

Tsinghua Newsletter

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Tsinghua University Latin America Center inaugurated in Santiago, Chile



President Qiu Yong visits HKU and signs an LOI for HKU-Tsinghua Collaboration on Dual Bachelors Degree Programs



First graduation ceremony of GIX held in Seattle

Tsinghua University Latin America Center Inaugurated in Santiago, Chile



President Qiu Yong said that openness and innovation are the two greatest characteristics of the 21st century. Universities should keep pace with the trend of the times by continuing to be open and innovative, and shoulder the great responsibility of promoting social progress and the development of human civilization. In 2016, Tsinghua University formulated its first global strategy in the history of the university, and is speeding up the building of world-class universities and world-class disciplines. He emphasized that “first-class” should embody its leading role in science, technology, ideology and culture, its uniqueness in university management concepts and development, and its outstanding contribution to the country and the world. Tsinghua University will strive to achieve the heights of a first-class university in the process of serving the country, and make greater contributions to the development of mankind, while striving to promote the worldwide exchange in the humanities and technology.

President Qiu stressed that the relationship between China and Latin America is at its best in history. The Tsinghua University Latin America Center will surely play an important role in contributing to the promotion of exchanges and cooperation between scholars, government officials and entrepreneurs from Tsinghua University and Latin American countries, the promotion of cultural exchanges between young students from China and Latin American



On the afternoon of December 6th, the Tsinghua University Latin America Center was inaugurated in Santiago, Chile. This is an important measure undertaken by Tsinghua University to promote the implementation of the global strategy and marks the temporary end of the overseas layout of the global strategy. Former President of Chile Eduardo Frei, Chairman of the Luksic Group Andrónico Luksic, President of the APEC CEO Summit 2019 Jean-Paul Luksic, representatives of the Luksic family, the Chinese Ambassador to Chile Xu Bu and other guests attended the ceremony held at the Chinese Embassy in Chile. The Tsinghua University Latin America Center is

located in a modern building in the central business district of Santiago, Chile.

The center will act as the contact and exchange base of Tsinghua University in Latin America to serve as the central base for talent cultivation by Tsinghua University, as well as the development of academic research and exchanges in the humanities with Latin American countries. As one of Tsinghua University's overseas locations, the Latin America Center will contribute to the cultivation of global competence among the students of Tsinghua University, the development of global research, and the establishment of global cooperation and its world reputation.

countries, the strengthening of the links between Tsinghua alumni in Latin America and the continuous contribution of alumni to local economic development. There is infinite space for development in cooperation between China and Chile, and between China and Latin America. Tsinghua University will also take part in continuously making new contributions to the creation of a better world, the ever-lasting friendship between China and Latin America, the implementation of the Belt and Road initiative, and the building of a community of a shared future for mankind.



Andrónico Luksic thanked Tsinghua University for its trust in the Luksic family and Chile. The Luksic family has a long history of contacts with China and has established more than 10 years of cooperation with Tsinghua University. He said that Latin America needs to work with world-class universities to meet the challenges it faces. The establishment of the Tsinghua University Latin America Center is an important step in facing these challenges. He believed that the center would become a new starting point for academic research, as well as establishing an academic bridge connecting China and Latin America, promoting the exchange of talents between China and Latin America, and promoting the establishment of a better and challenging world.

Xu Bu said that Tsinghua University is a well-known university in China and around the world. The

establishment of the Latin America Center in Chile is a major event for cooperation between China and Chile. It will certainly promote exchanges and cooperation in science, technology and the humanities between the Chinese and Latin American peoples. He believed that under the joint leadership of the leaders of the two countries, the comprehensive partnership between China and Chile would create a new situation and achieve new development.



At the ceremony, President Qiu and Andrónico Luksic also signed a cooperation agreement on behalf of the two sides. According to the agreement, the Luksic Group will provide corresponding support to the Tsinghua University Latin America Center.

With the establishment of the Tsinghua University Latin America Center, related activities have been launched one after another. From December 5th to 6th, President Qiu led a delegation to visit the Pontifical

Catholic University of Chile, the University of Chile, the Universidad del Desarrollo and the Andrés Bello National University to sign agreements on cooperation and exchange. The China-Chile Forum: Chilean Innovation Strategy and Chinese Experience in Digital Transformation, co-sponsored by Tsinghua University and País Digital Foundation, attracted the participation of representatives from political, academic and business circles of China and Chile. Tsinghua University held dialogues and discussions with the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean on the experience, challenges and responses of digital transformation, and with the CORFO (Corporación de Fomento de la Producción) on the production mechanism of Chile and China.

Since 2006, Tsinghua University has developed cooperation with Chile in many aspects. In addition to student exchange projects, it has established the Center for Chinese-Latin America Management Studies to strengthen research and academic exchanges in management, as well as related scientific and technological cooperation among teachers from China and from Chile and Latin America.



Qiu Yong visits Chile to promote cooperation between China and Chile on Higher Education

From December 5th to December 7th, Qiu Yong, President of Tsinghua University, led a delegation to visit Chile to promote educational cooperation and people-to-people exchange between Tsinghua University and Chile. In the meantime, Qiu Yong visited the Chilean Presidential Palace La Moneda and met with the Chief Advisor to the President of Chile Cristián Larroulet and Minister Secretary-General of the Presidency of Chile Gonzalo Blumel. President Qiu visited Universidad del Desarrollo, the Pontifical Catholic University of Chile, the University of Chile, and Universidad Andrés Bello, where he exchanged views with university presidents to promote educational cooperation between Tsinghua University and Chilean universities.

On December 7th, President Qiu Yong visited the Chilean Presidential Palace La Moneda and held talks with the Chief Advisor to the President of Chile Cristián Larroulet and Minister Secretary-General of the Presidency of Chile Gonzalo Blumel. President Qiu introduced the cooperation between Tsinghua University and Chilean universities and enterprises, as well as the progress of Tsinghua University's global strategy. President Qiu said that the establishment of the Tsinghua University



Latin America Center is an important measure undertaken by Tsinghua University to promote the implementation of its global strategy, and marks the successful conclusion of the overseas layout of the global strategy for this period. The establishment of the Tsinghua University Latin America Center in Chile indicates that Tsinghua University attaches great importance to technological and people-to-people exchanges with Latin American countries and strengthens cooperation with Chilean universities and enterprises. The Tsinghua University Latin America Center will be dedicated to people-to-people exchanges, technological innovation and educational cooperation between Tsinghua University and Chile as well

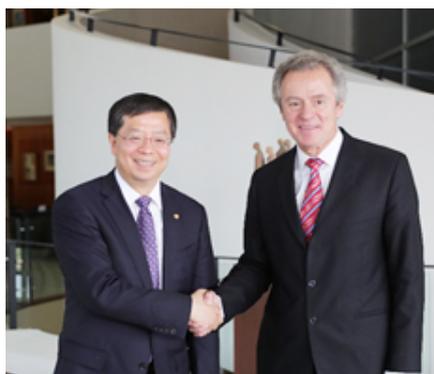
as other countries in Latin America.

Cristián Larroulet noted that he and Gonzalo Blumel were authorized by President Sebastián Piñera to meet with President Qiu Yong, and extended the congratulations of the Chilean government to the establishment of the Tsinghua University Latin American Center. He said that though China and Chile are separated by a vast ocean, the friendly relations between the two countries have withstood the historical test. Upon the invitation of Chinese President Xi Jinping, President Sebastian Pinera is expected to attend the Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation in 2019, and he looks forward to the further development of economic and trade cooperation and people-to-people

exchanges between the two countries. Gonzalo Blumel expressed his welcome and affirmation of Tsinghua University's efforts to strengthen people-to-people exchanges with Chile and expected that Tsinghua University would cooperate with Chile in more fields.

Cristián Larroulet and Gonzalo Blumel said that they would actively promote cooperation and exchanges between Tsinghua University and the Ministry of Education, and other relevant government agencies and universities in Chile, and actively provide advice and support for the development of the Tsinghua University Latin America Center.

The two sides discussed the development of higher education and cultural exchanges between China and Latin America.



On December 5th, President Qiu visited the Universidad del Desarrollo to meet with President Federico Valdés. President Qiu expressed his appreciation for the large number of innovative talents in the economic and humanities fields trained by the university and contributing to the economic development of Chile since its establishment. President Qiu introduced the globalization process of Tsinghua University and the recent important development achievements, especially in promoting interdisciplinary research, innovation and entrepreneurship education.

President Federico Valdés congratulated Tsinghua University on the establishment of the Tsinghua University Latin America Center in Chile

and spoke highly of Tsinghua University's achievements in international cooperation and exchanges. Federico Valdés introduced the history and challenges of university development, as well as the university's leading subjects such as economics and psychology. He said that the Universidad del Desarrollo attached great importance to the cooperation with China and looked forward to discussing and cooperating with Tsinghua University in areas of mutual interest.

On December 6th, President Qiu visited the Pontifical Catholic University of Chile and held talks with Ignacio Sánchez, President of the University, as well as its senior management. President Qiu expressed his appreciation of the leading academic reputation of Pontifical Catholic University of Chile in Latin America. He pointed out that this university is the university with the longest cooperation, the widest cooperation scope and the highest level of cooperation with Tsinghua University among Latin American universities, and hoped to strengthen inter-university cooperation with Pontifical Catholic University of Chile. President Qiu said that openness and cooperation are the mainstream of world university development. The establishment of the Tsinghua University Latin America Center would promote cooperation between Tsinghua University and universities in Latin America.

Ignacio Sánchez gave a warm welcome to President Qiu and said that the Pontifical Catholic University of Chile and Tsinghua University have maintained good cooperative relations, and the academic cooperation and people-to-people exchanges between the two universities have been gradually strengthened. Ignacio Sánchez praised Tsinghua University's global academic excellence, congratulated Tsinghua University on its establishment of the Latin America Center, and hoped that the center

would lay a solid foundation for the two sides to upgrade their cooperation.



President Qiu and Ignacio Sánchez signed a cooperation agreement between the two universities. According to the agreement, the two sides would conduct in-depth cooperation in research fields such as news, communication and new media.



On the same day, President Qiu visited the University of Chile and met with Ennio Vivaldi, President of the University. President Qiu said that the University of Chile was the oldest public university in Chile and had made significant contributions to the social development of Chile. Tsinghua was in a key transitional period from its first century to its second century of development, moving towards its development goal of being "more innovative and more international, with more stress on humanities".

Ennio Vivaldi extended his warm welcome on the occasion of President Qiu's visit. He pointed out that Chile has a very friendly cooperative relationship with China. The University of Chile pays close attention to the exchanges with Chinese universities

and looks forward to establishing a comprehensive cooperative relationship with Tsinghua University.

President Qiu and Ennio Vivaldi further discussed the prospects of cooperation and exchanges between the two universities, and exchanged an inter-institutional cooperation agreement signed by the School of Journalism and Communication of Tsinghua University and the Institute of Communications and Image of the University of Chile. The two sides would expand cooperation and exchanges in the fields of communication, image and cultural studies.

On the same day, President Qiu visited Universidad Andrés Bello, where he held talks with Jose Rodríguez, President of Universidad Andrés Bello, Fernando Reyes Matta, former Chilean Ambassador to China, and Director of Center for China Studies of Universidad Andrés Bello National, as well as the university management.

President Qiu said that as a prominent Chinese research think tank in Latin America, the China Research Center of Andrés Bello National University has made



important contributions to strengthening the understanding of mutual trust between the Chinese and Chilean peoples, and hoped that the center would play a bridging role in expanding the cooperation between Tsinghua University and Andrés Bello National University.

Jose Rodríguez detailed the development of Andrés Bello National University and its China Research Center. He said that Tsinghua University played an important international leading role in promoting scientific

and technological innovation. Andrés Bello National University also attached great importance to scientific and technological innovation and international cooperation. It is hoped that the two universities would establish long-term cooperative relations and strengthen cooperation and exchanges in the field of scientific and technological innovation. The two sides also discussed the development of higher education and humanities research in Latin America.

President Qiu Yong Receives Honorary Doctorate from the Chinese University of Hong Kong

On November 29th, at the 86th Congregation for the Conferment of Degrees of the Chinese University of Hong Kong 2018, Carrie Lam Cheng Yuet-ngor, Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and Chancellor of the Chinese University of Hong Kong, presented a Degree of Doctor of Science, honoris

causa, to Tsinghua University President Qiu Yong. The conferment ceremony was presided over by the Vice-Chancellor and President of the Chinese University of Hong Kong Prof. Rocky S. Tuan.

The award is in recognition of the outstanding achievements and contributions made by President



Qiu in academia and to greater society, including for the promotion of scientific research and development, cross-disciplinary research in the field of organic optoelectronics, as well as the important role he has played in university management, talent cultivation, education and teaching, and cooperation between

the two universities.

More than 1500 participants were present at the conferment ceremony, including Council Chairman of the Chinese University of Hong Kong Dr. Leung Nai-pang, and from Tsinghua University - Former President Gu Binglin, Vice President and Provost Yang Bin, Assistant President and Director of the Academic Affairs Office Peng Gang, and alumni representatives.



Sze-Wing Tang, Professor and Chairman of the Department of Chinese Language and Literature at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, gave the conferment speech to President Qiu. He praised his journey and achievements, saying that once a young freshman pursuing a dream, Professor Qiu is now the head of a university driving the collective pursuit of an exalted goal. In this 35-year journey, Professor Qiu has been studying and working in one place - his alma mater, embodying the quintessential Tsinghuanese from head to toe. Professor Qiu has dedicated himself to scientific research, material development, and the translation of research findings. He is an advocate of novel cross-disciplinary research, and much renowned for his belief and efforts in integrating the laboratory with entrepreneur research platforms paving the way for product research commercialization. Professor Qiu's dedication and passion for nurturing young scholars is also inspiring. He has won countless accolades for his scientific innovations and pedagogic passions. Throughout



his career, Professor Qiu has taught by example and impressed many young minds. He has persevered in discovering new knowledge and scaling new heights. He has championed cross-disciplinary research, promoted the integration of academic research and industry applications, setting new trends in the community with his vision and vigor. Both as a scholar and as an individual, he epitomizes the true spirit of Tsinghua University encapsulated in its motto 'Self-Discipline and Social Commitment'. He practices what he preaches and acts as a role model.

On the day, three distinguished individuals were awarded the Degree of Doctor, honoris causa, of the Chinese University of Hong Kong, for their outstanding contributions to culture, art, scientific research, education, and the promotion of people's well-being. In addition to President Qiu, the Former Chairman of the Hong Kong Jockey Club, Former Member of the Legislative Council of Hong Kong, and recipient of the Gold Bauhinia Star of Hong Kong Simon Ip Sik-on; and Former Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority, recipient of the Golden Bauhinia Star and the Grand Bauhinia Medal of Hong Kong, Joseph Yam Chi-kwong were awarded Degree

of Doctor of Social Science, honoris causa, of the Chinese University of Hong Kong.

Subsequently, the ceremony also held a degree awarding session, where 451 graduating students enjoyed the momentous occasion.

Tsinghua University and the Chinese University of Hong Kong signed their first exchange agreement back in 1985. In recent years, teacher-student exchange and academic cooperation between the two universities have become increasingly frequent. On May 29th, 2017, President Qiu was appointed as Honorary Professor of the Faculty of Science of the Chinese University of Hong Kong and other renowned Tsinghua professors, including Chen-Ning Yang, Honorary Director of Institute For Advanced Study of Tsinghua University; Andrew Chi-Chih Yao, Dean of the Institute for Interdisciplinary Information Sciences, and Shing-Tung Yau, Director of Yau Mathematical Sciences Center, are also distinguished professors-at-large at the Chinese University of Hong Kong.

President Qiu Yong visits HKU and signs an LOI for HKU-Tsinghua Collaboration on Dual Bachelor's Degree Programs

On November 30th, President Qiu Yong led a delegation to visit the University of Hong Kong (HKU), and with President and Vice-Chancellor Zhang Xiang of the University of Hong Kong, signed a letter of intent for cooperation, announcing that the two universities will jointly launch Four-year Dual Bachelor's Degree Programs. The first batch of the programs will cover two disciplines: economic management and computer science and technology. Students who have completed relevant courses

will receive bachelor's degree certificates from Tsinghua University and Hong Kong University respectively. It is reported that the program will recruit students worldwide, with the first batch of students expected to start study in the academic year 2020 - 2021.

On the basis of long-term friendly cooperation between Tsinghua University and the University of Hong Kong, this letter of intent was signed in line with the principle of "tapping complementary advantages

for joint development on the basis of equality and mutual benefit", aiming to pool the advantageous disciplines and characteristic educational resources of Tsinghua University and the University of Hong Kong, promote the diversification of talent training, upgrade the level of international education, and promote educational exchanges and cooperation between the Chinese mainland and Hong Kong.

President Qiu noted that Tsinghua University and the University of Hong Kong, established in the same year, have a very close cooperative relationship. The University of Hong Kong actively promotes international exchanges and cooperation, which is highly consistent with Tsinghua University's global strategy. Qiu stressed that openness and innovation are the two key words of university development, and only in a more open environment can major innovation achievements be made. Tsinghua University developed its first global strategy in 2016 to promote exchanges and cooperation between Tsinghua and universities around the world and speed up the pace of students and



teachers going global. “I believe the joint launch of dual degree programs will further promote the development of the cooperative relationship between the two universities, and I hope we can fully leverage each other’s advantages, maintain the momentum and vitality of advancement, and train leaders with global vision to address the challenges of the future world.”

President Zhang Xiang said: “To lead the University of Hong Kong to become a world class university, it is necessary to establish in-depth cooperation with the world’s top universities. I’m very pleased to be able to establish a partnership with Tsinghua University. The dual degree programs will enable students to experience different learning environments and cultures in the course of their academic pursuit.”

In addition, the two sides also conducted in-depth discussions on broader future exchanges and cooperation between the two universities. President Qiu also took part in the first Hong Kong International Artificial Intelligence Summit jointly organized by Tsinghua University and the University of Hong Kong, visited the campus and laboratories of the University of Hong Kong, and gained in-depth understanding of campus construction, laboratory construction and research concepts, among others. Yang Bin, Vice President and Provost of Tsinghua University, and Assistant President and Director of the Academic Affairs Office Peng Gang, formed part of the visiting team. Ian Holliday, Vice President of the University of Hong Kong, among others, attended the signing ceremony of the letter of intent.

The teacher and student exchanges between Tsinghua University and the University of Hong Kong are becoming more and more frequent. The two universities signed an inter-university cooperation



agreement in 1993, which was renewed in 2003, when an exchange agreement for undergraduates was also signed, providing that each semester, the two universities can send less than 10 students to study at

each other’s campuses. On May 29th, 2017, the University of Hong Kong formally joined the Innovation & Entrepreneurship Education Alliance of China initiated by Tsinghua University.

First graduation ceremony of GIX held in Seattle

On December 9th, the first graduation ceremony of the Global Innovation eXchange (GIX) Institute was held in Seattle’s GIX Building. The first graduation cohort was made up of 37 students from 11 countries and regions around the world. The degrees conferred at the ceremony were the 15-month Master of Science in Technology Innovation (MSTI) degree offered through the University of Washington, and the 27-month Dual Degree, which integrates the MSTI with the Master of Science in Engineering (Data Science and Information Technology) (MSE(DSIT)) through Tsinghua University. President Qiu Yong of Tsinghua University, President Ana Marie Cauce of the University of Washington and

President Brad Smith of Microsoft, attended the ceremony.



President Qiu Yong, on behalf of Tsinghua University, extended his most sincere congratulations to all the graduates from the pioneering class of GIX and thanked all those who have been a part of the journey, whose vision, commitment, and concerted efforts have made it a possibility.

President Qiu remarked that GIX is an educational endeavor co-founded by Tsinghua University, the University of Washington and Microsoft, with a shared vision and commitment in promoting innovation and cultivating innovative talents. President Qiu further noted that Seattle is a city of innovation, a city that witnessed and contributed to the friendship between China and the United States. GIX is a solid new step that demonstrates a brand new vision, and the successful practice of GIX shows that innovation requires cooperation, and cooperation is the foundation of innovation. “The space for innovation is as vast as the Pacific Ocean”, President Qiu said, “And in the ocean of innovation, we must join hands and move forward side by side.”



President Cauce congratulated the graduating students on behalf of the University of Washington and praised their achievements. “Now, you stand poised to change the world, and we are deeply proud to be the launch pad for the impact you will make”. President Cauce remarked. She commended the GIX student cohort for their outstanding work, courage in facing challenges, creativity in addressing issues and strong collaborative spirit. She further remarked that as the first graduate cohort, they have set the bar for the cohorts who will follow in their footsteps. “We could not have asked for better standard-bearers”.

Brad Smith, President of Microsoft, applauded GIX’s first group of graduates for the milestone moments

they have achieved as pioneers. GIX adopts a new collaborative teaching method, which emphasizes working with enterprises and other innovative institutions across the world to promote cooperation between different higher education institutions across different countries. This is “a pioneering step for the world of higher education”. President Smith hoped the graduates would carry forward the spirit of GIX in order to inspire other students to make even greater contributions in the future.



At the graduation ceremony, on behalf of the faculty of the two universities, Shi Yuanchun, Dean of GIX at Tsinghua University, praised the students for their dedication to explore and innovate. In just over two years of study, the students have assiduously completed the academic requirements of the two degree programs in a manner that she described as “sleepless in Seattle” after they successfully passed their Tsinghua

University master’s degree of science in engineering thesis defense just the day before their graduation ceremony. In particular, she outlined the many benefits of applying the TED (IT Technology, Entrepreneurship, and Design Thinking) interdisciplinary training model for skills training and technological innovation, and encouraged students to further promote GIX’s innovative spirit in their future work endeavors.

Jointly founded by Tsinghua University, the University of Washington and Microsoft Corporation, GIX was officially launched in Seattle on June 18th, 2015. On September 23rd of the same year, Chinese President Xi Jinping made a special trip to Seattle to visit the staff of the institute during a visit to the United States and presented a dawn redwood tree as a gift, wishing the success of GIX. On September 23rd, 2016, the cornerstone of GIX’s first teaching and research building was officially laid in Seattle. The building was completed and put



into use on September 14th, 2017. GIX is Tsinghua University's first physical presence overseas and also the first of its kind established by Chinese universities in the United States, marking a major breakthrough in Tsinghua University's international cooperation.

The GIX education model brings together outstanding students from all over the world with diverse backgrounds to create an interdisciplinary group, and uses emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence, machine learning, AR/VR (augmented reality / virtual reality), robotics, and blockchain technology to solve regional and global challenges. GIX students display creative thinking and a hardworking spirit toward their studies. They have achieved exceptional results in various competitions and also published various academic papers and obtained more than 10 international and Chinese patents for technological inventions.



GIX has served as a bridge between China and the United States and between the East and the West. It not only promotes educational innovation in the field of technological innovation, but also acts as an incubator of talent for the development of science and technology. The program has also received strong support from

15 commercial institutions, from both China and the United States. With the great wealth of support, along with the guidance and strength of the three founding members of GIX: Tsinghua University, the University of Washington and Microsoft, the institute looks to have a bright future ahead.

Tsinghua University-University of Chicago Joint Research Center for Economics and Finance Jointly Established by Tsinghua University and University of Chicago

On November 29th, the signing ceremony of the Tsinghua University-University of Chicago Joint Research Center for Economics and Finance was held at the campus of the University of Chicago in Hong Kong. President Qiu Yong of Tsinghua University and President Robert J. Zimmer of the University of Chicago signed a memorandum of understanding on cooperation. The two universities will jointly establish the Tsinghua University-University of Chicago Joint Research Center for Economics and Finance. Provost

Daniel Diermeier, Vice President for Strategy and Innovation, Deputy Provost and Chief International Officer Balaji Srinivasan, Vice President for National Laboratories Juan de Pablo, Vice President for Communications Paul Rand, and Vice President for Alumni Relations and Development Sharon Marine of the University of Chicago, former President Gu Binglin and Vice President and Provost Yang Bin of Tsinghua University and other guests had a meeting and attended the signing ceremony together.

President Qiu stated that the



signing ceremony was a brand new step in the cooperation based on the longstanding partnership between the two universities. Tsinghua SEM had grown up with the reform, opening up and development of China's

economy. It integrated the disciplines of economics and management, pursued excellence in research and teaching, and devoted itself to creating new academic knowledge. On the other hand, the Economics Department of the University of Chicago had been in a leading world position through the ages. It had produced more than 35% Nobel Prize-winning economists and created an excellent environment for the growth of the “Chicago School of Economics”. Moreover, the University of Chicago’s Becker Friedman Institute for Economics (BFI) had particular advantages in economic research in the fields of experience, talent network and research resources.

President Qiu added that Tsinghua SEM, together with the University of Chicago’s Becker Friedman Institute for Economics (BFI), would form an innovative synergy, jointly tackle key problems in important fields, and play a more important role in the promotion of economic theory and policy research. The two parties would coordinate and complement research resources, build a broad international platform for the training of young researchers, and make a greater contribution to the development of China and the world economy. He hoped the two sides would maintain momentum and work closely, for the development of the center, for the progress of the discipline of economics, and for the common well-being of human civilization.



President Robert J. Zimmer stated that he was delighted to witness the deepening of the relationship between Tsinghua University and University of Chicago. The research results of this collaboration would be shared not only with researchers around the world to inspire continuous analysis and inquiry, but more importantly it would be shared with Chinese policy makers and policy makers from around the world as they created economic policies for the benefit of their citizens and society. The joint research center would create opportunities for economics scholars from both institutions to conduct vigorous, state-improving research and analysis on economic issues that were related to the extraordinary evolution of China over the past few decades. It was envisioned that the shared strength of the two universities would come together to unlock insights into economics that would be of great benefit in development connecting all cities and understanding across the globe.

The Tsinghua University-University of Chicago Joint Research Center for Economics and Finance will rely on Tsinghua SEM, and the University of Chicago’s Becker Friedman Institute for Economics (BFI) will focus on the advantages of economic research in promoting frontier

economic research, with China’s economy as its research object, and will jointly carry out scientific research, personnel training and discipline construction in this field, with the aim of making a leading contribution to the promotion of China’s economic and financial research nationwide and even globally. The Tsinghua University-University of Chicago Joint Research Center for Economics and Finance will be established on the campus of Tsinghua University, while the space for scientific research and offices would be provided by Tsinghua SEM.

Before the ceremony began, President Qiu had held a meeting with President Robert J. Zimmer and the two parties carried out in-depth discussion on promoting teacher-student exchanges and cooperation in scientific research between the two universities.



China-UK Humanities Annual Forum 2018 held in Hong Kong



On December 6th-7th 2018, the China-UK Humanities Annual Forum was held at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, one of the founding universities of the China-UK Association for the Humanities in Higher Education. Carrie Lam Cheng Yuet-ngor, Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, Tan Tieniu, Deputy Director of the Central People's Government's Liaison Office in Hong Kong, Chen Xu, Chairperson of Tsinghua University Council and Chairman of the China-UK Association for the Humanities in Higher Education, Jeff Streeter, Director of the British Council in Hong Kong, Rocky S. Tuan, Vice-Chancellor and President of the Chinese University of Hong Kong and Yang Bin, Vice President of Tsinghua University attended the opening ceremony.

Carrie Lam Cheng Yuet-ngor noted that both China and the UK have a profound cultural foundation. The members of the China-UK Association for the Humanities in Higher Education are all top universities in both countries. The annual humanities forum hosted by the association plays a very important role

in the exchanges of humanities and China-UK culture between the universities of the two countries. Hong Kong is honored to host this year's humanities forum and hopes that the forum will bring new vision and inspiration.



Tan Tieniu noted it was of great significance for the forum to be held in Hong Kong. With the rapid development of science and technology in today's world, countries all over the world are facing many common challenges, and people are increasingly aware that humanism is an indispensable part of the development of science and technology. He hoped that the association would further strengthen the cultural exchanges between the universities of the two

countries, add glory to the "golden age" of China-UK relations, and make new and greater contributions to a global community of shared future.



Chen Xu, on behalf of the forum organizer, the China-UK Association for the Humanities in Higher Education, and Tsinghua University, a founding university of the association, welcomed and thanked everyone for coming. She said that education, especially higher education, played an important role in international cultural exchanges and has far-reaching influence and important value in promoting humanism and enhancing mutual learning among civilizations. The China-UK Association for the Humanities in Higher Education was dedicated to promoting academic, educational and related exchanges among members of the association, enhancing the vitality of humanities research and training high-caliber young talents capable of addressing the complex issues of the times.



Chen Xu said that Tsinghua University has always valued the interaction between Chinese and Western cultures, the ancient and modern, the sciences and humanities, attaching importance to the development of high-quality and profound humanities education, vigorously developing the humanities, and endeavoring to build a world-class university on the “roots” of China’s cultural tradition and humanistic spirit, which laid a profound foundation for Tsinghua to carry out global education cooperation and to promote the development of the humanities at home and abroad. Tsinghua University would like to work with all member universities to promote humanities education and cultural exchanges between China and the UK, influence and drive neighboring universities and regions, and contribute to the promotion of cultural exchange and development in all countries around the world.

This was the third year for the China-UK Association for the Humanities in Higher Education to carry out its annual academic activities. This year’s forum focused on the



topic of “China and the Humanities”, and more than 80 guests, experts and scholars were invited to have wonderful discussions and exchanges on topics such as humanities research, humanities education, humanities tradition and the globalization of the humanities in China.



The “China-UK Association for the Humanities in Higher Education” was proposed by Tsinghua University in 2016 and jointly initiated by 12 Chinese and British universities, with 17 member universities so far. It aims to strengthen, consolidate and develop academic cooperation and cultural exchanges between Chinese and British universities through cross-cultural dialogue and cooperation in the fields of the humanities and humanitarian education.

Chen Xu visits Hong Kong

Strengthen Exchanges and Cooperation between Tsinghua and Hong Kong



From December 6th to 7th, Chen Xu, Secretary of the CPC Tsinghua University Committee and Chairperson of University Council and Yang Bin, Vice President of Tsinghua University and Chairman of Tsinghua University Education Foundation, met with Tung Chee-hwa, former Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) and Vice Chairman of the 13th National Committee of the Chinese People’s Political Consultative Conference, and Wang Zhimin, Director of the Liaison Office of the Central People’s Government in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region visited the Chinese University of Hong Kong and the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

for in-depth discussions on strengthening exchanges and cooperation between Tsinghua University and Hong Kong. They also visited Yong Chi Hsing, a senior alumna of Tsinghua who is now over 100 years old, and they had extensive exchanges with Tsinghua alumni in Hong Kong.

On December 6th, Chen Xu and Tung Chee Hwa exchanged insights on the recent development and long-term planning of the university.

Chen Xu thanked Mr. Tung Chee Hwa for his long-term guidance relating to Tsinghua University and introduced the recent development of the university in talent cultivation, scientific research and global strategy. Chen Xu noted that the university was always prioritizing the improvement of the quality of students, promoting the reform of education and teaching, and improving students' ability to participate in international exchanges and global competence. At the same time, with the construction of think tanks as an important development direction, the university has established a think tank center and given full play to the inter-disciplinary advantages of the university.

Tung Chee Hwa said that Tsinghua University, a prestigious university, was very important for the development of the country by training top talents and making independent scientific research achievements. Especially at this stage, when many countries and regions still have a limited understanding of China, Chinese universities should go global and carry out various forms of exchange to promote mutual trust. He expressed appreciation for Tsinghua University's ability to set up a research institute on climate change and sustainable development and a research center on strategy and security.

On December 7th, Chen Xu and Yang Bin visited Director Wang



Zhimin and Tan Tieniu, Deputy Director of the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region to conduct in-depth discussions on further deepening exchanges and cooperation between Tsinghua University and Hong Kong.

Wang Zhimin noted that as a top university in the country, Tsinghua University had actively promoted exchanges and cooperation with Hong Kong for many years and had established extensive cooperation with Hong Kong in education, science and technology, humanities, and other fields. It is hoped that Tsinghua University will continue to play a leading role in promoting exchanges and cooperation between universities in the Chinese mainland, Hong Kong, and in the construction of the Greater Bay Area. The Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region will, as always provide strong support for the exchanges and cooperation between Tsinghua University and various sectors in Hong Kong.

Chen Xu said that Tsinghua University was willing to further strengthen communication with all sectors in Hong Kong and contribute to promoting exchanges and cooperation between universities of the

Chinese mainland and Hong Kong in terms of education, technology and the humanities.



On December 6th, Chen Xu and Yang Bin held talks with the Vice-Chancellor and President, Rocky S. Tuan, Vice Presidents Fok Tai-fai and Poon Wai-yin of the Chinese University of Hong Kong to further explore the mechanism of deepening cooperation. On December 7th, Chen Xu and Yang Bin held talks with President Wei Shyy, Vice President Sabrina Lin, and Associate Vice President Enboa Wu of the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology on issues such as interdisciplinary studies, international education and joint talent training.

On the afternoon of December 6th, Chen Xu and Yang Bin also visited Yong Chi Hsing, a senior alumna of Tsinghua University. They thanked her for her concern and support for the development of her alma mater

and congratulated her on her upcoming 102nd birthday.

On the evening of December 7th, Chen Xu and Yang Bin also attended the Hong Kong Tsinghua Alumni meeting. This year coincides with the 60th anniversary of the establishment of the Tsinghua University Student Art Troupe. Alumni in Hong Kong who had been a member of different Student Associations at Tsinghua University also presented wonderful shows for the event.



The CubeSat X-ray polarimeter led by Tsinghua University detects first light events

High-sensitivity X-ray polarimetry is a window not yet opened in astronomy due to technical difficulties. PolarLight, with a miniature X-ray polarimeter onboard a CubeSat, is a space program to test a novel technique for X-ray polarimetry. The CubeSat was launched into orbit on October 29th, 2018. On December 18th, the detector was powered on for in-orbit test, and detected the first events triggered by cosmic X-rays and charged particles. This is the first time that such a new technique for X-ray polarimetry is demonstrated in

space, implying that a new window in X-ray astronomy can be opened in the future. Currently, more tests and observations are being carried out with PolarLight.

X-rays are electromagnetic waves with very short wavelengths. Cosmic X-rays cannot be observed on the ground because of the absorption of the Earth's atmosphere. In 1962, X-ray astronomy was born with a rocket flight. As X-ray polarization can help address important astrophysical questions, only 6 years after that, astronomers in the US

started efforts to detect X-ray polarization from celestial objects. In 1971, an experiment onboard a sounding rocket opened a ray of hope. In 1975, with a polarimeter on the OSO-8 satellite, they eventually measured the X-ray polarization from the Crab nebula at a high significance. However, due to the low sensitivity of the detector, there is no positive detection from any other sources. In 2001, high-sensitivity X-ray polarimetry was first demonstrated possible in the INFN-Pisa lab using a new technique, based on which comes with

the PolarLight proposal. The PolarLight concept aims for an in-orbit test of the new technique, to demonstrate and increase the technical readiness of the detector needed for future large missions, such as the enhanced X-ray Timing and Polarimetry (eXTP).

The PolarLight project is a collaboration including the Tsinghua University, IHEP, INFN-Pisa, Ningbo University of Technology, the North Night Vision Technology, IAPS, and SpaceTY.

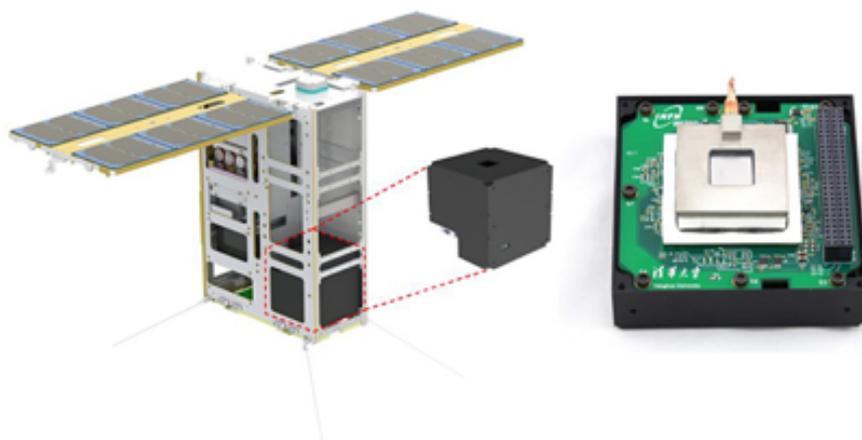


Figure 1. The PolarLight detector and the CubeSat.

The Third China-Israel Innovation Forum held in Shenzhen

From November 30th to December 1st, 2018, the Third China-Israel Innovation Forum, jointly sponsored by Tel Aviv University, Tsinghua University and the Morningside Group, was held in Shenzhen. This forum aims to promote cooperative re-search and cooperative technological exploration and to foster joint ventures between the two countries. President Qiu Yong of Tsinghua University, President Joseph Klafter of Tel Aviv University, and Ronnie C. Chan, Co-founder of the Morningside Group and Chairman of Hang Lung Properties attended the opening ceremony. Also presented at the opening ceremony were His Excellency Zvi Heifetz, Ambassador of the State of Israel to China, Vice Mayor Wang Lixin of Shenzhen, and, attended the opening ceremony of the forum and delivered speeches.

President Qiu noted in his address that the 21st century was an era of

innovation. “World-class universities should not only harness their own unique education methods for greater development, but also take advantage of new resources and opportunities to enhance their global innovative capabilities.” The China-Israel Innovation Forum, jointly launched by Tsinghua University, Tel Aviv University and the Morningside Group in 2016, has always focused on the theme of innovation. The Third China-Israel Innovation Forum has established a good platform for China-Israel cooperation and development in the field of innovation. It was hoped that the participants could engage in an open dialogue and inspire one another to contribute greater wisdom and energy for the innovative development of both countries.

President Joseph Krafter of Tel Aviv University pointed out that Tsinghua University has always been a long-term partner of Tel Aviv



University. From the XIN Center at Tsinghua University to the China-Israel 7+7 Research University Alliance, a solid foundation for long-term cooperation has been laid out between the two universities. President Joseph Krafter expressed his expectation for the two sides to further deepen friendship and strengthen cooperation.



In his speech, His Excellency Zvi Heifetz, Ambassador of the State of Israel to China, said that he was pleased to see the vigorous development of cooperation between China

and Israel in the field of higher education. This cooperation between Chinese and Israeli universities had a broad scope as it not only covered scientific and technological innovation and research results but also effectively promoted exchanges between the two sides in the fields of education, economy and culture. China had proposed and actively implemented “the Belt and Road Initiative”, providing a broad space for China-Israel cooperation. Tsinghua University was rich in human resources and research forces, and would certainly play an important role in promoting the development of China-Israel relations.

At the opening ceremony of the forum, guests jointly unveiled TAU-TBSI Innovation Collaborative Office in Shenzhen, which serves as Shenzhen’s point of contact for strategic cooperation between the Tsinghua-Berkeley Shenzhen Institute (TBSI) and Tel Aviv University. It will assist the two sides in research cooperation, academic exchanges, university-enterprise cooperation and bilateral commercial exchanges in the future. This provides more support for bilateral talent exchanges, academic ex-changes, achievement transformation, project incubation and international cooperation. Yaron Oz, Rector of Tel Aviv University, and Zhang Lin, Co-Director of the Tsinghua - Berkeley Shenzhen Institute, pointed out that the Innovation Liaison Office acts as a bridge to undertake the transformation, and to promote cooperative technologies between the two universities in Shenzhen and the coordinated development of regional innovation.

During the forum, guests from China and Israel discussed five areas covering artificial intelligence, the world economic order, digital health, blockchain and regional civilization exchanges.



Professor Dr. Ignacio E. Grossmann of Carnegie Mellon University appointed as Distinguished Visiting Professor of Tsinghua University

On the afternoon of December 11th, Professor Dr. Ignacio E. Grossmann of Carnegie Mellon University, was appointed as the Distinguished Visiting Professor of Tsinghua University. Vice President Zheng Li attended the ceremony and presented the letter of appointment to Professor Grossmann. After the ceremony, Professor Grossmann presented a theme report entitled “Evolution of Process Systems Engineering and Future Trends in Research”.

Professor Ignacio E. Grossmann is a member of the National Academy of Engineering. He is currently the University Professor (highest designation at Carnegie Mellon University) of the Department of Chemical Engineering at Carnegie Mellon University. He has a high reputation internationally in the fields of process systems engineering, operations research and management science, and is known as the leading figure of process systems engineering.



Tsinghua International Students & Scholars' Gala Night 2019

On the night of Dec. 15th, 2018, the Tsinghua International Students & Scholars' Gala Night 2019 took place in the auditorium of the New Tsinghua Xuetang. Hundreds of students and faculty members gathered to enjoy the mesmerizing show that more than 200 performers worked tirelessly to put up.

With a total of 22 acts from around the world, the show was more diversified than ever before. Countries from all five continents were represented during the evening. Dancing, singing, drumming, modern and traditional, there was something for everybody. "The diversity of the 2019 Gala Night perfectly highlighted the international spirit of collaboration and the rich culture that we all experience here at Tsinghua!" said student Alice Osborne.

The show ended with a round of thunderous applause. "A showcase of extraordinary talent with Broadway production value, very impressive!" said Visiting Professor Doug Harbrecht.

