Beijing Normal University

Newsletter

Summer 2025/ Issue 23

Organized by:
Office of International Exchange & Cooperation, Beijing Normal University

Co-organized by:
News Center, Beijing Normal University

Newsletter

Summer 2025/ Issue 23

Organized by: Office of International Exchange & Cooperation, Beijing Normal University
Co-organized by: News Center, Beijing Normal University

Beijing Normal University Newsletter is a publication for alumni and friends of BNU. It is produced by the Office of International Exchange & Cooperation (OIEC). Please feel free to contact us and send us suggestions or ideas so that we can improve this publication.

Contact Us

Address: Office of International Exchange & Cooperation
Beijing Normal University, 100875 Beijing, P.R. China
Phone: (+86) 10-5880-7170
Fax: (+86) 10-5880-0823
Email: bnunewsletter@bnu.edu.cn

Newsletter Online

The Newsletter can be read online at: https://english.bnu.edu.cn/newsevents/newsletters/index.htm
The views expressed in this publication are the views of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Office of International Exchange & Cooperation or Beijing Normal University.

Contents

Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn of Thailand Visited Beijing Normal University

Article source: Office of International Exchange and Cooperation, UNESCO International Research and Training Centre for Rural Education | Release date: 2025-04-14

From April 7 to 13, at the invitation of the Chinese government, Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn of Thailand visited China. On April 10, Princess Sirindhorn and her delegation visited Beijing Normal University (BNU). BNU President Yu Jihong met with the delegation.

Yu Jihong warmly welcomed Princess Sirindhorn's visit and expressed her admiration for the princess's long-term dedication to promoting exchanges between China and Thailand. She pointed out that this year marks the 50th anniversary of Thailand-China diplomatic relations, and the visit of Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn fully reflected her high regard for Sino-Thai educational exchanges and cooperation. She believed that with the Princess's care and support, Sino-Thai education cooperation would achieve more fruitful results.

Princess Sirindhorn expressed gratitude to BNU for the warm reception. She appreciated the pragmatic cooperation between BNU, the Chaipattana Foundation and other relevant institutions. She hoped that BNU and Thailand would further enhance their collaboration in areas such as rural education, youth exchange programs, and sustainable development, aiming to elevate their partnership to new heights.

On the same day, Beijing Normal University (BNU), the UNESCO International Research and Training Centre for Rural Education (UNESCO INRULED) and the Chaipattana Foundation co-hosted the 2025 International Capacity Building Workshop on Education for Sustainable Rural Development.


BNU President Yu Jihong delivered a speech

Princess Sirindhorn delivered a keynote speech

At the opening ceremony,Yu Jihong extended a warm welcome and heartfelt thanks to Princess Sirindhorn for her presence at the workshop. She introduced the development of BNU and the cooperation with Thai educational institutions, and expressed her anticipation for further strengthening cooperation with Thailand in rural education and development.

Princess Sirindhorn delivered a keynote speech. She underscored a series of cooperation between the Chaipattana Foundation and China in agricultural and rural development, and spoke highly of the achievements made with BNU and UNESCO INRULED in enhancing leadership capacities for sustainable rural development. She emphasized that these in-depth cooperation will effectively reduce poverty and economic vulnerability, comprehensively enhance the resilience and independence of communities, and foster enduring prosperity and sustainable development.

During the visit, Princess Sirindhorn and her delegation visited the BNU History Museum and BNU Library.

In the BNU History Museum, Princess Sirindhorn visited the university's history exhibition and gained an in-depth understanding of the university's profound educational heritage.

At the library, Princess Sirindhorn visited Thai Culture Themed Book Exhibition, the Basic Education Textbook Exhibition, and Hongwenxuan Rare Books Collection Exhibition.

Princess Sirindhorn is an outstanding ambassador for China-Thailand friendship. She has made significant contributions to fostering mutual understanding between the two peoples and promoting cooperation in educational, cultural, and technological fields. In 2019, she was awarded the Medal of Friendship.

China-Thailand Sustainable Rural Development Leaders' Collaborative Network

Over the years, BNU has established extensive cooperative relations with universities and research institutions from Thailand, yielding rich outcomes in talent cultivation, scientific research, and cultural exchange. Taking Princess Sirindhorn's visit as an opportunity, BNU is committed to further expanding its in-depth cooperation with Thailand across a variety of fields and contributing to the friendship between China and Thailand.

BNU Holds First "The Excellent Teacher Program" Graduation Send-off Ceremony

Article source: Zhuhai Campus, Office of the Teacher Strengthening Project | Release Date: 2025-07-01

On the afternoon of June 28, the send-off ceremony for the inaugural cohort of "The Excellent Teacher Program" graduates was held at the covered sports ground of Beijing Normal University's Zhuhai Campus. The event was attended by Yu Weiyue, Director of the Department of Teachers' Affairs at the Ministry of Education; Cheng Jianping, Party Secretary of Beijing Normal University; Yu Jihong, President of the university; Wang Shoujun, Executive Vice President; Sun Hongpei, Vice President and Director of the Zhuhai Campus Administrative Committee; Wei Wei, Deputy Party Secretary and Party Secretary of the Zhuhai Campus; along with representatives from provincial education departments and county-level schools where the graduates will be teaching, donors of the "Strong Teacher Fund" and "The Excellent Teacher Program Fund", representatives from colleges, residential colleges, and administrative departments, all faculty members of Leyu College, and the 2025 graduating class of the "The Excellent Teacher Program". Sun Hongpei presided over the ceremony.

Yu Weiyue, Director of the Department of Teachers' Affairs at the Ministry of Education, delivered a speech

Cheng Jianping, Party Secretary of Beijing Normal University, delivered a speech

Sun Hongpei, Vice President of Beijing Normal University and Director of the Zhuhai Campus Administrative Committee, presided over the ceremony

The ceremony commenced with the solemn playing of the national anthem. More than 360 graduates of the inaugural cohort of Beijing Normal University's "The Excellent Teacher Program" are about to embark on their teaching journeys in 153 counties—located in 13 central and western provinces (including autonomous regions)—that have been lifted out of poverty or lie along China's land borders. These graduates will dedicate themselves to frontline basic education, starting a new chapter of their lives where the country and its people need them most.

Yu Weiyue, Director of the Department of Teachers' Affairs at the Ministry

Li Jun, Deputy Secretary of the Education Working Committee of the CPC Guizhou Provincial Committee, gave a speech

Chen Shengquan, Principal of Dahua Yao Autonomous County Senior High School, Guangxi, gave a speech

Yang Qing, a representative of the "The Excellent Teacher Program" graduates, gave an address

of Education; Cheng Jianping, Party Secretary of Beijing Normal University; Sun Hongpei, Vice President of BNU and Director of the Zhuhai Campus Administrative Committee; Li Jun, Deputy Secretary of the Education Working Committee of the CPC Guizhou Provincial Committee; Chen Shengquan, Principal of Dahua Yao Autonomous County Senior High School in Guangxi; and Yang Qing, a 2021 Chinese Language and Literature major from the Faculty of Arts and Sciences and Leyu College, delivered speeches and remarks.

During the ceremony, the Huang Qili Academician Education Scholarship under the "The Excellent Teacher Program" and the BNU "Four Qualities" Good Teacher Launch Scholarship were presented to outstanding students. The awards were conferred by Wang Shoujun, Wei Wei, and representatives of the donors of the "Teacher Strengthening Fund" and the "The Excellent Teacher Program Fund", encouraging the recipients to continue striving for excellence in their future teaching careers.

Award Presentation of the Huang Qili Academician Education Scholarship and the "Four Qualities" Good Teacher Launch Scholarship

President Yu Jihong Presents the Expedition Flag to Graduate Representatives

President Yu Jihong presented the expedition flag to a representative of the inaugural graduating class of the "The Excellent Teacher Program". As the flag was raised high, it symbolized the passing of the torch and the assumption of responsibility. With the hopes of their alma mater and the trust of the nation, these aspiring educators are set to make their mark at the grassroots level of education.

Seven students, including Xiong Guojin and Li Ruoyu, took the stage to recite *With the Nation in Our Hearts, With Teaching as Our Name*, a poem that expressed their youthful dedication to serving the country through education.

At the ceremony, all graduating students of the "The Excellent Teacher Program" rose to their feet and took a solemn oath under the lead of a student representative. Their resounding pledge—*"To dedicate ourselves to teaching, to serve the nation; to aim high, to revitalize the country through education"*—echoed throughout the venue, expressing their unwavering commitment to serving at the grassroots level and advancing the cause of education.

Recitation by Representatives of the "The Excellent Teacher Program" Students

As the university anthem rang out in unison, sung passionately by all attendees, the send-off ceremony for the inaugural cohort of the "The Excellent Teacher Program" drew to a close.

Their solemn vow etched in their hearts, the graduates of the "The Excellent Teacher Program" now set forth on their educational journey. May they always bear in mind the earnest expectations of General Secretary Xi Jinping, stay true to their calling as educators, refine their teaching abilities, and strive to become "Four Qualities" good teachers who earn the satisfaction of the Party and the people. With youthful dedication, they will contribute to advancing high-quality and balanced basic education in the less-developed central and western regions, and help write a new chapter in education for Chinese modernization.

Collective Oath by Graduates of the "The Excellent Teacher Program"

University Anthem Sung by All Participants

Joint Innovation Research Institute Unveiled at BNU Zhuhai Campus

Article source: Party Committee / President's Office, Zhuhai Campus Leadership Office | *Release Date: 2025-04-21*

On the morning of April 19, the inauguration ceremony of the Zhuhai Joint Innovation Research Institute (hereinafter referred to as the "Joint Innovation Institute") was held at Beijing Normal University's Zhuhai Campus. The event was attended by Cheng Jianping, Party Secretary of Beijing Normal University; President Yu Jihong; Executive Vice President Wang Shoujun; Deputy Party Secretary and Party Secretary of the Zhuhai Campus Wei Wei; Yu Gang, Director of the Advanced Interdisciplinary Institute of Environment and Ecology; and from the Zhuhai Municipal Government: Mayor Wu Zetong, Vice Mayor Huang Zhenqiu, Secretary-General Wen Hua, Director of the Education Bureau Xi Enmin, and Director of the Science and Technology Innovation Bureau Huang Nanyin. Together, they jointly unveiled the institute. The ceremony was hosted by Wei Wei.

In his remarks, Wang Shoujun outlined the background and development vision of the Joint Innovation Institute. He noted that the establishment of the institute marks a new milestone in the deepening of strategic cooperation between BNU and the city of Zhuhai. It is also a concrete step toward implementing China's innovation-driven development strategy and supporting the construction of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area. The university will leverage its disciplinary strengths in artificial intelligence, chemistry, biotechnology, environmental engineering, education, and psychology to address major needs in Zhuhai's socio-economic and industrial development. The Joint Innovation Institute will focus on cutting-edge fields such as AI and the digital economy, green and low-carbon industries, biomedicine and health, new materials and new energy, as well as educational technology and brain science. It aims to drive scientific research and innovation, support the transformation of scientific and technological achievements, and contribute to building Zhuhai into a hub for technology commercialization and an international center for scientific and technological innovation in the Greater Bay Area.

In his address, Huang Zhenqiu noted that Beijing Normal University and the city of Zhuhai share a strong foundation of collaboration. The establishment of the Joint Innovation Institute marks a new level in city-university cooperation and represents a strategic upgrade through the deep integration of education, science and technology, and industry. He affirmed that the Zhuhai Municipal Party Committee and Government will continue to support the development of BNU's Zhuhai Campus and the Joint Innovation Institute. He expressed hope that both sides will maintain close communication and deepen cooperation to jointly build the institute into a high-level innovation platform integrating production, education, research, and application—a key engine of technological innovation for Zhuhai and the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area.

The Zhuhai Joint Innovation Research Institute is the city's first major new-type R&D institution jointly established by a university and the local government, focusing on talent recruitment, scientific research and development, results transformation, business incubation, and venture investment. Since its founding in 2015, the institute has developed a distinctive three-step growth strategy—"talent attraction, platform development, and innovation incubation"—and established a deeply integrated innovation incubation system that combines academia, industry, research, and capital. It has built 10 high-level research platforms and 12 specialized laboratories, secured approval for 129 research projects, and filed over 100 patent applications. Looking ahead, the institute will enter a new phase of development under the entrusted management of Beijing Normal University, supported by the Zhuhai Municipal Government. It will pool high-quality resources to explore new models of city-university collaboration in areas such as high-level talent recruitment, core technology development, equipment R&D, commercialization of scientific outcomes, investment-financing linkage, and support for emerging industries—driving regional technological innovation and industrial upgrades.

Beijing Normal University Launches School of Technology for Sustainability

Article source: School of Technology for Sustainability | *Release Date: 2025-07-01*

On June 27, Beijing Normal University (BNU) held a symposium on the integrated reform and development of education, science and technology, and talent cultivation, alongside the inauguration ceremony of its newly established *School of Technology for Sustainability* at the Zhuhai Campus. Attendees included BNU Party Secretary Cheng Jianping, President Yu Jihong, Executive Vice President Wang Shoujun, Vice President Sun Hongpei, and Zhuhai Vice Mayor Huang Zhenqiu.

During the inauguration, Cheng Jianping emphasized that the world is entering an unprecedented period of intensified scientific and technological innovation. Education, science and technology, and talent are foundational and strategic pillars for building a modern socialist country. As a leader in teacher education, BNU must

embrace its mission in this new era and proactively align with evolving development needs. Cheng noted that BNU's Zhuhai Campus, as a demonstration zone for incremental reform under the university's "One Body, Two Wings" model, has upheld the principles of "equal standards and equal quality" in education. Leveraging its proximity to Hong Kong and Macao and a spirit of institutional innovation, the campus has actively advanced emerging interdisciplinary fields, forming several clusters of competitive disciplines and assembling national and provincial-level research platforms—laying a solid foundation for the establishment of the School of Technology for Sustainability. He expressed hope that the new school will take a broad, strategic perspective in planning its development, become a first-class hub of innovation, deepen institutional reform, promote inclusiveness and open collaboration, and actively explore new models for the integrated development of education, science and technology, and talent cultivation.

Cheng Jianping, Yu Jihong, Wang Shoujun, Sun Hongpei, Huang Zhenqiu, and Academician Yu Gang of the Chinese Academy of Engineering—who will serve as Dean of the School of Technology for Sustainability—jointly unveiled the plaque for the new institution. Its establishment marks a significant step forward for BNU in building a foundation in engineering and interdisciplinary disciplines.

At the symposium, Zhong Jiayong, Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences; Lu Zhonglin, Party Secretary of Leyu College; and Yu Gang, Dean of the School of Technology for Sustainability, shared insights drawn from their respective institutions. Their reflections focused on cultivating top-tier innovative talent, advancing the residential college model, and building integrated interdisciplinary and collaborative education systems. They collectively proposed exploring a new pathway for a synergistic "School–College–Institute" education framework. The discussion sparked enthusiastic responses from attendees. Zhang Kai, Party Branch Secretary of the College of Education for the Future, shared the school's efforts and reflections on promoting disciplinary integration and science-education fusion in teacher education. Liu Kai, Dean of the School of National Safety and Emergency Management, presented the school's strategic planning and practices in implementing integrated reform of education, science and technology, and talent development.

President Yu Jihong elaborated on the rationale behind the joint cultivation model linking schools, residential colleges, and research institutes. She advocated for optimizing curriculum design, deepening international collaboration, and harnessing artificial intelligence and smart education to explore new approaches for integrating research into education. She emphasized that as the university transitions from the "One Body, Two Wings" model to a more integrated "Two Wings, One Body" structure, it must boldly explore practical pathways for integrated reform and development in education, science and technology, and talent cultivation—serving the Greater Bay Area and the nation, and building a leading base for talent, education, and science in southern China.

Party Secretary Cheng Jianping underscored the urgency and significance of integrating reform across education, science and technology, and talent. He stressed that talent and education are indispensable elements in national development. In light of evolving challenges and new tasks, he called on all faculty to seize opportunities, take initiative, strive for excellence, and meet challenges head-on. He encouraged them to fully leverage their strengths, fulfill the fundamental mission of fostering virtue through education, and promote comprehensive reform—advancing BNU's integrated development in education, scientific innovation, and talent cultivation.

The establishment of the School of Technology for Sustainability marks a pivotal step in Beijing Normal University's implementation of China's innovation-driven development strategy. It underscores the university's strategic commitment to serving national priorities, optimizing disciplinary structures, and enhancing innovation capacity. As a strategic cornerstone for BNU's integrated advancement of education, science and technology, and talent, the School of Technology for Sustainability is backed by policy support from the Ministry of Education, Guangdong Province, and the Zhuhai Municipal Government. It draws upon the university's rich academic legacy as a century-old institution and the dual advantages of the Zhuhai Campus—benefiting from both its location in a special economic zone and its forward-looking institutional model. The school aims to build an innovation ecosystem characterized by "integration of teaching and research, synergy between industry and education, and convergence of science and education". On the educational front, it will explore new models for cultivating future-oriented talent. On the scientific front, it will focus on breakthrough research addressing core technologies critical to sustainable development. On the talent front, it will pioneer new paradigms for attracting and nurturing high-end talent. Through institutional and policy innovation, the school seeks to facilitate deep integration across the education, innovation, and talent development chains—offering BNU's solutions and insights to support the national strategies of building a strong country in education, science and technology, and human capital.

BNU Hosts Inaugural Symposium and Launch of the Research Academy for Frontier and Interdisciplinary Satellite Applications

Article source: Faculty of Geographical Science | *Release date: 2025-06-12*

On June 8, the founding ceremony and development symposium of the Research Academy for Frontier and Interdisciplinary Satellite Applications (hereinafter referred to as the "satellite research academy") was held in Conference Room 6 of Jingshi Tower at Beijing Normal University (BNU). BNU President Yu Jihong attended the event and delivered opening remarks. Distinguished attendees included Academicians Guo Huadong (Aerospace Information Research Institute, Chinese Academy of Sciences), Zhou Chenghu (Institute of Geographic Sciences and Natural Resources Research, CAS), Tang Huajun (Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences), Ni Jinren (Peking University), Yang Zhifeng (Beijing Normal University), Jiang Xingwei (National Satellite Ocean Application Service), Jiang Bitao (Beijing Institute of Remote Sensing Information), Wang Qiao (Beijing Normal University), and Researcher Xi Beidou (Chinese Research Academy of Environmental Sciences), as well as Professor Song Changqing (Beijing Normal University). Also present were BNU Vice President Wang Ming, leaders from relevant university departments, secondary units under the Faculty of Geographical Science, and the entire faculty of the Satellite Institute. The symposium was chaired by a representative of the satellite research academy.

In her address, President Yu Jihong extended her warm congratulations on the establishment of the institute. She emphasized that the founding of the satellite research academy is a major initiative in support of China's strategy to become a leading power in science and technology, and a proactive response to the demand for interdisciplinary innovation in the new era. By integrating academic strengths in remote sensing science and technology, environmental science, and national security studies, the university seeks to break through disciplinary boundaries, promote frontier interdisciplinary research, and contribute BNU's wisdom to cultivating top-tier innovative talent and overcoming critical technological bottlenecks.

A representative of the satellite research academy provided a detailed overview of the institute's founding background, organizational structure, development plans, and current progress, with particular emphasis on the composition of the Strategic Advisory Committee and the Academic Committee.

Launch Ceremony of "AI Empowers Rural Revitalization" Public Welfare Initiative Held at BNU

Article source: Beijing Normal University Education Foundation | *Release date: 2025-05-13*

On May 11, the launch ceremony for the public welfare initiative "Together in Every Village—AI Empowers Rural Revitalization" was held at Jingshi Hall, Beijing Normal University (BNU). Jointly initiated by the Beijing Normal University Education Foundation, the Office of the Teacher Strengthening Project, Dianfu Technology, and Lingjun Investment, the campaign named Olympic champion Zhang Yufei as its public welfare ambassador. The initiative aims to connect all 832 counties that have been lifted out of poverty with top-tier resources from across sectors by leveraging AI business cards as a medium and AI technology as a bridge. It seeks to build demonstration models for county-level industrial revitalization and pioneer a new paradigm for intelligent rural development.

At the ceremony, Executive Vice President Wang Shoujun of Beijing Normal University delivered remarks. He emphasized that in response to the strategic needs of strengthening education and advancing rural revitalization in the new era, BNU has proactively taken up its responsibilities. In recent years, the university has launched the "Teacher Strengthening Project", focusing on teacher development in underdeveloped areas of central and western China. This initiative includes six major programs, such as the "The Excellent Teacher Program", *and the Teacher Capacity Enhancement Program*, which aim to ignite the spark of education for rural

revitalization. These efforts have been strongly supported by compassionate individuals and organizations across society. The launch of *"AI Empowers Rural Revitalization"* represents an innovative step in BNU's continued endeavor to empower rural areas with educational resources.

Shahbaz Khan, Director of the UNESCO Multisectoral Regional Office for East Asia, offered high praise for the initiative. He noted that the Chinese government's achievements in rural revitalization are remarkable, and its forward-thinking approach to empowering public welfare through technology is both admirable and transformative. This model—integrating technological advancement

with human-centered development—is closely aligned with UNESCO's mission to promote Sustainable Development Goal 4 (SDG4) and advance global education equity. He remarked that bringing artificial intelligence into rural classrooms is more than a technological update—it redefines the limitless possibilities of rural education. Fairness and innovation are not just ideals; they are the solid foundation for building a world where every village thrives, every child dreams, and every culture endures.

Cai Meijie, Co-Chair of the BNU "The Excellent Teacher Program", Founder of Dianfu Technology, and Chairwoman of Lingjun Investment, remarked that national strategies have charted a clear course forward, and artificial intelligence, as a global public good, holds the potential to benefit all of humanity. She emphasized the importance of maintaining self-reliance and self-improvement, while prioritizing application-driven development to advance AI innovation, industrial growth, and real-world empowerment. As a newly established AI enterprise, Dianfu Technology is committed to building a world-leading expert agent platform

designed to meet users' core needs in both daily life and professional work. Its flagship product, DianDian Business Card, represents the company's initial foray into the AI space. Cai expressed her hope that in the future, everyone—regardless of background—can enjoy 24/7 access to the wisdom of top-tier experts and the assistance of high-efficiency intelligent tools.

In his speech, Professor Xiao Fang of

BNU's School of Sociology and Vice President of the China Folklore Society, highlighted the profound cultural value of the countryside. He stated that rural areas have long been the cradle of Chinese civilization and the spiritual homeland of the Chinese people. No matter how cities evolve, the countryside holds an irreplaceable and enduring place in Chinese culture—underscoring the deep significance of this public welfare initiative.

Li Ruoyu, a representative of the 2025 graduating class of BNU's "The Excellent Teacher Program", shared that the inaugural cohort is about to embark on their teaching careers. Guided by General Secretary Xi Jinping's heartfelt call to "go where the country and the people need us most", they will soon take up posts in primary education across county-level regions in central and western China. In the years ahead, successive generations of "The Excellent Teacher Program" graduates will bring powerful momentum to the development of China's basic education system.

At the launch ceremony, Wang Shoujun presented Zhang Yufei with the certificate of appointment as Public Welfare Ambassador for the *"AI Empowers Rural Revitalization"* initiative.

In her remarks, Zhang Yufei noted that

rural revitalization is a long-distance endeavor that requires sustained commitment. She expressed hope that with the power of technology and the original intent of public welfare, more beautiful villages across China can be illuminated. She likened the AI business card to a small firefly—tiny but bright enough to bring the hidden treasures of rural communities into the global spotlight, connecting lush mountains and clear waters to a broader stage. "AI technology is no longer just cold lines of code," she said, "but a warm bridge. Let us use AI to spark a flame—gathering the educational light of BNU and the care of society into a river of stars. May every effort be answered, every dream be seen, and every bit of technology help fuel the revitalization of rural China."

Chen Yunzhen, a Qiang embroidery master and provincial-level inheritor of intangible cultural heritage from Beichuan Qiang Autonomous County—one of the first participating regions in this initiative—presented Zhang Yufei with a handcrafted gift from the mountains. She shared: "For over 40 years, I have worked to turn Qiang embroidery into a shining cultural calling card. Today, this AI business card

has made that dream a reality. AI breaks the barriers of time, space, and industry, allowing Qiang embroidery to step out of the mountains, reach the nation, and enter the world. It has built a golden bridge for our mountain communities to achieve prosperity."

Distinguished attendees included Huang Huilin, Senior Professor at Beijing Normal University and Director of the Academy for International

Communication of Chinese Culture; Zhu Ercheng, former Executive Vice Chairman of the Beijing Municipal Committee of the China Democratic League; Ren Jianhua, Vice Chairman and Secretary-General of the China Energy Investment Corporation Public Welfare Foundation; Liu Wenkui, Executive Vice Chairman of the China Foundation for Rural Development; Li Xiaohui, Principal of the High School Affiliated to Beijing Normal University; and Lu Yongli, Principal of Beijing No. 2 Experimental Primary School. Also present were representatives from 832 counties lifted out of poverty, including Dahua Yao Autonomous County in Guangxi and Shizhu County in Chongqing, along with representatives from central state-owned enterprises, public welfare organizations, schools, and faculty and students from relevant departments.

The 11th Golden Lenses Awards Ceremony and the 2025 Looking China Youth Film Project Launching Ceremony Were Held

Article source: Institute of Chinese Culture | Jingshi Academy | Release date: 2025-04-15

On April 9, the 11th Golden Lenses Awards Ceremony and the 2025 Looking China Youth Film Project Launching Ceremony were held at Beijing Normal University (BNU).

Kang Zhen, Vice President of BNU, delivered a speech at the ceremony. He extended his congratulations to the award recipients of the 2024 Looking China program as the new edition of the Golden Lenses Awards was about to be announced. He said that he sincerely welcomes young friends from all over the world to start from Beijing Normal University to experience, observe and feel China, and serve as young ambassadors for cultural exchanges between China and foreign countries.

Speech by Kang Zhen

Speech by Huang Huilin

Huang Huilin, founder of the project, founder of the Huilin Foundation, BNU senior professor, and dean of the Academy for International Communication of Chinese Culture, gave an overview of the Looking China Youth Film Project.

The Looking China Youth Film Project is an international activity for cultural exchanges among the youth, jointly organized by the Academy for International Communication of Chinese Culture (AICCC) at BNU and the Huilin Foundation, with academic support from the Film and Television Media Committee of the China Association of Higher Education. Now in its fourteenth year, the program has grown into a major platform for international youth engagement. In 2014, the project established the Golden Lenses Awards to encourage outstanding creators with keen vision and profound insights. The award has been presented ten times so far.


International Students Attended the Ceremony

Hosted by Luo Jun

The opening session was hosted by Luo Jun, Deputy Director of the Academy for International Communication of Chinese Culture.

Xiang Yunjv, Executive Director of the Academy for International Communication of Chinese Culture and a representative of the final jury panel for the 11th Golden Lenses Awards, presented an overview of this year's award situation. After thorough deliberation by a panel of nine experts from China and abroad, the jury selected one first-prize film, three second-prize films, five third-prize films, two Best Work awards, one Annual Grand prize, one Best Artistic Expression award, one Best Cultural Discovery award, and three Best Online Communication awards. In addition, the Best Organization Award was established, and the Best Documentary on Events Award was also established for the documentary category.

The 2025 Look China Youth Film Project Launching Ceremony began with a flag-raising ceremony, officially announcing the start of this year's event.

In 2025, the project will take "Creativity, Imagination, Innovation" as the theme. This year, more than one hundred young participants from over 30 countries will travel to nine provinces and regions across China, including Beijing, Chongqing, Anhui, Jiangsu, Liaoning, Shaanxi, Guizhou, Fujian, and Xinjiang. From now on, the host institutions will cooperate to let more than a hundred teachers and students from all over the world have cultural experiences and create short films in China.

Wang Ming Attended the First China–Central Asia Education Ministers' Meeting and the Inauguration Ceremony of the Central Asia Institute of the Global Teacher Development Academy

Article source: Provost's Office and Academic Affairs (Graduate School) | *Release date: 2025-05-21*

On the morning of May 12, the first China-Central Asia Education Ministers' Meeting was held in Urumqi. As part of the event, the inauguration ceremony of the Central Asia Institute of the Global Teacher Development Academy was held. Wang Ming, Vice President of Beijing Normal University (BNU) attended the event.

In order to implement the spirit of the National Education Conference, open new frontiers in the internationalization of education, enhance China's global influence in teacher education, and further expand the breadth and depth of international exchanges and cooperation in teacher development in the new era, the Ministry of Education has established the Institute of Global Teachers Development, with Beijing Normal University taking the lead.

The establishment of the institute aims to fully use Xinjiang's strategic location, cultural resources, and comparative advantages in education to foster cooperation in teacher development with Central Asian countries.

Looking ahead, the Institute of Global Teachers Development will adopt a more open and pragmatic approach to contribute Chinese wisdom to the collaborative advancement of global teacher education and to strengthen the educational foundation for building a community with a shared future for mankind.

Yu Jihong Attended the 2025 World Digital Education Conference

Article source: Office of International Exchange and Cooperation | *Release date: 2025-05-21*

From May 14 to 16, the 2025 World Digital Education Conference was held in Wuhan. Centered on the theme "Educational Development and Transformation: The Era of Intelligence" the conference aimed to respond to the United Nations' initiatives on global educational transformation and to promote the advancement and reform of education in the intelligent era. Yu Jihong, President of Beijing Normal University (BNU), and Vice President Chen Xing attended the conference.

At the closing ceremony, Yu Jihong spoke on the World Digital Education Alliance, and released two key documents: Proposal for the Establishment of an International Digital Education Standards Framework and Large Model for Education-Overall Reference Framework.

During the conference, the alliance also held its first general assembly and council meeting. BNU was elected as the inaugural chair institution and also served as a co-secretariat institution. At the general assembly, Yu Jihong delivered a concluding speech, calling on alliance members to strengthen cooperation and jointly promote the global digital transformation and intelligent upgrading of education. Chen Xing chaired the general assembly, introduced the members of the council, and presided over the review and adoption of the Charter of the World Digital Education Alliance.

As the chair institution and co-secretariat institution of the World Digital Education Alliance, BNU has actively advanced the development of the alliance and actively participated in the World Digital Education Conference. To date, 115 international organizations, universities, research institutes, and enterprises from 43 countries and regions around the world have joined the World Digital Education Alliance.

The Proposal for the Establishment of an International Digital Education Standards Framework released at the conference holds significant importance. Initiated by the Secretariat of the World Digital Education Alliance, the proposal calls on all member institutions to strengthen collaboration in jointly developing a digital education standards framework, guide the standardized application of digital technologies across member institutions, promote the sharing and innovation of educational resources, and contribute to the advancement of global educational equity and development.

The Large Model for Education-Overall Reference Framework, as the first standard released by the World Digital Education Alliance, provides systematic guidance for the design, development, deployment, and application of large education models across a wide range of educational scenarios.

High-Level Forum on Water Science Development and 20th Anniversary Celebration of BNU's College of Water Sciences Held

Article source: Institute of Water Sciences | *Release Date: 2025-05-14*

On May 10, the High-Level Forum on Water Science Development and the 20th Anniversary Celebration of the College of Water Sciences at Beijing Normal University (BNU) was successfully held under the theme "Two Decades of Pursuing the Virtue of Water, Ushering in a New Chapter of Intelligent Water Science for the Future". BNU President Yu Jihong, founding scholars of the Institute Liu Changming and Lin Xueyu, attended the event and delivered speeches. Over 200 participants—including experts and leaders from renowned universities and research institutions across China, faculty and student representatives from various BNU departments, and alumni—gathered for the occasion. The event was chaired by Fu Yongshuo, Party Secretary of the College of Water Sciences.

In her remarks, President Yu Jihong highlighted that over the past two decades, the Institute has advanced in lockstep with the nation's development. It made significant contributions to the South-to-North Water Diversion Project by providing robust scientific support for the optimal allocation of water resources. It tackled key technical challenges in aquatic ecological restoration in support of the Yangtze River Protection national strategy. In response to China's dual carbon goals, the Institute has taken the lead in exploring innovative pathways for water-energy synergies, offering BNU's wisdom to national water security efforts. Looking to the future, she called on the Institute to use "water" as the medium and "intelligence" as the driving force to pioneer a new phase in the development of water sciences.

The forum was hosted by Fu Yongshuo, Party Secretary of the College of Water Sciences

Liu Changming emphasized that water science research should be integrated with ecological and environmental considerations, focusing on the secure and sustainable utilization of water resources; it should also align with climate change concerns, advancing eco-hydrological studies under the context of global climate change.

Lin Xueyu stressed that the discipline of groundwater science should actively respond to the national strategic demands for water supply security and ecological security, further expand research areas, strive for breakthroughs in key technologies, and produce more innovative outcomes with global influence.

Cheng Hongguang, Dean of the College of Water Sciences, provided a systematic review of the institute's journey rooted in frontline teaching, deep engagement in scientific research, and commitment to serving national strategies. Over the past 20 years, the institute has built an integrated talent cultivation system, contributing a large number of outstanding professionals to the country; it has addressed multiple key technological challenges in scientific research and produced a series of original achievements with international impact; in terms of social service, it has precisely aligned with major national strategic needs, providing strong support for water resource management and water environment protection; and in international cooperation, it has established multi-level collaboration platforms, enhancing China's international discourse power in the field of water science. The report not only showcased the institute's development trajectory but also laid out a grand blueprint for its future.

Subsequently, the Strategic Seminar on Water Science Development was chaired by Professor Hao Fanghua of the College of Water Sciences. During the seminar, participating experts engaged in multidimensional and in-depth exchanges of ideas and experiences, reaching multiple consensuses on strategic directions for the development of water science. In her concluding remarks, Hao Fanghua pointed out that the seminar provided important reference for formulating water science development strategies in the new era and offered clear guidance for building an innovation system in water science. Experts in attendance unanimously expressed their commitment to strengthening collaboration and jointly advancing the high-quality development of China's water science undertakings.

Looking to the future, the College of Water Sciences will reconstruct the understanding of water systems through "data and intelligence empowerment" and tackle water security challenges through "disciplinary integration". With two decades of accumulation, the institute embarks on a new journey and will continue to safeguard the water lifelines of China, contributing to the creation of a beautiful homeland where humanity and nature coexist in harmony.

The Belt and Road School of Beijing Normal University Held a Seminar on the Digital "Belt and Road"

Article source: Belt and Road School | *Release date: 2025-04-07*

On March 31, the Belt and Road School of Beijing Normal University (BNU) held a seminar on the Digital "Belt and Road". Experts, scholars, and entrepreneurs from the National Development and Reform Commission, the Ministry of Education, Commerce and Foreign Affairs, the China Center for International Economic Exchanges and other sectors of society attended the meeting.Wang Shoujun, a member of the Standing Committee of the Party Committee and Executive Vice President of BNU and the Dean of the Belt and Road School, attended the meeting and delivered a speech.

Wang Shoujun pointed out that digital cooperation has become an important part of the high-quality joint construction of the "Belt and Road" in emerging fields and is now facing new historical opportunities. BNU has achieved a series of research results in the fields of digital "Belt and Road" and actively explored new ideas for digital technology and artificial intelligence enabling education.

During the report session, Tang Xingbo, the chairman of Beijing Ideapool Technology Co., Ltd., shared the company's practical experience in empowering the construction of the Digital Silk Road with domestic 3D engine technology, covering the development of the digital content industry, challenges and opportunities of digital technology, etc. Cui Yanxin, a researcher at the Chinese Academy of International Trade and Economic Cooperation of the Ministry of Commerce, analyzed the new directions for high-quality joint construction of the Digital Silk Road based on the achievements, problems and challenges, and put forward thoughts and suggestions for accelerating the “soft connectivity” of the Digital Silk Road.

During the exchange and discussion session, experts and scholars focused on the core issues of the digital "Belt and Road" construction. They actively and deeply explored topics such as the digital development of international education, the international landscape of digital economy development, the "hard connectivity" and "soft connectivity" of digital "Belt and Road" cooperation, and the planning and implementation of the digital Silk Road construction.

This seminar was hosted by Liu Qian, the vice dean of the Belt and Road School. She introduced the discussions on the digital Belt and Road in the "High-Quality Joint Construction of the Belt and Road" series published by the Belt and Road School in 2023. This meeting achieved a deep integration of industry, academia, and research. In the future, the Belt and Road School will continue to build platforms, gather wisdom, and contribute to the high-quality development of the joint construction of the Belt and Road.

Mo Yan's Dramatic Literature International Symposium Was Held at Beijing Normal University

Article source: School of Chinese Language and Literature | *Release date: 2025-04-07*

On March 29, “Creating Between Tradition and Modernity: Mo Yan’s Dramatic Literature International Symposium” was held at Beijing Normal University (BNU). Dramatic literature constitutes a vital branch of Mo Yan's creative work. Among his significant works are "Women De Jing Ke", "Farewell My Concubine", "The Aroma of Wine", "The Spirit of Rooster", and "The Crocodile". Some of the works were performed by Beijing People's Art Theater and Yanghua Theatre, which caused huge social repercussions.

The symposium was co-hosted by the School of Chinese Language and Literature at BNU, the BNU International Writing Center, the Chinese Association of Contemporary Literature, the International Department of the China Writers Association, and Zhejiang Literature and Art Publishing House. Experts from academic, publishing and theater circles, more than 70 scholars from China, the United States, the United Kingdom, Romania, Turkey, Mexico, Serbia and other countries, as well as undergraduates from Williams University in the United States, Peking University Yenching Academy and Nanjing University-Johns Hopkins University Center for Sino-American Cultural Studies, gathered at BNU for in-depth discussions and exchange on the dramatic literature of Mo Yan.

Kang Zhen, vice president of BNU, pointed out that Mo Yan's creation always resonates with the revival of Chinese culture in the new era. He fully affirmed the literature education of the International Writing Center

of BNU, and spoke highly of the gratifying achievements made by writers such as Mo Yan, Yu Hua, Su Tong, Ouyang Jianghe and Xi Chuan in literary creation in recent years.

Qiu Huadong, vice chairman of the Chinese Writers Association, praised Mo Yan's exploration of integrating opera and drama, and cited the views of Greek dramatists, stressing that drama should face the epochal issues. He hoped that Chinese and foreign scholars can explore the artistic value of his plays and the enlightenment to the revival of literature and drama.

Mo Yan, professor of BNU and director of the International Writing Center, introduced his creative experience. He put forward the view that when discussing novels, the dramatic nature of novels should not be ignored either, and when discussing dramas, the literary quality of dramas must also be taken into account.

Wang Lijun, dean of the School of Chinese Language and Literature at BNU, Su Tong, a famous writer and

Wang Lijun, dean of School of Chinese Language and Literature at BNU

Su Tong, a famous writer and professor at BNU

professor at BNU, Liana, Professor at the Center for Asian and African Studies at the National Academy of Mexico, and Wang Shidong from Regent's College at University of Oxford, and other experts and scholars shared their views and insights on Mo Yan's works.

The symposium featured three themed sessions of keynote presentations. The participants analyzed Mo Yan's works and expressed their own opinions.

In summarizing the first session, Bai Ye, research fellow at the Institute of Literature, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences and honorary president of the Chinese Association for Contemporary Literature, emphasized that one of the significant roles of this symposium was to establish Mo Yan's identity as a "dramatist". The session explored the interplay between his novels and plays. Mo Yan's works are powerful enough to reshape the aesthetic landscape of contemporary theater.

In summarizing the second session, Professor He Shaojun, distinguished professor at Shenyang Normal University, praised the richness and diversity of perspectives shared by the speakers. He shared his own views on Mo Yan's drama creation, pointing out its similarities with Shakespeare, Beckett and other plays.

In summarizing the third session, Chen Fumin, research fellow at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, highlighted

The keynote session

three central themes: the relationship between traditional literature and dramatic literature, the distinctive artistic features of Mo Yan's plays, and the motivations behind his dramatic writing.

Professor Zhang Ning from the School of Chinese Language and Literature at BNU delivered the concluding remarks for the symposium.He made a summary from five aspects, such as the positioning of Mo Yan's drama, his dramatic language, stylistic innovation, artistic exploration and the contemporary value.

The "Mo Yan's Dramatic Literature International Symposium" was part of the 2025 BNU Drama Culture Week's series of activities jointly organized by the School of Chinese Language and Literature and the International Writing Center, which began on March 28.

At the event

The First International Teacher Training Program of the Institute of Global Teacher Development Was Held at Beijing Normal University

Article source: Provost' s Office and Academic Affairs (Graduate School) | *Release date: 2025-04-01*

On the morning of March 27, the first International Teacher Training Program of the Institute of Global Teacher Development was held at Beijing Normal University (BNU). The event brought together more than 200 participants, including officials from government and UNESCO, university leaders of BNU, and teacher and student representatives from over 50 countries around the world.

Du Jiangfeng, Vice Minister of Education; Yu Jihong, President

of BNU; Yu Weiyue, Director of the Department of Teacher Work of the Ministry of Education, emphasized at the event that the establishment of the Institute of Global Teacher Development and the launch of its first international teacher training program mark a new starting point for deep dialogue between China's educational expertise and global educational development. It is of great significance for opening up new tracks in educational internationalization. Moving forward, efforts will focus on integrating the strengths of the initial 21 branch centers of the Institute, conducting in-depth research on the characteristics of teacher education across different regions and countries, identifying key areas for international exchange and cooperation, and strengthening global partnerships.

Duisenbay Kulpynay from Kazakhstan, Beijing Language and Culture University and Qiji from Nigeria, Southwest University spoke as representatives of the international trainees.

Kulpynay shared her personal experience participating as a translator in China-Kazakhstan educational cooperation projects. She expressed that the training program provides a valuable platform for enhancing

teachers' professional competencies and advancing teacher education as a discipline. She also extended her best wishes to the Institute of Global Teacher Development, hoping it would become a talent hub for fostering exchange and growth among teachers from China and Kazakhstan.

Qiji shared his 12-year journey of studying and teaching in China, as well as his vision for promoting China-Africa educational cooperation and cultural exchange. He firmly believed that "education knows no borders and neither do teachers". He aspired to serve as a bridge and link between China and Africa in the field of education and cultural communication.

Li Na, a representative of BNU overseas teaching faculty, shared her 17-year journey in international Chinese language education. She emphasized that Chinese language teachers are ambassadors of Chinese culture and called for joint efforts to contribute the strength of Chinese education to the building of a shared future for mankind.

Zhang Minxuan, Director of the UNESCO International Research and Training Centre for Rural Education, delivered the keynote speech. Drawing on key documents from international organizations and the Global Teacher Report, he highlighted critical issues such as the global shortage of qualified teachers and the need for professional transformation in the teaching workforce. He also outlined new global expectations for the teachers of the future.

Wang Ming, Vice President of BNU, said in his closing remarks that the first International Teacher Training Program is the starting point of a new journey for the Institute of Global Teacher Development, which can contribute Chinese wisdom to cultivate more

"future teachers" who are well-versed in both Chinese and foreign cultures.

Leaders from 21 partner institutions, along with over 100 international trainee teachers and students majoring in teacher education, participated in the training program. Looking ahead, the Institute of Global Teacher Development will continue to serve as a platform for promoting collaborative progress in global teacher education.

Researcher Liu Hongna from the School of Physics and Astronomy Has Been Awarded the IUPAP Early Career Scientist Prize in Nuclear Physics

Article source: School of Physics and Astronomy | *Release date: 2025-06-09*

The 29th International Nuclear Physics Conference (INPC2025) was held in Daejeon, Korea, from May 25 to 30. During the conference, the Nuclear Physics Commission (C12) of the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics (IUPAP) officially announced the list of new awardees for the IUPAP Early Career Scientist Prize in Nuclear Physics and held the award ceremony.

Liu Hongna, the researcher from the School of Physics and Astronomy at Beijing Normal University, was awarded for her innovative studies of exotic nuclei using in-beam gamma spectroscopy with fast radioactive isotope beams, including the development of a novel target and recoil-particle detection system. And she was invited to give a report at the conference.

IUPAP was founded in Brussels, Belgium, in 1922. It is the largest academic organization in the international physics community and the only global organization covering all fields of physics, with national and regional physics academic groups as its members (the Chinese Physical Society joined in 1984). The Early Career Scientist Prize, established in 2005, is awarded through a selection process that lasts six months to a year and is one of the most authoritative and influential awards for young scientists in the international physics community. Until 2025, a total of 21 individuals have received this award in the field of nuclear physics worldwide. Liu Hongna is the second nuclear physicist working in China to receive this honor.

The Team from Beijing Normal University Achieved Excellent Results in the Global Final of the 2025 ASC Student Supercomputer Challenge

Article source: School of Artificial Intelligence | *Release date: 2025-05-22*

On May 14, the final of the 2025 ASC Student Supercomputer Challenge (ASC25) came to an end at Qinghai University. The team from Beijing Normal University, consisting of five undergraduate students, under the guidance of Gao Jianhua, a teacher from the School of Artificial Intelligence, won the First Prize and Group Competition Award in the final of ASC25. The other two teams under Gao Jianhua's guidance also performed outstandingly and won two second prizes.

The ASC Student Supercomputer Challenge, organized by China and supported by relevant experts and institutions in Asia, Europe and the United States, aims to promote the exchange and cultivation of young talents among countries and regions through the competition platform, to enhance the application level and research capabilities of supercomputers, and promote technological and industrial innovation by leveraging the technological driving force of supercomputers. The challenge has been held twelve times, and it is the largest supercomputer competition for college students in the world.

Appendix: List of participants from the Beijing Normal University team

First Prize and Group Competition Award: Liu Shang, Guo Jianfeng, Fu Junlin, Zhang Yifa, Liang Junhao.

Second Prize: Li Zhaochen, Lu Shuhan, Jia Renwu, Cao Maike, Yu Jiarong, Bian Yue, Zhang Hui, Ma Yujia, Tian Sicheng, Wang Sichao.

BNU International Student Wins First Prize in MOE's 8th "My Beautiful Encounter with China" Essay & Short Video Contest

Article source: School of Chinese Language and Culture | *Release date:2025-04-20*

On April 11, the 2025 China Study Abroad Forum (CSAF)—themed "Studying in China and the World"—was held at the China National Convention Center in Beijing. The event was hosted by the Chinese Service Center for Scholarly Exchange (CSCSE) under the Ministry of Education. During the forum, award certificates were presented to the winning student representatives of the 8th "My Beautiful Encounter with China" Essay and Short Video Contest, and the 2024 Outstanding Works Collection of International Students in China was officially released. Nguyen Huyen Anh, a Vietnamese student from the School of International Chinese Education at Beijing Normal University, won first prize for her essay titled "A Love Letter". Her work was selected for publication in the Outstanding Works Collection of the 2024 International Student Essay Contest, published by People's Daily Press. Sun Hongjuan, a faculty member of the School of International Chinese Education, received the Excellent Instructor Award, and Beijing Normal University was recognized with the Outstanding Organization Award.

Nguyen Huyen Anh (fourth from right), international student at the School of International Chinese Education, wins first prize in the essay contest

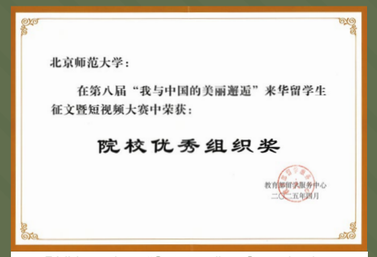
In her piece, Nguyen Huyen Anh portrays herself as a devoted lover of Chinese culture, expressing her deep affection through a letter interwoven with the elegance of classical poetry. Chinese culture, she writes, has bestowed upon her "the most beautiful love"—guiding her across majestic landscapes and revealing the countless wonders of her journey. It is through this cultural romance that she has drawn strength from "an unyielding will to reach the azure clouds" and embraced the wisdom to "dissolve all sorrows in a single moment of grace", finding inspiration to pursue her dreams and become the best version of herself.


NGUYEN HUYEN ANH:

在第八届"我与中国的美丽邂逅"来华留学生征文大赛中，您的作品荣获一等奖。特颁此证，以兹鼓励。

This is to certify that "NGUYEN HUYEN ANH" has been awarded the First Prize in the 8th "My Beautiful Encounter with China" Essay Contest for international students in China and alumni of Chinese universities.

教育部留学服务中心
Chinese Service Center for Scholarly Exchange,
Ministry of Education,People's Republic of China
二〇二五年四月
Nguyen Huyen Anh awarded first prize in the essay contest


北京师范大学：

在第八届"我与中国的美丽邂逅"来华留学生征文暨短视频大赛中荣获：

院校优秀组织奖

教育部留学服务中心
二〇二五年四月
BNU receives "Outstanding Organization Award" for participating institutions

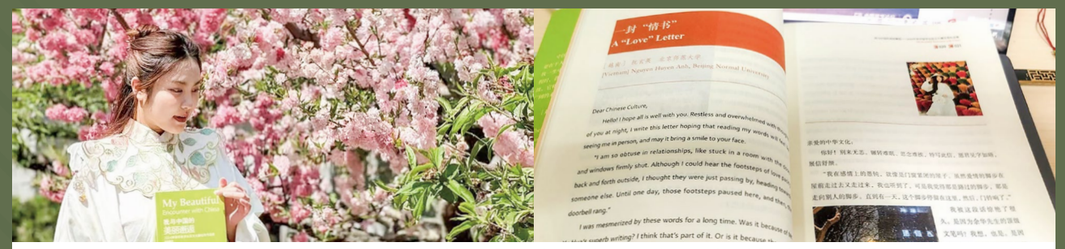
In an interview with China Central Television (CCTV), Nguyen Huyen Anh shared: "Why do I love classical Chinese poetry? Because through it, I discovered love, learned resilience, found direction, and saw hope. Most importantly, I came to understand China—its spirit of harmony with all things and the wisdom of mutual learning between civilizations."


Nguyen Huyen Anh interviewed by CCTV

Nguyen Huyen Anh is currently a third-year undergraduate student at BNU's School of International Chinese Education. She expressed heartfelt gratitude: "This honor belongs not only to me, but also to the college and teachers who have supported and guided me along the way. I sincerely thank the School of International Chinese Education at Beijing Normal University for nurturing me and enabling me to walk steadily along the path of Chinese language learning. I am especially grateful to my advisor, Professor Sun Hongjuan, whose profound knowledge and patient instruction have illuminated my journey."

This year's contest received over 1,100 submissions—including essays and short videos—from more than 100 domestic universities, Chinese embassies and consulates abroad, and individual participants. Eight first prizes, thirteen second prizes, twenty-six third prizes, twenty special recognition awards, and seventy-six excellence awards were ultimately presented.

Since its launch in 2017, the "My Beautiful Encounter with China" series has received strong support and participation from universities across the country. It has enriched international students' campus life in China and provided a platform for outstanding students to shine—advancing the global telling of China's story. At this year's forum, the 2025 program plan for the series was announced, and awards were presented to the winners of the 8th Essay and Short Video Contest.



Her essay is featured in the Outstanding Works Collection of the 2024 International Student Essay Contest: My Beautiful Encounter with China

BNU Original Documentary "Wind Blows Northwest" Wins Top Honor at 15th Beijing International Film Festival's ASUS e-Create Public Welfare Film Section

Article source: United Front Work Department of the CPC BNU Committee | *Release Date: 2025-04-22*

Recently, the original documentary short *Wind Blows Northwest*, produced under the leadership of the United Front Work Department of Beijing Normal University and jointly created by the School of Arts & Communication and the Faculty of Geographical Science, was awarded the First-Class Honor—the highest recognition in the ASUS e-Create Public Welfare Film Section of the 15th Beijing International Film Festival. This year's public welfare film section received over 600 submissions, including microfilms, documentaries, and experimental shorts. A total of 30 works were shortlisted, with only two films receiving the prestigious First-Class Honor.

Award trophy for *Wind Blows Northwest*

The short documentary *Wind Blows Northwest*, told from the perspective of BNU students, portrays the decades-long dedication of faculty members from the Faculty of Geographical Science as they conduct field research on the Qinghai–Tibet Plateau. It highlights their collaborative efforts with local ethnic communities to protect and build a shared homeland. Through these true stories of safeguarding China's lucid waters and lush mountains, the film allows the younger generation to feel the emotional bonds of unity, solidarity, and shared destiny among all ethnic groups. The documentary vividly depicts the symbiotic relationship between humans and nature in the "Water Tower of Asia" through authentic and detailed storytelling. It conveys

Poster of the documentary short Wind Blows Northwest

the profound spiritual connotation of the Chinese national community and showcases the commitment of BNU's faculty and students to amplifying China's voice, telling compelling stories of ethnic unity, and fulfilling their responsibilities in the spirit of the times. The film has been released through BNU's official accounts on major new media platforms including Bilibili, Douyin, and Kuaishou.

Beijing Normal University has earnestly implemented General Secretary Xi Jinping's important directives on advancing the work of the United Front in the new era, placing great emphasis on the promotion and education of the sense of community for the Chinese nation. The University's United Front Work Department has remained grounded in practical needs, leveraged the broader united front framework, and promoted cross-departmental collaboration to advance this education through innovative approaches and solid implementation. Since 2022, the United Front Work Department—working jointly with the Student Affairs Office, the Youth League Committee, and the Office for Hong Kong, Macao, and Taiwan Affairs—has consistently organized in-depth experiential programs for young students from the mainland, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Macao. These activities, conducted in regions such as Xinjiang, Inner Mongolia, and Qinghai, have included field studies, teaching support, and public outreach. They have served as tangible, impactful, and emotionally resonant means of fostering a deep sense of national identity and civic responsibility among BNU students and faculty. The award-winning documentary short *Wind Blows Northwest* stands as a visual representation and successful outcome of these ongoing explorations.

"Watching the footage brought back memories of the two decades I've spent with my students conducting field research along Qinghai Lake. When the camera lens captures the solidarity among ethnic groups, cold scientific instruments are warmed with emotion, and abstract ecological protection becomes a story. This film offers the best interpretation of BNU's motto—'Learn to teach; act to serve'—and reflects the unwavering research commitment of generations of geographers at BNU to 'write their papers on the land of the motherland.'"

— Li Xiaoyan, Dean, Faculty of Geographical Science

"While filming at the summer pastures, language differences didn't hinder us from feeling the warmth of the Tibetan people. They welcomed Xuanru and our crew like family on our first visit. The unspoken understanding between Professor Hu and the herders made me truly feel the atmosphere of 'one family.' This genuine emotional exchange made the concept of national unity more than just a slogan—it became a natural expression woven into everyday life."

— Yu Ming, Faculty Advisor for Wind Blows Northwest, Associate Professor, Department of Film and Media Studies, School of Arts & Communication

"I never imagined that the story of my research journey and my bond with my Tibetan a-ge (elder brother) and a-jie (elder sister)—Gonpo Caibuteng and Dali Zhuoma—would be captured in a film. From the very beginning of my work in the Qinghai Lake basin, they have shown me family-like trust and care, making my love for the Qinghai–Tibet Plateau feel like love for a distant home. I believe that the friendship between us—crossing regions, languages, and generations—will flow on like the rivers of Sanjiangyuan forever."

— Hu Guangrong, Protagonist of Wind Blows Northwest, Engineer, Faculty of Geographical Science

"This short film responds to the questions of our time through artistic creation. It embeds the profound meaning of forging a strong sense of community for the Chinese nation into its visual narrative, transforming the emotional bonds between researchers and herders into vivid expressions of 'community.' The value of art lies not only in presenting beauty, but in conveying the power of ideas—when the camera turns to real life on the plateau, the theme of national unity naturally flows through."

— Wang Zhuokai, Party Secretary, School of Arts & Communication

"Before the shoot, the phrase 'forging a strong sense of community for the Chinese nation' was an abstract idea to me. But when I saw Professor Hu embrace the herders upon reuniting, and watched Xuanru chatting with a young Tibetan boy about the future, I suddenly understood: the 'community' lives in these warm, tangible connections. The camera didn't just record others' stories—it reshaped my understanding of my mission as a young filmmaker: to use images to bring people together and make stories of unity visible."

— Yang Liu, Director of Wind Blows Northwest, Master's Student (Class of 2024), School of Arts & Communication

"When I first started my master's degree, I often wondered what impact those distant geographic instruments could have on the real world. I was both hopeful and unsure. But when I finally set foot on the Qinghai Lake basin, and felt the scent of alpine pastures in the wind brushing across my face, when I saw the instruments guarded by herders, felt their hospitality and our shared sorrow at parting, I began to understand the deeper meaning and responsibility behind the instruments of geography. On this remote land of the Third Pole, I gained not only valuable scientific data—but a family far away from home."

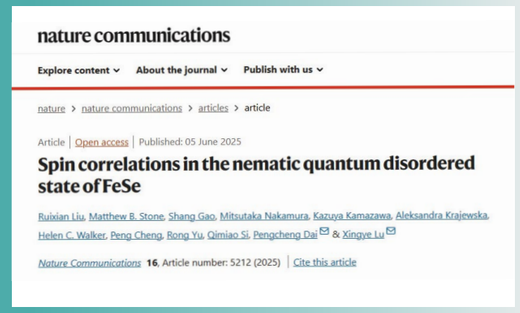
— Zhou Xuanru, Protagonist of Wind Blows Northwest, Master's Student (Class of 2023), Faculty of Geographical Science

Watch Wind Blows Northwest:
https://www.bilibili.com/video/BV1RQQ3YtEaM/?spm_id_from=333.1387.upload.video_card.click

Professor Lu Xingye' s Team from the School of Physics and Astronomy and Collaborators Publish Their Research Findings in Nature Communications

Article source: School of Physics and Astronomy | *Release date: 2025-06-12*

Recently, Professor Lu Xingye' s Team from the School of Physics and Astronomy at Beijing Normal University, in collaboration with their partners, use inelastic neutron scattering (INS) to obtain clear intrinsic spin-excitation spectrum of FeSe across the entire Brillouin zone (BZ), enabled by a newly designed low-background uniaxial-strain detwinning device and careful background determination from an empty device. This research titled "Spin correlations in the nematic quantum disordered state of FeSe" has been published in Nature Communications.


nature communications

Explore content ~ About the journal ~ Publish with us ~

nature > nature communications > articles > article

Article | Open access | Published: 05 June 2025

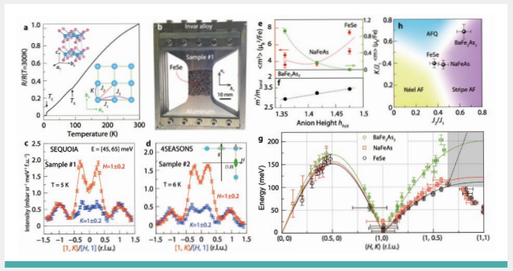
Spin correlations in the nematic quantum disordered state of FeSe

Ruixian Liu, Matthew B. Stone, Shang Gao, Mitsutaka Nakamura, Kazuya Kamazawa, Aleksandra Krajewska, Helen C. Walker, Peng Cheng, Rong Yu, Qimiao Si, Pengcheng Dai & Xingye Lu

Nature Communications **16**, Article number: 5212 (2025) | Cite this article

The abstract of the paper is as follows:

The quantum-disordered state in FeSe, intertwined with superconductivity and nematicity, has been a research focus in iron-based superconductors. However, the intrinsic spin excitations across the entire Brillouin zone in detwinned FeSe, crucial for understanding its magnetism and superconductivity, have remained unresolved. Using inelastic neutron scattering, we reveal that stripe spin excitations ($Q = (1, 0)/(0, 1)$) exhibit the C2 symmetry, while Néel spin excitations ($Q = (1, 1)$) retain C4 symmetry within the nematic state. Temperature-dependent differences between $Q = (1, 0)$ and $(0, 1)$ spin excitations above the structural transition unambiguously reveals the nematic quantum disordered state. Comparison with NaFeAs suggests the Néel excitations originate from enhanced 3dxy orbital correlations. Modeling the stripe dispersions using a J1-K-J2 Heisenberg Hamiltonian, we establish a spin-interaction phase diagram, positioning FeSe near a crossover regime between the antiferroquadrupolar, Néel, and stripe orders. Our results provide key insights into the microscopic spin interactions and their role in the intertwined orders in iron-based superconductors.



Reference:https://www.nature.com/articles/s41467-025-60071-2

The Research Team Led by Professors Mao Lanqun and Jiang Yanan from the College of Chemistry Makes a New Progress in Optically Modulated Nanofluidic Ionic Transistor for Neuromorphic Functions

Article source: College of Chemistry | *Release date: 2025-06-12*

The human brain, as an optimal intelligent perception system, can transmit diverse external information to different brain regions for processing through visual, auditory, olfactory, and somatosensory interactions. Drawing inspiration from the neural network of the human brain, artificial synaptic and neuromorphic devices (e.g., memristor and transistor) have been developed, garnering growing interest across interdisciplinary fields for their promising applications in neuromorphic computing, artificial intelligence, brain-machine interfaces, and neuroprosthetics. However, the majority of these devices based on solid-state components predominantly utilize electrons or holes as information carriers, which are different from the brain's intelligent synapses within complex neuronal networks that employ various ions and molecules as signal carriers in an aqueous environment to regulate neuronal activities. Therefore, the fluidic neuromorphic devices utilizing ions as signal carriers have been highly desirable for their potential to achieve brain-like functions.

The Research Team Led by Professors Mao Lanqun and Jiang Yanan from the College of Chemistry reported a Optically Modulated Nanofluidic Ionic Transistor. The related research findings were recently published in Angewandte Chemie International Edition (Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2025, 64, e202418949).

The abstract of the paper is as follows:

Neuromorphic systems that can emulate the behavior of neurons have garnered increasing interest across interdisciplinary fields due to their potential applications in neuromorphic computing, artificial intelligence and brain-machine interfaces. However, the optical modulation of nanofluidic ion transport for neuromorphic functions has been scarcely reported. Herein, inspired by biological systems that rely on ions as signal carriers for information perception and processing, we present a nanofluidic transistor based on a metal–organic framework membrane (MOFM) with optically modulated ion transport properties, which can mimic the functions of biological synapses. Through the dynamic modulation of synaptic weight, we successfully replicate intricate learning-experience behaviors and Pavlovian associate learning processes by employing sequential optical stimuli. Additionally, we demonstrate the application of the International Morse Code with the nanofluidic device using patterned optical pulse signals, showing its encoding and decoding capabilities in information processing. This study would largely advance the development of nanofluidic neuromorphic devices for biomimetic iontronics integrated with sensing, memory and computing functions.


Angewandte International Edition Chemie

GDCh A Journal of the German Chemical Society

Research Article

Optically Modulated Nanofluidic Ionic Transistor for Neuromorphic Functions

Jiao Wang, Dr. Yanan Jiang, Dr. Tianyi Xiong, Dr. Jiahao Lu, Prof. Xiulan He, Prof. Ping Yu, Prof. Lanqun Mao

Reference:https://doi.org/10.1002/anie.202418949

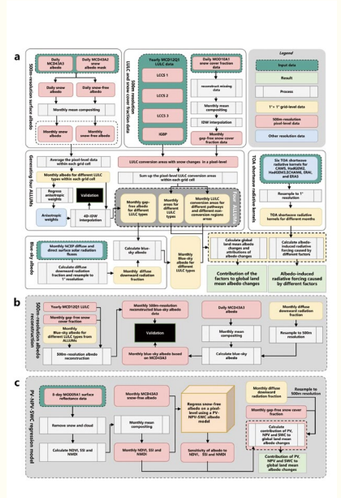
Professor Zhang Liqiang's Team from the Faculty of Geographical Science and Collaborators Published Their Study in Nature

Article source: Faculty of Geographical Science | Release date: 2025-06-04

Understanding the magnitude and causes of the global land surface albedo change is essential to benchmark the pace of climate change. On May 28, 2025, professor Zhang Liqiang's team from the Faculty of Geographical Science and collaborators published their study titled "Radiative forcing reduced by early 21st century increase in land albedo" in Nature. The study demonstrates the importance of global land surface mean albedo changes for climate forcing.

The abstract of the paper is as follows:

Surface albedo greatly affects how much energy the Earth absorbs. Intensive human activities and accelerated climate change have altered surface albedo across spatial and temporal scales, yet assessments of the effects of land use or land cover (LULC) and snow variations on land surface albedo are scarce at the global scale. As a result, the global land surface albedo dynamics over recent decades and their corresponding radiative forcing to the climate system remain poorly understood. Here we quantify the individual and combined effects of snow cover dynamics, LULC conversions and non-conversion regions on albedo variations during 2001–2020 and estimate their induced radiative forcing. We show that the negative radiative forcing induced by the global land surface albedo change was −0.142 (−0.158, −0.114)W m−2 over the past two decades. The global snow-free land surface albedo increased by 2.2% ($P < 0.001$), with a negative radiative forcing of −0.164 (−0.186, −0.138)W m−2 ($P<0.001$). The magnitude of this negative forcing is sevenfold larger than the positive forcing induced by snow dynamics, and equivalent to 59.9% of that caused by CO2 emissions from 2011 to 2019. The global radiative forcing due to albedo changes in LULC non-conversion regions is 3.9 to 8.1 times greater than that from LULC conversions. The radiative forcing induced by albedo changes highlights the important role of land surface dynamics in modulating global warming.



The framework of the methodology

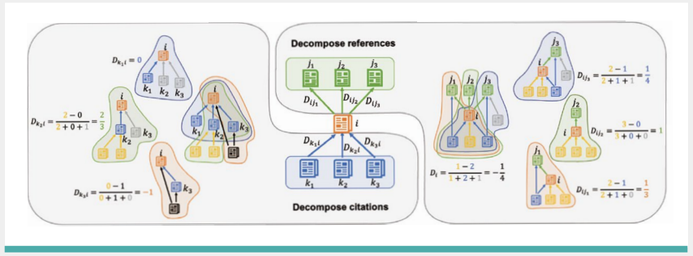
Full text link: https://www.nature.com/articles/s41586-025-08987-z

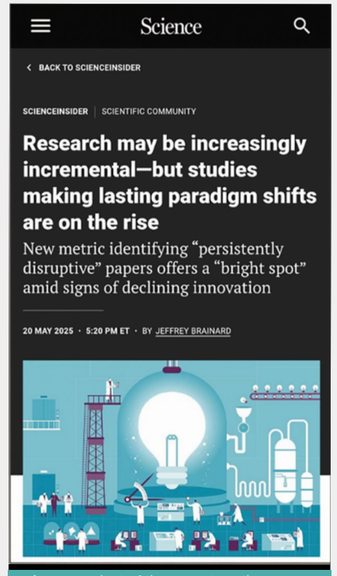
A Research Achievement of the School of Systems Science was reported by Science

Article source: School of Systems Science | Release date: 2025-05-26

The pursuit of creativity and originality in science is pivotal, as it fuels technological advancement and paves the way for a better understanding of our world. Consequently, assessing the creativity of scientific endeavors has become a crucial research target.

Recently, a research team from the School of Systems Science introduced the concept of persistent disruption. On May 20, the paper titled The critical role of persistent disruption in advancing science was published in Nature Computational Science. On the same day, the paper was reported by Science.





A screenshot of the report on the paper by Science (Click here to view)

The abstract of the paper is as follows:

Disruptive innovation is an important feature of scientific research. However, increasing evidence in recent years shows that highly disruptive papers are not necessarily milestone works in science and may even receive very few citations. To understand the mechanisms leading to such phenomena, we develop a link disruption metric that quantifies the disruptiveness of each citation link. This metric allows us to investigate disruption at both the reference and citation levels, enabling the development of a two-dimensional framework to evaluate the persistence of disruption caused by a given paper. Surprisingly, we find that papers with high reference disruption can have high citation disruption, meaning that a paper that disrupts previous papers may itself be further disrupted by its later citing papers. We find that persistently disruptive papers (disruptive papers that are not disrupted by citing papers) are more likely to be recognized as award-winning papers and receive high numbers of citations. Finally, we find that papers of larger teams and papers in recent years, though found to have weaker disruption, are more likely to have stronger persistent disruption once they disrupt previous papers.

Full text link: https://www.nature.com/articles/s43588-025-00808-7

UN Approves SEPRESS Initiative as Part of the "International Decade of Science for Sustainable Development" (2025–2032)

Article source: Faculty of Geographical Science | *Release date: 2025-05-21*

Recently, during the Multi-stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals (STI Forum) held at United Nations Headquarters in New York, the initiative "Seamless Prediction and Services for Sustainable Natural and Built Environments" (SEPRESS)—co-initiated by Beijing Normal University—was officially included in the first batch of recognized programs under the United Nations International Decade of Science for Sustainable Development (IDSSD), 2024–2033. The initiative was also showcased at the concurrent exhibition for selected projects.

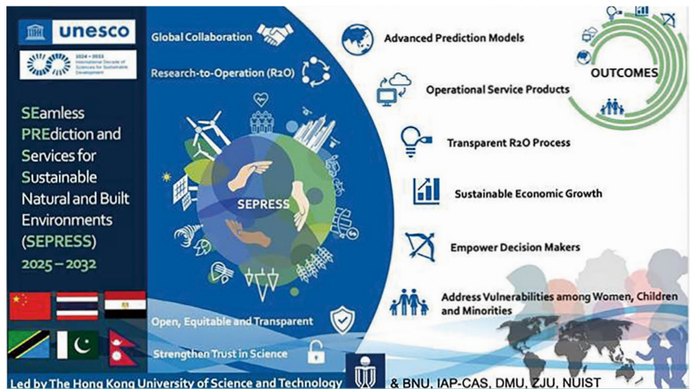
[Link to official list: https://www.un.org/zh/observances/international-decades]

Led by The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, SEPRESS is a collaborative effort involving Beijing Normal University, the Institute of Atmospheric Physics at the Chinese Academy of Sciences, Dalian Maritime University, Zhejiang University, and Nanjing University of Information Science and Technology, alongside institutions from Tanzania, Egypt, Pakistan, Nepal, and Thailand. The SEPRESS initiative aims to integrate cutting-edge and reliable weather-climate seamless prediction systems into practice, bridging the gap between scientific research and real-world applications to promote the sustainable development of both natural and built environments on a global scale. Over the coming eight years (2025–2032), SEPRESS will take a leading role in launching and coordinating key projects, while also supporting other initiatives aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The initiative is expected to play a pivotal role in strengthening global climate resilience, advancing sustainability, and shaping international discourse in the field of scientific collaboration. SEPRESS aspires to become a key advocate and leader in the global "Research-to-Operations" (R2O) transformation mechanism. By aligning closely with the SDGs, SEPRESS focuses on seven critical areas: water resource management, food security, clean energy, climate action, human health, economic development, and disaster risk reduction. It will provide robust scientific support for global sustainable development, enhancing China's leadership in addressing climate change, natural disasters, and other global challenges through innovation and international cooperation.

Professors Yang Jing, Yin Shuiqing, and Ye Tao from the Faculty of Geographical Science at Beijing Normal University have served as core initiators and contributors to the SEPRESS initiative. Their leadership and participation in numerous nationally funded international cooperation and exchange projects have provided strong support and a solid foundation for the successful approval of the SEPRESS program. Key projects include: A joint research project under the Alliance of International Science Organizations (ANSO) focused on medium- to long-range weather–climate prediction networks for disaster risk reduction along the Belt and Road; An NSFC International Cooperation and Exchange Project on seasonal prediction of agricultural drought risks based on statistical (machine learning)–dynamical climate prediction models; A Sustainable Development International Cooperation (SDIC) capacity-building project supported by NSFC, aimed at analyzing the causes of extreme heatwaves and developing intelligent seasonal prediction models for the central and western Himalayan foothills; A Key International Collaborative Project jointly funded by NSFC and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, focusing on the design of weather index insurance products for coffee farming, preference analysis, and policy impact assessment: a comparative study between China and Ethiopia; A Key Project under the "Intergovernmental International S&T Innovation Cooperation" program of the Ministry of Science and Technology, addressing extreme sub-daily rainfall and soil erosion assessment under changing climate conditions. These projects have not only contributed to international scientific collaboration but also laid critical groundwork for the formulation and recognition of the SEPRESS program under the United Nations framework.

Background Overview:

In August 2023, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the resolution proclaiming the International Decade of Science for Sustainable Development (2024–2033), abbreviated as "Science Decade" (IDSSD). The initiative aims to foster global collaboration through science in order to advance sustainable development worldwide. To implement the initiative, the UN General Assembly designated the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) as the lead coordinating agency. As part of the effort to operationalize the Science Decade, UNESCO launched a global call for project proposals in October 2024. Following a rigorous expert review process and multiple rounds of evaluation, 25 scientifically robust and practically impactful programs from around the world were selected for the first official list of endorsed initiatives. Among them, the Seamless Prediction and Services for Sustainable Natural and Built Environments (SEPRESS) initiative—proposed and jointly developed by Chinese research institutions—was successfully included. This recognition marks a significant milestone, demonstrating China's strong scientific capabilities and international collaboration in the field of weather–climate prediction for sustainable development.



Pictured: Poster presentation of the SEPRESS initiative at the 10th United Nations Multi-Stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for the SDGs (STI Forum), held on May 7 at UN Headquarters in New York.

BNU Actively Promotes Lifelong Learning Through Elderly Education Programs

Article source: Office for Retired Faculty and Staff | *Release date: 2025-03-28*

In response to the *Education Development Plan for Building a Leading Country in Education (2024–2035)*—which calls for enhanced lifelong learning public services—and in alignment with the 14th Party Congress of Beijing Normal University (BNU) and its commitment to caring for retired faculty and staff, the university has actively launched a variety of elderly education and training programs to meet the learning and engagement needs of its retired community.

The programs are offered in both online and offline formats. For the online segment, retired faculty and staff were introduced to six courses delivered by renowned instructors on official platforms such as the National University for Seniors. These include *Recitation, Appreciation of Mao Zedong's Poetry, Interpretation of Traditional Chinese Tea Culture, Introduction to the Harmonica, Makeup and Styling for Middle-Aged and Elderly*, and Fabric Crafting. Detailed login instructions were provided, allowing participants to freely arrange their study time and complete the courses at their own pace.

For the offline segment, the university organized both single-session and multi-session courses, reaching more than 150 retired faculty members. The multi-session courses—*Painting, Calligraphy, Fitness and Exercise, and Comprehensive Use of Smartphones*—were held weekly throughout the spring semester. Four graduate students from the School of Arts & Communication, the School of Physical Education and Sports, and the School of Journalism and Communication served as instructors, offering courses that balanced cultural and physical topics and catered to the personal interests of retired staff, providing a valuable platform for skill-building and staying attuned to contemporary trends.

The single-session courses—*Floral Arrangement, Flower Cultivation, Traditional Knot Button Making* (an item of intangible cultural heritage), and Coffee Brewing and Tasting—were delivered by professional instructors. Through hands-on learning, participants not only acquired relevant knowledge and techniques but also completed creative projects, enriching their cultural understanding and enhancing their enjoyment of daily life.

Retired faculty members noted that the courses were rich in content, diverse in format, closely aligned with their practical needs, and tailored to individual interests. The programs fostered interaction, knowledge exchange, and skill sharing among participants.

Looking ahead, Beijing Normal University will continue to actively promote the concept of lifelong learning, and further support retired faculty in exploring personal interests and leveraging their professional strengths.

President of the University of Macerata Leads Delegation to Visit Beijing Normal University

On the morning of May 13, a delegation led by Professor John McCourt, President of the University of Macerata, Italy, visited Beijing Normal University (BNU). President Yu Jihong and Vice President Chen Xing met with the guests. The Confucius Institute at the University of Macerata has played a significant role in Chinese language teaching, teacher training, and cultural exchange between China and Italy. Representatives from both universities engaged in discussions on cultivating interdisciplinary talent with global vision, and promoting faculty exchange. Heads of the participating schools shared updates on the academic development and explored opportunities for collaboration in areas such as student exchange programs, teacher training, joint research, and co-hosting academic conferences.

Kang Zhen Leads Delegation to Visit Tunisia and France

From April 23 to 30, Kang Zhen, Vice President of Beijing Normal University (BNU), led a delegation to visit Tunisia and France. Kang Zhen and the delegation visited the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in the Republic of Tunisia. The two sides held discussions on educational and cultural exchanges and cooperation between China and Tunisia.

The delegation visited Carthage University, Tunisia, where they held talks with President Nadia Mzoughi. Kang Zhen and Mzoughi signed a framework cooperation agreement between the two universities.

The delegation visited the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization(ALECSO), where they held discussions with Director-General Mohamed Ould Amar.

From April 25 to 26, the delegation, together with representatives from the BNU Publishing Group, participated in the China Guest of Honor program at the 39th Tunis International Book Fair. During the exhibition, Kang Zhen, as a distinguished Chinese scholar, introduced the rich heritage of Chinese calligraphy to Tunisian President Kais Saied and presented him with a calligraphy work featuring the Chinese saying, "Though miles apart, we are close at heart."

On the morning of April 28, the delegation visited the École française d'Extrême-Orient (EFEO) and co-chaired the inaugural board meeting of the "China-France Dialogue of Civilizations and Chinese Culture Studies" collaborative project with EFEO Director Nicolas Fiévé.

The delegation also visited the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in France, where they were received by Minister Counsellor Zhou Jiagui of the Education Office; the Permanent Delegation of the People's Republic of China to UNESCO, where they were received by Ambassador Yang Xinyu.

On the afternoon of April 29, the delegation visited the École Pratique des Hautes Études (EPHE), where they held talks with President Michel Hochmann. During the meeting, Kang Zhen and Hochmann signed a framework cooperation agreement between the two institutions.

The Delegation Led by Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the University of Queensland Visited Beijing Normal University

On the morning of April 10, Rongyu Li, Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Vice-President (Global Engagement) of the University of Queensland, and Professor Alan Rowan, Laureate Fellow of the Australian Research Council, Fellow of the Australian Academy of Science, and Associate Vice Chancellor of the University of Queensland, visited Beijing Normal University (BNU). Vice President Chen Xing met with the delegation. During the meeting, the two sides also conducted in-depth exchanges on future cooperation in areas such as health and aging-related challenges.

Vice Rector of the University of the Republic of Uruguay Visited Beijing Normal University

On April 9, a delegation led by Luis Leopold, Vice Rector of the University of the Republic of Uruguay (UDELAR), visited Beijing Normal University (BNU). Vice President Chen Xing received the delegation. The two sides hoped to enhance mutual understanding between each other through platforms and flagship international programs such as the Institute of Global Teacher Development, the "Looking China" Youth Film Project, and the Global Smart Education Conference, and starting with the discipline of psychology.

A Delegation of North American Educators Visit BNU to Explore Educational Cooperation and Cultural Exchange

From June 11 to 21, a delegation of educators from Canada and the United States visited Beijing Normal University(BNU), participating in a series of educational exchange and cultural experience activities. The visit was organized by the School of International Chinese Language Education and carried the theme of "International Chinese Language Education and Intercultural Dialogue", encompassing a variety of activities including academic discussions, campus visits, and technological experiences.

During their stay in Beijing, the North American educators' delegation paid a special visit to the Center for Language Education and Cooperation (CLEC) to engage in an in-depth exchange, laying an important foundation for deepening language education cooperation between China and Canada as well as between China and the United States.

The delegation visited the Beijing Yizhuang Economic and Technological Development Zone, where they explored the world's first integrated vehicle-road-cloud high-level autonomous driving demonstration zone and the Yizhuang Robot Innovation World Exhibition Center.

On June 18, a symposium of Chinese and American School administrators was held. Chinese and American

principals exchanged views on language education and talent development, sharing their experiences in curriculum design, teaching systems, and faculty development.

During their visit, the North American educators also embarked on a journey of immersive cultural exploration. These cultural experiences offered the visiting educators a multidimensional understanding of China's profound historical legacy and vibrant contemporary life.

The Opening Ceremony of 2025 BNU Global Campus International Cultural Festival and the Fifth Jingshi Students Global Education Festival Was Held

Article source: Office of International Exchange and Cooperation | *Release date: 2025-05-29*

On May 24, the opening ceremony of 2025 BNU Global Campus International Cultural Festival and Jingshi Students Global Education Festival was held with thousands of teachers and students participating in the event.

The event kicked off with the Parade of National Flags. Student representatives from 50 countries entered the venue one by one holding their national flags, demonstrating the inclusiveness and vitality of the "global campus" of Beijing Normal University.

At the opening ceremony, guests and student representatives jointly pushed the theme model symbolizing cultural integration.

The cultural and artistic performance session was full of highlights including: the dance "Mongolian Girl", the Chinese folk music piece "Blooming Flowers and Full Moon" and many more.

More than 30 national cultural booths exhibited traditional costumes, exquisite handicrafts, interactive games and traditional food of various ethnic groups, demonstrating the bright civilization and cultural customs of various ethnic groups.

There was also a special booth set up for students overseas exchange to showcase a series of brand activities of the Global Education Festival. The booth focused on three core projects: "Global Competency Summer Training Camp", "Overseas Study Camp" and "Global Competition on Design for Future Education". The students participated enthusiastically.

The 2025 BNU Global Campus International Cultural Festival and the Fifth Jingshi Students Global Education Festival aim to enhance cultural confidence and broaden international perspectives. It offers a bridge for global cultural exchanges among teachers and students through diverse cultural displays and in-depth interactions.

Encountering China | What Is Hidden in Vietnamese Girl Nguyen Huyen Anh's "Love Letter" to China?

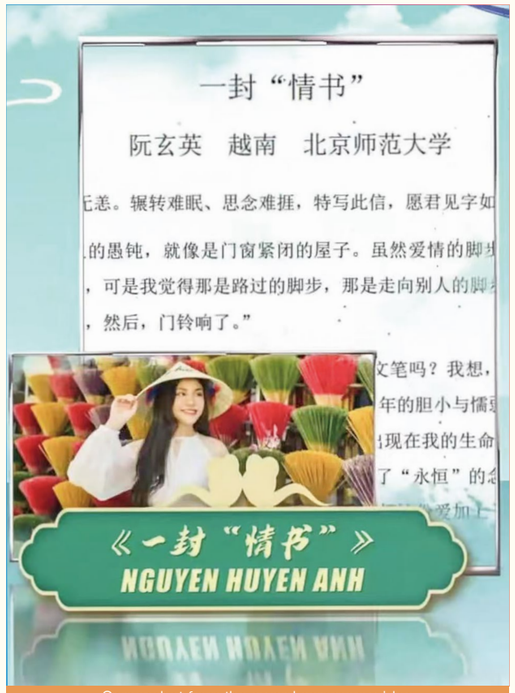
Article source: Global News | *Release Date: 2025-04-15*

This year marks the 75th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Vietnam. As cultural exchanges between the two countries continue to deepen, an increasing number of young Vietnamese students are coming to study in China. They come to know China, fall in love with China, and become living witnesses of the friendship between the two peoples. Nguyen Huyen Anh, a Vietnamese student at Beijing Normal University, is one of them.

> *"Dear Chinese culture, Greetings! I hope this letter finds you well. Restless through the night and overwhelmed with longing, I pen these words in the quiet hours, hoping that as your eyes fall upon them, a gentle smile will unfold across your face..."*

As she softly reads aloud her Love Letter to Chinese Culture, Nguyen Huyen Anh's voice carries a delicate tenderness. This letter won first prize in the 8th "My Beautiful Encounter with China" Essay Contest for International Students, hosted by the Chinese Service Center for Scholarly Exchange under the Ministry of Education.

At the award ceremony, when asked by a reporter why she wrote such a letter, "My feelings for China are best captured by this line: 'Love knows not whence it came, yet it deepens evermore.'"



Screenshot from the award ceremony video

Nguyen Huyen Anh offered a response that drew knowing smiles.

Nguyen Huyen Anh (right) with other award-winning Vietnamese students at the ceremony

"My feelings for China are best captured by this line: 'Love knows not whence it came, yet it deepens evermore.'"

Quoting this iconic verse from The Peony Pavilion, Nguyen Huyen Anh's eyes sparkled with a passion that transcends borders. Her first "heart-fluttering moment" with China began not in a classroom or textbook, but in the delicate fragrance of tea rising from a cup glimpsed online.

> *"I sit and ladle crystal waves from a whispering spring, Watch pale motes drift as the kettle starts to sing. No asking why, no message to convey— Just a bowl of tea, sent quietly your way. Amid white clouds, wild flame, and forest stream, Alone I sip, and dwell within this dream."*

That harmony with nature—where the self fades into the landscape—left her deeply enchanted. It was through tea poetry that she longed to touch the warmth of China's millennia-old civilization with her own hands. And so began her journey into the study of Chinese tea culture.

To her, Chinese tea culture is not merely a craft, but a philosophy of life.


Nguyen Huyen Anh immersed in the study of Chinese tea culture

"The entire process of brewing tea is steeped in atmosphere and aesthetic grace—it is a kind of awakening. Tea is not merely a matter of cups and sips; it is a quiet immersion of both body and mind. You open your thoughts through tea, and in that unfolding, the spirit gently ascends."

Nguyen Huyen Anh went on to participate in the inaugural National College Tea Competition, where she won the individual award for tea literature.

Classical poetry became another key with which she unlocked the wisdom of China. Nguyen Huyen Anh was deeply struck by one thing: young children in China can recite ancient poetry fluently. It made her realize

Nguyen Huyen Anh (right) at the 2025 Liangma River International Poetry Night

that these verses are more than literary beauty—they are vessels of cultural memory and codes of civilizational continuity.

"Why do I love Chinese classical poetry? Because it taught me what love is. It taught me resilience. It gave me ambition. It showed me hope. More than anything, it helped me understand China— its spirit of harmony with all things, and its wisdom of mutual learning between civilizations. From the misty reeds of 'Where river reeds grow full and fair, White frost has settled on the air' to the compassion in 'Would that I had ten thousand grand houses, To shelter all the cold scholars of the world, and see them smile in peace'—China's millennia of history and civilization live on in these poems. Every Chinese person can recite them—even children as young as two or three. That moved me deeply. That astonished me. And in that moment, I understood why Chinese civilization has stood unshaken for thousands of years."

Nguyen Huyen Anh's heartfelt tribute to Chinese culture is woven through the rhythmic cadence of classical poetry and her lived experiences across China. In Dujiangyan, she came to understand the hydraulic wisdom of "following the way of nature". Strolling along Su Causeway, she grasped Su Shi's philosophy of "harmony between humanity and nature", realizing that it is precisely this enduring cultural resilience—spanning ancient and modern times—that underpins the deeper driving force behind China's contemporary development.

> *"Every inch of China is infused with poetry, and every journey I take here deepens my love for Chinese culture. I visited Dujiangyan and witnessed China's wisdom across time—how the ancient and the modern coexist in harmony. I walked along the Su Causeway in Hangzhou, a water project built by the poet Su Shi, where the philosophy of 'unity between humanity and nature' is perfectly embodied. It stands as a legacy of Chinese history and a collective cultural memory. It is through these journeys that I've come to understand how modern China has achieved such rapid development. New energy vehicles, photovoltaic power, artificial intelligence—and especially high-speed rail—represent China's remarkable speed. The world recognizes the unmatched strength of Chinese infrastructure and wonders how this is possible. My answer is: come to China, come and truly experience the depth of Chinese culture—and you'll find the answer."*

China and Vietnam are friendly neighbors, linked by mountains and rivers. I've observed how the synergy between the Belt and Road Initiative and Vietnam's "Two Corridors, One Economic Circle" strategy has brought our two nations into ever-deepening, practical cooperation.

"China is Vietnam's trusted friend—it has offered us tremendous support. Strategic collaboration such as the Belt and Road Initiative has strengthened our trade ties and brought our peoples closer together. It has also helped upgrade Vietnam's infrastructure—especially in railways. I sincerely hope that one day Vietnam's railways will be as advanced as China's high-speed trains."

To Nguyen Huyen Anh, China is the moon reflected in a cup of tea, the mountains and rivers woven into ancient verse, and above all, a guiding light on the road ahead. Her affection for China is no longer confined to words on a page—it is becoming tangible action. The friendship between China and Vietnam is no longer just a phrase in a textbook; it is the warmth of tea as it touches the lips, the thunderous rush of high-speed trains, and a shared poem written into the vision of the Belt and Road.

"I will dedicate myself to studying Chinese culture. Next, I plan to learn indigo dyeing in Yunnan, ink-making in Anhui, and the art of tea performance in Fujian. I want to explore China's intangible cultural heritage, to connect with its history through my own hands and heart. Because true connection begins with understanding—deep understanding. I hope to become a small bridge of friendship between our nations, sharing with Vietnam, with ASEAN, and with the world a China that is multifaceted, profound, and full of wisdom."

Nguyen Huyen Anh (front row, third from left) visiting the Dujiangyan Irrigation Project with her classmates

Photo from: BNU Weibo

Photo by: @0806 号宇航员守护啵啵　@k3h2

Photo from: BNU Weibo

Photo from: BNU Weibo

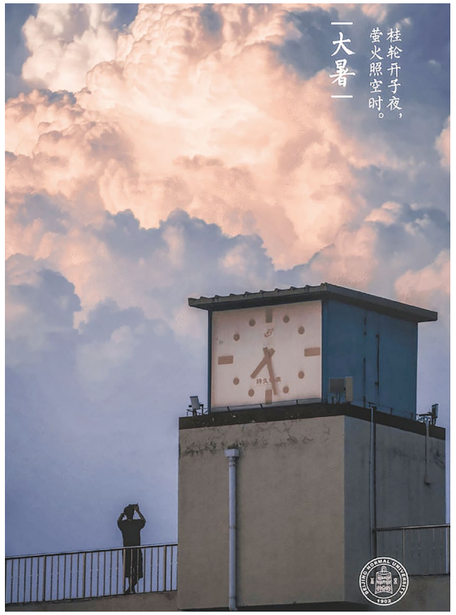


Photo from: BNU Weibo

Photo from: BNU Weibo　*Photo by:* @ 李嘉城、洪陈方洁

北京師範大學
BEIJING NORMAL UNIVERSITY

Office of International Exchange & Cooperation
Beijing Normal University

Address: No.19, Xinjiekouwai St, Haidian District,
Beijing, 100875, P.R.China
Phone: (+86) 10-5880-7170
Fax: (+86) 10-5880-0823
Email: bnunewsletter@bnu.edu.cn