

Higher Education for Global Common Good

Policy Briefs

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Acknowledgements

Higher Education for Global Common Good (HEGCG) is a platform that recognizes the importance of higher education in influencing the future of global community. It is committed to fostering a space for open and inclusive discussions on the challenges and opportunities for promoting global common good through cooperation in higher education and scientific research. Its aim is to create a platform where all stakeholders can come together to share their experiences, ideas, and knowledge, and work towards building an independent think tank for global common good.

HEGCG is initiated and governed by the Steering Committee, composed as follows:

Professor Futao HUANG, Hiroshima University, Japan

Professor Jenny J LEE, University of Arizona, the USA

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Under the leadership of Professor Nian Cai LIU and the guidance of Zhuolin FENG, Professor at Shanghai Jiao Tong University and Secretary-General of HEGCG, the fourth issue of HEGCG Policy Briefs was co-drafted and edited by the editing team. The team includes editor Xintong JIA (Research Associate at Shanghai Jiao Tong University, responsible for editing the content of the fourth issue and collecting information on the UK and Japan), regional editor Lin TIAN (Associate Professor at Hunan University, responsible for collecting information on Mainland China), regional editor Lili YANG (Assistant Professor at the University of Hong Kong, responsible for collecting information on Hong Kong SAR, Macau SAR and Taiwan Province, assisted by Lijun FAN and Xiangni WU, both are PhD students at the University of Hong Kong), and regional editor Noboru MIYOSHI (Associate Professor at Hiroshima University, responsible for collecting information on Japan).

HEGCG extends a warm invitation to scholars with an interest in the

higher education field and topics related to the global common good to join the editing team of Policy Briefs as regional editors. Currently, HEGCG is actively recruiting regional editors for North America, EU, UK, Korea, Oceania, ASEAN, India, Russia, Middle East, Africa, Latin America, etc. For those interested in assuming the role of regional editors, please contact hegcg@sjtu.edu.cn.

1. Colleges and universities to promote inter-continental flow of ideas and knowledge

1.1 University of Vienna-Kyoto University Strategic Partnership Symposium 2024 Held in Austria (Kyoto University; July 23, 2024)

Kyoto University co-hosted the University of Vienna-Kyoto University Strategic Partnership Joint Symposium 2024. As longstanding strategic partners, the two institutions have fostered collaborative research across disciplines, initiated pioneering projects in emerging academic fields, and supported the mobility of early-career researchers. This year's symposium centered on the theme of global health and featured three focused sessions: Microbiology and Microbe-host Interactions, Social Psychology and Current Research on Japan's Society and Cultures, and Mathematical Biology and Medicine. Approximately 60 participants attended, including many early-career researchers and students, who are expected to contribute to solving diverse global challenges in the future.

Source: https://www.oc.kyoto-u.ac.jp/symposium/en/vienna/kyoto-university-university-of-vienna-joint-symposium-on-global-health/#symposium_block3

1.2 Fourth Global Youth Summit on Net-Zero Future Held in Tsinghua (Tsinghua University; September 12, 2024)

The opening ceremony of the Fourth Global Youth Summit on Net-Zero Future took place on September 12 at Tsinghua University. This summit was co-hosted by the Global Alliance of Universities on Climate (GAUC) and the UNESCO Regional Office of East Asia. It brought together young delegates and invited guests from 26 countries, alongside representatives from global organizations like UNESCO, the World Bank Group, the Asian Development Bank, the Mercedes-Benz Star Fund, and the China Youth Development Foundation. The summit provided a platform for youth engagement on climate

action, focusing on innovative solutions and perspectives in preparation for the upcoming 29th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP29) in Baku, Azerbaijan. The event garnered significant interest, attracting over 270,000 online viewers, and served as a space for dialogue between youth and global stakeholders committed to addressing climate change.

Source: <https://www.tsinghua.edu.cn/en/info/1245/13801.htm>

1.3 University of Oxford and United Nations Human Rights to Host Pivotal Global Climate Summit (University of Oxford; September 17, 2024)

The University of Oxford and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights will host the 2025 Right Here, Right Now Global Climate Summit from June 4 to 7, 2025, bringing together global leaders, policymakers, academics, technologists, and advocates to address climate justice through human-rights-focused solutions. The highlight of the event will be a 24-hour global plenary, co-hosted by prominent institutions like the University of Oxford, University of Cape Town, University of Colorado Boulder, Monash University, University of Nairobi, University of São Paulo, and UNSW Sydney, under the coordination of the International Universities Climate Alliance. The summit aims to advance rights-based solutions to the climate crisis, elevate the voices of environmental human-rights defenders, unify the global climate justice movement, minimize carbon footprints, and empower individuals, particularly students, to become champions of climate justice in their current and future roles.

Source: <https://www.ox.ac.uk/news/2024-09-17-university-oxford-and-unt-ed-nations-human-rights-host-landmark-global-climate>

1.4 The 15th Globe Industrial Microbiology Congress & Metabolic Engineering Summit 2024 Held in Shanghai (Shanghai Jiao Tong University; September 21, 2024)

The 15th Globe Industrial Microbiology Congress & Metabolic Engineering Summit 2024 (GIM & MES 2024) was held in Shanghai, China,

from September 20 to 25. Supported by GIM and International Metabolic Engineering Society (IMES) and hosted by Shanghai Jiao Tong University and East China University of Science and Technology, the summit brought together over 800 global participants from academia and industry. This event served as a platform for advancing discussions in industrial microbiology, metabolic engineering, and synthetic biology, fostering future innovations in these fields. The program featured 10 plenary talks and 13 sessions, including a poster session and flash talks, covering topics such as industrial microbes, synthetic biology, metabolic engineering, artificial intelligence, and applications in human health.

Source: <https://en.sjtu.edu.cn/news/4630>

1.5 G7 Representatives Convene in Cambridge for Semiconductor Development (University of Cambridge; September 26, 2024)

On September 26, representatives of the Semiconductors Point of Contact (PoC) Group from the G7 nations convened in Cambridge, with the meeting hosted at ARM, a leader in processor design responsible for over 95% of global processors. Participants included members from the University of Cambridge and local semiconductor companies. The event focused on semiconductors, which are critical to a wide range of technologies, from mobile phones and medical devices to electric vehicles. These components are strategically vital for advancements in net-zero goals, artificial intelligence, and quantum technologies. The G7 PoC Group aims to foster information exchange and best practices on key issues affecting the semiconductor industry, including sustainable manufacturing, pre-competitive R&D, non-market policies, and crisis coordination.

Source: <https://www.cam.ac.uk/news/g7-representatives-meet-in-cambridge-to-discuss-semiconductors>

1.6 Peking University Co-hosted Forum on Smart City Development (Peking University; September 26, 2024)

The Building Smart City in a Changing World Forum was recently held at the China National Convention Center in Beijing, attracting over 100 participants, including government officials, experts, and media representatives from 30 countries and regions, with about 60% of attendees being from abroad. A key highlight was the release of the *2024 League of Arab States (LAS) Smart City Ranking Report*, presented by Chen Xi, a professor at Zhejiang International Studies University. The report is important for discussions surrounding global smart city development. The forum also hosted three seminars titled “Smart City and Regional Integration”, “International Relations and Regional Integration”, and “Global Governance, International Finance, and Regional Integration”. These discussions covered topics such as the future of smart cities, unemployment due to technological progress, international cooperation, and the dynamics of market forces in the digital economy. These seminars explored the challenges and opportunities presented by digital transformation, emphasizing the need for strategic global collaboration.

Source: https://newsen.pku.edu.cn/news_events/news/focus/14467.html

2. Colleges and universities to develop formal inter-continental research collaboration arrangements

2.1 Nagoya University and the University of Edinburgh Forged Strategic Partnership for Research and Education (Nagoya University; July 22, 2024)

Nagoya University and the University of Edinburgh have signed a *Memorandum of Understanding for Strategic Partnership* to enhance cooperation between the two institutions. This collaboration is part of Nagoya University's new Global Multi-Campus (GMC) international strategy, aimed at creating innovative study abroad opportunities. The universities plan to establish a "tailor-made study abroad program" that blends online and offline learning with experiences across various campuses. As part of this agreement, Nagoya University will set up a Global Campus Preparation Office at the University of Edinburgh to facilitate this new initiative.

Source: <https://en.nagoya-u.ac.jp/news/edinburgh.html>

2.2 Hokkaido University and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Signed Letter of Intent to Foster Semiconductor Collaboration (Hokkaido University; August 23, 2024)

On August 20, 2024, Hokkaido University and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) in the USA signed a *Letter of Intent* to explore collaboration in human resource development and research within the semiconductor field. The partnership leverages RPI's strong connections with major regional semiconductor organizations, such as the Albany NanoTech Complex and IBM in New York, which are globally recognized for their leadership in semiconductor research and development. RPI has also been a key player in advancing education and research in this sector. Meanwhile, Hokkaido University is reinforcing its position as a hub for semiconductor research and education, recently collaborating with semiconductor manufacturer Rapidus Corporation to boost its technological and scientific capabilities and train

skilled professionals in this critical field.

Source: <https://www.global.hokudai.ac.jp/blog/hokkaido-university-and-re-nsselaer-polytechnic-institute-sign-letter-of-intent-for-semiconductor-collaboration/>

2.3 University of Victoria, KEK, and UTokyo Signed MoU to Advance Hyper-Kamiokande Project (University of Tokyo; September 3, 2024)

University of Victoria, High Energy Accelerator Research Organization (KEK), and the University of Tokyo recently signed a *Memorandum of Understanding* (MoU) to promote the Hyper-Kamiokande international scientific research project. The project, which is set to begin operations in 2027 at Kamioka, Hida City, Gifu Prefecture in Japan, focuses on a new detector that will be eight times larger than its predecessor, Super-Kamiokande. The Hyper-Kamiokande detector will feature newly developed high-sensitivity photosensors. The project aims to elucidate the Grand Unified Theory and the evolution history of the Universe through an investigation of proton decay and CP violation (the asymmetry between neutrinos and antineutrinos), together with the observation of neutrinos from supernova explosions. Twenty-two countries have expressed interest in participating, and Canada is the fourth country, following Poland, Spain, and Italy, to sign the MoU. The project officially launched in February 2020.

Source: https://www.u-tokyo.ac.jp/focus/en/articles/z0208_00218.html

2.4 Zhejiang University Strengthens Global Ties Through New Partnerships in Australia, New Zealand, and Japan (Zhejiang University; September 12, 2024)

In a bid to strengthen ties between Zhejiang University and the Asia-Pacific region, President Du Jiangfeng recently led a high-level delegation on a visit to Australia, New Zealand, and Japan. During the visit, Zhejiang University and the University of Sydney signed a *Memorandum of Understanding* and a strategic cooperation agreement. The two universities plan

to further develop joint research platforms, expand their research cooperation, and cultivate top-notch talent for mutual development. In New Zealand, the delegation visited the University of Auckland, where the university signed the *Joint Statement of Global University Leaders on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, an initiative led by Zhejiang University. In Japan, Du Jiangfeng met with Kyoto University President Nagahiro Minato and Vice President Tetsuo Sawaragi to sign a *Memorandum of Understanding* on joint PhD training programs. This visit represents a significant step in Zhejiang University's efforts to deepen its partnerships in the Asia-Pacific region.

Source: <https://www.zju.edu.cn/english/2024/0912/c19573a2961720/page.htm>

2.5 FOCAC Summit Signed Letter of Intent for Senior Personnel Training (Zhejiang University; September 15, 2024)

During the 2024 Summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC), Zhou Jianghong, Vice President of Zhejiang University, met with South Africa's Minister of Electricity and Energy, Kgosientsho Ramokgopa, and his delegation in Beijing. At the meeting, Zhou highlighted Zhejiang University's commitment to strengthening cooperation with South Africa in key areas, such as high-level talent training, clean energy, technology transfer, and green development. These areas, he noted, offer significant opportunities for mutual growth. The meeting concluded with the signing of a *Letter of Intent* focused on high-level human resources training, marking an important milestone in the collaboration between academia and industry across continents to address global challenges and promote sustainable development.

Source: <https://www.zju.edu.cn/english/2024/0915/c19573a2963069/page.htm>

2.6 Tsinghua University and BIPM Signed Agreement to Collaborate on Kibble Balance (Tsinghua University; September 25, 2024)

Tsinghua University and the International Bureau of Weights and

Measures (BIPM) recently signed a *Letter of Intent* for joint technical cooperation in the area of Kibble balance. This agreement formalizes the existing mutual support between the two parties toward advancing the next generation of Kibble balances. As part of the collaboration, BIPM will provide guidance to Tsinghua University on the general design and operation of Kibble balances, with a focus on the design of optical subsystems. In turn, Tsinghua University has provided BIPM with a compact magnetic circuit based on an original BIPM design but featuring innovative improvements. This magnet design will be incorporated into a table-top Kibble balance currently under development at BIPM. Tsinghua University will also provide advice to BIPM on magnetism-related matters.

Source: <https://www.tsinghua.edu.cn/en/info/1245/13809.htm>

2.7 UM and i3S of Portugal Established Joint Precision Nanomedicine Laboratory (University of Macau; September 26, 2024)

The University of Macau (UM) and the Institute for Research and Innovation in Health (i3S) of Portugal recently held a ceremony to sign a collaboration agreement and unveil a plaque for the Joint Laboratory of Precision Nanomedicine. This new laboratory aims to integrate the academic strengths and research resources of both institutions in the field of precision nanomedicine. The partnership will focus on conducting interdisciplinary research projects, cultivating top-tier research talent, and enhancing cooperation between Macao and Portugal in related scientific fields.

Source: <https://www.um.edu.mo/news-and-press-releases/press-release/detail/59131/>

3. Colleges and universities to make efforts for global challenges

3.1 Researcher Honored for Groundbreaking Cancer Vaccine (The University of Edinburgh; July 9, 2024)

Professor Ian Frazer of the University of Queensland has played a pivotal role in reducing cervical cancer rates worldwide. In recognition of his groundbreaking research and its transformative impact, he has been awarded the Cameron Prize for Therapeutics. This prestigious award, granted biennially by the University of Edinburgh, honors significant contributions made in the past five years to practical therapeutic techniques for treating illnesses. The HPV (Human Papillomavirus) vaccine, introduced in the UK in 2008, has proven highly effective. A 2021 study revealed that cervical cancer rates among women in their 20s had dropped by nearly 90 percent. Researchers involved in the study highlighted the potential of HPV vaccination, combined with cervical cancer screening, to nearly eliminate the disease.

Source: <https://www.ed.ac.uk/news/2024/researcher-recognised-for-revolutionary-cancer-vaccine>

3.2 Antarctic Plant Survey Advances Conservation Efforts (The University of Edinburgh; August 6, 2024)

An international team, led by the University of Edinburgh in collaboration with the Norwegian Institute for Nature Research, the British Antarctic Survey, and the Scottish Association for Marine Science, has discovered that over 80% of vegetation growth in Antarctica is concentrated within the Antarctic Peninsula and nearby islands. This vegetation occupies just 0.12% of the continent's ice-free areas, underscoring the need for focused conservation efforts in these critical regions, which are insufficiently protected by the current Antarctic Specially Protected Area (ASPAs) system. Previous studies have highlighted the environmental sensitivity of Antarctic vegetation, making it an excellent indicator of regional climate change. Monitoring these plant species in Antarctica's relatively undisturbed landscape could provide valuable

insights into how similar vegetation might respond to changing climates in other fragile ecosystems, such as the Arctic.

Source: <https://www.ed.ac.uk/news/2024/antarctic-survey-of-plant-life-to-aid-conservation>

3.3 Fudan University and UNFCCC Co-Hosted Special Workshop on Climate Change (Fudan University; August 14, 2024)

On August 7, 2024, Fudan University, in collaboration with the Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), hosted a special workshop on climate change at the Think Tank Building at Fudan University. The event centered on identifying the scientific and technical support needed to tackle climate change challenges. Discussions also highlighted how Fudan University's research and technological innovations could contribute to global climate change adaptation and governance. Experts from Fudan University delivered presentations addressing critical issues and scientific questions related to climate change and its international governance.

Source: <https://www.fudan.edu.cn/en/2024/0814/c344a141822/page.htm>

3.4 HKUST Unveils Institute for Financial Research to Pioneer Innovation in Global Finance (The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology; August 22, 2024)

The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST) has launched the HKUST Institute for Financial Research, dedicated to addressing complex social and economic challenges through financial research and technological innovation. Collaborating with academia, industry professionals, and policymakers locally and globally, the Institute aims to foster impactful solutions. Backed by an Advisory Board comprising nearly 20 renowned experts from around the world, the Institute leverages interdisciplinary expertise to advance practical research, promote stakeholder collaboration, and provide actionable insights to support informed decision-making for industry leaders and policymakers.

Source: <https://hkust.edu.hk/news/institutional-advancement/hkust-launches-institute-financial-research-drive-financial>

3.5 UCL Partners with YouTube to Improve Access to Mental Health Information for Young People (University College London; September 13, 2024)

An increasing number of young people are turning to YouTube for advice and information, making it essential for content on the platform, particularly regarding mental health, to be accurate and evidence-based. In September, University College London (UCL) partnered with YouTube Health to address this need, launching a collaboration aimed at bridging the gap between clinical expertise and digital content. The initiative includes plans to train over 100 clinical academic staff in content creation, with the goal of establishing UCL's own "clinical creators network". This network will use YouTube to share cutting-edge mental health research, ensuring young audiences have access to reliable and up-to-date information.

Source: <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/news/2024/sep/ucl-partners-youtube-enhance-availability-mental-health-information-young-people>

3.6 Oxford University to Support Students and Scholars from Gaza and the West Bank (University of Oxford; September 19, 2024)

The University of Oxford has launched several initiatives to support the advancement of learning and the rebuilding of higher education in Gaza and the West Bank. These include a scholarship program for displaced graduate students and expanded access to digital resources. The Palestine Crisis Scholarship Scheme aims to provide displaced students from Gaza and the West Bank with the opportunity to pursue graduate studies at Oxford in the 2025/26 academic year. This new initiative builds on Oxford's long-standing commitment to supporting refugee scholars and continues the University's global efforts to assist students from displaced backgrounds. Additionally, the Bodleian Libraries have made online services and resources available to

students and scholars from Palestinian universities, ensuring continued access to educational materials.

Source: <https://www.ox.ac.uk/news/2024-09-19-oxford-university-support-students-and-academics-gaza-and-west-bank>

4. Colleges and universities to promote people mobility including scholar or student mobility

4.1 CityUHK and University of Cambridge Strengthen Collaboration (City University of Hong Kong; July 5, 2024)

On July 3, 2024, City University of Hong Kong (CityUHK) and the University of Cambridge signed a new *Memorandum of Understanding* (MoU) to strengthen their global academic and research collaborations. The agreement will promote joint education, research development, and commercialization opportunities between CityUHK's Department of Physics and the University of Cambridge's Department of Materials Science and Metallurgy. The two institutions also discussed the details of the Future Global Leaders Programme, a collaborative initiative aimed at Master's students. The programme is designed to cultivate sustainability leaders with the environmental, social, and governance skills needed to drive global change. Participants will take part in online training sessions and an exchange program at the partner institution, gaining intercultural insights and connecting with industry experts.

Source: <https://www.cityu.edu.hk/media/news/2024/07/05/cityuhk-and-university-cambridge-deepen-collaboration>

4.2 CityUHK Enhances Academic Collaboration with POLIMI GSoM (City University of Hong Kong; July 18, 2024)

On July 15, 2024, CityUHK and the Politecnico di Milano (POLIMI) Graduate School of Management (GSoM) signed a *Memorandum of Understanding* (MoU) to enhance academic collaboration between the two institutions. The agreement emphasizes the exchange of faculty, scholars, and postgraduate students, while also exploring the development of customized educational programs, including online and in-person short-term courses, study tours, Master's programs, and double-degree postgraduate opportunities. Additionally, the MoU outlines plans to collaborate on joint

degree programs, executive education initiatives, and both online and in-person seminars.

Source: <https://www.cityu.edu.hk/media/news/2024/07/18/cityuhk-strengthens-academic-collaboration-polimi-gsom>

4.3 CityUHK Partners with Leading Belgian University for People Exchange (City University of Hong Kong; August 29, 2024)

CityUHK has recently strengthened its cooperative relationship with the Science, Engineering, and Technology Group at KU Leuven. A *Memorandum of Understanding* (MoU) was signed by President Boey and Professor Sels to build on existing academic ties and create new opportunities for collaboration based on mutual benefit and reciprocity. Under the MoU, both institutions have agreed to explore the development of joint bachelor's degree programs, faculty exchanges, visiting scholars, and post-doctoral research fellowships focused on cooperative education programs, as well as collaboration in research.

Source: <https://www.cityu.edu.hk/media/news/2024/08/29/cityuhk-joins-hands-top-belgian-university>

4.4 Hokkaido and Melbourne Extended Research Workshops Fund and Established Joint PhD Program (Hokkaido University; September 16, 2024)

On September 19 and 20, 2024, Professor Mark Cassidy, Deputy Vice-Chancellor for Research at the University of Melbourne (UoM), a strategic international research partner of Hokkaido University (HU), visited Sapporo once again. During the visit, the delegation and HU counterparts gathered to extend the Hokkaido-Melbourne Joint Research Workshops Fund for another two years. This initiative has been a flagship of their strategic partnership, funding fifteen workshops between the two universities since FY 2022/23. Additionally, the visit marked the celebration of a new joint PhD program between HU's Course of Bioengineering and Bioinformatics in the Graduate School of Information Science and Technology and UoM's School of Chemistry in the Faculty of Science. This program will begin on October 1, 2024.

Source: <https://www.global.hokudai.ac.jp/blog/research-workshops-fund-extended-and-joint-phd-established-with-uom/>

4.5 King's College London Expands Partnerships and Explores Future Opportunities in Asia (King's College London; September 18, 2024)

Led by Vice-Chancellor & President Professor Shitij Kapur, the King's College London (King's) delegation visited Singapore, Mainland China, and Hong Kong SAR to engage with partner universities, donors, alumni, and prospective students. Among the partner universities visited were Nanyang Technological University, Peking University, Peking University Health Science Centre, Shanghai Jiao Tong University (SJTU), Southern University of Science and Technology (SUSTech), the University of Hong Kong, and the University of Hong Kong School of Professional and Continuing Education (HKU SPACE). During the visit, King's and SJTU signed a *Memorandum of Agreement* to offer high-performing students from SJTU the opportunity to study MScs in Clinical Nursing and Healthcare Technologies at King's Faculty of Nursing, Midwifery & Palliative Care and the Faculty of Life Sciences & Medicine. In Shenzhen, King's also officially launched the SUSTech-King's School of Medicine, welcoming its inaugural class. This partnership combines SUSTech's innovation and advanced facilities with King's renowned teaching and research excellence, establishing a new model for global collaboration. Graduates who complete the program will have the opportunity to pursue a Master's degree at King's Faculty of Life Sciences & Medicine.

Source: <https://www.kcl.ac.uk/news/kings-in-asia>

4.6 The 3rd SJTU China-Japan Youth Elite Program Successfully Launched (Shanghai Jiao Tong University; September 25, 2024)

The 3rd SJTU China-Japan Youth Elite Program officially opened on the evening of September 2, 2024. Over 60 volunteers from Shanghai Jiao Tong University (SJTU) welcomed 21 students from the University of Tokyo, Tokyo Institute of Technology, Nagoya University, and Tohoku University. This elite

program is expected to serve as a new starting point for young people from China and Japan to deepen mutual understanding and strengthen their friendship. It is hoped that the Chinese and Japanese students will collaborate to explore cultural mysteries, foster cooperation and exchange, promote mutual learning, and contribute to the youth-driven efforts for strengthening friendly ties between China and Japan.

Source: <https://en.sjtu.edu.cn/news/4648>

4.7 XJTU Delegation Visited Turkiye (Xi'an Jiaotong University; October 15, 2024)

A delegation from Xi'an Jiaotong University (XJTU), led by President Zhang Liqun, visited universities in Turkiye from October 8 to 11, 2024, to participate in various exchange events. During the visit, XJTU and Ozyegin University discussed enhancing student mobility, academic exchange, and university-industry cooperation, leading to the signing of a university-level cooperation memorandum. Additionally, XJTU signed an agreement with two local high schools to establish the XJTU Joint International Student Recruitment Base and awarded plaques designating them as Parent School for Undergraduate Program of XJTU.

Source: http://en.xjtu.edu.cn/2024-10/15/c_1036759.htm

5. Non-university organizations to promote global common good

5.1 UK Launches Five Hubs to Advance Quantum Technology Development

(UK Research and Innovation; July 26, 2024)

The UK Government has announced the launch of five new research hubs aimed at advancing quantum technologies in fields ranging from healthcare and computing to national security and critical infrastructure. These hubs will focus on applications such as transforming early disease diagnosis, detecting the invisible (e.g., gas leaks and hidden objects), developing a “quantum internet”, unlocking the potential of quantum computing, and creating resilient position, navigation, and timing systems. The hubs are supported by a £106 million investment from the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC), along with contributions from the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC), the Medical Research Council (MRC), and the National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR).

Source: <https://www.ukri.org/news/five-hubs-launched-to-ensure-the-uk-benefits-from-quantum-future/>

5.2 HKUST Receives Donation from SMIDF to Nurture Innovative Medical Talent on Neurological Health Front (The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology; July 27, 2024)

The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST) has received a donation from the Shanghai Medical and Innovation Development Foundation (SMIDF) to support the University’s Mainland Innovative Medical Talent Cultivation Program (Brain Health) in collaboration with hospitals across Mainland China. With the global aging population increasing the demand for effective healthcare solutions, there is an urgent need for medical professionals with expertise in both scientific research and clinical practice. SMIDF’s donation will specifically support talent development in the field of brain health. As part of the program, 30 clinicians specializing in brain health,

including those from Beijing Tiantan Hospital, will receive research training at HKUST. These clinicians will engage in various research projects, be assigned research mentors, and have access to HKUST's laboratory facilities and resources.

Source: <https://hkust.edu.hk/news/institutional-advancement/hkust-receives-donation-shanghai-medical-and-innovation-development>

5.3 CEAIE Launches China-ASEAN Thousand Schools Hands Together Initiative at 2024 CAECW Opening Ceremony (China Education Association for International Exchange; August 22, 2024)

The opening ceremony of the 2024 China-ASEAN Education Cooperation Week (CAECW) was held on August 21 at the CAECW Permanent Host Site in Guiyang, Guizhou Province. The event was co-hosted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China, the Ministry of Education of China, and the People's Government of Guizhou Province. During the ceremony, Mr. Yang Jun, Secretary General of the China Education Association for International Exchange (CEAIE), introduced the China-ASEAN Thousand Schools Hands Together Initiative. This initiative aims to foster economic and social development and strengthen people-to-people exchanges through expanded and deepened educational cooperation. CEAIE, as the leading executive organization, will oversee a series of activities under the initiative.

Source: <https://en.ceaie.edu.cn/article/detail?columnid=15&id=441>

5.4 University of Oxford Launched Human-Centered AI Lab Together with Cosmos Institute (University of Oxford; September 5, 2024)

The University of Oxford has announced the launch of the Human-Centered AI Lab (HAI Lab), a pioneering research initiative supported by the Cosmos Institute. This groundbreaking lab aims to bring technologists and philosophers together to translate philosophical concepts into open-source software and AI systems, fostering a dynamic community focused on shaping an AI future that promotes human flourishing. Led by Professor Philipp

Koralus, the inaugural McCord Professor of Philosophy and AI, the HAI Lab will focus on developing a “philosophy-to-code pipeline”. Professor Koralus, known for his research into human reasoning, will guide the lab in embedding key philosophical ideas—such as reason, decentralization, and human autonomy—into the AI technologies influencing our world.

Source: <https://www.ox.ac.uk/news/2024-09-05-oxford-launches-human-centered-ai-lab>; <https://cosmos-institute.org/>

5.5 FOCAC Summit Unveiled Initiative for China-Africa Cooperation in Education and Cultural Heritage Protection (Ministry of Education of China; September 8, 2024)

The China-Africa-UNESCO High-Level Dialogue on Cooperation in Education and Cultural Heritage Protection was held in Beijing on September 6, 2024, during the Beijing Summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC). Representatives at the Dialogue engaged in in-depth discussions on the theme of “jointly promoting educational development and cultural heritage protection in Africa”. The Dialogue emphasized two key points: enhancing educational collaboration to advance educational modernization, and strengthening cultural heritage protection while fostering cultural exchange.

Source: http://en.moe.gov.cn/news/press_releases/202409/t20240909_1150035.html