Beijing Normal University

Newsletter

Winter 2025/ Issue 25

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

Co-organized by:
News Center, Beijing Normal University

Newsletter

Winter 2025/ Issue 25

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

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

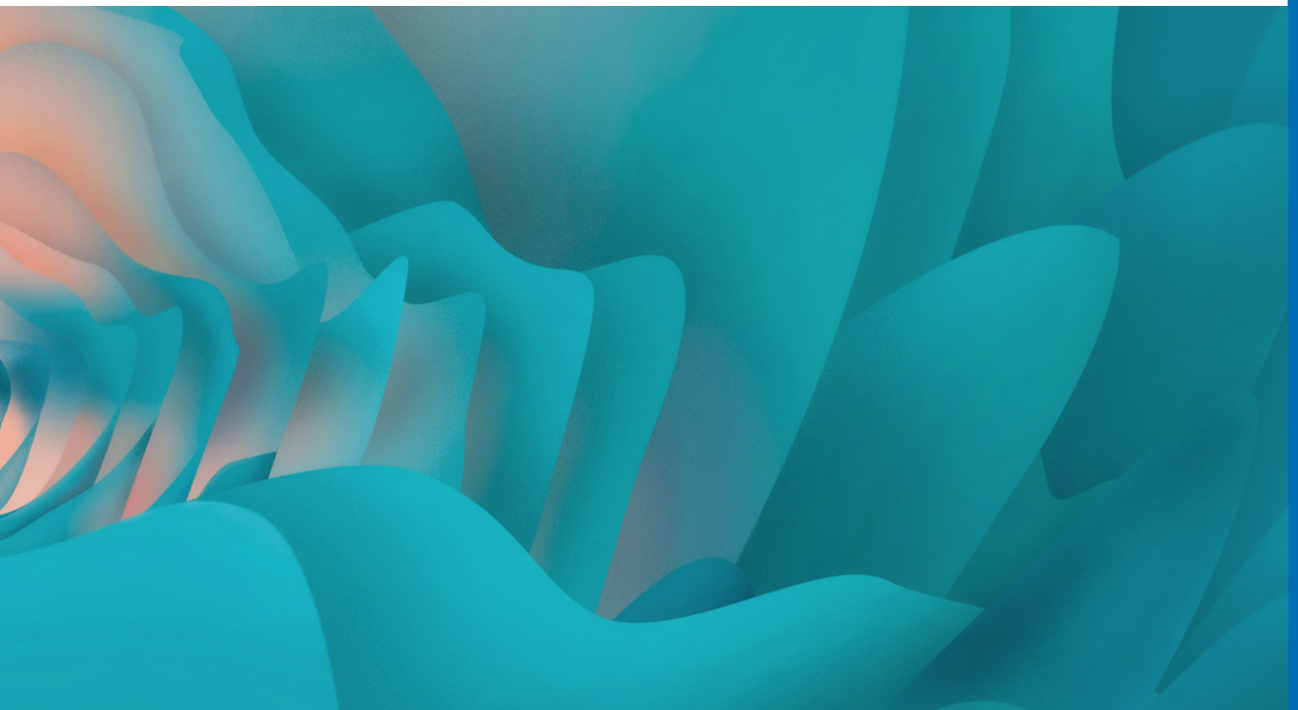
Contact Us

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

Newsletter Online

The Newsletter can be read online at: https://english.bnu.edu.cn/newsevents/newsletters/index.htm

Contents



The 7th China Education Innovation Expo Opens in Zhuhai, Guangdong

Article source: Zhuhai Campus | *Release date: 2025-11-20*

On the morning of November 15, the 7th China Education Innovation Expo, hosted by Beijing Normal University (BNU), opened at the Zhuhai International Convention and Exhibition Center. The three-day event, themed "Convergence·Sharing·Innovation: Advancing Innovation in Education for a Better Future", brought together more than 1,000 cutting-edge educational innovation projects from across the country.

Senior representatives from national ministries, provincial and municipal governments, universities, industry associations and research institutions, experts and scholars, primary and secondary school educators, as well as people from all walks of life including

the business, media and public welfare sectors attended the opening ceremony.

Since its launch in 2015, the Expo has become a key national platform for presenting and exchanging educational innovation practices. Permanently hosted in Zhuhai since 2018, it has showcased nearly 10,000 projects and welcomed over one million participants.

At the theme report session of the opening ceremony, Cheng Jianping, Chairman of the University Council, emphasized that innovation plays a critical role in driving high-quality educational development. He noted that the Expo serves as an important mechanism for advancing reform, encouraging collaboration among governments, universities, enterprises, research institutions, social organizations, and international partners. He highlighted BNU's continued efforts in teacher development, digital education initiatives, and global cooperation, expressing hope that the Expo will further promote knowledge exchange and the application of innovative practices.

Tian Zuyin, Deputy Chief Inspector and Director-General of the Department of Basic Education, Ministry of Education, stated that China's basic education has entered a new phase focused on quality and

equity. He encouraged participants to draw on the innovative practices presented at the Expo to advance comprehensive development, practical innovation, and high-quality basic education nationwide.

Zhang Jiaji, Vice Chairman of the Guangdong Provincial Committee of the CPPCC, highlighted Guangdong's efforts in modernizing education and deepening regional collaboration within the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area. He noted that since settling in Zhuhai, the Expo has become an important platform for Guangdong's engagement with national and international education communities.

Su Hu, Vice Mayor of Zhuhai, emphasized Zhuhai's long-term commitment to prioritizing education. Through collaboration with BNU, the city has established the BNU Zhuhai Campus, launched the Zhuhai Education Innovation Transformation Base, co-founded the Guangdong Provincial Center for Teacher Development, and supported several cross-regional education initiatives.

The event was chaired by Wang Shoujun, Member of the Standing Committee of the CPC Committee and Executive Vice President of BNU.

Students from Zhuhai gave an opening performance.

The 2025 Expo brought together experts, researchers and educators to explore the growing integration of education and technology. A series of notable achievements and initiatives illustrate how scientific and technological advances are enhancing teaching and learning.

During the release session of the opening ceremony, BNU, together with professional teams from Civil Aviation University of China and other universities, as well as front-line science and technology teachers, jointly launched the "Make an Airplane" aviation science curriculum. Featuring high-fidelity teaching tools and immersive hands-on experiences, the program provides students from primary to high school

with a new model of technology-integrated science education.

During the keynote report session, Li Dongsheng, Chief Engineer at the Commercial Aircraft Corporation of China (COMAC), delivered a report titled "Aviation Technology and the Future" in which he discussed how aviation high-tech engineering projects can be transformed into valuable resources for basic education.

Wu Jie, a member of China's first astronaut group and a former astronaut trainer, gave a talk titled "The Work

of Astronauts", offering insights into astronaut training, spaceflight preparation, and mission experiences.

A full-scale simulation cabin of the C919 large passenger aircraft attracted significant attention. Under the

guidance of professional pilots, students were able to operate simulated flight control systems, gaining hands-on exposure to aviation engineering and flight principles.

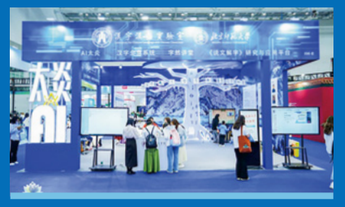
The Expo covers more than 30,000 square meters, featuring nearly 2,000 participating organizations and hosting over 50 forums and 1,000 workshops across six exhibition halls.

The Regional Halls (Halls 1-2) comprised 32 themed zones and feature 1,041 project boards. A total of 1,003 workshops were held in this section,

along with a dedicated session showcasing the work of outstanding principals, teachers, and researchers and four regional micro-forums.

The Higher Education Hall (Hall 3) showcased 472 projects from 66 universities.

The Theme Hall (Hall 4) presented selected innovation cases, international education practices, advances in science education, and projects in arts education.



The Society Hall (Hall 5) featured enterprises specializing in AI education, robotics, personalized learning, AI-powered assessment, smart teaching tools, and AR/VR technologies.

The International Education Hall (Hall 6) presented 108 project boards featuring international youth programs, provincial exchange initiatives, cultural education projects, and global expressions of traditional Chinese culture.

Two major brand forums drew broad attention. The Education Directors Forum, held in Zhuhai for the first time, brought together more than 400 education administrators from across the country to discuss key issues in basic education reform. The First National Conference on Science Education for Primary and Secondary Schools, jointly organized with the Chinese Society of Education, explored practical strategies to strengthen science education and produced recommendations for future practices.

This year's Expo expanded both onsite and online engagement. The online platform continuously opened up high-quality course resources, innovative achievement cases and expert lecture contents, regularly organized thematic discussions, local exhibitions and campus salons, enabling innovative achievements to break through the limitations of time and space and take root and sprout in a wider range.

For the first time, the Expo introduced an Innovation Project Investment and Financing Zone, supporting education technology projects through showcasing, matching, incubation, and promotion. The Innovation Roadshow Competition, themed "Education + AI", featured tracks in student development, teaching and research, and school management.

The Expo also developed a database of innovative practices and an expert resource pool to ensure that outstanding achievements can consistently play a leading and exemplary role.

Building on a decade of development, the China Education Innovation Expo will continue to bring together diverse expertise and resources, and contribute to the advancement of modern education in China.

Beijing Normal University and the Southern Marine Science and Engineering Guangdong Laboratory (Guangzhou) Sign Framework Agreement to Jointly Establish the Future Ocean College

Article source: Office of University–Local Government Cooperation | *Release date: 2025-12-08*

On the morning of December 6, Beijing Normal University (BNU) and the Southern Marine Science and Engineering Guangdong Laboratory (Guangzhou) (hereinafter referred to as the "Guangzhou Marine Laboratory") held a signing ceremony in Guangzhou for the Framework Agreement on the Joint Establishment of the Beijing Normal University Future Ocean College. Attendees of the ceremony included Cheng Jianping, Secretary of the CPC Committee of Beijing Normal University; Yu Jihong, President of Beijing Normal University; Wang Shoujun, Executive Vice President; Wang Ming, Vice President; Yang Zhifeng, Professor at the School of Environment and Academician of the Chinese Academy of Engineering; Huang Jianggang, Second-Level Inspector of the Guangdong Provincial Department of Science and Technology; Xie Ming, Director of the Guangzhou Municipal Bureau of Science and Technology; Wang Wei, Deputy Director of the Administrative Committee of the Nansha Development Zone; as well as Zhou Wenneng and Zhang Guangxue, Deputy Directors of the Guangzhou Marine Laboratory.

Following the signing ceremony, Yu Jihong and her delegation visited the Guangzhou Marine Laboratory for an on-site tour and briefing, during which they were introduced to the laboratory's establishment background, organizational structure, scientific research development, major research platforms, and industrial incubation initiatives.

Wang Shoujun and Zhang Guangxue signed the *Framework Agreement on the Joint Establishment of the Beijing Normal University Future Ocean College between Beijing Normal University and the Southern Marine Science and Engineering Guangdong Laboratory (Guangzhou)* on behalf of the two parties.

The Future Ocean College will be established at the Zhuhai Campus of Beijing Normal University, with the Guangzhou Marine Laboratory serving as a co-establishing institution and hosting the Nansha Campus of the Future Ocean College. The two parties will jointly plan and advance the development of the Future Ocean College, establish distinctive disciplines in marine science and technology featuring interdisciplinary integration across the humanities, sciences, engineering, and management, and conduct comprehensive and in-depth research on the South China Sea. By integrating their respective strengths and resources, both sides will work collaboratively to promote the high-quality development of the Future Ocean College, establish an integrated development mechanism encompassing science, education, teaching, and research, and build a first-class science–education integrated institution with strong innovation capabilities.

Beijing Normal University Supports the Cultivation of Sinologists and Promotes the Exchange and Mutual Learning of Civilization

Article source: Office of International Exchange and Cooperation, Institute of Chinese Culture, Jingshi Academy |
Release date: 2025-11-24

Beijing Normal University (BNU) has long attached great importance to the research, interpretation, and international dissemination of China's excellent traditional culture, continuously supporting the cultivation of overseas sinologists and promoting the exchange and mutual learning between Chinese and foreign civilizations. For many consecutive years, BNU has held summer schools and summer Chinese language training courses. BNU strengthens top-level design, leveraging its disciplinary advantages to actively build interdisciplinary and cross-cultural academic exchange mechanisms, and has specifically established the Institute of Chinese Culture | JingShi Academy as a high-level teaching and research institution for interdisciplinary talent cultivation.

1. BNU Hosts International Sinology Research Camp on "Chinese Modernization: Inheritance and Innovation of Civilization"

To deepen young sinologists' authentic and multidimensional understanding of China and promote the exchange and mutual learning among world civilizations, from November 13 to 16, BNU, entrusted by the Center for Language Education and Cooperation of the Ministry of Education (China), organized a youth sinology research camp titled "Chinese Modernization: Inheritance and Innovation of Civilization". The camp was hosted by the Institute of Chinese Culture | JingShi Academy, with nearly 20 participants from countries including the United States, Italy, Spain, North Macedonia, Sri Lanka, Iran, Japan, South Korea, Vietnam, Peru, Mexico, Sudan, and Cameroon.

At the opening ceremony on November 13, Kang Zhen,Vice President of BNU, stated that young sinologists possess professional academic training, fluent Chinese expression, profound academic thinking, and cross-cultural sensitivity, serving as friendly ambassadors to connect China with the world and promote the exchange and mutual learning of human civilizations. He expressed his hope that everyone would ignite their enthusiasm for studying and understanding China and achieve even more fruitful results in the vast field of sinological research in the future.

Professor Liu Li, from the School of Chinese Language and Literature at BNU, delivered a special lecture titled "The Growth Path of Young Sinologists", encouraging young sinologists to be rooted in classics, embrace innovation, and bridge the past and present, as well as China and the world.

Young sinologists have expressed their commitment to continue to walk hand in hand with sinology and China, strengthen research and interpretation, introduce the real, three-dimensional, and comprehensive China to the world, and serve as ambassadors bridging Chinese and foreign civilizations.

Feng Haicheng, an alumnus from School of Chinese Language and Literature and North Macedonia sinologist stated that, as a bridge for mutual understanding between Chinese civilization and other global cultures, sinology has created a platform for dialogue among scholars worldwide, and the rising generation of sinologists from Global South countries has broken the long-standing intellectual monopoly of Western nations, demonstrating the true spirit of multilateralism in academia.

Fan Yuxue, a scholar of Chinese studies from Vietnam and an alumna of BNU's School of International Chinese Language Education, shared her feelings: "Driven by my passion for the Chinese language and its rich cultural heritage, I have remained committed to my Chinese studies. I firmly believe in the unique charm of Chinese, and I will continue to write in this language to foster mutual understanding and tolerance among civilizations."

Li Ruien, an alumnus of the Faculty of Education of BNU and an American sinologist, said: "My study experience at BNU laid a solid foundation for my career as an international educator. The reply also conveys the message that China will continue to cultivate the growth of sinologists, which I find very inspiring!"

The members of the research camp visited the Palace Museum, the National Museum of China, and the China Intangible Cultural Heritage Museum

The members of the research camp visited the Xicheng campus of BNU

The Workshop on International Sinology was held at the Research Camp, where members listened to lectures and exchanged views with experts

2. International students from Beijing Normal University become ambassadors of cultural exchange between China and the world

From November 14 to 16, the 2025 World Chinese Language Conference took place in Beijing. On the morning of November 15, representatives of international students from BNU attended the parallel forum of the "Cross-Civilization Dialogue and the Cultivation of Young Scholars in China Studies" jointly hosted by BNU. They gathered with over 350 university presidents, education officials, diplomatic envoys to China, sinologists, and international students engaged in China research from more than 90 countries across five continents, engaging in in-depth exchanges on Chinese language education innovation, Chinese cultural studies, and civilizational dialogue and mutual learning.

Feng Haicheng (North Macedonia), Jiang Ailian (Spain), Yu Jiayong (Myanmar), Pu De (Nepal), and many outstanding international Sinologists from BNU delivered speeches at the forum. They expressed their commitment to continuing their studies and deepening their research in Sinology, and to contributing their efforts to fostering dialogue and mutual understanding among world civilizations.

BNU began cultivating students for the New Sinology Program in 2013 and has since trained 56 outstanding

young sinologists. As a key university for nurturing high-level sinology talents, BNU has long been committed to supporting young scholars from around the world in deeply exploring the language, culture, and social development of China. The doctoral candidates attending this conference covered research directions in areas such as teaching Chinese as a foreign language, educational strategies and policies, and international education and development studies. During the conference, they shared their latest research findings in sinology through keynote speeches and panel discussions, and engaged in in-depth dialogues with peers from around the globe on issues such as the pathways, methods, and challenges of international Chinese communication. This showcased the university's cutting-edge explorations and youthful commitment in the fields of international Chinese education and sinology research.

3. The 2025 Annual Conference of the World Association for Teaching

On November 16, the International Society for Chinese Language Teaching hosted its 2025 Academic Annual Conference at the National Convention Center, as a parallel event of the 2025 World Chinese Conference. Under the theme "Innovations in International Chinese Language Teaching Theory and Practice in the Digital Age", the conference was co-organized by ISCLT and BNU. It

attracted over 200 delegates from more than 90 Chinese and international institutions, with 130+ papers submitted.

Chen Xing, Vice President of BNU, stated that, in the face of opportunities and challenges brought by digital and intelligent transformation, BNU will actively leverage its disciplinary strengths and educational advantages. The university will continue to explore in areas such as smart teaching platform development, digital resource creation, and intelligent technology applications in education, contributing to the high-quality development of international Chinese education.

For years, BNU has been a pioneer in international Chinese education. Its outstanding contributions to promoting the HSK exam and developing Chinese teaching resources earned it the 2025 Best Partner Award for the HSK Chinese Proficiency Test and the Chinese Alliance Gold Partner Award. Feng Liping, Dean of the International Chinese Education College, was also honored with the HSK Excellence Contribution Award.

In the future, BNU will further integrate resources, strengthen platform development, launch more high-quality projects, gather international sinologists, enhance the cultivation of sinology talents, actively conduct sinology research, and contribute BNU's strength to promoting the development of sinology and facilitating cultural exchanges and mutual learning between China and other countries.

His Highness Tengku Amir Shah Ibni Sultan Sharafuddin Idris Shah Alhaj, the Crown Prince of Selangor, visited BNU

Article source: Office of International Exchange and Cooperation | Release date: 2025-12-03

On December 1, His Highness Tengku Amir Shah Ibni Sultan Sharafuddin Idris Shah Alhaj, the Crown Prince of Selangor, visited Beijing Normal University (BNU). Chen Xing, Vice President of BNU, and Zhou Zuoyu, Vice Chairman of the University Council of BNU and Director of the UNESCO International Research and Training Centre for Rural Education (UNESCO INRULED), attended the visit and related activities.

Chen Xing, on behalf of BNU, extended a warm welcome to His Highness Tengku Amir Shah and provided an overview of BNU's achievements in teacher education, rural development research, and collaborations with Malaysian universities. He commended His Highness Tengku Amir Shah's long-standing contributions to youth development, entrepreneurial education, and sustainable rural initiatives, noting the remarkable accomplishments in these fields. Chen emphasized that His

Highness Tengku Amir Shah's visit demonstrates Selangor's strong commitment to deepening China-Malaysia educational cooperation. He added that BNU stands ready to seize this opportunity to further expand practical collaboration with Malaysian institutions in education, scientific research, and social services.

His Highness Tengku Amir Shah expressed his appreciation for BNU's thoughtful arrangements and highly commended BNU's international influence in educational research. He noted that 2025 marks the 51st anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Malaysia, and expressed hope to take this milestone as a new starting point to work together with BNU and other Chinese partners to inject fresh momentum into bilateral educational cooperation. He stated that he looks forward to deepening collaboration in youth empowerment, digital skills training, and rural education innovation, and to jointly advancing initiatives that bring tangible benefits to local communities.

On the same day, the 2025 International Symposium on Education for Sustainable Rural Development, co-hosted by BNU, INRULED, and the China Zigen Rural Education and Development Association, was held at BNU.

During the opening ceremony of the symposium, Chen Xing once again welcomed His Highness Tengku Amir Shah. He emphasized that BNU has always regarded serving rural revitalization as its mission of the times and, through INRULED, has continued to build a global platform for rural education cooperation. BNU looks forward to deepening collaboration with all partners to strengthen China-Malaysia cooperation in rural education and sustainable development, and to transform entrepreneurial education into a broad-based action for rural revitalization.

In his remarks, His Highness Tengku Amir Shah shared Selangor's experience in supporting rural youth through community-based programs and digital skills training, enabling them to participate

in innovative practices such as agritech and ecotourism. He noted that education is the core engine for unlocking rural potential and that it is essential to move beyond traditional models to ignite endogenous motivation through entrepreneurial education. He called for global cooperation to empower the younger generation and jointly advance an inclusive, green, and sustainable future for rural communities.

Also at the symposium's opening ceremony, the Youth Empowerment Action Plan for Sustainable Rural Development was launched. The action plan provides a platform for young people to participate deeply in rural transformation and contribute to the achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

During the visit, His Highness Tengku Amir Shah and his delegation also toured the BNU History Museum, gaining a deeper understanding of BNU's century-long history and mission of education in its development journey.

For many years, BNU has maintained close cooperative relations with multiple Malaysian universities and research institutions. This visit not only reflects the solid foundation of China-Malaysia cultural and educational exchange but also injects new vitality into the building of a future-oriented China-Malaysia educational community.

Lang Ping Honored with IOC Coaches Lifetime Achievement Award

Article source: BNU Official Website | *Release date: 2025-12-02*

On November 24, Lang Ping, a former head coach of the Chinese Women's National Volleyball Team and a Researcher at Beijing Normal University (BNU), was honored with the 2025 International Olympic Committee (IOC) Coaches Lifetime Achievement Award with Cuban wrestling coach Raul de Jesus Trujillo Diaz.

Established in 2017, the IOC Coaches Lifetime Achievement Award recognizes two individuals annually for their extraordinary contributions to international sports. Lang Ping is the first coach from one of the "Big Three Ball Sports" (volleyball, basketball, and football) to receive this honor since the award's creation.

After receiving the trophy from pole vault legend Sergey Bubka, who serves as the Chair of the IOC Athletes' Entourage Commission, Lang Ping was visibly moved. She said, "I am so excited. This award is different from those in volleyball; it is presented by the International Olympic Committee and is one of the most significant honors I have ever received."

During the presentation, Mr. Bubka noted that the number of nominees this year reached a record high of 152. He stressed that selecting just two recipients from such a large and competitive field was exceptionally challenging. Lang Ping said, "I find it incredible. With so many phenomenal coaches and so many sports worldwide, I feel extremely lucky to have been selected from this esteemed group of nominees."

The 64-year-old Lang Ping is the first person in the volleyball world to win Olympic gold as both a player and a coach. She won a gold medal as a player with the Chinese Women's National Team at the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics, and again guided the team to victory as Head Coach at the 2016 Rio Olympics. Additionally, she has led both the Chinese Women's National Team and the U.S. Women's National Team to Olympic silver medals during her coaching career. Since 2021, Lang Ping has been engaged in educational work at BNU, while also serving as Vice President of the Chinese Volleyball Association. She said:

"Whether as an athlete or a coach, and whether working in different countries around the world, I feel that I have always been doing something meaningful and realizing my dreams."

As a player, Lang Ping, known by the nickname "Iron Hammer", helped the Chinese Women's National Team achieve a historic "Triple Crown" (three consecutive world titles). She served as the Head Coach of the Chinese Women's National Team twice, from 1995 to 1998 and again from 2013 to 2021. She led the team to remarkable success, securing gold medals at the 2015 FIVB Volleyball Women's World Cup, the 2016 Rio Olympics, and the 2019 FIVB Volleyball Women's World Cup, making outstanding contributions to the development of Chinese volleyball.

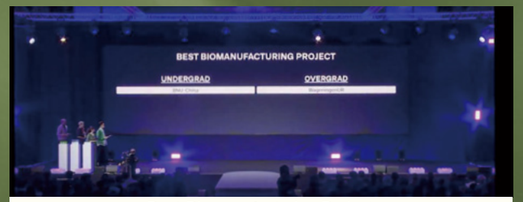
Beyond the court, as a researcher at the School of History at BNU, Lang Ping is dedicated to researching the history of modern and contemporary Chinese sports culture and promoting the inheritance and innovation of sports culture. Through her dual identity, she demonstrates a sincere commitment and strong dedication to the cause of education.

The Team BNU-China from Beijing Normal University Has Won Four International Honors at iGEM

Article source: College of Life Sciences | Release date: 2025-11-11

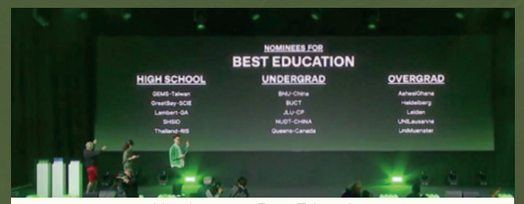
On October 31, the International Genetically Engineered Machine Competition (iGEM) concluded in Paris, France. The Beijing Normal University-BNU-China team clinched the global gold medal with their groundbreaking V-CHARGEs project (VLP-Coupled High-efficiency ATP Re-Generating Enzyme system). With outstanding performance, they also won the Best Biomanufacturing Project for the first time, and were nominated for the Best Part Collection and Best Education awards, setting a new record for the best performance of BNU in this competition.

iGEM gold medal



Best Biomanufacturing Project

Nominees for Best Part Collection



Nominees for Best Education

The iGEM BNU-China team in 2025 consisted of a total of 28 members from the College of Life Sciences, School of Artificial Intelligence, School of Mathematical Sciences, and Faculty of Education.

Group photo of 2025 BNU-China

BNU School of Future Design Wins Three Red Dot Design Awards

Article source: Zhuhai Campus | Release date: 2025-11-03

Recently, the winners of the 2025 "Red Dot Award: Design Concept", one of the most influential honors in the global design community, were announced at an award ceremony held in Singapore. Lu Di, from the School of Future Design at Beijing Normal University, received the Red Dot: Best of the Best Award for the design "Tray Coffee Table". His works "Tray Piggy Bank" and "Spice Grinder" also won Red Dot Awards in the Winner category.

The design "Tray Coffee Table" is a commercial coffee table

Certificates and trophies of the winning designs

Award ceremony

featuring an innovative adjustable-height tray underneath. Users can modify the tray's height to suit different storage needs, making afternoon tea moments more elegant and leisurely.

The design "Tray Piggy Bank" is a tray-

style savings container that serves as a temporary storage for coins, keys, cards, USB drives, and other small items, making it ideal for placement near the entrance. The tray on top is detachable and fits seamlessly with the main body. Its cleverly designed clasp structure ensures a secure connection between the tray and the container while allowing coins to smoothly slide along the edge into the piggy bank. The entire storage process feels elegant and satisfying. With its graceful form and muted color palette, the Tray Piggy Bank blends harmoniously into most home environments.

The design "Spice Grinder" is an innovative grinder inspired by the process of brewing tea in a gaiwan and savoring its aroma. Its overall geometric form ensures that even when not in use, it can be displayed on a kitchen countertop as an elegant decorative piece, exuding refined charm.

The "Red Dot Design Award" is an international design award established by the German Design Council in 1955. It receives nearly 5,000 entries from more than 70 countries worldwide every year. Approximately 5% of the entries are honored as "Red Dot Winners", while only about 1% of all submissions receive the prestigious "Red Dot: Best of the Best Award".

China-US Film Festival in Los Angeles: "Looking China" Wins Major Awards

Article source: Institute of Chinese Culture /Jingshi Academy | Release date: 2025-11-20

On November 7, the event "Fifteen Years of International Vision: A Journey through the American Youth Short Film — Looking @ China" was held at the Consulate General of the People's Republic of China in Los Angeles. Beijing Normal University (BNU) served as one of the co-organizers

As a crucial exchange component of the 21st China-US Film Festival & China-US TV Festival, the event brought together representatives of youth from both China and the United States, along with numerous leaders, experts, scholars, and media representatives from the Sino-U.S. film and television industries.

Guo Shaochun, Consul General of the People's Republic of China in Los Angeles, proposed that "The new generation of youth is continuing the 'unfinished path' of Edgar Snow's 'Looking China' through their lenses and new technologies."

Su Yantao, Chairman of the China-US Film Festival & China-US TV Festival, expressed hope that young people from China and the U.S. will use cinematic art to collectively build a beautiful future of love and peace.

Huang Huilin, founder of the "Looking @ China" project, Senior Professor at BNU, introduced the project's significant 15-year history and milestones via a video presentation. Three American students who had previously participated in "Looking @ China"—Mateo Nikolav, Sammi Su, and Christine Jiaqi An—took the stage, vividly sharing their unique experiences and genuine feelings of observing, documenting, and disseminating Chinese culture through their lenses.

Concurrently, the award winners for the 21st China-US Film Festival & China-US TV Festival were announced that evening. "Looking China" once again garnered the Annual Best Series Microfilm Award. Two specific works, My Teacher Huang Huilin and My Desk Mate is a Star, stood out from thousands of submissions to win the Best Microfilm Award.

Mainstream media outlets, including Xinhua News Agency, CCTV News (China Media Group), China Daily, People's Daily, and China News reported on the event. Over the past 15 years, 106 young Americans from nearly 20 universities, including Boston University, the University of Hawaii, the University of Southern California, and the University of Colorado, Colorado Springs, have traveled to China for cultural immersion experiences. They successfully completed 106 short documentaries, which are scheduled to be broadcast sequentially on US City TV and US City Network.

Since its establishment in 2011, the " Looking China Youth Film Project " has been running for 15 years. Over 1,200 foreign young participants from 102 countries and over 90 overseas universities have traced their steps across 27 provinces, regions, and municipalities in China. They have produced over 1,150 short documentaries, which have collectively secured more than 220 international awards.

The Sixth Beijing Normal University "Belt and Road" Forum Held in Zhuhai

Article source: The Belt and Road School | *Release date: 2025-11-26*

Event Highlights

On November 22, the Sixth Beijing Normal University "Belt and Road" Forum, hosted by the Belt and Road School of Beijing Normal University, was held at the university's Zhuhai Campus. The theme of this year's forum was "Promoting High-Quality Joint Development of the Belt and Road through Area and Country Studies". Nearly 300 renowned Chinese and international experts and scholars, as well as faculty members and students of Beijing Normal University, attended the forum.

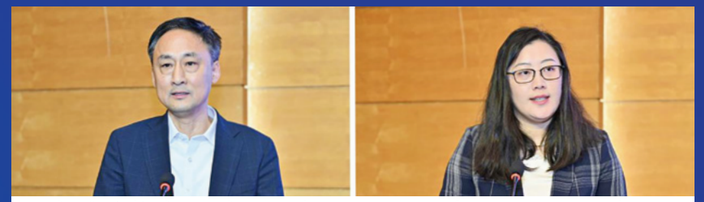
In his remarks, Wang Shoujun, Executive Vice President of Beijing Normal University and Dean of the Belt and Road School, noted that promoting high-quality Belt and Road cooperation through area and country studies not only responds to the demands of the times, but also demonstrates the deep integration of academic research with national strategies. He stated that Beijing Normal University will continue to optimize its disciplinary structure by leveraging its "integrated development with dual wings" educational framework, strengthen interdisciplinary collaboration, and steadily advance research and discipline development in area and country studies.

Wang Shoujun, Executive Vice President of Beijing Normal University and Dean of the Belt and Road School

Gan Zangchun, Vice President of the 8th China Law Society and former Deputy Director of the Legislative Affairs Office of the State Council, pointed out that the practice of jointly building the Belt and Road has demonstrated the important role of strengthening the rule of law in foreign-related affairs. At the same time, he emphasized that, as a new form of economic cooperation, the Belt and Road Initiative requires that foreign-related legal studies treat it as a principal arena and a strategic fulcrum for focused research and attention.

Gan Zangchun, Vice President of the 8th China Law Society and former Deputy Director of the Legislative Affairs Office of the State Council

Jiang Yaoping, former Vice Minister of Commerce, stated that deepened regional economic cooperation can continuously unlock trade and investment potential, deliver tangible benefits to people across countries, and provide sustainable development pathways for countries of the "Global South". He suggested actively advancing in-depth regional economic cooperation by improving coordination mechanisms, deepening cooperation in emerging fields, strengthening institutional opening-up, consolidating supply chain resilience, promoting inclusive development, and enhancing people-to-people and cultural exchanges.



Dai Xin (left), Deputy Director of the Agricultural Information Institute of the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences, and Jie Xiaomeng (right), Deputy Director of the Division of International Cooperation and Exchange of the Administrative Center for China's Agenda 21

Jiang Yaoping, former Vice Minister of Commerce

Dai Xin, Deputy Director of the Agricultural Information Institute of the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences, noted that at present, agricultural cooperation is assuming an increasingly prominent strategic position in promoting the high-quality development of the Belt and Road Initiative. He emphasized that agricultural cooperation not only integrates hard connectivity, soft connectivity, and people-to-people connectivity in a comprehensive manner, but also represents a core field characterized by high standards, sustainability, and tangible benefits for people's livelihoods. Jie Xiaomeng, Deputy Director of the Division of International Cooperation and Exchange of the Administrative Center for China's Agenda 21, stated that the Belt and Road Initiative has become an important vehicle for advancing the vision of a community with a shared future for mankind. Through in-depth analysis of political ecology, economic structures, cultural traditions, and social evolution, area and country studies provide both academic support and practical insights.

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

The opening ceremony of the forum was chaired by Sun Hongpei, Vice President of Beijing Normal University and Director of the Administrative Committee of the Zhuhai Campus.

During the keynote session, Johannes Linn, former Vice President of the World Bank and member of the Editorial Board of *Global Journal of Emerging Market Economies* (GJEME); Enrique García, former President of the Development Bank of Latin America and Distinguished Professor at the Belt and Road School of Beijing Normal University; Tan Xuewen, Secretary-General of the Poverty Research Center of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences; Huang Xinfei, Dean of the International School of Finance at Sun Yat-sen University; Liu Juan, Director of the Russia Studies Center of Beijing Normal University; Li Yuan, Executive Dean of the Institute of International Studies at Shandong University; Tariq Malik, researcher at the Center for International Organizations and Innovation of the Business School of Liaoning University and member of the GJEME Editorial Board; and Kong Ying, Dean of the Bay Area International Business School of Beijing Normal University, delivered keynote speeches. The speakers engaged in in-depth discussions from both theoretical and practical perspectives on topics including international development cooperation and global poverty reduction, overseas investment and local innovation, the digital and

intelligent era and area and country studies, "soft connectivity" of Belt and Road rules and standards, translation of Belt and Road research outcomes into practice, the Belt and Road Initiative and Latin American development, and innovative pathways for international education cooperation under the Belt and Road framework. The keynote session was divided into two segments, chaired respectively

by Cai Hongbo, Director of the Finance Office of Beijing Normal University and Vice Dean of the Belt and Road School, and Liu Qian, Vice Dean of the Belt and Road School and Editor-in-Chief of Global Journal of Emerging Market Economies.

The forum also hosted the book launch of *Joining Hands to Advance World Modernization: Exploring Pathways for High-Quality Belt and Road Development*. The book, authored by Hu Biliang, Liu Qian, and other experts and scholars, was completed over a period of more than two years and officially published with the strong support of the research team of Beijing Normal University and the publishing house. The book launch was chaired by Sun Yu, Executive Dean of the China Institute of Education and Social Development at Beijing Normal University.

Book Launch of *Joining Hands to Advance World Modernization: Exploring Pathways for High-Quality Belt and Road Development*

Zhu Shengying, Chairman of the Beijing Normal University Publishing Group, stated that Joining Hands to Advance World Modernization is produced against the backdrop of the 10th anniversary of the Belt and Road Initiative and focuses on the intrinsic linkages between the Initiative and world modernization, combining solid theoretical depth with strong practical relevance. To further expand the book's international influence and promote cross-cultural academic exchange, an English edition will be released. He noted that the Beijing Normal University Publishing Group is committed to building bridges between academic research and public communication, transforming scholarly achievements into policy-oriented solutions, and continuously serving major national strategic needs.

Fang Zhenghui, former Deputy Director of the China International Communications Group, observed that the launch of the new book comes at a critical juncture when Belt and Road narratives are shifting from rapid proliferation to in-depth cultivation. He emphasized the need to seize this opportunity to sharpen problem awareness, strengthen cooperation through key communication channels, and adopt diversified, multilingual, and "small yet impactful" approaches in publishing, together with fragmented dissemination through new media. In this way, the book can serve as a model for addressing questions and fostering people-to-people connectivity in a subtle and effective manner, while supporting Beijing Normal University in continuing to tell credible, engaging, and respected Belt and Road stories.

Zhu Shengying (left), Chairman of Beijing Normal University Publishing Group; Fang Zhenghui (center), former Deputy Director of China International Communications Group; and Sun Yu (right), Executive Dean of the China Institute of Education and Social Development

The forum featured three major discussion sessions. The first session, themed "Mechanisms and Pathways for High-Quality Belt and Road Cooperation", was chaired by Xu Jianping, former Director-General of the Department of Regional Opening-Up of the National Development and Reform Commission of China (General Office of the Leading Group for Promoting the Belt and Road Initiative). Participants included Zhai Kun, Convener of the Discipline Evaluation Group for Area and Country Studies of the Academic Degrees Committee of the State Council and Vice Dean of the Institute of Area Studies at Peking University; Chen Wenling, former Director-General of the Research Office of the State Council and Chief Economist of the China Center for International Economic Exchanges; Sun Shifang, Vice Chairman of the China Development Strategy Research Association; Bai Jinfu, former Inspector and Deputy Director-General of the Economic Bureau of the Central Policy Research Office; and Wan Zhe, Research Fellow at the Belt and Road School of Beijing Normal University. The participants agreed that, in the new stage of high-quality Belt and Road cooperation, it is essential to fully implement the "Eight Major Actions" and advance the establishment of the "Nine Key Mechanisms". While strengthening international cooperation in emerging fields such as digital trade in practice, efforts should also be made to build an independent knowledge system for area and country studies grounded in the Belt and Road Initiative, so as to support the steady and sustainable advancement of high-quality Belt and Road cooperation.

During the themed session "*Global Journal of Emerging Market Economies (GJEME) Forum: A Dialogue between Emerging Markets and the Global Economy*", Harinder Kohli, Chief Executive Officer of the Emerging Markets Forum, Distinguished Professor at the Belt and Road School of Beijing Normal University, and Co-Editor of Global Journal of Emerging Market Economies (GJEME), introduced the journal's mission to address gaps in research on emerging market economies.

He expressed the hope that GJEME would serve as an important international academic exchange platform for the Belt and Road School, promoting area and country studies from the perspective of emerging markets.

Rajat Nag, former Managing Director General of the Asian Development Bank and Distinguished Professor at the Belt and Road School of Beijing Normal University as well as a member of the GJEME Editorial Board; Pompeo Della Posta, Professor at the Belt and Road School of Beijing Normal University and member of the GJEME Editorial Board; Zhou Jimei, Assistant Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Sun Yat-sen University (Social Science Edition)*; and Chen Lin, Professor at the Institute of Industrial Economics of Jinan University and Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Jinan University, engaged in in-depth discussions on academic journal development and emerging market economies. The participants noted that academic journals play a critical role in the global dissemination of knowledge generated by high-quality research. Through carefully designed columns and thematic planning, academic journals should promote deeper integration between emerging market studies and area and country studies, and contribute intellectual insights from high-quality area and country research to a shared and promising future for Belt and Road cooperation. This themed discussion session was chaired by Feng Xiaoming, Research Fellow at the Institute of World Economics and Politics of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences and Deputy Editor-in-Chief of China & World Economy.

In the final themed discussion session, Luo Jun, Research Fellow at the Institute of Chinese Culture | Jingshi Academy of Beijing Normal University; Xie Laihui, Director of the Belt and Road Research Office at the Institute of Asia-Pacific and Global Strategy of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences; Han Decheng, Chairman of the China Management Committee of the International Olympic Art Committee; Cui Chuantao, Assistant Dean of the Bay Area International Business School of Beijing Normal University; and Liu Jiangkai, Research Fellow at the Institute of Chinese Culture | Jingshi Academy of Beijing Normal University, engaged in discussions under the theme "*Paradigm Innovation and Practice in Area and Country Studies*". From perspectives including language and culture, regional integration, economic research, and international communication, the speakers explored how these approaches can be better integrated into the development of the discipline of area and country studies. The session was chaired by Zhang Kunling, Secretary of the Party Branch directly affiliated with the Belt and Road School of Beijing Normal University.

The forum was hosted by the Belt and Road School of Beijing Normal University, co-organized by the China Institute of Education and Social Development and the Institute of Chinese Culture | Jingshi Academy of Beijing Normal University, with support from the Beijing Normal University Publishing *Group and Global Journal of Emerging Market Economies* (GJEME). Since its inception in 2019, the Beijing Normal University–hosted Jingshi "Belt and Road" Forum has been held for six consecutive editions, generating broad social impact. By building a professional, high-level academic exchange platform that brings together experts and scholars from China and abroad, the forum provides policy-oriented insights and recommendations to support high-quality Belt and Road cooperation and China's opening-up and international cooperation.

Global Governance Initiative and the Future of Globalization Frontier Forum on Globalization Research Held in Beijing

Article source: Jingshi Academy | *Release date: 2025-11-06*

On October 25, the Global Governance Initiative and the Future of Globalization Frontier Forum on Globalization Research was held at Beijing Normal University (BNU). Over 50 experts and scholars from institutions including the National Academy of Governance, BNU, Nankai University, Jilin University, China University of Political Science and Law, University of International Relations, Renmin University of China, Fudan University, Nanjing University, and Shandong University participated in the event.

Kang Zhen, Vice President of BNU, pointed out that against the backdrop of globalization facing severe impacts from trade protectionism and regional conflicts, the Global Governance Initiative serves as a crucial guide for the international community to resolve risks, address challenges, restore order, and achieve good governance. This initiative, together with the Global Development Initiative, Global Security Initiative, and Global Civilization Initiative, constitutes China's grand vision, systematic plan, and feasible path for building a better world, serving as the "China answer" to the question of "where humanity is headed?"

Shahbaz Khan, Director of UNESCO's East Asia Regional Office, emphasized that the world is undergoing profound transformations, with global order confronting challenges such as growing inequality and fragmented rules. He highlighted the significance of the Global Governance Initiative. He stressed that global governance must be rooted in shared values and mutual understanding, aiming to build a globalized system that serves humanity, respects diversity, and promotes sustainable development.

Wu Zhicheng, Dean of the National Academy of Governance, emphasized that globalization is a historical trend, and the world is a community with increasingly deepening interdependence. Chinese scholars should shoulder academic responsibilities and promote the construction of a Chinese discourse system. The journal Globalization Studies should continue to adhere to

the correct editorial direction, respond to the needs of academic development and strategic practice, and advance research on globalization and global governance.

Xue Xiaoyuan, Director of the Research Institute for Globalization and Cultural Development Strategies at BNU, presided over the opening ceremony.

The first keynote speech was hosted by Liu Xinghua, Deputy Director of Global Issues Institute at Nankai University and deputy editor of Globalization Studies.

Wu Zhicheng's keynote speech provided a profound analysis of the intrinsic logic behind the Four Global Initiatives. Each initiative has distinct focuses, yet they mutually reinforce and promote one another, forming an organic whole characterized by shared objectives, complementary functions, and dialectical unity. Together, they serve the noble goal of building a Human Community with a Shared Future.

In his lecture on global humanism, Bruno Pinchard, a resident scholar at BNU's Jingshi Academy and School of Philosophy, noted that globalization now faces humanistic challenges, with its communication and unity efforts encountering difficulties. He called for the fulfillment of humanistic commitments to steer the global process toward the desired outcomes.

Liu Xuelian, director of the Institute of Northeast Asia Geo-politics & Geo-economics of Jilin University, elaborated on the thematic transformation of global governance. She also proposed research directions worthy of further exploration, such as building global resilience and improving global governance of digital technologies and artificial intelligence.

Professor Guo Zhonghua from the School of Government at Nanjing University analyzed the relationship between nation-states and globalization, proposing that globalization is not an independent entity.

The second keynote speech was hosted by Zhou Wensheng, former editor-in-chief of Shandong Social Sciences.

Zheng Yu, director of the Department of International Studies at the School of International Relations and Public Affairs at Fudan University, analyzed the global governance under the background of new globalization.

Liu Zhenye, Deputy Director of the Globalization and Global Issues Institute at China University of Political Science and Law, analyzed the challenges faced by global governance since the world entered a period of turbulence and transformation, and emphasized the crucial role of the Global Governance Initiative in driving reform, refinement, and development of the global governance system.

Professor Yang Saini from BNU shared China's story in global disaster reduction, introducing six major Chinese disaster reduction practices and China's significant contributions to global disaster reduction governance. She proposed that governance experiences should be based on scientific evidence to achieve the goals of being replicable, scalable, and programmable.

Li Shi, a professor at the School of International Studies at Renmin University of China, analyzed the commonalities and differences of Chinese and Western peace theories from a historical perspective and compared the peace pictures in Chinese and Western political thoughts.

The symposium was divided into four thematic forums, namely: Global Governance Initiative and Global Change, Globalization and Global Governance Practice, Global Governance in the Era of Digital Globalization, Global Justice and Global Governance.

Xiao Kai, Vice Dean of the Institute of Jingshi Academy at BNU, announced the list of outstanding papers in the "Frontier on Globalization Research" essay competition during the conference, with Wu Zhicheng and Xue Xiaoyuan presenting awards to the winners.

This academic symposium is jointly organized by Jingshi Academy, the Research Institute for Globalization and Cultural Development Strategies, and the Editorial Department of Globalization Studies.

Results Release of the 2025 Belt and Road "Z Generation—Heritage Through the Lens, Stories Through Voices" Civilization Exchange Initiative and Launch of the 2026 Program Held

Article source: Institute of Culture Innovation and Communication | *Release date: 2025-10-20*

On October 19, the Results Release of the 2025 Belt and Road "Z Generation—Heritage Through the Lens, Stories Through Voices" Civilization Exchange Initiative, together with the Launch Ceremony of the 2026 program, was held at the Beiguo Theatre of Beijing Normal University. The event was hosted by Beijing Normal University and jointly organized by the Institute of Culture Innovation and Communication of Beijing Normal University, and the School of Arts and Communication, Beijing Normal University.

The 2025 Belt and Road "Z Generation—Heritage Through the Lens, Stories Through Voices" Civilization Exchange Initiative was themed "Voices of Youth, Encounters with Civilization". It encourages Generation Z youth from countries and regions along the Belt and Road to tell cultural stories from a first-person perspective, using visual media as a bridge to promote a shift in cultural heritage from "static preservation" to "dynamic transmission", thereby advancing mutual learning among civilizations.

Voices of Youth, Encounters with Civilization: Generation Z Co-Creates a New Chapter of Culture

Zhang Yanyun, Deputy Secretary of the CPC Committee of Beijing Normal University, noted that Beijing Normal University has long been committed to advancing international humanities exchanges and promoting Chinese culture internationally. He emphasized that this initiative represents an important practice in the University's comprehensive efforts to advance internationalization and cooperation, and vividly showcases the vitality and reflections of Generation Z in the inheritance and innovation of culture.

Zhang Yanyun, Deputy Secretary of the CPC Committee of Beijing Normal University, delivers a speech

Zhang further pointed out that the Institute of Culture Innovation and Communication, as newly established high-level think tanks jointly built by Beijing Municipality and Beijing Normal University under the guiding principles of institutional innovation and resource integration, have, since their establishment, produced a series of high-quality policy research and advisory outputs. Under the leadership of Dean Yu Dan, and drawing on Beijing Normal University's strengths in the humanities and scientific research, the institutes have focused on the creative transformation and innovative development of China's fine traditional culture, delivering influential outcomes across areas including capital cultural development, education reform, the cultural industry, cultural heritage preservation and innovation, and international communication. He noted that a number of branded initiatives have been launched in succession, including the *"Taking the Middle Path—A Series of Creative Communication Programs on Chinese Character Culture", the Calligraphy Track of the Beijing Central Axis Cultural Heritage Inheritance and Innovation Competition, and the Generation Z "Heritage Through the Lens · Stories Through Voices" Competition*.

By deeply exploring innovative pathways of cultivating people through culture and educating people through cultural values, these initiatives have generated a range of impactful outcomes characterized by a strong sense of national commitment, a global perspective, and significant social influence—making a distinctive contribution from Beijing Normal University. Zhang emphasized that Generation Z is not merely an "age-based community", but also a "community of shared meaning". As witnesses to and participants in their era, their choices, actions, and endeavors inject fresh vitality into mutual learning among civilizations. He praised the selected works from this initiative as not only artistic achievements, but also "declarations of growth" by youth, fully demonstrating the unique value of Generation Z. He encouraged Generation Z young people to actively serve as ambassadors for intercultural exchange and mutual learning, and to further tell compelling stories of dialogue among civilizations.

Nearly One Thousand Entries Spanning Continents Highlight Youth Creativity Across Diverse Categories

Chen Gang, Associate Dean of the School of Arts and Communication, Beijing Normal University

Word Frequency Chart of Submissions for the 2025 Belt and Road "Generation Z—Heritage Through the Lens · Stories Through Voices" Civilization Exchange Initiative

Chen Gang, Associate Dean of the School of Arts and Communication at Beijing Normal University, provided a brief overview on behalf of the organizing committee regarding the submission process and evaluation mechanism. Since its launch in March 2025, the initiative has received nearly 1,000 entries. Participants came from more than 50 universities and institutions in China and abroad, including Communication University of China, Beijing Film Academy, Wuhan University, Shanghai University, Monash University, and the Royal College of Art, among others. Following a rigorous review process, a total of 57 entries were selected for recognition, including 21 works in the short video category, 17 in the AI category, 17 in the photography category, and two outstanding international entries. These works vividly demonstrate the enthusiasm and creativity of young creators in telling cultural heritage stories through diverse media.

At the event, Xie Xin, Associate Professor of the School

Honors Announced Across Three Major Categories, Showcasing the Creative Power of Youth

of Film and Television at Beijing Film Academy, who also serves as Deputy Dean and Deputy Director of the Academy of Science and Art (AI Imaging Science and Art Center) and Deputy Director of the Research Office; Liu Shi, Associate Professor at the School of Journalism and Communication of Beijing Sport University; Wu Meng, Associate Professor at the School of Arts and Communication of Beijing Normal University; and Zhang Yiyao, Deputy Director of the Office of the School of Arts and Communication of Beijing Normal University, presented certificates of honor to recipients in the image-and-text category.

Certificates of honor for the AI category were presented by Wang Yun, Deputy Director of the Development Research Center of the School of Journalism and Communication and Head of the Media Studies Section of the Film and Television Department at Beijing Normal University; Yang Jianfei, Head of the Department of Cultural Industry Management and Associate Research Fellow at Communication University of China; Zhang Sun, Head of the Department of Dance at the School of Arts and Communication of Beijing Normal University; Wang Peng, Head of the Department of Fine Arts and Design; Zhu Jie, Head of the Department of Music; Yu Xiaoyong, Head of the Department of Calligraphy; and Chen Jiajie, Deputy Secretary of the CPC Committee of the School of Arts and Communication of Beijing Normal University.

Honors for the short video category were awarded by Yu Dan, Dean of the Institute of Culture Innovation and Communication; Wang Zhuokai, Secretary of the CPC Committee of the School of Arts and Communication of Beijing Normal University; Yang Chenghu and Chen Gang, Associate Deans of the School of Arts and Communication; Fan Qipeng, Head of the Film and Television Department; and Tian Huiqun, faculty representative of the School of Arts and Communication of Beijing Normal University.

Ni Jiaqi, Secretary of the Youth League Committee of Beijing Normal University, presented Youth Faculty Reviewer Honors to five young faculty members from the Film and Television Department of the School of Arts and Communication—Yin Yiyi, Wang Yashu, Chen Yansong, Shi Lin, and Tuo Lu. Yu Xiaolei, Director of the Student Affairs Department of Beijing Normal University, presented certificates of honor to 16 representatives of Generation Z youth judges. Liu Min, Deputy Director of the Office of International Exchange and Cooperation of Beijing Normal University, presented Outstanding Organization Honors to representatives from institutions including the Confucius Institute at Bogazici University, the Shanghai Film Academy of Shanghai University, the School of Artificial Intelligence of Hebei Institute of Communications, and the School of Film, Television, and Art Design of the Light Industry College of North China University of Science and Technology, among others.

Bringing Culture to Life in the Present, Passing It on to the Future

The 2025 Belt and Road “Generation Z—Heritage Through the Lens · Stories Through Voices” Civilization Exchange Initiative was launched by Yu Dan, Dean and Chief Expert of the Institute of Culture Innovation and Communication of Beijing Normal University. At the event, Yu Dan delivered a keynote speech entitled “*Building Cultural Consensus among Contemporary Youth through Mutual Learning among Civilizations*”, in which she emphasized that cultural heritage bears witness to the shared memory of humankind, and that storytelling is a vital means of dialogue and mutual learning among civilizations. She noted that the institutes will take the Belt and Road “Generation Z—Heritage Through the Lens · Stories Through Voices” initiative as a key platform to promote people-to-people connectivity and to continue contributing to cultural communication and exchange of China’s fine traditional culture across countries and regions along the Belt and Road.

The 2025 Belt and Road “Generation Z—Heritage Through the Lens · Stories Through Voices” Civilization Exchange Initiative not only serves as a concentrated showcase of young people’s achievements in cultural innovation, but also represents an important practice in advancing people-to-people exchange under the Belt and Road framework and fostering youth consensus. By injecting youthful energy and hope into global dialogue among civilizations, the initiative has made a positive contribution to international cultural exchange. Through close collaboration with social media platforms, a multi-dimensional communication network was established, with total views of the submitted works exceeding one million. This has created a virtuous cycle of “youth creation, youth dissemination, and youth resonance”, bringing stories of cultural heritage vividly to life and extending their reach. Looking ahead, the initiative will continue to collaborate with universities and institutions in China and abroad, including Communication University of China, Beijing Film Academy, Shanghai

Yu Dan, Dean and Chief Expert of Beijing Institute of Culture Innovation and Communication, Beijing Normal University

University, Macau University of Science and Technology, and the Confucius Institute at Bogazici University. In addition, the initiative will partner with platforms such as the Beijing College Student Film Festival, the MUST International Youth Film Festival in Macao, and the Guangdong–Hong Kong–Macao Greater Bay Area College Student Film Week to organize touring exhibitions and international promotion of outstanding works. By calling on more young people to participate in cultural heritage preservation and innovation, the initiative aims to jointly build a future grounded in cultural confidence.

Embarking on a New Journey Together, Passing on Youthful Stories

Zhang Yanyun, Yu Xiaolei, Ni Jiaqi, Liu Min, Yu Dan, Wang Zhuokai, Yang Chenghu, Chen Gang, Fan Qipeng, Xie Xin, Yang Jianfei, and others jointly took the stage to officially launch the 2026 Generation Z "Heritage Through the Lens · Stories Through Voices" Civilization Exchange Initiative.

Yu Dan, Dean and Chief Expert of Beijing Institute of Culture Innovation and Communication, Beijing Normal University

Launch Ceremony of the 2026 Belt and Road Generation Z "Heritage Through the Lens · Stories Through Voices" Civilization Exchange Initiative

Following the launch ceremony, a selection of outstanding short video and AI works was screened at the Beiguo Theatre. Short video works such as *Blown Down Like Stars in the Rain, The Thread Lion Youth, The Gaze of Kangba Grass, Traveling to Europe on the Wings of Traditional Music, Steps of Renewal, and Food Power Showdown: The Battle of Four Flavors* employed a visual language blending documentary realism with poetic expression to portray encounters between tradition and modernity. AI works including Nuo (a traditional Chinese ritual and masked performance tradition), *The Twelve Zodiac Animals, Dawn—The Destruction of Opium at Humen, The Bronze Youth's Guide to Interstellar Travel, Chiseling the Wall: The Formless Realm, and One Cloth, One World* further expanded the narrative boundaries of cultural heritage through innovative technological perspectives.

Looking ahead, the Generation Z "Heritage Through the Lens · Stories Through Voices" Civilization Exchange Initiative will remain true to its original mission and warmly invite more young people of Generation Z to tell stories of cultural inheritance and mutual learning among civilizations through vivid forms such as short videos and visual storytelling. By strengthening international humanities cooperation, the initiative seeks to work hand in hand with youth worldwide to create a shared and promising future.

Chen Xing Attended the 2025 China-Russia Education Universities Alliance Bilateral Council and Academic Symposium

Article source: Office of International Exchange and Cooperation | *Release date: 2025-11-11*

From October 30 to 31, the "2025 Sino-Russian University Education Alliance Bilateral Council and Academic Symposium" was held in Chongqing. Chen Xing, Vice President of Beijing Normal University (BNU), chaired the bilateral council session and attended the opening ceremony of the academic symposium.

During the session, Chen Xing emphasized that the alliance serves as a vital component of Sino-Russian cultural exchanges. Over its eleven-year history, the alliance has united efforts to build bridges for educational research and practical collaboration between the two nations. BNU pledged to further advance its exchanges with Russia and deepen cooperation with alliance members. The institution also encouraged member universities to leverage this platform to explore innovative collaboration mechanisms.

During the meeting, representatives from bilateral member institutions delivered presentations, jointly addressing challenges in advancing collaborative efforts and sharing their experiences in fostering international exchanges. The event concluded with the handover ceremony between Southwest University and Jiangsu Normal University as the Chinese rotating members of the alliance. The session was capped by a concluding address from Vasiliy Straklov, Vice President of Moscow State Pedagogical University and representative of the Russian Secretariat.

On the afternoon of October 30, Chen Xing attended the opening ceremony of the academic symposium and delivered remarks on behalf of the Chinese Secretariat. He sincerely thanked Southwest University for its meticulous preparations for the conference, expressing his anticipation for in-depth exchanges and innovative ideas between Chinese and Russian experts regarding the challenges posed by global demographic shifts to education. Chen emphasized the importance of contributing wisdom to address population changes through high-quality educational development, both within the two countries and on a global scale.

The Sino-Russian University Education Alliance, established in April 2014 with support from the education ministries of both nations, has its secretariat offices at Beijing Normal University and Moscow State Pedagogical University.

The Sino-Brazilian Symposium on Law and Artificial Intelligence Held at Beijing Normal University

Article source: Law School | *Release date: 2025-10-27*

On October 14, the Sino-Brazilian Symposium on Law and Artificial Intelligence, hosted by the Law School of Beijing Normal University, was convened. The event brought together more than seventy representatives from China and Brazil.

The Brazilian delegation included students from judicial academies across various states, judges, and university professors. The Chinese participants came from the National Judges College, local legal institutions, and universities. The attendees engaged in in-depth discussions on topics such as the application of artificial intelligence in the judicial system, algorithmic transparency, and

institutional innovation, showing the shared concerns and cooperative intentions of China and Brazil regarding cutting-edge issues in digital rule of law.

Liang Yingxiu, Dean of the Law School at Beijing Normal University, reviewed BNU's long-standing and in-depth tradition of cooperation with various sectors in Brazil over the past decade. He noted that Beijing Normal University has been continuously exploring areas such as digital governance, artificial intelligence governance, and digital justice, while maintaining close interaction with Brazilian universities and judicial institutions. Looking ahead, the Law School of Beijing Normal University is committed to further collaboration with its Brazilian partners in scientific research and talent cultivation.

Marco Boas, President of the COPEDEM, remarked in his speech that the symposium was not only an academic exchange but also a bridge connecting the two countries. He spoke highly of China's achievements in social development and artificial intelligence strategies, noting that China's experience offers valuable insights for

Brazil in formulating its own national strategies. He also expressed his hope that the symposium would foster long-term cooperation between China and Brazil in the fields of academia, judiciary, and technology.

Tarsis Oliveira, Professor at the Federal University of Tocantins, emphasized that artificial intelligence is enhancing the efficiency of judicial processes, while at the same time requiring strong ethical frameworks and algorithmic transparency. He expressed his hope that this symposium would serve as a new starting point for deepening academic cooperation between the two countries.

The holding of this symposium marks a new stage of development in the cooperation between China and Brazil in the fields of law and artificial intelligence. Representatives from both sides unanimously expressed that they would take this symposium as an opportunity to further expand the scope of cooperation, promote in-depth exchanges of knowledge and experience, jointly explore the path of modernizing the rule of law under the background

of artificial intelligence, and contribute wisdom to building a just and people-oriented digital society. The opening ceremony was presided over by Yang Chao, director of the International Cooperation and Exchange Office of the Law School of Beijing Normal University.

In the subsequent forum sessions, legal scholars and practitioners from both countries engaged in in-depth discussions on topics such as the application of AI in judicial activities, regulatory approaches for AI in judicial practice, and strategies for evaluating and implementing trustworthy judicial AI.

At the closing ceremony of the symposium, He Ting, the vice dean of the Law School of Beijing Normal University, delivered the closing speech on behalf of the organizers. He pointed out that this symposium focused on the cutting-edge topics of artificial intelligence and judicial applications, gathering wisdom and experience from the academic and practical fields of China and Brazil. The exchanges were in-depth and the achievements were fruitful. He expressed his gratitude to the experts and

scholars present for their active participation, as well as to the conference organizing team and volunteers for their hard work. He also expressed the hope that both institutions would take this symposium as an opportunity to continuously deepen cooperation and promote the research on artificial intelligence governance and judicial practice to produce more shareable and promotable results. This session was hosted by Sun Ping, an associate professor from the Law School of Beijing Normal University.

Gathering Diverse Wisdom to Jointly Cultivate Innovative Talents—The 2025 Youth Science and Technology Innovation Education Forum and Teacher Workshop Successfully Held in Beijing

Article source: China Basic Education Quality Monitoring Collaborative Innovation Center | Release date: 2025-10-19

To further promote the updating of science education beliefs and practical innovation, and to advance the youth science and technology innovation education, the 2025 Youth Science and Technology Innovation Education Forum and Teacher Workshop was successfully held in Beijing from October 16 to 19, 2025. Organized by the Collaborative Innovation Center of Assessment for Basic Education Quality at Beijing Normal University and hosted by the Asia-Pacific Experimental School of Beijing Normal University, the event brought together science education experts, experienced teachers, and adolescent science and technology innovation teams from Mainland China, Hong Kong, Macau, and Taiwan. Focusing on cutting-edge topics such as Model and Modeling Instruction, Intelligent Scaffolding and Generative AI, Outdoor Science Education, and Socioscientific Issues (SSI), the event featured systematic training and in-depth exchanges, injecting new momentum into science education for the new era.

The forum kicked off on the morning of October 16 with a vibrant dance performance by students from the Asia-Pacific Experimental School of Beijing Normal University. Wang Lu, Vice Principal of the Asia-Pacific Experimental School delivered a welcoming address, emphasizing the important significance of this event in promoting the in-depth development of science and technology innovation education and building a cross-regional exchange platform. Chiu Mei-Hung, former President of the NARST and Emeritus Professor at Taiwan Normal University, highlighted the crucial role of AI and SSI in science and technology innovation education from a global perspective on science education frontiers. Lin Jing, Director of the Science Development Department of the Collaborative Innovation Center of Assessment for Basic Education Quality at Beijing Normal University, proposed to participants a 4R learning mode of "Reception—Response—Reflection—Reorganization," encouraging in-depth discussions and exchanges to advance the theory and practice of the "enhancement" of science education.

Conceptual Guidance: Building a New Paradigm for Teaching Scientific Thinking

On the morning of October 16th, Professor Chiu Mei-Hung presented a lecture titled "Model and Modeling Instruction," systematically explaining the theoretical levels and teaching pathways of model cognition, emphasizing the shift from "knowledge transmission" to "thinking construction." Drawing on the three-level model theory (from concrete replica to thinking tool) by scholars like Grosslight (1991), and using cases such as the "Keelung River Water Quality Investigation," she demonstrated how to guide students through the process of scientific concept formation from deconstruction to reconstruction. She advocated for the application of modeling tools like Sage Modeler to cultivate systems thinking and inquiry skills. Participating teachers felt that such training facilitated a crucial shift in teaching cognition, making models an effective tool for developing students' scientific thinking.

Technological Empowerment: Promoting Deep Integration of AI and Science Education

On the afternoon of October 16th, Chang Chun-Yen, Chair Professor at Taiwan Normal University and Vice Chairman of the AISL Alliance, delivered a lecture titled "Intelligent Scaffolding and Generative AI: The Twin-Engine Revolution in Science Education." He outlined the path for AI tools to enhance teaching efficiency in the short term, while requiring deep involvement from educators in the long run. He demonstrated core functions of the AISI smart learning platform, such as supporting seamless interaction and flexibly creating argumentation questions, and explored the effects of technology-education integration through multimodal testing. Regarding the proposition "Does Generative AI have creativity?", Professor Chang provoked deep reflection among participants. Participating teachers suggested strengthening localization adaptation to better serve classroom practice.

Outdoor Practice: Expanding Authentic Arenas for Scientific Inquiry

On October 17, Professor Tali Tal, former President of NARST and Dean of the Faculty of Education at the Technion – Israel Institute of Technology, conducted a full-day practical workshop on "Quality Outdoor Education." She explained the core principles of outdoor teaching centered on "Hands, Head, and Heart," covering the three layers of goals: "About, In, and For" the outdoors, aiming to cultivate environmental agency and social responsibility. She introduced the "Learning Spiral" model (Classroom Preparation – Field Investigation – Classroom Summary), organized low-threshold tasks like vegetation measurement, and proposed solutions for challenges such as safety management and time constraints, including setting up "Project Days" and involving parent assistance. She emphasized the role shift of teachers becoming "learning partners." Hu Haijun, Director of the school's Science and Technology Education Center, also introduced environmental education activities and the low-carbon campus landscape. Participating teachers believed that outdoor practice effectively expanded the scenarios for cultivating core competencies.

SSI-based Learning: Strengthening Social Responsibility and Argumentation Skills

On the morning of October 18th, Lin Jing, the PI of the SSI-based Learning project at BNU, focused on the theme "AI + Socioscientific Argumentation." She structured an online course explaining the CER model (Claim-Evidence-Reasoning) for scientific argumentation and the educational value of SSI. Using the WISE platform, she created a "Land Reclamation" issue, organized role-playing and the application of DeepSeek for multi-position argumentation experiences, highlighting the complexity of the "Rebuttal-Negotiation-Decision" process. Lin Jing emphasized that teachers need to skillfully use digital platforms to construct interdisciplinary

learning scaffolds and guide students in perspective-taking to develop critical thinking. Participating teachers found that the training made abstract argumentation concrete and addressed the difficulties in SSI instructional design and implementation.

Student Showcase: Highlighting the Balance of Technology and Humanities

On the afternoon of October 18th, the forum showcased six innovative projects from primary and secondary schools in Beijing, Hong Kong, Macao, and Hangzhou. Projects included: "Study on Antioxidant Properties and Drug Synergistic Effects of Gelatin Capsules" from BNU Asia-Pacific Experimental School, exploring pharmaceutical material potential; "Smart Flood Control Board" from Hong Kong's Pui Ching Primary School, addressing urban waterlogging; "Smart Flood Defense System" from Macao's Bairro da Patane Community School, tackling local issues; "Feedback-based Trash Bin" from Hangzhou Olive Tree School, focusing on the psychology of environmental

behavior; "Early Warning System for Underwater Invasive Species" from Macao's Pui Ching Middle School, utilizing multimodal reasoning; and the "Oyster Reef Enhancement Project" from Hong Kong's Wong Cho Sum School, integrating technology with aquaculture. Judging experts, including Professors Chang Chun-Yen and Chen Ying, unanimously agreed that the projects demonstrated students' scientific literacy, innovative ability, and social responsibility, highlighting the positive interaction between technology and the humanities.

STEM Integration: Systematically Cultivating Innovative Competence

On the morning of October 19th, Wan Zhihong, President of the East-Asian Association for Science Education and Acting Director of the Centre for Excellence in Learning and Teaching at The Education University of Hong Kong, delivered a lecture titled "Systematically Developing STEAM and Innovation Curriculum to Comprehensively Cultivate New Intelligent Talents." He explained the pathway for STEM education transitioning from "activities" to "curriculum," emphasizing the cultivation of innovative thinking through interdisciplinary integration rather than knowledge stacking. He introduced the SWEETIE STEM curriculum system, based on constructivism and "learning by doing," utilizing project-based learning and modular teaching aids to support students from basic verification to creative realization. He also highlighted the connection between digital and physical projects through a seven-step online teaching method.

Reflection and Integration Promoting Implementation, Advancing Collaborative Science Education and Research Toward the Future

Through this immersive, interactive, and collaborative workshop, participants conducted in-depth discussions and practical transformations around frontier topics such as modeling instruction, AI applications, outdoor practice, and socioscientific argumentation, achieving a series of consensuses from conceptual renewal to classroom implementation. They unanimously believed that efforts should continue to advance the development of localized SSI cases, promote its organic integration with curriculum standards and technological tools, and facilitate the effective rooting of modeling, argumentation, systems thinking, and other elements in real classroom contexts.

The UNESCO "Intangible Cultural Heritage As Fashion" Capacity-building Project Workshop was Held at BNU Zhuhai Campus

Article source: Zhuhai Campus | *Release date: 2025-11-03*

From October 15 to 17, the third workshop of the "Intangible Cultural Heritage as Fashion (ICH as Fashion)" capacity-building project was held at BNU Zhuhai Campus. The workshop brought together internationally renowned designers and experts and scholars from universities, and selected 22 inheritors of intangible cultural heritage, fashion major students and emerging designers to participate.

Shahbaz Khan, Director of UNESCO's East Asia Regional Office, highlighted that the theme of the workshop is of great significance for promoting the creative transformation of intangible cultural heritage in contemporary fashion, providing a bridge for the close connection between traditional craftsmanship and modern industries, enabling ICH skills to continue to play a role and regain new vitality.

Gao Peng, Dean of the School of Future Design at BNU, said that the school is committed to promoting the development of inclusive creative industries and the continuous innovation of traditional culture, and encourages participants to break down barriers to inheritance through cross-border cooperation, so that traditional skills can be revitalized in the innovation of fashion design.

At the opening ceremony, UNESCO presented a plaque to the School of Future Design of BNU as a partner for the "ICH as Fashion" capacity building project in 2025.

During the event, guests gave lectures and training sessions on intangible cultural heritage. Participants said the workshop provided them with new ideas for design and creation, and the hands-on sessions allowed them to apply what they learned in real time and interact closely with teachers.

The workshop deepens the integration of ICH and contemporary fashion, engaging ICH inheritors, students, and emerging designers to explore modern reinterpretations and industrial applications of ICH. It emphasizes the synergy between cultural innovation and brand strategy, paving the way for sustainable brand development.

The Nobel Laureate Shares Research Insights — The 10th Origins Forum and First Lecture of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences' Fifth Anniversary Series Held at BNU Zhuhai

Article source: Zhuhai Campus | *Release date: 2025-11-24*

On November 17, the 10th session of the Origins Forum and the first lecture in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences' fifth anniversary academic series were held at Beijing Normal University at Zhuhai (BNU Zhuhai). Professor Joachim Frank, the 2017 Nobel Laureate in Chemistry and Professor at Columbia University, delivered a lecture titled "The Art of Seeing the Invisible: How Cryo-EM Revolutionized Structural Biology and Future Prospects". The event was jointly organized by the Faculty of Arts and Sciences and the International Office , and hosted by Professor Zhong Jiayong, Dean of the Faculty.

Professor Joachim Frank began by outlining key questions in molecular

medicine and emphasizing the importance of high-resolution observation in understanding biological processes. He explained how cryo-electron microscopy (cryo-EM) overcame the limitations of traditional structural biology by eliminating the need for crystallization. He reviewed major milestones in the development of cryo-EM, including the early three-dimensional reconstruction of a bacteriophage tail in 1968, the resolution breakthrough enabled by direct electron detectors in 2012, and recent integration of automated data collection with AI-assisted analysis.

In recounting his scientific career, Professor Joachim Frank described his transition from physics to structural biology. He studied physics and electron microscopy at the University of Freiburg (Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg) and the University of Munich (Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München), and developed the foundational single-particle reconstruction algorithm at the Cavendish Laboratory of the University of

Cambridge between 1973 and 1975. During his tenure at the University at Albany, State University of New York, and later at Columbia University, he led teams that resolved the structures of key biomolecules such as ribosomes and ion channels, contributing to research in cancer and neurodegenerative diseases.

Professor Joachim Frank presented several case studies demonstrating the application of cryo-EM in biomedical research. These included high-resolution structures of CDK-activating kinases relevant to cancer therapeutics, structural insights into CFTR mutations associated with cystic fibrosis, and the three-dimensional structure of the ryanodine receptor related to muscle and cardiac disorders.

During the discussion session, Professor Joachim Frank addressed questions regarding technical challenges, research methods, and future developments in the field. He emphasized the importance of interdisciplinary perspectives and encouraged young researchers to remain open to new ideas and unexpected observations. He also commented positively on the development of scientific research infrastructure in China.

The lecture provided students and faculty with a deeper understanding of recent advances in cryo-EM and offered insights into scientific approaches and interdisciplinary exploration. Professor Joachim Frank's work reflects the integration of physics, chemistry, and life sciences, and the event contributed to fostering interdisciplinary collaboration and cultivating high-level research talent.

Research Group Led by Professor Su Jun of the School of Physics and Astronomy Achieves Major Breakthrough in the Study of the Solar Composition Problem

Article source: School of Physics and Astronomy | *Release date: 2025-12-03*

A research team led by Professor Su Jun of the School of Physics and Astronomy at Beijing Normal University, in collaboration with Research Fellow Chen Yangping of the China Institute of Atomic Energy and Professor Liu Weiping of Southern University of Science and Technology, has achieved a major breakthrough in the study of the solar composition problem. Their findings, entitled "*Enhanced S-Factor for the ^{14}N (p, γ)^{15}O Reaction and Its Impact on the Solar Composition Problem*", were published online on December 2 in *Physical Review Letters*.

Solar composition—primarily referring to the Sun's metallicity—is one of the fundamental parameters for understanding solar structure, solar evolution, and stellar physics. In the early 21st century, advanced spectroscopic measurements yielded significantly lower values for solar metallicity, leading to a discrepancy with helioseismological observations. This inconsistency, known as the solar composition problem, has since remained one of the central unresolved challenges in astrophysics. In recent years, significant progress has been made in the observation of solar CNO neutrino fluxes. Comparisons between observed neutrino fluxes and theoretical predictions offer a novel pathway to constraining the abundances of carbon and nitrogen in the Sun. Neutrinos in the solar interior are produced through nuclear reactions in the pp chain and the CNO cycle. Among these, the ^{14}N (p, γ)^{15}O reaction is the rate-limiting step governing CNO neutrino production. However, owing to its extremely low reaction cross section at solar core temperatures, precise measurement of its astrophysical S-factor has long posed a formidable experimental challenge.

To address this challenge, the joint research team employed the independently developed LAMBDA (Large Modular Detector Array) experimental system, operating on the high-current accelerator platform of the Institute of Nuclear Energy Safety Technology, Chinese Academy of Sciences. By innovatively applying a multi-channel Bayesian analysis approach, the team achieved, for the first time, simultaneous high-precision measurements of the S-factors for all transition channels of the ^{14}N (p, γ)^{15}O reaction in the energy range of 110–260 keV. The resulting zero-energy S-factor was found to be approximately 15% higher than the recommended value in the authoritative international review Solar Fusion III, with the overall uncertainty reduced to the 5% level for the first time. Based on these new experimental results, the researchers re-evaluated the CN abundances in the solar photosphere, obtaining values that are in strong agreement with the "high-metallicity" solar models supported by the latest spectroscopic observations (see Fig. 1). Although current neutrino measurement precision does not yet allow the "low-metallicity" model to be definitively excluded, the substantial improvement in S-factor precision achieved in this work paves the way for next-generation high-precision neutrino experiments to ultimately resolve the solar composition problem.

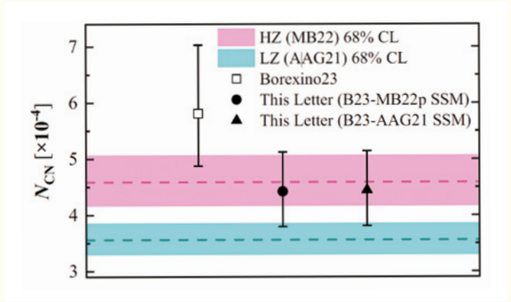


Figure 1 Re-evaluated solar photospheric CN abundances based on this work, compared with results from the Borexino experiment and the predicted ranges of high- and low-metallicity (HZ and LZ) solar models

Through methodological and technical innovations, this study has overcome a long-standing challenge in the precise measurement of the key ^{14}N (p, γ)^{15}O reaction in the CNO cycle. The results not only provide crucial experimental evidence for addressing the solar composition problem, but the high-precision S-factor data will also have far-reaching implications for astrophysical studies such as the evolution of massive stars.

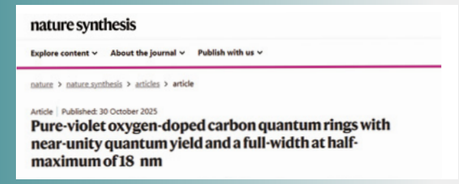
Chen Xin, a PhD candidate at Beijing Normal University, is the first author of the paper. Professor Su Jun of Beijing Normal University, Research Fellow Chen Yangping of the China Institute of Atomic Energy, and Professor Liu Weiping of Southern University of Science and Technology are the corresponding authors. This research was supported by the National Key R&D Program of China, the National Natural Science Foundation of China, the "Young Talents" Program of China National Nuclear Corporation, and by strong operational support from the Institute of Nuclear Energy Safety Technology of the Chinese Academy of Sciences in accelerator operation.

Paper Link: https://journals.aps.org/prl/abstract/10.1103/q756-hzmt

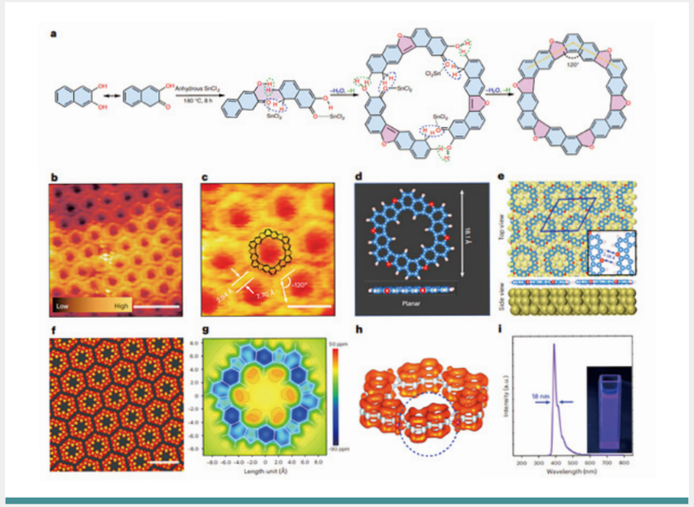
The Team of Zhang Yang and Fan Louzhen from the College of Chemistry Published Research Results in Nature Synthesis

Article source: College of Chemistry | *Release date: 2025-11-25*

Recently, the team of Zhang Yang and Fan Louzhen from the School of Chemistry published a paper titled "Pure-violet oxygen-doped carbon quantum rings with near-unity quantum yield and a full-width at half-maximum of 18 nm" in Nature Synthesis.

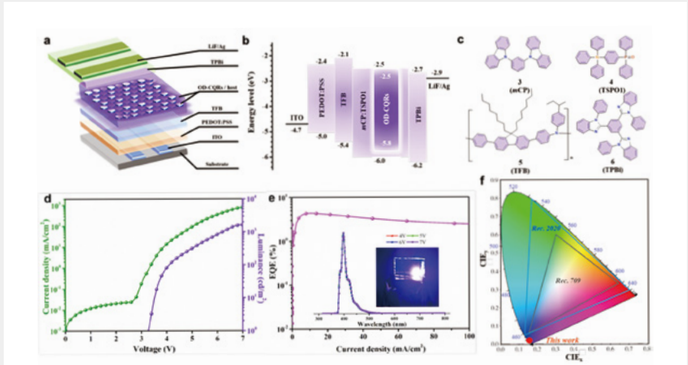


This paper introduces pure-violet CQRs with a wide optical bandgap (3.3 eV), an ultranarrow-bandwidth emission of 18 nm and a near-unity PLQY of up to 95%, synthesized through a facile one-pot solid-state reaction. This work provides a strategy for the design and synthesis of emitters with ultranarrow bandwidth and near-unity PLQY, paving the way for the realization of high-colour-purity violet LEDs for use in wide-colour-gamut displays.



Abstract:

High-colour-purity violet light-emitting diodes (LEDs) with colour coordinates close to the human visual threshold are essential for achieving wide-colour-gamut displays. However, it remains challenging for visible-light emitters to achieve both luminescence peaks shorter than 400 nm and a full-width at half-maximum (FWHM) below 20 nm due to irreducible π-conjugation length and strong vibrational relaxation in the excited state. Here this study introduces planar oxygen-doped carbon quantum rings (OD-CQRs) composed of twelve benzene rings and six embedded five-membered oxygen heterocycles. These OD-CQRs exhibit a fluorescence peak centre at 393 nm, a FWHM of 18 nm and a photoluminescence quantum yield of 95%. Detailed structural characterizations coupled with theoretical calculations reveal that the ring profile and alternatively embedded oxygen heterocycles in OD-CQRs effectively suppress π-electron delocalization and excited-state vibrational relaxation, due to non-bonding electron characteristics. The electroluminescent LEDs based on OD-CQRs demonstrate high-colour-purity violet emission with chromaticity coordinates of (0.161, 0.017), approaching the edge of the visible colour space.



Reference: https://doi.org/10.1038/s44160-025-00922-4

The Research Achievement of Professor Yu Xianchuan's team from the School of Artificial Intelligence Was Selected As an Outstanding Paper at ACM International Conference on Multimedia

Article source: School of Artificial Intelligence | *Release date: 2025-11-20*

The ACM International Conference on Multimedia (ACM MM), initiated by the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM), is the most influential international conference in the field of multimedia processing, analysis and computing. ACM MM 2025 was held in Dublin, Ireland from October 27th to 31st, 2025. A total of 5,330 submissions were received for this conference, with 1,250 accepted, resulting in an acceptance rate of 23.45%. Among them, the Content Theme received over 2,400 submissions, and only 3 were awarded Outstanding Paper. The research result of Professor Yu Xianchuan's team from the School of Artificial Intelligence was selected.

Home > Conferences > MM > Proceedings > MM '25 > Robust Multi-view Clustering via Pseudo Label Guided Universum Learning

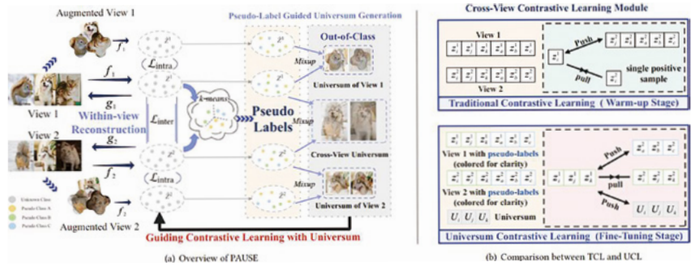
RESEARCH-ARTICLE | FREE ACCESS

Robust Multi-view Clustering via Pseudo Label Guided Universum Learning

Authors: Zhenxi Wang, Zongyao Yin, Yujie Hou, Xianchuan Yu | Authors Info & Claims

MM '25: Proceedings of the 33rd ACM International Conference on Multimedia • Pages 1480 - 1489
https://doi.org/10.1145/3746027.3755205

In this paper, the team propose PAUSE, a robust contrastive multi-view clustering framework that mitigates the FNP inherent in traditional contrastive methods. PAUSE integrates pseudo-label-guided universum learning with Mixup to generate generalized negatives that expand class boundaries, reduce misclassification risk, and enhance both intra-class compactness and inter-class separability. The framework employs a two-stage training process. In the warm-up stage, dual contrastive learning generates pseudo labels that capture semantic relationships across views. In the fine-tuning stage, pseudo labels guide the synthesis of universum samples by mixing anchor instances with out-of-class centroids. This process positions the universum samples in neutral boundary regions, thereby proactively preventing FNP without necessitating explicit post hoc identification of positive and negative pairs for correction. Extensive experiments on five multi-view datasets demonstrate that PAUSE outperforms 11 state-of-the-art



(a) Overview of PAUSE (b) Comparison between TCL and UCL

methods and robustly handles complex cross-modal data.

Abstract:

Recently, contrastive learning has emerged as a promising approach for multi-view clustering (MVC), as it enforces cross-view consistency and leverages complementary information from different views to enhance the analysis of heterogeneous data. However, traditional contrastive MVC methods suffer from an inherent limitation: their one-to-many contrast mechanism induces the False Negative Problem (FNP), where semantically similar intra-class instances are erroneously repelled. This phenomenon compromises intra-class consistency and ultimately degrades clustering performance. To overcome this issue, we propose a novel Pseudo label guided universum learning (PAUSE) framework for robust multi-view clustering. Specifically, PAUSE operates in two synergistic stages: (1) A warm-up stage that employs dual contrastive learning to generate reliable pseudo-labels, establishing robust semantic relationships; (2) A fine-tuning stage that synthesizes universum samples via Mixup between anchor instances and out-of-class centroids, guided by the acquired pseudo-labels. This unique mechanism constructs generalized negative classes that expand inter-class margins while preserving intra-class cohesion. Crucially, the widened decision boundaries prevent misclassification of displaced intra-class instances, effectively circumventing FNP without requiring explicit negative pair correction. We further devise a robust universum contrastive loss that explicitly enforces cross-view consistency through adaptive boundary constraints. Extensive experiments on five multi-view benchmarks demonstrate that our PAUSE consistently outperforms 11 state-of-the-art multi-view learning methods. Our code is accessible at: https://github.com/xixi-555/PAUSE_main_code.

Reference: https://dl.acm.org/doi/abs/10.1145/3746027.3755205

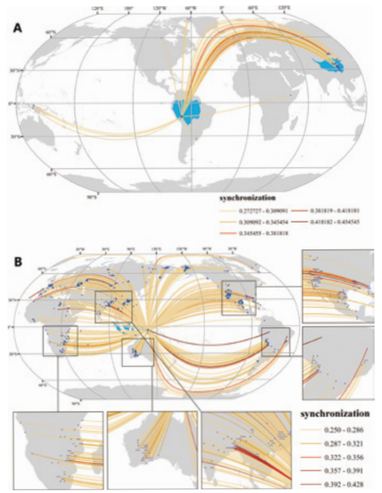


Figure 1. Mapping of Connectivity Pathways between Key Source and Sink Regions in the Global Drought Teleconnection Network

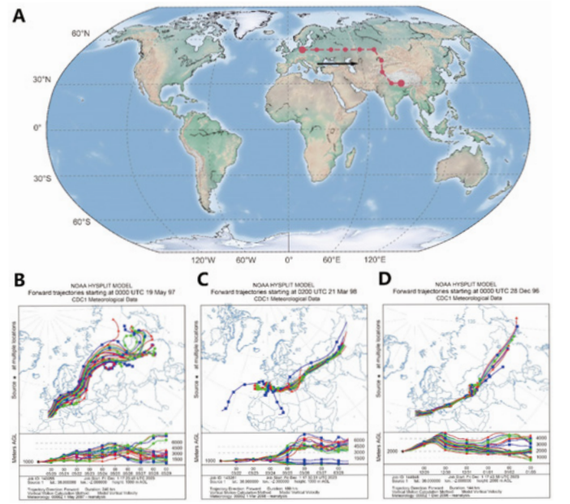


Figure 2. Teleconnection Propagation Pathways between Western Europe and the Qinghai–Tibet Plateau

Climate Network Approaches Reveal Global Drought Teleconnection Patterns and Key Propagation Pathways

Article source: Official website of School of Systems Science | *Release date: 2025-11-08*

Recently, a research team led by Professor Fan Jingfang of the School of Systems Science at Beijing Normal University, in collaboration with Beijing University of Civil Engineering and Architecture, Kunming University of Science and Technology, and the Climate Research Center of the China Meteorological Administration, published a research article entitled "*Complex Network Approaches for Identifying Global Drought Teleconnection Patterns*" in the internationally renowned journal Global and Planetary Change. By constructing complex network models, the study systematically reveals the teleconnection structure, propagation directions, and key source–sink regions of global extreme drought events over the past 120 years, providing a new theoretical and methodological framework for understanding and predicting cross-regional drought propagation mechanisms. The paper lists Professor Zhou Lei of Beijing University of Civil Engineering and Architecture and Professor Fan Jingfang of Beijing Normal University as co-corresponding authors.

Drought is among the most destructive yet least understood natural hazards. Its impacts extend beyond local water resources and agriculture, triggering cascading effects through transcontinental atmospheric and oceanic processes. Existing studies have largely focused on regional scales, making it difficult to capture the nonlinear and asynchronous teleconnections among drought events at the global scale. Introducing a systems science perspective, this study constructed the first global complex network of extreme droughts based on the Standardized Precipitation Evapotranspiration Index (SPEI) dataset spanning 1901–2021. Using event synchronization analysis and multidimensional network metrics, the research team identified major drought "source regions" (such as Central Europe, North Africa, Southern Africa, Western Australia, and Central Asia) and "sink regions" (including the Qinghai–Tibet Plateau, Indonesia, the Amazon Basin, and Central Africa), and revealed the directionality and average propagation distance of drought transmission—exceeding 11,000 km—as shown in Fig. 1.

The study further found that the Qinghai–Tibet Plateau and the Amazon region exhibit exceptionally high betweenness centrality within the global drought network, serving as critical "hubs" that connect intercontinental drought propagation pathways and play an important regulating role in the global climate system. The team also employed the HYSPLIT Lagrangian trajectory model to verify moisture transport pathways between Europe and the Qinghai–Tibet Plateau. The modeled transport routes show strong consistency with the network analysis results, providing physical validation of the mechanisms underlying intercontinental drought propagation (see Fig. 2).

This work offers a new systems science perspective for early drought warning and cross-regional disaster risk reduction, and extends the application frontier of complex network methods in Earth system science. The findings indicate that, under the background of climate warming, both the spatial extent and intensity of drought teleconnections have increased significantly, underscoring the need to strengthen coordinated monitoring and management of drought risks at both global and regional levels.

This research was supported by the National Natural Science Foundation of China and the National Key R&D Program of the Ministry of Science and Technology.

Article link: https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0921818125004023.

Academician Huang Guohe's Team Participates in a Nature Study Providing a Scientific Blueprint for Deep Decarbonization of the Global Lithium-Ion Battery Supply Chain

Article source: Official website of School of Environment | *Release date: 2025-10-27*

On October 23, 2025, the world-leading academic journal Nature published a research article entitled "*A Circular Economy Approach for the Global Lithium-Ion Battery Supply Chain*". Academician Huang Guohe of the National Key Laboratory of Regional Environmental Safety at our institute served as one of the corresponding authors. In collaboration with Beijing University of Technology, the Guangzhou Institute of Energy Conversion, Chinese Academy of Sciences, and other institutions, the research systematically elucidates the carbon emission mechanisms across the global lithium-ion battery supply chain. The study provides a novel theoretical framework and policy pathways to support the sustainable development of the new energy industry under carbon neutrality goals.

Driven by global carbon neutrality targets, lithium-ion batteries—core technologies underpinning energy transition and transportation electrification—are experiencing unprecedented market expansion. However, behind this rapidly growing "green industry" lies a set of complex and often overlooked carbon emission challenges. Spanning upstream resource extraction, midstream material refining, downstream battery manufacturing, and end-of-life recycling, the lithium-ion battery supply chain is

Research Background: A Critical Challenge in the Global Energy Transition

characterized by a high degree of geographical dispersion. This fragmentation not only results in highly uneven distributions of carbon emissions, but also renders carbon footprint accounting and management exceptionally complex, posing severe challenges to coordinated global decarbonization efforts. More critically, existing studies have largely focused on specific recycling stages or localized economic systems, lacking a systematic examination of the complex interactions among policy adjustments, trade dynamics, and technological innovation. This gap underscores the urgent need for an integrated strategic framework capable of capturing both process-level details of lithium-ion battery recycling and their dynamic linkages with macroeconomic models. Such a framework is essential for formulating comprehensive and sustainable deep-decarbonization strategies for the global battery supply chain.

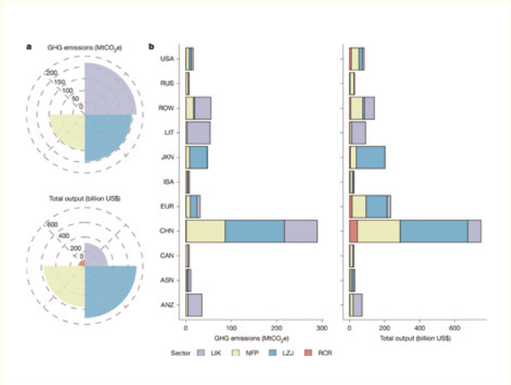


Figure 1: Analysis of Cumulative Economic Output and Greenhouse Gas Emissions of the Global Lithium-Ion Battery Supply Chain (2018–2022)

Core Innovation: The Pioneering LCCGE Model

The central innovation of this study lies in the development of the Lithium Cycle Computable General Equilibrium (LCCGE) model. For the first time, the LCCGE model integrates the micro-level technical details of life-cycle assessment (LCA) with the macroeconomic dynamics of computable general equilibrium (CGE) modeling, achieving a coherent integration of bottom-up life-cycle analysis and top-down macroeconomic analysis.

The LCCGE model comprises two core innovative modules:

Lithium Cycle Dynamics Module: This module innovatively disaggregates the supply chain into five key sectors—LIK (lithium-ion battery–related metal mining), NFP (refining), LZJ (cathode materials), SNT (secondary non-ferrous metal processing), and RSN (recycled non-ferrous metal manufacturing). It enables full life-cycle material flow simulation from raw material extraction to recycling, establishing a truly closed-loop system spanning "cradle to recycling".

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Accounting Module: This module integrates carbon footprint tracking of energy-related activities and is systematically calibrated using the McKinsey database alongside process-level operational data from lithium-ion battery recycling enterprises. This approach ensures both the industrial representativeness and quantitative accuracy of the model.

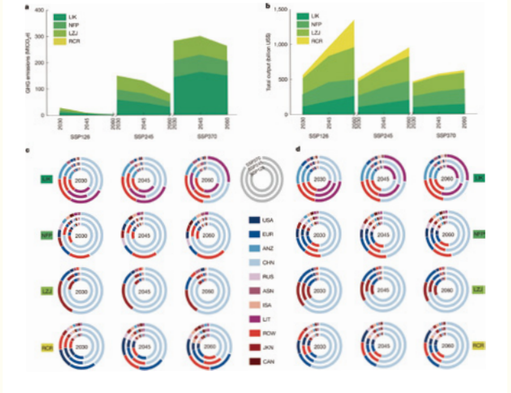


Figure 2: Projected Trends in Economic Output and Greenhouse Gas Emissions of the Global Lithium-Ion Battery Supply Chain (2030–2060)

Major Discovery: Revealing the "Value–Emissions Paradox"

Based on data analysis for the period 2018–2022, the research team has, for the first time, quantitatively identified a pronounced "value–emissions paradox" within the global lithium-ion battery supply chain:

Upstream mining segment: accounts for 38.52% of total

emissions (217.08 million tonnes CO_2-equivalent), yet generates only 18.78% of economic value (USD 31.631 billion).

Downstream cathode material production: with 34.82% of emissions, generates 42.56% of economic value (USD 71.669 billion).

This structural imbalance is particularly evident in resource-rich regions. For example, the Lithium Triangle countries (Argentina, Bolivia, and Chile) account for 12.09% of supply-side emissions but receive only 3.27% of economic returns. Their emissions intensity (carbon emissions per unit of economic output) reaches 0.124 kg CO_2-equivalent per USD, which is 3.7 times the global average.

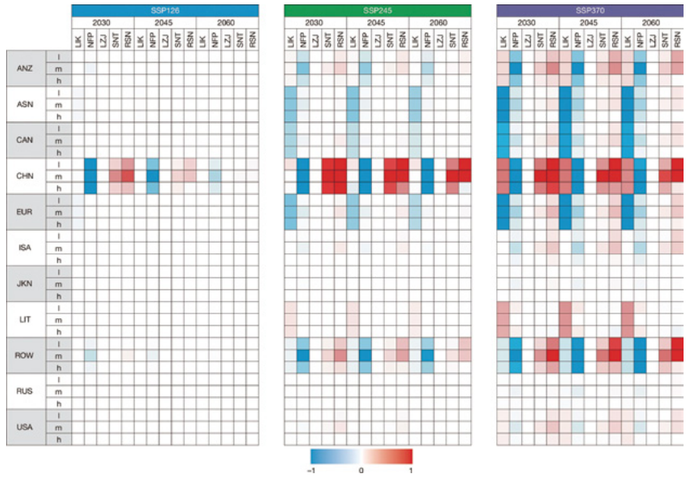


Figure 3: Analysis of Regional and Sectoral Emission Changes under Different Recycling Scenarios

Significance: Providing a Scientific Basis for Global Climate Governance

Beyond identifying structural challenges within the lithium-ion battery supply chain, this study—through innovative modeling and systematic scenario analysis—offers actionable, region-specific decarbonization blueprints for global policymakers. The key implications are as follows:

Theoretical Innovation: By pioneering the integration of life-cycle thinking with global economic dynamics, the study establishes the LCCGE framework, providing a novel analytical paradigm for the systemic assessment of global supply chains.

Policy Contribution: The proposed concept of "global coordination with regional customization" offers a systematic solution to the long-standing trade-off between efficiency and equity in global carbon mitigation. The findings provide valuable references for advancing consumption-based carbon accounting, promoting technology transfer, and establishing international carbon data platforms.

Practical Guidance: The results offer scientific support for countries to formulate differentiated emission-reduction strategies based on their specific roles within the supply chain. They also contribute to advancing the goals of the Paris Agreement and accelerating the global energy transition.

The National Key Laboratory of Regional Environmental Safety of Beijing Normal University is a major research platform in China's environmental science community. It has long been dedicated to fundamental theory and applied technology research in areas including regional environmental quality, ecological security, and sustainable development. The laboratory has developed distinct strengths in environmental systems analysis, climate change mitigation and adaptation, and circular economy research.

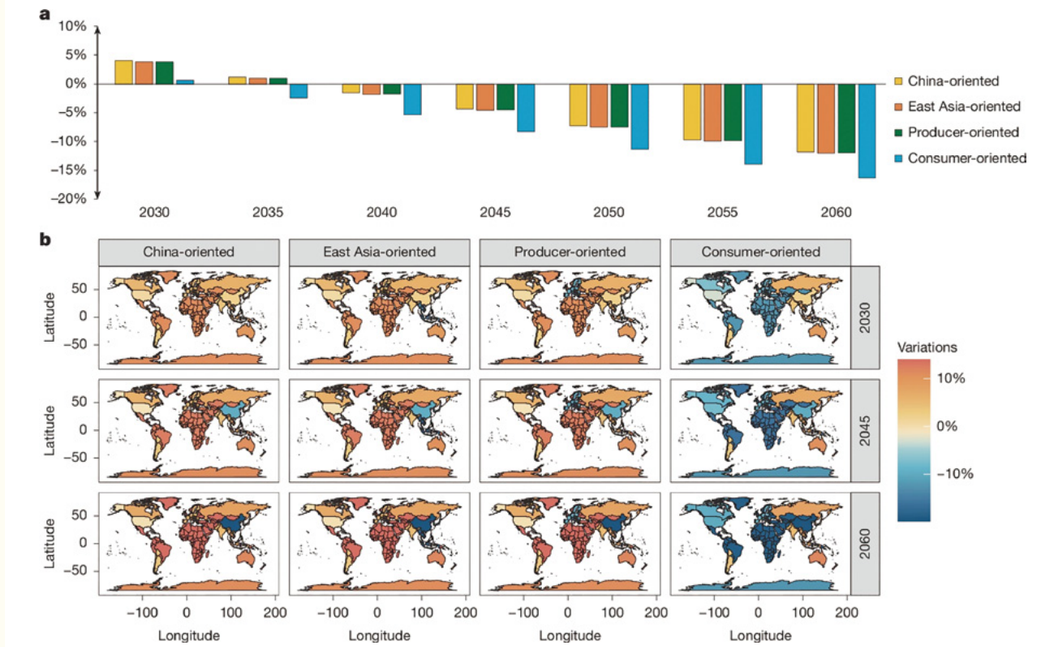


Figure 4: Changes in Emissions Intensity under Four Regional Cooperation Scenarios (2030–2060)

Huang Guohe, one of the laboratory's academic leaders, heads the Energy and Environmental Systems Engineering research team, which has achieved a series of breakthrough results in global climate governance, energy system transition, and circular economy analysis. With support from the Innovation Research Group program of the National Natural Science Foundation of China and the National Key R&D Program, the team has established a comprehensive methodological framework encompassing stochastic simulation and optimization of resource and environmental systems, computable general equilibrium analysis, and multidimensional risk management. These methodological advances provide strong scientific and technological support for the formulation of national and regional low-carbon development and environmental management strategies, and demonstrate the core competitiveness of Beijing Normal University's environmental science discipline in serving major national strategic needs and addressing global environmental challenges.

Paper Link: https://www.nature.com/articles/s41586-025-09617-4

The President of the University of Queensland Visited Beijing Normal University

On the morning of October 28, Deborah Terry, the President of the University of Queensland (UQ), Li Rongyu, Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Vice-President (Global Engagement) of UQ, and Professor Alan Rowan, Fellow of the Australian Academy of Science, visited Beijing Normal University (BNU). Cheng Jianping, Chairman of the University Council of BNU, met with the delegation.

Cheng Jianping extended a warm welcome to Terry and his delegation. He reviewed the achievements of collaboration between the two universities in areas such as talent cultivation, scientific research, and faculty exchange. He noted that the two comprehensive universities have both inherited a long history and profound academic accumulation and are highly aligned in disciplinary structure and development strategy, which bodes well for extensive cooperation prospects. He expressed his hope that both sides would further deepen exchanges and continuously broaden and deepen their collaborative efforts.

Terry expressed her sincere gratitude for the warm hospitality extended by BNU. She outlined the latest achievements in academic development at UQ and expressed her hope for advancing substantive collaboration between the two institutions in areas such as joint degree programs and the establishment of collaborative research centers.

Subsequently, both sides exchanged views on collaborative research in geriatric health, joint doctoral training programs, establishing a "2+2 program", and cooperative education initiatives, and reached preliminary agreement on future cooperation mechanisms.

Cheng Jianping and Terry jointly signed a Memorandum of Understanding between BNU and UQ on collaborative cross-disciplinary research in geriatric health. Building on this memorandum, both institutions will deepen synergistic innovation and talent exchange, working together to address the challenges of population aging and advance global educational development.

The Delegation Led by Vice President Wang Shoujun Visits Serbia, Slovenia, and Hungary

From October 23 to 31, Wang Shoujun, Executive Vice President of Beijing Normal University (BNU), led a delegation to visit Serbia, Slovenia, and Hungary. The delegation visited the Ministry of Education of Serbia, the University of Belgrade (Serbia), the University of Ljubljana (Slovenia), Eötvös Loránd University (Hungary) and Károli Gáspár University of the Reformed Church (Hungary). The delegation also visited the Chinese embassies in Serbia, Slovenia and Hungary and held meetings with representatives of the BNU alumni in Serbia and Hungary. Heads of relevant departments of the university also participated in the visits.

The meeting at the Ministry of Education of Serbia

The delegation visits the Chinese Embassy in Serbia

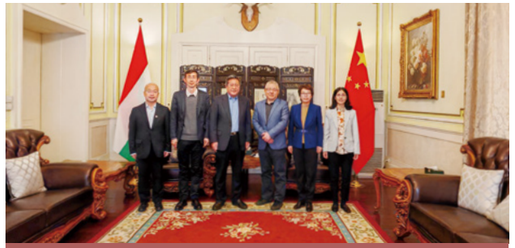
Signing the agreement during the visit to the University of Belgrade

In Serbia, when the delegation visited the Chinese Embassy in Serbia, they held discussions focused on promoting joint student training between Chinese and Serbian universities, co-establishing a "Belt and Road" joint laboratory, and conducting language and cultural exchanges. At the University of Belgrade, both sides jointly reviewed the history of cooperation and signed a university-level student exchange agreement. The delegation also visited the Ministry of Education of Serbia, where they held a discussion regarding cooperation in areas such as artificial intelligence (AI) education, faculty and student exchange, and joint research projects.

During the delegation's visit to the University of Ljubljana in Slovenia, both sides highly praised the collaboration between the two universities and the achievements made thus far, expressing the desire to further broaden the areas of exchange and conduct deeper, more pragmatic cooperation.

In Hungary, the delegation visited the Chinese Embassy in Hungary, where they exchanged views on further promoting BNU's educational cooperation with Hungary. During the visit to Eötvös Loránd University, both parties introduced the development of their respective universities. They discussed further academic exchange, cooperative research, and discipline co-development under the framework of the "Belt and Road." The delegation also visited Károli Gáspár University of the Reformed Church. The two parties engaged in in-depth exchanges regarding the promotion of mutual visits by faculty and students, joint student training, and research cooperation, and signed a university-level macro-cooperation agreement.

Signing the macro-cooperation agreement at Károli Gáspár University of the Reformed Church



The delegation visits the Chinese Embassy in Hungary

During the visits, the delegation also met with and extended greetings to BNU alumni in Serbia and Hungary. They held cordial discussions with the alumni and provided an update on the university's development and recent achievements.

Delegation at the University of Ljubljana

Wang Ming Met with the Delegation Led by the Head of the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction

On November 3, Wang Ming, Vice President of Beijing Normal University (BNU), met with Kamal Kishore, Head of the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), Marco Toscano-Rivalta, Chief of UNDRR Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (ROAP) and Rahul Sengupta, Programme Management Officer of UNDRR ROAP. The two sides engaged in in-depth discussions about collaborating to promote disaster risk reduction (DRR) research and capacity building. Yang Saini, Executive Director of Integrated Research on Disaster Risk (IRDR), attended the meeting.

Wang Ming pointed out that BNU possesses comprehensive advantages in multiple disciplines within the field of DRR, including geography, environmental science and engineering, hydraulic engineering, and security engineering, providing a solid academic foundation for DRR research. Furthermore, BNU actively participated in major domestic disaster response efforts, accumulating extensive practical experience and knowledge, and will further advance the integration and investment of educational and research resources for disaster prevention and reduction to provide support for the implementation of international disaster reduction strategies.

Kamal Kishore stated that BNU and UNDRR have maintained a long-standing and successful partnership. He expressed anticipation that BNU would further contribute to education and capacity building of disaster prevention and reduction across the Asia-Pacific region and globally, thereby providing input for shaping the post-2030 global DRR agenda.

Both sides agreed that future efforts should focus on further strengthening knowledge sharing and international cooperation to enhance the global impact of China's DRR experience. Moving forward, both parties will detail their cooperation, advance the implementation of collaborative projects, and jointly contribute to advance global disaster reduction efforts.

The UNDRR is the entity within the United Nations system dedicated to international DRR-related affairs. It is committed to advancing the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction Action Plan and coordinates activities among the United Nations system, regional organizations, and relevant countries in the fields of DRR, socioeconomic affairs, and humanitarian issues. BNU and the UNDRR have enjoyed a decade-long partnership since signing a Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) in 2015. Their collaboration spans DRR research and education, and the development of the Global Disaster Data Platform.

Chen Xing Attends the 30th Anniversary Celebration of the CNRS China Office

Article source: Office of International Exchange and Cooperation | Release date: 2025-11-07

On November 3, the opening ceremony marking the 30th anniversary of the China Office of the French National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS) was officially launched in Beijing. Chen Xing, Vice President of Beijing Normal University, was invited to attend the opening ceremony and deliver remarks.

Chen Xing first extended warm congratulations on the 30th anniversary of the CNRS China Office and briefly reviewed the cooperative projects and fruitful achievements between Beijing Normal University and CNRS across multiple research fields. He noted that China is committed to addressing global challenges through scientific and technological progress and illuminating pathways for development through innovation, while upholding the principles of science for good and openness in international cooperation. He emphasized that Beijing Normal University has long attached great importance to exchanges and cooperation with France, and expressed the University's willingness to further deepen collaboration with CNRS in areas such as interdisciplinary innovation networks, joint training programs

for young researchers, and integrated platforms combining artificial intelligence with the humanities

At the opening ceremony, keynote speeches were delivered by Wang Yifang, Academician of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, and Christian Amatore, CNRS Fellow and Visiting Professor at Beijing Normal University. The event was also attended by Antoine Petit, President of CNRS; Bertrand Lortholary, Ambassador of France to China; Li Weidong, Director General of the Bureau of International Cooperation of the Chinese Academy of Sciences; Zhuang Jia, Deputy Director General of the Department of International Cooperation of the Ministry of Science and Technology of China; Li Guoping, Chief Engineer of the China National Space Administration; Kasia Zelichowska, Science and Technology Counsellor of the Delegation of the European Union to China; Shi Guoyue, Vice President of East China Normal University; Zhang Baojun, Vice President of Beijing Language and Culture University; Wong Ching (Huang Cheng), Associate Vice President of The Hong Kong Polytechnic University; as well as nearly 40 researchers from CNRS. Representatives from the Sino-French Education Innovation Research Center of Beijing Normal University and the Office of International Exchange and Cooperation also participated in the event.

Founded in 1939 and affiliated with the French Ministry of Higher Education and Research, CNRS is the largest public research organization in Europe. To date, it has produced 13 Nobel Prize laureates and 11 Fields Medalists and is widely recognized as one of the world's most innovative research institutions.

Chen Xing Met with the High-Level Delegation from South Africa Department of Basic Education

On December 2, Makgabo Reginah Mhaule, Deputy Minister of South Africa Department of Basic Education, led a high-level delegation to visit Beijing Normal University (BNU). Chen Xing, Vice President of BNU, met with the delegation.

Chen Xing, on behalf of BNU, extended a warm welcome to the delegation and introduced the distinctive features

and development achievements of BNU. He pointed out that BNU has adhered to its core mission of teacher education, accumulating profound experience in areas such as improving basic education quality, promoting teacher professional development, revitalizing rural education, innovating digital education, and promoting international Chinese education. BNU has established a global education cooperation platform covering multiple fields. Looking to the future, BNU is willing to deepen practical cooperation with South Africa in areas such as educational policy dialogue, teacher training, and joint construction of digital resources under the framework of China-South Africa cultural exchanges.

Mhaule expressed gratitude for BNU's thoughtful arrangements and fully endorsed Chen Xing's vision for collaboration. She noted that South Africa is undergoing profound reforms in its education system, facing multiple challenges that urgently require drawing on international best practices. BNU's expertise in teacher education, online learning platforms, and multilingual education support holds significant reference value for the country. She emphasized the immense potential for educational cooperation between China and South Africa, and expressed hope that this visit would serve as an opportunity to establish a comprehensive long-term cooperation mechanism in basic education, jointly enhancing educational quality and empowering youth development.

The two sides also exchanged in-depth views on topics such as the progress of education reform in China and South Africa, teacher professional development, promotion of Chinese and multilingual education, and the development and localization of digital educational resources. They proposed a number of cooperation plans, including joint training, platform co-construction, and curriculum collaboration, to address key challenges in current education development.

After the meeting, the delegation visited the Online Education Resource Center of the Faculty of Education to gain firsthand insight into BNU's latest achievements in digital education platform development, high-quality resource creation, and key project implementation.

Beijing Normal University Hosts the 15th "Song of Gathering · International Students' Night"

Article source: Office of International Exchange and Cooperation | *Release date: 2025-12-02*

On the evening of November 29, the 15th "*Song of Gathering · International Students' Night*" cultural gala of Beijing Normal University was held at the Student Activity Center. The event brought together international students from countries and regions around the world, who took to the stage to present a vibrant and diverse artistic showcase. Guests from nine Beijing-based universities—including Renmin University of China, Beijing Institute of Technology, University of International Business and Economics, Beijing Foreign Studies University, Minzu University of China, University of Science and Technology Beijing, Beijing Jiaotong University, Capital Normal University, and Beijing University of Chinese Medicine—attended the event, along with representatives from relevant administrative departments and academic units of Beijing Normal University.

This year marks both the 15th anniversary of the "Song of Gathering" flagship cultural program and the 60th anniversary of Beijing Normal University's education of international students in China. Over six decades, the presence and contributions of international students have become an integral part of the University's development and history. The gala opened with the grand and powerful drum performance "Heavy Snow", setting an inspiring tone for the evening. Structured around four thematic chapters—*"Waves · Echoes of the East", "Encounters · Rhythms of the World", "Convergence · A Symphony of Sound and Image",* and *"United by Destiny · A Brilliant Flourish"*—the program wove together music, dance, drama, and spoken arts. Through these artistic forms, the gala vividly reflected the openness, inclusiveness, and humanistic spirit that characterize Beijing Normal University's international education, presenting a rich portrait of cultural exchange and mutual appreciation among civilizations.

Chapter I: "Waves · Echoes of the East" unfolded a vivid encounter between Eastern rhythms and diverse cultural expressions. The song-and-dance performance *"Katyusha"* evoked cross-border resonance through its classic melody, conveying deep friendship and shared human emotions between China and other nations. A medley of traditional-style Chinese songs, *"Half a Pot of Veil"* and *"Words of the Past"*, guided the audience through the poetic landscapes of Jiangnan, immersing them in the refined elegance of Eastern aesthetics. The dance medley *"Dancing the Mountains and Rivers"* showcased the passion and bold spirit of ethnic dances from China's Uyghur, Kazakh, Tajik, and other communities, celebrating the vitality of cultural diversity.

Chapter II: "Encounters · Rhythms of the World" led the audience on a journey through pulsating beats from around the globe. The powerful and emotionally charged performance of *"Lose Control"* instantly ignited the atmosphere. The Indonesian-themed presentation *"The Spirit of Nusantara"* brought forth the mysterious call of the tropical rainforest, while "Trendy Beats", driven by dynamic K-pop choreography, set the stage ablaze and captured the passion and youthful energy of students.

Chapter III: "Convergence · A Symphony of Sound and Image" highlighted an artistic dialogue between tradition and modernity, East and West. The voice-acting showcase *"Immersive Voices"* recreated iconic scenes from films such as *Frozen* and *Beauty and the Beast*, awakening cherished childhood memories. The instrumental and vocal performance *"Whispers of Reunion"*, marked by resonant vocals and vigorous rhythms, expressed the passion and vitality of South Asia. The innovative operatic piece "Farewell My Concubine" blended the guzheng with traditional opera, revealing the contemporary vitality of classical Chinese performing arts.

The Finale: "United by Destiny · A Brilliant Flourish" brought the evening to an emotional and powerful climax. The guitar-accompanied performance *"Dive"*, with its simple chords and gentle vocals, offered a quiet and sincere inner reflection. *"Bamboo Harmony: Teachers and Students, China and the World"* integrated calligraphy, paper-cutting, painting, and recitation, presenting a comprehensive display of the cultural literacy of international students from the International Chinese Language Education programs of Beijing Normal University. The martial arts performance *"The Spirit of Chinese Martial Arts"* radiated strength and momentum, embodying the essence of martial virtue. The evening concluded with a grand chorus of *"We Are the World"*, as all performers joined voices to express the shared vision of a global community united in solidarity and purpose.

Sixty years pass like a song, with a legacy carried forward from generation to generation. Over the past six decades,

Beijing Normal University's programs for international students have fostered sincere friendships that transcend national boundaries and have built enduring milestones in international educational exchange. As a signature platform for international cultural exchange at Beijing Normal University, "Song of Gathering · International Students' Night" not only presents the profound heritage of fine traditional Chinese culture, but also vividly reflects the University's open-minded spirit and cultural confidence—rooted in China while embracing the world. Looking ahead, the University will continue to advance the high-quality development of international education, deepen people-to-people and cultural exchanges between China and other countries, and contribute the strength of Beijing Normal University to the shared prosperity of diverse civilizations.

相聚之歌-2025北京师范大学国际学生之夜

Covered by People's Daily! First Cohort of Beijing Normal University's Excellent Teacher Program Graduates Step into Classrooms

In July 2021, nine central government departments, including the Ministry of Education, jointly issued the *Excellent Teacher Program for Targeted Training in Underdeveloped Central and Western Regions* (hereinafter referred to as the Excellent Teacher Program). In September 2022, General Secretary Xi Jinping wrote a reply letter encouraging student teachers enrolled in Beijing Normal University's Excellent Teacher Program to "go where the country and the people need them most" and strive to become "good teachers with four qualities" who satisfy the Party and the people. This September, the first cohort of Excellent Teacher Program graduates officially took up teaching posts, dedicating themselves to front-line basic education in county-level schools across central and western China.

Recently, *People's* Daily published a feature titled *"First Cohort of Beijing Normal University's Excellent Teacher Program Graduates Step into Classrooms—Setting Out from Home, Returning to the Mountains to Teach"*. Meanwhile, *Zhuhai Special Economic Zone Daily* ran a report entitled *"They Have Lived Up to the General Secretary's Expectations—'Going Where the Country and the People Need Them Most.'"*

The First Cohort of Beijing Normal University's Excellent Teacher Program Graduates Step into Classrooms

—Setting Out from Home, Returning to Where Education Is Most Needed

Students who grow up in mountainous areas understand deeply that education is a powerful force capable of changing the course of a person's life.

"Do you know, students? The September 3 military parade is not only a remembrance of the War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression, but also a symbol of national strength," said Liu Xiantao, a history teacher at Chacheng Senior High School in Meitan County, Zunyi, Guizhou Province, speaking with firm conviction. As he discussed the crimes of the Japanese Army's Unit 731 and scenes from the film *Nanjing Photo Studio*, many students were moved to tears. "Fostering virtue through education carries a weight of profound responsibility," Liu reflected.

At Bijie No. 4 High School, during a biology class, Peng Xue carefully filled the blackboard with a neatly organized mind map. "Although the students are not yet fully familiar with the textbook, many of them explain biological phenomena by drawing on their own rural life experiences—some of their perspectives are truly inspiring," she said. The eager, knowledge-seeking eyes looking up from the classroom left a lasting impression on her.

Both teachers, born in the 2000s, are recent graduates of the first cohort of the Excellent Teacher Program at Beijing Normal University. Setting out from their hometowns and returning to the mountains to teach, they have chosen to dedicate themselves to grassroots education. In this autumn semester, their youthful aspirations have taken root and begun to flourish—at the very front lines of where education is needed most.

Strengthening education begins with strengthening teachers. In 2021, guided by the principle that a strong education system depends first on a strong teaching force, nine government departments including the Ministry of Education launched the Excellent Teacher Program. Through a targeted training mechanism jointly implemented by directly affiliated normal universities and local teachers' colleges, the program aims to cultivate prospective teachers each year for primary and secondary schools in 832 counties that have recently emerged from poverty, as well as counties along China's land borders in the central and western regions.

Four years on, the first cohort of Excellent Teacher Program students has graduated, becoming a new and dynamic force in improving the quality of the teaching workforce in underdeveloped regions of central and western China. In recent years, Beijing Normal University has enrolled 3,418 Excellent Teacher Program students from relevant provinces, providing a platform for young people committed to basic education to pursue their aspirations.

Peng Xue comes from Nayong County in Bijie. During her high school years, a mathematics teacher traveled thousands of kilometers from Shaanxi to Guizhou to teach—a decision that profoundly changed her life's direction. "Now, I want to become a guide for children in places where education is most needed," she said. Having grown up on her home soil, she hopes to give back to the communities that nurtured her. "During my university years, I took part in more than ten teaching support and field practice programs in county-level schools, which truly ignited my passion for grassroots education," said Liu Xiantao. He has signed a contract with a newly established general senior high school in Meitan County, rather than one of the schools where he previously volunteered. Asked how he chose where to teach, he replied simply: "My criterion is where more dedication is required and where students need me most."

Teachers are builders of dreams—guides who accompany students as they pursue and fulfill their aspirations. But who, in turn, lights the path for Excellent Teacher Program students as they step into the profession? Four years ago, they were high school graduates; today, they stand at the front of classrooms as teachers. How can they be supported to grow into educators who not only teach well, but also help elevate the quality of education in the regions they serve? These are the questions the Excellent Teacher Program continues to address, as it nurtures a new generation of teachers committed to equity, dedication, and the future of education.

According to the introduction, the Education Working Committee of the CPC Guizhou Provincial Committee will strengthen post-employment professional development, incorporating graduates of the Excellent Teacher Program into the province's *master teacher and principal studio* training system. At the same time, it will improve supporting living facilities to address both professional growth challenges and practical concerns related to daily life, enabling graduates to teach with peace of mind.

Beijing Normal University, for its part, provides strong institutional support through a systematic, long-term follow-up and assistance mechanism, ensuring that graduates can take root at the grassroots level and remain committed to teaching over the long term. The University continues to optimize post-employment support and pathways for academic advancement, while strengthening disciplinary expertise and the capacity to adapt to local educational contexts.

"To enable graduates of the Excellent Teacher Program to truly play a leading role in county-level basic education, they must grow rapidly and be ready to shoulder major responsibilities," said Cheng Jianping, Secretary of the CPC Committee of Beijing Normal University. He emphasized the need to further enhance the quality of training under the Excellent Teacher Program, deepen coordination with local education authorities, and establish more precise demand-matching mechanisms alongside more comprehensive incentive and support systems—so that outstanding graduates are willing to go, able to stay, and supported to thrive. "The University attaches great importance to the long-term development of Excellent Teacher Program graduates," he added, "and is committed to helping them grow into 'great teachers' who are deeply rooted in grassroots education."

Committed to Grassroots Education, Dedicated to Underserved Regions. With hearts devoted to grassroots education and aspirations rooted in underserved regions, more than 360 graduates of Beijing Normal University's first cohort of the Excellent Teacher Program have stepped into classrooms this semester—across 13 provinces in central and western China, serving 148 counties that have recently emerged from poverty as well as land-border counties.

Among them, 38 graduates returned to Guizhou's underserved communities. Like 38 sparks, they bring

warmth and light to children in rural and remote areas. This September, these young teachers celebrated their first Teachers' Day in the profession, receiving heartfelt messages from their students.

Some students handed them letters: "Because of you, I want to become a teacher too." Others confided their dreams in writing: "I want to learn culinary skills beyond my hometown, then come back to open a restaurant."

As they witness their students' hopes for the future, the teachers' own resolve grows ever stronger—
"To return home and take root where I am most needed."

They Have Lived Up to the General Secretary's Charge
"Go where the country and the people need you most."

September 10—Teachers' Day.

On the athletics field of Chacheng Senior High School in Meitan County, Guizhou, a solemn apprenticeship ceremony is underway. Newly appointed teacher Liu Xiantao stands shoulder to shoulder with his colleagues, raises his right fist, and takes a solemn oath.

At the same moment, hundreds of kilometers away at Kangding Middle School in Sichuan, Xiao Ke, speaking as a representative of new teachers, shares her story—about the Excellent Teacher Program, and about why she chose to teach on the plateau.

Three years earlier, on the eve of Teachers' Day, Xi Jinping wrote a reply letter encouraging student teachers in Beijing Normal University's Excellent Teacher Program to "go where the country and the people need them most" and to strive to become "good teachers with four qualities" who satisfy the Party and the people.

From coastal cities to underserved regions inland, this September more than 360 graduates born in the 2000s, including Liu Xiantao and Xiao Ke, set out from Zhuhai and took up posts in county-level primary and secondary schools across central and western China. Standing at the front of their classrooms, they are translating the General Secretary's earnest exhortation—to go where the country and the people need them most—into steadfast action, dedicating their youth to the future of education.

1 A First Lesson

In a classroom at Chacheng Senior High School in Meitan County, Guizhou Province, Liu Xiantao writes four characters on the blackboard: "September 3 Military Parade". The room falls silent, broken only by the hum of a ceiling fan.

"Do you know why the parade is held on September 3?" he asks. More than fifty pairs of eyes look up at him—most of them puzzled.

He begins to speak of the scars of the Old Summer Palace, of the inhumane atrocities committed by the Japanese Army's Unit 731, and of the story told in the film Nanjing Photo Studio. As emotion rises, his voice trembles slightly; students' eyes glisten with tears.

This is Liu Xiantao's very first lesson since graduating from Beijing Normal University and stepping into the teaching profession.

Liu Xiantao's first lesson of the semester, explaining the September 3 Military Parade

From student to teacher, Liu feels his greatest change has been a shift from "being cared for" to "caring for others". "The role has changed, the responsibility is heavier—but the sense of fulfillment is even greater," he says.

A native of Guizhou, the Excellent Teacher Program once took him out of the mountains to pursue his studies; a reply letter from the General Secretary strengthened his resolve to return home. "I have lived up to the General Secretary's expectations," he says with conviction.

On Teachers' Day, the school held a traditional apprenticeship ceremony. Standing shoulder to shoulder with his colleagues, Liu raised his right fist and took a solemn oath. Before them, students bowed three times—"first, to honor the teacher and respect the Way; second, to thank the teacher for imparting knowledge…" Liu's gaze sweeps across the young, earnest faces before him. In his heart, he quietly makes a vow: "That every child may find their place in society and stand, alive and confident, in the sunlight."

This is the educational ideal he set for himself on his very first Teachers' Day.

2 A Solemn Promise

At six o'clock in the morning, before dawn has lifted over Kangding, Sichuan, Xiao Ke is already prepared. It is her first Teachers' Day, and she is to speak on stage as a representative of new teachers at Kangding Middle School.

As she steps onto the podium, the speech in her hand is slightly crumpled from nervous grips. Having arrived on the plateau only recently, she must consciously slow her pace and adjust her breathing.

"Teachers and students…" Xiao Ke speaks of the General Secretary's reply letter, of her alma mater's motto—"Learn to be a teacher; act as a moral exemplar." Throughout, her eyes


On Teachers' Day, Xiao Ke addresses the audience as a representative of new teachers at Kangding Middle School

"My grandfather was once a rural teacher," she says softly. "He always told me that children in the mountains need teachers. That is why I came." Her voice pauses for a moment. She thinks of how her grandfather now looks forward each day to the videos she sends from Kangding—children reading aloud, chalk writing on the blackboard, the red flag fluttering over the playground. Each time, he says simply, "The children are wonderful. Teach them well."

Back in the classroom, Xiao Ke gently runs her hand over the lectern, her thoughts returning to a moment a few days earlier.

"Teacher, will you always teach us?" After class, a timid figure approached. She looked down to see a student with lowered head and clear, hesitant eyes.

She nodded firmly. "I will."

In that instant, memories surfaced of tearful farewells during earlier volunteer teaching stints—of children believing that "volunteer teachers always leave." That sentence had once pierced her heart like a thorn.

Now, standing at the lectern of Kangding Middle School, she can finally say with certainty: "I am not leaving."


Xiao Ke teaching in class

3 A Guiding Light

Standing at the lectern of her alma mater, Cengong No. 1 High School in Guizhou, Xiong Guojin feels his palms damp with sweat.

"Is the Earth a celestial body? What about the Sun?" The question instantly animates the geography class of Grade 10, Class 4.

He does not begin with definitions.

Instead, he switches on a flashlight, casting a beam across the blackboard to simulate sunlight striking the Earth. As he changes the angle, the light spot grows larger and smaller. "You see—at different latitudes, solar radiation is different." Eyes widen; understanding dawns.

This calm command of the classroom did not come naturally.

Xiong Guojin teaching in class

Zhang Ran with students of Bole Senior High School, Xinjiang

Throughout his studies, four words stayed with him: "learn well, return home." He absorbed cutting-edge educational theories with eagerness, and through discussions with mentors and peers, his teaching philosophy gradually took shape—not to pour knowledge in, but to ignite; not to instruct alone, but to illuminate.

He wrote his hometown's Sizhou pomelo into his lesson plans, weaving advanced geographic theories learned at university with local landscapes and lived experience. The result was a set of geography materials tailored specifically for Qiandongnan Prefecture.

"I walked out from here," he says. "The path I once took is the same path my students are on now. When I look at them, I see my own reflection—and, more than anything, hope. I hope my return can bring change."

Thinking of the General Secretary's words—"go where the country and the people need you most"—Xiong knows he has answered the call. Yet this, he believes, is only the beginning.

The beam of light in his hand connects the self who was illuminated four years ago with the many dreams now waiting to be lit.

4 A Blooming Flower

Zhang Ran, a young woman from Xinjiang, often thinks of her mother.

Her mother was a rural teacher. As a child, Zhang once complained that her mother gave most of her time to her students. Yet she still remembers how her mother's tired face would instantly bloom with pride when she showed off a handmade flower gifted by a student.

Now, standing at the lectern of Bole Senior High School in Xinjiang, Zhang finally understands.

Children in remote areas seldom have opportunities to see beyond their surroundings; their horizons are limited—and teachers are the guides. In class, Zhang explains the cell cytoskeleton through the structure of the Hong Kong–Zhuhai–Macao Bridge, and sparks interest in biology with images of the beloved white dolphin. "I want my students to know," she says, "that beyond the mountains lies the sea, and beyond the sea, an even wider world."

On September 9, after class, a student approached her and shyly revealed a flower from behind their back. "Teacher, am I the first to wish you a happy Teachers' Day?"

Zhang accepted the flower and nodded, a smile rising unconsciously to her lips. The flower was as beautiful as the handmade one her mother once received. "I hope," she thought, "to guard the dreams of children here, just as my mother did."

From a university campus by the South China Sea
to the three-foot lecterns of central and western China;
from "post-2000s" university students
to a new generation of rural teachers—
they are sparks of blazing light,
illuminating the dreams of countless children,
quietly bringing change to the land they serve.

"We have lived up to the General Secretary's expectations!" This is the shared conviction of Liu Xiantao, Xiao Ke, Xiong Guojin, and Zhang Ran—and the collective action of all students of the Excellent Teacher Program.

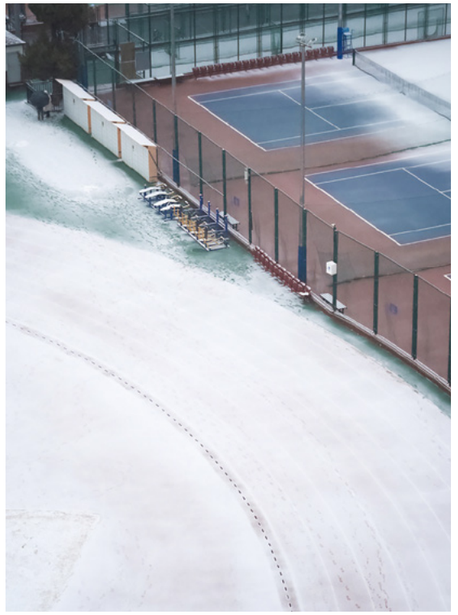


Photo from: BNU Weibo

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

Photo by: GUO Yimeng

北京師範大學
BEIJING NORMAL UNIVERSITY

Office of International Exchange & Cooperation
Beijing Normal University

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