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Previous issues of the *Tsinghua Newsletter* can be found on the "Tsinghua University News" website at http://news.tsinghua.edu.cn/publish/newsen
New Students Enrolled in the Centenary Year

On August 17th, 3,349 new undergraduates enrolled at Tsinghua, including 2,729 undergraduates in science and engineering and 620 in liberal arts. Among them are six students from Hong Kong, eight from Macao and 13 from Taiwan. These undergraduates come from about 1,200 high schools from around the country.

In this special centenary year, Tsinghua University prepared gifts for each of new students, which included a centenary logo T-shirt and a commemorative badge.

The newly enrolled international students all arrived at Tsinghua by the end of September. Over 3,400 students from 112 countries are studying here this semester, marking a record high. Nearly 1,200 of them are studying in postgraduate programs.

Gold and Silver Coins Issued for the Centenary of Tsinghua

A set of gold and silver commemorative coins for the centenary of Tsinghua University was issued by the People’s Bank of China on July 29th, 2011. The set consists of one gold and one silver coins, both of which are legal tender of the People’s Republic of China.

The quarter ounce pure gold coin carries a 100-Yuan face value, with the logo of the Tsinghua University centenary celebration. The one ounce pure silver coin carries a 10-Yuan face value depicting the image of the Old Gate of Tsinghua University.

As the only set of commemorative coins ever issued for the anniversary of a university, the coins are chased by many collectors and have hit high prices in the coin collection market.
Dr. Gavriel Salvendy Chairs DIE for Ten Years

Professor Gavriel Salvendy, Chair of the Department of Industrial Engineering (DIE) has worked at Tsinghua for ten years by October 2011.

As the first Chair of DIE founded in 2001, Professor Salvendy and Professor Zheng Li, Executive Chair of DIE, led the Department and made considerable progress in both teaching and research. DIE has become one of the best industrial engineering departments in China.

On the celebration of the tenth anniversary of the Department, Professor Salvendy said he was honored and delighted when invited to head the newly formed DIE because of the excellent teamwork of the faculty and staff members and the truly outstanding students.

“He is very easy going and he has a pretty good sense of humor,” and “His concern is quite different and he has brought a new style to the department” are comments on Professor Salvendy from the department members and students. He has spent a lot of time communicating with faculty members, staff and students, aiming to create a relaxing and enjoyable learning environment in the department.

After his retirement from Tsinghua University in October 2011, Professor Salvendy will continue to chair the International Advisory Board of DIE for the next two years. He has established a foundation with a donation of RMB one million which provides funds for the Chair of the DIE.

Professor Salvendy won the National Friendship Award in September 2006, the highest award conferred on foreign experts for outstanding contributions to economic and social progress in China.

Professor Alan Macfarlane Donates Books to Tsinghua

Professor Alan Macfarlane, a Fellow of the British Academy and professor of the University of Cambridge, donated more than 15,000 volumes of books and other items of his collections to Tsinghua University on October 22nd, 2011. These donations include books, manuscripts, video discs and files, covering such subjects as art, the humanities and social sciences.

Professor Macfarlane said Tsinghua’s new Humanities and Social Sciences Library impressed him greatly, and he hoped to contribute his part to the development of humanities and social sciences subjects at Tsinghua and in China. Vice-president Xie Weihe attended the donation ceremony and expressed gratitude to Professor Macfarlane on behalf of Tsinghua.
Tsinghua Tops China’s EMBA Programs Ranking

Tsinghua University’s EMBA (Executive Master of Business Administration) Program of the School of Economics and Management tops the list of “China’s EMBA Programs Ranking” for the third consecutive time.

Beginning in 2007, China’s EMBA Programs Ranking issued by Manager, one of China’s leading business management magazines, has become a key biennial event in China. Since this May, Manager has entrusted a third-party to investigate more than 40 China’s EMBA programs in Chinese and English, and conducted a reputation survey among students and employers before ranking the top 20 EMBA programs. Tsinghua ranks first in five of the 13 performance indicators, including faculty, project management, alumni network, students, and employers’ reputation.

Since its inception in 2002, over 3,400 students have been conferred Master’s degrees through Tsinghua’s EMBA program.

Student Education & Development

Over 5,600 Students Participate in Social Practice This Summer

Over 5,600 Tsinghua students spent their summer vacation doing research projects, field investigations, charity work, educational assistance, and other social services. The social practice projects are proposed and planned mainly by the students, covering social investigation, education-aiding-the-poor projects, and internships.

A total of 5,637 students formed 601 teams for social practice this summer. About half of the students participated in the social investigation program. Some teams joined the Education-Aid-the-Poor program in remote and impoverished counties in China’s western area. Some teams participated in the internship programs organized by various departments.
Low-rent housing has been the focus of many people’s livelihood for a long period in the process of China’s urbanization. A student union organized two teams to conduct investigations concerning the public-rent housing situation in Beijing and Chongqing. They interviewed officials responsible for housing, made a detailed analysis of public-rent housing policies in different areas, and formed a report of problems and suggestions.

Some students went to assist at the rare bird and plant conservation zone in Qinghai established by the School of Life Sciences of Tsinghua in 2006. They also wrote books about the endangered procapra przewalskii species and barhead goose in an effort to arouse public awareness for their protection.

In this centenary year of Tsinghua University, many students were inspired by visiting places where alumni have made great contributions to the society.

According to Mr. Hao from the Student Affairs Office, this is a great opportunity for students to receive social education, improve ability and contribute their part to society.

Student Athletes Harvest Nine Universiade Medals

Ten Tsinghua students participated in the 26th Summer Universiade in Shenzhen from August 11th to 23rd, 2011 and collected six golds and three silvers.

In addition to the field and track competitions, Tsinghua students also took part in shooting, basketball and chess games this year. This event was a breakthrough for Tsinghua in the quantity of medals since the 23rd Universiade in Izmir.

Tsinghua athlete Li Peijing was crowned with the gold in the women’s 50m rifle prone individual and team, and the 50m rifle three position team. Teng Haining earned the silver with his personal best of 1’46”62 in the men’s 800m race, only 0.18 seconds’ gap to the 17-year national record. Cao Yifei won the gold in the men’s 50m rifle 3 position team, the silver in the men’s 10m air rifle team and 50m rifle prone team competition.

Tsinghua faculty members from the physical culture department also joined in the games with great enthusiasm. Four faculty members, including Wang Xin, Gao Quan, Liu Shuang, and Wang Ye, acted as referees of table tennis, athletics, fencing and water polo. Research Institute of Tsinghua University in Shenzhen donated vehicle TV signal devices valued at RMB 2.58 million to the Universiade.

University students from 152 countries and regions participated in the games that include 306 events of 24 sports.
The student project titled “The Hybrid Under-actuated Humanoid Robotic Hand with Coupled and Self-adaptive Grasping” won the Undergraduate Robot Division First Place Award at the final round of the 2011 ASME Student Mechanism and Robot Design Competition held in Washington, D.C. in August 2011. The project was carried out by Tsinghua undergraduates Sun Jie, Li Bowen, and Li Guoxuan under the supervision of Associate Professor Zhang Wenzeng from the Department of Mechanical Engineering, Tsinghua University.

The project proposed a novel concept of a coupled and self-adaptive (COSA) hand and actually constructed an experimental prototype. It combines the features of both coupled and indirectly self-adaptive grasping, making the robotic hand more stable and flexible.

The competition is composed of four divisions: undergraduate robot division, graduate robot division, undergraduate mechanism design, and graduate mechanism design. There’s one first place award in each division. It is an annual event jointly supported by American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) and the National Science Foundation of USA (NSF), with participants from dozens of countries and regions around the world.

Seven Professors Lead New Key National Research Programs

The Chinese Ministry of Science and Technology recently announced projects selected in its 2011 National Basic Research Program and National Key Scientific Research Program. Seven projects from Tsinghua University are included in the two lists. The faculty members who lead the projects are appointed as the chief scientists.

These projects are:

“Basic Research in Microwave Photonics for the Wide Bandwidth and Large Dynamic Range of Millimeter-wave Devices and their Applications” led by Professor Zheng Xiaoping from the Department of Electronic Engineering;

“Fundamental Research on the Energy and Resource Optimized Hyper-Cellular Mobile Communication System” led by Professor Niu Zhisheng from the Department of
Geometrical Enhancement of Low-field Magneto-resistance in Silicon

The discovery of inhomogeneity-induced magnetoresistance (IMR) in some non-magnetic semiconductors, in particular silicon, is of great interest to the scientific community. Professor Zhang Xiaozhong from Tsinghua’s Department of Materials Science and Engineering, who has been trying to find a substitute for giant magnetoresistance materials since 2003, believes silicon can be a promising alternative.

He and his team found that IMR in lightly doped silicon can be significantly enhanced through hole injection, and then tuned by an applied current to arise at low magnetic fields. They made IMR samples with semiconductor silicon. The ‘inhomogeneity’ is generated by the p–n boundary formed between regions where conduction is dominated by the minority and majority charge carriers respectively. Application of a magnetic field distorts the current in the boundary region, resulting in large magneto-resistance.

The field sensitivities of the samples measured at room temperature were 10 percent IMR at 0.07 Tesla and 100 percent IMR at 0.2 Tesla, which is close to the performance of commercial giant magnetoresistance devices. Besides, their samples can operate at very high magnetic fields of...
Two New Research Institutes Established

Two new research institutes were established recently at Tsinghua University.

The Center for Educational Strategy and Policy (CESP), co-founded by the Ministry of Education and Tsinghua University, was unveiled on August 31st. The Center integrates Tsinghua’s strengths in several disciplines including education, management, and other social sciences. It attracts talented people from both abroad and China to support its vision of influencing academic and policy decision-makers while functioning as a think tank and key consulting institute for national educational strategy and policy.

Tsinghua Vice President Xie Weihe is appointed Director of the Center. Professor Shi Jinghuan, Deputy Director of the Institute of Education, Tsinghua University, acts as Deputy Director of the Center. Professor Hu Angang from Tsinghua’s School of Public Policy and Management is Chairman of the Center’s Academic Committee.

The State Key Laboratory of Low-Dimensional Quantum Physics (LLDQP) was launched on July 15 at the New Sciences Building. Targeting the frontier of low-dimensional quantum physics research, the laboratory has four main directions. They are fabrication of low dimensional quantum systems and materials, methods and techniques of precision measurements under extreme conditions, novel quantum phenomena of low-dimensional and nano/quantum-confined systems, and development of the fundamental theory and design of low dimensional quantum systems. Professor Xue Qikun from Tsinghua’s Department of Physics, a member of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, was appointed the first Director of this newly established laboratory. Among the researchers joining the laboratory, there are seven academicians of the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

Professor Xie Weihe

Professor Xue Qikun

Tsinghua President Gu Binglin and Vice Minister of Education Ms. Lu Xin at the founding ceremony of CESP

University leaders, government officials and faculty members unveil the LLDQP
The State Key Laboratory of Low-Dimensional Quantum Physics is equipped with devices for micro-fabrication and processing and various advanced large-scale instruments which can detect or measure the physical characterizations and properties of materials. For example, a UHV Variable Temperature Scanning Tunneling Microscope, an Atomic Force Microscope-Angle Resolved Photoemission Spectrometer-Molecular Beam Epitaxy Hybrid System, a Magnetic Property Measurement System, and a 500MHz Nuclear Magnetic Resonance System were all installed.

The new-established Laboratory will also function as a platform, training young academics to advance research and technological innovations in the low-dimensional quantum physics field.

Social Links

New Program Benefits More Students from Underdeveloped Areas

Tsinghua University announced the “New Century Project” on October 18th as its independent admission policy for 2012, aiming to recruit talented young people and further facilitate education equity. The Striving Program, as part of the project, targets high school graduates who study and live in rural areas, underdeveloped regions, or remote ethnic minority areas. The program will cover all of the high schools in 592 national poverty-stricken counties.

Mr. Yu Han, Director of the Admission Office, said, “Though students in such areas access limited educational resources during their primary and middle school days, they meet our basic requirements if they show a persistent striving spirit and possess both academic ability and good character.” Besides written examinations and interviews, admission officers also talk with their family members and neighbors to learn more about the students and their families, living conditions and life experience.

Students selected into the program will have 30 to 60 points added to their college entrance examination scores. They will also be offered financial support and work-study programs when they are enrolled into Tsinghua.
Tsinghua Professor Donates Library to A Village

Professor Li Xiaodong from the School of Architecture handed over the key of a library designed by himself to Jiaojiehe Village in Huairou District, Beijing on October 13th. The natural colored library is made of 40,000 wood sticks and covers 170 square meters. The two-story library houses over 6,000 books on literature, history, agriculture and other subjects.

Professor Li decided to design a special book house for the village when he was attracted by the beautiful scenery around the village in last October. He thought that it would help villagers and tourists read more and facilitate local tourism. With his effort, Lu Qianshou Trust in Hong Kong and Tsinghua University Education Foundation donated a million RMB Yuan for building the wood library. Many books are donated by overseas Chinese.

The Jiaojiehe village head Shi Wanyou said, “Nearly 300 villagers live here. Some residents love reading very much, but it is inconvenient for them to buy books because we are too far from downtown. Now we have a unique library of our own. It is a wonderful thing for residents here and tourists.”

Green Channel Helps New Students from Low-Income Families

On freshmen registration day August 17th, each new student from low-income families received a gift package offered by the University’s Green Channel Program, including nine coupons worth several thousand Yuan. They can choose several or all of the nine coupons to buy necessary articles for daily use according to their own needs. Everyone will be ensured to have living articles, school supplies, a bicycle and a phone card.

Feng Dacheng and Feng Dalong, twin brothers from Jilin Province, are among the freshmen this year. President Gu Binglin presented them with gift envelopes and encouraged them to study hard and develop all-around abilities. The Feng brothers said that the University had covered their travelling expenses from their hometown to Beijing and some
The 16th World Congress of International Economic Association (IEA) was held at Tsinghua University from July 4th to 8th. This is the first time that IEA’s triennial World Congress convened in China.

The unified theme of the 16th World Congress of IEA is “Approaches to the Evolving World Economy.” The Congress was devoted to 31 invited lectures and seminar sessions as well as over 150 parallel sessions of contributed papers. More than 1,000 papers were submitted, among which over 400 were presented and discussed at the Congress.

Professor Masahiko Aoki, President of IEA, said in his opening speech that since IEA’s last triennial World Congress in 2008, the world economy had undergone a major financial crisis. To cope with such post-crisis challenges, a refreshed search for viable and sustainable order of the world economy is quite essential, which has been discussed by economists as well as policy-makers all over the world.

Tsinghua University President Gu Binglin, Chairman Wu Jinglian of China Association of Comparative Economics Studies, and President-Elect of IEA Joseph Stiglitz also delivered speeches at the Opening Ceremony. Professor Qian Yingyi, Dean of Tsinghua SEM, chaired the ceremony.

More than 500 renowned overseas scholars and researchers in economics including two Nobel laureates and over 300 distinguished Chinese economists together discussed the important theoretical, empirical and policy issues in economics from a global perspective.

The International Economic Association was founded in 1950 as a non-governmental organization at the instigation of the Social Sciences Department of UNESCO.
The 13th International Conference on Ubiquitous Computing (UbiComp 2011) was held at Tsinghua University from September 17th to 21st.

Professor Shi Yuanchun from Tsinghua’s Department of Computer Science and Technology and Professor James Landay from the University of Washington were named General Co-Chairs of the Conference.

The conference encompassed 10 sessions and 12 workshops covering areas including crowd computing, mobile sensing, mobile location-based services, context-awareness for self-managing systems, social and community intelligence, pervasive eye tracking, intelligent interaction, and trajectory data mining and analysis. More than 450 researchers and participants in ubiquitous computing from all over the world attended the conference.

An interesting application, Find & Connect, was used during the conference. The application developed by Tsinghua University–Nokia Joint Laboratory for Mobile Computing Innovation Technology helped participants locate where people are, where sessions are held, and connect with other participants.

Ubiquitous computing is an interdisciplinary field of research that utilizes and integrates pervasive, wireless, embedded, wearable and/or mobile technologies to bridge the gaps between the digital and physical worlds. The first UbiComp was held in 1999. This is the first time that this annual event was staged in China.

A delegation of 29 Tsinghua University freshmen students had a three week study tour at Oxford in July. The trip gave the participants opportunities to learn and experience the British higher education system.

During their stay, most of their time was spent on specially-designed courses and lectures centering on the theme “leadership.” The program was designed to provide the students with an opportunity to reflect on the nature of knowledge and original thinking. The students also visited different departments, colleges, and museums in Oxford.

During these three weeks, students attended over 20 specifically designed classes. They exchanged views about how to do excellent research and how to strive for their life goal with distinguished scholars including: Dr. Jane Corbett in Department of Continuing Education, Professor David Edwards in Engineering Science Department, Dr. Dorothea Ringe in Said Business School, Systems Biologist Professor Denis Noble, Professor Steve Rayner in ISIS, and Dr. Jennifer Tilley in Department of Materials.

Students also met with international students and had an in depth tour exploring the 900-year history of Oxford. Through this program, students broadened their global
horizons, comparing education, culture and science innovation between China and the UK. They exchanged critical and creative thoughts on global issues confidently with the faculty of Oxford and their foreign peers. At the end of this tour aiming “to touch the spirit of the university and to be a leader of the future,” the students were given the opportunity to make presentations in groups to Oxford professors witnessing the successful completion of this program.

After the students’ presentations, Dr Charles Boyle, the director of British & Cultural Studies of University of Oxford said the impressive English skills of these engineering students and feedback from participating faculty and program attendees indicated that this group was a great success.

This delegation is one of the groups benefiting from the Freshman Scholarship for Overseas Short-Term visits established in 2008 in an effort to provide further opportunities helping Tsinghua students widen their global perspectives.

Education Outlook

Five Private Universities Authorized to Recruit Postgraduates

Five private universities in China, approved by Chinese Ministry of Education, become the first group of private higher education institutions to recruit postgraduate students in 2012. The beginning of Chinese private colleges and universities providing postgraduate education marks the higher education structure in China, which has long been dominated by public universities, is changing.

In early 2011, a pilot project for training specially needed professionals was launched by the Ministry of Education. Six postgraduate programs proposed by the five universities and institutes have been approved. The master’s programs include the Social Work program of Beijing City University, the Control Engineering and Mechanical Engineering programs of Xijing University, the Translation program of Jilin Huaqiao Foreign Languages Institute, the Art program of Hebei Institute of Communications, and the Dairy Engineering & Quality Safety program of the East University of Heilongjiang.

China and US Strengthen Educational Exchange

Both American and Chinese governments consider it essential to enhance exchange and mutual understanding between young people from both countries.

The 100,000 Strong Initiative, announced by US President Barrack Obama in 2009, strives to increase both the number and the diversity of young people from the US studying in China. According to the project, 100,000 American students will be sponsored to go to China in the next four years. US Secretary Hilary Clinton officially signed the bilateral agreement in Beijing in May, 2010, aiming to strengthen the cooperation in education, science and technology between the two countries. She also launched a “Double the Numbers Challenge”, asking college and university presidents to double the number of students who study in China.

The Chinese government also takes actions to promote the exchange. In 2010, it offered 10,000 Bridge Scholarships for American students, teachers and administrators from high schools, colleges and universities to study in China in the following four years. In 2011, the Chinese government added another 10,000 scholarships.

Boosted by the Initiative, more American students have
enrolled in Chinese universities. Taking Tsinghua as an example, international graduate students from the U.S.A topped the list for the first time in 2010, followed by South Korea. At present, 356 American students are studying at Tsinghua, compared to 237 in 2009.

US First Lady Michelle Obama delivered a speech at Howard University during Chinese President Hu Jintao visited to the United States in January 2011. She said, “Whether it’s climate change or terrorism, economic recovery or the spread of nuclear weapons, for the US and China, the defining challenges of our time are shared challenges. Neither of our countries can confront these alone. The only way forward, the only way to solve these problems, is by working together.”

Program Recruiting Young Overseas Professionals

The first group of young professionals was recruited by the “Thousand Young Talents” program, and their names were announced this October. The government funded program, aimed to attract young overseas talents under 40, was launched in early 2011.

Under the program, around 2,000 outstanding young overseas Chinese scientists and engineers will be recruited by Chinese universities and research institutions from 2011 to 2015. They are required to have doctoral degrees from globally prestigious universities and more than three years of research experience abroad. Those who have made breakthrough research achievements during their Ph.D. programs may have a chance to be recruited once the Ph.D. degree is conferred. Each of the selected talented young people will be offered a subsidy of RMB 500,000 to cover their living expenses and another subsidy of RMB one to three million as funds for their initial stage of research.

By now, 143 professionals have been finally confirmed through rigorous examinations and interviews from 1,035 applicants. Among them, Tsinghua University and Peking University grabbed the largest shares, with 13 people joining each university.
1,700 students spell out Tsinghua

http://www.tsinghua.edu.cn/eng