Geotechnical Mechanics, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Taiyuan University of Technology, Institute of Technology of Henan, Beijing Mining Technology Group Corporation, Shenhua Group Corporation, Datong Coal Mining Group Corporation and other units.

Dozens of well-known experts and scholars from home and abroad attended the meeting, including Xu Weilin, vice President of Sichuan University, Xie Heping, member of Chinese Academy of Sciences, academician Wuqiang, from China University of Mining and Technology, academician Cai Meifeng, from Beijing University of Science and Technology, Derek Ellsworth, member of American Academy of Engineering, Professor Zhao Jian, Professor Ranjith PG, from Monash University and professor Hou Zhengmeng, from Clausthal University of Technology, Germany.

Representing Sichuan University, professor Xu Weilin firstly warmly welcomed all the experts and scholars attending the conference. In his opening speech, he said Sichuan University is one of the oldest and most comprehensive universities in China and the deep science is the key developing field of Sichuan University in the future, occupying an important status in the process of school development. Deep earth is an important direction for recent and future scientific and technological innovation, in the meantime, experts and scholars from domestic and abroad have been confronted with unprecedented theo-



retical and technical problems in this specific field. Therefore, It is urgent to further play the role of international co-operation so as to promote continuous development of deep science research.

The chairman of the conference, academician Xie Heping, delivered a speech at the conference, He briefly introduced the theme of the conference, historical origins and basic research work of Sichuan University in the field of deep science. He said Sichuan University has long been committed to fundamental research in deep science and engineering, making every effort to advance the basic theory study and press ahead the construction of research platform. He also hoped through the IC3G conference, a long-term cooperative and exchange mechanism and an open international exchange platform can be established, through which experts and scholars can continue to carry out in-depth cooperative research and jointly break through the theoretical and technical bottlenecks of deep resource development and energy exploitation.

The opening ceremony was followed by keynote speeches hosted by profes-

sor Ranjith. Many experts and scholars home and abroad have made wonderful presentations successively, including academician Xie Heping, academician Derek Ellsworth, academician Wu Qiang and academician Cai Meifeng as well as professor Wu Shiyong, a senior engineer from Yalong River Basin Hydro-power Development Corporation and professor Zhang Liming from Hong Kong University of Science and Technology.

It is learned that the meeting (September 23 to 25, 2018) have attracted nearly 100 experts and scholars, over 200 graduate students and professional technicians from more than 10 countries and regions, including China, Australia, the United States, Germany, the United Kingdom and countries along the "One Belt And One Road". During the meeting, delegates from all over the world have made dozens of professional academic reports on energy, resources and geological mechanics, jointly promoting the sharing of the latest research results and academic cutting-edge knowledge of deep earth science, and they also engaged themselves in active discussion of the application and development prospect of deep energy and resource exploitation technology. 🏠

# The 6<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Biofoams Held in Sichuan University

The 6<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Biofoams was successfully held on September 25<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>, at the sideline of the 122<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of Sichuan University. More than 100 experts and representatives from China, Italy, Canada, Britain, Japan, Belgium, Greece, the Netherlands, Bulgaria, Poland and other countries attended this event.

Li Guangxian, President of the conference and Director of the National Key Laboratory for Polymer Materials Engineering, delivered a welcome speech. "As an international forefront technology, Biological foam polymers can be widely used in biological tissue, artificial skin, artificial scaffolds and other fields. We hope that the participants will further strengthen cooperation with Sichuan University and achieve high-level research results", Vice President of SCU Liang Bin said in his speech.

Speeches were also separately made by Chul B. Park, Academician of Royal Canadian Academy of Sciences and Engineering Institute, Academician Wang Qi of Sichuan University, Luigi Ambrosio, Director of Polymer Materials Institute of Italian National Research Council, Professor Salvatore Iannace, Director of the Institute of Macromolecular Sciences of Italian National Research Council, and Professor Costas Panayiotou of the University of Aristotle, Greece. The speeches



entitled "Advantage of Using Nanofibril Reinforcement for PLA Foaming", "Poly (vinyl alcohol) Based Functional Foams Prepared by Thermal Foaming", "Advanced Polymer Based Scaffolds for Tissue Engineering", "Structural and Functional Properties of Multicomponent Biobased Foams", "Polymer Foaming with Supercritical Fluids: Thermodynamic Aspects", respectively, showing the latest research findings in this field.

During the conference, the researchers of SCU's International Polymer Foaming Research Center of the National Key Laboratory for Polymer Material Engineering

presented respectively the recent research results to the international peers, and won their praise. Many well-known experts, engineers and technicians in the fields of porous macromolecule foam materials, biology base, and sustainable and biodegradable macromolecule foams gathered here. The conference was organized in an orderly way, yielding good effect and making a profound impression on representatives from home and abroad.

The International Conference on Biofoams, first held in Cabri, Italy, in 2007, has been held five times consecutively. This is the first time it was staged in China. 🏠



# An International Symposium of “Sino-Russian Cultural Dialogue” Held in Russia

Recently, the International Symposium of “Sino-Russian Cultural Dialogue” organized by the Sino-Russian Cultural Research Center of the Sichuan University-Russian Academy of Sciences Far East Institute was held in Moscow, Russia. More than 50 experts and scholars from Sichuan University, Moscow University, Russian Management University, Far Eastern Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Russian Writers’ Association, etc, attended this international symposium. The delegation of Sichuan University consists of 12 experts and scholars from the School of International Studies, the School of History & Culture, the College of Literature and Journalism, the School of Overseas Education and the Academy of Chinese Culture.

On the Symposium, Mr. Ostrovsky, Deputy Director of the Far East Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Mr. Li Zhiqiang, Executive Vice President of the School of International Studies of SCU & Director of the Center for Contemporary Russian Studies, and Mr. Mei Hancheng, an officer with the Education Department of the Chinese Embassy in Russia, delivered speeches respectively.

Li Zhiqiang and Ostrovsky presented the Russian translations of ancient Chinese classics published recently in Moscow



by experts and scholars from the Sino-Russian Cultural Research Center of the Far East Institute, such as *The Tao Te Ching*, *The Analects of Confucius*, *The Doctrine of the Mean*, *The Spring and Autumn*, *The Book of Changes*, and gifted to the Russian college students studying Chinese.

During the 2-day seminar, both sides made fruitful in-depth exchanges and discussions on Russian culture, Chinese

culture, the “Belt and Road” and Sino-Russian cultural exchanges and cooperation, which also reflected the research level of SCU in related fields.

Both sides also spoke highly of the academic value of the cultural dialogue and affirmed the positive role of the humanities exchange and dialogue mechanism between Sichuan University and the Far East Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences. 🏯

# Feng Xiaoming: Seeking Truth from Facts in Scientific Research and Setting an Example in Nurturing Talents

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Future Science Prize was announced in Beijing on September 8<sup>th</sup>. Academician Feng Xiaoming of SCU, along with two other scientists, was awarded the prize in material science for his creative contribution to the invention of new catalysts and reactions, and for his outstanding achievements in providing new ways to synthesize organic molecules, especially drug molecules. This is the first time the organizing committee awarded the “Material Science Prize” to scientists in chemistry.

The Future Science Prize focuses on original basic scientific researches, known as the “the Nobel Prize in China”. With a referenced to the model of Nobel Prize, Fields Prize and Turing Prize, the appraisal and election is conducted by a review panel composed of Nobel Prize winners, academicians of the American Academy of Sciences and authoritative professors from famous universities at home and abroad. Following the princi-



ples of fairness, justice and credibility to maintain the independence of the prize, the review panel, by referring to directional nomination, grants the prize to scientists who have made outstanding achievements in science and technology development of China (not limited to nationality).

Referring to Professor Feng Xiaoming, the first thing that raised concern in the academic community was chiral N,N'-dioxide-Sc(OTf)<sub>3</sub> complex catalyzed asymmetric Roskamp reaction firstly developed by Feng and co-workers. In 2011, Elsevier included this reaction in “Organic Syntheses Based on Name Re-

actions” (the third edition) and named it as “Roskamp-Feng Reaction”, which also represents the first example that the work done by Chinese scientists in China was included in name reaction.

After nearly 20 years of hard work, the research team led by Professor Feng has carried out systematic and in-depth research on asymmetric synthesis and made breakthrough progress. The ligands developed by his research team are highly recognizable in structure, and as a rare type of “all-round” asymmetric catalysts, they can be used alone as asymmetric organic catalysts or as ligands to form many metal complexes



with various metal salts. The resulting chiral N,N'-dioxide-metal complexes have been successfully applied in more than forty asymmetric catalytic reactions, especially in several new asymmetric transformations of importance, which not only offer effective methods for the synthesis of some important chiral molecules, but also provide a research basis for a deep understanding about the laws of chiral induction and transmission. The Natural News publication "Nature-China" refers to this research work as "encouraging chirality". Due to these results, it was selected as one of "Top Ten Sci-Tech Progress of Chinese Higher Education Institutions" in 2011.

### **The achievements benefited from the assistance of his team in the arduous journey.**

Prof. Feng along with his team made such achievements through eight years of efforts in the scientific research. Commenced in 1999, this research did not achieve any results until 2007. According to Prof. Feng, "it is impossible to avoid barriers in scientific research. Research is a process in which the unknown is turned into a known one amid uncertainty. A lot of efforts fail and most of the researches are fruitless like sand being swept away by great waves. We always struggle with the ups and downs. You don't know when you are going to succeed. It might take a little longer to make it, or you might never succeed."

"Although it is difficult to make a breakthrough, it would open a new door, triggering a series of follow-up progress once a breakthrough is made." Recalling

the difficulties at the beginning, Prof. Feng feels grateful. "I was very lucky to get much understanding and support from many of my predecessors and friends. With their help and the efforts of hundreds of students who participated in the whole study our research team could have made such progress."

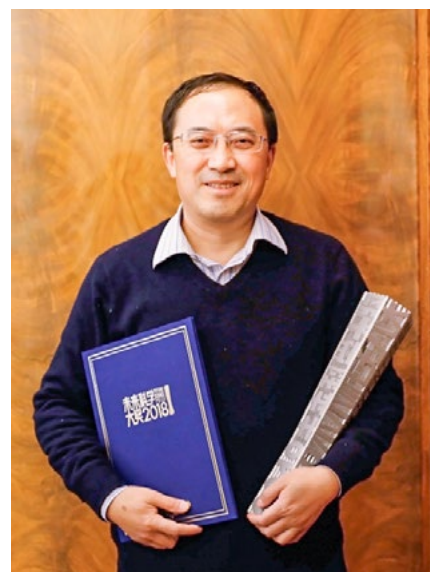
### **"Seeking truth from facts" is the overriding criterion.**

"Seeking truth from facts" was most frequently mentioned in Professor Feng's interview, and taken as the principle of life he always adheres to.

"Chemistry is an experimental science, the results of our research are meant to be used to make products, so there is no room for hypocrisy. Seeking truth from facts is extremely important, not only in scientific research but also in life. If your achievements not practical and realistic can't withstand tests, or be reproduced, how can they be applied? If you don't seek truth from facts and can't stand the test, how can you win credibility?"

"That's what the teacher says and does." His students said that in group meetings and daily exchanges, Prof. Feng often emphasizes if the research results can stand the test and be reproduced.

The reason for the success of Prof. Feng's research team lies in his persistence in the development concept for 22 years: wisdom, diligence, integrity, self-confidence, seizing opportunities, firm belief, braveness to innovate, seeking truth from facts and strengthening responsibilities.



Prof. Feng places much emphasis on beliefs and social responsibilities. "beliefs are not empty words, and they determine a person's life orientation. It can be said that his achievements, and his contributions to his family, to his parents, and to the country, all count on his beliefs. In addition to personal career development, we must also remember that everyone has a public responsibility and can't wait to enjoy others' achievements. Only when everyone fulfills his or her duties will the collective function well and in turn promote personal growth. Nowadays, people complain a lot about the society, but they do not think that if we, 1.4 billion people, do our own things well, the country will naturally become strong."

### **"Teaching and educating people" is the foremost duty.**

When Prof. Feng talked about his own understanding of the sacred identity of teachers, he said, "when a teacher stands on the rostrum, serving as a teacher is

her/his first status, and teaching and educating people is her/his primary duty. To teach and educate people, teachers should first play the role of benchmarking. Therefore, their rigorous and realistic style is very important."

He also emphasizes the important role of teachers in ability elicitation and knowledge transmission. "One who can't make scientific research or teach well is not a good teacher. An excellent university teacher can do well in both teaching and research. College students should accept knowledge in the first or second year, and learn to create knowledge in the third or fourth year. In post-graduate stage, students should create knowledge in research. In this process, teachers are particularly important as they should teach students not only to accept knowledge, but also to create knowledge."

**"Basic theoretical research" is the primary undertaking.**

"Chemistry is always a central, vibrant and practical subject." When talking about scientific research, Prof. Feng, who are always calm and serious, became enthusiastic. "Chemistry is indispensable to the production of substances. It can be said that chemistry coexists with the human beings, but many problems remain unsolved. What we'll do is not only to pay attention to the present status of chemistry - to make a thorough study of what exists in nature, but also to think about the future of chemistry and build a new nature. So personally, I may do this in my whole life."

In 2016, Science unveiled 125 of the



most challenging scientific issues and made it clear that these are important issues the humans will be working on in the next 1/4 century. "Two of them are closely related to chemistry, namely, whether there is a limit to reasonable chemical synthesis and what is the origin of the principle of chirality in nature. All this will take us a long time, or even a few generations to study."

At present, Prof. Feng is still engaged in basic theoretical research. "Originality, creativity, guidance and usefulness are four criteria for me to judge the value of research, as the case may be in basic theoretical research. Although theoretical results can't be directly put into use, and industrialization can only be achieved through industrial research, the theoretical research could provide the possibility and foundation for industrial research."

"The so-called usefulness is that our research results should not only be acceptable in academic circle, but also be put into application and commercialization." Prof. Feng Xiaoming, together

with his team, has fulfilled this standard. In addition to some basic research results invested in industrialization, and the developed chiral reagents sold in large companies as commodities, the developed catalyst has also been used in their research by well-known universities and research institutes at home and abroad, such as the University of Chicago, Tokyo University, Peking University.

Referring to the next step of the research project, Prof. Feng said he will continue to carry out the deeper research in the field of asymmetric synthesis, approaching the goal of 100% conversion and zero emission. "Although relatively good progress has been made, there are still many scientific problems, especially regularities that need to be summarized - experimental science and theoretical research contribute to formation of theory that in turn guides the development of research. In addition, some applied results, for example, can better benefit the mankind if biological activity screening is expected to help produce several useful active molecules in synthetic compounds." ㊦



# SCU's Project-- "The Frontier Science Center for Disease-Related Molecular Network" Was Approved

By The Frontier Science Center for Disease-related Molecular Network , West China School of Medicine, Western China Hospital, SCU

Recently, the Ministry of Education formally approved "the Frontier Science Center for Disease-related Molecular Network" project of Sichuan University's.

The Frontier Science Center is core content of the Mount Everest Plan which focuses on basic research in universities in China. the Ministry of Education stressed, developing the Frontier Science Center should be taken as an important link for construction world-class universities as well as first-class disciplines. Guided by goals of "Double-First Class", universities and colleges should make maximum use of innovative resources and advantages of disciplines, converge global first-rate teams, and enhance deep interdisciplinary collaboration. The Ministry of Education also encourages building pilot centers for institutional reform, so that they can be the lead in

breaking ground in basic and frontier research, and plays a crucial role in independent innovation in key areas.

It is worth mentioning that the Frontier Science Center is one of the seven frontier science centers approved by the Ministry of Education.

Starting from problems in disease-related molecular signaling network, focusing on national healthy strategy the Frontier Science Center attempts to establish itself as international top-level research institute, and gather high-level teams in original research area to develop basic medical research in China.

Relying on the development of Sichuan University, the Center has formed a multi-disciplinary team of talents in disease-related molecular network research, which bridges basic research and clinical

practice closely. It has made great achievements in construction of disease database, artificial intelligence, analysis of important gene function, key molecules network of disease, fundamental biological therapies and conversion of achievements, laying a solid foundation for further development.

On account of the prevention and treatment of major diseases such as malignant tumors (including lung cancer, colorectal cancer, and breast cancer) and senile degenerative diseases (like Alzheimer's disease), the Center has finalized its development program by focusing on "the establishment of disease biomedical database and intelligent analysis and application", "function of disease-related key genes, protein structure and regulatory network", "proliferation and differentiation of disease-related stem cells and molecular regulatory network", "disease single cell multi-

omics and molecular regulatory network research as well as transformation based on disease-related molecular network analysis". It is expected to offer new clinical prevention and treatment strategies

and play a driving role in the disease-related molecular network research on the international scale. Meanwhile, it will promote "Double-First Class" developments; build itself into an internation-

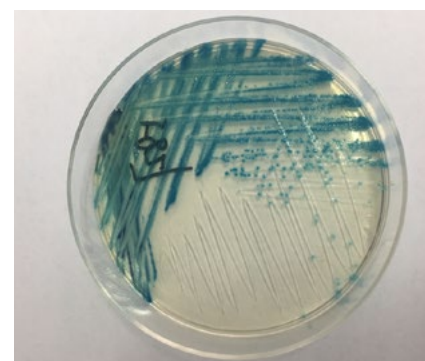
ally advanced scientific research center on disease-related molecular network, a training base for innovation talents, and an center of achievements transformation and clinical ㊦

## Klebsiella Huaxiensis - A New Species of Klebsiella, Discovered by a Team of West China Hospital of SCU Led by Prof. Zong Zhiyong

Recently, a new *Klebsiella* species has been discovered by a pathogenic microorganisms research team at the West China Hospital of Sichuan University during clinical practices, which is led by Zong Zhiyong, a professor of the Infectious Disease Center and the head of the Infection Control Department of the hospital. Named after the place of discovery--the West China Hospital of Sichuan University, *Klebsiella huaxiensis* has been accepted for publication by the International Journal of Systematic and Evolutionary Microbiology, which is an international authoritative journal of the International Committee on Systematics of Prokaryotes. "The acceptance and publication of the *Klebsiella huaxiensis* means that its discovery and naming has been recognized, and this is the first species of bacterium named by the West China Hospital of Sichuan University for the past decades," said Zong.

*Klebsiella* is a genus of the Enterobacteriaceae, and also one of the most common pathogenic bacteria in clinical practices. Practically, it is a complex of many species of closely related bacteria. To identify how many kinds of bacteria it includes, we need to adopt the widely accepted methods including molecular biology and genomics. "*Klebsiella huaxiensis* is just an individual species that we discovered from the group we knew before," said Zong. And he believed that the identification of this species is critical to disease diagnosis and treatment, because pathogenicity and drug resistances may vary among different bacterial species. Therefore, more targeted research may bring about more accurate clinical treatment.

Zong told us that through almost one year's effort, the suspected existence of a new species of bacterium was finally successfully authenticated by a large



number of experiments including biochemical reactions, followed by delivery of the strain discovered to culture collection, paper preparation, approval and recognition. This is benefited from the concerted efforts and joint contribution from the Infectious Disease Center, Research Center for Pathogenic Microorganisms, Infection Control Department, as well as the Lab of Clinical Microbiology, Department of Laboratory Medicine at the hospital, said Zong. ㊦



# The School of Arts of Sichuan University

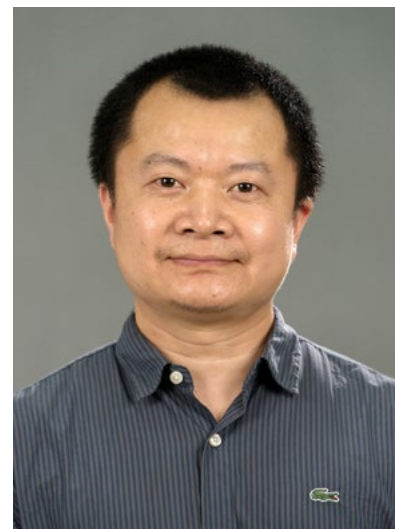
By Wang Tao

## Dean's Speech:

The School of Arts, founded by SCU more than 20 years ago, plays an important role in cultivating students' humanistic qualities.

As an important cultivating base for artistic talents in Western China, the School of Arts strives to stimulate students' innovation consciousness and expand their international vision. Through strengthening international cooperation and communication, and introducing foreign cultures, it proactively participates in the trend of internationalization.

In the School of Arts, students can master strong professional skills, but also better feel the physical world and enrich their spiritual world by improving their own artistic accomplishment, thus achieving physical and mental harmony and unity.



Prof. Han Gang, Dean of the School of Arts

Sichuan University has a long history of arts education and a tradition of advocating literature and arts. Rooted in the long-standing famous university with a profound historical and cultural background, the School of Arts has established its operational concept of "giving full play to comprehensive advantages, upholding humanistic spirit, advocating arts innovation and cultivating first-class talents", while following the guideline of leverag-

ing the cultivation of artistic talents, artistic creation and artistic research. With our unremitting efforts, this School has turned into an important base for arts education, research and creation in Western China.

## Discipline Development

The School of Arts of Sichuan University boasts not only a batch of famous

artists and art educators in China, but also a number of renowned experts and scholars at home and abroad as its honorary professors and visiting professors. It has established a complete set of disciplines for students at different levels, and shaped a talent cultivating system integrating undergraduate, master and PhD education. It now offers majors in arts design, animation, painting, musicology, performance, radio and television editing, fine art and dance studies,

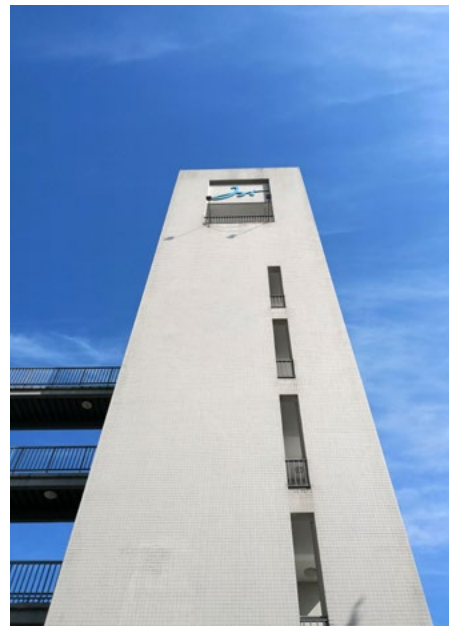


with nearly 1500 undergraduates, 350 graduate students and nearly 30 PhD candidates enrolled.

The School strives to explore and construct a mode for fostering innovative arts talents in a comprehensive university, so that the teaching development and quality can be improved in an all-round way.

### Scientific Research Achievements

The School of Arts has four research institutes, including: the Art Research Institute of Humanities and Social Sciences Key Research Base under the Ministry of Education, the Environmental Arts Institute, the Visual Arts Institute and the Intangible Cultural Heritage Research Center of Sichuan University. Its arts research and creation takes a leading position in Western China, and some majors are quite influential in the country. Artistic products created by a number of teachers and students have been selected for high-level arts exhibitions or awarded prizes. Teachers and students often participate in important theatrical performances both at home and abroad, and have won important prizes.





## External Cooperation and Exchanges

The School attaches great importance to cooperation and exchanges with arts schools and institutions at home and abroad, forming a formal mechanism for academic exchanges, personnel cultivation and cooperative research. Every year, some famous experts and artists from home and abroad are invited to deliver lectures or performances in our school. At present, it has established academic exchanges and cooperative research relationship with many celebrated universities in the United States, Britain, South Korea, Russia, Japan, Australia, etc, by signing various forms of agreements on joint cultivation of undergraduates, master degree candidates and doctoral candidates. Over the past five years, the School has sponsored or held over 20 high-level academic conferences at home and abroad; some 400 students and teachers have been invited to attend domestic and overseas academic exchanges and artistic performance activities.



## The Arts Experiment and Teaching Center

As a comprehensive experiment and teaching center covering experiment, teaching, scientific research, exhibition and other functions, the Arts Experiment and Teaching Center has founded model laboratory, woodworking laboratory, fine workmanship laboratory, silk screen laboratory, pottery laboratory, plane media laboratory, two-dimensional animation laboratory, three-dimensional animation laboratory, fixed-frame animation laboratory, audio production laboratory, photography laboratory,



image laboratory, etc. The Center can fully meet the needs for experiment and teaching of various arts disciplines, and provide a shared interactive platform for multi-disciplinary integration.

The School of Arts of Sichuan Univer-



sity shoulders important mission and responsibility in developing arts education and talent cultivation. It is believed that it will become an important base for the cultivation of artistic talents, and for artistic creation and research in Western China. ㊦

# The 6<sup>th</sup> Experience Exchange Conference on the Development of Confucius Institutes Held in Brussels

The 6<sup>th</sup> Experience Exchange Conference on the Development of Confucius Institutes, sponsored by Sichuan University, was held in the Free University of Brussels, Belgium, from August 2<sup>nd</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup>. SCU Vice President Yan Shijing led a delegation to attend the conference. More than 20 officials, experts and scholars from the Confucius Institutes in Belgium, the United States and South Korea, gathered at Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB) for the conference.

This year witnessed the sixth conference since Sichuan University initiated the Experience Exchange Conference on the Development of Confucius Institutes in 2012. The attendees call it "the Confucius Institute family gathering of Sichuan University." Vice President Yan pointed out that Confucius Institutes are facing many internal and external challenges in their development, and that it is a crucial moment to their sustainable development. Recalling the efforts of SCU in the work related to Confucius Institutes from 2017 to 2018, he shared SCU's experience in supporting the development of Confucius Institutes, and proposed the vision for sustainable development



and in-depth cooperation. Representatives of five Confucius Institutes also shared their experience on the development mode and the promotion of mutual exchanges and cooperation. They believed that regular annual joint meetings of Confucius Institutes sponsored by SCU are of special significance to the unified management, coordination and sustainable development of Confucius Institutes.

The Sichuan University delegation also attended the "China's Public Diplomacy" Forum hosted by the Confucius

Institute of the Free University of Brussels. Prof. Gustaag Geeraerts, former Director of the European Research Center of the Free University of Brussels, Prof. Li Yonghui, Dean of the School of International Relations of Beijing Foreign Studies University, and Mr. Ma Yansheng, former Counselor of the Education Department of the French Embassy, made keynote speeches at the forum. Prof. Wang Xiaolu of SCU participated in the discussion and summarized the significance of sustainable development of Confucian Institutes from a cross-cultural perspective. 🏠



## Background

Sichuan University has established five Confucius Institutes in association with five foreign universities, namely, Arizona State University, the University of Utah, the University of Washington, Woosong University of South Korea and the Free University of Brussels. Each Confucius Institute has its own characteristics, for example, the Confucius Institute of the Free University of Brussels focuses on high-end academic exchange-

es; the Confucius Institute of the University of Utah takes a lead in Chinese teaching and promotion in the region; the Confucius Institute in Washington State provides strong support for Chinese teaching in universities and communities; the Confucius Institute of Arizona State University combines Chinese learning with pre-university program; the Confucius Institute of Woosong University cooperates with its Chinese Department, opening a new horizon for the study and translation of ancient Chinese poetry.

# The Confucius Institute of Arizona State University Actively Promotes High-end International Scientific Research Cooperation of SCU

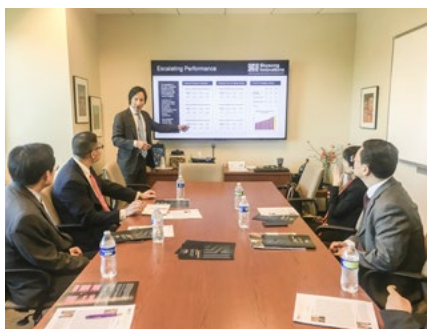
By Guan Ping

In an effort to accelerate the "Double World-Class" construction and promote the high-end international cooperation on scientific researches, the Confucius Institute jointly established by Sichuan University and Arizona State University has successfully invited a SCU delegation led by Executive Vice President Wan Xuehong of West China Hospital to visit Arizona State University.

The purpose of the visit is to discuss the joint establishment of the platform (Biodesign China) for international scientific research cooperation and the transformation of scientific research achievements in collaboration with Bioscience Research Institute of Arizona State University (Biodesign), and also to attend a biomedical symposium jointly organized by both parties.

With a high expectation on this visit, President Michael Crow, Executive Vice President Sethuraman Panchanatha and Vice President Stefanie Lindquist of Arizona State University who is in charge of academic affairs and international affairs, met with the delegation of SCU separately. During the meeting, President Crow re-emphasized that "Arizona State University is the long-term impor-





tant partner of Sichuan University and will pay much attention to the cooperation as usual". The president hopes that this visit will promote and enhance the cooperation between the two universities, and the high-end cooperation projects between both sides can be achieved at an early date. Subsequently, the members of the delegation made fruitful discussions on the cooperation matters of construction of scientific cooperation platform, students' joint training, talent introduction with the relevant leaders, well-known experts and scholars of Arizona State University, and reached a preliminary consensus on the relevant cooperation programs. ㊦



## Background

Arizona State University ranks top in innovation education in the USNews and is the key partner of SCU in the United States.

With the approval of the Ministry of Education in 2006, our university carried out extensive, multiple-disciplinary and multiple-level international education exchanges and cooperation with Arizona State University by taking the Sino-US State-owned University Presidents Forum and the Sino-US University Strategic Design Institute as the platform, and brought about remarkable achievements. Since the signing of the comprehensive partnership agreement between the two universities in 2006, both sides have achieved fruitful achievements in cooperation areas of young teacher training,

student exchanges, and collaborative researches. Since 2006, our university has assigned eight batches of young teachers to train foreign language at Arizona State University and two batches of middle-level officials to study and exchange at Arizona State University. In October 2007, the Confucius Institute jointly established by our university and Arizona State University was formally established. In October 2010, our university established the American Cultural Research Center with Arizona State University. At present, the student exchange programs implemented between both sides include: "3+1+1" Combined Bachelor-Master's Degree Programme, "2+1+1 Undergraduate Project", "Global Innovation" Winter Camps and Summer Camps. In July 2017, our university signed an agreement of joint training project for master students in business field in collaboration with Arizona State University and Woosong University.

# ASU CI and ADE “Can-Do Statement” Workshop

By Guan Ping

ASU Confucius Institute (ASU CI) and Arizona Department of Education (ADE) co-hosted a workshop “What Can you Do with the NCSSFL-ACTFL Can-Do Statement” for Arizona world language educators and lead teachers in K-12 Chinese education at ADE on September 22, 2018.

Dr. Deborah Robinson shared the theoretical framework and research that support the NCSSFL Can-Do Statement. Through group discussions, participants learned how to align students’ expectations with resources, where to start to build student autonomy and growth mindset, what to do to ensure common linguistic and cultural expectations and the key steps to develop assessments and rubrics to evaluate the progress. Participants explored the strategies of moving students up on the Can-Do’s ladder and helping learners to personalize their learning goals to move from one proficiency sublevel to the next.

The workshop session was intriguing, practical and inspiring, which was well received. Administrators and teachers reflected upon the importance of using Can-Do Statements as progress indicators for language learners. The more learners are engaged in their own learning process, the more intrinsically motivated they become.



Dr. Robinson, an assistant professor at the Ohio State University (OSU), has had extensive experience in developing pre-service and international teachers. After OSU, she served 11 years as World Languages Consultant at the Ohio Department of Education (ODE). Dr. Robinson is a past president of the National Council of State Supervisors for Language (NCSSFL) and she received the honor of 2010 State Supervisor of the Year by the NCSSFL. In past years, she had worked closely with Hanban and College

Board and taken key a role in Chinese language teacher recruitment and training

The workshop was a successful trial of collaboration between ASU CI and ADE. The next workshop is in the plan for Spring 2019. 🙏

# SCU Students Studied Sustainable Urban System Program in Stanford University

In this summer holiday, teachers and students of the Sustainable Urban System Program (SUSPIII) under "SCU Global Horizons" Overseas Study Program had in-depth discussions and exchanges with those in Stanford University. 20 SCU students of SUSP team have conducted case studies and shared learning experience of sustainable development with their peers there.

SUSP is an interdisciplinary project jointly established by Sichuan University and Stanford University. Students from various disciplines worked together with their advisers as a team and conducted research based on the global vision and localization initiatives of sustainability. In this program, SUSP team carried out researches and demonstration projects in five areas, namely green campus building, waste sorting, survey on students' awareness of sustainability and their corresponding behavior, energy conservation at dormitory and digital campus. During the exchange, SCU students shared their research results. They were also keen to know what Stanford University has done to promote sustainable development.

Then what did they learn there?

## Speak out and listen carefully

As the primary task of SUSP team was to exchange views with SUS team at Stanford University, reports began on the second day upon their arrival. Stanford University's SUS team introduced their important work over the past year. Under the theme of "Coastal Flood Risk in the Bay Area", they focused on the Bay Area where the Stanford University is located. Specifically, SUS team did research on the five aspects caused by

flood control mechanism, namely direct loss, facility damage, traffic disruption, interference of business activities and social vulnerability. While SUSPIII team, under the theme of creating a more sustainable SCU, undertook researches into the following five areas: questionnaires, waste collection, green building, conservation of electricity and campus information systems. Through analysis, SUSP team has embarked on campaigns aimed at improving sustainable campus building at SCU--- greater efforts are be-



Student making a report



ing made.

Both teams took a keen interest in their counterpart's work. During the exchange, we found that Stanford University students studied the issue from different or even unexpected angles and completed corresponding modeling and analysis. We can learn from them how to choose a novel topic, conduct serious and meticulous research as well as effective and efficient good teamwork.

Afterwards, three teachers of Stanford University delivered wonderful lectures to SUSPIII team, which centered on their own understanding about what sustainable development is and their efforts to promote it. First, Jeffrey Ball showed us around Stanford's oldest student apartment Roble Hall, where sustainable development has been actively promoted in energy system and greening. After that, Sara introduced Stanford's "My Cardinal Green" system through which everyone can perform suggested actions to earn points and get rewarded, thus encouraging more to go green. Finally, Derek said that further progress could not be made unless we could find a way to quantify and evaluate efforts for sustainable development. He also told the difference between "sustainability" and "resilience", encouraged us to maximize individual efforts to achieve significant results in our daily lives.

At Stanford University, SCU students heard different ideas about sustainable development and gained a better understanding. They better accept their whole-year hard work and remain committed to making more sustainable practices after returning to SCU. Besides, they



Group photo at Stanford meeting room



Sharing from Sara

have got to know how to think broadly and communicate effectively. This trip did benefit them a lot.

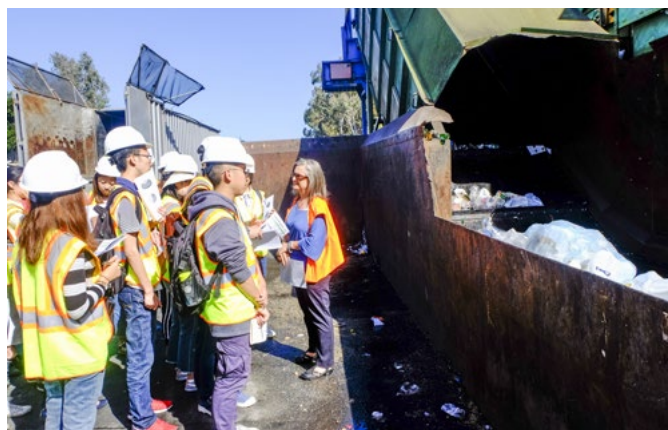
### Free "exploration" on the "island" of Sustainable Development

During the exchange, SCU students learned more details about sustainable

development at Stanford University and the University of California, Berkeley. At the campus of Stanford University, Brian explained how they gave full consideration to sustainability when Y2E2 was built. It was architects' ingenuity that made this building energy-saving. At Stanford University Central Energy Facility, we learned how Stanford covers its huge energy needs effectively. At PSSI



Y2E2's top floor with adjustable room temperature



Learning at PSSI

(Peninsula Sanitary Service, Inc.), we saw exactly how they recycle waste in an effective way. At William and Cloy Codi-ga Resource Recovery Center, we learned about Stanford's wastewater treatment facilities and systems as well as the new concept of "innovation and entrepreneurship". Finally, we experienced the harmonious development between man and nature at Stanford's organic farm.

Action", Professor Dan Sperling talked about how to make people accept car sharing and give up personal car ownership as well as how to propose an aggressive policy to solve the problem of parking. In this lecture, students actively participated in discussion and shared different opinions.

### Students' impressions

#### See more, hear more and learn more

Through this trip, SCU students got the chance to walk out of school and go to more places to meet more people and know the world better. At the head-quarter of Stanford Research Institute International (SRI), Claude delivered a speech that gave us a deeper understanding of "innovation". We also visited the world-famous architects S.O.M whose staff elaborated the idea of sustainability in CBD's design planning, both in Chengdu Tianfu New Area and the Chongqing Two Rivers Center. At the Sherwood Design Engineers Studio, staff also explained sustainability in their city planning and engineering design. Under the theme of "Three Revolutions and the Future of Transportation, A Call to

"Over the past ten days, we have got to know how the students from the world first-class universities learn and work. They are proactive to express ideas, confident and decisive to take actions. This is exactly what Chinese students could learn from. Abroad, students participate actively in class and raise questions whenever they have ones. While in China, it is teachers rather than students that lead the class. Due to the lack of independent thinking, they barely question what their teachers have said. I hope I will be more active both in class and open discussion. Only when we speak out and communicate actively with others can we know more."

"Inspired by Derek, I am considering being a one-day vegetarian every

week so that I can make little efforts for the world's low-carbon and sustainable development. At the University of California, Berkeley, students took full advantage of sustainable trash can and solar power. I think we can also carry out home-grown sustainable activities at SCU. But just as Berkeley's students have mentioned, making sustainable practices is not easy. I am sure that we need to make greater efforts."

"ChuanDa Global Focus" serves a great platform for teachers and students of SUSPIII team to know the world. Through reciprocal sharing, learning and field visits, the program enables them to fully understand how students at Stanford University and American young elites at large view sustainable development and what actions they take correspondingly. In addition, all SUSP members have been trained in cognitive competence and social practice. This trip to Stanford University also enriches students' experience, broadens their vision and reflects their excellent teamwork. In the years to come, SUSP team of Sichuan University will stay committed to achieving sustainable development and fulfilling the purpose of "Think Globally, Act Locally".



# Back Home

Photo by Chen Yuanming





# ||| ECHO |||

*I am currently engaged in the research  
in medical chemistry.*

“

*Sichuan University does well  
in this field and I hope to further  
strengthen cooperation with this  
University in this regard.*

”

— —

**Ada Yonath**

Nobel Prize Laureate in Chemistry



四川大學  
SICHUAN UNIVERSITY