

# SCU NEWS LETTER

## WINTER

2018 N° 25

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### SPOTLIGHT

German President Frank-Walter-Steinmeier Pays a visit to Sichuan University



四川大学与波兰雅盖隆大学签约仪式  
Signing Ceremony between the Jagiellonian University and Sichuan University



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

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# German President Frank-Walter-Steinmeier Pays a visit to Sichuan University

**O**n the afternoon of December 7<sup>th</sup>, German President Frank-Walter-Steinmeier paid a visit to Sichuan University during his trip to China. SCU President Li Yanrong met the guests and attended related activities.

German State Secretary Stefan Steinle, German Ambassador to China Dr. Clemens von Goetze, Chinese Ambassador to Germany Shi Mingde, Director of the Provincial Foreign Affairs Office Cui Zhiwei, Deputy Director Zhang Yechu, Counsellor of European Department Zeng Fanhua, Counsellor of Protocol

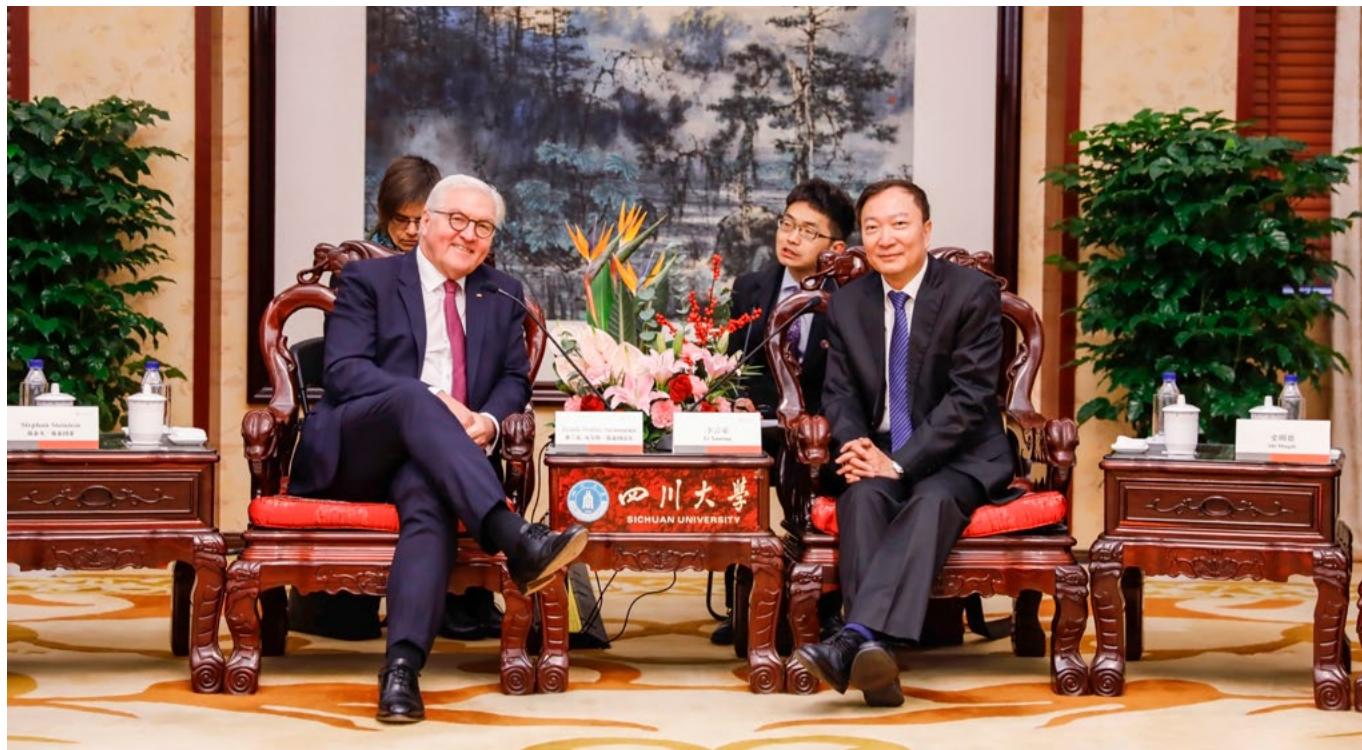
Department Du Xiaohui, as well as SCU Vice President Yan Shijing, joined this event.

**Reviewing the long-lasting exchanges among universities of both countries and calling for opening a new chapter for mutual cooperation on education, culture, science and technology**

That afternoon, German President Frank-Walter-Steinmeier was warmly welcomed by the Chinese and German students in SCU when his fleet arrived.

President Li welcomed the visit of H.E. President Frank-Walter-Steinmeier, and briefly introduced Sichuan University. The modern higher education was originated from Humboldt University more than 200 years ago, which endowed the universities with the function of scientific research other than teaching, and yielded great influence on the universities in the world, he said. In recent years, Sichuan University has strengthened cooperation with German universities and research institutions in student exchanges, sci-tech cooperation and joint education, especially with seven renowned German universities including H.E. President's alma mater-Giessen University, Aachen University of Technology, Krausta University of Technology, etc. In the past five years, nearly 400 German students received training in SCU, and both sides jointly established the Sino-German Energy Research Center, the Water Resources Research Center, and the Sino-German International College, etc. I believe that the visit of the President will help to gain a further insight into Germany and promote exchanges and cooperation between Sichuan University and German





universities and research institutions, harvesting more fruits for the friendship between both countries, President Li noted.

"Thank you for your warm welcome, President Li. I am very honored to give a lecture at Sichuan University, a distinguished university with a long history. It's a bit nippy in Chengdu today, but I feel very warm thanks to the warm reception of Sichuan University," President Frank-Walter-Steinmeier said. "Before this visit, I learned about the long history of Sichuan University and the frequent exchanges between both sides in talent training and scientific research, especially about the good partnership established between SCU and some German universities including my alma mater. I hope that through this visit, we can promote the cooperation between Sichuan University and German uni-

versities and drive the development of Sino-German education and science and technology.

Wrapping up their meeting, President Li presented a souvenir to H.E. President Frank-Walter Steinmeier, who signed his name on the book.

#### **Admiring the great achievements of China's reform and opening up in a hope to jointly create a better future**

After the meeting, H.E. President Frank-Walter Steinmeier gave speeches to more than 500 faculty and students and guests from all walks of life. President



Li delivered a welcome speech, and Vice President Yan Shijing presided over the lecture.

The Sichuan people have successfully overcome the disasters and rebuilt their homes, making amazing and admirable achievements again, H.E. President Frank-Walter Steinmeier stressed when talking about Sichuan's development in recent years. This is his second visit to Sichuan after the 2008 Wenchuan earthquake. In the past ten years, the Sichuan people have shown extraordinary courage and perseverance in the post-disaster reconstruction. I hope more German people come here and learn more about Sichuan and China, he added.

"The future world is full of tensions and uncertainties, so we must work together to create a better tomorrow," he said, emphasizing that digital technology is profoundly changing the human world. The future world is also full of unknowns and changes, so we must cooperate with each other and be brave enough to create a better life."

In the Q&A session, H.E. President answered questions raised by SCU students. He said that there is still a huge space and potential for cultural exchanges between both countries. I hope that the two sides will increase co-operation and exchanges in tourism and working visits. When talking about his tour to Sichuan, he was "very surprised" at the great progress made in urban infrastructure construction. More exciting thing was that more Chinese students showed strong interests to study in Germany, and more German students came to study in China.



"The Sino-German economy is deeply intertwined and dependent on each other." President Steinmeier said in his speech, stressing that China's 40-years reform and opening up has achieved rapid and admirable progress. During this period, the Sino-German relationship became closer and made fruitful results in economic and trade cooperation, culture, sci-tech and education cooperation. Today, China is Germany's

largest trading partner in the world. Both countries see more frequent exchanges on education, culture, and science and technology. Chinese students have become the largest group of international students in Germany, whilst more and more German students are now studying in China, or in Sichuan University. I hope that in the future, such personnel exchanges between the two sides will be getting closer. ┍

# Six Achievements of SCU Was Honored the State Science and Technology Awards in 2018

**O**n the morning of January 8<sup>th</sup>, the State Science and Technology Awards Conference 2018 was held in Beijing. The CPC and state leaders including Xi Jinping, Li Keqiang, Wang Huning, and Han Zheng attended the conference and presented awards to the laureates.

Six of the second awards of the natural sciences, technical inventions, and national science and technology progress were honored to Sichuan University.

SCU's two projects honored the second awards of the natural sciences include: the "New Algorithms of Pharmacophore Model-Based De Novo Design of Drug Molecules" completed by the group of Professor Yang Shengyong, and the "Fatigue Crack Initiation Mechanism and Life Prediction in VHCF" completed by the team of Professor Wang Qingyuan.

SCU's two projects honored the second awards of national technical inventions include: "The Novel Technologies in Clean Preparation and Processing of Triazine-Based Flame Retardant and Flame



Retarded Plastics" completed by the group of Academician Wang Qi, and the "Efficient and Energy-saving Separation Technology and Equipment for Closed Circulation Utilization of Fine Mineral Particles" completed by the group of Professor Chu Liangyin.

In addition, Professor Yueming Song of West China Hospital of Sichuan Uni-

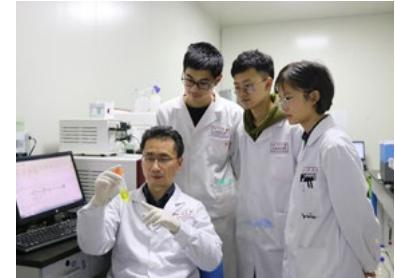
versity participated in "Innovation and Promotion of Key Technologies for Repair of Severe Spinal Trauma" and Professor Jianhai Zhang of Water Resource and Hydropower College participated in "Key Techniques and Engineering Application for Safety Control of 300m Super High Arch Dam". These two projects won the second prize of the State Scientific and Technological Progress. ■

# Introduction to the Awarded Projects

## Second Award of the National Natural Sciences

### New Algorithms of Pharmacophore Model-Based De Novo Design of Drug Molecules

**First accomplisher:** Yang Shengyong  
**Initiator:** Sichuan University



The project relates generally to drug design and synthetic medicinal chemistry. A new theory and methodology system for de novo design of drug molecules based on pharmacophore model, and a variety of novel chiral small molecule catalytic systems and new synthetic methods for primary and secondary amines have been established. Five candidate new drugs obtained based on these theories and methods have been transferred to pharmaceutical companies, and one has entered clinical trials. Eight representative SCI papers were cited 770 times and written into 26 authoritative monographs. Nineteen invention patents, including four international patents, and six software copyrights, were recognized. The research results were reportedly selected in "China's 100 most influential international academic papers in 2007" and top 100 doctoral papers in 2013.

**建立了一套新型的基于药效团模型的药物分子从头设计法理论和方法体系**

**背景**  
如何准确、高效地设计出结构全新、成药性好、易于合成的小分子先导化合物，一直是世界公认的难题。基于药效团模型的药物分子从头设计方法为解决这一难题提供了有效手段。

$$F_{\text{pharmacophore}} = \sum_i w_i f_i(x_i)$$

$$F_{\text{total}} = \sum_i f_i(x_i)$$

$$f_i(x_i) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \cos(\theta_i) - \Delta\theta_i > 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$\text{rank}(f_i) = \sum_j f_j(x_j) \geq 1$$

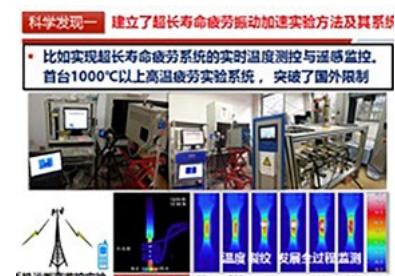
$$\sum_i f_i(x_i)^2 + \sum_i f_i(x_i) = \sum_i f_i(x_i)$$

> 实现了靶标三维结构未知情况下的全新药物分子设计，提高了原创  
意义：药物分子设计的准确度，以及所设计分子的配体效率和成药性。  
> 为准确、高效地发现全新结构的先导化合物奠定了理论基础。

## Second Award of the National Natural Sciences

### Fatigue Crack Initiation Mechanism and Life Prediction in VHCF

**First accomplisher:** Wang Qingyuan  
**Initiator:** Sichuan University



years of in-depth experimental and theoretical researches in the field of ultra-long life fatigue were conducted. An ultrasonic frequency fatigue acceleration test method and its system with IPRs were established. The damage mechanism of internal cracking of ultra-long life fatigue crack was proposed. The ultra-long fatigue life and crack initiation life prediction model was established. The results were highly evaluated by famous scholars and cited in many academic papers, for example, "Wang et al. provided the first experimental evidence", "Wang et al. the first to discuss critically...", "An exception is excellent work performed by Wang". At the same time, the project has driven the rapid development of long-life fatigue discipline in China, and the research results have been applied into the design and manufacturing of major equipment and structures of ultra-supercritical steam turbines, high-pressure rotors, aero-turbine engine compressor blades, corrugated steel web bridges, etc., and achieved significant economic benefits.

**一、立项背景与意义**

✓ 长寿命高可靠性已经成为重大装备和重大工程的发展目标和紧迫需求。

交变应力循环

$10^7$   $10^8$   $10^9$   $10^{10}$  周次

超长寿命疲劳 (VHCF)

高温、高压  
载荷复杂  
环境恶劣  
高可靠性

高速、高频  
长寿命服役

超长寿命  
疲劳问题  
(VHCF)

## Second Award of the National Natural Sciences

**The Novel Technologies in Clean Preparation and Processing of Triazine-Based Flame Retardant and Flame Retarded Plastics**

**First accomplisher:** Wang Qi  
**Initiator:** Sichuan University



This project belongs to the field of plastics processing. In terms of the key requirements for green and safety flame retardant plastics in national economy, molecular complexation to synthesize triazine flame retardant and large-scale clean manufacture technology, reactive extrusion to produce triazine flame retardant and plastics, and processing technologies of synergistic triazine flame retardant plastics, were invented in the project. A series of worldwide technological problems in the field such as high reaction system viscosity, high water and energy consumption, and environment pollution in the preparation of triazine flame retardants, serious deterioration of material performance caused by addition of triazine flame retardants, as well as lack of multi-phase and multi-component flame retardant plastics processing technologies, were dissolved. 30 Chinese and 5 foreign invention patents have been approved. The production line of triazine flame retardants of 10,000 tons has been established. Tens of halogen-free flame retardant plastics products have been obtained. Their performance achieved International advanced level. These products have been widely applied in high-speed railway, new-energy vehicles, and national defense. This project promotes the technical progress of halogen-free flame retardant plastics industries.

## Second Award of the National Natural Sciences

**Efficient and Energy-saving Separation Technology and Equipment for Closed Circulation Utilization of Fine Mineral Particles**

**First accomplisher:** Chu Liangyin  
**Initiator:** Sichuan University



The present invention relates generally to a new technology and equipment for the efficient and low-cost cyclone separation of fine particles, as well as the closed-process utilization of fine mineral particles and short-flow new process of tailless mines, which has realized the resource recycling and near-zero emission of fine mineral particles. It has been granted 53 patents, and brought about three industry standards and two national standards. The results have been extensively applied into more than 100,000 sets in iron ore, coal, non-ferrous metals and non-metallic minerals, taking 78% market share in China and being exported to 40 countries including Australia. While reducing the fine mineral particle pollutants and waste resources, it has achieved a major breakthrough in efficient and clean production in the mining industry, with significant economic, environmental and social benefits.



# SCU Won the First National Special Award for Outstanding Teaching Achievements

**O**n December 27<sup>th</sup>, the Ministry of Education issued a notice, stating that SCU won 6 national-level awards of teaching achievements for higher education, including one special award for outstanding achievements and one second award, as well as two first awards and two second awards for achievements obtained in collaboration with sister universities. Of which, the "First-class Undergraduate Education Practice of Sichuan University with the Reform of Classroom Teaching as a Breakthrough", led by Academician Xie Heping, won the national special award for outstanding teaching achievements, showing the classroom teaching reform of SCU has been widely recognized by the higher education.

The national teaching achievement award for higher education represents the highest level of higher education in China. It is highly valued by the higher education institutions since it's a core indicator signaling the level of talent training and effectiveness of education& teaching reform.

SCU always adheres to the core concept of cultivating the first-class talents and developing the first-class undergraduate education in building a first-class university. Over the past decade, it con-



tinued to promote socialist core values and the innovation& entrepreneurship education through the whole process of talent cultivation. It has gathered high-quality resources to implement elite education, personalized education, and comprehensive undergraduate education. In this way, its talent training is remarkable, and the reform of education and teaching is fruitful.

In the "First-class Undergraduate Education Practice of Sichuan University with

the Reform of Classroom Teaching as a Breakthrough", SCU's teaching exploration and achievements have been made through profound reform of classroom teaching and academic assessment, "inquiry-style small classes", classroom teaching reform, whole process assessment without standard answer test, brainstorming, teaching incentive, upgrading of software and hardware, education on innovation and entrepreneurship, "I-innovation street", and demonstration platforms that can spread influences. 

# Sichuan University Was Honored the “Advanced Chinese Partner of Confucius Institutes”

**O**n December 5<sup>th</sup>, the 13<sup>th</sup> Confucius Institute Conference was concluded in Chengdu. Ten domestic universities and colleges including Sichuan University, Beijing Normal University, and Beijing Foreign Studies University won the title of the “Advanced Chinese Partner of Confucius Institutes”. It also marked the first time granting of such honor to SCU.

Ms. Sun Chunlan, Vice Premier of the State Council and Chairperson of the Confucius Institute Headquarters, addressed the opening ceremony on Dec. 4<sup>th</sup>. The Minister of Education Chen Baosheng presided over the ceremony, which was attended by Mr. Wang Jianguo, Chairman of SCU Council, on behalf of Sichuan University as the co-organizer of this event.

Themed with “Promoting development through reform and opening-up and creating a bright future with concerted efforts”, the conference launched two special forums and eight Chinese and foreign deans’ forums with more than 1,500 representatives from over 150 countries and regions. A workshop was set up for the first time, providing a platform for the presidents, deans and experts to discuss the related development concerns of Confucius Institutes.



Matt Salmon, Vice President of Arizona State University and Chairman of the Consulting Committee of American Center of the Confucius Institute, gave a talk at the deans’ forum on “Shaping and Displaying the Public Image of the Confucius Institutes”.

Currently, Sichuan University has established five Confucius Institutes and 25 Confucius Classrooms with about 12900 students, in cooperation with world-class universities from the United States, Belgium, and South Korea. The Confucius Institute at Woosong University, the first Confucius Institute of SCU,

was established in 2007, and awarded the title of the “Advanced Confucius Institute” in 2010. Established in 2016, the Confucius Institute at the Free University of Brussels is determined to turn itself into a brand-new research-based institute, which will also focus on the research of Chinese and European issues and cultivate talents in this aspect.

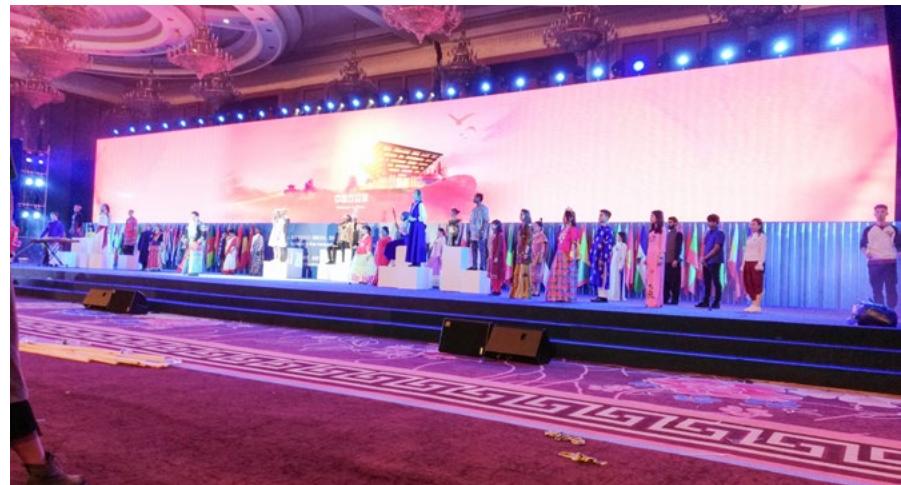
## Three Confucius Institutes in the United States are now running well.

The Confucius Institute at Arizona State University, established in 2007,



has opened 14 Confucius Classrooms at five campuses with an enrollment of over 5,500 students. It has played an active role in developing the student exchange programs and other short-term programs between the two universities, and also established a scientific research platform with the Institute of Latin American Studies of SCU; moreover, eight professors from Arizona State University have joined our UIP activities; the Biodesign Institute is currently discussing with us about the establishment of a biological design center, which is scheduled to be founded in 2019 as a national medical center. The Confucius Institute at Arizona State University won the title of the "Advanced Confucius Institute" in 2016.

In October 2007, the Confucius Institute at the University of Utah made its debut by implementing Chinese immersion programs at 64 elementary schools in 12 campuses, with an enrollment of about 12,000 students. Its active role and its work were recognized by the state government and the University of Utah as an indispensable part of the University. The colleges of art from



the two institutions are discussing the signing of the 2+2 undergraduate joint training program.

The Confucius Institute in Washington State is the only state Confucius institute in the United States. In the past eight years since its establishment, it concluded the Chinese teaching partnership with nine universities including all six comprehensive research universities in Washington State. US Dean Jeffrey Riedginer highly praised the Confucius Institute's efforts to promote exchanges between Washington State University and Sichuan University, help local uni-

versities and communities learn the Chinese language and the Chinese society, and also expressed their desire to continue mutual cooperation.

On the eve of the conference, Li Yanrong, president of Sichuan University, met with 14 representatives of five Confucius Institutes. He said that the Confucius Institute is a strong means of SCU for the internationalization, so SCU will continue to support the construction of overseas Confucius Institutes for promoting the cooperation and cultural exchanges between Chinese and foreign universities and colleges. ■

# A Delegation of Overseas Confucius Institutes Visits SCU

**O**n December 3<sup>rd</sup>, at the eve of the 13<sup>th</sup> Confucius Institute Conference, President Li Yanrong met with the delegation of the overseas Confucius Institutes. Vice President Yan Shijing and relevant officials joined the meeting.

President Li expressed his welcome to all members of the delegation, and extended his gratitude to their long-term support for the construction of SCU, especially for the overseas Confucius Institutes. Sichuan University attaches great importance to the construction of Confucius Institutes and gives full play to its multidisciplinary advantages in its efforts to build Confucius Institutes into an important window for publicity and an important platform for international exchanges and talent introduction, as well as a base for serving the overseas alumni. He emphasized that, as part of its measures to build a world-class university, SCU plans to expand the international vision of its teaching staff and students and enhance its international competitiveness through the "International Immersion Program" and the "SCU Global Horizons". Besides, SCU will continue to support the construction of overseas Confucius Institutes and make new contributions to promoting cooperation and cultural exchanges between Chinese and foreign universities, he noted.



Mr. Matthew Salmon, chairman of the Confucius Institute's US Center Advisory Board & vice president of Arizona State University, said in the meeting that Arizona State University pays due attention to the exchanges and cooperation with Sichuan University. The Confucius Institute at Arizona State University has offered many study and cultural exchange opportunities to its students. Such a platform for learning language will deepen the mutual cooperation and boost the cultural exchanges among co-operative universities and even between the two countries.

During the meeting, the representatives of five overseas Confucius Institutes

from the Arizona State University, the University of Utah, the Washington D.C., the Free University of Belgium, and the Woosong University reviewed respectively the development progress, exchanged views on the achievements of both institutions in Chinese teaching, cultural promotion and exchanges and cooperation in recent years, and discussed the future development planning and path of the Confucius Institutes. It's agreed that, with the strong support of Sichuan University, both institutions will carry out in-depth exchanges and continue to play a more important role in promoting mutual understanding and cultural exchanges. 

# SCU Delegation Visits USA and Canada to Enroll Talents

**O**n November 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>, the North American Session of Sichuan University Overseas Promotion Conference was successfully held in Toronto and San Francisco respectively. President Li Yanrong, Vice President Yan Shijing, the officers from the Chinese Consulate-General in Toronto and the Education Office of the Chinese Consulate-General in San Francisco, as well as the representatives of related departments of SCU, attended the meeting. This event attracted 180+ young talents from Harvard University, Stanford University, University of California at Berkeley, University of Toronto, University of Waterloo, and some other world-renowned higher learning institutes and research institutions.

Focusing on the topic, "Why must I go to Sichuan University? Please give me a reason", President Li pointed out that, Sichuan University has prominent strengths in disciplinary structure and favorable conditions for young elites to develop inter-disciplines. Talent is the major bottleneck for the construction of a world-class university; Sichuan

University is more hungering for young talents than any time before; such talents are welcome to move to Chengdu, and choose Sichuan University as a new platform and a new starting point to pursue their careers and dreams, said President Li.

Counselor Zhang Yiqun of the Education Office of the Chinese Consulate-General in Toronto, and Zeng Yang, Consul of the Education Office of the Chinese Consulate-General in San Francisco, delivered speeches at the promotion meeting. They both indicated that the rapid development of China provides a favorable opportunity and environment for scholars engaged in

scientific research; they hope that more people will return to the motherland and choose Sichuan University for further success in their careers.

The head of the Office of Personal Affairs and the academic leaders in some disciplines of SCU introduced the talent recruitment policies and expressed their desires and welcome for young talents.

At the promotion meeting, the participating scholars had in-depth exchange of ideas with the Sichuan University delegation. In the end, more than 60 youth scholars from Canada and the United States expressed their explicit intention to join Sichuan University.





As an important talent-introducing platform for the University to implement its Gathering Global Talents project, this conference, under the theme "Seek Talents across the Pacific", mainly promoted the SCU's career platforms and development opportunities, and solicited more worldwide young talents to learn about and join Sichuan University. In the future, the University will further its overseas talent recruitment activities, and take advantage of its disciplinary strengths to absorb more talents in a more precision way.

During this promotion, the SCU delegation visited the University of Waterloo and the University of Pittsburgh.

On November 16<sup>th</sup>, the delegation held a discussion with James Rush, Executive

Vice President and Provost of the University of Waterloo, Ian Rowlands, Vice President (International Affairs) of the University of Waterloo, and the Deans from the Faculty of Mathematics, the Faculty of Environment, the Faculty of Arts and the Faculty of Applied Health Sciences of the University of Waterloo.

During the discussion, Vice President Ian Rowlands briefed the construction and fusion of mathematics, computer science and related disciplines in the University of Waterloo and invited SCU delegation to make a field visit to the University of Waterloo's AI Laboratory and the Faculty of Mathematics. President Li hoped that the two universities will carry out substantive cooperation in exchanges of faculty and students, as well as cooperative research.

During his stay in Toronto, President Li also paid an official call on Han Tao, Consul General of China in Toronto, expressing the University's gratitude for his help and support.

On November 20<sup>th</sup>, during the delegation's visit to the University of Pittsburgh, the two parties discussed in depth the experiences of the University of Pittsburgh in combining medical science and engineering, its operation management mode, and its practices in interdisciplinary development and integration in information domain. President Gallagher highly appreciated the cooperation between the University of Pittsburgh and Sichuan University in recent years, and conveyed the willingness to expand and deepen exchanges and cooperation with Sichuan University on the basis of existing cooperation. Vice President Armony gave a special report on the internationalization strategy and operation management of the University of Pittsburgh.

SCU delegation also had in-depth exchanges with the deans of Medicine College, and visited its Sports Medicine Center.

During the visit to the University of Pittsburgh, President Li Yanrong also met SCU exchange students. He encouraged them to continue to improve their academic accomplishments in disciplines; and to make full use of the University of Pittsburgh's advantages in interdisciplinary development of medicine, information and other disciplines, in a bid to become excellent graduates with more comprehensive capabilities to serve the society better. ■

# 2019 ASU-SCU Deans and Administrators Academic Exchange & Education Innovation Workshops Held Successfully

From February 22<sup>nd</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019 ASU-SCU Deans and Administrators Academic Exchange & Education Innovation Workshop was held successfully in ASU. A total of 15 deputy deans and administrators from SCU, and the heads and academicians from the Carey Business School and the Barrett Honors College joined in the event.

Themed with "following an innovative operating idea and deepening academic exchanges", experts and scholars of both institutions from various related disciplines conducted in-depth and extensive exchanges on innovative education models and on how to strengthen innovative education cooperation and joint training of talents.

At the opening ceremony, Stefanie Lindquist, Vice Provost of ASU, Dr. Robert Joe Cutter, Director of ASU Confucius Institute, and Prof. Zhang Hongwei, Director of Academic Affairs Office of SCU, delivered speeches on their own behalf.

ASU scholars introduced the advanced experience of ASU in students' career planning and innovative talents training



with the title "Promoting undergraduates' career planning" and "Promoting university innovation and top-level design".

During the workshop, both sides shared their experience in management, teaching, and personnel training. The members of the SCU delegation were highly

impressed by ASU's cross-disciplinary construction and multi-disciplinary training, flexible teaching system, scientific campus planning, innovative concept, dedication, system construction, and students-oriented leadership development. ASU's faculty and students who have participated in the UIP program of SCU also shared their rich experience of

exchanges in the summer of 2018.

At the conclusion of the project, Dr. Robert Joe Cutter expressed his desire to further tap the role of Confucius Institute, promote exchanges and cooperation between the two universities in various disciplines, and cultivate more "Chinese+" talents for the common development of both countries by virtue of the Confucius Institute.

ASU Vice President Matt Salmon said that, he hoped SCU delegation could share the experience of the workshop

with its faculty and students, and actively boost the multi-level cooperation between ASU and SCU.

Prof. Zhang Hongwei, Dean of SCU, thanked ASU for its thoughtful preparation of this event on behalf of all the delegation members. After summarizing the achievements in this training and the cooperation intention proposed by both institutions, she made an invitation to the directors and faculty members of ASU for exchange visit to SCU.

The fruitful event deepened the mu-

tual understanding between both institutions. On this basis, Wu Yuzhang College of SCU and the Honorary College of ASU reached preliminary co-operation intentions on the exchanges of students and teachers, and global online courses. SCU's Business School concluded the agreements of "3+1+1" undergraduates-masters programs separately with ASU's Carey Business School and Thunderbird School of Global Management. The departments from both institutions also agreed to implement positively their MOUs and cooperation agreements. ■

## SCU Delegation Attends University Social Responsibility Summit 2018 in Israel

To further the social responsibility construction of our university and strengthen the cooperation with world-renowned institutions in this area, entrusted by the university, from November 30<sup>th</sup> to December 6<sup>th</sup>, SCU's International Office, along with Vice Director Lu Li of the Students Affairs Office, Deputy Dean Pan Jie, Prof. Yang Min, doctoral candidate Chen Chu and master degree candidate Cai Xia of West China College of Public Health, went to Israel to participate in the "University Social Responsibility Summit 2018".





During the summit, the representatives from the members of University Social Responsibility Network, such as Haifa University, Washington University, Hong Kong Polytechnic University and Sichuan University, introduced their own efforts made in promoting university social responsibility in the face of challenges in global economy, society, culture and environment.

Prof. Yang Min, as the faculty represen-

tative of SCU, gave a keynote speech titled "Preliminary Experience of Service Learning in Healthcare Prospective in Sichuan University", sharing the experiences gained and challenges faced by West China College of Public Health in promoting university social responsibility through service learning. Through this program which combines learning with service, our students have deepened their understanding of the grassroots medical and health organizations and the rural

population's health status, and increased their sense of social responsibility. The attendees showed a strong interest in our university's service-learning program, and had a heated discussion with our delegation.

As a student representative of Sichuan University, doctoral candidate Chen Chu made a speech under the title of "Growing through service learning", sharing her experience in the service-learning program. After joining the program, she has built up her social responsibility for the health issues of peasants, and of the poor in particular, and resolved to better help them through related studies.

In addition, the members of the "University Social Responsibility Network (USRN)" founded the "USR Student Network" at this meeting, to promote the social responsibility construction of member institutions from the perspective of students.

In the end, the summit arranged a visit to Haifa University and Hebrew University, so as to give the representatives an insight into the two universities' efforts, experiences and challenges in promoting social responsibility.

Universities have the responsibility to face and seek solutions to the global economic, social, cultural and environmental challenges, in an effort to promote fairness, harmony, peace and sustainable development in the world. During this event, the members exchanged their views on the significance of university social responsibility, share their difficulties confronted as well as experiences gained. Such a meeting will undoubtedly do well to our university's related work. ■



# SCU Signs a Cooperation Agreement with Jagiellonian University

**O**n December 4<sup>th</sup>, the President of Jagiellonian University Wojciech Novak, and the Consul General Kasha of the Consulate of Poland in Chengdu, along with the delegation, visited SCU. President Li Yanrong met the visiting guests. Vice President Yan Shijing and the heads of relevant departments joined the meeting.

President Li said at the meeting that, Jagiellonian University has a long history and a good reputation in the world, and has cultivated a large number of well-known alumni. As one of its important steps to enhance its strength and influence, Sichuan University is accelerating the pace of building a world-class university in an

all-round way. After signing of this cooperation agreement, both institutions will further strengthen cooperation on student exchanges and teacher exchange visits, etc.

Mr. Wojciech Novak congratulated the signing of the cooperation agreement. Jagiellonian University always underlines the importance of internationalization strategy and actively promotes exchanges and cooperation with world-renowned universities, he noted. The signing of the cooperation agreement marks a more solid step to the cooperation between the both institutions. He hoped that the cooperation between the two institutions could achieve more fruitful results.

Later on, both presidents signed a memorandum of cooperation and an exchange agreement on behalf of the two institutions. ■

## Introduction to Jagiellonian University

Founded in 1364, Jagiellonian University is one of the oldest universities in the world, and also one of the most prestigious universities in Poland. As one of the largest universities in Central Europe, Jagiellonian University has 16 departments, over 80 disciplines and 140 majors, and has established more than 200 bilateral agreements and 1,400 Erasmus+ exchange programs. Being a member of several alliances and associations, it boasts several world-class research centers such as the Lesser Poland Biotechnology Center, the National Synchrotron Radiation Research Center, and the Copernicus Interdisciplinary Research Center.



# SCU Inks a Cooperation Agreement with University of Texas at San Antonio

**O**n January 14<sup>th</sup>, a delegation led by Ms. Lisa Montoya, vice president of the University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA), visited Sichuan University. Vice President Yan Shijing met the visiting guests along with faculty and staff from relevant departments.

Vice President Yan noted that, SCU and UTSA have established a good long-term partnership to jointly build overseas practice and training bases for college students, and encourage them to join various overseas training and social practice activities as well as multi-faceted exchanges and cooperation in culture and research. The signing of this agreement will further expand and deepen

the exchanges and cooperation between both sides.

Ms. Lisa Montoya thanked Vice President Yan for the warm welcome at SCU. She pointed out that UTSA is a young, energetic and innovative university that's devoted to promoting cooperation and exchanges with world-renowned universities. There is a huge potential for cooperation and exchanges between both universities, so I hope to deepen cooperation with SCU in the faculty and student exchanges and scientific research, etc, she added.

After the meeting, these two vice presidents signed a cooperation agreement on their own behalf. ■



**O**n November 11<sup>th</sup>, Pritzker Architecture Prize winner, Prof. Kazuyo Sejima, one of the world's most excellent female architects, gave a keynote speech on "Architecture and the Environment" at Sichuan University. Well-known foreign professor of Sichuan University& Honorary Professor of the University of Tokyo Fujii Akira, architect Liu Jiakun, and painter He Duoling attended the lecture along with more than 500 participants.

Prof. Kazuyo Sejima introduced the famous Kanazawa 21<sup>st</sup> Century Art Museum, the New York New Museum, and other ongoing projects such as Osaka University's School of Arts and Sciences, Modern Projects in Sydney and the new campus of Bocconi University in Milan.

"What I experienced is reflected in the design process and many possibilities in the search process. Design is a process of accepting continuously new things." When introducing the Inushima Project, she noted that this point-to-point renovation plan cannot be implemented quickly. The purpose is to feel what changes are brought to the village through slow transformation. The direction of such change is not what everyone expects, so it must be constantly adjusted and changed."

"In the cases I first talked about today, some extensions to the surrounding environment of the complex buildings have been made, perhaps offer-

# Pritzker Architecture Prize Laureate Kazuyo Sejima Delivered Lectures in SCU

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ing more connotations on dimension while extending to surrounding social space. This is what I am exploring. Not only it is an extension to the natural environment, and more is an

extension into other fields." In the interaction with the audience, she emphasized again her architectural philosophy and hoped to think more about "something beyond architec-

ture" in future architectural design.

According to reports, Prof. Kazuyo Sejima won in 2010 the Pritzker Architecture Prize, reputed as the "Nobel Prize in Architecture", becoming the second female winner in the history of the award. In her designs, transparent glass and slender columns are extensively used to create a sense of rhythm, which is filled with Japanese calmness and restraint. The review panel commented: "the buildings look very simple. The architect sees the building as a seamless object, where the existence of matters is controlled, creating an emotional background for people, objects, activities, and landscapes. They explore the unique continuous space, brightness, transparency, and materiality, creating a subtle synthesis."

The School of Architecture and Environment of SCU envisaged the "Japanese Architecture Masters Series Forum and International Exchange Activities" from 2015. Japanese architects such as Riken Yamamoto, Harahiro Shoji and Kiyoshi Sey Takeyama have been invited to give lectures. ■

# Renowned Professor Eric Mazur of Harvard University Delivered a Frontier Academic Report and Teaching Seminar in SCU

Recently, the "Future Lecture (3<sup>rd</sup> lecture)" of Sichuan University was officially opened. Internationally renowned physicist, academician of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Sciences, former chairman of the American Optical Society, Fellow of the American Physical Society, Emeritus Professor of the University of Montreal, lecturer for the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the American Physical Society, member of the Advisory Board of the National Foundation, Prof. Eric Mazur of Harvard University gave a report entitled "Stopping Time" to the teaching staff and students of SCU.

Prof. Mazur introduced the concept of time, and talked about people's current understanding of time as well as the physical definition and cognition of time, starting from the description of time by ancient philosophers such as Aristotle. He said, time is continuous and irreversible like throwing a stone into a river, which cannot return to the original point along the original path, while referring to the fact that people still cannot return to their embryonic period. After briefing the attempts of "stopping time" so far, and the key role of photography in it, he spoke of the research status and application of



ultrashort pulse lasers, and shared the work of his research team in using femtosecond laser to analyze the direction of the ultrafast process; meanwhile he noted that the Chirped Pulse Amplification (CPA), which won the 2018 Nobel

Prize in Physics, is the core of current ultrashort pulse lasers and also the most important research tool for current transient research.

His report stimulated the students'

curiosity and enthusiasm. In the Q&A session, the students actively asked questions about time and natural sciences, and got answers in the warm atmosphere.

Later on, that afternoon, Prof. Eric Mazur also attended the "Teaching and Learning Development Forum" of SCU as an internationally famous educator, gave a report entitled "Flat Space, Deep Learning", and made in-depth discussion with the teachers on how to help students achieve deep learning while offering reference methods on team playing, peers, and self-assessment. ■

### Notes

The "Future Lecture" refers to a series of lectures opened by SCU in 2018 as part of its "Exploratory Education Plan for Perceiving the Future and Thinking about the Future". Famous scientists and scholars are invited to bring frontier information to the students, and stimulate them to think about the future and meet the challenges while helping them "make intelligent innovations and embrace the promising future". Professors Zhang Yi and Huang Kama successively gave a talk entitled "The Main Theme of Contemporary Artificial Intelligence", and "The Energy Property of Microwave and its Application Storm" with overwhelming responses.

## SCU's Ranking in Nature Grows Steadily

Recently, the Nature Index website updated the latest nature index ranking in 2018 (statistical time: 1 October 2017-30 September 2018). Sichuan University's ranking grew steadily, up to top 55 in the worldwide universities.

In November 2014, the Nature Publishing Group issued the global "Nature Index" using the brand new WFC (weighted fractional count), based on the research papers published by the scientific research institutions in 68

natural science journals such as Nature, Science and Cell, and the tracked background information of 20,000 scientific research institutions for the authors of about 60,000 high-quality scientific research papers. These 68 journals are selected independently by two teams of global in-service scientists, and divided into four categories: Chemistry, Earth& Environmental Sciences, Life Sciences, and Physical Sciences, which are important indexes to evaluate the outputs of international high-level academic achievements. ■

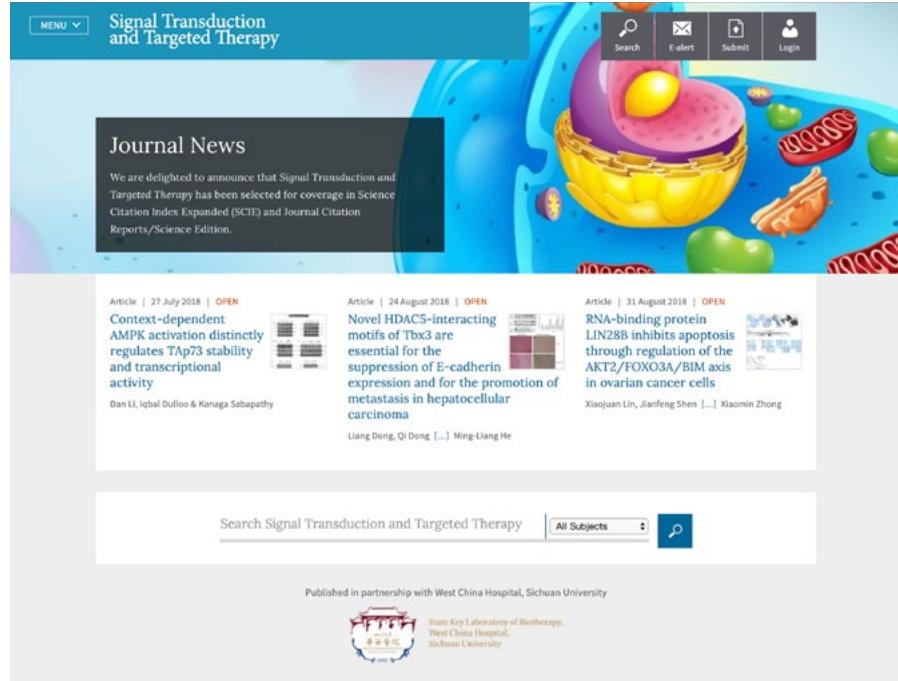


# Signal Transduction and Targeted Therapy Were Included by Science Citation Index

Recently, the journal *Signal Transduction and Targeted Therapy* (STTT), co-published by State Key Laboratory of Biotherapy of West China Hospital, Sichuan University and Springer-Nature Publishing Group, was officially included by Science Citation Index (SCI) with its first impact factor to be issued this June.

Inaugurated in 2016, the journal is an English periodical focusing on biomedicine sponsored by the scheme of enhancing international influence of Chinese science and technology periodicals. It aims to be an internationally famous journal in signal transduction and targeted therapy, publishing researches in tumor and other major diseases. Here is its official website: <http://www.nature.com/sigtrans>

So far, led by Prof. Wei Yuquan, academician of Chinese Academy of Sciences, from West China Hospital, Prof. Zhang Kang from University of California San Diego, Prof. Carlo M. Croce from Ohio State University, the editorial team is composed of 87 members from 10 countries like the United States, Australia, Germany, France, Italy and Japan. West China Hospital, Sichuan University, as the major orga-



nizer, provide with disciplinary platforms and talent support.

Till now, STTT has been included by SCI, Scopus, PubMed Central (PMC), Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ), BIOSIS and other important international database.

According to annual report of World Academic Journal Citation Index (WAJCI) by China Research Center

for Scientific Literature Measurement and Evaluation, STTT was among the eighty Chinese journals as Q1 Journals of world reputation. In addition, two papers from STTT were included in 100 excellent Chinese medical papers in 2018. One of them, *The role of MicroRNAs in human cancer* by Profs. Yong Peng and Carlo M Croce has been cited by more than 180 times since March 2016.

# Professors Xu Zeshui and Gong Qiyong of SCU Were Listed into the Highly Cited Researchers

**O**n November 27<sup>th</sup>, Clarivate Analytics released the list of "highly cited researchers" in 2018, in which more than 4,000 highly cited researchers from 21 fields of natural and social sciences were included. Prof. Xu Zeshui from the School of Business, and Prof. Gong Qiyong from Huaxi Clinical Medical College/Huaxi Hospital of SCU were on the list.

Prof. Xu Zeshui, a fellow of the International Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) and the International Fuzzy Systems Association (IFSA), a distinguished professor titled as the Yangtze River Scholar by the Ministry of Education, a winner of the National Outstanding Youth Science Fund and China Youth Science& Technology Award, and a finalist of the world's highly cited researchers and China's highly cited scholars in 2014-2018 (ranking top of the computer science field 2014-2016), has been granted the Natural Science Award of the Ministry of Education (two first prizes, one second prizes), and serves or has served as a member of the editorial board, deputy editor or chief editor of about 60 domestic and foreign



journals such as "IEEE Transactions on Fuzzy Systems", "Information Sciences", "Knowledge-Based Systems", "Information Fusion", etc.. Springer published his 12 English monographs, over 690 academic papers, including more than 460 articles in SSCI and SCI, and 72 highly cited ESI papers, which were cited more than 48,000 times at H index of 112. In November 2017, he ranked 14<sup>th</sup> among 3084 scientists at top 1% ESI rankings worldwide in the field of computer science, and ranked 299<sup>th</sup> among 8250 scientists at top 1%

ESI rankings worldwide in the field of engineering. Prof. Xu has long been engaged in decision theory and technology, information integration theory and clustering algorithms, fuzzy mathematics and optimization algorithms, and systematically created a complex information decision theory and methodology system.

Prof. Gong Qiyong, the deputy head of Huaxi Hospital, a chief expert of radiology imaging in Sichuan Province, a distinguished professor titled as the Yangtze River Scholar by the

Ministry of Education, and a leader of the "Medical Imaging" innovation research group of the National Natural Science Foundation of China. He has long been engaged in clinical radiography. In the past ten years, he has conducted systematic and in-depth research on major neuropsychiatric and psychiatric diseases with strong national fund support, and published more than 100 SCI papers at H index of 67 on radiology journals such as Radiology, JAMA Psychiatry and Am. J Psychiatry as the first corresponding author. He has been granted one second prize of the National Natural Science Award, two first prizes of the Sichuan Science and Technology Progress Award, one first prize of the China Medical Science and Technology Award, as well as Wu Jieping Medical Innovation Award, the American Chinese Medical Foundation CMB Distinguished Professor Award, and the ISMRM Senior Fellow Award. He was also invited to give a keynote speech of NIBIB New Horizons Lecture at the annual conference of ISMRM. Currently, he is the president-elect of the ISMRM Psychomagnetic Resonance Group and the President of the International Chinese Medical Magnetic Resonance Society.

It is reported that the list is based on the number of published SCI papers in WOS (Web of Science) and the data of citations, whereby Clarivate Analytics selected researchers who published highly cited papers in the past ten years and spread their great influence in certain academic fields. The list this year covers 17 Nobel laureates, including two winners this year. ■

# SCU Alumna Zhu Jinli Was Listed into Top 50 Women in Forbes 2018 Global Technology



**R**ecently, Forbes released the 2018 Global Technology 50 Women's List, into which our alumna Zhu Jinli was selected as one of the two outstanding women from China.

Zhu Jinli graduated from the Department of Applied Mathematics of SCU in 1997 and obtained the degree of FMBA at the University of Manchester. Her educational background in applied mathematics and computer science has laid a solid foundation for her work in AI and blockchain. Now, her investment company is focused on AI, blockchain and

energy, and she is also a founding member of the World Economic Forum's Blockchain Committee. In addition, she is a consultant of the HBO show "Silicon Valley".

In 2013, she was awarded the title of "Global Young Leader", the list of whom is reportedly selected once a year to recognize the most outstanding leaders under 40 years old worldwide. The selection criteria include: the outstanding achievements, leadership experience, ability to overcome difficulties, and contributions to society. ■



# Belt and Road Forum for Education Cooperation in 2018 Held in SCU

Recently, the Belt and Road Forum for Education Cooperation in 2018, sponsored by Sichuan University and the “Belt and Road” Education Collaborative Innovation Research Center of Chengdu, was held in Sichuan University. Ms. Liu Xiaoliu, deputy mayor of Chengdu Municipality, Mr. Mudassir Tipu, Consul General of Pakistani Consulate General in Chengdu, and Vice President of SCU Yan Shijing attended and addressed the opening ceremony. More than 100 experts, scholars and researchers from 15 countries along the “Belt and Road” joined in the forum.

At the opening ceremony, Vice President Yan pointed out that Sichuan University has taken a firm foothold in western China, and now is making full use of its disciplinary advantages and operating characteristics in the move of “Belt and Road” educational construction with higher standards. After giving a brief introduction to the achievements of SCU in the “Belt and Road” education cooperation in recent years, he hoped that this forum could further beef up mutual understanding and promote exchanges



and cooperation among the countries in various fields including education.

Ms. Liu said in her speech that Chengdu puts more focus on the high-level opening-up and is now accelerating the construction of an inland economic growth pole and an international hub in active response to the national “Belt and Road” Initiative. As a major step since the founding of the Belt and Road

Education Collaborative Innovation Research Center, this forum is expected to deepen the exchanges and cooperation among the higher education institutions in Chengdu and the countries along the Belt and Road in the field of medicine, disaster prevention& mitigation, and humanities, etc. Moreover, a preferred scheme could be mapped out in establishing an education platform for joint cooperation and development across



the globe.

In his speech, Mr. Mudassir Tipu, Consul General of Pakistani Consulate General in Chengdu, said that Sichuan is an important node of the “Belt and Road”, and Sichuan University is a great

platform for drawing on the wisdom and contemplating revolutionary reforms. He hoped that this forum could contribute more to the construction of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor in the “Belt and Road” Initiative for the sake of people’s livelihood and for more

in-depth mutual cooperation.

After the opening ceremony, experts and scholars delivered keynote speeches. Subsequently, three sessions on medical education, disaster prevention& mitigation, and humanities, were held. ■

# The 2018 International Symposium for Soft Matter Science and Technology Hosted by the College of Polymer Science and Engineering in Chengdu

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**T**he 2018 International Symposium for Soft Matter Science and Technology was hosted recently in Chengdu by the College of Polymer Science and Technology, SCU, in association with other colleges and universities. More than 200 experts and scholars of foreign universities and colleges from Canada, Japan, France, the United States, the United Kingdom as well as the peers of Peking University, Tsinghua University, Fudan

University, etc., attended this Symposium.

It was jointly chaired by Academician Cheng Zhengdi of South China University of Technology, Prof. Fu Qiang of Sichuan University, Prof. Ma Yuguo of Peking University, and Prof. Zhu Meifang of Donghua University. Academician David A. TIRRELL (USA), Academician Edwin L. THOMAS (USA), Academician Cheng Zhengdi (USA), Academician

Egbert W. MEIJER (Netherlands), Academician Takuzo AIDA (Japan), Academician Cao Yong (China), Academician Jiang Ming (China) and Academician Zhang Xi (China) are members of the International Advisory Board.

Academician Cheng Zhengdi delivered a speech at the opening ceremony. He hoped that this Symposium will drive the academic interaction of top universi-

## 2018 International Symposium for soft Matter Science and Technology

November 3-6, 2018 CHENGDU, CHINA



ties at home and abroad and strengthen the cooperation and exchanges among scholars in the field of soft matters.

During the three-day seminar, experts and scholars focused on four themes covering soft matter synthesis and performance, physical and chemical problems in the processing of soft matters, their interface and assembly, and bio-related soft matters. A total of 60 theme lectures, 124 invited lectures and 53 posters were presented in the Symposium. Academician Edwin L. Thomas of the US Academy of Engineering, Michael J. Yaszemski, Director of the Mayo Medical Center, Prof. Bernard Lotz of the Charles Saddle Institute of France, Prof. Hiroshi Jinnai of the Institute of Multidisciplinary Research for Advanced Materials, Tohoku University, and Prof. Oleksandr Mykhaylyk of the University of Sheffield, as well as Prof. Zhu Meifang of Donghua University, Prof. Yu Yanlei of Fudan University, Prof. Li Bogeng of Zhejiang University, Prof. Liu Dongsheng of Tsinghua University, etc,



delivered excellent academic lectures in a warm atmosphere. In addition, a number of students from Sichuan University, Peking University, and the University of Science and Technology of China presented wall posters and shared the latest

test progress with experts and scholars.

In this exchange platform, experts from all over the world shared and discussed the latest research progress in the field of soft matter science and technology.

# The 2<sup>nd</sup> Australia-China Tourism Forum

## Co-hosted by Sichuan University and Edith Cowan University

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Australia-China Tourism Forum, co-hosted by Sichuan University and Edith Cowan University, and supported by Australia-China Tourism Research Network, was held in Chengdu.

Ms. Cao Ping, deputy chairwoman of Sichuan University Board Council, addressed this forum, noting that it will help to promote the mutual exchanges, mutual understanding and mutual trust, and establish a win-win relationship between China and Australia. Mr. Christopher Lim, the Consul General of the Australian

Consulate General in Chengdu, said that Chengdu has a huge potential of development thanks to its profound cultural heritage and rich natural tourism resources. He believed that, with the growing number of tourists from China and Australia, a new vitality could be injected into the bilateral relation by the governments or private sectors. Prof. Maryam Omari, Executive Dean of the Edith Cowan School of Business Law, expressed his hope that both institutions could establish a long-term partnership to pursue the academic exchanges and cooperation in the field of education, and drive the cultural and

economic development based on tourism researches.

Themed with "Promoting Cultural Exchanges and Mutual Understanding through Tourism: New Ties in New Norms", the grand event gathered together more than 300 representatives from political, industrial and academic circles of both countries, who made in-depth discussions on the development of new concepts, new views, new trends and the most popular tourism development issues in China and Australia, with its aim of building a platform for exchanges and cooperation between the Chinese and Australian tourism sectors and for seeking new opportunities of tourism development in the two countries.

On the sideline of the forum, some academic seminars, special lectures and training activities were arranged, a summit forum attended by representatives of the tourism, business, and academic circles was held, and a special salon for cross-century dialogues among three generations of travel scholars was also staged. Then, the guests made a tour to some scenic spots in Chengdu, including the giant panda breeding and research base. The international, professional and inclusive forum was highly praised by many participants.



# ASU-CFI Phoenix Chinese Week



# III ECHO III

“The future world is full of tensions  
and uncertainties, so we must work to-  
gether to create a better tomorrow.”

— —

**Frank-Walter-Steinmeier**

President of German



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