

From dog to rabbit

5 years China Platform





Colophon

teksten
uitgave

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China Platform: an introduction

1. Origin

Over the last 20 years, a close cooperation has developed between Ghent University and various Chinese partner universities. Over the last decade, the interest in cooperation with China has grown strongly in several university departments.

Cooperation with China requires a thorough knowledge of Chinese society, language and culture. It often fails due to administrative obscurity and cultural differences. The growing importance of China on the world stage brings with it an abundance of academic opportunities, and UGent wants to realise these in an efficient manner. The need for an institution-wide coordination point for everything related to China at UGent led to the establishment of the China Platform within the university's International Relations Office in 2006.

Since then the cooperation, in both education and research, has grown continuously. As a partner country, China holds a crucial place in the university's internationalisation policy. The China Platform acts as the central point of contact for students, professors, researchers, embassies and governments, in all China-related affairs. The China Platform stimulates, facilitates and supports cooperation initiatives from UGent and from external partners.

In 2008, to better harmonise the academic, political and economic realities with regard to cooperation with China, the China Platform entered into a strategic partnership with the Province of East Flanders, the City of Ghent and the Flemish-Chinese Chamber of Commerce.

In principle, the term China Platform denotes two different entities. On the one hand, there is UGent's China Platform based in its International Relations Office, whose mission is to design and implement an institutional policy related to university educational cooperation and research. On the other hand, there is the

formal cooperation agreement between Ghent University and the Province of East Flanders, with the City of Ghent, the Port of Ghent and the Flemish-Chinese Chamber of Commerce acting as additional partners.

2. Strategic partnership

Since its establishment in 2006, the core objective of the China Platform involves a two-track policy: in addition to the university platform, the strategic partners strive to harmonise diverse international initiatives in order to profile the East Flanders region in China as an innovative knowledge-based region.

Some of the joint initiatives



1. Establishment of representation office in Beijing in 2008

With a view to strengthening its visibility in China, and to creating and perpetuating an extensive and permanent network of Chinese economic, institutional and academic partners, the Province of East Flanders and Ghent University joined forces and established a representation office in Beijing. The present representative is Domien Proost.



A local presence in China means closer contact with embassies, universities, government-bodies, companies and chambers of commerce. Personal contacts are very important for the success of any undertaking in China. The representation office

also offers direct assistance to incoming and outbound students and helps professors and researchers to find and transmit information.

The representation office also plays a crucial role in detecting and identifying strategic partner institutions, and in following trends in the Chinese (educational) landscape.

In the future, the representation office will also be involved in the development of an extensive alumni network, both of Chinese UGent alumni and of Belgian UGent alumni living in China.



2. Europalia 2009

In the framework of Europalia 2009, when China was the host country, UGent and the City of Ghent collaborated to organise a contemporary Chinese music festival which took place in the Vooruit art centre in Ghent.



3. East Flemish Week during the Shanghai World Expo 2010

An East Flemish Week was held in the Belgian-EU pavilion during the Shanghai World Expo in 2010. The programme included seminars and network events organised by various partners.

Two days were dedicated to UGent, with scientific seminars presented as follows:

Thursday, 26 August 2010

- **Belgian chocolates:the secrets of their quality and taste**
Prof. Dr. Ir. Frédéric Depypere and Prof. Dr. Ir. Koen Dewettinck – Laboratory of Food Technology and Engineering; Department of Food Safety and Food Quality, UGent Faculty of Bioscience Engineering
- **Building in concrete:the case of Shanghai**
Prof. Dr. Ir. Geert De Schutter and Prof. Dr. Ir. Luc Taerwe, Magnel Laboratory for Concrete Research, Department of Structural Engineering, UGent; Prof. Yuan, Department of Geotechnical Engineering, Tongji University, Shanghai
- **Food Safety:how to deal with veterinary drugs and mycotoxins**
Prof. Dr. Sarah De Saeger and Prof. Dr. Carlos Van Peteghem, Laboratory of Food Analysis, UGent; Dr.Françoise Van Hove and Dr.Françoise Munaut, Mycotèque de l'Université Catholique de Louvain (MUCU); Prof Zhang Dabing, Shanghai Jiaotong University;Mr Xie Minqiang, Deputy Director of Shanghai Municipal Food and Drug Administration

Friday, 27 August 2010

- **Building the bio-based economy in Ghent Bio Energy Valley**
Dr. Ir. Margriet Drouillon, Technology Developer, Ghent Bio-Energy Valley, UGent, Prof. Dr. Ir. Roland Verhé, Organic Chemistry,UGent
- **The global capacities of cities:the changing position of megacities in transnational networks**
Prof. Dr. Ben Derudder, Human Geography, UGent and Prof. Dr. Frank Witlox, Economic Geography, UGent

— **Working together for better health tomorrow: findings from collaborative research projects between the EU and China**

Prof. Dr. Marleen Temmerman, Department of Uro-Gynaecology; Dr. Zhang Weihong, International Center for Reproductive Health, UGent; Prof. Qian Xu, Fudan University Shanghai

3. China Platform within Ghent University's International Relations Office

Within UGent, the China Platform aims for the dynamic and coherent conduct of all activities connected with cooperation with China. Specifically this includes supporting students and faculties in their initiatives and projects related to China:

Incoming Chinese students and researchers are guided through administrative procedures related to obtaining a visa, accommodation, registration at UGent, APS screening, extension of residence permits, etc. The China Platform regularly dovetails its activities with other UGent departments such as student administration, the personnel department and research coordination. Chinese students and researchers are also encouraged to become involved in ongoing activities, answer third-party questions (e.g. the media) and apply for vacancies for which they qualify. The China Platform works closely with Chisag (the Chinese Student Association of Ghent).

The China Platform offers support to professors and researchers in facilitating and establishing contacts with Chinese institutions and individual cooperation partners. It also offers incentives for exploratory visits and other activities in China.

The role of the China Platform is not limited to a supportive function: central initiatives are also taken with a view to starting up new education and research projects. These are achieved by opening up new forms of cooperation and by maintaining and consolidating existing contacts with Chinese partners, governments and embassies. As a result, relevant information can be exchanged immediately so we can capitalise on current events, new trends, calls for newly announced funding and exchange initiatives in an efficient manner. Based on



China Platform: an introduction

these networks and the expertise of the China Platform, we were able to enter into the Erasmus Mundus calls, which led to the LiSUM and Lotus exchange projects. Both projects are discussed in detail later in this publication.

Some of the initiatives of the China Platform:

- Tuition fee vouchers for all Chinese PhD students and reimbursement of enrolment fees for defending PhD thesis
- Reimbursement of the costs of APS screening for Chinese students that actually enrol at UGent
- A co-funding programme in collaboration with the Research Department for Chinese PhD students with a CSC (China Scholarship Council) scholarship. This co-funding covers travel expenses, accommodation, insurance and bench fees.

These measures ensure that UGent becomes more attractive to Chinese students and a financial contribution enables Chinese PhD students with a CSC scholarship to study in Ghent because CSC considers a tuition fee waiver by the recipient university a minimum requirement for a scholarship request.

The China Platform is also a point of contact (and in many cases an important partner) with regard to China-related matters within UGent for third parties such as the Chinese diplomatic representation in Belgium and the Chinese representation at the EU, the Taipei Representative Office, for research institutions (e.g. the European Institute for Asian Studies – EIAS) and other universities and institutions of higher education, the media, companies, etc.

Combining academic, political-diplomatic and economic expertise related to China will translate into more resources and more opportunities for UGent, and by extension for all parties involved, in the long run. The China Platform aims to remain a point of contact, literally a platform, in which all partners can exchange ideas and information and can start up concrete initiatives.

One of the main objectives for the near future is developing an active alumni network of Chinese UGent alumni (and by extension other international alumni).

Chinese UGent-Alumni Association

In Spring 2011, the China Platform established an alumni-association for all Chinese students, researchers and visiting scholars who have spent some time at Ghent University.

The Chinese UGent-alumni Association is not limited to those who graduated at Ghent University; it includes all Chinese students, researchers and visiting professors who spent at least one month at Ghent University in the framework of a degree, exchange, or other institutional cooperation programme at higher education level (such as Erasmus Mundus).

The mission of the Chinese Alumni Association of Ghent University is to foster a mutually beneficial relationship between the university and its Chinese alumni. For former students and researchers who studied at Ghent University, the association allows them to keep in contact with the university and to perpetuate engagement with it and the education it provides. The association also promotes, in partnership and through frequent communication and engagement in relevant activities, a positive image of Ghent University in China. In addition, the association allows Ghent University to keep track of the professional careers taken by Chinese UGent-alumni.

The association operates in close cooperation with the Faculty Commission for Internationalization, Student Administration and via other channels, the central Ghent University alumni-database, and the Econsort group 'Ghent University International Alumni'. The Chinese social network site www.renren.com is also involved.

Among the association's objectives are:

- To keep in touch with former students and visitors and promote contacts between them, and to promote the image of Ghent University

- To provide current students and alumni with opportunities to relate with one another, participate in continuing education programmes and stay informed about Ghent University.
- To serve as a bridge between Ghent University and the alumni in their professional careers, e.g. by means of distributing vacancies and attending in network events.
- To promote the contribution of the Chinese UGent-alumni as ambassadors of Ghent University and as active partners in the recruitment of future students.

To reach these objectives, the China Platform will closely cooperate with its Representative Office in Beijing.

Some **future activities and actions** are:

- Newsletter (twice a year)
- Promoting initiatives for lifelong learning
- For Chinese UGent-alumni in China:
 - engaging them in UGent missions and delegations to China
 - annual reunion in China
- For Chinese UGent-alumni in Belgium:
 - annual reunion in Ghent
 - (in cooperation with Hudson) annual CV training for final-year masters and PhD students to help them strengthen their position on the job market in Belgium/Europe. This was successfully organized for the first time in April 2011.





Activity report: achievements, events, missions and delegations

2005–2006

- An initial faculty-based inquiry was carried out at UGent to probe the needs for and objectives of faculty-based cooperation with China.
- The China Platform website (www.ugent.be/china) was launched in Dutch, English and Chinese.
- Faculties of UGent were given frequent assistance when developing (new) bilateral agreements and searching for new cooperation. A concrete example of this was Prof. Dr. Sorgeloos' aquaculture project. The China Platform participated in the discussions in Shanghai upon the request of Shanghai Fisheries University (1-2 July 2006).
- The CP supported UGent's Sinology department in the development of its China semester at Liaoning University (via bilateral agreement) and with the problem with funding Chinese lecturers.
- On 16 May 2006 UGent welcomed the Chinese ambassador, Mrs Zhang Qiyue,. The visit included a public lecture, visits to the 'Book Tower' and Sinology department and a dinner with the UGent executive board.



- On 20 May 2006 UGent welcomed the head of the Cultural Division of the Taipei Representative Office in Brussels, who took lunch with the Rector.
- 30 May 2006 saw the official press launch of the China Platform.
- The International Relations Office and the CP welcomed an education delegation from Hebei province, which included several members of the Chinese Examination Institute.
- On 21-22 August 2006 UGent welcomed the Rector of Beijing University and the director of the Chinese National Centre for Gene Research. On August 21 there was a visit to the Sinology department by the Languages and Cultures of South and East Asia department, followed by an official inter-faculty meeting. On August 22 the Rector's party paid an extensive visit to the Molecular Biotechnology department of the Bio-Engineering Sciences Faculty, and to the Flemish Institute for Biotechnology.

2006–2007



- The official opening of the China Platform took place on 27 November 2006, in presence of Ambassador Zhang. The event, which included a public lecture and reception, was co-organised with the Law faculty, celebrating the 25th anniversary of its cooperation with the East China University of Politics and Law on the same day. Since 1 January 2007 the China Platform has been the point of contact within UGent for information distribution related to the implementation of APS screening for Chinese students. Prof. Em. Hendrik Ferdinande was (and still is) delegated to work at the APS administration in Beijing. The China Platform is also represented in the steering committee of the Flemish Ministry for Education, which supervises the entire APS process.

- Several meetings with the Province of East Flanders, the City of Ghent and the Flemish-Chinese Chamber of Commerce (in close consultation with the Sinology department) resulted in the China Platform Forum Meeting on 27 April 2007, when the four parties signed a Cooperation Protocol which established the guidelines for a mutual China strategy.
- 27 May to 2 June 2007: Rector Prof. Dr. Paul Van Cauwenberge's mission to Taiwan. This trip, which included visits to various institutions of higher education, was requested by the Taipei Representative Office after the meeting of May 2006 (see above). The mission was very successful and resulted in cooperation agreements with the National Taiwan University, the Academia Sinica and the Dharma Drum Buddhist College. On 3-4 November 2007 UGent was represented at the EHEF education fair in Taipei by Prof. Dr. Bart Dessein and Prof. Dr. Ann Heirman, who also made follow-up visits to the three institutions that had signed agreements in May.
- UGent was the only Flemish university to participate in the royal trade mission to China (June 16-23). Prof. Dr. Luc Moens, vice-rector, was accompanied by professors from the Sinology department and other partners of the China Platform on this mission. During the trip, a number of important cooperation agreements were concluded, including those with Liaoning University, Shenyang Institute of Chemical Technology and Northeastern University. The first of these includes the China semester. This is an arrangement, unique among Belgium universities, whereby, for the first time, Flemish BA students can earn credits in China for a semester. In addition to concluding agreements, there was also a meeting with the Chinese Ministry of Education and several strategic partner institutions were visited.
- At the request of Prof. Dr. P. Sorgeloos in June 2007, the China Platform helped organise a conference in the framework of the 'ChinAquaFishNet'. The conference took place on August 30-31. It was followed by an academic ceremony.



- The fast spread and increased name recognition of the China Platform in the business world resulted in an honorary chairmanship at the Day of the Shipper ('China – logistically demystified'), a conference organised by O.T.M., the Belgian association of shippers, that took place during the Transport Fair at Antwerp Expo on 26 September 2007. Furthermore, questions from the business world were sent via the Flemish-Chinese Chamber of Commerce to the China Platform. VOKA has also called upon the China Platform with respect to the possibility of allowing Master students to do a dissertation on a FIT (Flanders Investment & Trade) sponsored research project about the market penetration of Flemish SME's on the Chinese market.
- On September 28 the China Platform participated in an info session organised by FIT related to the 'Flanders-China Eco Cluster' (FCEC), which is active in the area of environmental technology and sustainable energy. As a result, the China Platform started preparations for a UGent delegation to participate in an Eco Cluster trip to China (November 2007).

2007–2008

- In this year, in collaboration with the Research Coordination department, a scholarship programme was worked out and implemented with the China Scholarship Council (CSC). As a result, seven Chinese PhD students in receipt of a CSC scholarship received additional financing. To better harmonise the different procedures in China and Ghent in the academic year 2008-2009, the China Platform regularly consulted with the CSC. Internally, within UGent, bottlenecks with regard to recruiting Chinese PhD students were identified via intensive collaboration with the Department of Research Affairs.
- Good contacts with the Chinese embassy were further maintained and expanded. Various formal and informal meetings took place. On February 13 there was a lunch meeting with the embassy's Education Section. In March there was a joint meeting with representation from the embassy and Chisag, the Chinese Student Association Ghent.
- Ties with Chisag were strengthened and expanded. Regular consultations led to a number of policy decisions, including the awarding of a tuition fee



voucher for all Chinese PhD students.

- In May UGent welcomed a top-level delegation from Liaoning University, where the China Semester takes place. The university's strong ties with Liaoning University were enhanced considerably. After agreements with the Arts & Philosophy and Sciences faculties, the China Platform agreed to examine how cooperation with this strategic partner in Northern China could be expanded.
- At the end of May a delegation from the Shenyang Institute of Chemical Technology visited UGent in the framework of their cooperation with Prof. Dr. F. Verpoort. They visited the Technology Park at Zwijnaarde and other sites.
- June was the highlight of the 2007-2008 academic year: on June 5 Prof. Dr. Luc Moens, vice-rector, and vice governor Marc De Buck inaugurated the permanent representation office in Beijing, which was established in association with the Province of East Flanders. The current chief representative is Domien Proost.
- Good contacts with the European Institute for Asian Studies (EIAS, Brussels) resulted in a cooperation agreement between UGent and the EIAS, which was signed in early 2009.
- On July 16 the first consultations were held with Europalia about organising the 2009 festival, when China was slated to be the host country.

2008–2009

- Formal and informal contacts with the Chinese embassy were pursued. On November 6 a meeting was organised with the education department of the Chinese embassy.
- On November 3 there was a meeting with the new education advisor at the Taipei representation in Brussels.

- In December the rector visited the China semester students at Liaoning University. During the trip he also visited the Shenyang Institute of Chemical Technology in Shenyang and agreements were signed with Yanshan University and Peking University.
- The China Platform was also represented when delegations visited UGent: a delegation of veterinarians visited the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine; the Chinese sports brand Lining visited the Kinematics department; a delegation from the Communication University of China (Beijing) visited the Communication Sciences department.



2009–2010

- Meetings took place with two Chinese partner institutions: Shanghai Jiaotong University, Nanjing Agricultural University.
- A delegation from Chinese Ministry of Science and Technology was welcomed.
- August 2010: UGent played a part during the East Flemish Week in the Belgian pavilion at the Shanghai World Expo. Many diverse meetings and networking activities with and for Chinese partner institutions took place during this month, including the organisation of a number of scientific seminars and the visit of a UGent delegation to Tongji University.
- November 19: A 'EU-China Day' was organised in cooperation with the Chinese Embassy to the European Union. Chinese diplomats gave lectures about EU-China relationships from their various perspectives.
- November: The Taipei representation was welcomed in response to the books that were donated to the Oriental Languages and Cultures department.



2010–2011

- March 23: performance by the Ming Yang acrobatic group from Hebei Province, on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the relations between the provinces of East Flanders and Hebei.
- April: Workshop on job interviews and CVs for Chinese students (final year Master's degree students and PhD students) entering the European job market, in cooperation with Hudson.
- May: Job Fair for Chinese students in association with the Flemish-Chinese Chamber of Commerce (VCKK).
- May: participation in the Conference on Cooperation in Higher Education at Beijing University and participation in the Guangzhou Education Expo.



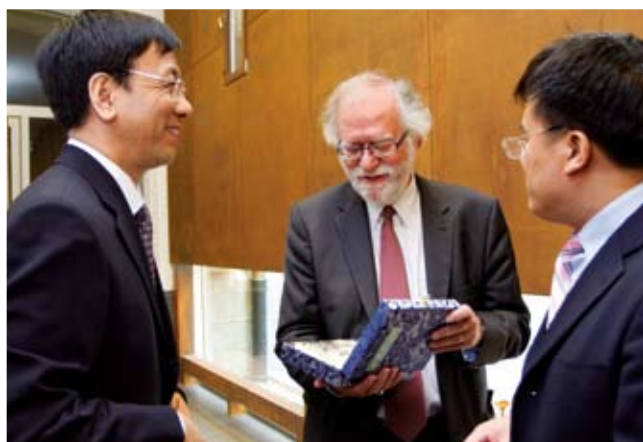
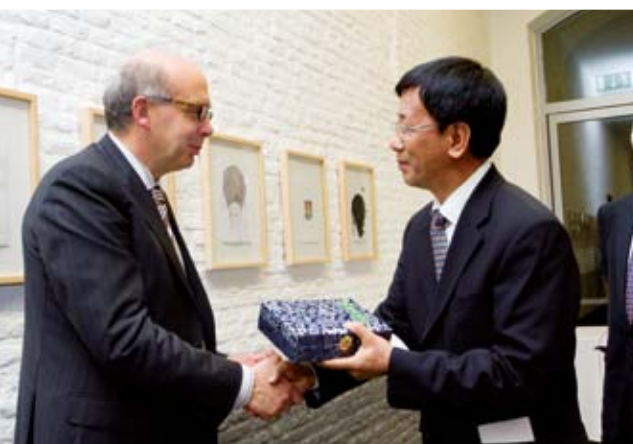
— September: activities related to the 20th anniversary of the relations between the provinces of East Flanders and Hebei: official visit by the Education Section of the Hebei provincial government, accompanied by Yanshan University and Hebei Normal University, with a specific focus on Biotechnology. The delegation visited the Flemish Institute for Biotechnology, the Faculty of Bioscience Engineering and the Biotechnology department at Ghent University College

— October: participation in the Belgium-China Education Forum at Beijing University as part of the Economic Mission to China led by HRH Crown Prince Philippe. Participation in the International Higher Education Fairs in Beijing and Qingdao.

— Participation in the official visit by the Province of East Flanders to Hebei: meetings at Yanshan University, Hebei Normal University and Hebei University of Science and Technology in the field of Bioscience Engineering (Prof. Dr. Nico Boon).







Partner universities in China

Ghent University has concluded bilateral agreements with a large number of Chinese universities. These agreements create opportunities for student and staff mobility. To facilitate this mobility, and to guarantee continuity and activate new initiatives, the International Relations Office provides funding. The budget is divided between the faculties, with management at central level. It is the decision of the faculty, in accordance with central guidelines, as to which activities within the framework of agreements can be supported.

There are different types of agreement. The two main types are:

- A Memorandum of Understanding is an institutional, general and formal agreement, concluded for a maximum period of 3 years
- A Cooperation Agreement creates opportunities for student and staff mobility.

What follows is a list of Chinese partners with whom Ghent University has concluded bilateral agreements.



Beijing University 北京大学



International Relations Office
5 Yiheyuan Road, 100871 Beijing
Tel: +86 10 6275 2114
Website: <http://www.pku.edu.cn>
Email: study@pku.edu.cn



Founded in 1898, Peking University (PKU) was the first national comprehensive university in China. It consists of 30 colleges and 12 departments, and has a balanced combination of teaching and research. The main disciplines are Applied Sciences, Social Sciences and Humanities, Medicine, Management and Education.

Within the framework of the successful first round LISUM program, PKU has sent 26 students, ranging from undergraduates to doctoral students, to 10 European partner universities for a period of 6 to 10 months, and has received 6 European exchange students in return. On this basis, PKU has strengthened its relations with Europe, and will now be expanding cooperation to third Asian countries within the Lotus project.



Kind of cooperation:

1. Erasmus Mundus Action 2 LiSUM partner
2. Erasmus Mundus Action 2 Lotus partner (application as from 17/8/2010)
3. Cooperation Agreement since 18/12/2009 – 5 years / Open for all faculties
Addendum since 20/06/2011 with the Institute for Social Economy and Culture / Faculty of Arts and Philosophy – Prof. Dr. Ann Heirman (Department of Languages and Cultures of South and East Asia) and Prof. Dr. Eric Vanhaute (Department of History)
4. Initial contacts with Law school (Prof. Dr. De Wulf – Faculty of Law)

Beijing Language and Culture University 北京语言文化大学

15 Xueyuan Road, Haidian District
Beijing, 100083
Tel: +86 10-82303617
Website: <http://www.blcu.edu.cn>



Since its foundation in 1962, Beijing Language and Culture University (BLCU) has been the main Chinese university for teaching Chinese language and culture to foreign students.

Meanwhile BLCU has widened its disciplinary scope and now covers a wide range of fields including Literature, Economics, Law, Engineering and Management.

Kind of cooperation:

1. Cooperation agreement since 07/02/2001 (5+5 years)
2. Faculty of Arts and Philosophy –Prof. Dr. Bart Dessein
(Department of Languages and Cultures of South and East Asia)

Beijing Normal University

北京师范大学

Jingshi Building, 9910 Xijiekouwai Street
Beijing 100875
Tel: +86 10-58808285
Website: <http://www.bnu.edu.cn>



Founded in 1902, Beijing Normal University (BNU) is one of China's earliest-established higher education institutions and since its outset has been known as one of the major institutions offering educational sciences. At present, after several bouts of reorganisation, the top disciplines at BNU include Psychology, Pre-School Education, Special Needs Education, Chinese Language and Culture, and Historical Studies.

Kind of cooperation:

1. Cooperation agreement with Faculty of Education since 19/03/2007
– 5 years
Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences – Prof. Dr. Valcke
(Department of Educational Studies)
2. Cooperation agreement with School of History since 24/01/2011 – 5 years
Faculty of Arts and Philosophy – Prof. Dr. Ann Heirman (Department
of Languages and Cultures of South and East Asia)

China University of Geosciences 中国地质大学

29 Xueyuan Road
Beijing 1000875
Tel: +86-10-8210 5697
Website: <http://www.cugb.edu.cn/>

As a multi-disciplinary national key university, China University of Geosciences is one of China's main centres for the educational training of geological researchers. It has evolved an educational programme emphasizing the connection between education and geology, natural resources, environment and geological engineering. Its disciplinary scope has recently been widened and now includes the fields of pure sciences, engineering, management, teacher training, law and arts.

Kind of cooperation:

1. Cooperation agreement since 16/05/2011 – 5 years
2. Faculty of Sciences – Prof. Dr. Marc De Batist (Department of Geology and Soil Science)

Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences 中国农业科学院

12 Zhongguancun Nandajie
100081 Beijing
Tel: +86 10 6215 2115
Website: <http://www.gscaas.net.cn>
Email: studyincaas@caas.net.cn / international@caas.net.cn



The Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS) is a national agricultural research institution, covering both basic and applied sciences, as well as new and advanced application technology. CAAS focuses its research mainly on strategic technological issues in agriculture and rural economic development. It has also established a good reputation in the training of researchers, in the integration of agriculture within science and technology, and in its development of extensive international exchanges and cooperation in the fields of agricultural sciences and technology.

Kind of cooperation:

1. Cooperation agreement since 12/10/2010 (5 years)
2. Faculty of Sciences – Prof. Dr. Dominique Van Der Straeten
(Department of Physiology)

Communication University of China

中国传媒大学

1 Dingfuzhuang East Street
Chaoyang District
Beijing, 100024
Tel: + 86 10-65779326
Website: <http://www.cuc.edu.cn>



The Communication University of China (CUC) has trained numerous personnel for the Chinese media industry and made a significant contribution to the country's media business. CUC focuses on Journalism and Communication, Radio, Film and Television Arts, and Information Science and Technology. It has earned a national and international reputation in research on information communication and is renowned for its research on digital broadcasting technology.

Kind of cooperation:

1. Memorandum of Understanding since 25/11/2008 – 3 years
2. Faculty of Political and Social Sciences – Prof. Dr. Karin Raeymaeckers
(Department of Communication Studies)

China Agricultural University 中国农业大学

No. 2 Yuanmingyuan Xilu
Beijing, 100193
Tel: +86-10-6273 3156
Website: <http://www.cau.edu.cn>
Email: yangxr@mail.caas.net.cn



Partner universities in China

China Agricultural University (CAU) has its focus on agricultural sciences and engineering. CAU traces its history back to 1905, when it was founded by the merger of three colleges of agriculture (College of Agriculture of Peking University, College of Agriculture of Tsinghua University and College of Agriculture of North China University). As a key national multi-disciplinary university, it also has strong interests in humanities, physics, economics and law.

Kind of cooperation:

1. Cooperation agreement – Erasmus Mundus partnership programme
(Action 3) 15/07/06 – 15/07/09 – 3 years
Faculty of Bioscience Engineering – Prof. Dr. Van Huylenbroeck
Case study organization in the framework of the International Master's programme for Rural Development (IMRD), in collaboration with the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (Beijing) and Nanjing Agricultural University.
The agreement included both student and scholar exchange (see Nanjing Agricultural University for more detail) Incoming scholars from CAU-CASS:
Prof. Dr. Tan Quicheng (1/3/2007 – 31/05/2007)
2. Specific Agreement – formal partner within the IMRD-Consortium
(EM, Action 1) 01/09/10 – 31/10/2016
The partnership involves the exchange of students for participation in course modules and/or for master's dissertation research, as well as academic staff exchange for teaching and mutual research.

Dalian University of Technology

大连理工大学



2 Linggong Rd, Gangjingzi District
Dalian 116024
Tel: +86 411 8470 7801
Website: <http://www.dlut.edu.cn>
Email: office@dlut.edu.cn



Dalian University of Technology (DUT) concentrates mainly on technology and engineering sciences. Other disciplines include applied sciences and economic management, law and social sciences. At a research level, DUT has 4 national key laboratories, a national science park and a technology transfer centre.

Kind of cooperation:

1. Memorandum of Understanding since 07/10/2008 – 3 years
2. Cooperation Agreement since 24/08/2009 – 5 years
Faculty of Engineering and Architecture – Prof. Dr. Roel Baets
(Department of Information Technology)

East China University of Politics and Law

华东政法大学

1575 WanHang Du Road
Shanghai 200042
Tel: +86 21-62071789
Website: <http://www.ecupl.edu.cn>
Email: iec@ecupl.edu.cn



Founded in 1952, East China University of Politics and Law (ECUPL) is one China's first institutions of political sciences and law. Over the last decade, ECUPL has gradually developed into a multidisciplinary university covering law, economics, finance and management.

ECUPL has 4 LLD programs: legal historiography, criminal jurisprudence, economic jurisprudence and international law. Furthermore it has 9 LLM programmes of law: theories of law, legal historiography, constitutional jurisprudence, administrative jurisprudence, criminal jurisprudence, civil and commercial jurisprudence, procedural law, economic jurisprudence and international jurisprudence, environment and resources protection.

Kind of cooperation:

1. Agreement on international scientific exchange 01/10/2007 – 6 years
2. Faculty of Law – Prof. Dr. H. Bocken (Department of Civil Law)
LLM Program in European Law



Fudan University 复旦大学

220 Handan Road
Shanghai 200433
Tel: +86 21 6564 2262
Website: <http://fudan.edu.cn>
Email: icese@fudan.edu.cn



As one of China's top universities, Fudan University is a comprehensive university consisting of 17 schools and 4 independent departments (Physics, Chemistry, Macromolecular Science, and Environmental Science and Engineering). Since the 1950s Fudan has enrolled international students, one of the first few institutions in China to do so.

Kind of cooperation:

1. Cooperation agreement since 27/08/2008 – 5 years
Faculty of Arts and Philosophy – Prof. Dr. Bart Dessein (Department of Languages and Cultures of South and East Asia) Open for all faculties
2. Contacts with Fudan Centre for Advanced Study in Social Sciences
Prof. Dr. Hans De Wulf (Faculty of Law) and Prof. Dr. Marc Van Hoecke (Founding Member of the Academic Committee of the National Institute for Advanced Study on Social Sciences of Fudan)

Harbin Engineering University

哈尔滨工程大学

145 Nantong Street
Harbin 150001
Tel: +86 451 8251 9213
Website: <http://english.hrbeu.edu.cn>



Harbin Engineering University defines its distinctive position by specializing in shipping industry, ocean exploration and nuclear application. By implementing a series of reforms in teaching, scientific research and information management systems, Harbin is expanding its role as a comprehensive international university and now comprises 15 colleges.

Kind of cooperation:

1. Cooperation agreement since 29/06/2010 (5 years)
2. Faculty of Engineering and Architecture– Prof. Dr. Robain De Keyser
(Department of Electrical Energy, Systems and Automation)

Institute of Applied Ecology (Chinese Academy of Sciences)
中国科学院沈阳应用生态研究所

72 Wenhua Road
Shenyang 110000
Tel: + 86-24-8397 0304
Website: <http://english.iae.cas.cn/au>
Email: syiae@iae.ac.cn



The Institute of Applied Ecology is engaged in research on forest ecology and forestry eco-engineering, soil ecology and agricultural eco-engineering, pollution ecology and environmental eco-engineering. Within these fields of research, the main focus is on the rational utilization and protection of natural resources, the improvement of the eco-environment and the sustainable development of forestry and agriculture.

Kind of cooperation:

1. Cooperation agreement since 06/12/2010 (5 years)
2. Faculty of Bioscience Engineering – Prof. Dr. Walter Steurbaut and
Prof. Dr. Pieter Spanoghe (Department of Crop protection)



Liaoning University 辽宁大学

66 Chongshan Middle Road
Shenyang 110036
Tel: + 86 24 6220 2508
Website: <http://www.en.lnu.edu.cn>
Email: zsk@lnu.edu.cn



In the course of the last 50 years, Liaoning University has grown into a multidisciplinary, comprehensive university, embracing 15 colleges, amongst which are Chinese language and literature, history, philosophy, economics, law, foreign languages, art, natural sciences, engineering and management.

Each year, an average of 20 UGent Sinology undergraduates spend one semester of their 3rd year studies at Liaoning.

Kind of cooperation:

1. Cooperation agreement since 26/04/2010 – 5 years
Faculty of Arts and Philosophy – Prof. Dr. Ann Heirman (Department of Languages and Cultures of South and East Asia)
2. Cooperation agreement since 20/06/2007 – 5 years
Faculty of Sciences – Prof. Dr. Verpoort (Department of Inorganic and Physical Chemistry)
3. China Semester for Sinology students (3rd year BA)

Nanjing University 南京大学

22 Hankou Road
Nanjing 210093
Tel: +86 25 8359 2606
Website: <http://www.nju.edu.cn>
Email: issd@nju.edu.cn



Nanjing University (NJU) dates back to 1902, with the merging of the arts and sciences schools of National Nanjing University and the University of Nanking. NJU is a key comprehensive university, consisting of 45 departments, of which 3 are officially designated research bases for humanities and social sciences.

Partner universities in China

In the domestic academic circle, NJU is a pioneer in promoting international academic exchanges and has established academic collaboration with research institutes and universities in over 20 countries.

Kind of cooperation:

1. Erasmus Mundus Action 2 LiSUM partner
2. Erasmus Mundus Action 2 Lotus partner(application as from 17/8/2010)

Nanjing Normal University 南京师范大学

122 Ninghai Road
Nanjing 210097
Tel: +86 25 8372 8418
Website: <http://english.nnu.cn/>



Nanjing Normal University (NNU) has been established after several mergers of institutes for educational studies. NNU is now a comprehensive university which is already developing a reputation as the cradle for advanced teacher education in China.

Kind of cooperation:

1. Cooperation agreement since 20/05/2008 – 5 years
2. Faculty of Law and Philosophy – Prof. Dr. Bart Dessein (Department of Languages and Cultures of South and East Asia)



Nanjing Agricultural University 南京农业大学

College of Public Administration
Nanjing, 210095
Tel: +86 25 84395078
Website: <http://clm.njau.edu.cn>



Nanjing Agricultural University is one of the pioneers in modern agricultural education and research. Its main disciplines are Agriculture, Food Science,

Partner universities in China

Animal Science and Technology, Horticulture and Plant Protection. It has established an international reputation for research.

Kind of cooperation:

Partner university in the Erasmus Mundus **Master Program** IMRD
(International Master for Rural Development)

Faculty of Bioscience Engineering – Prof. Dr. Van Huylenbroeck

1. Cooperation agreement – Erasmus Mundus partnership programme
(Action 3) 15/07/06 – 15/07/09 – 3 years
Case study organization in the framework of the IMRD
2. Exchange in the framework of the Erasmus Mundus partnership programme
(Action 2, visiting scholars)
3. Specific Agreement as formal partner within the IMRD-Consortium
(EM, Action 1) 01/09/10 – 31/10/2016

This partnership involves exchange of students for participation in course modules and/or for master's dissertation research, as well as academic staff exchange for teaching and mutual research.

Northeastern University 东北大学

3-11, Wenhua Road

Shenyang 110819

Tel: +86 24 8368 7413

Website: http://www.neu.edu.cn/files/english_index.htm



Northeastern University is a multi-disciplinary university with its main emphasis on engineering. While maintaining traditional disciplines such as mining, material science, metallurgy and mechanical sciences, Northeastern University has made headway in a number of new cross-disciplinary disciplines such as automation, computer science and other high-tech disciplines.

Kind of cooperation:

1. Cooperation agreement since 20/06/2007 – 5 years
2. Faculty of Sciences – Prof. Dr. Francis Verpoort (Department of Inorganic and Physical Chemistry)
Open for all faculties

Ocean University of China

中国海洋大学

238 Songlin Road
Qingdao 266100
Tel: +86 532 66786552
Website: <http://www.ouc.edu.cn/>



Ocean University of China (OUC) is a comprehensive university with its strength in oceanography and fisheries science. Apart from these main disciplines, OUC offers courses in Science, Engineering, Agronomy (Fisheries), Economics and Liberal Arts.

Kind of cooperation:

1. Memorandum of Understanding since 26/03/2007 – 3 years
2. Faculty of Bioscience Engineering – Prof. Dr. Patrick Sorgeloos (Department of Animal Production)



Qinghai Normal University

青海师范大学

38 Wusi Street Xinning
Qinghai 810008
Tel: 86-971-6307640
Website: <http://www.qhnu.edu.cn>



Qinghai Normal University specializes in educational studies, with a strong focus on adult higher education and minority language training.

Kind of cooperation:

1. Cooperation agreement since 19/09/2009 – 5 years
2. Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences – Prof. Dr. Martin Valcke (Department of Educational Studies)
Open for all faculties



Renmin University 人民大学

59 Zhongguancun Street
Beijing 100872
Tel: 86-10-8250 9527
Website: <http://english.ruc.edu.cn/en/>



Renmin University (RUC) is a comprehensive research-oriented institution. RUC's strengths are in the humanities and social sciences. However, RUC also embraces disciplines in the area of natural sciences. It has a strong international perspective and is renowned for actively promoting exchange programmes.

Kind of cooperation:

1. Cooperation agreement since June 2011
2. Faculty of Arts and Philosophy – Prof. Dr. Bart Dessein and Prof. Dr. Ann Heirman (Department of Languages and Cultures of South and East Asia)
Open for all faculties

Shanghai Jiaotong University 上海交通大学

1954 Huashan Road
Shanghai, 200030
Tel: +86 21-62932414
Website: <http://www.sjtu.edu.cn>



Founded in 1896, Shanghai Jiaotong University (SJTU) is one of China's oldest and largest institutions of higher education. At present SJTU has 31 schools, 63 undergraduate departments, 250 master's-degree programmes, 203 PhD programmes, 28 post-doctorate programmes and 11 key state laboratories and national engineering research centres.

Kind of cooperation:

1. Cooperation agreement since 01/06/2010 – 5 years
2. Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences – Prof. Dr. Sarah De Saeger (Department of Bio-analysis)
Open for all faculties.

Shanghai Ocean University 上海海洋大学

999 Hucheng Huan Road
Shanghai 201306
Tel: +86 021 6190 0286
Website: <http://eng.shou.edu.cn/>



Since its establishment in 1912, Shanghai Ocean University has been associated with aquaculture, food science, fishery economics and fishery laws. It now further focuses on multiple disciplines, including agriculture, pure sciences, engineering, economics, arts and management.

The university consists of 9 schools: Fishery, Oceanology, Food Science, Economics and Trade, Information, Humanities, Further Education, Vocational and Technical Education.

Kind of cooperation:

1. Cooperation agreement since 20/10/2009 – 5 years
2. Faculty of Bioscience Engineering – Prof. Dr. Patrick Sorgeloos
(Department of Animal Production)

Shenyang Institute of Chemical Technology 沈阳化工学院

11th Street, Shenyang Economic &
Technological Development Zone
Tel: +86 24 8938 8213



Shenyang Institute of Chemical Technology (SICT) was founded in 1952 and specializes in engineering and technology. SICT is composed of several colleges and departments: the College of Chemical Engineering, Applied Chemistry, Environmental and Biological Engineering, Material Sciences & Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Information Engineering, Computer Science & Technology, Economics Administration, Keya College, College of Adult Education, Department of Foreign Languages, Department of Mathematics and Science, Department of postgraduates, Social Science and Department of Physical Education.

Kind of cooperation:

1. Cooperation agreement since 20/06/2007 – 5 years
2. Faculty of Sciences-Prof. Dr. Francis Verpoort (Department of Inorganic and Physical Chemistry)

Sichuan University 四川大学

17 People's South Road
Chengdu 610041
Tel: +86 28 8599 5000
Website: <http://www.scu.edu.cn>



Sichuan University, being the largest and most important research-oriented university in West China, has a comprehensive range of disciplines covering 11 categories. These are liberal arts, science, engineering, medicine, economy, management, law, history, philosophy, agriculture and education.

Through the Lisum project, Sichuan University has strengthened its relations with European institutions and has gained a good reputation for its strong international focus. Intensive cooperation with Ghent University has resulted in Sichuan's participation in the Lotus project, involving Southeast Asian universities, among which are 3 Chinese institutions.

Kind of cooperation:

1. Erasmus Mundus Action 2 LiSUM partner
2. Erasmus Mundus Action 2 Lotus partner (application as from 17/8/2010)
3. Memorandum of Understanding since 28/08/2009 – 3 years
Open for all faculties

Sichuan Normal University 四川师范大学

5 Jing An Road
Chengdu 610068
Tel: +86 28-84760661
Website: <http://web.sicnu.edu.cn>



The origin of Sichuan Normal University (SNU) can be traced back to the merger of several institutes for educational sciences into the Sichuan Teachers' College in 1952. SNU now is a comprehensive university comprising 18 colleges, amongst which the colleges of Continuing Education, Chinese Language & Literature and Mathematics & Software are the most renowned.

Kind of cooperation:

1. Cooperation agreement since 09/06/2009 – 5 years
2. Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences – Prof. Dr. Valcke
(Department of Educational Studies)

South China Normal University

华南师范大学

55 Zhongshan Avenue West
Guangdong 510631, Guangzhou province
Tel: +86 20 8521 2131
Website: <http://www.scnu.edu.cn>



South China Normal University is a comprehensive university, with a focus on educational sciences. The university comprises 24 schools, covering a wide range of disciplines such as philosophy, economics, law, education, literature, history, science, engineering, and management.

Kind of cooperation:

1. Cooperation agreement since 25/06/2008 – 5 years
2. Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences – Prof. Dr. Martin Valcke
(Department of Educational Studies)
Open for all faculties

Southwest University of Political Science & Law
西南政法大学



301 Baosheng Road
Chongqing 401120
Tel: +86 23 6725 8675
Website: <http://www.swupl.edu.cn>



Southwest University of Political Science and Law (SWUPL) is mainly focused on law and consists of several law schools: Civil and Commercial Law, Economic and Trade Law, Administrative Law, Criminal Investigation Law, and Applied Law. In addition, SWUPL has established a good reputation for Journalism & Communication and Politics & Public Affairs.

Kind of cooperation:

1. Erasmus Mundus Action 2 LiSUM partner
2. Contacts with Law faculty (Prof. Dr. Hans Dewulf)

Tongji University 同济大学

1239, Siping Road
200092 Shanghai
Tel: +86 21 65989031
Website: <http://www.tongji.edu.cn>



Tongji University (TJU) was founded in 1907 by a German doctor as the Tongji German Medical School. It became a national university in 1927. In modern times, it is especially highly ranked in Engineering Sciences, with its departments of Architecture, Urban Planning, and Civil Engineering consistently ranking number one in China for decades.

Kind of cooperation:

1. Erasmus Mundus Action 2 LiSUM partner
 2. Cooperation agreement since 18/06/2009 – 5 years / Faculty of Engineering and Architecture – Prof. Dr. Luc Taerwe (Department of Structural Engineering)
- Open for all faculties

Wuhan University 武汉大学

Luo Jia Shan, Wuhan430072

Tel: +86 27 6875 2118

Website: <http://www.whu.edu.cn>

Email: fao@whu.edu.cn



Wuhan University was one of the first comprehensive national universities in modern China. Since its foundation, Wuhan University has comprised 6 colleges: the colleges of liberal arts, law, sciences, engineering, agriculture and medicine. At present it is developing towards a more comprehensive university with a strong international perspective.

Kind of cooperation:

1. Erasmus Mundus Action 2 LiSUM partner
2. Cooperation agreement with Wuhan University Law School since 02/02/2007 – 5 years / Faculty of Law – Prof. Dr. Frank Maes (Department of International Public Law) and Prof. Dr. Hubert Bocken (Department of Civil Law)

University of Science and Technology of China 中国科学技术大学

Hefei 230026

Tel: + 86 551 3602 1848

Website: <http://www.ustc.edu.cn>

Email: englishnews@ustc.edu.cn



At the time of its establishment in 1958, the mission of the University of Science and Technology of China (USTC) was in response to the urgent need for the development of the national economy, defence capability and education in science and technology. It has long been characterized by its competence in scientific and technological research. More recently, it has expanded into the humanities and management, while retaining its strong scientific and engineering emphasis. USTC has 9 schools and 23 departments.



Kind of cooperation:

1. Erasmus Mundus Action 2 LiSUM partner

Xi'an Jiaotong University 西安交通大学

28 Xianning West Road
Xi'An 710049
Tel: + 86 29 8266 8236
Website: <http://www.xjtu.edu.cn>



Xi'an Jiaotong University is a comprehensive research university offering programmes in nine areas—science, engineering, medicine, economics, management, art, law, philosophy and education—with a major emphasis on science and engineering. It comprises 20 schools, eight undergraduate residential colleges and eight affiliated teaching hospitals

Kind of cooperation:

1. Erasmus Mundus Action 2 LiSUM partner

Xinjiang Institute of Ecology and Geography (Chinese Academy of Sciences)

中国科学院新疆生态与地理研究所

818 Beijing South Road
Urumqi830011, Xinjiang province
Tel: + 86 9917885458
Website: <http://english.egi.cas.cn>



The Xinjiang Institute of Ecology and Geography (XIEG), Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), was established by the merging of two previously existing institutes of the CAS, namely the Xinjiang Institute of Geography and the Xinjiang Institute of Biology, Pedology and Desert Research.

Focusing on the strategic objectives of **the development of western China**, XIEG implements strategies of resource development and utilization, ecological security and sustainable development in arid areas.

Kind of cooperation:

1. Cooperation agreement since 19/12/2007 – 5 years
2. Faculty of Sciences-Prof. Dr. Philippe De Maeyer (Department of Geography)



Yanshan University 燕山大学

438 Hebei Avenue
Qinhuangdao 066004, Hebei province
Tel: +86-335-807 4583
Website: <http://www.ysu.edu.cn/>
Email: study@ysu.edu.cn



The origin of Yanshan University (YSU) can be traced back to the Harbin Institute of Technology, founded in 1920. YSU is world-renowned for its achievements in the development of whole-set heavy machinery and equipment, the theory and technology of parallel robots, fluid transmission and industrial automation.

Kind of cooperation:

1. Cooperation agreement since 14/01/2011(5 years)
2. Faculty of Arts and Philosophy-Prof. Dr. Ann Heirman (Department of Languages and Cultures of South and East Asia) and Faculty of Engineering and Architecture – Prof. Dr. Luc Taerwe (Department of Structural Engineering)

Zhejiang University 浙江大学

333 Yuhangtang Road
Hangzhou 310058, Zhejiang province
Tel: +86 571 8898 1020
Website: <http://www.zju.edu.cn>



Zhejiang University is a key comprehensive university whose fields of study cover philosophy, literature, history, education, science, economics, law, management, engineering, agriculture and medicine.

Kind of cooperation:

1. Erasmus Mundus Action 2 LiSUM partner
2. Cooperation agreement since 26/02/2008 – 5 years / Faculty of Arts and Philosophy – Prof. Dr. Dessein (Department of Languages and Cultures of South and East Asia)
3. Cooperation agreement since 26/02/2008 – 5 years / Faculty of Sciences – Prof. Dr. Jan Vanhellefont (Department of Solid State Sciences)

National Taiwan University 國立臺灣大學

No. 1, Sec. 4, Roosevelt Road
Taipei, 10617 Taiwan(R.O.C.)
Tel: +886-2-33662007
Website: <http://www.oia.ntu.edu.tw/>



National Taiwan University (NTU) has 11 colleges, with 54 departments and 103 graduate institutes, plus four university-level research centres (Population and Gender Studies, Condensed Matter Sciences, Biotechnology and Bio-diversity Research).

Kind of cooperation

1. Cooperation agreement since 21/10/2009 – 5 years
Faculty of Engineering and Architecture – Prof. Dr. Daniël De Zutter
(Department of Information Technology)
2. Cooperation agreement since 12/11/2010 – 5 years
Faculty of Arts and Philosophy-Prof. Dr. Ann Heirman (Department of Languages and Cultures of South and East Asia)



Chung-Hwa Institute of Buddhist Studies

中華佛學研究所

Kuo-pin Chuang
2-6 Xishihu, Jinshan 20842, Taipei County Taiwan
Dharma Drum Buddhist College
Website: <http://www.chibs.edu.tw>



The Chung-Hwa Institute of Buddhist Studies (CHIBS) was established by Master Sheng Yen in 1985. In 2006, CHIBS established the first private Buddhist College—Dharma Drum Buddhist College – in Taiwan. Its focus lies on the academic study of and research into Chinese Buddhism.

Currently, Dharma Drum Buddhist College offers both a Bachelor's and a Master's degree in Buddhist Studies. Research and teaching focus primarily on three traditional areas of Buddhist studies: Sanskrit and Pali Buddhism, Chinese Bud-

dhism and Tibetan Buddhism. In addition, the Dharma Drum Buddhist College is well-known for its exceptional library and its innovative programme in Buddhist Informatics.

Kind of cooperation:

1. Cooperation agreement since 2009 (5 years)
2. Faculty of Arts and Philosophy – Prof. Dr. Bart Dessein (Department of Languages and Cultures of South and East Asia)

Academia Sinica 中央研究院

128 Academia Road, Section 2, Nankang

Taipei 115, Taiwan

Website: <http://home.sinica.edu.tw/en>

Academia Sinica was founded in 1928 to promote and undertake scholarly research in the sciences and humanities. It is now a modern research institution with a worldwide reputation. Academia Sinica has adopted various measures to promote the internal integration of research activities in the three research disciplines of mathematics & physical sciences, life sciences and humanities & social sciences.

Kind of cooperation:

1. Memorandum of Understanding since 17/10/2007 – 5 years
2. Faculty of Arts and Philosophy – Prof. Dr. Ann Heirman (Department of Languages and Cultures of South and East Asia)

Open for all faculties.



Research cooperation with Chinese Universities anno 2011 (min. 4 years)

Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences

Prof. Dr. Marleen TEMMERMAN

(Department of Uro-Gynaecology / Director International Centre for Reproductive Health-ICRH)

- **Beijing:** Centre for Health Statistics & Information and National Research Institute for Family Planning
- **Chengdu:** Chengdu Donghua Reproductive Health Research Institute
- **Chongqing:** School of Public Health, Chongqing University of Medical Sciences
- **Guangzhou:** Zhongshan Medical College – Sun Yat-sen University
- **Hefei:** Anhui Medical University
- **Shanghai:** Fudan University and Shanghai Da Cheng Institute of Health
- **Xi'an:** Xi'an Jiaotong University
- **Zhengzhou:** Henan Provincial Research Institute for Family Planning

Faculty of Bioscience Engineering

Prof. Dr. Guy SMAGGHE

(Department of Crop Protection)

- **Guangzhou:** South China Normal University

Prof. Dr. Patrick SORGELOOS

(Department of Animal Production)

- **Shanghai:** Shanghai Ocean University
- **Qingdao:** Ocean University of China

Prof. Dr. Oswald VAN CLEEMPUT

(Department of Applied Analytical and Physical Chemistry)

- **Beijing:** Institute of Atmospheric Physics (Chinese Academy of Sciences)

Prof. Dr. Wim SOETAERT

(Department of Biochemical and Microbial Technology)

- **Beijing:** Capital Normal University

Prof. Dr. Norbert DE KIMPE

(Department of Sustainable Organic Chemistry and Technology)

- **Nanjing:** China Pharmaceutical University (joint PhD)
- **Kunming:** Institute of Botany (China Academy of Sciences)

Prof. Dr. Maurice MOENS (Department of Crop Protection)

- **Guangzhou:** Guangdong Academy of Sciences
- **Shijiazhuang:** Hebei Academy of Agricultural and Forestry Sciences

Prof. Dr. Wim VERBEKE

(Department of Agricultural Economics)

- **Beijing:** Institute of Animal Science, Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences
- **Nanjing:** Nanjing Agricultural University

Prof. Dr. Peter GOETHALS

(Department of Applied Ecology and Environmental Biology)

- **Shijiazhuang:** Hebei University

Prof. Dr. Willy VERSTRAETE

(Department of Biochemical and Microbial Technology)

- **Harbin:** Harbin Institute of Technology
- **Beijing:** Chinese Academy of Sciences, Research Center for Eco-Environmental Sciences
- **Shanghai:** East China University of Science and Technology
- **Shanghai:** Jiaotong University
- **Beijing:** Qinghua University, Department of Environmental Science and Engineering, State Key Joint Laboratory of Environment Simulation and Pollution Control
- **Xiamen:** Chinese Academy of Sciences, Institute for Urban Environment
- **Shenyang:** Chinese Academy of Sciences, Institute of Applied Ecology, Research Group of Environmental Microbiology

Prof. Dr. Nico BOON

(Department of Biochemical and Microbial Technology)

- **Shanghai:** Jiaotong University, State Key Laboratory of Ocean Engineering
- **Qingdao:** Ocean University of China, College of Marine Life Sciences
- **Changchun:** Jilin University, College of Environment and Resources
- **Tianjin:** Nankai University, Key Laboratory of Pollution Process and Environmental Criteria, College of Environmental Science and Engineering
- **Wuhan:** Chinese Academy of Sciences, Wuhan Institute of Virology, State Key Laboratory of Virology
- **Beijing:** Qinghua University, Department of Environmental Science and Engineering, State Key Joint Laboratory of Environmental Simulation and Pollution Control

Prof. Dr. Tom VAN DE WIELE

(Department of Biochemical and Microbial Technology)

- **Xiamen:** Chinese Academy of Sciences, Institute for Urban Environment
- **Beijing:** Chinese Academy of Sciences
- **Shanghai:** Shanghai University

Prof. Dr. Mieke UYTENDAELE and Prof. Dr. Frank DEVLIEGHERE

(Department of Food Safety and Food Quality)

- **Qingdao:** Ocean University of China
- **Yangling:** Northwest A&F University

Faculty of Engineering and Architecture

Prof. Dr. Christophe LEYS

(Department of Applied Physics)

- **Wuhan:** Huazhong University of Science and Technology

Prof. Dr. Wilfried PHILIPS

(Department of Telecommunications and Information Processing)

- **Beijing:** Beijing Institute of Technology

Prof. Dr. Luc TAERWE

(Department of Structural Engineering)

- **Shanghai:** Tongji University

Prof. Dr. Geert DE SCHUTTER

(Department of Structural Engineering)

- **Changsha:** Central South University
- **Wuhan:** Wuhan University of Technology
- **Shanghai:** Tongji University

Prof. Dr. Greet VAN EETVELDE

(Department of Civil Engineering / CEO Greenbridge)

- **Shanghai:** Fudan University

Prof. Dr. Geert MORTHIER

(Department of Information Technology)

- **Dalian:** Dalian University of Technology

Prof. Dr. Guy Marin

(Department of Chemical Engineering and Technical Chemistry)

- **Shanghai:** East China University of Science and Technology

Faculty of Sciences

Prof. Dr. Ben DERUDDER

(Department of Geography, member of Globalization and World Cities Research Network)

- **Shanghai:** Urban Geography Commission of the Geographical Society of China and Center for Modern Chinese City Studies at East China Normal University

Prof. Dr. Sofie GOORMACHTIG

(Department of Biotechnology and Bioinformatics)

- **Yanglin:** Northwest A&F University

Prof. Dr. Bart DEVREEZE

(Department of Biochemistry and Microbiology)

- **Xi'An:** Xi'An Jiaotong University (School of Medicine)

Prof. Dr. Paul DE VOS

(Department of Biochemistry and Microbiology)

- **Beijing:** Chinese Academy of Inspection and Quarantine

Prof. Dr. Henri DUMONT

(Department of Biology)

- **Guangzhou:** Jinan University

Professor Dumont has been selected to participate in a prestigious project by Guangdong Province, in which 15 top international scientists will be supported by the Chinese government to establish research teams at the universities to which they are affiliated.



Prof. Dr. Christophe Detavernier

(Department of Solid State Sciences)

- **Shanghai:** Fudan University, School of Microelectronics (SME)

Prof. Dr. Eric VAN RANST

(Department of Geology and Soil Sciences)

- **Beijing:** Institute of Agricultural Resources and Regional Planning
(Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences)

Faculty of Veterinary Sciences

Prof. Dr. Hans NAUWYNCK

(Department of Virology, Parasitology and Immunology)

- **Nanjing:** Nanjing Agricultural University
- **Shanghai:** Shanghai Veterinary Research Institute

Prof. Dr. Jozef VERCRUYSE

(Department of Virology, Parasitology and Immunology)

- **Ya'An:** Sichuan Agricultural University

Prof. Dr. Kristien VAN REETH

(Department of Virology, Parasitology and Immunology)

- **Harbin:** Harbin Veterinary Research Institute (Chinese Academy of Sciences)

Faculty of Law

Prof. Dr. Frank MAES

(Department of International Public Law)

- **Wuhan:** Wuhan University

Prof. Dr. Luc LAVRYSEN

(Department of Public Law)

- **Wuhan:** Environmental Law Center, Wuhan University

Prof. Dr. Marc VAN HOECKE

(Department of Legal Theory and Legal History)

- **Shanghai:** Founding Member of the Academic Committee of the National Institute for Advanced Study on Social Science **at Fudan University**
- **Beijing:** Renmin university

Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences

Prof. Dr. Martin VALCKE

(Department of Educational Studies)

- **Guangzhou:** South China Normal University

Faculty of Political and Social Sciences

Prof. Dr. Ruddy DOOM

(Department of Third World Studies)

- **Beijing:** Chinese Academy of Social Sciences

Prof. Dr. Karin RAEYMAECKERS and Prof. Dr. Sofie VAN BAUWEL

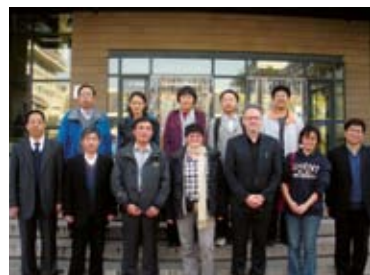
- **Chengdu:** Sichuan University
- **Beijing:** Communication University of China
- **Beijing:** Renmin University

Faculty of Arts and Philosophy

Prof. Dr. Bart DESSEIN and Prof. Dr. Ann HEIRMAN

(Department of Languages and Cultures of South and East Asia)

- **Beijing:** Renmin University:
- **Beijing:** Beijing Normal University
- **Beijing:** Beijing University
- **Taipei:** Chung-Hwa Institute of Buddhist Studies and Dharma Drum College
- **Shanghai:** Fudan University
- **Shenyang:** Liaoning University
- **Nanjing:** Nanjing Normal University
- **Taipei:** National Taiwan University
- **Beijing:** Renmin University
- **Hangzhou:** Zhejiang University
- **Beijing:** China University of Political Science and Law
- **Chengdu:** Sichuan University
- **Taiwan:** Fo Guang University
- **Nanchang:** Nanchang University
- **Beijing:** Qinghua University



Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences

Prof. Dr. Sarah DE SAEGER and

Prof. Dr. Carlos Van Peteghem

(Department of Bio-analysis)

- **Shanghai:** Shanghai Jiaotong University
- **Beijing:** China Agricultural University
- **Wuhan:** Huazhong Agricultural University
- **Hainan:** Chinese Academy of Tropical Agricultural Sciences

Prof. Dr. Tom COENYE

(Department of Pharmaceutical Analysis)

- **Qingdao:** College of Marine Life Sciences, Ocean University of China





EU and China: the Erasmus Mundus Action 2 projects LiSUM and Lotus

LiSUM and Lotus (I and II) are three exchange projects under the cooperation and mobility programme of the European Commission named Erasmus Mundus Action 2 (formerly known as Erasmus Mundus External Window). This programme aims to enhance the quality of European higher education and to promote dialogue and understanding between people and cultures through cooperation with **Third-Countries**.

LiSUM — Linking Sino-European Universities through Mobility

The LiSUM project was the first of the above-mentioned three. It focuses on cooperation with China. The partners in this project are 10 European and 10 Chinese universities. Our partner universities in China were strategically chosen, partly in consultation with the China Platform, in order to guarantee that the project would not only reach the beating economic heart of China but also its rural areas.

- Budget: 4,592,150 Euros
- Eligibility period: 15 July 2009 – 14 July 2013
- Incoming and outgoing mobility
- Total number of scholarships granted: 247 (73 European and 174 Chinese grant holders)

...I lived in China for ten months, where I had the opportunity to study with Chinese and American teachers and follow very interesting courses. Now, I'm a master student and I would like to go back to China to find a job. The European Commission gave me a great opportunity to discover that the only way to enter in another culture is, live it! (Italian LiSUM grant holder)

- Website: www.lisum.ugent.be

Lotus I and Lotus II

Linking Organisations Through University Synergies

Unlike LiSUM, the Lotus project involves not only China but the whole South-East Asia Region. To be more specific, we are working together with 6 countries: Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam. The partners in this project are 9 European and 11 South-East Asian universities.

Lotus I

- Budget: 2,463,375Euros
- Eligibility period: 15 July 2010 – 14 July 2014
- Incoming mobility from South East Asia only.
- Total number of scholarships granted: 151



...I would like to thank to the Lotus team in Ghent & Porto university for supporting me during the period. We had a good cooperation in, processing difficult situations at the beginning. During the time in Porto, there are 'hundreds of stories' that happened to me. The most fascinating is Portuguese....

(Vietnamese Lotus grant holder)

Lotus II

- Budget: 1.999.950,00 Euros
- Eligibility period: 15 July 2011 – 14 July 2015
- Incoming mobility from South East Asia only.
- Total number of scholarships to be granted: 117 Call for applications is currently open. Scholarships will be granted after a rigorous selection process.
- Website Lotus I & Lotus II: www.lotus.ugent.be



I have arrived safely at Ljubljana...Currently, I am trying my best to get used to my new studying and living environment. Hope everything will go on the right track. Thanks for your help during my mobility planning to Slovenia and if there is anything new going on, I am willing to report to you on time.

(Chinese Lotus grant holder)

Through mutual understanding and constructive collaboration, the LiSUM and Lotus consortia are striving to achieve a high level of sustainability through institutional cooperation and, moreover, TRUST amongst the partners!





Chinese Student Association Ghent (CHISAG)

根特中国学生学者联合会

The China Platform cooperates closely with the Chinese Student Association of Ghent (Chisag). Chisag is an association primarily intended for all Chinese students and scholars, although its members include a much broader public than students and scholars. Chisag creates a platform through which Chinese students – and by extension also all Chinese people living and working in Ghent – can find and support each other through their mailing-list and various activities.

This year, the board consists of seven members, with one president. Generally, the board members are PhD students, although in the past there have been master's students in the board too. Annual elections are held in October. For registration at Chisag, see also <http://www.ugent.be/nl/voorzieningen/bronnen/archief/collectie/studenten/verenigingen/ChiSAG.html>

Chisag operates via an extensive mailing-list and an online platform at www.gente.be.

Recurring activities:

- The very successful annual Chinese New Year celebrations in February (for which the China Platform is a partner).
- Several outdoor leisure activities, such as trips to Keukenhof and Luxembourg.
- Sports events e.g. **ping-pongmatch**
- Several academic activities in support of Chinese researchers and newcomers:
 - Academic Meeting – 根特中国学生学者学术交流会议 (June 2011)
 - Welcome Day for 'newcomers' – 根特学联迎新交流会 (October 2011)

Especially with regard to the academic activities, the China Platform cooperates closely with Chisag and gives as much support as possible in the organization of these activities. The China Platform also happily uses the online platform at www.gente.be for distributing news, invitations to events, vacancies for Chinese students in both Belgium and China, volunteering work, etc.



Reflections on contemporary Chinese society: different perspectives

1. APS – A first screening for Chinese students

Prof. Em. H. Ferdinande

Faculty of Sciences, Department of Physics and Astronomy, Ghent University

Preface

All Chinese students who want to study in Flanders on the basis of qualifications obtained in China are first submitted to an APS screening in Beijing. APS stands for *Akademische Prüfstelle* (Academic Evaluation Centre). In co-operation with the '*Deutsche Akademische Austauschdienst*' (DAAD) (German Academic Exchange Agency), this service agency (www.aps.org.cn) belongs to the *Kulturreferat* (Cultural Department) of the German Embassy.

From 2001 onwards, APS constitutes a sort of entrance gate, whereby a Chinese student – after successful assessment – receives a certificate so that he or she can apply for a visa at the Embassy. At the end of 2006 the *Ministry of Education & Training* of the Flemish Community entered into an agreement with Germany. Hence Chinese students who want to come and study in Flanders go through the same procedure. They can apply to APS at any time in the year. In recompense for its use of the APS system, Flanders sends two evaluators to the agency each year to take part in the interviews over a period of about a month.

After an invitation with only a few weeks' notice, I was totally taken by surprise to start my first assignment as APS evaluator at the end of January 2007. It has always been with a lot of pleasure and great enthusiasm that I have accomplished such a mandate over the last five years.

Procedure

A student can only apply to APS if, (i) s/he has completed at least one semester at one of the 107 Chinese 'Project 211' universities (*211 gongcheng*) or (ii) s/he has completed at least three semesters at another official Chinese university or (iii) s/he has graduated from an official three-years post-secondary professional school (*da zhuan*). The screening procedure consists of two parts: (i) verification of all documents provided and (ii) an academic interview of about twenty minutes before a jury of two evaluators, one of whom, the more experienced in the student's discipline, poses the questions, while the other notes.

In order to avoid fraud, all submitted documents (including supplements with detailed study results) are checked for authenticity by (some ten) Chinese logistical advisors. They contact the home institution of the student directly as well as the database of the Chinese Ministry of Education.

Before the interview, the candidate is first asked to prepare and/or solve a pair of short problems or exercises from his/her discipline for twenty minutes. This activity takes place in a closed room in which the use of a mobile phone or any aid other than the bilingual dictionary provided is forbidden.

At the interview (e.g.: <https://www.aps.org.cn/web/!newsAction.do?id=68>), which can take place in German or English or both for students applying to Germany but must be in English for those applying for Flanders, candidates have to present themselves, their discipline and their study plans for Flanders in a concise manner. The candidate explains orally his/her solution of the posed problems, the evaluator tests if the s/he understands the contents of a couple of courses chosen at random and certain topics related to those subjects are checked in depth. In this process, it is crucial that candidates are sounded out about their ready and applicable knowledge. Candidates who have already finished one university cycle are asked to describe and explain the outcomes of their final project.

The interviews take place in the APS centre in Beijing or during some previously announced weeks distributed over the year in Shanghai, Chengdu and Guangzhou. The following candidates are exempted from the interview: students with a CSC grant (*China Scholarship Council*), students from Chinese higher education institutions with whom UGent has concluded a bilateral co-operation agreement and students who are studying in the framework of an Erasmus Mundus programme (e.g. LiSUM and Lotus) or a Flemish Chinese agreement.

The notes of the interview record briefly the questions of the evaluator and the responses of the candidate. They also offer assessments of the candidate's language proficiency (very good, good, restricted or very restricted) and subject specific knowledge (assuming that proficiency in the language was sufficient for this to be assessed at all!).

If the outcome of the screening is positive, the candidate receives by postal mail an APS certificate in tenfold and thereafter can apply to the Belgian Embassy for a student visa and submit study applications to specific higher-education institutions in Flanders.

Candidates pay about 200€ for document verification and the interview. If no interview is required 110€ is paid. However, the China Platform refunds these amounts to all Chinese students who enrol at UGent.

Commentary

During the interview, the evaluators are expected to make careful allowance for the cultural differences between the candidate and themselves. It was, for example, such a difference which meant that a candidate in the food sciences was not able even to understand a question about the 'food guide pyramid', since this concept is known in Chinese as the 'food pagoda'.

In the first decade of this century, the number of Chinese students starting to study abroad each year has increased by a factor of seven (from about 39 000 in 2000 to about 280 000 in 2010), leading to a total of 1.27 million studying in a foreign country by the end of 2010.

In 2007 APS administered 275 dossiers for Flanders. This number increased to 455 in 2010. 210 of these applications resulted in an interview, 240 being for document verification only. Figures show that 85 % of dossiers for Flanders give rise to a certificate. Only 75 % of interviewed candidates succeed at their first attempt. However certain candidates apply for a second and even a third interview.

A recent enquiry among all Flemish higher education institutions has concluded that APS screening can be considered a useful tool. Previously many Chinese students in Flanders did not appear at the examinations and dropped out of

their studies after one or two unsuccessful years. The APS certificate represents a fair indicator of the subject and language level of the students, guarantees the authenticity of the documents provided and yields a gain in precious time for student administration here. (Although APS certificates can be fraudulently produced in China, authenticity can easily be checked by contact with the Belgian Embassy or the APS agency itself.) However, since the enquiry covered only a couple of academic years, the direct effect of the screening on study progress (retention and graduation) is yet to be determined.

About 40 % of the Chinese students studying at Flemish universities can be found in the '(natural) sciences', followed by about 35 % in 'economy and applied economy' and almost 15 % in 'political & social sciences'. It is remarkable that the number of Chinese doctoral students in Flanders has increased sharply. We should not forget that it was not until 1982 that the first six doctorates for the whole of China were awarded (out of a cohort of 18 starters in 1978), while by the end of 2007 China had already delivered 240,000 doctorates. Some Flemish higher education institutions were afraid that APS screening would drastically reduce the number of Chinese students, but it is clear that this is not at all the case.

Recently in some Flemish media, the opinion has been voiced that the low costs of study in Flanders give the impression to the Chinese of low quality of education. However, the evidence from APS interviews contradicts this viewpoint. When Chinese students are asked their reasons for wanting to study in Germany, the vast majority cite the very low costs involved. There is, then, no indication whatsoever that higher fees would attract more Chinese students to Flanders.

In the beginning of this year the *China University Alumni Association* (CUAA) proposed a new ranking for universities in China based on the number of yuan or RMB billionaires among its alumni. It will be quite a challenge for UGent to climb up this league table in the coming years!

Recently the *World Economic Forum* warned that even China faces a long-term talent shortage. The number of Chinese citizens aged 60 and older is expanding rapidly and now comprises about 12.5 % of the nation's population. The country's one-child policy and its drop in birth rates mean that by 2050 the 10 workers now supporting each senior citizen will fall to 2.5.



2. A New Confucian Social Harmony

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1. Traditional Chinese Society

We know from early Chinese literature that traditional Chinese society knew four social groups: literati (*shi*), farmers (*nong*), artisans (*gong*), and merchants (*shang*), the farmers being by far the numerically largest group. These four groups developed from within a former twofold social stratification of society into the 'higher' (*shang* – other *shang*) and 'lower' (*xia*) classes.

Originally, this classification was based on functional grounds: the four classes were expected to each fulfil their proper tasks, this fulfilment being seen as a prerequisite for social harmony. During the lifetime of Confucius (550-479 BCE), a moral appreciation was attached to this functional classification. As the ruling class, the literati regarded themselves to be the morally most elevated social class, one that used the other social groups as 'instruments' (*qi*). Already the *ÇLunyu*, the work in which the sayings of Confucius are preserved, alluded to this:

When a *junzi* (nobleman) uses people, he does so as if they were instruments (*qi*).
(*'Lunyu'*, 13, 25)

When Confucianism became the official orthodoxy in the Han Dynasty (206 BCE-220 CE), this social stratification was institutionalized and the Confucians became the most conservative group in society. Upward social mobility became virtually impossible. With the farmers as the numerically most important social group, China developed into an agrarian society, characterized as an assembly of economically individual farmers' communities, each with its own peculiarities but having in common their subordination to the elite culture. The members of this elite shared their adherence to a 'common ideology': Confucianism. Thus Confucianism crafted traditional Chinese society as an organization (the Weberian *Gesellschaft*) consisting of different communities (the Weberian *Gemeinschaften*). Dissatisfaction on the part of individual economic communities was channelled into peasant revolts, messianic movements and secret societies that,

not infrequently, were inspired by the religious belief of the group concerned. Any disruption of the hierarchical order was, by the Confucians, interpreted as the ruling emperor's loss of the 'heavenly mandate to rule'.

2. Social Changes at the End of the Empire

The social model described above remained basically unchanged until the middle of the 19th century when, due to the industrialization of China, essentially three new social groups developed: the industrial proletariat, the industrial bourgeoisie, who were no longer interested in becoming part of the class of literati, and the new intellectuals. In the course of China's imperial history, moreover, China had expanded territorially and become a multi-ethnic state.

It was in the context of the economic and political dominance of the West in China following the defeat of China by Britain in the Opium War (1839-1842) that young intellectuals developed their political theories. According to them, the Confucians could no longer be seen as the protectors of the cultural norm. They tried to establish a 'new China', a modern, independent Chinese nation state, led by intellectuals who were schooled in Western sciences and ideologies. Liang Qichao (1873-1929) saw collaboration among the Han, the numerically largest ethnic group in the multi-ethnic China, as the only way for them to survive as a group. In this way, he simultaneously opposed both the West and the Manchu government of the last imperial dynasty of the Qing (1644-1911). For Sun Zhongshan (Sun Yat-sen) (1866-1925), *minzu* was synonymous with *guozu*: 'statism'. He saw ethnicity as fundamental in the creation of a 'new China' as, so he claimed, 'China has been a nation of one people since the Qin and Han Dynasties'. When, in his inaugural speech at the first congress of the Nationalist Party in January 1912, he stated that he no longer wished to 'govern' the state through the Party (*yi dang zhi guo*), but to 'establish' it through the Party (*yi dang jian guo*), he gave expression to his conviction that nationalist feelings for the state are identical with such feelings for the Nationalist Party. The new term '*dangguo*' (party state) incarnates this concept. This means that the only possibility for the citizens to contribute to the 'establishment of the nation state' was to become member of the Party. This policy, further, invoked ethnic tension between the Han and some non-Han ethnic groups.

The stipulations of the Treaty of Versailles which transferred German rights in the Chinese province of Shandong to Japan resulted in protests across all social

groups in China. The weak response of the Nationalist Party to the Japanese aggression of the early 1930s, furthermore, convinced the rural population that only the Chinese Communist Party, established in 1921 (hereafter CCP), could lead them in their resistance against Japan. The industrial proletariat that worked in Western factories also supported the CCP. Mismanagement in the cities, inflation and corruption also weakened support for the Nationalist Party in circles of the new industrial elite and the new intellectuals. Their move towards the CCP was provoked by the fact that the Nationalist Party had not lived up to its promise to create a strong Han nation state. Different social groups were thus attracted to the CCP for different reasons. To accommodate all these groups, the CCP primarily emphasized a nationalistic policy, not an economic one.

3. The Creation of a Classless Society

Although the CCP had emphasized a nationalistic ideology in its battle against Japan, once it came to power in 1949, it turned to Marxism-Leninism. This choice was not inevitable. Marx and Engels had stated that a workers' revolution would occur in a highly developed capitalist society. In 1949, China was nothing like that. Marxism did provide an answer, though, to the problem how to unite the different ethnic groups of the former Qing empire into one nation state: the Marxist emphasis on class struggle enabled the equality of all the different ethnic groups of the former empire as, in the class struggle, it was not the opposition between the various ethnic groups and the Han was highlighted as the most fundamental opposition but rather the class differences within each of these groups. The concept of the class struggle makes all ethnic groups identical. The concept of the class struggle, further, gives the workers – the driving force of the process of industrialization – a historical mission. The CCP created a new political elite, the *ganbu*, recruited from within the workers, farmers and petty bourgeoisie, to lead Chinese citizens in the class struggle. Redistribution of farmland eliminated the class of the *shi*. The class of the *shang* was also replaced, by state merchants. Society was organized in *danwei*: economic 'entities' that were also responsible for providing social services to their members. All in all, these policies meant a major social promotion for most Chinese citizens. Where Confucianism had been the uniform ideology of the ruling elite in imperial China, and nationalism had had this function in the Republican period (1911-1949), Marxism-Leninism became the uniform ideology of the ruling elite of the People's Republic. The CCP party state replaced the Han ethnic party state of the Nationalists.

4. A New Confucian Social Harmony

When Mao Zedong died in 1976, China was not yet a highly developed capitalist country. Confronted with the need for economic reforms, Deng Xiaoping (1904-1993) emphasized a different Marxist concept than that which Mao had done: that of 'productive forces'. In this way, he succeeded in bringing economic reforms into a Marxist framework, as the concept of 'productive forces' is larger than only the workers: it provides the possibility to introduce capitalist instruments into economic policies, so as to enhance industrial development and modernization.

For the Dengist reforms to be successful, greater economic autonomy was needed. From 1980, the state therefore loosened its economic control, leading, inter alia, to a gradual reform of the *danwei* system and a growing private sector. As it remains the CCP, as ruling party, that has to create a capitalist society, its legitimacy is increasingly dependent upon the degree to which it is successful in producing the consumption goods and services desired by the increasing number of consumer-citizens. However, capitalist economic developments have created a growing income gap. In this respect, it is not without significance that those citizens who have suffered most under economic reforms and increased social disparity are precisely those who, in the Maoist period, had been the greatest supporters of CCP policies. The introduction of 'open door policies' has also given greater economic freedom to those regions of the country inhabited by ethnic minority groups. Within some of these groups, this has fuelled ethnic nationalism. It should, in this respect, be noted that the income gap often follows ethnic fault lines. A further consequence of the new economic policies is the increased Western influence in China.

In circumstances in which the Han identification with the Party and her mission to be the party of the workers has increasingly become obsolete, and in which ethnic nationalism is growing, social redistribution and patriotism have become important elements in CCP policy. Patriotism concerns the state as a whole, not one single ethnic group, and thus is an instrument to counter the centrifugal forces of ethnic nationalism. The identification of the CCP with the Chinese nation state implies that the survival of the Chinese nation state is only possible through a confirmation of the power of the CCP. Without the CCP, China could once again fall prey to Western dominance.

Economic policies that, under the presidency of Hu Jintao, focus on the creation of what has become known as the 'Relatively Comfortable Society' (*xiaokang*

shehui) reveal a reappraisal of traditional Confucian values. In fact, the term '*xiaokang shehui*' is a reference to the 7th chapter of the *Liji* (Records of Ritual), a Confucian work of the Han Dynasty. Here, we read:

This is why Yu, [Cheng] Tang, [King] Wen, [King] Wu, King Cheng and the Duke of Zhou were selected. Of these six gentlemen (*junzi*), there is none who does not follow the rituals (*li*). They have manifested their justice, tested their trustworthiness, revealed those who had made mistakes, executed benevolence, made [people] give way to each other, and have instructed the people to constantly do so. Those who did not do so were chased away by those having power and position, and they were regarded as unfortunate by the masses of the people. [Then came] what is said to be a 'relatively comfortable society' (*xiaokang*).

The term '*xiaokang*' can be traced back to the Confucian classic *Shijing* (Classic of Poetry), the material of which dates back to the 10th century BCE. Here, we read:

- The people indeed are heavily burdened,
- But perhaps a little ease (*xiaokang*) may be got for them.

The message the '*Xiaokang shehui*' conveys is thus that the masses – Han and non-Han alike – resort to a moral leadership that will guide them to a relatively comfortable society through economic development and social redistribution. This policy has to alleviate economic and social inequality, as well as to eliminate ethnic tension. In this way, Marxist rhetoric (the egalitarian society) is brought within a Confucian framework. The same type of fusion of Confucian doctrine and Marxist dogma is also evident in the maxim: '*hexie shehui*', translated as 'harmonious society'. Although there is no direct reference to this concept in the Confucian literature, the maxim is generally accepted to be related to the concept 'brotherhood' (*datong*) of the same 7th chapter of the *Liji*:

When the big road of virtue was followed, all under heaven was public good. Functionaries were selected according to their abilities. Their words were trustworthy, and they cultivated harmony. Therefore, people did not only treat their own relatives as relatives, did not only treat their own children as children, and made sure that elder people had all they needed until the end of their days,

that grown-ups had all they needed, that children had all they need to grow, that widowers and widows, orphans, and sick ones all had what they needed to sustain themselves. They made sure that men had a job, and women had a place where they belonged. They did not allow the harvest to be left in the field, but neither did they want to hoard it for themselves. They disliked that their power was not made useful for others, but neither did they want to use it for themselves. Therefore, bad plans were not put into practice, there were no robbers, thieves, nor traitors. Therefore, outer doors were not closed. This is what is called the universal brotherhood (*datong*).

In its rhetoric, contemporary economic and social policies reconnect to traditional Confucian values. It is, in this context, noteworthy that, whereas in the Republican period and in the first decades of the People's Republic, Confucian culture was seen as an obstacle to development, in much of Southeast Asia the presence of elements of traditional Chinese culture, often labelled 'Confucianism,' is used to explain precisely the success of business and commerce within the Chinese communities there. In the People's Republic of China, increase and redistribution of wealth through economic development are important elements of the 12th five-year plan, implementation of which started in 2011.



3. From MBA to economic reforms to innovation: the case of China

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One day at the beginning of November 1986, on a cold afternoon, I was in a taxi on Chang'an Avenue, Beijing with a sunset shining in my blinded eyes. It was my first day of a two-month stay in China. I was booked into the Hotel 'Yanjing Fandian'. I passed along the Forbidden City entrance in front of which the late Mao Zedong's image was hanging with eternal happiness on his face, looking wide over the for-me-not-yet so famous Tiananmen Square. A few kites were whirling here and there in the air, while on the square families were following with feet and eyes and anxious attention their one child, who was giving the flying object more or less guidance into the higher skies.

I had been selected by an academic European Commission team whose responsibility was to find business school professors in Western Europe for the China-Europe MBA Programme in Beijing. These activities lay the foundations for what later developed into the business school now famous as CEIBS, in Pudong New Area in Shanghai.

On this particular occasion, the State Planning Commission for Education (PRC) had invited me to teach 'Management Information Systems' for their first group of 35 MBA students, who had an average age of over 30. I remember the day I met these students for the first time, all looking interested and staring seriously, betraying through their anxious eyes the fear perhaps for my future potentially tough questions and examinations, themselves sitting at simple school desks clothed in very common, dark traditional Mao-jackets.

I was not aware then that, on two other occasions, in 1988 and 1990, I would be re-assigned to two larger groups of somewhat younger MBA candidates. I was able to learn through interaction with these students of several ages how they were living on scarce resources. On their desks, as symbols of their conditions,, stood empty rice bowls waiting for lunchtime, and tall jars of green tea which were also empty before the end of the lecture. At lunch in the cafeteria I often listened to them telling me their painful stories about the past 20 years and what they and their family or friends had gone through.

The first group I taught in 1986 had all been working for about 15 years – mostly forced to interrupt their final-year secondary studies – in far away rural parts of China, on assignments to learn through help about the life of the common people. The second, 1988 group of students was ready to talk during free-time about the Cultural Revolution and what happened to parents, uncles, aunts, nephews and neighbours. The third group (1990), on more discreet occasions, were able to tell me about how they themselves or friends had all been involved (or not) or troubled during the period of the 1989 Tiananmen Square incident.

Most of my courage to go on these 2-month teaching assignments in the China-Europe MBA Programme I took from quite extensive experience acquired during the first half of the 80s, when I had undertaken similar 2-month periods of educating within the framework of a Belgian Development Programme at the Business School of the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), Bangkok, Thailand. There, a variety of older age students from all the surrounding countries, representing a diversity of Asian faces and languages, taught me to master ‘foreign situations and environments’, while teaching business-oriented cases, assignments and small projects and conducting examinations in a sub-tropical environment. But I was even more excited about the China-experience I started in 1986 because this was an opportunity for me to solve the problem of what had been called by many apparently knowledgeable Western persons ‘the Yellow Peril’!

In Beijing in 1986 and every 2 years thereafter, I also had the occasion to learn about Chinese Business life through contacts with Belgian ‘ex-pats’ working for the Belgian Embassy (Jan Hollants Van Looke), Generale Bank, Janssen Pharmaceutica (now Johnson & Johnson), Bell-Telephone (now Alcatel-Lucent) and ChinaLink (Frank Uytterhaegen). They helped me to understand in a deeper way what I was hearing from my China-Europe MBA Programme students. There are four aspects related to experiences and reflections they gave me that I would like to briefly comment upon:

1. ‘Chinese people are culturally very different from us Europeans (meaning for me Belgium or Flanders)’

The longer I had been in China and had gathered all sorts of experiences, the more I agreed that very curious differences were to be seen in China. However, I had no problem to conclude in 1990 that I had seen, in better and worse situations, more similarities than differences between them and us.

2. 'Chinese people are very good and tough negotiators'

My students refuted that time and time again by retorting that it was the Western people that were the best negotiators. Explanation then given to me was that China was a land with many Chinese people (sic!) with lots of new requirements, which had to be met with very scarce financial resources. So many Chinese (non-) specialists again and again were entering into interaction with Western Business to discuss the acquisition of – for them – often very arcane technologies, while not knowing if the acquisition, often not mandatory for the Central Economic Plan Bureau, would ever be made and, even if it would, with a total uncertainty about the source and amount of money available. So much of those tough Chinese negotiations were in their view a long and tedious trial to gain more time to collect 'more precise and more detailed data'. Preferably, this lengthy collection of more data and knowledge came from several potential foreign vendors offering their new technologies. In parallel and in the background, they were dealing with and arguing about the uncertainty of possibilities for obtaining the financial resources needed with a multitude of Central China Bank officers and high-ranking local Communist Party officials (Central, Provincial, Municipalities).

3. 'Chinese people never say "no", at best only "may be", when confronted with a request.'

What Western specialists think and have written about this very Chinese (or is it a pervasive Asiatic?) characteristic is better found in specialized literature on the topic. In this matter, some Western and Chinese colleagues believe strongly in the Chinese concept of 'saving-one's-own-face' as a convincing explanation. But the hard way I learned it time and again made me conclude that a 'Chinese yes' heard (or read in a written message) by a Western person like me had better be interpreted as 'yes, I (Chinese person) heard you formulate a wish for something'. So many times when I had asked for some service— especially when first also '*mei you*' (=it is neither here nor there) had been softly whispered—an initial 'yes, we will do our best' frequently resulted in a final 'nothing-can-be-done' situation.

4. 'China (in the second half of 1980s) is under way of faster developing Eastern coastal areas first rather than rural areas, while opening to a market economy' (so-called 'socialism with Chinese characteristics' or 'socialist market economy')

During that period of my teaching assignments, in my free time I loved to roam with my own bike all over Beijing. In the many places I saw in this way, I encountered Chinese people who seemed relatively happy but rather poor, living in small dwellings, usually together in a family at an average of 2 and maximum 5 square metres per person. They were forced to live with just enough basic food, parsimoniously and keeping to what they got, enjoying the benefits of the work unit (*danwei* or a place of working covering also economic or social benefits for an employed person and family) they were working at.

When reading the English *China Daily* newspaper in my hotel, I was somewhat puzzled when reading about Deng Xiaoping's policies and its first (sometimes questioned) economic results. During my first visits, China was a country with a population at least 100 times larger than that of Belgium, occupying a geographical area 300 times larger, but with a Gross Domestic Product which was about the same as Belgium. Average per capita income in the mid 1980s was around US\$150 or, say, 6,000 BEF (i.e. about 150 Euros). It was common to hear then that the salary for most of the lowest level workers was less than 1 euro per day.

But hope and expectations for improvement to this scarce and very strictly regulated economic situation and a better future were great with the students I met on the China-Europe MBA Programme. They explained Deng's reforms to me:

He (Deng) was painstakingly convincing Central Politburo of the Communist Party of China to decentralize the state economy by replacing central planning with market forces, breaking down the collective farms and getting rid of state-run enterprises. One of the most successful reforms—the 'within' and 'without' production plans—allowed businesses to pursue their own aims after they met their state-set quotas. Enterprises and factories were allowed to keep profits, use merit pay and offer bonuses and other incentives, which greatly boosted productivity. Deng gave a ringing endorsement to privatization and free enterprise and encouraging foreign investors to bring their money to China.

In the Deng era there was a shift from central planning and reliance on heavy industry to consumer-oriented industries and reliance on foreign trade and

investment. The 1978 reforms included efforts to boost foreign trade through the establishment for 12 state companies to control imports and exports and the creation of Special Economic Zones (SEZs) and along China's southern coastline. In 1982, communes began to be dismantled and peasants were allowed to grow and sell produce. In 1985, tariffs were cut from 56 percent to 43 percent beginning the long, gradual reduction of import barriers.

Some have called the 'reform and opening' policy the greatest poverty-reducing program in history. It not only launched a period of economic prosperity in China it lifted 200 million people out of poverty.

Today more is known about China's economic activities that, through 'modern capitalism (?) with socialistic characteristics', have resulted since 1990 in a growth rate of over 10% almost every year. And yet, there are still more than 200 million poor people, usually in rural parts, with an income of not more than one euro a day (even though the more highly paid workers today are earning more than 3,600 Euros per year).

Over the same period of time, China has accumulated vast financial reserves. With a foreign exchange reserves fund of over US\$3 trillion, China could buy almost all of the world's output of US\$3.4 trillion, or buy all US farms (presently valued at somewhat less than US\$2 trillion, or help to take over the sovereign debt of Portugal, Ireland, Greece and Spain combined (amounting currently to about US\$1.5 trillion).

China is behaving carefully and wisely, while counting also on the Chinese population spread all over the world. For a number of years now, it has started to invest gradually in many developed and less developed countries. The Chinese are helping themselves while exploiting its open market for the public procurement of resources needed for the continuation of their economy. They are also developing as a World Trade Member, taking on fuller commitments in order to help better balance the global economy. One of the major positions they strive to obtain stems from the conviction that China should become first a producer of its own resources and ideas and in this way join the group of countries where innovation originates. Thus, work for the next 20 years or 4 further Economic Plans.

My attention was first drawn to this evolution when I was supervising the PhD work of student Zhan Jun (then working at a University in Hebei Province, since 2008 in a tenured position at Shanghai Finance University).

In his doctoral thesis Zhan Jun (Jack) considers three major entrepreneurial characteristics of companies, which in management science terms are called 'Entrepreneurial Orientation (EO)': innovation, risk handling and managerial professionalism. With this three-dimensional perspective on EO he compares an equal number of Flemish companies and similar companies in Hebei Province.

In the Executive Summary of his thesis, Dr Zhan Jun writes (end of 2006):

...the general performance made by the Hebei entrepreneurs was not equivalent to that of their Flemish counterparts, even though they made efforts for innovation, took measures in proactive risk handling, and applied professional measures and techniques in management and operation.

If compared on these three dimensions of 'Entrepreneurial Orientation (EO)', there were more differences than similarities on the entrepreneurs' performance, *especially concerning the innovativeness performance, where the Hebei enterprises were shown to be quite inferior.* (my italics)

To end with – in the light of Zhan Jun's doctoral conclusions about technological innovation and the desperate need for new human skills – I draw attention to some extracts from a recent edition of *China Daily* newspaper (October 7-13, 2011). They are intended to illustrate a particular perspective on the future of China.

I. Robots need the Loving Attention of Human Beings (p. 7)

'Chinese companies should (will?) invest money and human resources, applying the new and reliable technologies to help technological innovation. They should also invest in training employees to be qualified in the new automated world with the help of universities. The government also needs to offer policy and fund support in research and development activities either by research institutes or industries. China's industries can and will transform themselves into entities that produce high-tech and high-value products from those that produce cheap products using cheaper labor.'...

'But with the country's rapid growth, employees are becoming more picky about their working conditions and the payment, and the shortage of skilled workers is contributing to drive up wages (up from 150 euro to 300€ per month in Pearl Delta River and Shenzen-area and alike?)'

II. Wheels of Change: The Process of Industrial Automation is gathering Momentum across the Country (p.7)

Some enterprises have started to upgrade manufacturing technologies and buy advanced equipment thereby elevating their production to a higher automation level.

Under such circumstances enterprises in the eastern areas will shift labor-intensive manufacturing operations to the central and western regions. They will focus more on technology innovation to improve output and thus herald industrial transformation.'

III. 'Labor Woes are pushing more Factories and Businesses to turn to Automation, and even Robots to replace Workers' (p.1)

'Amid these changes, electronics manufacturing giant Foxconn Technology Group (compare this with HP and Apple!) recently announced plans to use 1 million robots to replace some of its workers in its 1.2 million-strong working force over three years.'

IV. 'Race for Beauty's Bounty: Beauty pageants were once taboo, but they are now embraced by Local governments as a Way to attract Attention to local Charm', (p.13)

I would like to end this essay with a comment on the last of these quoted headlines. In my first hour in China in November 1986, driving in taxi along Chang'an Avenue looking up at that image of the eternally smiling face of Mao Zedong hanging above Tiananmen's entrance to the Forbidden City, I could never have imagined such an evolution in Chinese official thought and in the *China Daily's* published thoughts. At that time I only saw a mass of cyclists on both Chang'an side-lanes, over 50 % of them women, cycling with reserved elegance, and all wearing dowdy blue or black, somewhat filthy and used, Mao-style jackets and pants, underscoring that in China **women** were perfectly equal with men, even on the roads when cycling home!

* During the period from 2000 to 2006, under the guidance of Prof. Dr. Dirk Deschoolmeester and Prof. Dr. Marc Buelens, Mr. Zhan Jun conducted his research as a PhD candidate and completed his doctoral thesis '*Development of Theory on Entrepreneurial Orientation: Empirical Evidences from Hebei, China and Flanders, Belgium*', which was published in July, 2007 by the China Commercial Press (ISBN: 978-7-80181-702-0/F.1030, Beijing).



4. The development of China's protection of intellectual property rights

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Chinese law has undergone major change

China has modernized its legal system and keeps trying to cope with the changes the times require. It has ratified treaties with remarkably direct implications for the Chinese legal system – sometimes replacing automatically their own procedural rules. China has also introduced volumes of detailed technical legal rules, such as those in relation to corporations, financial products, business activity and the whole scale of products introduced to the markets. Of course, there have been lapses in control of food quality and environmental regulation has been substandard – we all have seen that. But in international law we have just seen new rules for resolution of conflicts between foreign laws and Chinese laws. After a short period of preparation (but with two readings in the People's Congress), the rules were promulgated in October 2010 and became applicable in April 2011 – so that they came nearly as a surprise to the foreign legal community. Legislative initiatives can be impulsive, but one can't complain of a lack of rules. Often they are responses to urgent needs and may subsequently be formulated as more general 'rules' by the Supreme People's Court or the Supreme Procuratorate.

The laws on intellectual property in the sectors of patents, trademarks and copyright have all undergone major changes since China joined the WTO just under ten years ago.

There have been many encouraging and important developments in the field of intellectual property. China reacts diligently to criticism. In 2007 a panel of the Dispute Settlement Body of WTO indicated shortcomings in Chinese copyright law protection and procedures regarding confiscation by customs officers of materials not authorized for local publication or distribution. The necessary changes were made and implemented by 2010. In the field of patent law we are now down to polishing up the rules and resolving details. A new law of 2008

(the third since 1984) brought further refinement in protection in the field of biological inventions. The 'novelty' criterion for the granting of patents is now more stringent, which reduces weak patents. Penalties have also been raised. A rule worthy of note is that in cases of co-ownership, each owner may separately exploit the invention with third-party licensees. This is something for partners in development ventures to consider carefully and to make agreements about. A socialist peculiarity is a more general but clearly described possibility of issuing compulsory licenses (under circumstances of public need, such as with health issues.)

Revolution – or just less

I think a revolution has taken place. However, the rules often still need to be explained and accepted or internalized. I remember a Supreme Court judge giving a serious rebuke to a young student who had intervened during a conference on IP compliance to suggest that copying activity could be excused because historically each geographical area had gone through its period of copying: first Europe copied, later Japan and then – it was end of 2004, in Shanghai – China in its turn. The judge did not accept this excuse.

Nevertheless, it cannot be denied that there is a voluminous trade in counterfeit goods coming from the East and from China in particular. Copying of branded products or of labels of products such as clothes is certainly going on. There is a certain amount of policing and the penalties of administrative nature and under criminal law have been increased. There are also administrative and court crackdowns. I have long read of numbers of successful raids into illegal production facilities taking place. Authorities have been willing to cooperate with owners of brand-names. The Chinese government has in recent months repeatedly provided information about the administrative as well as police raids that have taken place in certain geographical areas or in certain types of production of goods and about the numbers of persons incarcerated for infringing intellectual property rights. It provides this information to obviate the criticism formulated against China by such entities as the American Chamber of Commerce. However, counterfeit goods made in China remain a great concern. Both European and American customs know that the great majority of the illegal copies which they intercept originate in China. Efforts to catch the culprits still need to be intensified.

Truth and perception – from the vantage-point of an Apple retail shop

So there is more than perception alone. Nevertheless, perception is a strong factor at present, especially when the positive images become visible. China is sometimes made to look bad, but those informed of the great efforts invested into seeking compliance know that the body of law is ready, that no excuses are sought and policing has demonstrated its bite.

A critical onlooker will then perhaps ask: how do we judge or situate the news items about finding an entire fake Apple store or about the Ikea formula for a furniture store being copied in China? I was myself, in a former life, a retail lawyer for seven years, so I appreciate what a store concept is and how much know-how can be put into a formula. At one time self-service was a special feature and it sure was a way to increase sales. I also know the flashy Apple stores, their layout and their clever organization and catchy customer approach from recent purchases I made in the US. Ikea I know too, and I have advised a Belgian furniture store on how to protect its own similar formula and designs vis-à-vis its franchising partners in Korea. I am not so well informed over what copying exactly was going on with the two brands that hit the news with their shop formulas. One must be careful. If a store is completely painted in white and its products were hanging in white boxes along the wall or phones were wired to a table, this is not necessarily too much leaning on or passing off on rights of the competition. If, however, a logo was copied and if the products were copies of Apple products or suggestive as such, then one crosses a line. The particular shape of an object can now be protected, based on a Supreme People's Court rule of late 2010. Furniture sold unassembled in a packaging box may appeal to many customers, but there lies not the genius; a Dutch company did that longer ago. I think brand names as well as company names can and should be safeguarded. Design elements with a practical application (utility models) can be registered rather easily and can then find legal protection. Some elements of retail franchises are indeed proprietary and so, on the basis of agreement, the franchisor could be protected from the danger of a franchisee running off with secret know-how that was provided and an employee might be subject to sanctions if he stole trade secrets. I feel confident in saying the tools for legal action are available. The competent personnel are on hand (law firms seek this type of work – at a price). The necessary types of legal protection so as to avoid such blatant copying of a retail outlet formula or a product range are indeed on offer in China. But if someone just copies superficial elements or mere decorative elements – I would just call that bad taste.

There are indeed still issues outstanding in this field. There are some more improvements to bring into the law of the country. And, more generally speaking, enforcement and policing are ongoing concerns. Discipline and compliance are now the foci of further legal development.

Improvements still to be made

As far as the still-awaited improvements are concerned, I refer to what a grouping of major European enterprises consider to be still on the agenda (see the recently published Position Paper 2011-2012 of the Europe-China Chamber of Commerce, in the section on Intellectual Property Rights, on the web): more work on aspects of clarification regarding misappropriation of trade secrets; clarification of the rights and remuneration due to employees who are also inventors; halting the dramatic growth of publication of copyrighted materials on websites; further clarification regarding the 2010 general verdict of the Supreme People's Court on competing trademarks that have built their own reputation; improvement of enforcement at trade fairs. There are also a number of irksome, comparatively minor matters which nevertheless can cause irritation, among them the matter of cancellation of a trade mark due to non-use.

Compliance and its challenges

As far as compliance is concerned, there are various issues. China is a huge country with a burgeoning economy and a rapidly evolving social fabric. Divergences can be detected between the laws on the books and respect for them or enforcement of them in the field.

I can, in the first place, see some complications arise because of the multi-layered character of the laws. You have local, provincial and national general laws of the country, with local administrative regulations, ministerial regulations from numerous departments, possibly overlapping, and court-made 'legislation'. China is legislating at a furious speed on many levels – probably too many. After catching up, by making all the necessary laws, the country may now need to streamline the mass of existing rules and seek uniform enforcement of all its main or core laws.

In the second place, there is a challenge with regard to the specialist knowledge required to work effectively in the field of intellectual property rights. China may

need to consolidate its laws, but it also needs to advance its programmes of schooling for its judges and judicial personnel such as prosecutors. There are tens of thousands of judges – who are nowadays indeed judges trained in law – some very young but eager to have an impact. But they may lack experience or specialization. Their knowledge of advanced fields such as intellectual property and some aspects of international business transactions may be poor or lacking. That is why some issues are channelled to specialized courts or put under the control of the highest court.

Thirdly, the deficit in the enforcement of laws is geographically variable, with obvious differences between the major cities and the countryside. Again...the country is huge and further away from the capital and from the major trading hubs local authorities have been known to protect local businesses run by party-affiliated entities. The continued strong involvement of public entities active in production as well in regulatory activity – all under the Communist Party – has had repercussions. Local employment can be protected by protecting local bosses, an example being the story told some years ago in the book 'Mr. China' about the business ventures of a negotiator for an American investment firm. In cases where conflicts come before the courts, the judges themselves are not always above influence. In the cities this pull of public-entity firms seems to be much weaker.

Local protectionism is not new. I guess one best fights this tendency by enforcing the rule of law and strengthening an independent judiciary. Such legal-capacities-building has always been identified as essential by European and American authorities. Europe has contributed by providing additional legal training and international experience for judges. The U.S. has also invested in programmes of improvement of law schools and training lawyers. Europe sponsors the EU-China law school, in the belief that this is beneficial for change over the long term.

Regarding this enforcement problem, we see China moving away from administrative interventions towards greater powers for, and impact of, civil courts. I have indicated above that civil penalties, or 'damages', have been increased, so that private parties have the chance to do the policing for themselves when authorities are not diligent enough. The legal changes are also broadening the scope of the jurisdiction of civil law courts. For example, jurisdiction to sue is available at the market place where damage is caused but now also at the domicile of the infringer. We can also find more suitable objective remedies in state courts as well as improved intermediate protective measures.

Europe is negotiating an investment treaty with China – to replace the network of bilateral national treaties the member states concluded earlier

I hear and read that Europe is actively and constructively involved in finding a balance in many aspects of its international trade with China – it is China's most important partner and we hopefully will keep our markets open for Chinese products. I heard the Trade Commissioner De Gucht explain that negotiations are advancing on a mutually binding investment treaty. He mentioned areas where a greater openness is requested or required from the Chinese side. The legal world will be eager to see the dispute resolution principles which emerge from these negotiations. Since China complies with the rules on IP protection under the WTO agreement, it now offers adequate procedural protection and notably, in the patent law of 2008, made available better interlocutory measures and better means to preserve and protect evidence, as well as imposing higher penalties. It also provides improved transparency as to rights existing and rights granted (through better publication). Still Europe is justified in asking for strong protection of intellectual property rights and for the procedures to enforce those rights. I think we are now down to details as far as rules are concerned. But I understand that compliance remains sometimes below par. Effective measures for cooperation at the level of customs controls and procedures are welcome. Expectations as to the quality of laws are becoming more and more reciprocal. Investments coming from China are soaring in Europe and the numbers are rising of Chinese parties who own European patents or a registered brand. Those investors and those Chinese owners will also seek protection and will demand equal treatment, so business people from both sides will sympathise and probably we can look forward to a balanced and mutually supportive legal environment.

Private protective actions to take – Arbitration may be advisable when concluding a business contract

Should we fear to set foot on the land and introduce our products into the Chinese market for fear of their being copied? The market is so attractive. I think a certain reticence or fear about entering the Chinese market may be warranted if you have patents that are not well protected in China or are, as production patents or as embedded technology, not easily discernible in goods and are difficult to police by your agents – just as elsewhere.

It is a fact that when you do business, you can get involved in disputes. When that happens, you may improve your chances of finding a fully independent and enforceable final decision if you opt for commercial arbitration instead of national court proceedings. A contracting party must do this at the time of conclusion of the agreement. But even with a clause stipulating exclusive resort to arbitration when a conflict arises, eventually, in order to enforce a decision against a Chinese party, you still need the cooperation of a court of law. Only a court of law has the power to enforce. However, a recent survey of enforcement of international arbitral awards (by Fei Lanfang, published in 'Arbitration international' 2010) shows that when Chinese courts were asked to enforce an international arbitration award, such courts have sometimes called on social and public interests according to Chinese principles and values (we call that 'public policy') in order to quash the award or negate its effect in China. Law courts have largely refrained from intervening with annulments. Enforcement has been improving, the survey says. I don't want to enter into detail, but the Chinese Supreme People's Court has overturned court decisions that showed a bias in favour of local factories and shown support for awards taken in arbitration under the rules of the Chinese CIETAC-institute.

On China's role as a possible leader in innovation

I consider part of the good news in this sector to be the fact that China is itself rapidly becoming a partner in innovation. It is in that capacity starting to be involved actively in the protections of its own rights or its citizens' own private rights. There is no doubt that China is quickly becoming a major force for technological innovation. The number of Chinese patent applications has rocketed. It is true that to a large extent this increase is the result of the interest of foreign businesses in putting products on that market. However, Huawei, the Chinese conglomerate in electronics and IT, is now the biggest applicant for patents also *outside* of China – and that is the stronger signal.

The high number of Chinese engineers and top researchers assures continued growth. I was arbitrator in a case of alleged copying of technology in China and I remember a professor of technology of M.I.T. testifying to the fact that in the field of welding of the most corrosion-resisting metals, Chinese know-how had become unequalled. I believe the paradigm is indeed gradually shifting. China has all the brainpower, the competencies and the hunger for improved technology. It has the daring and the dash and – as with levitation trains – the courage to invest.

At this point in time, however, the West still has the edge with technology. Allow me to say that for China to truly attain leadership would require more. There are other talents that need to be coached and there are conditions to be met as the talents develop. To mention only two challenges, one is intellectual and another is organizational or structural. No country can lead alone intellectually. A culture of open cooperation and integration of learning and of synergies for development must be created, with increased scientific quality and mutual trust in running common R&D projects with others. As for organization, the country would need, just as the West must continuously do, to deepen its awareness to find opportunities with applied science. Much training is needed in talents (including managerial) to exploit technology and to assure a sound regulatory environment. China has more work to do along the lines of its new rules of 2008 to enhance private initiative and the broader private ownership of intellectual property. It must further invite business undertakings to become even more creative, while respecting quality standards.

Closing remarks

All in all, recent evolution in this matter has been very positive. The results sheet, for a country in rapid economic and social development, is impressive.

However, we know that we know there are a number of entrepreneurs on the Chinese market and territory who are breaking the laws on intellectual property – mostly and most immediately to the detriment of foreign companies but in the longer run to that of their own talented and inventive people as well. Perhaps too many private persons and even some local authorities might still condone such actions or might be found to sympathise with those copying and infringing. If so, then a certain ‘culture of copying’ may be found to exist, even though government is ostensibly battling this.

I would in no way condone such actions and infringements. The bad guys must be caught. However, a thought has occurred to me: if it were, sadly enough, a culture of copying, we need to help provide more dissuasion and more education to foster understanding of the broader advantages of intellectual creativity and the legal protection of its products. But remember that *the buyers* of such counterfeit goods can also be Westerners and then they are culprits too. It is indeed the buyers’ continued interest that shows us how difficult it is to handle this type of market. Chinese buyers of the stuff are numerous too – and they

sometimes don't have the means to buy the higher-quality or exquisite Western product. That is where, I think, at least their longing to buy falsely branded products illustrates the strong appeal of our brands and it certainly demonstrates that the Chinese look favourably, even with a certain jealousy, at us. They want to copy our tastes and our consumption behaviour – and in the long term that is a bonus. Huge numbers of Chinese are already buying the real thing.



5. The struggle over public space

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The question of land tenure and ownership – private, public, communal... – is of course a central issue in any societal order. In China, where the peasantry was the backbone of the people's army during the revolution, landownership also took on a highly symbolic value. Tenure and ownership were not formally settled during the high days of the 'Great Leap Forward' or the 'Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution' as a legal approach was stigmatized as a bourgeois mode of thinking. Stipulations regarding state ownership in land did not enter the Chinese constitution until 1982, when Deng Xiao Ping was already firmly in power. Deng was fully aware that legal nihilism was a serious stumbling block on the way to an outward looking economy and integration into a WTO-dominated world system. Strange as it may look at first glance, this step was a necessity in order to smooth the overall privatization process. Although full private ownership of land is rare, long term leasing is an adequate substitute. During the transition period diverse actors struggled to gain the lead in this transformation which opened up tremendous opportunities for both accumulation and winning control over social networks. In this battle to direct land acquisition and re-allocation, urban governments and local administrators in collusion with new entrepreneurs manoeuvred themselves into pole position.

Until recently, the arts and artists all over the world played an important role in distributing and socializing ideologies and were of considerable importance for those in power. This is still the case in China. During the Maoist era devoted busybodies occupied the art scene and the art-bureaucracy suffocated the creative spirit. When the four-modernizations-ideology came to the fore, Chinese artists were hoping to make a fresh start and to escape from any form of party-censorship or interference from official circles. The outcome was mixed, oscillating between official tolerance and repression, often based on arbitrary decisions and local circumstances.

On the other hand, the artistic production of the new generation was fully integrated into the global art movement and into the world-wide market. Compared to the period when the Gang of Four was terrorizing the artists, this was a tremendous step forwards. But, Deng and the majority of his camarilla

were traumatized by even the first spark of *luan*, disorder endangering the economic development. The way they managed the Tiananmen events left no doubts about their promptness of action. But now the duo Hu-Wen has once again offered innovative perspectives and this new generation is no longer convinced that state violence can be seen as a 'normal' political instrument. Setting up non-profit cultural programmes, their vision swings between repression and tolerance and legal bribery. They are willing to accept a certain autonomy of artistic production even if it does not please their personal eyes and ears because they believe in soft power. But let there be no misunderstanding: the party has not turned into a paper tiger: if 'necessary' it can still use its claws and teeth. The princeling generation (those related to party-bosses), for example, and individual strongmen such as Zhou Yongkang and Bo Xilai stand for orthodoxy and discipline. One cannot exclude a new cold wind blowing over the country. A lot will be clearer after 2012.

The battle of artists to obtain an independent place under the sun is played out not only on the political-ideological field but also in the very material sense: the occupation of space and the concept of urbanism. During Imperial China the hierarchical lay-out of the city mirrored the societal order, with the Forbidden City positioned in the centre. During the Maoist period, Tiananmen became the shining hub with Zhongnanhai as the metonym for leadership. Space was controlled by official planners leaving no room for private initiatives. Henry Lefèbvre calls this 'abstract space': the creation of homogenization, hierarchization and social fragmentation. The latest urban development has given much room to real estate agencies, private promoters and land speculators. So there is certainly now a strong mark being left by the upper-segments of the civil society in accordance with the official guidelines. Their flagship initiatives-often at the expense of the urban poor – reflect the will of the political top to remodel the city into the real global capital of the world economy. Beijing's leading position is replicated into skyscrapers, flyovers and mega-stadia. This manifestation of the will to modernity, or even to take the lead as a giant BRIC, is simultaneously reflecting the social cleavages in society itself. But there also exists something like 'differential space', a weapon of those deprived of official power, who can try to reconquer public space as both a symbolic sign and a physical construction of a counter-revolution. Unfortunately, creative spaces are easily re-integrated into the system as long as it is in expansion and dominating life in general. What started as safe havens can be turned into 'invited spaces' in which protest is gently robbed of its bite. Hegemony and practical compromise are very attractive ways to absorb cultural counterpoints.

In this struggle, with very divergent outcomes, artists have played a highly visible role. I have been focusing my field research on Beijing. The most prominent and best-known example is 798. Originally 798 was a huge complex of electronics factories and warehouses built by the Russians and East Germans. It contained big halls enjoying an excellent incidence of light (afterwards, the complex was sometimes classified as Bauhaus). After the fall of the Berlin wall, the site was deserted and those in charge of it did not find a new destination role for it themselves. Due to the extremely low rents and an excellent infrastructure the halls were very attractive to both visual artists and gallery owners, who in some way 'occupied' 798 and turned it into a materialized symbol of protest and underground culture. After some time, plans were developed to sell the complex, but at a higher municipal echelon, where awareness of the importance of city-marketing was beginning to take root, other blueprints were developed. In the branding of Beijing as a world-city, the importance of a cultural showcase could not be overlooked. And so 798 was transformed into a very large-scale Montparnasse event and art business centre. It has become a nostalgic non-place designed to please the expectations of the new bohemian-bourgeoisie. It is still a very animated spot, with its cutting-edge shops, veggie eateries and fancy boutiques. But rents are sky-rocketing and most of the original artists have left. Without any manifestation of overt violence, the neighbourhood has been transformed into the third tourist spot of Beijing, and subversion and critique no longer pervade the community (which in fact is no longer a community).

Caochangdi is another story. It is a so-called 'village in the city' with some 1,100 permanent residents and 4,000 temporary residents. Caochangdi has kept many of the aspects of a small town, and the artists' quarter is – physically – but a small part of the whole. Most of the houses are rather ramshackle constructions, alleyways are filled with hanging clothes and one would in vain look for glamour or overt luxury. The artists' quarter is, however, more important than what might be inferred from its limited number of inhabitants. Some of the residents – Ai Wei Wei for example – have an international reputation and, generally speaking, the neighbourhood is upgrading the whole village. Most of the artists do not want to see their compounds ending up as cultural petting-zones and the spirit of dissidence is omnipresent. On April 2010, all residents received a one-page government-stamped paper announcing the dismantling of the whole village. The paper phlegmatically continued: 'The concrete timing is not yet determined'. It is still unclear why the village has to be demolished and who took the decision and on what grounds. This is an example of 'rule by law' and a negation of the principle of 'the rule of law'. Whether the original decision

will be implemented or reversed is uncertain and backdoor-policies and guanxi-activities will be of great importance. It is not even clear whether or not these measures are being taken to strike at the artists' quarter in particular.

This struggle over public space is not just a Chinese phenomenon, but something happening on a world scale. Especially when looking at the prospects for a not-so-distant future of further urbanization and citification, the expansion of mega-cities, centre versus periphery in the 'flat world' and so on. Conflicts over space in all its forms will have a growing importance. What I am trying to do is to look at these evolutions in a comparative perspective: research on the fierce battle over market-places in the Philippines; looking at how Goma is being transformed after a civil war and a volcanic eruption; trying to unravel the dynamics of the now coastal cities in North Africa; gathering information on the transport problems in Capetown which reflect social exclusion. China, in many respects is a laboratory for the world when dealing with new problems. Further research concerning conflicts over space is not just something of interest to classical sinology – it is a perfect example of how glocalization is at the centre of the human sciences.



6. Education in China: some research and practice-based reflections

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Introduction

Education in China presents a challenging picture when approached from a Western perspective. Though Chinese education reflects features that are shared by many Western educational systems, its organizational structure and its content orientation resemble a multi-layered entity that requires careful unravelling and unfolding to get a first grip on its inherent quality. To fully understand the picture, one has to acknowledge the recent history of this educational system and how it is coping with finding a balance between tradition and modernity, between internal and external pressures, between developed and developing regions, etc. The current text can therefore only present an 'essay' as to the nature of Chinese education as experienced and regarded through the lens of a number of large scale research studies set up in China. Its focus will shift from issues related to teachers to school performance, technology adoption in schools and intra-Chinese cultural differences.

Teachers in Chinese education

The present text builds on personal and research experiences from a series of studies – mainly PhD research – set up in close collaboration with Chinese Normal universities. The label 'normal' refers to a key aim of these universities to train teachers, a first critical characteristic of Chinese education when it comes to identifying the professional identity of teachers within the educational system. From a historical point of view – especially during and after the Cultural revolution – teachers were regarded as 'intellectuals', and as such less respected in comparison to workers and farmers, who did 'real' work. This resulted in a tension between the low status regarding the nature of their work and the high expectations regarding their impact on learning and societal progress. This low status was also reflected in the way teachers were trained. Teacher education was limited to pre-university

(senior high school level!) or first degree level. Since that those times, Chinese education has increasingly reflected a clear attempt to strive for better teacher education. A small number of primary and secondary schools these days hire teachers with master's degrees. This results in a very different picture as to the staffing of primary schools, where subject specialists take responsibility for developing specific domain related competencies in children (e.g., a mathematics specialist, an English language specialist, an arts specialist). The focus on English is omnipresent with primary schools often starting English language lessons as early as the first class. But the latter picture is only observed in a limited number of top schools; especially in the developed provinces and cities. Due to the size of the Chinese educational system, in many – especially rural – schools, teachers are hired with rather basic professional qualifications, reinforcing the differences between developed and developing regions in China. Though teacher education at 'high school' level will soon be abolished, the challenge is now to upgrade the skills of in-service staff and to push the qualification level of pre-service student teachers towards a bachelor's and master's degree level.

The focus on in-service development is clearly reflected in the fact that, to an extent which depends on the educational authority and the region, teachers are continuously required to be involved in further – mostly school based – professional development activities. An inspiring example is the involvement of teachers in observing, commenting upon and learning from their colleagues in the same school, city and/or county. During my school visits, I consistently encountered other staff involved in observation, reflection and discussion about the teaching and learning approaches of their colleagues. City level, or regional level education support agencies work regularly in schools to support these professional development activities.

School performance in China

The latest PISA results that were based on the 2009 research cycle reflected for the first time the performance of a major city in mainland China: Shanghai. Although earlier PISA studies had already confirmed the high performance level of the Chinese educational system as implemented in Hong Kong and Macao, the Shanghai results have astounded many other countries that participated in the OECD-run performance indicator studies. The Shanghai 15-year-old students in the domains of mathematical, reading and science literacy far out-performed the Asian competitors and the traditional high performers such as Finland and

Flanders. Our own research in the domain of mathematics performance, involving 11,000 primary school children from four Chinese provinces, reflects the high standards that are pursued in the Chinese educational system. Nevertheless, the research also points to the critical performance in those Chinese provinces with a low GDP and a lower development level. The PISA results especially show what educational authorities in developed provinces/cities are capable of attaining, but the educational reality is harsher and reflects a clear relationship between socio-economic status and school performance. But even in this context, China again presents a partly divergent picture. Learners from families with the lowest SES seem to outperform learners with a middle class SES. This non-linear relationship between SEs and performance can be partly explained by Confucianist aspirations and by the belief in the Chinese culture that class mobility is possible when you work hard. Nevertheless, the large variance between SES levels within and between Chinese regions is a challenge for the educational authorities and the educational system. It is clear that rural areas are less developed.

When discussing the 'performance' level of Chinese education, the persistence of old ideas about the 'performance' level of a particular school must be considered. Though the practice of 'key schools' – which were given larger resources than normal – no longer exists, there is still an informal labelling of schools as high performing, medium performing and low performing. This shadow quality-label persists, since high performing schools (as measured by average scores on city level, provincial or national exams) receive more resources from the authorities and attract secondary sources of income (e.g., from parents). It is striking that middle class families put high pressure on schools as to the outcomes of their children.

Competition should be mentioned as a final characteristic of Chinese education. Learners in school (and as a consequence teachers and the school) compete to attain a high ranking in local, regional and national assessment initiatives. When visiting a typical school, it is impossible to ignore the publicly displayed ranking lists that draw attention to the top performance of particular school pupils. This practice is reminiscent of the old Chinese examination system that resulted in the public announcement of the results of the candidates enrolled for the imperial administration examinations. Many Confucian temples show to visitors the steles (stone plaques) listing the names and performance of that year's candidates. This tradition seems to be reflected in the high expectations in society as to learner and school performance. When visiting schools and talking with staff, this tradition is – as a result – a recurrent topic of discussion and concern.

Educational practices: tradition and innovation go hand in hand

Working hard and time-to-task can be called the keys for success in Chinese education. It is striking that learners in the educational system are involved in their learning and teaching for a far larger number of hours per day than in Western countries. Quite apart from the fact that a large percentage of schoolchildren attend boarding schools (because of the large distances), it is not unusual for learners to be at school or involved in school activities from 7.00 a.m. to 7.00 p.m. But next to time-to-task, the actual instructional practices and strategies partly explain high performance. Though schools differ in the extent they adopt state-of-the-art instructional practices, it is not unusual to find schools that embrace peer tutoring, collaborative learning, self-regulated learning, etc. When it comes to homework, our research findings uncover three parallel systems of homework: one assigned by the teacher, one by the parents and one by the learners themselves. The latter two are considered as compensating for an unfavourable development level or similar. Research further reveals that discussion, regularly found in our educational system, about a knowledge oriented versus an application oriented teaching focus does not exist. When studying learning styles of students, we discover that surface approaches to learning (e.g., rote learning/memorization) go hand in hand with deep learning (looking for understanding/insight): Chinese learners learn by heart what they first come to understand.

Technology adoption in the Chinese educational system

From the above, it can easily be appreciated that schools in China differ in many ways. When it comes to the adoption of technology, much depends on the developmental level of the province, city, country/district. Whereas rural schools will suffer from a relative lack of computers and the integrated use of information and communication technologies (ICT), schools that are equipped with technology mirror a promising picture of what Chinese schools can do with ICT. The 'standard' equipment of a classroom goes far beyond what can be found in a regular Flemish primary or secondary school, with an integrated computer and beamer actually being used by nearly every teacher. However – and in contrast – independent ICT use by pupils is observed to a far lesser extent. This is in line with the dominant instructional strategies being adopted by primary school teachers (see above). Teachers adopt somewhat guided instructional strategies, present more control and guiding questions and leave less leeway for learners.

Within-China differences

As already stressed above, it is difficult to speak about a distinctive 'Chinese education' system, since much depends on the geographical area, its developmental level (GDP) and the educational authorities in charge of the design and implementation of the educational system. This brings us back to the historical roots of the current educational system and their continued influencing on daily practices and introduces in the educational system a rather unexpected variety of approaches, models and practices that are. Outsiders expect the educational system to be very centralized. In a way they are right. Our research into 'school autonomy' in China reveals that this Western concept that guides our school development approaches is almost non-existent in Chinese (secondary) schools. It is the central educational authorities (province, city, county/district) that decide on the available resources (staff, budget, infrastructure). This feature might suggest that schools are all alike, barely able to develop autonomous decisions, adopt innovations or embrace new technologies. But this is not the case. School-based policies seem to develop but build mainly on the professional identity of the teachers and seem to be able to make use of the available autonomy at the school and classroom level.

Case Study: ICRH's activities in China: past, present and future

Along with numerous other departments at Ghent University, the International Center for Reproductive Health (ICRH), belonging to the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, has established long-standing cooperation with China.

Its continuous efforts in the constant development of training and research activities with Chinese partners have resulted in strong and sustainable relations with several Chinese universities, hospitals and government institutions. Because of its remarkable records in its cooperation projects with China, it is a sound example of what can be achieved through long-term efforts. For this reason, the China Platform chose ICRH as a case study of good practice for this publication.

Many other equally successful cooperation projects are not mentioned here. These can – at least partly – be found in the overview of research cooperation and cooperation agreements UGent – China.

The ICRH (www.icrh.org) is a multidisciplinary WHO-collaborating centre operating within the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences at UGent. It develops research and training activities in the field of sexual and reproductive health and rights. It is one of the largest academic units in Europe in this field.

ICRH has been and continues to be active in China for more than 10 years now. The first ICRH research project was in 2001-2002, in collaboration with the Fudan University Medical Centre, Shanghai and the State Family Planning Commission of China. The project aimed at including curative and preventive management of STI and HIV in existing reproductive health programmes. (Picture 1).

Between 2005 and 2009, ICRH was involved in three FP6 EU funded collaborative research projects in China: two as project leader and one as partner. PAFP (Post Abortion Family Planning services in China, 2005-2007) (picture 2), CHIMACA (China Maternal Health Care in rural areas, 2006-2009) (picture 3) and YOLAMI (Young Labour Migrants in China, 2006-2009) (picture 4).

For the coming year, ICRH will be coordinating a project within the EU's 7th Framework Programme. This is INPAC (**IN**tegrating **Post-Abortion** family planning services into existing abortion services in hospital settings in **C**hina). ICRH is the project leader, working together with 4 Chinese partners and 2 European partners. The project will be starting in January 2012 and will run for 4 years. The budget is nearly 3 million euro. 120 hospitals from 30 provinces in China will be involved in the project.

From a geographical viewpoint, ICRH has developed a network in the cities of Beijing, Chongqing, Kunming and Shanghai and in the provinces of Anhui, Hebei, Henan, Guangdong, Shaanxi and Sichuan. Today, ICRH's partners in China include 10 Universities, 2 NGOs, 3 government research institutions and 1 national professional organization.

On 27th August 2010, during East Flemish week in the Belgian Pavilion at the Shanghai World Exhibition, a seminar on 'Working together for better health tomorrow' was successfully organized by ICRH in collaboration with Shanghai Fudan University. This seminar attracted nearly 100 people from over all China, from universities, government bodies and NGOs and including clinicians and international participants (Picture 5).

In collaboration with the Society for Family Planning, and the Chinese Medical Association, ICRH organized the first and participated in the second China Obstetrics & Gynaecology Hospital President Forum on the theme of 'Post-Abortion Contraception' (PAC). Nearly 40 presidents of hospitals from all over China attended the first forum, which was held in Shanghai in 2010. This event was widely reported by the Chinese media (picture 6).

ICRH has also made a positive contribution to the relationship between Ghent University and Chinese Universities. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between Ghent University and Hebei Medical University in May 2011 with the significant contribution of ICRH. Dr. Wei-Hong Zhang, senior researcher at ICRH, has been offered a position as Visiting Professor by three Chinese Universities (picture 7).

ICRH hopes to continue its activities in China and is working to set up permanent representation in China in the coming year. The aim is to strengthen the existing relationships, develop sustainable partnership between universities (exchange of staff, PhD students etc), increase collaboration for the benefit of the populations of the two countries and also contribute to the development of the important field of Reproductive Health at the University of Ghent and Chinese Universities.



作项目 CHIMACA 学术研讨会 · 合肥 200
ACA Hefei Meeting, May



The Press Conference of EU Project: "Post Abortion Family Planning Service in China"
"欧盟——中国流产后计划生育服务项目" 新闻发布会
Beijing, China, 19th December, 2007 中国北京 2007.12.19



The Press Conference of EU Project "Young Labour Migrants in Chinese Cities"
"欧盟-中国流动人口生殖健康项目" 新闻发布会
Beijing, China, December 16th -19th
中国北京 2009年12月16-19日





根特大学 2011 事实与数据

官方名称	根特大学 http://www.ugent.be
校长	Paul Van Cauwenberge 博士 教授
国际关系办公室	http://www.ugent.be/en/teaching/internationalisation 主任: Luc François 博士 教授 地址: Sint-Pietersnieuwstraat 25, B- 9000 Gent 电话: +32 9 264 70 02 传真: +32 9 264 31 31 电邮: iro@ugent.be
官方教学语言	荷兰语; 越来越多的课程使用英语

事实与数据	
重要时间	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 1817年: 由荷兰国王威廉一世建立 – 1991年: 根特州立大学改名为根特大学
组织	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 11个学院 (艺术与哲学, 法律, 科学, 医学与健康科学, 工程学, 经济与工商管理, 兽医学, 心理学与教育学, 生物工程, 药学, 政治与社会学) 和130多个部门 <p>课程在线目录:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – http://www.ugent.be/en/teaching/studying – http://www.ugent.be/en/teaching/studying/studyprogrammes/coursecatalogue.htm
财务数据	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 收入: 4亿7000万欧元 (2009 年 49%来自弗拉芒语区的直接拨款) – 7100名教职员工 – 大学医院: 6011名员工 (从1987年起, 大学医院成为企业)
学生	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 2010年在校生33749人 – 2608名博士生 (其中24%为外国国籍) – 共193名中国学生 (86名博士生, 13名本科生, 62名硕士生, 其他32名)

上海排名		
世界排名	区域排名	国内排名
90	29	1

国际合作 http://www.ugent.be/en/teaching/internationalisation	
欧盟的方案	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lifelong Learning Program (e.g. Erasmus) - Tempus - Alfa - Atlantis-EU-Canada – Australia – NZ - Erasmus Mundus Action 1 (joint international Masters with a EU label of excellence) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 作为协调者: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 欧洲核聚变科学与工程物理系硕士 - 乡村发展学国际硕士 - 伊拉莫斯光学硕士 - 伊拉莫斯世界海洋生物多样性及自然保护科学硕士 - 线虫科学国际硕士 - 消防安全工程学国际硕士 - 环境技术科学国际硕士 - 海洋生态系统健康及自然保护博士课程 - 作为合作伙伴: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 法律和经济学欧洲硕士 - 生物医学工程欧洲通用硕士课程 - Erasmus Mundus Action 2 (clusters of countries with exchanges on all levels) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 作为协调者: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 西巴尔干(Basileus) - 中国(Lisum) - 东南亚 (Lotus) - 作为合作伙伴: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 阿根廷 - 巴西 - 阿根廷-巴拉圭-乌拉圭 - 智利- 委内瑞拉-厄瓜多尔 – 古巴 - 中国 - 印度 - 哥伦比亚-哥斯达黎加 – 巴拿马 - Edulink

双边协定	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 鼓励和非欧盟国家的经济合作; 重点在教学人员和学生之间的交换 - 超过80个双边协议
战略网络	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - U4 - Santander Group

2011-2012 学年安排	
http://www.ugent.be/en/teaching/studentadmin/academiccalendar	
<p>本学年构成</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 第一学期开学: 7/09/2011 - 第二学期开学: 13/02/2012 - 寒假/圣诞节假期: 26/12/2011-08/01/2012 - 两学期期间休假: 06/02/2012-11/02/2012 - 春假 (Crocus): 20/02/2012-218/02/2012 - 复活节假期: 02/04/2012-15/04/2012 - 暑假: 9/07/2012-19/08/2012 	<p>其他假期(没有课程)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 万圣节: 01/11/2011 - 万灵节: 02/11/2011 - 停战纪念日: 11/11/2011 - 国王日: 15/11/2011 - 校庆: 23/03/2012 - 复活节星期一: 09/04/2012 - 劳动节: 01/05/2012 - 圣灵升天日: 17/05/2012-18/05/2012 - 圣灵降临日: 28/05/2012

