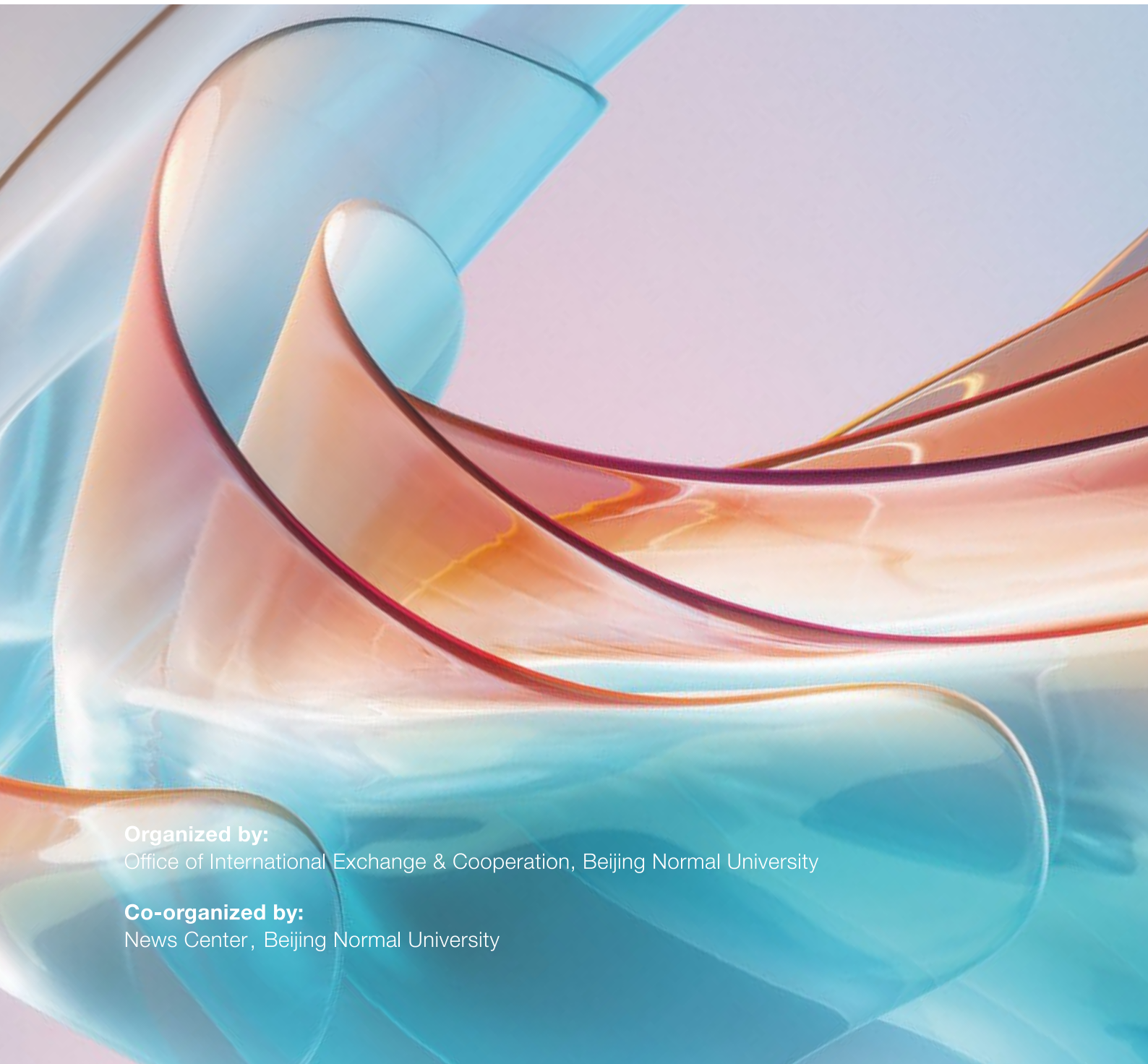
Beijing Normal University

Newsletter

Autumn 2025/ Issue 24



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Office of International Exchange & Cooperation, Beijing Normal University

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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

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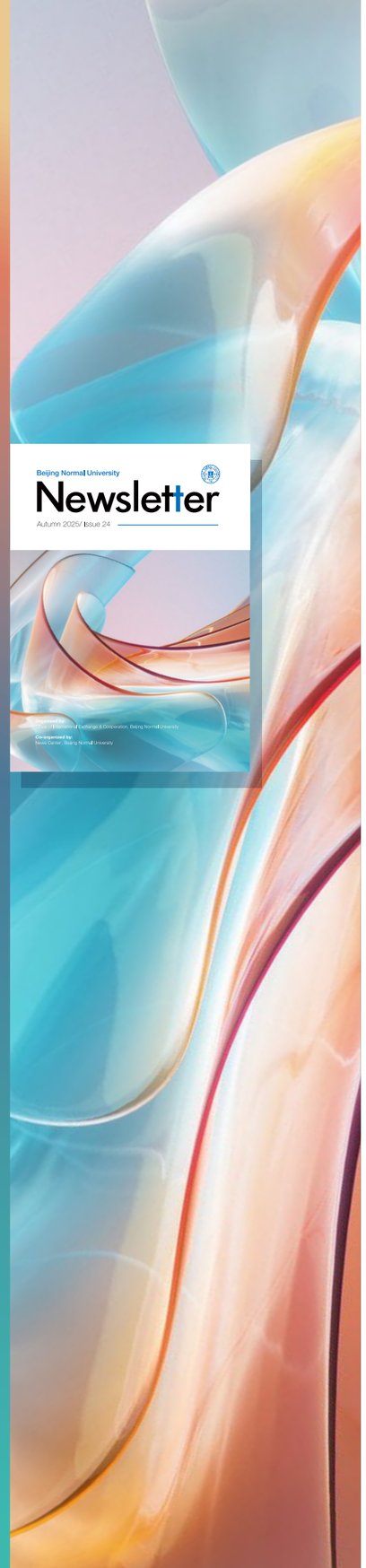

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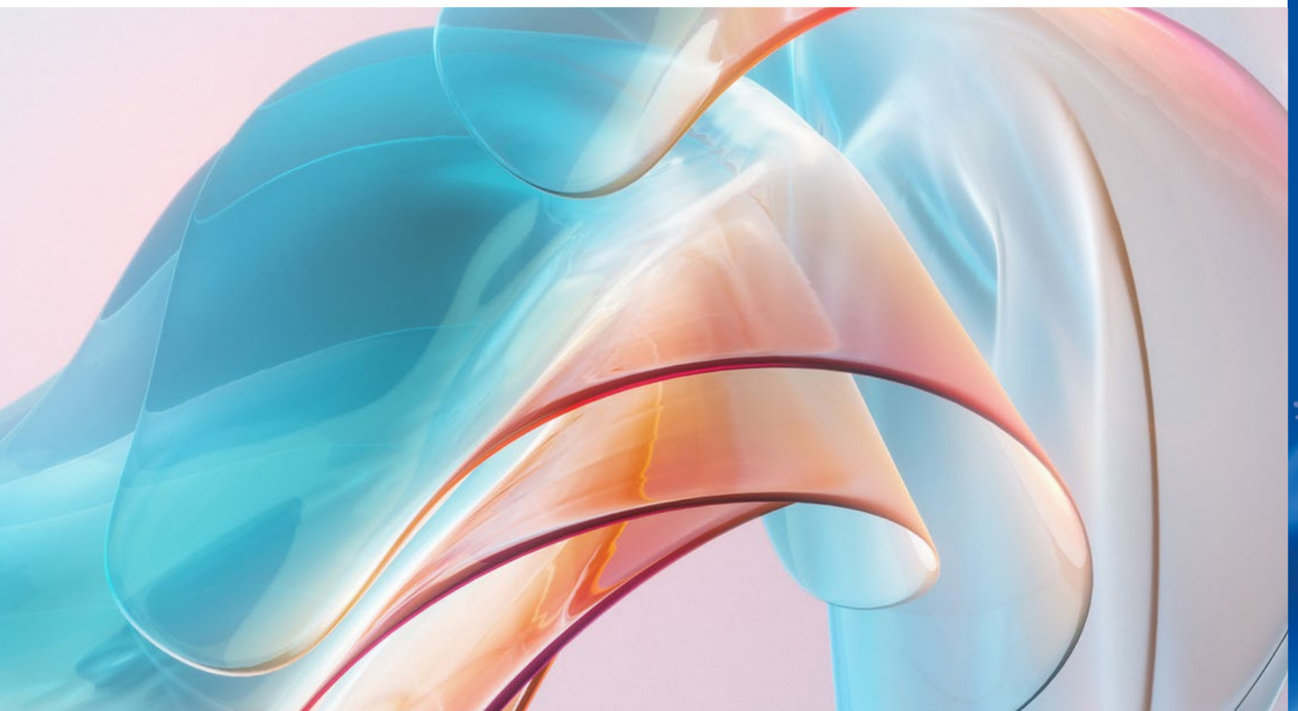


Beijing Normal University's School of National Safety and Emergency Management Leads the Establishment of Guangdong Academician Workstation

Article source: BNU Zhuhai | Release date: 2025-08-13

Recently, the Guangdong Academician Workstation led by the School of National Safety and Emergency Management of Beijing Normal University was officially approved. The workstation is based at BNU Zhuhai and headed by Academician Yue Qingrui of the Chinese Academy of Engineering.

Urban Safety Laboratory Inauguration Ceremony

Focusing on urban risk prevention and resilience enhancement as its core research direction, the workstation is deeply integrated into the national strategic framework for building safe and resilient cities. It aligns with the strategic goals outlined in the National Innovation-Driven Development Strategy Outline regarding "strengthening technological breakthroughs and product development in major disaster and public safety emergency response". Grounded in the "source–body–force" theoretical framework, the workstation aims to build an interdisciplinary and cross-sectoral innovation system, tackling fundamental theoretical challenges and key technological bottlenecks in risk prevention and control of complex urban systems.

Looking ahead, the workstation will be oriented toward the mission of the Guangdong–Hong Kong–Macao Greater Bay Area to "build a global demonstration zone for urban safety governance". It will focus on developing an integrated technological system covering air–space–ground risk perception, systemic risk assessment, disaster-chain experimental verification, and intelligent decision-making empowerment. The initiative seeks to overcome critical "bottleneck" technologies in the urban safety domain, fill strategic gaps in foundational theory, technology, and equipment development, and generate original achievements with global influence, thereby providing strong scientific and technological support for China's new urbanization and smart city development.

Prior to this, in order to thoroughly implement the holistic national security concept and advance the construction of resilient and safe cities, Beijing Normal University had jointly established the Urban Safety Laboratory at its Zhuhai Campus together with the Institute of Urban Safety Development (Shenzhen) and the University of Science and Technology Beijing, with Academician Yue Qingrui serving as the Director of the laboratory.

The approval of this Academician Workstation will further accelerate the construction of the Urban Safety Laboratory, provide strong impetus for realizing the national strategic goals of urban safety and resilience, and offer robust scientific and technological support to enhance disaster prevention, mitigation, and urban safety development capacity.

Nobel Laureate in Chemistry Professor Ben L. Feringa Speaks at the "Jingshi Lecture Series", Revealing the Unique Charm of Molecular Motors

Article source: College of Chemistry, Office of Scientific Research, Office of International Exchange and Cooperation | *Release date: 2025-07-23*

On July 17, the "Jingshi Lecture Series" and the College of Chemistry's "Xingtan Lecture Series" were held at the Chemistry Building of Beijing Normal University (BNU). Professor Ben L. Feringa—2016 Nobel Laureate in Chemistry, Member of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences, Foreign Member of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, and Professor at the University of Groningen—delivered a keynote lecture titled "The Art of Building Small—From Molecular Switches to Motors". The event was jointly organized by the Office of Scientific Research, the Office of International Exchange and Cooperation, and the College of Chemistry at BNU. It was attended by Yu Jihong, President of Beijing Normal University,

along with leaders from the organizing departments, faculty members of the College of Chemistry, and more than one hundred teachers and students. The lecture was chaired by Mao Lanqun, Dean of the College of Chemistry.

Before the lecture, President Yu Jihong warmly received Professor Feringa, extended a cordial welcome to his visit, and introduced the university's progress in disciplinary development, scientific research, talent cultivation, international collaboration, and campus planning.

During his presentation, Professor Feringa provided a comprehensive overview of his team's pioneering research journey in the field of molecular motors. He vividly recounted how his group, inspired by dynamic molecular systems, successfully designed and synthesized light-responsive molecular switches, which subsequently led to the development of photoactivated antibacterial drugs. He particularly highlighted the team's groundbreaking achievement—inspired by biological rotary motors—of designing and synthesizing the world's first unidirectionally rotating artificial molecular motor, a milestone discovery that laid the foundation for the development of a wide range of intelligent functional materials.

Through vivid animations and real-world examples, Professor

Feringa demonstrated multiple innovative applications based on molecular motor technology, including nanoscale "molecular cars", liquid crystal actuators that convert light energy into macroscopic mechanical motion, and metal–organic frameworks with light-controlled dynamic pores capable of material transport. These achievements illustrated both the distinctive charm and vast potential applications of artificial molecular motors.

In the interactive Q&A session, faculty and students actively engaged with Professor Feringa, discussing cutting-edge topics such as the applications and future development of molecular switches and machines in drug delivery, energy conversion, and nanomechanical scalability. With his characteristic humor and wit, Professor Feringa encouraged young scholars to innovate boldly, explore fearlessly, and remain confident in the face of scientific challenges. His wisdom and charisma deeply inspired the audience and ignited their passion for research.

At the conclusion of the event, President Yu Jihong presented Professor Feringa with a "Jingshi Lecture Series" commemorative plaque, expressing sincere gratitude for his brilliant lecture, which offered both profound scientific insights and intellectual inspiration.

This lecture provided BNU's faculty and students with a rare opportunity to interact face-to-face with a world-class scientist, allowing them to engage closely with cutting-edge global research topics, broaden their international academic horizons, and strengthen their disciplinary confidence.

The "Jingshi Lecture Series" and the College of Chemistry's "Xingtan Lecture Series" will continue to focus on frontier scientific challenges and key issues in fundamental research, inviting leading scholars from around the world to deliver high-level academic lectures. These platforms aim to foster an innovative academic hub and educational base, cultivate a vibrant culture of excellence, and contribute to BNU's efforts in advancing its "Double First-Class" initiative.

Professor Arthur B. McDonald, the Nobel Physics Laureate, Gave a Lecture at Beijing Normal University

Article source: Office of Science | *Release date: 2025-09-02*

On August 22nd, Professor Arthur B. McDonald, the 2015 Nobel Physics laureate, delivered a keynote speech titled "Understanding the Universe through Measurements Deep Underground". President Yu Jihong, Vice President Chen Xing, relevant personnel from the Office of Science and the School of Physics and Astronomy, and over a hundred teachers and students attended the report meeting.

Professor McDonald systematically expounded on the significant importance of studying neutrinos and dark matter through measurements deep underground and its profound impact on understanding the origin and evolution of the universe.

Yu Jihong expressed sincere gratitude to Professor McDonald for his wonderful presentation, thanking him for inspiring the research ideas of teachers and students, broadening their academic horizons, and igniting their enthusiasm for scientific exploration.

During the interactive session, teachers and students spoke up enthusiastically and engaged in lively discussions. Professor McDonald addressed the younger generation, encouraging them to maintain their curiosity, ask questions about everything they see and seek understanding, and actively engage in the great cause of exploring the essence of the universe.

Inauguration Ceremony of Beijing Normal University's "Training Base for International Students and Foreign Experts in Xinjiang", 2025 Xinjiang International Communication Symposium, and 2025 "Looking China · Xinjiang Tour" Film Screening Held

Article source: Office of International Exchange and Cooperation (Office of Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan Affairs) | *Release date: 2025-07-11*

On the morning of July 8, the inauguration ceremony of Beijing Normal University's "Training Base for International Students and Foreign Experts in Xinjiang" and the 2025 Xinjiang International Communication Symposium were held at Xinjiang Normal University. Attending the ceremony were Xu Gaoyong, Deputy Director-General of the Education Department of Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region; Chen Xing, Vice President of Beijing Normal University; Ainiwaer Aikemu, President of Xinjiang Normal University; Zhao Hezheng, Executive Deputy Secretary of the Education Working Committee of the Aksu Prefectural Party Committee and Deputy Director-General of the Aksu Prefecture Education Bureau; and Liu Hao, Executive Deputy Secretary of the Education Working Committee of the Altay Prefectural Party Committee and Deputy Director-General of the Altay Prefecture Education Bureau. The ceremony was presided over by Wang Shijie, Vice President of Xinjiang Normal University.


Speech by Ainiwaer Aikemu, President of Xinjiang Normal University

President Ainiwaer Aikemu extended a warm welcome to all guests, stating that Xinjiang Normal University will fully support the construction and development of the training base. He emphasized that the university will rely on the base to deepen cooperation with Beijing Normal University in joint training of internationalized teaching professionals, organizing international exchange programs, and cultivating globally minded young talents who understand and appreciate both China and Xinjiang.

Deputy Director-General Xu Gaoyong congratulated the establishment of the training base and affirmed its vital role in enhancing Xinjiang's international communication capabilities. He noted that the Education Department of the Autonomous Region attaches great importance to this initiative and will strive to build the base into a key platform for opening-up—one that tells the "China story" and the "Xinjiang story" well, attracts more international students and scholars to Xinjiang, promotes high-level openness, and presents a comprehensive and multidimensional picture of Xinjiang's remarkable economic and social development achievements.

Vice President Chen Xing, on behalf of Beijing Normal University, expressed gratitude to the Party Committee and Government of the Autonomous Region. He provided an overview of

Speech by Xu Gaoyong, Deputy Director-General and Member of the Party Leadership Group of the Education Department of Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region

Speech by Chen Xing, Vice President of Beijing Normal University

Group photo of the unveiling ceremony

the university's ongoing efforts to strengthen international communication capacity, build a high-level global communication network, and serve national strategic needs. Chen Xing emphasized that Xinjiang, as a pivotal hub of the Belt and Road Initiative and a key gateway for exchanges between Chinese and world civilizations, offers a broad platform for the base's growth. He stated that Beijing Normal University will work closely with Xinjiang to leverage the international communication advantages of foreign students and experts—using academic exchange to break cognitive barriers, cultural experience to foster emotional resonance, and science and technology to empower innovative communication—ultimately developing the base into an important platform for the international community to better understand Xinjiang and China.

Following the speeches, Xu Gaoyong, Chen Xing, Ainiwaer Aikemu, Zhao Hezheng, and Liu Hao jointly unveiled the plaque for the training base.

After the ceremony, Chinese and international experts and scholars convened for the 2025 Xinjiang International Communication Symposium. Among the speakers were Fang Zengquan, Secretary of the Party Committee of the School of Journalism and Communication, Beijing Normal University; Robert Walker, Distinguished Professor at the Jingshi Academy, Beijing Normal University; Du Songping, Associate Dean of the School of Journalism and Communication, Xinjiang University; Jay Hubert, Assistant Professor at the University of Colorado, USA; Chen Xin, Associate Professor at the Aesthetic Education Center, Xinjiang Normal University; and Magdalena Sepulveda, Director of the United Nations Research Institute for

Social Development (UNRISD). Each delivered insightful presentations on topics related to international cultural communication.

During the roundtable forum on “Telling the Stories of Xinjiang in the New Era to the World”, remarks were delivered by Zhao Hezheng, Liu Hao, Xiang Yunju, Distinguished Professor at the Jingshi Academy, Beijing Normal University, Wang Weiran, Secretary of the Party Committee of the School of Business, Xinjiang Normal University, and Li Ya, Professor at the School of International Cultural Exchange, Xinjiang Normal University. The forum was chaired by Xiao Kai, Deputy Dean of the Jingshi Academy, Beijing Normal University.

On the afternoon of July 8, the 2025 “Looking China · Foreign Youth Film Project · Xinjiang Tour” Screening Ceremony was held at Xinjiang University. Attending the ceremony were Chen Xing, Vice President of Beijing Normal University; Su Zhi, Vice President of Xinjiang University; and Feng Meng, Deputy Director of the Division of International Cooperation and Exchange, Department of Education of Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, among others.

In his address, Chen Xing expressed gratitude to the faculty and student teams participating in the 2025 “Looking China · Xinjiang Tour”. He

reviewed the remarkable achievements of the “Looking China” program over the past fourteen years and highly commended the work of the Xinjiang team. He noted that through immersive experiences in Xinjiang's magnificent landscapes and diverse cultures, the young filmmakers created works that embody both effort and creativity. These

films not only showcase Xinjiang's unique charm but also provide the world with fresh perspectives for understanding China. Chen encouraged Chinese and international youth to continue maintaining close exchanges and communication in the future, to serve as young ambassadors of cultural dialogue, and to further strengthen friendship between the Chinese people and the peoples of the world.

Su Zhi congratulated the young Chinese and international participants on their creative achievements and expressed admiration for their in-depth engagement with local communities, factories, and pastoral areas across Xinjiang, where they held heartfelt conversations with people from all ethnic groups. He remarked

that the young directors used sincerity to overcome barriers and their cameras to connect hearts, recording genuine and touching stories of Xinjiang. Their works, he said, reflect the region's rich and integrated cultural identity and have become an important window through which the world can better understand Xinjiang. Su Zhi expressed the hope that these young friends would return to Xinjiang in the future to discover and document even more inspiring stories.

After the speeches, guests presented commemorative certificates to the Chinese and international faculty and student teams who participated in the “Looking China · Xinjiang Tour”.

Subsequently, the documentary short films were officially screened. Du Songping, Associate Dean of the School of Journalism and Communication at Xinjiang University and guest commentator, highly praised the films presented and expressed his anticipation for future outstanding works from young filmmakers both in China and abroad.

With the support of the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, Beijing Normal University has established three training bases in Xinjiang — located at Xinjiang Normal University, Altay Prefecture, and Aksu Prefecture. The establishment of the “Training Base for International Students and Foreign Experts in Xinjiang”, the hosting of the Xinjiang International Communication Symposium, and the organization of the 2025 “Looking China · Xinjiang Tour” Screening Ceremony represent Beijing Normal University's concrete efforts to thoroughly implement Xi Jinping's Thought on Culture, to tell China's and Xinjiang's stories well, and to provide strong support for the university's “Double First-Class” initiative and for advancing Chinese-style modernization in Xinjiang. The university will take this opportunity to actively serve national strategies, promote cross-cultural exchanges, and help foreign youth and experts perceive and understand China—presenting to the world an image of China that is credible, admirable, and respectable.

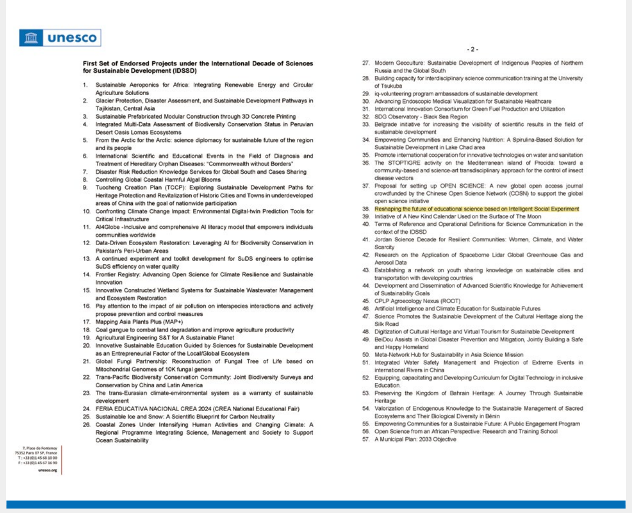
"Reshaping the Future of Educational Science based on Intelligent Social Experiment" Announced as One of the First Set of Endorsed Projects of the UN' s "Decade of Sciences" Initiative

Article source: National Engineering Research Center of Cyberlearning and Intelligent Technology | Release date: 2025-07-17

The "Intelligent Social Education Science Experiment"—formally titled Reshaping the Future of Educational Science based on Intelligent Social Experiment and led by the UNESCO Chair on AI in Education at Beijing Normal University—has been officially announced and selected as one of the First Set of Endorsed Projects under the United Nations' "International Decade of Sciences for Sustainable Development (2024–2033)" (IDSSD).

IDSSD Logos in English and Chinese

The IDSSD was proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly in August 2023, with the goal of advancing global collaboration through science to support sustainable development. To implement this vision, UNESCO launched a global call for project submissions in October 2023. After a rigorous international selection process, a total of 25 Programmes, 31 Activities, and 57 Projects were selected in the initiative's first official list of certified efforts.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First Set of Endorsed Projects under the International Decade of Sciences for Sustainable Development (IDSSD)

1. Sustainable Aeroponics for Africa: Integrating Renewable Energy and Circular Agriculture Solutions
2. Glacier Protection, Disaster Assessment, and Sustainable Development Pathways in Tajikistan, Central Asia
3. Sustainable Prefabricated Modular Construction through 3D Concrete Printing
4. Integrated Multi-Data Assessment of Biodiversity Conservation Status in Peruvian Desert Oasis Lomas Ecosystems
5. From the Arctic for the Arctic: science diplomacy for sustainable future of the region and its people
6. International Scientific and Educational Events in the Field of Diagnosis and Treatment of Hereditary Orphan Diseases: "Commonwealth without Borders"
7. Disaster Risk Reduction Knowledge Services for Global South and Cases Sharing
8. Controlling Global Coastal Harmful Algal Blooms
9. Tuocheng Creation Plan (TCCP): Exploring Sustainable Development Paths for Heritage Protection and Revitalization of Historic Cities and Towns in underdeveloped areas of China with the goal of nationwide participation
10. Confronting Climate Change Impact: Environmental Digital-twin Prediction Tools for Critical Infrastructure
11. AI4Globe -Inclusive and comprehensive AI literacy model that empowers individuals communities worldwide
12. Data-Driven Ecosystem Restoration: Leveraging AI for Biodiversity Conservation in Pakistan's Peri-Urban Areas
13. A continued experiment and toolkit development for SuDS engineers to optimise SuDS efficiency on water quality
14. Frontier Registry: Advancing Open Science for Climate Resilience and Sustainable Innovation
15. Innovative Constructed Wetland Systems for Sustainable Wastewater Management and Ecosystem Restoration
16. Pay attention to the impact of air pollution on interspecies interactions and actively propose prevention and control measures
17. Mapping Asia Plants Plus (MAP+)
18. Coal gangue to combat land degradation and improve agriculture productivity
19. Agricultural Engineering S&T for A Sustainable Planet
20. Innovative Sustainable Education Guided by Sciences for Sustainable Development as an Entrepreneurial Factor of the Local/Global Ecosystem
21. Global Fungi Partnership: Reconstruction of Fungal Tree of Life based on Mitochondrial Genomes of 10K fungal genera
22. Trans-Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Community: Joint Biodiversity Surveys and Conservation by China and Latin America
23. The trans-Eurasian climate-environmental system as a warranty of sustainable development
24. FERIA EDUCATIVA NACIONAL CREA 2024 (CREA National Educational Fair)
25. Sustainable Ice and Snow: A Scientific Blueprint for Carbon Neutrality
26. Coastal Zones Under Intensifying Human Activities and Changing Climate: A Regional Programme Integrating Science, Management and Society to Support Ocean Sustainability
27. Modern Geoculture: Sustainable Development of Indigenous Peoples of Northern Russia and the Global South
28. Building capacity for interdisciplinary science communication training at the University of Tsukuba
29. iq-volunteering program ambassadors of sustainable development
30. Advancing Endoscopic Medical Visualization for Sustainable Healthcare
31. International Innovation Consortium for Green Fuel Production and Utilization
32. SDG Observatory - Black Sea Region
33. Belgrade initiative for increasing the visibility of scientific results in the field of sustainable development
34. Empowering Communities and Enhancing Nutrition: A Spirulina-Based Solution for Sustainable Development in Lake Chad area
35. Promote international cooperation for innovative technologies on water and sanitation
36. The STOPTIGRE activity on the Mediterranean island of Procida: toward a community-based and science-art transdisciplinary approach for the control of insect disease vectors
37. Proposal for setting up OPEN SCIENCE: A new global open access journal crowdfunded by the Chinese Open Science Network (COSN) to support the global open science initiative
38. Reshaping the future of educational science based on Intelligent Social Experiment
39. Initiative of A New Kind Calendar Used on the Surface of The Moon
40. Terms of Reference and Operational Definitions for Science Communication in the context of the IDSSD
41. Jordan Science Decade for Resilient Communities: Women, Climate, and Water Scarcity
42. Research on the Application of Spaceborne Lidar Global Greenhouse Gas and Aerosol Data
43. Establishing a network on youth sharing knowledge on sustainable cities and transportation with developing countries
44. Development and Dissemination of Advanced Scientific Knowledge for Achievement of Sustainability Goals
45. CPLP Agroecology Nexus (ROOT)
46. Artificial Intelligence and Climate Education for Sustainable Futures
47. Science Promotes the Sustainable Development of the Cultural Heritage along the Silk Road
48. Digitization of Cultural Heritage and Virtual Tourism for Sustainable Development
49. BeiDou Assists in Global Disaster Prevention and Mitigation, Jointly Building a Safe and Happy Homeland
50. Meta-Network Hub for Sustainability in Asia Science Mission
51. Integrated Water Safety Management and Projection of Extreme Events in international Rivers in China
52. Equipping, capacitating and Developing Curriculum for Digital Technology in inclusive Education
53. Preserving the Kingdom of Bahrain Heritage: A Journey Through Sustainable Heritage
54. Valorization of Endogenous Knowledge to the Sustainable Management of Sacred Ecosystems and Their Biological Diversity in Bénin
55. Empowering Communities for a Sustainable Future: A Public Engagement Program
56. Open Science from an African Perspective: Research and Training School
57. A Municipal Plan: 2033 Objective

7, Place de Fontenoy
75352 Paris 07 SP, France
T : +33 (0)1 45 68 10 00
F : +33 (0)1 45 67 16 90
unesco.org

The "Reshaping the Future of Educational Science based on Intelligent Social Experiment" project will work in close collaboration with global partners—bring together researchers, education practitioners and private sectors. With a geographic focus on China, Southeast Asia, and Africa, it will conduct large-scale, long-term, and interdisciplinary Intelligent Social Experiments to systematically explore new theories and principles of educational science in the AI era. Centered on three pillars—theoretical innovation, capacity building, and ecosystem development—the initiative seeks to promote the responsible and effective integration of AI in education, support the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 4 (SDG4), and foster inclusive, equitable, and high-quality learning opportunities for all.

The Belt and Road School of BNU Officially Linked to the China Belt and Road Portal

Article source: The Belt and Road School | Release date: 2025-09-10

Recently, the Belt and Road School of Beijing Normal University was invited to become the first higher education institution officially linked to the China Belt and Road Portal (www.yidaiyilu.gov.cn). The portal is jointly guided by the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) and Xinhua News Agency, and co-hosted by the China Economic Information Service of Xinhua News Agency and the National Information Center. This cloud-based connection between a national-level media platform and a university think tank marks another recognition of Beijing Normal University's long-standing contribution to advancing high-quality Belt and Road cooperation.

For over a decade, the Belt and Road School has upheld the mission and vision of "Carrying forward the Silk Road spirit, enhancing connectivity, promoting global development, and advancing common prosperity for all". The school has actively served major strategies of the Party and the State, dedicated itself to cultivating high-caliber talents and future leaders of developing countries with deep understanding of China and a global perspective, and produced world-class research achievements and think-tank reports related to the Belt and Road Initiative, emerging markets, and regional and country studies. It has also established a high-end platform supporting national strategies and promoting international exchange and cooperation, providing both talent and intellectual support for building a high-quality Belt and Road and a community with a shared future for mankind.

The Belt and Road School has also played an active role in international communication on the Belt and Road Initiative.

Faculty members have published commentaries in leading national newspapers such as People's Daily, Guangming Daily, and Economic Daily, and have been invited to give interviews to major media outlets including Xinhua News Agency, China News Service, China Media Group (CMG), and China Education Television. The school has also deeply participated in the production of Belt and Road–themed programs, including the CCTV large-scale documentaries The Road to Prosperity and the Focus Report special feature "A Decade of Progress". In collaboration with the China Belt and Road Portal, the school has launched a series of feature interviews, such as "The Belt and Road Through My Eyes" and "The Belt and Road in the Eyes of Generation Z International Students", contributing actively to international communication for high-quality Belt and Road cooperation.

The inclusion of the Belt and Road School on the official link list of the China Belt and Road Portal provides a new opportunity for deeper collaboration with a national platform. It will further strengthen joint efforts in telling the Belt and Road story effectively, expanding social influence, and continuously enhancing the school's international communication capacity.

The Chinese Women's University Basketball Team Won the Women's Basketball Championship at the Rhine-Ruhr 2025 FISU World University Games

Article source: College of P.E. and Sports | *Release date: 2025-08-02*

On July 26(GMT +8), the Chinese University Women's Basketball Team, which was mainly composed of players from Beijing Normal University, defeated the US team 81-69 in the women's basketball final and won the gold medal at the Rhine-Ruhr 2025 FISU World University Games.This is the second consecutive championship for the Chinese University Women's Basketball Team with the "Beijing Normal University strength" at its core, following their victory at the 2023 Chengdu Universiade. They

overcame all obstacles in the knockout stage: they defeated Japan in the quarterfinals, reversed Poland in the semifinals after overtime, and finally beat the powerful US team in the final to achieve a back-to-back championship.

The coaching team is led by Li Sunan, the head coach of

the women's basketball team of Beijing Normal University, with Zhao Xuetong serving as the assistant coach. Students Liu Yutong, Tang Ziting, Cao Boyi, Zhang Zihan, Zhang Shuxuan, Li Qingyang and Li Xingnuo from the College of P.E. and Sports of BNU represented China in the competition, demonstrating the strength of the women's basketball team of BNU. And Chen Yujie from Huazhong University of Science and Technology, Tian Yuanyuan from Central South University, Na Han from Yunnan Normal

University, and Zhao Ruohan from Shanghai Jiao Tong University, they also achieved remarkable feats and made significant contributions to the victory of the competition. Since the start of the competition, the players of the Chinese university women's basketball team have won the championship with a perfect record.

CHN People's Republic of China

Shirt No.	Name	Position	Min.	PTS	FG	2PTS	3PTS	FT	OR	DR	AS	TO	ST	BS	PF	FD	+/-
1	LI Qingyang	Small Forward	27:29	6	2/5 (40%)	0/1 (0%)	2/4 (50%)		1	4	1	1			1	2	19
5	TIAN Yuanyuan (C)	Shooting Guard	28:19	11	4/8 (50%)	2/4 (50%)	2/4 (50%)	1/1 (100%)		2	7	2	2		3	2	11
6	ZHAO Ruohan	Centre	0:20														
7	ZHANG Zihan	Power Forward	21:09	10	5/8 (63%)	5/6 (83%)	0/2 (0%)			2	1		1		2	1	8
9	LI Xingnuo	Small Forward	12:31	2	1/4 (25%)	1/4 (25%)					2				2		-7
10	ZHANG Shuxuan	Point Guard	0:20														
11	TANG Ziting	Power Forward	37:00	16	6/11 (55%)	2/5 (40%)	4/6 (67%)		2	5	1		1	1	2	2	9
12	CHEN Yujie	Small Forward	38:17	19	8/15 (53%)	5/10 (50%)	3/5 (60%)			3	1	2	3		1		13
14	CAO Boyi	Shooting Guard	12:44	8	2/3 (67%)	2/3 (67%)		4/6 (67%)	1	1	1	2	1		3	4	
23	LIU Yutong	Centre	21:31	9	4/7 (57%)	4/7 (57%)		1/2 (50%)		3	1	2	1	1	3	1	7
30	NA Han	Shooting Guard	0:20		0/1 (0%)		0/1 (0%)										

This victory is a powerful proof of the strength of the C hinese university women's basketball team, and it is also a vivid portrayal of their spirit of unity, cooperation, and hard work. Since winning the championship in 2023, they have once again stood on the highest podium, continuing to write a glorious chapter.

"China by World Writers": World Writers and Sinologists Gather at Beijing Normal University to Discuss Literature, the World, and China

Article source: Institute of Chinese Culture | Jingshi Academy | Release date: 2025-06-26

On June 21, the Symposium on China by World Writers themed "Literary Trends in the Age of AI" was held at Beijing Normal University (BNU). As part of the 31st Beijing International Book Fair, the symposium was chaired by poet and distinguished professor Xi Chuan from the Faculty of Arts at BNU. Kang Zhen, BNU Vice President, along with Prof. Mo Yan, the winner of Nobel Laureate in Literature and director of BNU International Writing Center, extended a warm welcome to international writers, sinologists, translators and publisher from around the world.

During the symposium, Li Zishu, a Malaysian writer, Shinobu Yoshii, a Japanese writer, Liang Hong, a writer, scholar and professor at the School of Literature of Renmin University of China, Liu Ting, a novelist, poet and editor of People's Literature, Ouyang Jianghe, a poet and specially-appointed professor at the School of Chinese Language and Literature of BNU, and Qiao Ye, vice chairman of the Beijing Writers' Association discussed the value of literature and the future of writing in the AI era.

In addition, the symposium attracted half of the winners of the 18th Special Book Award of China, including Yong Chui Choe, Paul Zilungisele Tembe, Tatiana Semenova, Alexander Semenov, Aleksei Rodionov, Yahia Mohamed Mokhtar Tawfik Mohamed, Kaushal Goyal, and Samah Mohamed Korashy Abdelkader, to share their experiences.

Pavel Fokin, Director of the Dostoevsky Museum in Moscow, and Wang Nan, the vice dean of the School of Foreign Languages and Literature at BNU, also shared their insights at the symposium.

Prof. Zhang Qinghua, Executive Director of the BNU International Writing Center, concluded the symposium by stating that literature brings warmth to the world. It fosters understanding, dialogue, respect, and love—enabling people to become true friends and to build a genuine community of shared spirit.

The special exhibition "China by World Writers" was held concurrently at BNU, where 90 outstanding works by world writers telling stories about China were presented to readers.

The China-Southeast Asia Capacity Building Workshop on Transforming Learning for Sustainable Rural Development was held at Beijing Normal University

Article source: China Institute of Education and Social Development | *Release date: 2025-06-30*

On 16 June 2025, the China-Southeast Asia Capacity Building Workshop (ASEAN-China TVET Policymakers Workshop): Transforming Learning for Sustainable Rural Development was held at Beijing Normal University (BNU). The workshop attracted over a hundred policymakers, administrators, and experts from China and eight ASEAN countries in the fields of vocational and adult education.

Zhou Zuoyu, Vice Chairman of Beijing Normal University Council, Director of the UNESCO International Research and Training Centre for Rural Education (UNESCO-INRULED), stated in opening remarks that the problem of uneven rural development worldwide urgently needs to be solved. Adult education, vocational education and lifelong learning are key enablers in advancing transformative learning and education for sustainable rural development. He emphasized the need to build an inclusive education system, helping rural workers adapt to the demands of the digital economy and green economy through skills training and upgrading, promoting employment and entrepreneurship, and creating a fair and inclusive social ecosystem.

Shi Zhongjun, Secretary General of the ASEAN-China Centre (ACC), said that vocational education holds great potential in serving emerging industries such as digitalization, intelligent manufacturing, and green development, and it is an important means for ASEAN-China comprehensive strategic cooperation. He stated that the ACC will continue to promote policy dialogue, resource integration, and multi-party collaboration in the TVET sector, so as to deepen practical cooperation, support regional socio-economic development and promote mutual understanding and affinity between peoples.

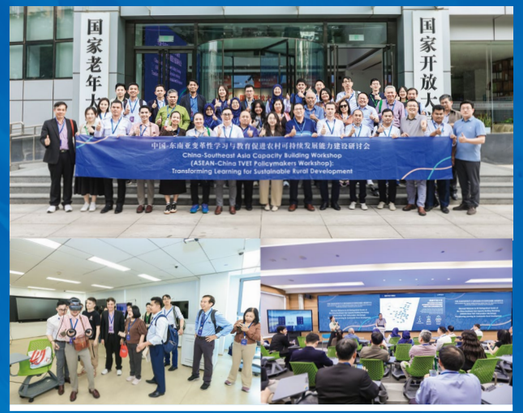
An Yan, Deputy Secretary-General of the China Education Association for International Exchange (CEAIE), pointed out that the friendly exchanges and mutual benefit between China and ASEAN cannot be separated from the extensive and in-depth exchanges and cooperation in the field of education all along. With the continuous expansion and upgrading of industrial cooperation between China and ASEAN in recent years, the strategic supporting role of vocational education has become increasingly prominent.

Shahbaz Khan, Director of the UNESCO Regional Office for East Asia, delivered a video speech. He pointed out that the cooperation and dialogue between China and ASEAN countries are of great practical significance and strategic value for transforming education policies into effective actions and jointly paving the path for sustainable rural development. He called on all countries in the region to join hands to build a cooperative network, continuously exert efforts in empowering rural and green transformation through education, and promote truly influential change practices.

During the keynote speech session, Deputy Director-General Li Yingli of the Department of Vocational and Adult Education, Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China, Yuan Ying, a lecturer at the School of Journalism and Communication, Beijing Normal University, and Zhu Min, an associate professor at the Institute of Vocational Education and Adult Education, School of Education, East China Normal University, shared their respective viewpoints and insights and put forward relevant initiatives.

During the national case sharing session, education policymakers and administrators from nine countries shared their countries' policy experiences and best practices in promoting sustainable rural development around topics such as the reform of the adult education system, the integration of industry and education in vocational education, the construction of lifelong learning mechanisms, the cultivation of rural talents, the integrated development of industries, the economic empowerment of women, and the innovative application of digital technology in rural education.

On the morning of June 17th, the UNESCO INRULED, in collaboration with the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ), held a workshop with the theme of "Empowering Women's Entrepreneurship through Vocational



Education" at BNU. The workshop delved deeply into topics such as women's empowerment, leadership development, and vocational education reform.

During their stay in Beijing, 34 international guests also participated in a three-day on-site investigation and exchange study, delving deeply into China's innovative practices in the construction of the vocational education system, the promotion of lifelong learning for all, and the use of information technology to facilitate educational equity.

On June 17th, international guests visited the Weigongcun Campus of the Open University of China.

On June 18th, international guests conducted an on-site inspection of the Cuihu Intelligent Greenhouse Vegetable Science and Technology Small Courtyard of China Agricultural University.

On June 19th, international guests visited several characteristic training bases of Changping Vocational School in Beijing on the spot.

The workshop has established an important platform for regional dialogue and cooperation. Through a combination of policy dialogue, case sharing and on-site investigation, it delved deeply into topics such as digital skills empowerment, green agricultural transformation, and innovative integration of industry and education, providing practical and feasible solutions for promoting sustainable rural development.

BNU Zhuhai Hosts Landmark 2025 ICSA China Conference for Global Statisticians

Article source: Zhuhai Campus | *Release date: 2025-07-07*

From June 28 to 30, 2025, the International Chinese Statistical Association (ICSA) China Conference was held at Beijing Normal University at Zhuhai (BNU Zhuhai). The conference was hosted by ICSA and co-organized by the Faculty of Arts and Sciences and the School of Statistics of BNU. The event drew over 600 prominent statisticians, experts, and university faculty and students from around the world, including the United States, Canada, Australia, the United Kingdom, and France. The opening ceremony was chaired by Professor Zhu Lixing, Co-Chair of the 2025 ICSA China Conference.

In his opening remarks, Professor Sun Hongpei, Member of the University Council, Vice President of BNU, and Director of the Administrative Committee of BNU Zhuhai, highlighted the theme of the conference "The Future of Statistics: Partnership and Innovation in the Data-Rich Era". He emphasized the conference's focus on the frontier developments in statistics and data science and their applications across various fields. As a Double First-Class university in China, BNU has actively promoted interdisciplinary and innovative development by leveraging the strategic location of its Zhuhai campus. Statistics has been identified as a key discipline under Guangdong Province's "Strengthen Weak Areas and Reinforce Strong Ones" initiative, achieving significant advances in theoretical and applied research. He expressed hope that the academic exchanges during the conference would inject new vitality


Professor Sun Hongpei delivers the opening remarks


Professor Zhu Lixing chairs the opening ceremony

into the development of statistics and data science.

Professor Zhao Hongyu, President of ICSA and faculty member at Yale University, reviewed the history and mission of the association. He noted that since its founding in 1987, ICSA has grown into one of the most influential academic organizations in the field of statistics, with over 2,200 active members worldwide. ICSA is committed to advancing the development of statistics and data science through conferences, journals, awards, and international collaboration. He emphasized that the 2025 ICSA China Conference is a flagship event, bringing together top scholars from around the globe and showcasing cutting-edge trends in statistical research.

Professor Wang Yuanjia chairs the invitational talks session

Professor Sun Wenguang delivers his keynote speech

Professor Zhao Hongyu introduces the development of ICSA

Professor Li Runze delivers his keynote speech

Professor Zheng Tian delivers her keynote speech

The conference featured a rich and diverse academic program, including three high-profile plenary lectures and 121 breakout sessions with over 480 presentations. Professor Li Runze from Pennsylvania State University, Professor Sun Wenguang from Zhejiang University, and Professor Zheng Tian from Columbia University delivered keynote speeches, presenting their latest research findings in frontier areas of statistics. The invitational talks were chaired by Professor Yuanjia Wang, Co-Chair of the 2025 ICSA China Conference. The parallel sessions provided a vibrant platform for in-depth scholarly exchange.

Parallel Sessions at 2025 ICSA China Conference

On the evening of June 29, the winners of the Junior Researcher Awards and Poster Awards were announced. The awards were presented by Professors Zhu Lixing, Wang Yuanjia, and Zhao Hongyu.

As one of the most prestigious international statistical societies, ICSA boasts a large number of globally renowned statisticians as board members and holds significant international influence. Since its inception, ICSA has held annual conferences in China. This year's conference showcased the latest innovations and developments in statistical methodology and data science, establishing a high-level platform for global academic exchange. It effectively fostered international collaboration and knowledge sharing, contributing significantly to innovation in the field and the production of internationally impactful research.

The 2025 International Conference on Cognitive and Psychological Assessment and Enhancement Was held at Beijing Normal University

Article source: Faculty of Psychology | *Release date: 2025-07-18*

In an era marked by rapid technological advancement and intensified global talent competition, cognitive abilities and psychological qualities have become key indicators

for identifying strategic talent. In line with the national strategy of accelerating the development of world-class talent hubs and innovation centres, the 2025 International Conference on Cognitive and Psychological Assessment and Enhancement(ICCPAE), hosted by Beijing Normal University(BNU) and jointly organized by the Faculty of Psychology at BNU and the The conference brings together leading experts and scholars from the fields of psychology, artificial intelligence and brain science both at home and abroad. Centering on the theme of "Learning Psychology to Lead Scientific Assessment, Employing Intellectualization to Foster Talent Development", it focuses on talent assessment, cultivation and development, and explores the application of AI technology in cognitive assessment, promoting innovation in psychological practice.

The conference invited experts and scholars from 13 countries and regions around the world, including the University of Cambridge, the University of Oxford, Columbia University, Université Paris Cité, the University of Melbourne, the University of Alberta, and the University of St. Gallen. Through academic exchange, technology showcases, and multi-level interactive format sthe conference promotes international collaboration and provides a high-level, interdisciplinary platform for global dialogue, presenting a splendid event of ideological collision and wisdom integration. The two-day conference

also attracted more than 800 participants, including university teachers and students, representatives of institutions, and business guests.

On the morning of July 11, the main forum of the 2025 ICCPAE was officially inaugurated. Chen Xing, vice President of BNU, Su Yanjie, President of the Chinese Psychological Society, and Qiao Zhihong, Party Secretary of the Faculty of Psychology at BNU, delivered speeches at the conference respectively. The opening ceremony was

presided over by Wang Jun, the deputy director of the Faculty of Psychology at BNU.

After the opening ceremony, the report session began. The two-day conference features one main forum and four sub-forums, covering a total of 33 presentation reports.

The main forum on July 11 featured 10 experts delivering wonderful reports on the deep integration of artificial intelligence technology with psychological measurement and educational measurement.

10th Anniversary Celebration of the Jingshi Philosophy Summer School, Opening Ceremony of the 10th Jingshi Philosophy Summer School and the 6th International Youth Program on Chinese Culture

Article source: School of Philosophy | *Release date: 2025-07-24*

On July 10, the "10th Anniversary Celebration of the Jingshi Philosophy Summer School, the Opening Ceremony of the 10th Jingshi Philosophy Summer School and the 6th International Youth Program on Chinese Culture" was held at Yingdong Academic Hall, Beijing Normal University. The program is jointly organized by the Center for Values and Culture Research, the School of Philosophy, the International Confucian Association, and the Jingshi Academy of Beijing Normal University. This year's program brought together 42 young scholars from 33 countries and regions, including France, Russia, the United Kingdom, the United States, Turkey, South Korea, and Chile. With the theme "Chinese Thought and Modern Civilization", the program aims to explore the intrinsic connection between China's fine traditional culture and modern civilization, promote global understanding, respect, and cultural integration, and contribute to building a community with a shared future for mankind.

Distinguished guests attending the opening ceremony included Chen Xing, Vice President of Beijing Normal University; Yu Jianfu, Vice President of the International Confucian Association; Pablo Arriarán, Ambassador of Chile to China; Han Zhen, Chairman of the Academic Committee of Beijing Normal University; Mircea Dumitru, Academician and Vice President of the Romanian Academy; Wu Xiangdong, Director of the Center for Values and Culture Research and Dean of the School of Philosophy, Beijing Normal University; Wang Yong, Director of the Department of Sinology Studies, Center for Language Education and Cooperation, Ministry of Education; Xiao Kai, Deputy Dean of the Jingshi Academy; Li Zhongshan, Deputy Director of the Office of International Exchange and Cooperation; Thomas Michael, Research Fellow at the Center for Values and Culture Research; Riccardo Pozzo, Italian sinologist and Professor at the University of Rome Tor Vergata; Hichem Messaoudi, Dean of the Higher Institute of Languages, University of Carthage, Tunisia; Cristóbal Apara, Secretary of the Embassy of Chile in China; and Tobias Zürn, Assistant Professor at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology. The ceremony was hosted by Dai Haiqiang, Assistant to the Dean of the School of Philosophy, Beijing Normal University.

The event opened with all guests and participants watching a video titled "Ten Years of the Summer School". The video reviewed the development of the Jingshi Philosophy Summer School over the past decade, retracing its journey step by step. Former participants, both domestic and international experts and scholars, as well as alumni from around the world, appeared in the video to extend their best wishes to the new cohort.

Chen Xing, Vice President of Beijing Normal University, extended a warm welcome to all distinguished guests, faculty, and students attending the event, and expressed heartfelt gratitude to the International Confucian Association for its long-standing support of the program, as well as to the project team for their dedication and hard work. Chen Xing shared the recent progress of Beijing Normal University's international education initiatives and introduced the profound academic tradition of the university's philosophy discipline. He noted that over the past decade, the Jingshi Philosophy Summer School has consistently focused on the theme of "Chinese Thought and Modern Civilization", aiming to guide young scholars from around the world in deeply understanding the continuity of Chinese civilization and the wisdom embedded in its traditions. The program, he emphasized, serves as a bridge for academic dialogue and cultural experience, allowing philosophy to become a living language of civilizational exchange. Chen Xing further stated that "Building a community with a shared future for mankind" represents China's answer to the question of the times. He expressed Beijing Normal University's commitment to working hand in hand with young people across the globe to build a future characterized by harmony in diversity and mutual flourishing.

Yu Jianfu, Vice President of the International Confucian Association, extended sincere greetings to all participants and expressed deep appreciation to Beijing Normal University. Reviewing the ten-year development journey of the program, he highly commended it as an important symbol of cultural exchange between China and the world. He noted that the International Confucian Association has long been committed to creating a platform for dialogue and mutual learning among civilizations. Over the past decade, the program has brought together more than 300 young scholars from over 50 countries and regions, becoming a cradle for nurturing cultural ambassadors. Many of its alumni, Yu Jianfu remarked, have gone on to become key contributors to the international promotion of Confucianism and to cross-cultural understanding. Yu Jianfu encouraged the young scholars in attendance to cherish this learning opportunity, engage in open-minded and inclusive exchanges, and devote themselves wholeheartedly to the program. He called on them to achieve both academic growth and personal insight, closely integrating learning, reflection, and practice, and to contribute their youthful energy to advancing the Global Civilization Initiative.

Ambassador Pablo Arriarán of Chile congratulated the opening of the event, noting that this year marks the 55th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Chile and China. He emphasized that the friendship between the two countries has withstood the test of time and continues to deepen. He highlighted the tangible progress achieved in areas such as cultural landmark cooperation, visa facilitation, and youth scholar exchanges, which fully reflect the close bond between the peoples of both nations. Looking to the future, Ambassador Arriarán stated

that Chile is willing to take the 55th anniversary of diplomatic ties as a new starting point to further strengthen academic and youth exchanges, and to foster dialogue across disciplines such as philosophy and artificial intelligence. He envisioned a future that is green, intelligent, and deeply humanistic, and called for allowing the light of philosophy to guide this shared journey—writing a new chapter in the cooperation between China and Chile and in the broader dialogue of world civilizations.

Wu Xiangdong, Director of the Center for Values and Culture Research and Dean of the School of Philosophy at Beijing Normal University, delivered the 10th Anniversary Summary Report of the Jingshi Philosophy Summer School on behalf of the Center and the School. He warmly welcomed all participating experts and young scholars from around the world and expressed sincere gratitude to the International Confucian Association and the Jingshi Academy for their long-standing support of the program. Wu Xiangdong noted that the past decade has been a period of dedicated effort, continuous exploration, and sustained innovation. With joint efforts from all sides, the program has remained committed to cultural exchange and dialogue among civilizations under the overarching theme of "Chinese Thought and Modern Civilization". Over the years, participants have engaged in in-depth discussions on key topics such as Confucian classics, Daoist wisdom, mutual learning between Eastern and Western civilizations, human nature and virtue, shared human values, and Chinese modernization. Through a combination of academic study and experiential learning, participants have been able to gain firsthand insights into Chinese philosophy. The program has invited renowned scholars from leading universities in China and abroad to deliver in-depth lectures from diverse perspectives, fostering intellectual exchange and the clash of ideas. Year after year, groups of young scholars have come together here to gain understanding, build friendship, and become both participants and witnesses to the dialogue among civilizations. After ten years of dedicated cultivation, the "Chinese Thought and Modern Civilization" Summer School has developed into a significant international platform that brings together global talent and promotes mutual learning among civilizations. This year's program centers on three key themes — "Confucian Thought and Modern Life", "Classical Interpretation and Civilizational Dialogue", and "Artificial Intelligence and Humanistic Values". The aim is to encourage young scholars to explore the modern applications and humanistic significance of Chinese wisdom, seeking inspiration for addressing the pressing questions of our time. Wu Xiangdong emphasized that the

School of Philosophy and the Center for Values and Culture Research, a key research base of the Ministry of Education, have long been committed to the inheritance and international development of Chinese culture. He expressed the hope that young scholars from around the world will make full use of this platform to stay attuned to the pulse of the times, engage in deep academic exchange, and work together to advance the progress and development of human civilization.

Former participant Aryan Mohammad Hussain from Nanjing Normal University and current participant Sherwood Zara Olivia from the University of Manchester delivered speeches at the event. In his address, Aryan Mohammad Hussain shared his reflections on participating in the program, describing it as a valuable platform for young people worldwide to explore Confucian thought and Chinese culture. Drawing on his personal experience, he illustrated the commonalities between Confucian core values—such as the concept of xiao (filial piety)—and the values upheld in his own culture. Recalling the friendships he built with participants from more than 30 countries last year through open dialogue and mutual respect, he encouraged this year's participants to gain a deeper understanding of the contemporary relevance of Chinese culture. He urged them to let curiosity foster dialogue and inclusiveness build bridges, so that diversity may become a driving force for mutual learning among civilizations.

Sherwood Zara Olivia, in her speech, shared her understanding of Chinese culture. She observed that China's remarkable progress over the past half century stems not only from its economic strategies but also from its philosophical traditions rooted in Confucian thought. While Western societies emphasize individual innovation, she noted, China's collective strength and discipline arise from the integrated influences of Confucianism, Buddhism, and Daoism—values embodied in the nation's enduring respect for elders and education, pursuit of social harmony, and commitment to familial and societal responsibilities. Zara highlighted that China's success in integrating ancient wisdom into modern civilization lies in the continued practical relevance of these timeless principles to contemporary life. She concluded by saying that this year's program offers a unique opportunity for young people around the world to study cultural differences, and she looks forward to engaging with fellow participants in exploring their civilizational roots and the balance between the individual, the family, and society.

Han Zhen delivered a keynote speech titled "Civilizations Advance through Exchange and Mutual Learning". Han Zhen emphasized that civilizational interaction must be grounded in the understanding of differences. On this basis, he shared three principles for promoting dialogue among civilizations: First, "understanding through empathy"—which means seeking the basis for dialogue from humanity's shared needs for coexistence, respecting the historical particularity of others, and overcoming cognitive limitations such as the "myth of race" and the "myth of the cave". Second,

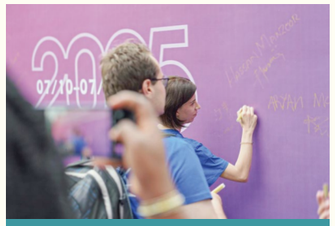
"harmony without uniformity", which he noted is not only a strategy for interaction but also a precondition for the realization of genuine dialogue. Third, "fusion of horizons", through which continuous dialogue enables civilizations to transcend their own particularities and distill shared values. Han Zhen concluded that empathic understanding, harmony in diversity, and universal harmony under Heaven are principles deeply cherished by the Chinese nation and upheld by the Chinese people, holding practical significance for the management of international relations today.

Mircea Dumitru, Academician and Vice President of the Romanian Academy, delivered a keynote lecture comparing Aristotle's and Confucius' conceptions of friendship. He explained that Aristotle classified friendship into three types—utility-based, pleasure-based, and virtue-based friendship oriented toward the self. Aristotle regarded virtue friendship as the highest form, grounded in mutual recognition and the sharing of moral excellence, which fosters happiness. Its metaphysical foundation, he noted, lies in the love of individual substance rather than universal attributes. In contrast, Confucius did not systematically categorize friendships but incorporated them into a moral framework encompassing ren (benevolence) and li (ritual propriety).

He advocated "using friendship to cultivate benevolence", emphasizing self-improvement and social harmony through moral reflection. Both thinkers, Dumitru observed, transcended emotional attachment and rejected utilitarian or pleasure-based friendship as the highest form. Their difference lies in orientation: Aristotle stressed the political value of friendship in rational life, while Confucius emphasized its educational and moral function within hierarchical relationships. For Aristotle, friendship begins with self-love, whereas for Confucius, it centers on mutual respect. Dumitru expressed hope that such comparisons would offer participants an insightful case study into how ancient civilizations can learn from and illuminate one another.

Thomas Michael, Research Fellow at Beijing Normal University's Center for Values and Culture Research, shared his reflections on the symbiotic relationship between Chinese thought and modern civilization. He noted that placing "Chinese Thought" and "Modern Civilization" side by side represents a profound innovation in today's global discourse, demonstrating both the guiding role of Chinese philosophy in the development of world civilization and the necessity of cross-cultural dialogue. Philosophy, he argued, not

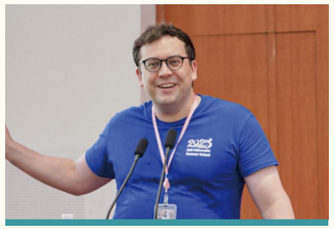
only provides the foundational support for science and society but also offers meaning and direction in response to the crises of modernity. Michael elaborated on the value of comparative philosophy, advocating for an approach that explores themes such as selfhood, ethical models, and ecological philosophy through mutual reflection between Chinese and Western thought. He highlighted the significance of traditional Chinese concepts such as "ren" (benevolence), "he" (harmony), "de" (virtue), "qi" (vital force), and "the unity of heaven and humanity", emphasizing their relevance for building a sustainable, inclusive, and humanistic modern civilization. He encouraged young scholars to use comparative philosophy as a bridge for cross-cultural understanding and to contribute to the co-building and co-flourishing of a global community of civilizations.



Students Signing the Commemorative Board

Jiang Limei from the School of Philosophy, Beijing Normal University. Xiao Kai, Deputy Dean of the Jingshi Academy, delivered opening remarks. He recalled the origins and early development of the international summer school program, affirmed the continued importance of deepening cross-cultural exchanges, and expressed high expectations for the Youth Leaders Workshop as a platform to promote meaningful dialogue among young scholars.

"Three in the Morning and Four in the Evening" and "The Usefulness of the Useless". He reflected on the plural possibilities of life's meaning, advocating for an active engagement of the imaginative self to confront existential dilemmas and overcome rigid theoretical perspectives in contemporary thought.



Hazman Baharom, a 2021 participant from Waseda University, Japan, shared his insights under the theme "Philosophical Practice in the Malaysian Context". He emphasized philosophy's

With these insightful addresses, the Opening Ceremony of the 10th Anniversary Celebration of the Jingshi Philosophy Summer School, the 10th Jingshi Philosophy Summer School, and the 6th International Youth Program on Chinese Culture successfully concluded.

As a key event of the 10th Anniversary Celebration of the Jingshi Philosophy Summer School, a "Youth Leaders Workshop" was held on the afternoon of the same day, moderated by Professor

Former participants of the summer school then shared their latest research achievements in the study of Chinese philosophy and social culture, drawing on their experiences in previous sessions that combined cultural immersion with philosophical inquiry.

Lucas Scripter, a 2018 participant from the Hong Kong Polytechnic University and a scholar from the United States, began with classic parables from Zhuangzi—such as

potential role in a multicultural society as a platform for dialogue across religious and epistemological systems, highlighting its public value in youth education, daily life, and inter-ideological discourse.

Liu Huaqing, a 2022 participant from Renmin University of China and a scholar from Singapore, presented new reflections on the concept of "Tian" (Heaven) in The Analects. He examined the multiple dimensions

of "Heaven" in Confucian classics and proposed a profound connection between "Tianming" (Mandate of Heaven) and "Tian", arguing that this concept offers rich philosophical resources for contemporary discourse.

Constanza Fernanda Jorquera Mery, a 2022 participant from the University of Santiago, Chile, discussed the shared notion of "Humanity" in China–Chile diplomatic relations. She pointed out that drawing on Confucian humanistic ideals, both nations have

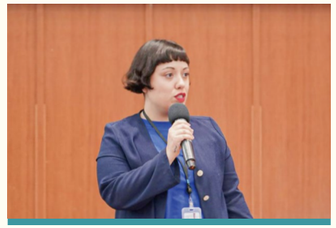
System". She proposed a new path of "wise democracy" that integrates moral concern with civic rationality.

Tlesh Mamakhatov, a 2023 participant from the Institute of China and Contemporary Asia, Russian Academy of Sciences, analyzed China's moral leadership in promoting BRICS cooperation and advancing a multipolar and cooperative global South, arguing that China plays a pivotal role in shaping a fairer and more sustainable international order.

theory. He suggested that China, by integrating historical materialism with Confucian philosophy in constructing a new socialist state model, is pioneering innovative possibilities in global political philosophy.

Aryan Mohammad Hussain, a 2024 participant from Nanjing Normal University, discussed the value of the concept "Harmony without Uniformity" in cross-cultural language communication under the Belt and Road Initiative. He analyzed its unique role in the development of Confucius Institutes

and the promotion of Chinese language and cultural image worldwide.



built cooperation on humanitarian principles and win-win transnational collaboration, embodying a shared sense of responsibility in addressing global challenges.

Pilar Sánchez Ordóñez, a 2023 participant from the University of Buenos Aires, Argentina, explored how Confucian thought can respond to modern democratic crises, reflecting on advanced topics in political philosophy such as "The Tianxia

Gabriel Jacobina Marques, a 2023 participant from the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, examined how the Confucian concept of "the state" challenges modern secular political

During the open discussion session, Thomas Michael introduced the topics, prompting a lively exchange among participating faculty and students. Discussions centered on the philosophical implications of the concept "Harmony without Uniformity", issues of philological analysis and cross-linguistic communication, the religious dimensions of Chinese philosophy, and differences in epistemological frameworks between Eastern and Western philosophical traditions. Professor Riccardo Pozzo of the University of Rome Tor Vergata and Professor Tobias Zürn of the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology offered insightful commentaries on the discussions.

Students participating in the discussion

Commentary by Professor Tobias Zürn, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

Commentary by Professor Riccardo Pozzo, University of Rome Tor Vergata

Lively atmosphere at the event

The 2025 10th Jingshi Philosophy Summer School welcomed 42 young scholars from 33 leading universities in China and abroad. Through a rich array of academic activities, participants will engage in in-depth discussions and exchanges with global peers on the core values of Chinese culture. Over the course of more than ten days, the participants will take part in a diverse range of learning activities—including a series of lectures, the "Thinking China" Roundtable Forum, cultural immersion programs, study tours, group discussions, artistic creation, and academic presentations. By combining academic inquiry with cultural experience, the program aims to deepen participants' understanding of the core values embedded in traditional Chinese culture and contemporary Chinese civilization, while fostering broad and meaningful exchanges among young scholars from around the world.

2025 "Belt and Road" Forum on Language Education and Culture & International Conference on English Language Education in China Held at Beijing Normal University

Article source: School of Foreign Languages and Literature | *Release date: 2025-07-26*

On July 25, the 2025 "Belt and Road" Forum on Language Education and Culture & International Conference on English Language Education in China was held at Beijing Normal University (BNU). The event was co-hosted by China Daily, Beijing Normal University, and Shanghai International Studies University, with academic guidance provided by the China Association for Comparative Studies of English and Chinese, the Foreign Language Teaching Committee of the Chinese Society of Education, the International Research Foundation for English Language Education (TIRF), and the British Council. The forum aimed to promote dialogue and cooperation in language education and culture between China and the rest of the world, creating a high-level platform for international exchange and learning among language educators. It seeks to advance the construction of an education powerhouse through international cooperation and to promote the high-quality development of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) through language and cultural exchange.

Attending the opening ceremony were Du Jiangfeng, Vice Minister of Education; Qu Yingpu, President and Editor-in-Chief of China Daily; Yin Dongmei, Secretary of the Party Committee of Shanghai International Studies University;

Wang Ming, Vice President of Beijing Normal University; as well as representatives from the member institutions of the Belt and Road Language Education and Culture Organization Alliance, among other distinguished guests.

In his remarks, Vice Minister Du Jiangfeng emphasized that since the launch of the Belt and Road Initiative, the Ministry of Education has consistently regarded language connectivity as an important means of supporting its high-quality implementation. On one hand, China has continued to improve its foreign language education system, achieving coverage of nearly all official languages spoken in Belt and Road partner countries; on the other, it has actively promoted the global learning of Chinese, making the language more accessible to learners worldwide. He called on Chinese and international educators to jointly develop

intelligent, innovation-driven education models, build diverse and capable teaching teams, and establish inclusive systems for exchange and cooperation. By advancing the high-quality development of language education, he said, the sector can make stronger contributions to building a community with a shared future for mankind.

Qu Yingpu, President and Editor-in-Chief of China Daily, stated that international language education plays a vital role in carrying forward outstanding cultures and advancing human civilization. He noted that the revolution in artificial intelligence (AI) is reshaping global knowledge dissemination and cultural exchange, and that educators must both stay true to their mission and adapt to change to contribute to the Belt and Road's high-quality development. Qu Yingpu proposed three approaches: Using AI to reshape the new ecosystem of language education and build a "smart foundation" for inheriting the Silk Road spirit; Deepening cultural exchange through language education to strengthen the "spiritual bond" supporting high-quality BRI cooperation; and Promoting youth dialogue to create new landscapes of cultural interaction and nurture future ambassadors for building a community with a shared future for mankind.

Yin Dongmei, Secretary of the Party Committee of Shanghai International Studies University, remarked that as the Belt and Road Initiative continues to advance, civilizational exchange and mutual learning have deepened, placing higher demands on talents with language proficiency and cross-cultural understanding. She pointed

out that language intelligence technologies are increasingly driving innovation and becoming a key force in promoting mutual learning and collaborative progress among civilizations. Foreign language education, she emphasized, should seize this technological momentum, accelerating the deep integration of AI and language education. At the same time, it must remain true to its mission—continuing to deepen cultural and linguistic exchanges, enhance the cross-cultural communication skills and global competence of young people, and inject strong impetus into people-to-people connectivity under the Belt and Road framework.

Wang Ming, Vice President of Beijing Normal University, stated that in the context of deepening Belt and Road cooperation and the transformative impact of AI on education, foreign language education must closely align with national strategies and global collaboration needs.

It should proactively embrace change and build a solid foundation for cultivating talents for the future. He noted that in recent years, Beijing Normal University has led theoretical innovation in foreign language education, promoted national curriculum reform, and implemented the "Excellent Teacher Program" to train a large number of outstanding foreign language teachers for underdeveloped regions in central and western China. BNU, he said, will continue to expand cooperation with partners at home and abroad, jointly promoting the high-quality development of English education in China, and contributing new momentum and wisdom to civilizational exchange and mutual learning between China and the world.

Christopher Graham, President of the International Association of Teachers of English as a Foreign Language (IATEFL), remarked that in an era when AI is profoundly transforming education, foreign language teachers bear the mission of cultivating a new generation with global vision, technological literacy, and cultural understanding. He expressed IATEFL's willingness to strengthen academic collaboration with the Belt and Road Language Education and Culture Organization Alliance, building a broader platform for cooperation among English teachers in China, across Asia, and around the world. The organization will promote professional development, experience sharing, and innovative growth in English education, contributing to the advancement of global language teaching and learning.

At the opening ceremony, the "Belt and Road International Framework for English Teachers' Professional Development" (Chinese–English bilingual edition) was officially released. The Framework was led and developed by the Belt and Road Language Education and Culture Organization Alliance, with 21 internationally renowned experts from 14 countries participating in its review and certification process. As a major academic achievement of the Alliance, the Framework not only embodies China's contribution and wisdom in the global field of English education, but also reflects a broad international consensus on promoting mutual learning among civilizations through linguistic connectivity. It aims to strengthen policy dialogue and standard alignment in language education among Belt and Road partner countries, providing new momentum for the professional development of English teachers worldwide.

The 2025 Belt and Road Forum on Language Education and Culture, themed "Carrying Forward the Silk Road Spirit, Deepening Civilizational Exchange", is an annual high-level academic forum organized by the Belt and Road Language Education and Culture Organization Alliance. Founded in October 2023 under the leadership of China Daily, the Alliance is committed to promoting language connectivity among Belt and Road partner countries, supporting the sustainable and high-quality development of the Belt and Road Initiative. The Alliance currently has 70 member institutions across 50 countries and regions on five continents, and its global network and influence continue to expand.

The International Conference on English Language Education in China, established in 2018, has been successfully held seven times and has grown into one of the most influential international conferences on language education in Asia and beyond. This year's conference centers on the theme "Building a New Digital Ecosystem for Foreign Language Education in the Age of AI". It features nine keynote speeches and roundtable dialogues as well as 36 parallel sessions. Participants will jointly explore emerging trends in English education in China and around the world in the era of artificial intelligence, promoting cultural exchange and civilizational dialogue through language connectivity, and contributing China's wisdom and solutions to the reform and advancement of global foreign language education.

Human-AI Collaboration: Reshaping the Educational Ecosystem for the Future and Ushering in a New Era of Smart Education Together—Global Smart Education Conference 2025 Unveiled in Beijing

Article source: National Engineering Research Center of Cyberlearning and Intelligent Technology ,Office of International Exchange & Cooperation | Release date: 2025-08-20

On August 18, the 2025 Global Smart Education Conference opened at Beijing Normal University's Changping Campus. Themed "Human–Machine Collaboration: Shaping a New Educational Ecosystem", the conference brought together experts and scholars from the fields of education, technology, and industry, as well as front-line educators from China and abroad. Participants explored innovative pathways for the deep integration of emerging technologies and education, shared new practices in human–machine co-learning, co-teaching, and co-development, and reflected on how to build a safe, efficient, and sustainable new ecosystem for smart education.

Focusing on Key Themes to Envision the Ideal Model of Smart Education

Standing at the historical starting point of the "First Year of Smart Education", the digital transformation of education is entering a critical stage of breakthrough and acceleration. As the ideal form of educational reform and development in the intelligent era, smart education represents the ultimate goal of education's digital transformation. Building a community of shared future for smart education requires joint efforts from governments, schools, and enterprises. Together, they must meet the challenges brought by new technologies, seize emerging opportunities for educational advancement, and lay a solid foundation for cultivating talents capable of adapting to future development.

At the opening ceremony of the 2025 Global Smart Education Conference, Wu Yan, Vice Minister of Education of China, delivered a keynote speech emphasizing that the Chinese government attaches great importance to educational digitalization, viewing it as a key breakthrough for opening new pathways in educational development and fostering new competitive advantages. Wu Yan noted that the rapid evolution of artificial intelligence is profoundly reshaping education, and that digital transformation has become a strategic imperative central to the success of China's endeavor to build an education powerhouse. Over the past three years, China has advanced the deep integration of AI across all areas of education, bringing about five major transformations. First, AI is transforming how students learn by creating fair, intelligent, and accessible learning environments that realize the vision of inclusive education, particularly supporting special education. Second, it is transforming how teachers teach by embedding AI throughout the entire instructional process, enabling the accumulation and sharing of high-quality resources. Third, it is transforming school management by enhancing the precision of decision-making and the quality of services, driving the intelligent modernization of education governance. Fourth, it is reshaping research paradigms in higher education, leading to breakthroughs in frontier fields such as quantum computing and biopharmaceuticals. Fifth, it is redefining the very form of education by transforming teacher–student relationships and reconstructing the spatial structure of schools. Wu Yan also introduced China's Smart Education Development Framework, which outlines the "Three New" and the "Four Futures". The "Three New" refer to moving from digitalization to a new stage of smart education, establishing competency-based new standards for talent cultivation, and exploring new paths for future educational reform. The "Four Futures" highlight cultivating future-oriented teachers, building future classrooms, developing future schools, and creating future learning centers. He concluded by calling for joint global efforts to transcend the traditional boundaries of education and work together toward a brighter, smarter, and more inclusive future for education worldwide.

At the opening ceremony, Yu Jihong, President of Beijing Normal University, emphasized that with the rapid advancement of generative artificial intelligence and big data technologies, education is undergoing a profound transformation, and digitalization has become an inevitable trend in global educational reform. As a leading institution in teacher education in China, Beijing Normal University has actively responded to national strategies by vigorously advancing the National Education Digitalization Demonstration Initiative, launching a special reform program on "AI + Higher Education", and promoting the "Teacher Strengthening Project". As the founding Chair and Co-Secretary-General of the World Digital Education Alliance, BNU has also taken a leading role in promoting the cross-border exchange of digital education concepts and resources through international platforms, contributing China's wisdom to global educational innovation. Addressing the question of "Education in the Age of Intelligence", Yu Jihong stressed that universities must shoulder their historical mission and take the initiative to lead digital transformation in education, integrate AI deeply into teaching and learning, and innovate talent development paradigms to build new models for cultivating top-tier and innovative talents. She also called for strengthening interdisciplinary integration to drive original breakthroughs and expanding global digital education cooperation to promote the sustainable development of education for all humankind. Yu Jihong concluded by calling on the global community to explore new pathways for smart education through open dialogue and collaborative practice, injecting sustained momentum into educational transformation worldwide.

Mohamed Ould Amar, Director-General of the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (ALECSO), noted that artificial intelligence, as an unprecedented technological force, is driving transformative change in education by enhancing quality and expanding access. He stated that ALECSO, together with UNESCO, attaches great importance to the ethical governance and responsible application of AI, promoting the formulation of initiatives and strategic plans to ensure its constructive use in education, culture, and scientific research. He emphasized that AI should serve as an instrument for bridging educational divides and advancing fairness and inclusiveness in education.

Fung Yuen-mei, Board Member of the Hong Kong Jockey Club, stated that smart education is not only about technological innovation but, more importantly, about supporting the comprehensive development of children and adolescents. She introduced the Club's three-stage smart education model, which focuses on "emotional empowerment, competency building, and adaptive enablement" to help young people grow into capable and responsible citizens. She expressed her hope to deepen cooperation with global partners in building a new paradigm of open, shared, and inclusive future education.

Releasing New Achievements and Contributing China's Vision for Smart Education

Smart education has become a central agenda in global educational development. The international community is striving to renew educational concepts, transform learning models, innovate teaching methods, and promote demand-driven learning, jointly envisioning and realizing a future education blueprint empowered by technology, characterized by green development and open cooperation. China regards smart education as an integral part of its national strategy for educational modernization and actively participates in global education governance, contributing China's approach to smart education.

At the opening ceremony, Professor Huang Ronghuai, Co-Dean of the Smart Learning Institute of Beijing Normal University and Chairholder of the UNESCO Chair on Artificial Intelligence and Education, released his new book Smart Education: Pathways Toward Education 2050, published by the Education Science Press and included in the National Publication Fund Project. As part of the Smart Education Development Series, the book encapsulates more than a decade of theoretical exploration and practical experience by Professor Huang and his team in the field of smart education. It focuses on the key challenges of educational transformation and responds to shared global concerns about the future of education.

Professor Huang noted that Beijing Normal University, grounded in its strong tradition of teacher education, has been fostering international dialogue in this field since launching the China–U.S. Smart Education Conference in 2016. The university has since collaborated with UNESCO and other leading global institutions to establish the National Joint Research Program on Smart Education and to initiate the Global Smart Education Network (GSENet), dedicated to promoting inclusive, future-oriented education. Smart Education: Pathways Toward Education 2050 is organized around the logic of "examining the global digital transformation process, identifying the core forms of smart education, optimizing pathways for digital transition, and envisioning the educational landscape of the intelligent era". It aims to explore how smart education can become a shared global goal for education by 2050. The book consists of four parts—digital transformation in education, performative characteristics of smart education, and future visions of smart education—offering a panoramic research framework to provide both academic insights and practical approaches for educational transformation in the age of intelligence. The work not only serves China's national strategies but also responds proactively to the global consensus on education development toward 2050, contributing a universally valuable "Chinese solution" to the global education community.

Professor Chen Li of Beijing Normal University's Faculty of Education presented her team's research titled "AI-Enabled Innovation Framework for China's Student Competency Assessment". Supported by projects from the Ministry of Science and Technology and the Ministry of Education, the team developed the SEED Platform using multimodal data processing technologies to reconstruct assessment models and provide nationally comparable feedback on student development levels. The platform offers intelligent and precise holistic competency evaluations for students in Grades 3–11, marking a major innovation in China's student assessment system.

During the conference, a series of significant outcomes and initiatives will also be released, including but not limited to: the UNESCO Artificial Intelligence Competency Framework; the Regional Learning Science Community of Practice Initiative; the East Asia Edition of the Global Education Monitoring Report (GEM Report) 2024/2025 — Leading Education Technology Development: Focusing on Educational Leadership and Digital Transformation; the Launch Ceremony of the AI-Driven Teaching and Learning Application Demonstration Initiative; the UNESCO E-Library for Teachers thematic event and short video series "The Future of AI and Education — The Future Is Now"; the establishment of the Education Digital Transformation Consortium; and the debut of the EDA Platform.

Joint Global Actions to Deepen Smart Education Practices Worldwide

The concept of a "social contract" advocated by UNESCO, along with the inclusive digital future vision proposed in the Global Digital Compact, provides important guidance for international cooperation in smart education. Through policy dialogue, knowledge sharing, and joint initiatives, the global community is called to address the pressing challenges posed by intelligent technologies—such as inclusion, equity, ethics, and safety in education—while accelerating the global flow and equitable sharing of quality educational resources, ensuring that the benefits of smart education truly reach learners around the world.

Stefania Giannini, UNESCO Assistant Director-General for Education, delivered a video address emphasizing that the development of artificial intelligence must remain "human-centered". She stated that education systems must undergo systematic restructuring to adapt to paradigm shifts in learning. Giannini warned that excessive reliance on AI could erode learners' autonomy and decision-making capacity, and she urged adherence to education's four foundational pillars — learning, thinking, being, and developing — to ensure that technology enhances rather than weakens judgment, responsibility, and humanity. She expressed hope for deeper collaboration with Beijing Normal University, universities, and research institutions worldwide to ensure that AI truly empowers teachers and students and contributes to the advancement of global higher education.

Dubravka Bošnjak, Minister of Civil Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina, underscored that global education is undergoing profound transformation driven by artificial intelligence and must leverage human–machine collaboration to respond effectively. She announced that Bosnia and Herzegovina will implement several initiatives to promote educational equity and development, including ensuring fair access to data and internet resources for all students, reducing the digital divide, enhancing teacher training to strengthen technological competence and leadership, and developing unified global ethical standards to ensure that AI serves as a responsible educational tool.

Marie-Thérèse Sombo Ayane, Minister of Higher Education and Universities of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, observed that while knowledge has never been more accessible, disparities in access still persist. She emphasized that smart education is meaningful only when it benefits everyone. She called for global commitment to three guiding principles — universal access, ethical responsibility, and active cooperation — and urged all countries to jointly build inclusive digital learning hubs to ensure equal educational opportunities for every child.

Ali Haidar Ahmed, Minister of Higher Education, Labour and Skills Development of the Maldives, noted that digital education holds transformative power to drive systemic reform and future development. He called for enhancing teachers' digital literacy and skills, drawing on international best practices to bridge digital divides, and integrating emerging technologies to construct a fair and inclusive educational ecosystem.

Moustapha Mamba Guirassy, Minister of National Education of Senegal, highlighted that digital transformation concerns not only technology but also cultural heritage and social inclusion. Education, he said, must be rooted in local communities while remaining globally connected. He urged international and private-sector cooperation to support inclusive education and ethical AI applications, emphasizing that data is central to achieving fairness and localization in AI. Only through content, collaboration, and connectivity, he said, can true educational transformation be realized.

Sherif Kishk, Assistant Minister for Smart Governance at Egypt's Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, stated that education is shifting from knowledge transmission to technology-enabled empowerment of learners. He emphasized that AI should play a supportive role, ensuring fairness and accessibility while avoiding the exacerbation of inequality or suppression of human creativity. Kishk called for stronger international cooperation to share experiences and expertise, jointly advancing the global development of smart education.

Douglas Munsaka Syakalima, Minister of Education of Zambia, asserted that digital education has become a basic right of the 21st century, yet the digital divide remains significant, especially in landlocked countries. He proposed that digital education should focus on three priorities: providing lifelong learning skills and platforms; promoting innovative learning through peer exchange, creative training, and climate action; and enhancing educational inclusiveness by supporting learners and teachers with disabilities.

Asha S. Kanwar, Chair of the Governing Board of the UNESCO Institute for Information Technologies in Education (IITE) and Distinguished Professor at Beijing Normal University, released the 2025 GSENet Annual Report, titled "Smart Education in the Age of AI: New Horizons". She noted that smart education has evolved beyond technological integration into a learner-centered model that blends social-emotional learning

and inclusive development, representing both a vision and a goal for the future of education.Kanwar called for strengthening global partnerships through platforms such as GSENet, encouraging evidence-based policymaking through collaboration among governments, institutions, and societies, and advancing sustainable educational transformation. She highlighted the importance of building the "4C" — Connectivity, Content, Competence, and Collaboration — particularly in Africa, and learning from the experiences of countries like China to achieve technologically empowered educational modernization.

Guo Xinli,Vice President of the China Association of Higher Education, delivered a speech on the development of digital education in the AI era in China. He stated that artificial intelligence represents both a strategic opportunity and a key variable influencing the future of education. AI, he noted, is driving profound transformations in teaching, learning, and research, reshaping the traditional classroom structure and placing new demands on teachers. Guo Xinli shared case studies from Shandong University, where AI has been used to empower teaching innovation, and called for accelerating the creation of new models of education suited to the intelligent era to better support students' holistic development and individualized growth.

Innovative Technologies Forging a New Human–Machine Collaborative Education Ecosystem

Technological innovation is not only about the application of new tools, but more importantly about driving a deeper transformation in educational philosophy — toward a co-creative and shared view of knowledge, an intelligent and connected view of learning, an open and integrative view of curriculum, and a human–machine collaborative view of teaching. Seizing the opportunities brought by rapid technological advancement requires the continued deep integration of technology and education to build an open, inclusive, and adaptive educational ecosystem that meets the demands of the intelligent era.

Wang Xiaoyun, Professor at Tsinghua University and Academician of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, delivered a keynote speech titled "Cryptographic Technologies and Artificial Intelligence Security". She emphasized that AI security has become a global concern, and that cryptography provides the fundamental safeguard for addressing related challenges. According to Wang, AI can assist cryptanalysis — for instance, by using machine learning to break DRS lattice signatures or to enhance symmetric cipher analysis. Conversely, cryptographic technologies can also empower AI security through privacy-preserving computation methods such as fully homomorphic encryption and zero-knowledge proofs, enabling "usable but invisible" large-model reasoning and providing provably secure paradigms for data protection in AI systems. She underscored the need for deep integration between AI and cryptography, using cryptographic innovations to strengthen AI security defenses while harnessing AI to advance cryptographic algorithm design — a synergy essential to meeting the security challenges of the intelligent era.

Manos Antoninis, Director of the UNESCO Global Education Monitoring (GEM) Report Team, presented a report titled "Human-Centered Technological Development: Insights from the Global Education Monitoring Report". He stressed that the integration of educational technologies must be guided by clear principles to ensure scalability, equity, sustainability, and local adaptability. Antoninis cautioned that digital technologies should serve as constructive complements to human interaction rather than replacements for it. He called for always keeping students' interests at the core, focusing on tangible learning outcomes rather than mere digital investment, in order to achieve genuine educational progress.

Li Yongzhi, President of the National Institute of Educational Sciences, delivered a keynote speech titled "AI Redefining Education: New Explorations in China's Smart Education Development". He pointed out that the urgent task of educational reform lies in reconstructing the logic of the curriculum, emphasizing that "what to learn" is more important than "how to learn". Li Yongzhi shared key findings from the China Smart Education Development Report (2024–2025), which is structured around the framework of "3C foundations, 3I innovation pathways, and application-driven priorities". The report aims to contribute China's wisdom and solutions to the global transformation of education in the AI era.

Liu Dejian, Founder and Chairman of NetDragon Websoft Holdings Limited, and Simon Leung, Vice Chairman and Executive Director, delivered a joint keynote titled "AI Empowerment: Making Learning More Experiential". Appearing through a digital human avatar, Liu Dejian noted that future experiential learning will rely on on-demand, AI-assisted learning supported by machine systems, and that NetDragon's AI Production Center and EDA Platform are designed to make this vision a reality. Simon Leung added that the EDA Platform functions as a collaborative ecosystem that welcomes participation from teachers, students, government officials, and content creators, and plays an important role in advancing smart education worldwide. He expressed hope that countries would leverage the EDA Platform to build learning societies and jointly promote global educational development.

Omar Baig, Chief Information and Technology Officer of UNESCO, presented a report proposing the establishment of an Integrated Data Center for UNESCO to harness AI-powered insights in advancing the organization's programs. The data center, he explained, will enable large-scale data management and interoperability, accelerate analytical capacity, and allow quicker responses to complex global challenges. By innovating workflows and enhancing project performance monitoring, it will strengthen UNESCO's ability to deliver precise, data-informed strategies across its key mandates — including global education, natural sciences, and cultural heritage protection. Baig called for broad participation from all sectors of society to support this initiative.

Yuan Jun, Deputy Director of the National Institute for Data Development, delivered a report titled "Accelerating the Development of High-Quality Data Sets in Education to Advance Smart Education at a High Level". He emphasized that in the digital economy era, data has become a new factor of production and a core resource driving artificial intelligence. High-quality data sets, he said, are fundamental to empowering smart education.Yuan proposed three key measures: aligning with practical needs and setting clear development goals; improving standards and norms to establish systematic development pathways; and innovating institutional mechanisms to foster a vibrant industrial ecosystem.

Nie Xiaolin, Co-founder, Director, and Senior Vice President of iFLYTEK, presented a report titled "Mutual Empowerment and Co-evolution: Exploratory Practices in AI–Education Integration". He highlighted that artificial intelligence and education are forming a "dual-empowerment cycle". On one hand, AI is increasingly empowering education and teaching at scale — technologies such as iFLYTEK's Spark Large Model have been applied in diverse educational scenarios, including college entrance exam evaluation, classroom interaction, physical education, and mental health. On the other hand, education is feeding back into AI development, as high-quality teaching data and pedagogical design standards continually enhance large-model capabilities, achieving a symbiotic relationship where "AI empowers education, and education empowers AI". Nie Xiaolin called for joint global efforts to build secure and controllable education-focused large models, share best practices, and collaboratively advance the intelligent upgrading of the global education ecosystem.

Curtis J. Bonk, Professor at Indiana University (U.S.), delivered a keynote speech titled "Dawn: Artificial Intelligence and the New Era of Self-Directed Learning". He stated that AI offers new opportunities for self-guided learning, enabling students to make autonomous choices about learning content and methods. Highlighting the global rise of open education and online courses, Bonk noted their importance in helping students acquire self-directed learning skills. He shared his PA-SDA model and practical guidelines for self-directed learning and urged the global community to leverage AI and emerging technologies to make this learning model accessible to all.

Chen Xing, Vice President of Beijing Normal University, presided over the opening ceremony of the conference. Kaviraj Sukon, Minister of Higher Education, Science and Research of Mauritius, chaired the High-Level Opening Dialogue. The plenary session "Human–Machine Collaboration: Shaping a New Educational Ecosystem"

Agenda of the 2025 Global Smart Education Conference

was co-chaired by Zhan Tao, Director of the UNESCO Institute for Information Technologies in Education (IITE); Sarena Shivers, Member of the Board of Directors of the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE); and Habibah Abdul Rahim, Secretary-General of the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization (SEAMEO).

The 2025 Global Smart Education Conference spanned three days, featuring two plenary sessions, 17 parallel sessions, four thematic forums, and four special events. The conference also included a Smart Education Exhibition, the Global Smart Education Innovation Awards Ceremony, and the release of the Global Smart Education Cooperation Initiative.Covering a full spectrum of education — from early childhood, basic, higher, and vocational education to lifelong learning — the conference explored key topics such as human–machine collaborative teaching, student assessment, digital leadership, intelligent learning environments, integration of science and education, industry–education collaboration, academic publishing, and international communication. It also focused on pressing issues including rural education, teacher education, AI in education, science education, and smart reading.

Co-hosted by Beijing Normal University (BNU) and the UNESCO Institute for Information Technologies in Education (IITE), the conference was jointly organized by the Smart Learning Institute of BNU, the Faculty of Education, the Faculty of Psychology, the China Institute of Education and Social Development, and the National Engineering Research Center for Smart Learning Technologies and Applications.

This year's conference brought together over 500 distinguished guests from home and abroad and more than 2,200 in-person participants. It attracted leading institutions and experts in the global smart education community. Key participants included UNESCO Headquarters, its six Category 1 Institutes, 12 UNESCO Chairs, and the UNESCO Global Alliance on the Science of Learning for Education, all of which played an active role in the event. Representatives from major international organizations such as the International Council for Open and Distance Education (ICDE), the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (ALECSO), the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization (SEAMEO), and the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) also attended. In addition, 32 representatives from the International Association of Universities (IAU) across 24 countries, 14 editors-in-chief of leading international academic journals, and representatives from 20 Chinese education journals joined discussions on the future of smart education.

The conference received strong support from partners including ALECSO, the Commonwealth of Learning (COL), ISTE, and SEAMEO, as well as from institutional and corporate sponsors such as the Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust, NetDragon Websoft Holdings, iFLYTEK, Aovvia, Ruifu AI, Huawei, China Unicom, Alibaba Cloud, Tencent Education, Beijing Normal University Publishing Group, Yuanfudao, 17 Education & Technology, Digital Certification Co., Unis ModuTech, Weixun Technology, Wenhua Online, and Shida Hechuang.

419th Shuangqing Forum on "A Systematic New Paradigm of Scientific and Technological Cooperation for Advancing Human Sustainable Development" Held at Beijing Normal University

Article source: National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC), Office of Scientific Research, and School of Systems Science | *Release date: 2025-08-31*

On August 19, the 419th Shuangqing Forum of the National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC), themed "A Systematic New Paradigm of Scientific and Technological Cooperation for Advancing Human Sustainable Development", was held at Beijing Normal University (BNU). The forum was jointly organized by the NSFC's Bureau of International Cooperation, Department of International Cooperation in Research Funding, Department of Earth Sciences, Department of Interdisciplinary Sciences, and Bureau of Planning and Policy, with Beijing Normal University as the host institution. The forum was co-chaired by Liu Congqiang of Tianjin University, Chen Deliang of Tsinghua University, and Liu He of the Research Institute of Petroleum Exploration and Development, China National Petroleum Corporation (CNPC). Attending the opening ceremony and delivering speeches were Lan Yujie, Member of the NSFC Leading Party Group and Vice President; Yu Jihong, President of Beijing Normal University; and Chen Deliang, Forum Chair.

In his address, Lan Yujie noted that the NSFC is actively implementing President Xi Jinping's vision of a "community with a shared future for mankind". To that end, the Foundation has established the Department of International Research Funding, launched the International Cooperation Scientific Program for Sustainable Development, and worked to integrate China's research efforts into the global innovation network. Lan Yujie emphasized that

international science and technology cooperation is undergoing a profound transformation, and that openness is the only path forward for scientific progress. He proposed three major shifts: from fragmented, point-based breakthroughs to systematic, synergistic integration; from a technology-first approach to a sustainable development–first orientation; and from traditional diplomacy-led cooperation to science diplomacy–driven mechanisms. He encouraged experts to pool their wisdom to build a new pattern of open and inclusive scientific collaboration, to address global challenges through systematic cooperation, and to create a community of innovation based on equality and mutual benefit, thereby contributing scientific and technological strength to the well-being of humanity.

Yu Jihong highlighted the university's recent achievements in international collaboration and noted that the forum's theme aligns closely with BNU's system science philosophy and global responsibility mission. She stated that the university will continue to leverage its disciplinary strengths, deepen cross-disciplinary international cooperation, and develop practical and efficient new mechanisms for global research collaboration. Yu Jihong expressed the hope that the forum would not only deepen the scientific community's understanding of global systemic risks and generate strategically oriented policy recommendations, but also promote the formation of a more open, inclusive, and pragmatic new model of international cooperation.

Forum Co-Chair Chen Deliang reviewed the background and organization of the forum, noting its innovative and forward-looking approach to redefining sustainable development paradigms. He encouraged participating experts to engage in in-depth interdisciplinary exchanges, inspire creative thinking, and contribute valuable insights toward building a new, systematic framework for global scientific cooperation aimed at sustainable human development.

The forum centered on three key themes: how to innovate cooperation mechanisms to overcome challenges in transnational collaboration (particularly North–South cooperation); how to build a "survival-first" global scientific agenda to promote global sustainable development research; and how to accelerate the development of science diplomacy capacity and cultivate a new generation of science diplomacy professionals. A total of five keynote reports and twenty thematic presentations were delivered. Experts engaged in in-depth discussions on mechanism innovation for integrating scientific innovation with international cooperation, proposing new approaches to transforming cooperation paradigms. Consensus was reached on several important areas, including optimizing international research funding systems and enhancing China's influence and discourse power in global science and technology governance.

More than 50 experts and scholars from leading universities and research institutions in China and abroad participated in the forum, including Abdel El Manira from the Karolinska Institute (Sweden), Wang Yanghua from Imperial College London (UK), Wang Shuxin from Chongqing University, Zhu Tong from Peking University, Zhu Weihong from East China University of Science and Technology, Liu Changsheng from Shanghai University, Song Weihong from Ouhai Laboratory/Wenzhou Medical University, and Liu Junguo from North China University of Water Resources and Electric Power. Also attending the event were Lv Qunyan, Deputy Director of the Department of International Research Funding, NSFC; Ingrid Krüßmann, Deputy Director of the International Cooperation Bureau of the German Research Foundation (DFG) and German Co-Director of the Sino-German Center for Research Promotion; Gerrit Schlepper, Deputy German Director of the Sino-German Center; as well as officials from relevant departments of the National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC).

Charting a New Vision for "AI + Education": Artificial Intelligence Empowering Education Forum Held at CIFTIS 2025

Article source: Provost's Office and Academic Affairs (Graduate School) | *Release date: 2025-09-15*

On the afternoon of September 11, the Artificial Intelligence Empowering Education Forum, part of the Education Services section of the 2025 China International Fair for Trade in Services (CIFTIS), was held at Shougang Park in Beijing. The forum, themed "AI Reshaping the Future of Education", was co-hosted by Beijing Normal University (BNU) and the Beijing Digital Education Center, bringing together over 300 experts, scholars, and industry representatives from government, universities, research institutions, and technology enterprises. Participants explored cutting-edge trends and practical pathways for educational transformation driven by artificial intelligence. Zhang Yaotian, Deputy Director of the Beijing Municipal Education Commission, and Wang Shoujun, Executive Vice President of Beijing Normal University, attended and delivered remarks.

Zhang Yaotian noted that artificial intelligence is profoundly restructuring educational models and management systems, and that Beijing will continue to promote the deep integration of AI and education, building a fairer, higher-quality, and more efficient smart education system.

Wang Shoujun emphasized that AI is transforming the educational ecosystem, and that as a leader in teacher education in China, Beijing Normal University is vigorously implementing "AI-empowered teaching and learning". The university is advancing a digital empowerment revolution, exploring applications of large education models and enhancing AI literacy among pre-service teachers, with

the goal of creating a new education paradigm driven by technology and guided by humanistic values.

Professor Huang Ronghuai of BNU delivered a keynote speech titled "Artificial Intelligence Empowering Educational Transformation". He proposed a "Large Education Model + Intelligent Agent" framework to address the global challenge of "learning poverty", calling for the use of technology to build a personalized and lifelong learning ecosystem. Huang also advocated for "digital pedagogy" to reshape classroom structures and put forward a "Chinese solution" that offers theoretical, practical, and standard-setting support for the national strategy of building a strong education system.

Yang Dejun, Deputy Director of the Beijing Academy of Educational Sciences, introduced the background and core framework of the "Guidelines for Artificial Intelligence Applications in Beijing's Education Sector (Version 2.0)", which aims to establish a navigation system for AI applications in education. Wang Xiangdong, Vice President of Beijing Yuanli Technology Co., Ltd. (Yuanfudao), presented the "Xiaoyuan AI" model for AI application in K–12 education, showcasing innovative practices in personalized learning, homework support, and interactive classroom engagement.

During the forum, several landmark achievements were officially released. Song Huan, Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Education at Beijing Normal University, unveiled the "General Requirements for Ethical Standards in the Application of Artificial Intelligence in Higher Education". The standard establishes a comprehensive ethical framework across five key dimensions—including human subjectivity, fairness, and non-discrimination—to regulate the responsible use of AI in universities, filling a significant gap in China's higher education standards for AI ethics. Liu Jingjie, Founder of Beijing TPlus Education Technology Co., Ltd., introduced the "Multidimensional Intelligent Evaluation System for Teaching Processes". The system collects complete, non-intrusive data on students' learning behavior to build a "digital twin

classroom", enabling a paradigm shift from experience-based teaching to data-intelligent instruction, thus supporting precise and personalized learning. The University of International Business and Economics (UIBE), together with industry partners, launched the Global Economic GEST (GE-GEST) initiative, aimed at enhancing the intelligentization of economics education and research. These outcomes provide both ethical guidance and technical tools for the application of AI in higher education, marking an important milestone in China's efforts to standardize AI education development.

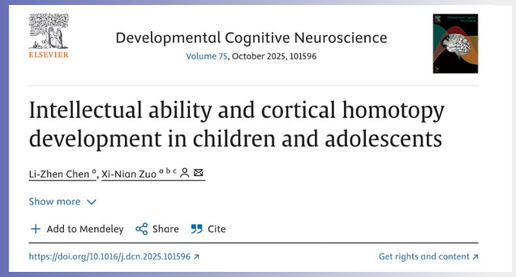
The forum featured three thought-provoking roundtable discussions. Professor Yu Shengquan of Beijing Normal University chaired the session "AI Reshaping Basic Education", which explored the balance between educational tradition and innovation in the age of intelligent technology. Professor Zhou Haitao moderated the discussion "AI + Higher Education", focusing on topics such as intelligent assessment, institutional governance, and ethical challenges. Professor Li Qiong led the roundtable "Artificial Intelligence Empowering Global Teacher Development", which advocated for international collaboration and resource sharing to advance global teacher education.

The forum concluded with a call to the global education community to strengthen open cooperation, co-build and share digital education resources, and jointly advance the inclusive, equitable, and sustainable development of AI-powered education. Presenting the latest achievements in policy, academic research, and industrial practice in the field of "AI + Education", the forum showcased the wisdom and innovation of China's digital education transformation, offering new ideas and momentum for the future development of education worldwide.·

Dr. Chen Lizhen and Professor Zuo Xinian from the Faculty of Psychology have published their research findings in Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience

Article source: Faculty of Psychology | *Release date: 2025-09-02*

Recently, Dr. Chen Lizhen and Professor Zuo Xinian from the Faculty of Psychology have published the research paper titled "Intellectual Ability and Cortical Homotopy Development in Children and Adolescents" in Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience. This study highlights the developmental trajectory of functional homotopy and its relationship with intelligence, offering novel insights into the neural mechanisms underlying cognitive development.



The abstract of the paper is as follows:

Functional homotopy, defined as the similarity between the corresponding regions of the two hemispheres, is a critical feature of interhemispheric communication and cognitive integration. Throughout development, the brain transitions from broadly connected networks in early childhood to more specialized configurations in adolescence, accompanied by increased hemispheric differentiation and integration. Using longitudinal data and a novel metric of functional homotopy, Homotopic Functional Affinity (HFA), we investigated the developmental patterns of functional homotopy and its relationship with intelligence. Our findings indicate a significant decrease in HFA with age, particularly in higher-order association networks. In addition, adolescents demonstrate stronger, predominantly negative correlations between HFA and intelligence, in contrast to younger children. In particular, individuals with superior intellectual ability experience accelerated decreases in HFA, indicating greater neural efficiency based on higher hemispheric specialization and differentiation. These findings provide evidence of the neural mechanisms that underlie cognitive development, emphasizing the dynamic interaction between hemispheric organization and intelligence. Our work may inform customized educational and clinical interventions for individual development.

Reference: https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dcn.2025.101596

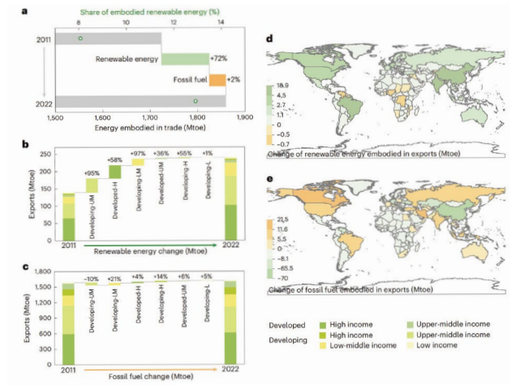
Professor Yang Yu from the Faculty of Geographical Science Published a Paper in Nature Sustainability

Article source: BNU Official Website | *Release date: 2025-08-28*

On August 21st, Professor Yang Yu from the Faculty of Geographical Sciences and his collaborators published a research paper titled "A database for identifying and tracking renewable energy embodied in global trade" in Nature Sustainability. The paper constructs a renewable energy featured final energy account (RE-FEA) that quantifies final energy (electricity and non-electric energy products) directly consumed by end-use sectors.

The abstract of the paper is as follows:

Using more renewable energy to make exported goods helps reduce carbon emissions from global trade. However, current global trade databases often lack precise data on how much renewable energy is used to produce traded goods, limiting insights into how this is changing over time. To address this gap, we develop a renewable energy featured final energy account (RE-FEA) that quantifies final energy (electricity and non-electric energy products) directly consumed by end-use sectors. This dataset covers 145 countries, 163 sectors and annual data from 2011 to 2022. From the dataset, we estimate that the share of renewable energy embodied in exports over total embodied energy rose from 8% to 13% over the period. Cleaner energy exports are concentrated among high-income and upper-middle income countries and in light industry and material manufacturing. This dataset fills gaps in current Multi-Regional Input–Output data and can improve the understanding of how global trade impacts sustainability.



Reference: https://www.nature.com/articles/s41893-025-01614-9

Dr. Gou Jiaojiao from the Faculty of Arts and Science Published an Article in PNAS

Article source: Zhuhai Campus | *Release date: 2025-08-25*

Dr. Gou Jiaojiao from the Faculty of Arts and Science published an article titled "Warming climate and water withdrawals threaten river flow connectivity in China" in PNAS. River flow connectivity is vital for sustaining freshwater ecosystems, which are essential to life on Earth. The findings highlight the urgent need to maintain sustainable water resources in a warming climate in which unregulated water abstractions increasingly threaten river flow connectivity, particularly in drying regions.

PNAS RESEARCH ARTICLE | ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES SUSTAINABILITY SCIENCE

Warming climate and water withdrawals threaten river flow connectivity in China

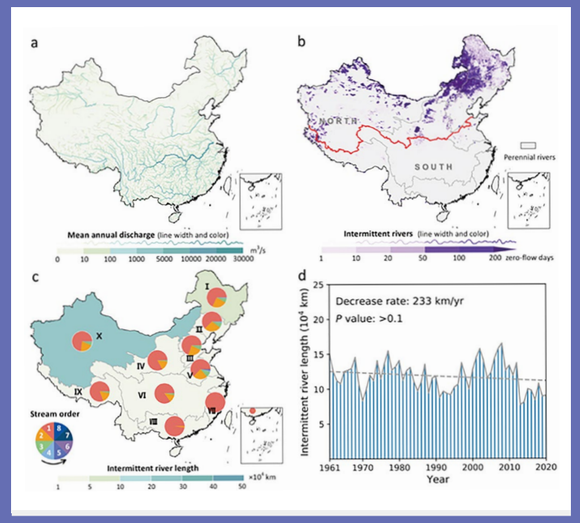
Jiaojiao Gou[a,b], Chiyuan Miao[a,1], Jinren Ni[c], Soroosh Sorooshian[d], Qingyun Duan[e], Denghua Yan[f], Louise Slater[g], Zongxue Xu[h,i], Alistair G. L. Borthwick[j,k], Lu Su[l], Qi Zhang[a], and Yoshihide Wada[m]

Affiliations are included on p. 10.

Edited by Andrea Rinaldo, Ecole Polytechnique Federale de Lausanne, Lausanne, Switzerland; received October 14, 2024; accepted July 8, 2025

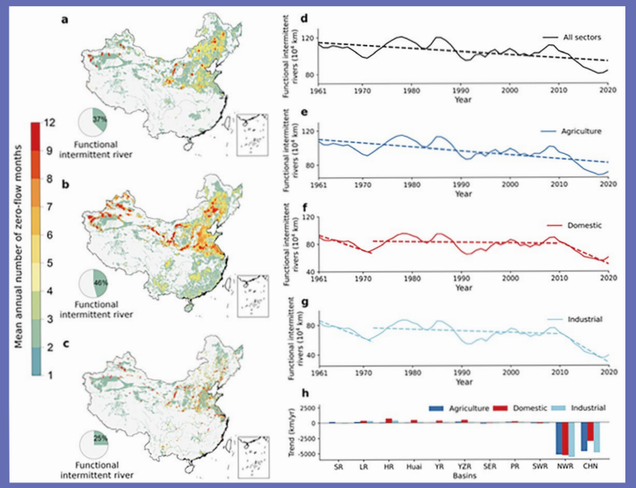
The abstract of the paper is as follows:

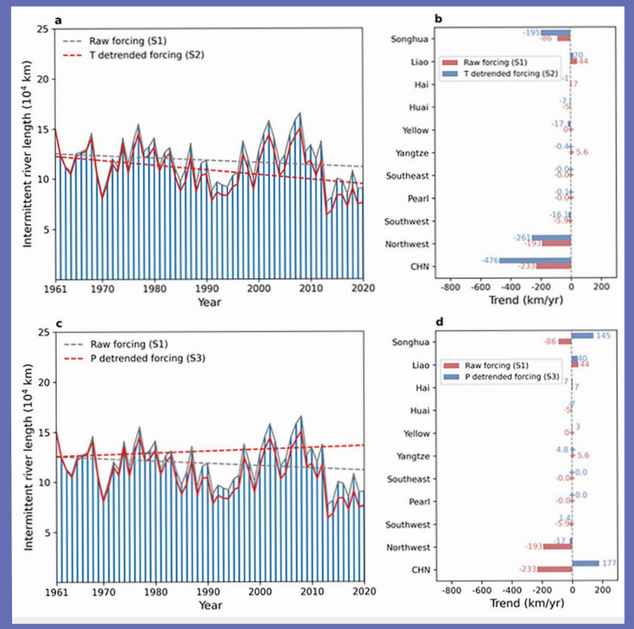
The periconception period is critical for embryo development, pregnancy outcomes, and offspring health. During this stage, oviductal and uterine fluids facilitate embryo-maternal interactions and support early embryonic development. Using PANDORA-seq, we identify a diverse repertoire of small non-coding RNAs in female mouse oviduct fluid and uterine fluid during preimplantation, with tRNA-derived small RNAs and rRNA-derived small RNAs being predominant. Maternal high-fat diet during preimplantation period significantly alters tsRNA and rsRNA expression in oviduct fluid and uterine fluid compared to normal diet, disrupting blastocyst metabolic gene expression. While implantation remained unaffected, these alterations impair mid-gestation embryonic and placental growth, resulting in reduced birth weight and length, as well as



The abstract of the paper is as follows:

River flow connectivity, the continuity of fluvial discharge in space and time, provides a crucial lifeline for most biotic communities on Earth. Yet there is still limited understanding of the impacts of climate change and human water withdrawal on river connectivity. Here, we assess the river flow connectivity of 217,001 river reaches in mainland China from 1961 to 2020 and the impact of different climate warming trends and water withdrawals for different sectors. We estimate that naturally intermittent rivers represent about 13% of all river reaches, with a large contrast between northern and southern China (12% vs. 1%, respectively). Although river intermittency decreased slightly during this period (i.e., river connectivity lengthened due to increasing precipitation), warming temperatures offset this decrease by reducing surface water persistence, causing the decrease (−476 vs. −233 km/y) to double when removing the long-term temperature trend. Critically, the length of intermittent rivers increased remarkably from 13 to 50% when considering human water withdrawal by agricultural, domestic, and industrial sectors, in addition to environmental flow requirements. Our findings highlight the urgent need to maintain sustainable water resources in a warming climate in which unregulated water abstractions increasingly threaten river flow connectivity, particularly in drying regions.





Reference: https://www.pnas.org/doi/10.1073/pnas.2421046122

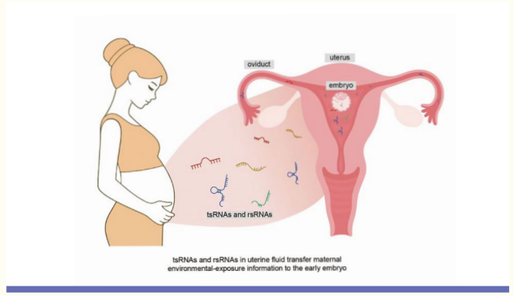
The Research Group of Professor Zhang Ying from the College of Life Sciences Published an Article in Nature Communications

Article source: College of Life Sciences | *Release date: 2025-08-25*

On August 16, a research team led by Professor Zhang Ying from the College of Life Sciences at Beijing Normal University, along with their collaborators, published a paper titled "Maternal diet-induced alterations in uterine fluid sncRNAs compromise preimplantation embryo development and offspring metabolic health" in Nature Communications. It reveals that small non-coding RNAs in uterine and oviductal fluid might serve as critical carriers of maternal environmental information to the early embryo and might influence pregnancy outcomes.

The abstract of the paper is as follows:

The periconception period is critical for embryo development, pregnancy outcomes, and offspring health. During this stage, oviductal and uterine fluids facilitate embryo-maternal interactions and support early embryonic development. Using PANDORA-seq, we identify a diverse repertoire of small non-coding RNAs in female mouse oviduct fluid and uterine fluid during preimplantation, with tRNA-derived small RNAs and rRNA-derived small RNAs being predominant. Maternal high-fat diet during preimplantation period significantly alters tsRNA and rsRNA expression in oviduct fluid and uterine fluid compared to normal diet, disrupting blastocyst metabolic gene expression. While implantation remained unaffected, these alterations impair mid-gestation embryonic and placental growth, resulting in reduced birth weight and length, as well as metabolic disorders in offspring. Furthermore, transfecting embryos with uterine fluid-derived sncRNAs altered by maternal high-fat diet mimics the in vivo effects. These findings suggest that tsRNAs and rsRNAs in reproductive fluids may reflect maternal metabolic status and transmit dietary information to the early embryo, which might influence pregnancy outcomes and offspring health.



Reference: https://www.nature.com/articles/s41467-025-63054-5

The Research Achievement Jointly Completed by Professor Liu Lancui from the School of National Safety and Emergency Management Was Published in Nature Climate Change

Article source: Zhuhai Campus | *Release date: 2025-08-12*

Recently, the research achievement, titled "Navigating energy transition solutions for climate targets with minerals" and jointly completed by Professor Liu Lancui from the School of National Safety and Emergency Management, was published in Nature Climate Change. The paper was selected as a Research Highlight of Nature Climate Change. They systematically quantify global and regional demand and shortage risks for 40 critical minerals across 17 technologies under all pathways in the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. And they propose better solutions that balance emissions reduction with resource constraints and regional equity.

Urgent decarbonization is imperative, yet mineral scarcity may threaten low-carbon technology deployment, potentially challenging transition pathways. Here, through the analysis of 557 mitigation pathways from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Sixth Assessment Report using the Global Resource Evaluation of Abatement Technologies model, we systematically quantify demand and potential shortages for 40 minerals critical to 17 energy technologies. We find that all pathways may experience global shortages of up to 12 minerals by 2100 under the moderate scenario, with more severe shortages of indium, tin, cadmium and tellurium related to thin-film photovoltaic, wind and nuclear power (>50% of pathways). Regional disparities would intensify these risks, particularly in developing, resource-vulnerable regions (for example, the Middle East and Africa), with potential shortages reaching 24 minerals. Hence, we propose better solutions that balance emissions reduction with resource constraints and regional equity, revealing that decarbonization requires more than technological innovation. It demands the strategic integration of diversified energy technology portfolios, aggressive recycling, material substitution and global trade cooperation, alongside moderate gross domestic product growth.

Reference: https://www.nature.com/articles/s41558-025-02373-3

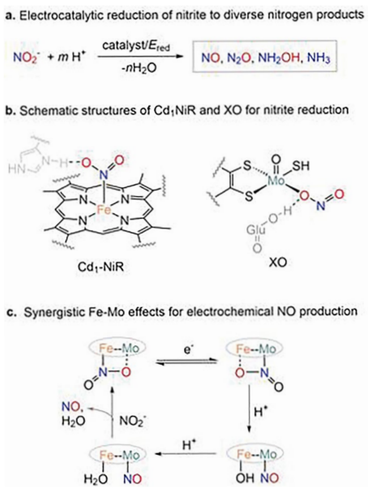
The Research Group Led by Professor Wang Wenguang from the College of Chemistry Published Research Results in Journal of the American Chemical Society

Article source: College of Chemistry | *Release date: 2025-07-19*

Recently, Wang Wenguang's research group, in collaboration with the research groups of Professor Ye Shengfa from Sun Yat-sen University and Professor Liao Rongzhen from Huazhong University of Science and Technology, report an efficient bimetallic Mo(IV)Fe(II) electrocatalyst that achieves highly selective nitrite-to-NO reduction. The relevant research paper titled "Synergistic Iron-Molybdenum Effects for Selective Electrocatalytic Reduction of Nitrite to Nitric Oxide" was published in Journal of the American Chemical Society.

The abstract of the paper is as follows:

We report an efficient bimetallic Mo(IV)Fe(II) electrocatalyst that achieves highly selective nitrite-to-NO reduction. This catalyst demonstrates exceptional performance, with a record turnover frequency (TOF) of ~103 s–1 and a Faradaic efficiency of 93.8%. Mechanistic studies integrating experimental and DFT analyses reveal that the Mo(IV) center preferentially binds NO over the Fe(II) site, preventing the catalytic cycle from terminating at a stable ferrous nitrosyl species. The synergistic interplay between the Fe and Mo centers enhances nitrite dynamic coordination and facilitates reductive N–O bond cleavage, highlighting the critical role of bimetallic synergism in lowering energy barriers and driving demanding exergonic reaction steps involving electron and proton transfer.



Reference: https://pubs.acs.org/doi/full/10.1021/jacs.5c07512

A Delegation Led by the Vice President of the University of Queensland Visited Beijing Normal University

From July 13 to 14, Rongyu Li, Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the University of Queensland, and Alan Rowan, an academician of the Australian Academy of Sciences and a professor at the University of Queensland, visited Beijing Normal University (BNU).

On the afternoon of July 14, Chen Xing, Vice President of BNU, met with the guests. Both sides exchanged views on the progress of related work since the first visit of the University of Queensland in April this year, and had an in-depth discussion with Rongyu Li on matters such as cooperative research on aging health and cooperative education between the two universities.

On the same day, the guests visited the Brain Imaging Center of BNU. Alan Rowan was invited to give a lecture titled "Institute of Aging Health: The Cooperation Model between China and the University of Queensland" at the Faculty of Psychology.

The University of Queensland was founded in 1909 and is located in Brisbane, the capital of Queensland, Australia. It is a public comprehensive research university in Australia and one of the oldest and largest institutions of higher learning in the country. The University offers a wide range of courses, covering business, law, architecture, engineering, information technology, nursing, pharmacy, education, communication, medicine, public health, biology, chemistry and other fields. The school has strong research capabilities and is the birthplace of many important research achievements such as HPV vaccines and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI).

Vice President Sun Hongpei Attends the 2025 Guangdong–Hong Kong–Macao University Alliance Annual Conference and Presidents' Forum

On July 11, the 2025 Guangdong–Hong Kong–Macao University Alliance (GHMUA) Annual Conference and Presidents' Forum was held at the University of Macau. Sun Hongpei, Vice President of Beijing Normal University (BNU) and Director of the Administrative Committee of BNU Zhuhai, attended the conference upon invitation. Accompanying him were representatives from the Office of Academic Affairs, Office of Scientific Research, and Office of Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan Affairs of BNU Zhuhai.

This year's forum, themed "Collaboration across Three Regions for Global Innovation in Higher Education", gathered more than 180 delegates from universities and supporting institutions across Guangdong, Hong Kong, and Macao. Participants exchanged insights on deepening interregional cooperation in science, technology, and education, and on jointly advancing high-quality, globally oriented higher education. Attending the opening ceremony were Feng Wei, Deputy Director-General of the Guangdong Provincial Department of Education; Kong Chi Meng, Director of the Education and Youth Development Bureau of the Macao SAR Government and Secretary-General of the Talents Development Committee; Choi Yuk-lin, Secretary for Education of the Hong Kong SAR Government; Li Xuefei, Director of the Department of Education and Youth Affairs of the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in the Macao SAR; Xia Fangming, Second-Level Inspector of the Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office of the People's Government of Guangdong Province; and Chen Yulin, Head of the Innovation and Higher Education Division of the Department of Education, Science and Technology of the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in the Hong Kong SAR.

During the Presidents' Forum, Sun Hongpei delivered a keynote speech on "Integrating Regional Strengths to Explore New Paradigms for Talent Development". He shared BNU's successful experiences in implementing the "Excellent Teacher Program" and its innovative initiatives to enhance teacher education quality by leveraging the geographical and policy advantages of the Guangdong–Hong Kong–Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA). Sun Hongpei noted that Beijing Normal University, as China's oldest and most influential institution in teacher education, has drawn on its deep academic heritage and strengths in pedagogy to align closely with national strategic priorities and the talent needs of the GBA's development. The university has continually improved the quality of teacher training and supplied a steady stream of highly qualified educators for the frontlines of education. As a pioneer among Chinese normal universities, BNU has remained committed to its mission, launching the "Excellent Teacher Program" and systematically implementing the "Teacher Strengthening Project" at its Zhuhai Campus to cultivate and send "Four Qualities" good teachers—teachers with ideals, moral integrity, solid knowledge, and a compassionate heart—to less developed central and western regions. Sun emphasized that the Greater Bay Area, one of China's most open and economically dynamic regions, provides rich educational resources and a strong culture of innovation. Through immersion in the GBA's vibrant environment, teacher education students in the "Excellent Teacher Program" have gained deeper understanding of education and technological frontiers, expanded their international perspectives, strengthened their innovative mindset, and reaffirmed their commitment to contributing their personal growth to China's goal of building a world-class education system. Recently, over 360 teacher education graduates of the "Excellent Teacher Program", carrying the earnest expectations conveyed in President Xi Jinping's reply letter, have gone on to teach in 153 primary and secondary schools across 13 central and western provinces and autonomous regions, including counties previously lifted out of poverty and borderland areas. They are applying what they have learned to practice, bringing the light of education to illuminate the future of more children. Meanwhile, the Zhuhai Campus of BNU has been actively participating in the GHMUA's development, expanding collaboration with universities in Hong Kong and Macao through joint research, faculty and student exchanges, academic forums, and cultural programs—efforts that also contribute to strengthening emotional and cultural ties with Hong Kong and Macao. Sun's address received strong resonance from the participating representatives.

Founded in 2016 by Sun Yat-sen University, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, and the University of Macau, the Guangdong–Hong Kong–Macao University Alliance has since grown to include 49 leading universities. The Alliance regularly organizes academic forums and exchange activities to promote research innovation and joint talent development among the three regions. To date, Beijing Normal University Zhuhai Campus has taken the lead in establishing six professional sub-alliances, namely the GHMUA Alliance for Environmental and Ecological Engineering, the Alliance for Computational Communication Studies, the Alliance for Education Quality Monitoring and Evaluation, the Alliance for Statistics and Data Science, the Alliance for Carbon Neutrality and Green Development, and the Alliance for Biodiversity.

Beijing Teachers from All Levels Share Educational Stories at BNU's Second Affiliated Middle School — Veteran Educator Gu Mingyuan Delivers a Heartfelt Address

Article source: Faculty of Education | *Release date: 2025-09-09*

"I am a lifelong educator. This year marks my 77th year in teaching, and my entire educational journey has been a journey of learning". On the afternoon of September 6, renowned educator and Senior Professor of Beijing Normal University, Gu Mingyuan, was invited as the Special Storyteller at the 7th "Beijing Teachers' Story-Sharing Event: Educating Across All Levels — From Preschool to University". The event was held at Beijing Normal University's Second Affiliated Middle School (BNU Second High School), where Professor Gu shared his personal story of education alongside 16 teachers from across the city.

With deep emotion, Professor Gu recalled how his early work in elementary education allowed him to witness the power of students' growth — an experience that cemented his lifelong mission as an educator. During his years teaching at BNU's Second Affiliated Middle School, he continually enriched his educational philosophy, laying the foundation for his now-famous ideas: "Without love, there is no education; without interest, there is no learning. Education takes root in the details, and students grow through experience". Over the decades, Professor Gu visited and conducted research at more than 240 primary and secondary schools across China, offering his "Five Essential Practices" for teachers' professional development — aspiration, refinement, learning, innovation, and achievement.

As one of the first-generation educators to grow alongside New China, Professor Gu has devoted over 70 years to education, making significant contributions in comparative education, educational theory, teacher education, and higher education. He has both witnessed and actively participated in nearly every major educational reform since the founding of the People's Republic of China. Now 96 years old, he continues to stand on the podium, carrying forward his lifelong mission of nurturing minds and shaping character.

"Dear young teachers, teaching is a lifelong journey of learning. Let us keep learning, keep striving, and contribute to building a strong nation through education!" Professor Gu encouraged the younger generation of teachers to learn continuously, practice diligently, and pursue higher moral character, professional excellence, and cultural accomplishment, striving to become qualified and outstanding educators.

As one of the most influential annual education events in the capital, the Beijing Teachers' Story-Sharing Event—organized by the Beijing Municipal Education Commission and the Education Work Committee of the Beijing Municipal Party Committee—has become a signature celebration for Teachers' Day. Since its launch in 2019, the event has seen thousands of schools and kindergartens, as well as off-campus institutions and families, participate enthusiastically. More than ten thousand educators and parents have shared heartfelt stories that vividly showcase the spirit, dedication, and humanistic ethos of teachers in the new era, earning widespread recognition and acclaim from across society.In July 2025, Professor Huang Huilin, another senior professor from BNU and a distinguished representative of Beijing's teachers, was recommended by the Ministry of Education to appear in CCTV's Teachers' Day Special Program "Telling My Educational Story".

At the event, Wang Shoujun, Executive Vice President of Beijing Normal University, attended the ceremony and presented awards to the teachers who shared their stories. The event serves as a major platform for fostering "Four Qualities" good teachers—teachers with ideals, moral integrity, solid knowledge, and a compassionate heart—and promoting integrated ideological and moral education across all levels of schooling. Tian Zuyin, Director-General of the Department of Basic Education, Ministry of Education, presented Professor Gu with the Honorary Trophy for Educational Storytelling and the Special Grand Prize Certificate. Yang Yinfù, Vice President and Secretary-General of the Chinese Society of Education, presented flowers to express heartfelt gratitude. Principal Wang Hua of BNU Second Affiliated Middle School, together with student representatives, also presented flowers and a hand-drawn portrait to Professor Gu as a tribute of deep respect and admiration.

The Belt and Road School Student Ei Ei Khin: "Chinese Elements Have Become an Important Bridge for China–Myanmar Cultural Exchange"

Article source: The Belt and Road School | *Release date: 2025-08-13*

Recently, several international students from the Belt and Road School of Beijing Normal University were interviewed by the China Belt and Road Portal, where they shared their personal experiences and reflections on the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). Ei Ei Khin, a 2024 student from Myanmar and staff member of the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations, shared her heartfelt impressions of China and her perspective on China–Myanmar cooperation.

"Once you've been to China, you'll always want to come back".

"In my opinion, China is a place once you have been to, you want to come back more and more." EI EI KHIN said in a recent interview with the Belt and Road Portal. "China has vast education system and the professors here are very excellent and they are very kind to their students," she said. "I like Chinese food and the nice environment too. I got the great chance to see the high level infrastructure, technology and health and education system in China."

"Chinese elements have become an important link promoting cultural exchange between China and Myanmar".

When talking about the Chinese influences she sees in Myanmar, EI EI KHIN shared her observations from three perspectives: the growth of trade and commerce, the widespread enthusiasm for learning Chinese, and the popularity of Chinese music and entertainment. "These Chinese elements become to be good communication bonds between China and Myanmar," she said.

"The China–Myanmar Economic Corridor is driving development and improving people's livelihoods".

"So as for me, my greatest interest in China-Myanmar economic trade-off is the central component of the Myanmar participation in BRI," said EI EI KHIN. For years, China and Myanmar have carried out pragmatic cooperation under the Belt and Road framework and the China-Myanmar Economic Corridor, yielding substantial results. "China-Myanmar-Uyghur pipeline project helps Myanmar to improve the Myanmar people's livelihood," she noted.

"Together, we are moving toward a brighter shared future".

EI EI KHIN prefers to call the Belt and Road Initiative a "partnership". "China is the best travel partner for Myanmar. Myanmar and China have this deeply powerful relationship," she explained. "If you want to know your friend is good or not, you must travel with your friend," she continued. "The longer you travel with your friend, the more you will know about the real character of your friend. So now I think China and Myanmar are travelling together toward the brightest goal with BRI."

Excerpt from interview

EI EI KHIN: In my opinion, China is a place once you have been to, you want to come back more and more. I am so lucky because now I'm here. Actually, I feel so extremely happy here. In learning, I got a lot of knowledge, because of the China's vast education system and the professors here are very excellent and very kind to their students. In living, I was never alone in China because Chinese people are very kind and sweet. When I face difficulty, they always help me. So if I go outside but the place is unfamiliar to me, they will guide me and give me suggestions too. I like Chinese food and the nice environment too. I got the great chance to see the high level infrastructure, technology and health and education system in China.

EI EI KHIN There are a lot of Chinese elements in Myanmar, I'd like to mention that the first one is trade and commerce. The Chinese goods such as electronic products, textiles and machinery are commonly sold in local markets. The Chinese enterprises are extremely influential in Myanmar commerce. The second point is Chinese language. There are a lot of job opportunities and we can get high salary if we are expert in Chinese language. So that's why most of people study Chinese language. The third point is music and entertainment. Most Myanmar people like Chinese movie and music. I think these Chinese elements became good communication bonds between China and Myanmar.

EI EI KHIN: So as for me, my greatest interest in China-Myanmar economic trade-off is the central component of the Myanmar participation in BRI. It's aimed to create the network of the road, railway, port, and pipeline that connect Myanmar and the China Southwestern provinces and the Indian Ocean. The China-Myanmar-Uyghur pipeline project helps Myanmar to improve Myanmar people's livelihood.

EI EI KHIN: As for me, I like to describe the Belt and Road as a partnership. China is the best travel partner for Myanmar. Because Myanmar and China have this deeply powerful relationship. If you want to know your friend is good or not, you must travel with your friend. The longer you travel with your friend, the more you will know about the real character of your friend. So now I think China and Myanmar are travelling together toward the brightest goal with BRI. Along the traveling China helps Myanmar a lot in the infrastructure, financial, economic and investment projects.

Photo from: BNU Weibo

Photo from: BNU Weibo

Photo from: BNU Weibo
Photo by: @ 出尘 Raven

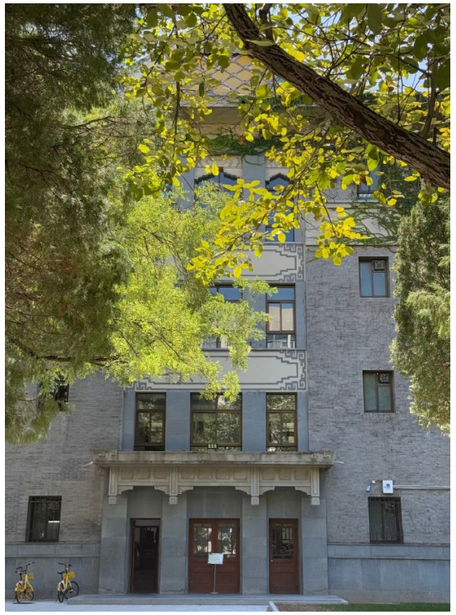


Photo from: BNU Weibo
Photo by: @ 是鄸繻啊 @loveisnoteverything

Photo by: GUO Yimeng

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