

Ocean University of China NEWSLETTER

Fall 2017 / Issue 1



中国海洋大学
OCEAN UNIVERSITY OF CHINA

Preface

A very warm welcome to Ocean University of China's first international newsletter. We have gathered together some of the highlights of what has been a busy and productive first three quarters of the year and we are very pleased to share this with our international partners.

Ocean University of China (OUC) has, since the founding of the institution in 1924, been committed to the mission of exploring, developing and protecting the ocean as well as pursuing academic goals and cultivating talent to meet the country's strategic needs and to contribute to sustainable development.

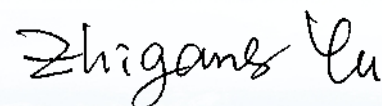
With an emphasis on marine scientific research and talent, we serve the Belt and Road Initiative and are building a global network of coordination and innovation in marine science and education. International cooperation is at the heart of OUC's ambitious plans to become a world-class university by 2050. We have already developed partnerships with more than 180 universities and research institutions from over 30 countries and regions and we continue to extend this across all the departments of this comprehensive key university. Whether you are among this number or we have yet to work together, we are very pleased to be able to share our recent news with you.

In the "News and Events" section you will find highlights from the publications, visits and conferences we have taken part in over the last six months, while "Spotlight" sheds light on some of the biggest events in our calendar. The third section, "International Collaboration" provides a flavor of the ways in which we work with other institutions, including two new Memoranda of Understanding that were signed in recent months.

We are also pleased to introduce to you some of the people who work on these international research projects. These include, in the "People" section of this first issue, Prof. Timothy Ian Eglinton (a Fellow of Britain's Royal Society), who is a long-standing collaborator with OUC.

Finally, the "Voices" section presents the experiences of the people who make up OUC: in this edition, two students who have recently returned from studying abroad. Their reports on their experiences illustrate the complementary differences between Chinese universities and their host institutions in Denmark and the USA, and suggest some of the many ways in which we can fruitfully work together.

The ocean is one of the determining factors for the 21st century and OUC is pressing ahead with reform, innovation, and strengthened and sustainable development across this field. It is worth mentioning that OUC has been included in the A category of the Plan of World-class Universities, ushering in a new chapter for the development of our university and international collaboration with both current and potential overseas partners. We hope that, like us, you see the benefits in achieving this together and we hope to be featuring your institution in an edition of our newsletter in the not-too-distant future.



President, Ocean University of China



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OUC Newsletter is a quarterly publication for international partners, alumni, students and faculty of Ocean University of China, produced by the International Office. We welcome your suggestions for topics to cover and ways to improve future issues.

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The views expressed in this newsletter are the authors' views and do not reflect the views of the Editorial Board.

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News & Events

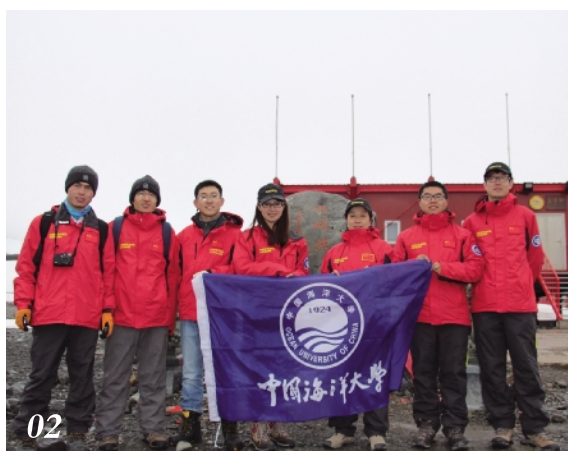
Academic

01 Seven Faculty and Students Participate in South Pole Scientific Expedition

In January 2017, the Xuelong polar research vessel, with 7 students and faculty from OUC on board, arrived safely at the Great Wall Station in the Antarctic for China's 33rd Antarctic expedition. This is a national comprehensive Antarctic survey program organized by the State Oceanic Administration. The program lasted 4 months and involved a number of scientific research and construction projects.

02 OUC-UEA Collaborative Research Results on Marine Bacteria Published in *Nature Microbiology*

The research project jointly conducted by Prof. Zhang Xiaohua (College of Marine Life Sciences, OUC) and Dr. Jonathan D. Todd has been success-



ful. The paper they co-authored "Dimethylsulphoniopropionate Biosynthesis in Marine Bacteria and Identification of the Key Gene in this Process" was published on *Nature Microbiology* in February 2017. They discovered new functions of marine bacteria in the global circulation of Sulphur and proved the importance of marine bacteria in the synthesis of DM-SP.

03 Significant Progress Made in Scallop Genome Mapping and Animal Macroevolution

On 3 April, *Nature Ecology & Evolution* published online the latest article "Scallop Genome Provides Insights into Evolution of Bilaterian Karyotype and Development" written by the international research team led by Prof. Bao Zhenmin (College of Marine Life Sciences, OUC). In close collaboration with research staff from Novogene, Sars International Center for Marine Molecular Biology (Norway), Rutgers University (USA) and Institute of Oceanology of Chinese Academy of Sciences, Prof. Bao and his team completed precise mapping of scallop genome for the first time in the world.

04 Breakthrough in the Research on Humic Substances

On 3 May, *Scientific Report* published online an article entitled "Capacity of Humic Substances to Com-

plex with Iron at Different Salinities in the Yangtze River Estuary and East China Sea”, the latest result of the research project led by Prof. Yang Rujun (College of Chemistry, OUC).

05 OUC Included in the List of “Double First-Rate” Universities

In September 2017 the Chinese government released

a list of universities included in the country’s plan of building world-class universities and top-tier disciplines (“Double First-Rate”) in order to improve the comprehensive capability and international competitiveness of China’s higher education. OUC is among the 42 universities included in the Plan of World-class Universities, ushering in a new chapter for the development of our university.

Visits

01 Kyungpook National University Delegation Visits College of Food Science and Engineering at OUC

On 18 January, the delegation led by Prof. Jung Young Hoon from the Department of Food Science and Biotechnology, Kyungpook National University visited the College of Food Science and Engineering, OUC. Prof. Liang Xingguo, Vice Dean of the college and Prof. Tang Qingjuan, Vice Director of the International Office received the guests and introduced OUC’s current cooperation with universities in South Korea. The delegation visited the college labs and the campus, and participated in activities related to food processing.

02 Hokkaido Federation of Fisheries Cooperative Associations Delegation Visits College of Food Science and Engineering, OUC

ence and Engineering, OUC

On 23 February, Hokkaido Federation of Fisheries Cooperative Associations delegation visited the College of Food Science and Engineering, OUC and met with relevant faculty members of the college. The two sides exchanged ideas on sea cucumber nutrition and processing. Prof. Wang Yuming introduced to the guests the latest progress made by the college in sea cucumber resource development and utilization.

03 ArtEZ Institute of the Arts Delegation Led by Dean Marc Boumeester Visits College of Engineering, OUC

On 21 March, ArtEZ Institute of Arts delegation led by Prof. Marc Boumeester, Dean of the School of Artistic Design, visited the College of Engineering, OUC. Prof. Chang Zongyu, Assistant Dean of the college and relevant faculty members received the guests. He talked about the program of industrial de-





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sign at OUC and potential opportunities of cooperation. Prof. Ina from the delegation gave an inspiring lecture entitled “Critical Thinking, the Basis of Design Process”, demonstrating a new perspective of design. His lecture was well received by students from the college.

04 OUC Delegation Visits Three Universities in the UK

In April 2017, Vice President Li Weiran traveled to the UK to meet with three collaborating universities. At Heriot-Watt University, he and Assistant Principal Ruth Moir signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to confirm the two universities’ multi-level cooperation in computer science and marine engineering. The OUC delegation also visited the Flowave Ocean Energy Research Facility at the University of Edinburgh, as part of the development of an advanced laboratory for marine energy at OUC’s new campus. The University of Hull has become one of the main partners in OUC due to the environmental similarities between the two coastal cities. Deputy Vice Chancellor Prof Alan Speight referred to OUC as a key partner for academic cooperation and both parties expressed the intention for academic ex-



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2017法学类（中外合作办学）专业新生及家长见面会



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change and cooperation in computer science and ocean engineering.

05 Auburn University Delegation Led by Professor George Flowers Visits OUC

On May 24, 2017, the Auburn University delegation visited OUC, headed by Prof. George Flowers, Dean of the Graduate School, Prof. Paul Patterson, Dean of College of Agriculture, and Prof. Bill Daniels, Dean of School of Fisheries, Aquaculture and Aquatic Sciences. OUC Vice President Yan Ju met with the delegation. OUC highly values the cooperation with Auburn, a strategic partner for 10 years during which progress was made by scientists of both universities in the research projects they co-conducted. An even better prospect is unfolding as the two universities established the AU-based Joint Center for Aquaculture and Environmental Sciences.

06 Vice Provost Brent White of University of Arizona Visits OUC

On 27 August 2017, Prof. Brent White, Vice Provost of University of Arizona, led a delegation to OUC to discuss issues related to degree program jointly run by the two universities. Relevant faculty members and staff from the School of Political Science and Law, College of International Education and International Office of OUC met with the guests. During the meeting, the two sides shared recent progress and results achieved since the launching of the joint program, and exchanged ideas on expanding areas of cooperation.

Conferences

01 International Workshop on Marine Chemistry Frontiers Convened at OUC

On 25 April 2017, the International Workshop on Marine Chemistry Frontiers convened at OUC. It was launched by Prof. Zhao Meixun (College of Chemistry, OUC) and Prof. Timothy I. Eglington (Swiss Federal Institute of Technology). The workshop focused on the cutting-edge issues in the field of marine chemistry. Scholars from home and abroad discussed topics such as marine carbon circulation and application of hydrogen isotope in future oceanography. The workshop also provided a good opportunity for young researchers who were inspired and encouraged to approach their research through new perspectives.

02 18th International GHRSSST Science Team Meeting Held at OUC

On 5 June, more than 70 scientists attended the 18th International GHRSSST Science Team Meeting hosted



by OUC. Chen Ge, Dean of College of Information Science and Engineering attended the opening ceremony and delivered a speech. Chen Yue, Vice President and Deputy Party Secretary met the Chair of



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GHRSSST and other scientists. The Group for Sea Surface Temperature (GHRSSST) is an open international science group that promotes the application of satellites for monitoring sea surface temperature. This is the first time for GHRSSST to hold a meeting in China. The conference enhanced international cooperation in the study and application of sea surface temperature research and promoted the internationalization of Chinese satellites.

03 International Conference on Smart Data Processing and Communication and Seminar on Sino-French Cooperation on Engineering Education Convened at OUC

On 6 June, International Conference on Smart Data Processing and Communication and Seminar on Sino-French Cooperation on Engineering Education Convened was held on Laoshan campus, OUC. Li Huajun, Vice President of OUC, Thierry Brousse, Vice President of Nantes University and Zhu Min, Vice President of SCUT attended the conference. During the conference, more than 60 representatives



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engaged in in-depth discussions on the differences and similarities of engineering education between China and France, and explored further international cooperation opportunities.

04 International Workshop on Computational Mathematics and Scientific Computation Held at OUC

On 28 June, the International Workshop on Computational Mathematics and Scientific Computation (I-WCMSC 2017) was held at OUC. Li Huajun, Vice President of OUC, Cui Junzhi, Academician of the Chinese Academy of Engineering, attended the open-

ing ceremony and addressed the audience. The workshop was moderated by Liang Dong, Professor of both York University and OUC. This workshop aimed at communicating and discussing the frontier issues of mathematics and scientific computation, especially the application of mathematics and scientific computation in engineering, pharmacy and finance.

05 International Workshop on Marine Civilization and East Asia Development Convened at OUC

On 14 July, International Workshop on Marine Civilization and East Asia Development was held at OUC under the auspices of OUC Korean Research Center and National Culture Institution of Korea University. Li Weiran, Vice President of OUC, Lee Hyeong-dae, President of National Culture Institution of Korea University, attended the opening ceremony and delivered speeches. During the workshop, experts and schol-

ars conducted extensive discussions on maritime civilization and achieved many important consensuses.

06 12th International Workshop on Japanese Literature Convened at OUC

On 16 September, the 12th International Workshop on Japanese Literature and International Workshop of Ryunosuke Akutagawa Research convened at OUC. Vice President Li Weiran and Miyamoto, President of International Ryunosuke Akutagawa Association attended the opening ceremony. This workshop attracted more than 60 scholars from home and abroad. President Miyamoto and the Dean Wang Guangmin of the Japanese Department of OUC made plans for the next workshop and exchanged souvenirs. Miyamoto commended the academic achievements of the Japanese Department and hoped that this workshop would further promote its development.



Spotlight

01 China-ASEAN FEN President Forum and Workshop on Marine and Aquatic Technology Convened

OUC co-hosted the China-ASEAN FEN President Forum and the Workshop on Marine and Aquatic Technology in Qingdao in April 2017, along with its partner hosts, the ASEAN Fishery Education Network, the China-ASEAN Joint Center for Research and Promotion of Mariculture, the Qingdao Municipal Government, and the China-ASEAN Center. This marked the first time that Qingdao has been the venue for an event in fisheries science and educational cooperation along the Maritime Silk Road and OUC was delighted to be part of this in line with the Belt and Road Initiative.

The meeting focused on joint consultation, construction, and the shar-

ing of innovation to strengthen and expand cooperation among the China-ASEAN marine science and education institutions, beginning a new phase in the development of the cooperation. It welcomed more than 120 experts and scholars from 20 institutions, including colleagues from Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, the Philippines, Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos and Myanmar, as well as from international organizations and universities in China.

Present at the opening ceremony, chaired by OUC's VP Li Huajun, were Zhang Deping (Vice Mayor of the Qingdao Municipal Government), Sukree Hajjsamae (Chairman of the ASEAN Fisheries Education

Network), Mr. Zhou Wu (a representative from the China-ASEAN Center Secretariat), and OUC President Yu Zhigang. Prof. Patrick Sorgeloos of Ghent University, who is the Director of International Cooperation for the EU Innovation Platform for Fisheries Innovation and the winner of the Chinese Government's Friendship Award, addressed the meeting via video link due to his tight schedule.

Three proposals were put forward by Yu Zhigang to enable better cooperation in fisheries education, research and technology in order to upgrade the fields' capacity building initiatives. Firstly, the improvement of the cooperation mechanism of ASEAN FEN was proposed; this partnership between OUC and ASEAN FEN began in 2016 when the MOU was signed. The President Forum and the Workshop contributed to this on-going cooperation with the outcome that more practical models of collaboration will be explored.

Secondly, Prof Yu proposed forging successful cooperation projects that cover an increasing number of areas





such as curriculum development, academic exchanges for both students and scholars, technical training, research infrastructure construction, and international cooperation on science and technology.

Thirdly, he proposed launching an international cooperation project encompassing administration, industry, teaching and research to promote China-ASEAN's cooperation with regards to marine economic development. This project will focus on enhancing the education and innovation of fisheries sciences in the participating universities and institutions by pooling governmental and social resources and increasing the transfer of research results to promote local economic and social development.

23 reports were delivered at the President Forum by ASEAN universities including the University Malaysia Terengganu, University of Malaya, Kasetsart University of Thailand, Jenderal Soedirman Uni-

versity of Indonesia, and Visayas University of Philippines. Research on aquaculture was discussed, as well as how education, research and international cooperation are conducted in China's leading universities. Prof. Li Huajun and Prof. Li Qi, Dean of OUC's Fisheries College, gave reports titled 'Exploring OUC's Internationalization Against the Backdrop of the Belt and Road Initiative' and 'Fisheries Education and Research at OUC' respectively. The keynote sessions were chaired by Dr. Aieni Binti Haji Mokhtar (Executive President of University Malaysia Terengganu), Dr. Yeong Yik Sung (the Secretary-General of ASEAN FEN), Prof. Xue Changhu (from OUC's College of Food Science and Engineering) and Prof. Wang Min (Deputy Dean of OUC's College of Marine Life Sciences).

In the Workshop on Marine and Aquatic Technology, experts reached a consensus on China-ASEAN's education of high level talent and on the joint development of science and

technology. They also exchanged ideas about key issues, including: the mechanisms and proposals for EU-China and EU-ASEAN fisheries cooperation; the strategies, collaboration priorities and roles of the ASEAN Fisheries Network in the EURASTIP Horizon 2020 Grant; the Intercollegiate Alliance on Protecting Aquatic Biodiversity; and the initiation of the China-ASEAN Mariculture Collaboration network.

During the meeting, OUC signed cooperation agreements with many ASEAN universities including with Diponegoro University and with the Bogor Agricultural University of Indonesia, as well as with Visayas States University of Philippines. Programs that enable young scholars to research and study in China and an international training program on sustainable mariculture technology were launched to enable the joint education of young ASEAN scientists and to develop science and technology across the network's stakeholders.

02 CLIVAR International Seminar on Boundary Current Hosted by OUC

June 2017 saw the 3rd International Seminar on Boundary Current, hosted by OUC's Key Laboratory of Physical Oceanography (Ministry of Education). This internationally recognized seminar was co-hosted by the Qingdao National Laboratory of Marine Science and Biology and was supported by CLIVAR (the Climate Variability and Predictability Program), which is part of the World Climate Research Program (WCRP). The conference was founded in 2010 with the aim of advancing the description and understanding of climate variability and predictability on both seasonal and centennial timescales, of identifying the physical causes of climate change, and of developing modelling and predictive technologies and capabilities.

CLIVAR was founded in 1995 and has become the highest level science project in the field of climate change and one of the four core programs led by the WCRP. Its purpose is to research issues related to global climate change – including research into El Niño and rising sea levels –

and thus its work is directly related to the well-being of mankind. It contributes widely to both governments and to the international community against a backdrop of increased attention to the issue of climate change.

This international seminar on boundary current brings together scholars in marine and climate sciences to discuss issues related to offshore areas and to lay the foundations for institutions to cooperate in the field. In addition, it provides scientific support for future research on global climate change.

The seminar is widely recognized by scholars across the world and has developed into a series of international meetings, held every three years. The Key Laboratory of Physical Oceanography has hosted all of the seminars so far, an opportunity that allows it to showcase its achievements and potential in the field of marine science. Hosting the seminar is highly valued by the laboratory as it continues to increase its

international impact and works to achieve its targets in physical oceanography and climate science.

The Seminar's Executive President, and the Vice President of OUC, Wu Lixin, gave a speech at the opening ceremony praising the project's development into an influential international conference that provides a platform for academic exchange and has become indispensable in the field of marine sciences. Marine boundary current, which has long been a focus for OUC, is an important component in understanding ocean currents as it acts as the ocean's arteries and is the principle way in which heat and substances are transmitted within the climate system. With increasing amounts of international attention and funding being directed towards the problems and causes of climate change, the issue of boundary currents and offshore dynamic processes has grown into one of the frontiers in marine sciences. The importance and influence of academic research into the ocean's physical mechanisms, the causes of climate change, and the impact of deep seas on marginal seas continues to grow, and this conference is a vital forum for sharing academic knowledge.

More than 200 colleagues attended from around the world, giving more than 30 academic papers. The conference reviewed and concluded the progress and recent achievements





made in boundary current research, in particular work undertaken into the west boundary current of the Pacific Ocean. Scholars exchanged their views on cutting edge issues in the field, including the relationship between climate change and the changes in boundary current, and the relationship between boundary current and offshore dynamic processes. The conference also provided an excellent opportunity for young scientists and scholars to present their research results and to listen to the advice of experts.

03 Seychelles Delegation Led by Ambassador Vivianne Fock Tave Visits OUC

The Seychelles Ambassador to China, Ms. Vivianne Fock Tave, led a delegation to OUC at the end of August 2017. They were warmly welcomed by OUC President Yu Zhigang and Assistant President Wu Qiangming, who is also a member of CPC Standing Committee at OUC, received the guests in the Second Conference Room of Xingyuan Building where they had a fruitful discussion.

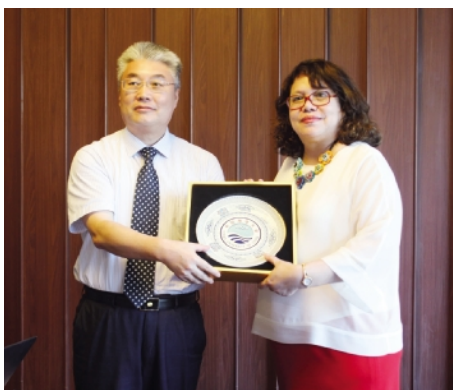
President Yu addressed the delegation, noting that the Seychelles is a beautiful island country with abundant marine and fishery resources and a prosperous tourist industry, and that OUC's academic focuses on oceanography and fisheries science complements the country's strengths. The meeting with Ambassador Fock Tave was designed to shed light on potential areas of cooperation including marine science, exploration of fishery resources, marine economic development, seafood

processing, marine drug research and development, and aquaculture. Qingdao was the first stop on her visit around China because of the unique shared priorities it offers through OUC's focus on marine development. Ambassador Fock Tave expressed her appreciation of the long-standing friendship between China and the Seychelles and the help that China has offered in support of the Seychelles' economic development. She also spoke highly of OUC in terms of its marine sci-

entific research and talent cultivation and expressed the hope that cooperative relations could be set up between OUC and the University of the Seychelles which might offer the opportunity for students from the Seychelles to study at OUC.

Representatives from the College of Economics, the College of Fisheries and the College of Marine Life Science echoed this hope, noting that substantive cooperation and exchanges with the University of Sey-





chelles and other research institutions in the Seychelles would build

on existing advantages in the relevant academic fields and would also

improve the talent pool in both universities.

04 Zimbabwean Delegation Led by Minister Christopher Chindoti Mushohwe Visits OUC

On September 17th 2017 a Zimbabwean delegation visited OUC's Laoshan campus to discuss the successful Zimbabwean student scholarship scheme. It was led by Dr. Christopher Chindoti Mushohwe, who is the Zimbabwean Minister of Information, Media and Broadcasting Services and the Executive Director of the Presidential Scholarship. They were welcomed by OUC President Yu Zhigang and were joined by representatives from the Hengshun Zhongsheng Group, which funds the program.

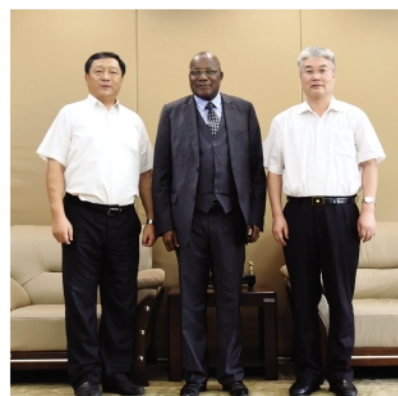
President Yu reported that the Zimbabwean students on the scheme study hard, actively engage in extra-curricular activities, and have established lasting friendships with Chinese students. In addition, the program is particularly valuable as it cultivates the academic talent that will shape the future of Sino-Zimbabwean relations.

Minister Mushohwe, who was on his second visit to OUC, expressed his pleasure that this opportunity to become a part of OUC life exists, not least as Zimbabwean students' international standing is increased by studying at the university. China and Zimbabwe have a lot in common in terms of cultural values, and it is hoped that the program will develop so that OUC can send Chinese students to study in Zimbabwe so as to deepen the mutual understanding between the two countries and strengthen this bond.

Minister Mushohwe also joined a meeting with Zimbabwean students from the class of 2016. Professor Qin Shanghai, the Dean of the College of International Education moderated the session. Professor Li Jian, Deputy Dean of the college, gave an overview of the visiting students' experiences of studying at the uni-

versity and living in Qingdao and a student representative reported on their own experience of studying at OUC for a year. Associate Professor Fu Xiumei from the School of Economics, who is the senior teacher for the students' international economy and trade class, gave a taster session of his class, which was widely appreciated.

Minister Mushohwe wished the students well and encouraged them to learn Chinese and to graduate with outstanding grades.



International Collaboration

01 Kasetsart University President Visits OUC and Signs Cooperation Agreement

OUC President Prof. Yu Zhigang welcomed a delegation from Thailand's Kasetsart University, headed by President Chongrak Wachrinrat in spring 2017.

The visit's focus was the establishment of the Research and Education Center for Marine and Aquatic Technology, which is currently under construction in Thailand. President Yu stressed the importance of complementary cooperation in the education of international students and in research cooperation between academics at the two institutions. He also suggested the adoption of scholarships, particularly the China-ASEAN Maritime Silk Road Scholarship, in order to attract the best students.



President Wachrinrat expressed his gratitude for being invited to the China-ASEAN FEN President Forum hosted by OUC, speaking highly of OUC's international standing and achievements the field of fisheries science. He also spoke of his confidence in the high quality of fu-

ture cooperation between the two universities' and the benefits this holds for both countries.

Research focuses for potential future cooperation were discussed, as was the construction model and education schemes of the Research and Education Center for Marine and Aquatic Technology. The scheme of the Research and Education Center for Marine and Aquatic Technology was also reviewed and improved by representatives from Kasetsart University and from OUC.

It is hoped that the Sino-Thai Center for Marine and Aquatic Technology will be put into operation by the end of 2017. This landmark achievement



will be the first overseas institution of OUC for ASEAN students en-

abling it to share its resources against the backdrop of China's Belt

and Road Initiative.

02 OUC Signs MOU with Batangas State University



OUC's presidential delegation visited the provincial government of Batangas in the Philippines, and the Batangas State University (BSU), for the first time in April 2017 in order to discuss future cooperation in biodiversity protection and the joint establishment of a Confucius Institute (CI). The visit also gave the delegation the opportunity to collect marine samples from Verde Island, an area of marine biodiversity, southeast of Batangas.

President Li Huajun was welcomed by Governor Hermilando I. Mandanas, as well as representatives from BSU and the province's Department of Agriculture. The Governor's welcome emphasised the importance of cultural and academic exchange, not least because of the

high number of Chinese nationals living in the country. Governmental resources have been pledged to jointly fund the CI with BSU and OUC so that more Philippine students can have access to education in Chinese language and culture. In addition, Batangas province has increased its number of scholarships for students to study in China in the hope that OUC's expertise can support the development of marine and fishery research institutions in Batangas, as well as the setting up of a joint center for marine biodiversity protection in the province.

The delegation's visit to BSU was hosted by President Tirso, who proposed research cooperation, academic exchange and an exchange program for faculty and students in



their fields of common interest. Vice President Li supported these ambitions and suggested a series of exchange visits between professors from the two universities as a way to develop the research capabilities of both institutions. The visit resulted in the signing of a new Memorandum of Understanding, which it is hoped will lead to mutual benefits in fisheries and biodiversity.

03 OUC Signs MOU with University of Haifa

A delegation from the University of Haifa (UH) in Israel visited OUC in March, led by Prof. Gustavo Mesch, UH's President of Teaching Affairs. He was joined by Prof. Dan Tchernov (Dean of the Department of Marine Life) and Xu Hang (Director of UH's Shanghai International Research Center). OUC President Yu Zhigang met with the delegation and signed a new Memorandum of Understanding with Prof. Mesch.

Speaking highly of UH's research achievements, President Yu noted that OUC and UH are both comprehensive universities featuring strengths in marine sciences. He proposed that the collaboration should begin in this shared strength and then extend to the humanities and social sciences. He also outlined three steps for this substantial cooperation: establishing joint laboratories, founding

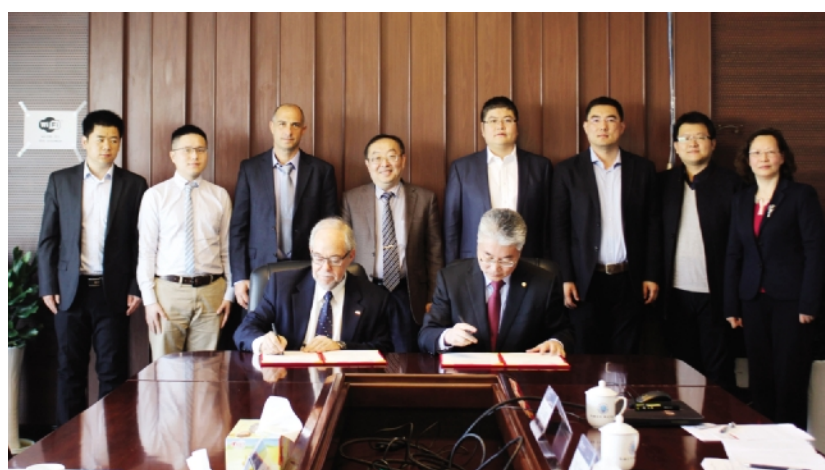
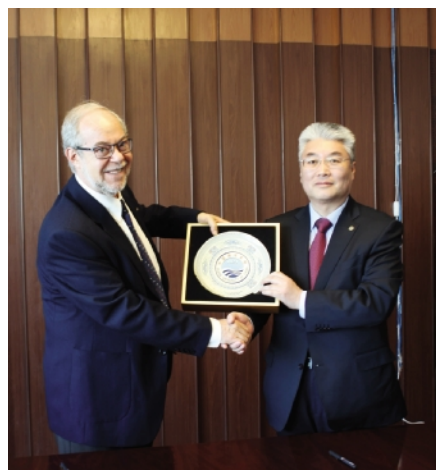


collaborative teams and developing joint research centers.

President Mesch introduced UH's work in marine biology, health and social science. His hopes for the MoU are that it will enable a sharing of ideas and resources with OUC by exchanging students and visiting scholars between the two universities to enable the joint education of high-level professionals

with an emphasis on application. This will then form a pilot base for interdisciplinary innovation.

Plans were drawn up during the meeting for this cooperation in the institutions' shared fields of interest, including in Marine Life Sciences and Oceanic and Atmospheric Sciences, plans which have laid the groundwork for a strong future of scholarly exchange.



People

01 President Yu Zhigang meets with Prof. Eglinton, Fellow of Royal Society (UK)

President Yu Zhigang met with Prof. Timothy Ian Eglinton, Fellow of the Royal Society (UK) and world renowned organic geochemist, after he chaired the international assessment of the OUC-based Key Laboratory of Marine Chemistry Theory and Technology at the Ministry of Education. The meeting, which also included Zhao Meixun, the Director of the MOE Key Laboratory, allowed the exchange of ideas regarding how to strengthen OUC's marine chemistry and geoscience research.

Speaking highly of what has been achieved recently in marine chemistry at OUC, Prof. Eglinton gave his advice, based on the assessment from the day before, on how to improve the faculty's collaborative innovation and graduate student education, as well as ways in which OUC can recruit young talent in marine chemistry to enable the university to grow its international presence. President Yu congratulated Prof. Eglinton on his election to the Fellowship of the Royal Society and expressed OUC's gratitude for his

long-term support of marine chemistry at the institution, particularly in chairing this international assessment and offering his valuable advice about the Key Laboratory.

Prof. Eglinton heads the overseas talent program team at OUC's Marine Chemistry Innovation Base and has a long history of cooperation with OUC in scientific research, graduate education of the graduate students and academic exchanges as well as in working on the platform construction of the Accelerator Mass Spectrometry Center.

As a world renowned organic geochemist, Timothy Eglinton is a professor and dean at the Geological Institute, ETH Zurich, Switzerland. Previously, he was a research fellow and the dean of Marine Chemistry and Geochemistry at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, the United States (2004-2010). He was elected as a Fellow of the Royal Society, UK, in 2014.

Prof. Eglinton's research focuses on uncovering the processes that govern the Earth's carbon cycle from the



molecular to the global level, as well as reconstructing ancient biological activity and environmental conditions through the use of organic signatures preserved in the geologic record. He studies carbon cycling on a range of spatial and temporal scales, including the processes of the origination, migration, transfer and burial of continental and oceanic organic matter. His most recent work has been on the source of organic matter in marginal seas and land lakes, and on the modern carbon cycle. His efforts have led to remarkable achievements in the analytic and testing technology of organic matter in the sediment, especially with regards to the C13, C14 and D/H isotopes in single organic molecules.

02 Prof. Daniel Chourrout, Director of the Sars Center (Norway)

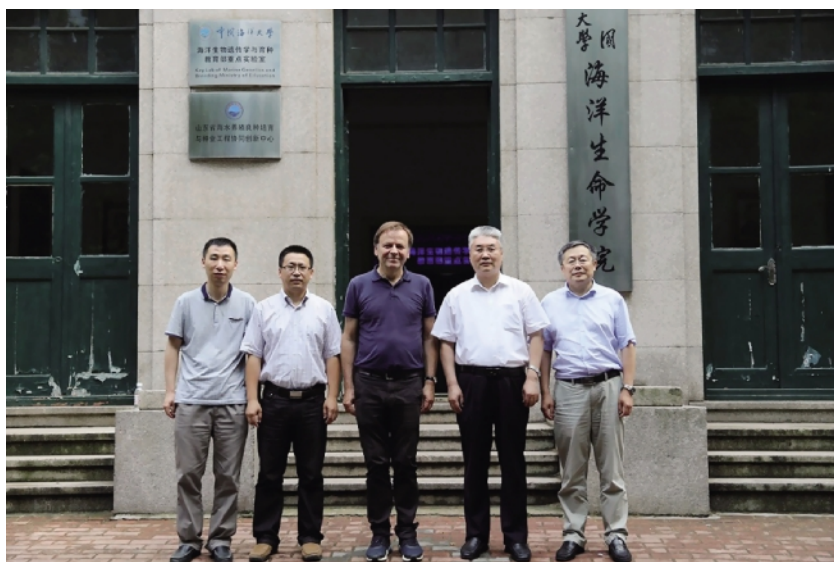


In June this year, President Yu Zhigang met with Prof. Daniel Chourrout, the eminent marine biologist and director of the Sars Center for Marine Molecular Biology at the European Marine Biology Laboratory. Welcoming Prof. Chourrot, President Yu noted that marine biological genetics and evolutionary biology constitute one of the most competitive disciplines at OUC. The university is pleased to have the opportunity to work with Sars in order to conduct high quality and substantive research, establishing a cooperative agreement between the two parties.

Prof. Chourrout also visited the Key

Laboratory of Marine Biological Genetics and Breeding at OUC at the invitation of its director, Prof. Bao Zhenmin. During his visit, Prof. Chourrout delivered an inspiring academic report and consulted with staff at the laboratory on future cooperation in scientific research and talent education; the two sides reached a preliminary cooperation agreement on marine biological genomes.

Prof. Chourrout teaches at the University of Bergen in Norway. He and his team have published many significant papers on the genetic evolution of the genome (including three in *Nature*, two in *Science* and one in *Cell*, in addition to many others in *Current Biology* and *Sars*). Under his directorship the SARS Center is one of the top research institutes in the world for marine biological genetics and evolution.



03 Professor William Burnett of Florida State University (USA)

Prof. William Burnett, an expert in isotopic oceanography at Florida State University, has, since 2003, been researching the underground water of the Yellow River estuary in

collaboration with OUC's Key Laboratory of Marine Chemistry Theory and Engineering Technology, supported by the Ministry of Education. He serves as the director of the Lab-

oratory of radioactive measurement at FSU, is an expert of International Atomic Energy Agency, and is the chair of the Discharge of Underground Water in Coastal Area task-

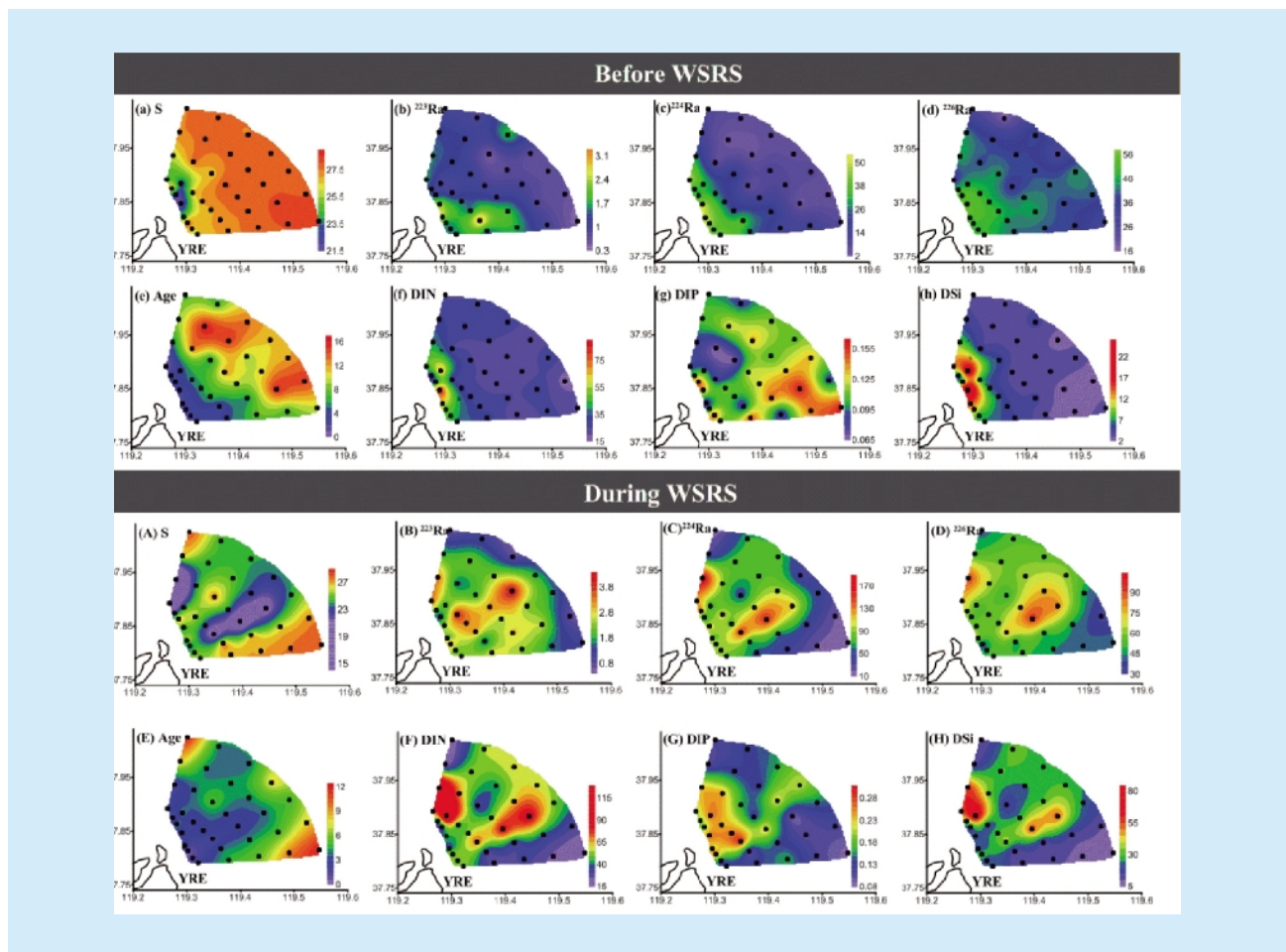
force at the Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research.

His research focuses on isotopes and their implications on the environment and his published includes more one hundred papers in world-class journals. In 2015 his application to the Overseas Scholars program was approved by the MOE. Since then OUC and Florida State University have been engaged in increasingly close collaboration and have devised a detailed plan for disciplinary development, the education of talent, scientific research and platform-building over the next five years. The first year has been a success with fruitful results achieved,

including the publication of two papers in Science Citation Index journals and one in a leading Chinese journal.

The cooperative research project on the Yellow River estuary analyses the impact of major hydraulic projects on the geology, water dynamics and nutritive salt content of the estuary. It has shown that after the transfer of water and sand in 2013, a small delta formed near the estuary. As a result, the distribution of substances changed, as demonstrated in the diagram below. This research has been published in the Journal of Hydrology, the world’s top academic journal in this field.

Prof. Burnett generously donated an Rn-in-line System to OUC, worth 30,000 RMB, and his work continues to have a great impact at the university. Together with Prof. Xu Bochao of OUC, he set up a bilingual elective course on the application of isotope tracking technology in oceanography. During his visit to the university in June 2017 he taught an academic writing seminar for graduate students and gave a lecture entitled “Hypoxia in the Yangtze River Estuary Recorded in Benthic Foraminiferal Shells” as well as delivering an academic report, “The Application of Ra/Rn Isotopes in Environmental Science.”



Experiencing European Scientific Exploration and Work-Life Balance in Denmark

XI Jingyuan

PhD Students in the College of Oceanic and Atmospheric Sciences



Denmark is a beautiful kingdom of fairy tales and the University of Copenhagen is no exception: located in the country's capital city, it is one of the oldest universities in Northern Europe. I was very lucky to have the chance to study there for five months during the third year of my doctoral program. During this visit, I not only learnt about the parametric design of near-inertial internal waves, but also about the spirit of scientific exploration in Europe.

In contrast to the test-oriented education that predominates in China, European countries emphasize the importance of inspiration in educa-

tion. There is no absolute right or wrong: as long as you can provide proper evidence to prove your point, it is correct. Encouraged by this ethos, Europe has been home to many scientists who epitomize the spirit of exploration, criticism and innovation. One of my most memorable experiences was attending a lecture about the El Niño by Professor Henk Dijkstra from the University of Utrecht in Holland. At the end of the lecture, one student put forward

a different view, resulting in a lively discussion between them and the professor. The audience also joined in, which turned a thirty minute lecture into a debate lasting two hours. Although they failed to come to a clear conclusion, I learned a lot about the mechanism of, and current research into, the El Niño from the discussion and I was deeply impressed by the academic freedom that characterizes European universities.



In Denmark, I found that there is almost no so-called "nerd". Everyone has varied interests and has a very active after-school life. In the office where I worked, there were two Danish doctoral students, one of whom was in a band that rehearsed regularly; the other went jogging every morning and swimming once a week. Furthermore, very few people work overtime in Denmark: I asked many of my colleagues whether they continued working after they got home and the answer was always no. The country has good social welfare so the pressure to work is relatively low compared to China. On the other hand, they are accustomed to being efficient during the working hours so they can enjoy their home life. This work-life balance not only applies to schools: shops, even large supermarkets, usually open at ten in the morning and close at six in the evening. Instead of the pursuit of money, Danes are more interested in enjoying their everyday lives.

My study experience at the University of Copenhagen taught me that there are two aspects of Danish a-

cademia that I think can be introduced in Chinese universities. One is the final examination system. At the University of Copenhagen, only freshmen and sophomores do written examinations. For other students, the teacher arranges one or two days at the end of the semester to assess the knowledge of the students. The students go separately into the teacher's office for an oral examination, the content of which is random: the teacher usually asks a question that the student must fully explain and discuss and of course, there are no absolute right answers to the questions. Instead, this system is designed to investigate whether students have a flexible and comprehensive understanding of the subject.

The other idea that China's academic institutions can learn from the Danish system is the public lunch meeting. The Climate Research Center of the Bohr Laboratory at the University of Copenhagen has a public lunch meeting every Friday. Most of the teachers and students participate in this weekly activity, which comprises a buffet-style lunch in the confer-

ence hall of the center. While eating, students and teachers can talk about their academic research and catch up with their colleagues. This kind of meeting helps strengthen bonds within the research teams and enhances the mutual understanding between students and teachers. Thus, the research team is more like a family and they can work together to overcome any difficulties they experience both in their research and their wider lives.

This experience of studying abroad opened my mind and expanded my knowledge. I believe our country and universities should encourage more students to go abroad because it can be a very valuable experience. We are aware that there is a certain gap between our country and more developed countries, so these opportunities allow us to learn advanced academic ideas and also to experience the culture and customs of foreign countries. I hope that more and more students can have the chance to go abroad and then return to China to make contributions to our own development.



Chinese-American Differences in Literature and Life

SHI Huihui

Post-graduate student in the College of Foreign Language

I landed in Houston in August 2016 to begin five months studying in America. Everything was new to me when I arrived and I was deeply impressed by Houston's beautiful scenery. I got the bus to College Station and settled into my apartment: this was the start of my life in the United States.

We went to the university by school bus the next day and I met Virginia, who was in charge of international students. She gave us an introduction to the history of Texas A&M University, which was established in 1876 and was the first public institution of higher education in Texas. The letters "A&M", originally short for "Agricultural and Mechanical", are retained as a link to the university's past and students are proud to call themselves "Aggies", which comes from the word "agriculture". We chose our courses and supervisors and I also joined some under-



graduate courses to gain a better understanding of American university students. By taking part in their discussions and presentations I observed many differences between Chinese and American education; for example, American students are much more willing to speak in class. As an expert on children's literature, my supervisor gave me lots of thought-provoking advice. She was researching Cinderella at the time and I was inspired by her work so I borrowed more than twenty different versions of Cinderella from library and compared their similarities and differences. Under the guidance of my supervisor, I then wrote an essay comparing Chinese and American versions of Cinderella.

The teachers and students in the United States are often knowledgeable and hardworking. I met many scholars who could speak more than two languages. Professor Stephen H. West, for example, can read five different languages. A scholar should try to learn a new language that is related to his or her current studies. In American libraries, all the Asian books are placed together, so when you try to find some information about traditional Chinese culture, you find books in Chinese, Japanese and Korean. Thus, I think learning more languages is very important and helpful in academic research.

During my stay in the United States,



some other exchange students and I took part in a variety of extra-curricular activities, including going to church at the weekend to experience Christian culture. In addition, we went to concerts, magic shows, watched NFL and NBA games, and Mrs. Zhou and Mr. Jing from the Confucius Institute invited us to their homes and introduced us to the local Chinese community.

We also visited other cities and historical sites and we gained a more comprehensive understanding of American culture during our visiting. My favorite place was Key West where Ernest Hemingway once lived. I learnt a lot from my exchange and I would like to express my sincere gratitude to A&M and OUC for giving me this chance to visit the United States and experience a different culture.



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