

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:

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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 first issue of HEGCG Policy Briefs was co-drafted and edited by editor Xintong JIA (Research Associate at Shanghai Jiao Tong University) and regional editors Noboru MIYOSHI (Associate Professor at Hiroshima University), Lin TIAN (Assistant Professor at Hunan University), and Lili YANG (Assistant Professor at the University of Hong Kong).

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 Peking University Holds the International Symposium on Cohort-based Biobanks (Peking University; October 9, 2023)

The International Symposium on Cohort-based Biobanks was held in Beijing on September 25, 2023. The symposium was cohosted by Peking University Center for Public Health and Epidemic Preparedness & Response and the Office of International Cooperation. The participants representing dozens of cohort studies worldwide launched the *Consensus on Global Scientific Collaboration of Biobanks and Cohorts*. The *Consensus* recalled the role played by large cohort studies in the prevention, control, diagnosis and treatment of diseases as well as in the R&D of drugs, and expressed a strong commitment to a win-win model of collaboration with bilateral and multilateral mechanisms for data sharing.

Source: https://newsen.pku.edu.cn/news_events/news/global/13669.html

1.2 University of Macau Holds China and Portuguese-speaking Countries Ocean Research and Education Symposium (University of Macau; October 12, 2023)

On October 12–13, 2023, the 2nd China and Portuguese-speaking Countries Ocean Research and Education Symposium took place at the University of Macau (UM). This gathering brought together multiple universities and research institutes from Portugal, Brazil, Angola, Mozambique, and other influential Portuguese-speaking nations in ocean science. Over 80 experts from Mainland China, Hong Kong SAR, and Macao SAR, along with government representatives, students, and faculty members from UM, convened to delve into cutting-edge science, pioneering theories, and ecological preservation in this domain. The primary goal was to encourage exchanges, collaboration, and cohesive growth between China and the Portuguese-speaking countries.

Source: <https://www.um.edu.mo/news-and-press-releases/press-release/detail/56714/>

1.3 Inaugural Sino-European Civilization Forum Held in Paris (Renmin University of China; October 17, 2023)

The Inaugural Sino-European Civilization Forum convened in Paris on September 21, 2023, with a core aim: to bolster profound academic exchanges between Chinese and European scholars and foster a shared comprehension of their respective civilizations. Serving as a platform for mutual enlightenment and collective advancement across education, culture, and sports, this forum strives to unite both Chinese and European entities to co-craft the future. Under the banner of “Mutual Learning among Diverse Civilizations and Global Civilization Development”, the forum champions mutual respect, dialogue, cooperation, and the principles of equitable mutual learning and gains. Lin Shangli, President of Renmin University of China, and many distinguished individuals took the stage to deliver speeches during the forum’s opening ceremony.

Source: <https://en.ruc.edu.cn/detail/2537.html>

1.4 President of UiO Visits NTU to Bolster Bilateral Partnership (National Taiwan University; October 25, 2023)

President Wen-Chang Chen, Vice President Hsiao-Wei Yuan, and other National Taiwan University (NTU) representatives welcomed University of Oslo (UiO) President Dr. Svein Stølen and Political Advisor Ms. Marianne Knarud on October 5, 2023. Dr. Stølen’s visit aimed to forge partnerships with leading universities in campus innovation, sustainable development, and various other domains. He specifically emphasized indigenous studies, political economics, East Asian studies, Mandarin education, and material science as key areas of interest for collaborative exchanges with NTU.

Source: https://www.ntu.edu.tw/english/spotlight/2023/2200_20231025.html

1.5 Exploring Sustainable Development in Higher Education: Highlights from the 2023 Tsinghua Higher Education Forum (Tsinghua University; October 28, 2023)

On October 28, 2023, the 2023 Tsinghua Higher Education Forum commenced in Beijing, organized by Tsinghua University. Centered around the theme “Higher Education for Sustainable Development: Global Perspectives and Practices”, this two-day event gathered domestic and international experts and scholars. The discussions delved into various aspects, including conceptual frameworks for sustainable development in higher education, the role and obligations of top-tier universities worldwide, advancements in engineering education, and the integration of sustainable development principles into education and real-world applications.

Source: <https://www.tsinghua.edu.cn/en/info/1245/12501.htm>

1.6 Kyoto University Asian Studies Unit Hosts the 16th Next-Generation Global Workshop (Kyoto University; November 24, 2023)

The Kyoto University Asian Studies Unit (KUASU) hosted the 16th Next-Generation Global Workshop (NGGW) on September 29–30, 2023, marking a return to in-person gatherings at the University’s Faculty of Letters Main Building following three years of virtual meetings. Themed “Migration and Quality of Life: Harnessing the Potential for Social Prosperity”, the workshop welcomed 26 presenters, carefully selected from 80 applicants worldwide. Representing diverse nations such as India, the Philippines, Singapore, Germany, the United States, and Japan, these presenters engaged in eight sessions across two tracks over the course of two days. Their discussions delved into various aspects of migration, encompassing themes like war, labor, marriage, law, ethnicity, religion, and identity.

Source: <https://www.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en/news/2023-11-24>

1.7 University of Macau Hosts Global Conference on Intelligent Systems and Big Data (University of Macau; December 14, 2023)

The Fifth International Joint Conference on High Performance Big Data and Intelligent Systems and the Third Macao Symposium on Cloud Computing and Intelligent Driving were collaboratively hosted by the Faculty of Science and Technology (FST), the State Key Laboratory of Internet of Things for Smart City, and the Institute of Collaborative Innovation of the University of Macau (UM), along with the Shenzhen Institute of Advanced Technology of the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) and the Institute of Semiconductors of CAS. Held at UM, these conferences were dedicated to discussing trending subjects like high-performance computing technology, big data, intelligent technology, and their practical applications. The aim was to foster a platform for academic and technological innovation exchanges among experts in these domains.

Source: <https://www.um.edu.mo/news-and-press-releases/press-release/detail/57383/>

1.8 Successful Convening of the World University Leadership Summit at The Chinese University of Hong Kong (Shenzhen) (The Chinese University of Hong Kong; December 15, 2023)

On December 11, 2023, The Chinese University of Hong Kong and The Chinese University of Hong Kong (Shenzhen) jointly hosted the World University Leadership Summit, drawing the participation of presidents from 18 world-leading universities spanning 10 countries and regions, alongside over 20 high-tech enterprise managers from Shenzhen. The summit, themed “Higher Education Collaboration”, offered an esteemed international platform for universities, enterprises, and societal organizations to deliberate on collaborative initiatives in higher education and the fostering of innovative talents in the contemporary era. The event encompassed two roundtable discussions, centering on “Strengthening Cooperation between Universities in Guangdong–Hong Kong–Macao Greater Bay Area and International Institutions” and “Research and Innovation Ecosystem”. University presidents and business leaders presented mutually beneficial models of cooperation, highlighting strategies such as integrating science and innovation,

consolidating top-tier talents, establishing joint laboratories, and sharing successful collaboration experiences between universities within the Greater Bay Area and institutions beyond Hong Kong SAR.

Source: <https://www.cpr.cuhk.edu.hk/en/press/%e4%b8%96%e7%95%8c%e5%a4%a7%e5%ad%a6%e6%a0%a1%e9%95%bf%e8%ae%ba%e5%9d%9b%e5%9c%a8%e9%a6%99%e6%b8%af%e4%b8%ad%e6%96%87%e5%a4%a7%e5%ad%a6%ef%bc%88%e6%b7%b1%e5%9c%b3%ef%bc%89%e6%88%90/>

1.9 The China Launch Event of *The 2023 Report of the Lancet Countdown on Health and Climate Change* (Tsinghua University; December 15, 2023)

The 2023 China Report of the Lancet Countdown on Health and Climate Change (China Report) made its debut in Beijing, authored by 76 experts representing 26 major institutions, domestically and internationally. Guided by the Lancet Countdown Regional Centre for Asia at Tsinghua University's Department of Earth System Science, the report contributes valuable insights for advancing "Healthy China" and "Beautiful China", championing ecological civilization, and presenting Chinese perspectives and solutions to the global climate crisis while enhancing public health. Following the report's launch, a panel discussion ensued, delving into global governance issues pertinent to climate change and public health. Participants also explored innovative strategies for mitigating health risks stemming from climate change.

Source: <https://www.tsinghua.edu.cn/en/info/1245/12601.htm>

1.10 HKIAS Forum on Advanced Electron Microscopy and Instrumentation (City University of Hong Kong; December 20, 2023)

World-renowned scholars from various academic spheres converged to exchange insights on the challenges and frontiers of advanced electron microscopy and instrumentation, along with their applications in materials science, biology, and physics. Hosted by the Hong Kong Institute for Advanced Study (HKIAS) at City University of Hong Kong (CityU) from December 11 to 14, 2023, this forum served as a dynamic platform for both students and the

scientific community. It facilitated discussions on leveraging cutting-edge electron microscopy techniques in tandem with world-leading scholars, fostering international collaboration, and initiating scholarly dialogues. Featuring a diverse lineup of over 30 speakers, including esteemed Kavli and Wolf Prize Laureates, the event showcased groundbreaking advancements and encouraged collaborative initiatives among experts worldwide.

Source: <https://www.cityu.edu.hk/media/news/2023/12/20/hkias-forum-advanced-electron-microscopy-and-instrumentation>

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

2.1 Universität Hamburg–Kyoto University Strategic Partnership Joint Symposium 2023 was Held (University of Kyoto; June 19, 2023)

The Universität Hamburg–Kyoto University Strategic Partnership Joint Symposium 2023 was hosted at Universität Hamburg from June 19 to 20, 2023. Since the inception of a university-level exchange pact in 2017 and the subsequent establishment of a strategic partnership agreement led by the institutions' presidents in 2020, both universities have actively fostered academic collaboration. Kyoto University's strategic alliances focus on fostering interdisciplinary research collaborations, cultivating joint studies in emerging academic domains, and facilitating researcher mobility. Given that the initial three-year term of the strategic partnership agreement was set to conclude in 2023, a renewal ceremony for an additional three years was conducted during the symposium to affirm and extend the collaboration between the institutions.

Source: <https://www.oc.kyoto-u.ac.jp/symposium/en/kyoto-hamburg-spsymposium2023/#report>

2.2 Wuhan University and UNITAR Renew Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation (Wuhan University; August 27, 2023)

The *Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation* between Wuhan University and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) was commemorated through a signing ceremony on July 3, 2023. Building upon their prior collaboration initiated with the first phase of the *Memorandum* in 2019, Wuhan University and UNITAR have yielded fruitful joint endeavors. The partnership has seen interns from Wuhan University actively engaged alongside UNITAR experts, contributing significantly to emergency response strategies, satellite image analysis, utilization of night-

light satellite imagery, and advancements in artificial intelligence. Notably, 2023 marks the 60th anniversary of UNITAR's establishment and the 130th anniversary of Wuhan University's founding. Both entities eagerly anticipate embarking on a new phase of collaboration, aiming to further deepen their cooperative efforts and achievements.

Source: <https://en.whu.edu.cn/info/1050/27791.htm>

2.3 University of Tokyo and France's Institut Pasteur sign *Letter of Intent* (University of Tokyo; October 4, 2023)

President Cole of Institut Pasteur and President Fujii of the University of Tokyo inked a *Letter of Intent* (LOI) on October 3, 2023, signaling the University of Tokyo's keenness to join forces with Institut Pasteur in establishing a Japanese operational base. Institut Pasteur is set to inaugurate the "Institut Pasteur du Japon (IPJ)" within in Japan. Envisioned as an innovation hub, the Planetary Health Innovation Center (PHIC) will operate under the auspices of IPJ, fostering collaborative efforts between the University of Tokyo and Institut Pasteur. PHIC's scope encompasses bolstering international collaboration across various domains, including global health and life sciences, inclusive of joint international research initiatives and graduate student training. Additionally, PHIC aims to nurture startups, forge collaborations with corporations, and create a dynamic space where academia and industry seamlessly intersect.

Source: https://www.u-tokyo.ac.jp/focus/en/articles/z0707_00035.html

2.4 University of Macau and University of Coimbra Strengthened Collaboration (University of Macau; November 1, 2023)

A delegation led by João Nuno Calvão da Silva, Vice Rector of the University of Coimbra, visited the University of Macau (UM) in October 2023. The visit encompassed a book presentation and recognition ceremony, honoring two esteemed professors from UM's Faculty of Law (FLL) for their significant academic contributions. Furthermore, the universities formalized

their collaboration by signing a cooperation agreement for their Joint Laboratory of Cognitive Aging, marking the occasion with a plaque unveiling ceremony. The agreement aims to fortify teaching and research collaboration between the institutions. UM Rector Yonghua Song and Vice Rector Rui Martins engaged in discussions with João Nuno Calvão da Silva, focusing on advancing research, academic programs, talent development, and interdisciplinary cooperation. The meeting aimed to foster enhanced cooperation and exchanges between universities in Macao SAR and Portugal.

Source: <https://www.um.edu.mo/news-and-press-releases/press-release/detail/56963/>

2.5 PolyU Research Project Supported by French Research Scheme (The Hong Kong Polytechnic University; November 13, 2023)

The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU) has secured backing from The French National Research Agency (Agence Nationale de la Recherche/Research Grants Council Joint Research Scheme (ANR/RGC Joint Research Scheme) - 2023/24 Exercise. This support will fuel an innovative project focused on fortifying the resilience of coastal infrastructure against climate change threats like rising sea levels and intensified storm surges. Among Hong Kong SAR institutions, PolyU is one of the three fortunate recipients, with their project *Smart and Flexible Climate Change Adaptation of Coastal Infrastructure* receiving HK\$2.45 million in funding from the ANR/RGC Joint Research Scheme. This financial support spans a 48-month period, aiming to address the escalating risk posed by extreme weather events attributed to global warming.

Source: https://www.polyu.edu.hk/en/media/media-releases/2023/1113_polyu-research-project-on-climate-resilient-coastal-infrastructure/

2.6 New Strategic Partnership Agreement between Nagoya University and the University of Freiburg (Nagoya University; November 22, 2023)

Nagoya University (NU) and the University of Freiburg (UFR, Germany)

are poised to elevate their academic collaboration, marked by the formalization of a new *Strategic Partnership Agreement* during President Sugiyama's visit to Freiburg on November 21, 2023. Aligned with NU's innovative Global Multi-Campus (GMC) international strategy, intensive deliberations between NU and the University of Freiburg aim to foster robust inter-university exchanges. They also plan to introduce pioneering approaches to learning and teaching, such as "tailor-made study abroad" programs that integrate diverse online/offline/hybrid methods, both at Freiburg's location and on NU's home campus in Nagoya. Capitalizing on this opportunity, Nagoya University intends to establish its "Global Campus Preparation Office" as early as April 2024.

Source: https://en.nagoya-u.ac.jp/news/freiburg_spu.html

2.7 The Launch of Pandemic Research Alliance: For Concerted Research and Collaboration (The University of Hong Kong; December 4, 2023)

On December 4, 2023, distinguished professors from six leading institutions across four countries established the Pandemic Research Alliance (PRA). This collaborative initiative seeks to drive unified research efforts spanning respiratory viruses, encompassing the transmission from animals to humans, enhancing surveillance, and innovating solutions for effectively managing future pandemics. Representing a pioneering endeavor, this alliance unites scientists from Australia, Mainland China, Hong Kong SAR, Singapore, and the United States. Led by Professor Yuen Kwok-Yung, a renowned microbiologist from the University of Hong Kong (HKU) serving as the alliance's Chairperson-designate, and esteemed Columbia University AIDS trailblazer Professor David Ho, the alliance endeavors to harness the unique expertise of each institution to generate collaborative breakthroughs.

Source: <https://hku.hk/press/press-releases/detail/26912.html>

2.8 The Chinese University of Hong Kong and University of Oxford Renew Agreement on Research (The Chinese University of Hong Kong;

December 15, 2023)

In December 2023, The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) and the University of Oxford have reinforced their dedication to disaster and medical humanitarian response, alongside addressing climate change's impact on health. They have extended their collaboration in the Collaborating Centre for Oxford University and CUHK for Disaster and Medical Humanitarian Response (CCOUC) for an additional three years. This renewal follows 12 years of successful partnership. With health risks escalating due to climate change, there's a pressing need for worldwide action. CCOUC's significant strides in this domain highlight Hong Kong SAR's pivotal role in bridging connections between China and the global community.

Source: <https://www.cpr.cuhk.edu.hk/en/press/cuhk-and-university-of-oxford-renew-agreement-to-strengthen-research-policy-dialogue-and-training-collaboration-for-disaster-and-medical-humanitarian-response-climate-change-and-health/>

2.9 French National Centre for Scientific Research Visits NTU to Strengthen Collaboration in Chemistry Research (National Taiwan University; December 20, 2023)

In October 2023, NTU President Wen-Chang Chen traveled to the French National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS) to formalize a cooperation agreement with CNRS Chairman Dr. Antoine Petit. To reciprocate, CNRS representatives, accompanied by Prof. Redouane Borsali, who serves as a Joint Director of the Advanced Research Center for Green Materials Science and Technology at NTU, visited NTU on November 27. During this visit, both parties engaged in discussions about forthcoming collaborative projects. The primary aim of these exchanges is to catalyze bilateral research endeavors and foster educational cooperation. The targeted areas for collaboration encompass chemistry, material science, and oceanic biology. Expressing a keen interest in bolstering scholarly and student exchanges, both institutions are exploring potential funding opportunities and exchange programs to facilitate and

enhance these collaborations.

Source: https://www.ntu.edu.tw/english/spotlight/2023/2225_20231220.html

3. Colleges and universities to make efforts for global challenges

3.1 Nanjing Forum 2023 was Launched at Nanjing University (Nanjing University; September 16, 2023)

On September 16, 2023, Nanjing University (NJU) commenced the Nanjing Forum 2023, a two-day event co-organized by NJU and the Chey Institute for Advanced Studies (CIAS) from South Korea. The forum centered around the theme “Civilization, Technology, and Common Values: The Vision of Asia”. Its primary objective was to delve into contemporary matters surrounding social and economic development while addressing the perpetuation of human civilization. Utilizing interdisciplinary and multi-perspective approaches, the forum aimed to explore these issues and generate novel mechanisms and solutions for global governance.

Source: <https://www.nju.edu.cn/en/info/1057/6951.htm>

3.2 National Supercomputing Center at HNU to Join in Seed Industry Vitalization (Hunan University; October 9, 2023)

The Yuelu Seed Industry Summit commenced in Changsha on October 9, 2023. During the inaugural event, the Yuelu Mountain Seed Industry Innovation Center forged collaborations with various research institutions, including the National Supercomputing Center Changsha at Hunan University (HNU). Together, they will establish a pivotal generic technology platform accessible to allied industrial sectors and cultivate a “national powerhouse of science and technology” specifically in the biological seed sector. Leveraging its computational and information technology expertise, the National Supercomputing Center Changsha aims to contribute to constructing an autonomous and controllable innovation system within the seed industry. This effort intends to establish innovation hubs, drive the revitalization of the seed industry, and provide support for the establishment of a national seed industry laboratory.

Source: <http://www-en.hnu.edu.cn/info/1010/4002.htm>

3.3 ICCN at HKU: Strives for Combating Climate Change and Advancing Global Carbon Neutrality (The University of Hong Kong; October 19, 2023)

The Institute for Climate and Carbon Neutrality (ICCN) at The University of Hong Kong (HKU) organized a fireside chat during a seminar titled “California’s Climate Journey: Insights and Inspiration for Hong Kong”, featuring two prominent speakers, California Governor Gavin Newsom and Professor Peng Gong, Vice-president and Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Academic Development) of HKU and Director of ICCN. The discussion centered on California’s climate journey, examining how the state’s successful strategies could be adapted to Hong Kong SAR’s context. ICCN at HKU is renowned for its commitment to combating climate change and advancing global carbon neutrality. Through collaborative efforts across various disciplines, it aims to expedite the shift toward sustainable, low-carbon economies via innovative research, education, and outreach endeavors at HKU and beyond.

Source: https://hku.hk/press/news_detail_26729.html

3.4 HUST Launched the First Session of Global Competence Talents Class (Huazhong University of Science and Technology; November 2, 2023)

On October 21, 2023, Huazhong University of Science and Technology (HUST) inaugurated its first session of the Global Competence Talents Class. Beyond its objective of cultivating talents for China’s multilateral diplomacy and international cooperation, this initiative also seeks to provide fresh avenues for the development of HUST students. President You Zheng, present at the opening ceremony, underscored the key facets of fostering global competence: instilling in students a commitment to national service, ensuring a comprehensive understanding of international regulations, and enhancing their professional acumen. He urged every student to prioritize the country’s interests, continually improve their skill sets, and broaden their perspectives to contribute to sustainable development.

Source: <http://english.hust.edu.cn/info/1102/3749.htm>

3.5 “Inheritance and Mutual Learning” – The 20th Beijing Forum Opens (Peking University; November 4, 2023)

The 20th Beijing Forum, themed “The Harmony of Civilizations and Prosperity of All: Inheritance & Mutual Learning”, commenced on November 3, 2023. Originating in 2004, this annual event is organized with the patronage of the Beijing Municipal Government and the Ministry of Education of China. The Beijing Forum 2023, coinciding with Peking University’s “Global Engagement Year”, delves into diverse topics such as modernization, sustainable development, and studies in Chinese and world history. This broader exploration aims to foster international collaboration and advance human progress collectively. Addressing the challenges and prospects of the digital era, Peking University, along with 30 local and international universities, introduced the Digital Intelligence International Development Education Alliance (DI-IDEA) during the forum. This alliance aspires to navigate solutions grounded in digital and intelligent governance. Additionally, it seeks to offer academic support and policy recommendations geared towards enhancing societal welfare.

Source: https://newsen.pku.edu.cn/news_events/news/global/13748.html

3.6 International Seminar Sparks Discussions on Low-Carbon Strategies for Rural Village Development (Zhejiang University; November 6, 2023)

The International Seminar on Low-carbon Empowering Future Village Development was held on October 31, 2023, in Qingshan village, located an hour away from Hangzhou, Zhejiang Province, China. Renowned for its innovative sustainable practices, Qingshan village serves as an exemplary model for successful rural development. It has implemented various sustainable initiatives, fostering a balanced ecological protection mechanism that involves active participation from diverse community members. This village not only stands as a local success story but also serves as a global model for rural development. The conference also recognized Qingshan village as a designated observation point for the New Rural Economy and Sustainable

Development by Zhejiang University's China Academy of Rural Development. This acknowledgment underscores the village's commitment to an ecologically conscious approach to development, solidifying its position as a pivotal site for sustainable rural economy research and progress.

Source: <https://www.zju.edu.cn/english/2023/1108/c19573a2824138/page.htm>

3.7 The Third World Health Forum: Prepare for the Next Pandemic (Tsinghua University; November 9, 2023)

The Third World Health Forum commenced on November 4, 2023, in Beijing, spearheaded by Tsinghua University and co-hosted by Tsinghua Vanke School of Public Health (VSPH) and Tsinghua Institute for Healthy China. Themed "Preparing the World for the Next Pandemic", the Forum garnered the participation of distinguished scholars, leaders from international organizations, heads of non-governmental organizations, global experts, and industry leaders from across the globe. Their collective aim was to glean insights from past pandemics, fortify both international and domestic public health systems, and provide robust technological support to bolster global health readiness for the future.

Source: <https://www.tsinghua.edu.cn/en/info/1245/12526.htm>

3.8 The France-Hong Kong Distinguished Lecture on Energetic Transition (City University of Hong Kong; November 14, 2023)

Distinguished member of the French Academy of Sciences and Collège de France Professor Marc Fontecave headlined the France-Hong Kong Distinguished Lecture Series on November 8, 2023, hosted by City University of Hong Kong (CityU). His lecture shed light on the indispensable harmony between energetic transition and essential policies required to confront the escalating global temperatures. Titled *Necessities and Challenges of the Energetic Transition*, the lecture underscored the impracticality of swiftly achieving ambitious climate objectives, such as achieving zero carbon by 2050,

advocating for a pragmatic approach to navigate this transition effectively. Emphasizing the crucial role of energy storage, the lecture also stressed the pressing need to address the challenge of harnessing excess electricity.

Source: <https://www.cityu.edu.hk/media/news/2023/11/14/collaboration-energetic-transition-and-climate-adaptation>

3.9 Zhejiang University Hosts the Third Sino-German Sustainable Development Forum (Zhejiang University; November 28, 2023)

On November 14, 2023, Zhejiang University orchestrated the Third Sino-German Sustainable Development Forum in Berlin, Germany. Co-organized alongside the Marie Curie Alumni Association, this forum united a plethora of experts and scholars from over 10 institutions in China and Germany. Their comprehensive discussions spanned crucial themes, including climate change and governance, technology and sustainability, as well as global health and well-being. The primary aim was to uncover effective avenues for Sino-German collaboration in advancing sustainable development. Aligned with the initiative “A Global ZJU for Social Good (Z4G)”, this forum actively aligns with the United Nations’ 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and it strives to establish a bilateral academic dialogue and a cultural exchange platform.

Source: <https://www.zju.edu.cn/english/2023/1128/c19573a2831541/page.psp>

3.10 Tokyo Forum 2023: Cultivating Humanity amid Social Divisions and Digital Transformation (Tokyo University; December 13, 2023)

During November 30 and December 1, 2023, the Tokyo Forum 2023 convened approximately 40 speakers to delve into the intricate challenges confronting humanity. The symposium, held at the University of Tokyo under the theme “Cultivating Humanity amid Social Divisions and Digital Transformation”, encompassed three distinctive sessions, each addressing pivotal facets of our contemporary landscape. The “Business Leaders’ Session” explored novel prospects for the global economy, emphasizing collaboration

between Japan and South Korea. Meanwhile, the “University Presidents’ Session” stimulated debates on the role of educational institutions in the era of digital transformation. Finally, the “Youth Session” provided a platform for Japanese and South Korean students to discuss critical topics such as technological innovation, environmental concerns, and declining birthrates. These sessions collectively navigated the complex intersection of advancing technology and the evolving global order.

Source: https://www.u-tokyo.ac.jp/focus/en/articles/z1311_00036.html

3.11 International Symposium on Quality Primary Health Care Development was Held in Peking University (Peking University; December 18, 2023)

The International Symposium on Quality Primary Health Care Development, orchestrated by Peking University School of Public Health and the Institute of Global Health with support from the National Health Commission of China and the China Office of the World Health Organization, unfolded in Beijing on December 4 and 5, 2023. Under the theme “Building Quality Primary Care in a New Era to Achieve Health for All”, the symposium drew the participation of over 200 attendees hailing from diverse backgrounds. Representatives from international organizations, health authorities, and academic institutions from China (including Hong Kong SAR and Macau SAR), Spain, New Zealand, South Korea, and Mongolia converged at this symposium. Their collective aim was to explore strategies for enhancing primary healthcare quality, particularly in the context of an evolving era, towards the overarching goal of ensuring health accessibility for all.

Source: https://newsen.pku.edu.cn/news_events/news/global/13865.html

3.12 CCCW of HKU Celebrates Launch with Inaugural Conference “A Renewed Hub and a New Horizon” (The University of Hong Kong; December 19, 2023)

The Centre on Contemporary China and the World (CCCW) at The

University of Hong Kong (HKU) made a significant debut through its inaugural launch event, “A Renewed Hub and a New Horizon” Inaugural Conference on December 15, 2023. This milestone occasion gathered approximately 40 esteemed scholars across diverse fields, policymakers, and industry leaders from around the world. The primary focus centered on exploring Mainland China’s evolving role within the ever-evolving global landscape. Throughout the comprehensive day-long inaugural seminar, dynamic panel discussions covered an extensive range of topics. These encompassed themes such as Global-Local Cooperation on Climate Change; Pursuing Peace: Managing China-U.S. Relations; Economic Recovery: China and the World; Public Health in an Active Ageing Society; In the Age of Security: Geopolitics; and Global Governance and Mutual Learning: Sinology in Asia and Europe. Each panel assembled experts who contributed their unique perspectives, fostering a rich and comprehensive dialogue.

Source: https://hku.hk/press/news_detail_26971.html

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

4.1 UM-SJTU Partnership Board Holds the 25th Meeting (Shanghai Jiao Tong University; August 26, 2023)

The 25th meeting of the University of Michigan (UM) – Shanghai Jiao Tong University (SJTU) Partnership Board was convened on August 25, 2023, through a synchronized video conference held in both China and the United States. During this significant session, the presidents of both universities formally inked crucial agreements: *Partnership Agreement*, *Joint Institute Agreement*, and *Student and Faculty Mobility Agreement*. These pivotal accords are anticipated to establish a robust groundwork for the developmental trajectory of both institutions over the forthcoming decade. Moreover, they signify a steadfast commitment towards furthering and strengthening ongoing exchanges and collaborations between the two esteemed academic entities.

Source: <https://en.sjtu.edu.cn/news/4027>

4.2 The Tohoku University Engineering Summer Programme Returned (Tohoku University; August 30, 2023)

The Tohoku University Engineering Summer Programme (TESP) resumed in 2023 following a three-year pause due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Its comeback garnered significant interest, drawing in over 40 participants from various universities globally. Under the guidance of Professor Kazuya Yoshida, the focus of 2023 program was Robotics. Additionally, it incorporated courses from two other distinguished divisions within the Graduate School of Engineering: Structural Materials Engineering (SMEC) and Bio-materials Engineering (BMEC). The program served as a crucial platform for participants across diverse courses to connect, fostering a burgeoning network among them.

Source: https://www.tohoku.ac.jp/en/news/university_news/the_return_of_the_tohoku_university_engineering_summer_programme_tesp.html

4.3 New York University and East China Normal University Renew Cooperation (East China Normal University; September 11, 2023)

In September 2023, East China Normal University (ECNU) and New York University (NYU) solidified their collaboration by signing a *Memorandum of Understanding* during a visit by a NYU delegation led by their new president, Linda Mills, in Shanghai. The *Memorandum*, jointly signed by ECNU President Qian Xuhong and NYU President Mills at ECNU's campus in downtown Shanghai, underscores the commitment of both institutions to sustain ongoing initiatives in talent development and joint scientific research projects. Additionally, it highlights their dedication to actively seeking new opportunities for mutually advantageous and cooperative ventures that align with emerging trends and foster mutual benefits for both parties.

Source: <https://english.ecnu.edu.cn/content.jsp?urltype=news.NewsContentUrl&wbtreeid=1599&wbnewsid=3500>

4.4 Overseas Students Visited Hokkaido University through Sakura Science Exchange Program (Hokkaido University; September 21, 2023)

The Sakura Science Exchange Program, launched by Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST), extends invitations to promising young students (from high school and university levels) to engage with Japanese academic and research institutions. Hokkaido University recently hosted two groups under this program, one facilitated by the Research Institute for Electronic Science (RIES) and the other by the School of Agriculture. Between August 21 and 26, 2023, a contingent of nine students and one researcher from India participated in laboratory tours, lectures, and demonstrations organized by RIES. Subsequently, from August 28 to September 2, 2023, a group comprising 10 students and two researchers from Malaysia and Indonesia engaged in similar activities hosted by the School of Agriculture. These visits through the Sakura Science Program provided a platform to showcase the forefront of research conducted at Hokkaido University. Additionally, they offered participants the opportunity to interact with seasoned researchers, fostering an environment of

learning and exchange.

Source: <https://www.global.hokudai.ac.jp/blog/sakura-science-exchange-2023/>

4.5 The Second Japan-India Universities Forum Enhances the Cooperation between Japan and India (University of Kyoto; September 30, 2023)

The Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST) organized the Second Japan-India Universities Forum, a gathering of university presidents from both countries, held in Kyoto on September 30, 2023. President Nagahiro Minato from the University of Kyoto was in attendance. The forum comprised two sessions: the first featured keynote addresses delivered by university presidents and corporate executives from Japan and India. The second session included two roundtable discussions addressing the expansion of opportunities for Indian students and researchers in Japan, and the collaboration between academia and industry in terms of Human Resource Development (HRD) and HR mobilization. The forum aims to significantly bolster cooperation between Japan and India, fostering extensive collaborations encompassing research endeavors and personnel exchange across universities, research institutes, and corporations in both nations.

Source: https://www.oc.kyoto-u.ac.jp/courtesy-visit/en/misc/20230930_6114/

4.6 XJTU Collaborates with Samarkand State University to Establish China Center (Xi'an Jiaotong University; October 17, 2023)

On October 17, 2023, Xi'an Jiaotong University (XJTU) in China and Samarkand State University in Uzbekistan inked an agreement to establish the "China Center", a collaborative endeavor aimed at fostering various activities. This initiative will focus on fostering school-enterprise partnerships, nurturing talent, and facilitating inter-university exchanges. The "China Center" is envisioned to establish consistent working mechanisms between both

universities, emphasizing the teaching of Chinese culture. Its core objective is to pioneer a fresh model for comprehensive and multi-tiered cooperation between Chinese and Uzbekistani higher education institutions.

Source: http://en.xjtu.edu.cn/2023-10/20/c_934826.htm

4.7 University of Macau and Top Universities in South Korea Sign Cooperation Agreements (University of Macau; October 17, 2023)

In October 2023, Rector Yonghua Song of the University of Macau (UM) spearheaded a delegation's visit to prominent South Korean universities, such as Korea University, Ewha Womans University, Sungkyunkwan University, Kyung Hee University, Yonsei University, and Hanyang University. The objective was to broaden UM's international network and fortify collaborative ties with key higher education establishments in the Asia-Pacific realm. Throughout these visits, multiple cooperation agreements were formalized, and extensive discussions took place to delve into potential joint initiatives aimed at nurturing highly competitive, internationally adept talent through collaborative training programs.

Source: <https://www.um.edu.mo/news-and-press-releases/press-release/detail/56757/>

4.8 UM and ULisboa Jointly Launch Dual Doctoral Degree Program (University of Macau; December 7, 2023)

The University of Macau (UM) and the University of Lisbon (ULisboa) held a cooperation agreement signing ceremony for their dual doctoral degree program on December 7, 2023. Leveraging their established track record in research innovation and academic interchange, both universities aim to create a novel cooperative framework for training exceptional talent while advancing high-quality higher education in both regions. Their joint efforts will concentrate on talent development, fostering academic and research partnerships in specialized fields such as microelectronics, robotics, and ocean science. The program invites doctoral students from both institutions in these

fields to participate in this dual-degree initiative. Upon successful completion of the prescribed coursework and research, meeting graduation criteria, students will receive a Doctor of Philosophy degree from UM and a doctorate degree from ULisboa.

Source: <https://www.um.edu.mo/news-and-press-releases/press-release/detail/57323/>

4.9 CityU Fostered Collaboration with British Leading Universities (City University of Hong Kong; December 14, 2023)

City University of Hong Kong (CityU), recognized as one of the most internationally engaged institutions globally, is committed to strengthening its ties with prominent universities worldwide. In pursuit of this goal, Professor Freddy Boey, President of CityU, led a high-level delegation on a visit to three distinguished UK universities from December 10 to 13, 2023. The universities visited included the University of Glasgow, the University of Surrey, and Imperial College London. The aim of these interactions was to cultivate collaborations between CityU and these esteemed institutions, fostering partnerships across various domains such as research staff and student exchanges, knowledge sharing, community engagement, and wider stakeholder involvement.

Source: <https://www.cityu.edu.hk/media/news/2023/12/14/fostering-collaboration-top-british-universities>

5. Non-university organizations to promote global common good

5.1 Japan's New Student Mobility Plan (Government of Japan; March 17, 2023)

Japan has launched a student mobility plan in 2023. The plan calls for accepting 400,000 international students and sending 500,000 Japanese students overseas. In order to increase the number of international students, Japanese government has worked to improve Japanese language education and recruit students in foreign countries as early as possible. There has also been an emphasis on encouraging students to work in Japan after graduation, and several plans have encouraged employment through the expansion of internship programs.

Source: <https://www.nikkei.com/article/DGXZQOUA165GW0W3A310C200000/>

5.2 China-Europe Higher Education Forum Held in Beijing (China Education Association for International Exchange; July 3, 2023)

The China-Europe Higher Education Forum took place successfully on June 29, 2023, in Beijing. Organized by the China Education Association for International Exchange (CEAIE), Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (CPAFFC), and China-EU Association, the event centered around the theme "China-EU Joint Talents Cultivation in the Transition of Education Digitalization". CEAIE has dedicated itself to fostering educational exchanges between China and Europe, taking proactive steps to advance educational digital platforms and facilitate the collaborative construction, sharing, and integration of educational resources. To further these objectives, the Forum extended invitations to scholars, rectors, and representatives from diverse universities and organizations, inviting their valuable contributions toward these shared goals of educational advancement and collaboration between the two regions. Key topics encompassed the opportunities and challenges surrounding student mobility in the digital age,

sustainable development in China–Europe transnational education, and the strategies and outlook for collaborative talent cultivation initiatives.

Source: <https://en.ceaie.edu.cn/article/detail?columnid=15&id=370>

5.3 CDRF Holds Seminar on International Development Aid (China Development Research Foundation; July 20, 2023)

The China Development Research Foundation (CDRF) convened a seminar titled “Trends in International Development Aid and China’s Evolving Role” on July 11, 2023. Commencing in 2020, CDRF launched the International Development Assistance and Cooperation (IDAC) project. This research endeavors to align with the principles of global governance, emphasizing widespread consultation, collaborative contribution, and mutual benefits. Ultimately, its goal is to cultivate a tighter-knit community aimed at a shared future for humanity.

Source: <https://cdrf-en.cdrf.org.cn/jjhdt/6747.htm>

5.4 Hong Kong SAR Signs a Memorandum of Understanding with Kazakhstan on Education Cooperation (Education Bureau of Hong Kong SAR; August 17, 2023)

On August 17, 2023, the Education Bureau (EDB) of Hong Kong SAR signed a *Memorandum of Understanding* (MOU) with the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of the Republic of Kazakhstan. This MOU serves as a blueprint for fostering a stronger educational partnership between Hong Kong SAR and Kazakhstan. It outlines a framework aimed at facilitating strategic collaborations in education, encompassing various mutually beneficial initiatives. These initiatives include the exchange of expertise, educational materials, teaching aids, demonstration resources, as well as fostering exchanges involving scholars, educators, experts, students, and other personnel in the field of education. Since the academic year of 2016/2017, the EDB has been actively offering the Belt and Road Scholarship, initially targeting exceptional students from specific Belt and Road Initiative (BRI)

countries/regions to pursue undergraduate studies in Hong Kong SAR. Over time, the scholarship program has evolved to encompass students from all BRI countries/regions, including those undertaking research postgraduate studies. With the recent signing of the MOU, starting from the academic year 2024/2025, Hong Kong SAR will offer up to 10 scholarships annually to students from Kazakhstan.

Source: <https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202308/17/P2023081700206.htm?fontSize=1>

5.5 International Forum on Education at China-Eurasia Expo 2023 Held in Urumqi (Ministry of Education of China; September 16, 2023)

On September 15, 2023, Urumqi, Xinjiang, China hosted the International Forum on Education, themed “Deepening Educational Cooperation for a Brighter Future”. Attended either virtually or in person by educational ministers or ambassadors from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Pakistan, Georgia, as well as representatives from UNESCO and the Secretariat of the SCO, the opening ceremony marked a significant collaborative initiative. Chinese Education Minister Huai Jinpeng expressed China’s aspirations to strengthen ties with Eurasian nations in fostering talent, driving innovation, and facilitating youth exchanges. The goal was to advance mutual prosperity and sustainable development within the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) region. Huai outlined China’s commitment to assisting these nations in cultivating professionals specializing in healthcare, agriculture, communications, and various other fields. China also pledged active support for exchange programs and reinforced its dedication to promoting Chinese language education in BRI countries. Moreover, the country aimed to bolster youth exchanges by establishing scholarships, expanding the “Chinese Bridge” summer camp, and amplifying opportunities for international students in China, among other initiatives.

Source: http://en.moe.gov.cn/news/press_releases/202309/t20230921_1081844.html

5.6 Student Exchange Program between Macao SAR and Portugal
(Education and Youth Development Bureau of Macao SAR; October 24, 2023)

The “Higher Education Program at the University of Porto for Macao SAR students” is jointly launched by the Education and Youth Development Bureau of Macao SAR, the University of Porto, and the Portuguese Institute of the Orient, with the aim of providing a more convenient way for Macao SAR students to pursue their studies in Portugal. 15 students participated in the program for the academic year of 2023/2024, and they are required to complete the Foundation Program in Portugal. After passing the program, these students can directly enter the bachelor’s degree or master’s degree program of the University of Porto.

Source: https://portal.dsedj.gov.mo/webdsejspace/addon/allmain/msgfunc/Msg_funclink_new_page.jsp?msg_id=99619&langsel=C

5.7 Macao SAR Universities Visit Thailand to Expand International Cooperation
(Education and Youth Development Bureau of Macao SAR; October 30, 2023)

Representatives of the Education and Youth Development Bureau of Macao SAR, together with representatives of seven higher education institutions, including the University of Macau and the Macau Polytechnic University, went to Bangkok, Thailand, from October 19 to 23, 2023. They went there to participate in the International Education Expo and conduct recruitment promotion in local universities, as well as visiting Chulalongkorn University, the Asian Institute of Technology, the Association of Chinese Language Teachers of Thailand, and the General Association of Chinese Students in Thailand. During the visit, City University of Macao and Asian Institute of Technology established a cooperative relationship, and the universities also reached a cooperative intention with the Thai Chinese Teachers’ Association, and a total of eight cooperative agreements were signed, which promoted a more comprehensive and long-term cooperation and exchanges between higher education of Macao SAR and Thailand.

Source: https://portal.dsedj.gov.mo/webdsejspace/addon/allmain/msgfunc/Msg_funclink_new_page.jsp?msg_id=99683&langsel=C

5.8 Minister of China Attends First China-Pacific Island Countries Education Ministers Meeting (Ministry of Education of China; November 10, 2023)

The first China-Pacific Island Countries Education Ministers Meeting took place on November 9, 2023 in Paris during the 42nd session of the UNESCO General Conference. Huai Jinping, China's Minister of Education, participated in the gathering alongside representatives from Pacific Island Countries, including the Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, the Solomon Islands, Tonga, and Vanuatu. Vice Minister of Education Chen Jie and UNESCO delegates were also present. Jinping highlighted the unprecedented opportunities and challenges confronting global education and reiterated China's dedication to collaborating with Pacific Island Nations to propel educational advancements. Emphasizing cooperation, he outlined initiatives such as leveraging digital platforms for sharing top-tier educational resources and promoting eco-conscious education focused on sustainable development. These efforts, he emphasized, would invigorate global education endeavors.

Source: http://en.moe.gov.cn/news/press_releases/202311/t20231110_1090040.html

5.9 Joint Statement of IIE and CEAIE following the U.S. -China Higher Education Dialogue (China Education Association for International Exchange; November 13, 2023)

From September 18 to 20, 2023, Institute of International Education (IIE) of the U.S. and China Education Association for International Exchange (CEAIE) co-organized the inaugural post-COVID U.S.-China Higher Education Dialogue. Hosted in the U.S., this gathering brought together esteemed university leaders from both China and the U.S., emphasizing the pivotal role of cooperation in the realm of higher education and highlighting educational

connections as a cornerstone of the bilateral relationship between the two nations. The initial discussions centered on identifying and comprehending existing challenges while laying out strategies to address ongoing and prospective hurdles and opportunities. Both parties remain committed to fostering a lasting partnership that encourages candid dialogues, advances solutions to specific discrepancies and expectations, prioritizes shared objectives, and fosters further collaborative opportunities.

Source: <https://en.ceiae.edu.cn/article/detail?columnid=15&id=383>

5.10 The Global Development Initiative in Japanese Universities (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology of Japan; December 5, 2023)

Japan's Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology (MEXT) unveiled an initiative focusing on fostering international educational collaboration and university networking across diverse countries and regions. The primary objectives revolve around cultivating globally adept professionals capable of thriving on the international stage and enhancing the global educational capacity within universities. The "Project for Strengthening Universities' Global Development Capabilities" aims to forge international educational alliances and networks that facilitate the exchange of Japanese students studying abroad and foreign students pursuing education in Japan, all while upholding higher education standards. In 2023, alongside ongoing support for students from the U.S. and other countries, the Cabinet of Japan approved a supplementary budget designed to bolster the admission of international students from ASEAN countries. This strategic move intends to attract exceptional ASEAN students by establishing a framework that delivers top-notch educational content through JV-Campus, an esteemed online international education platform rooted in Japan.

Source: https://www.mext.go.jp/a_menu/koutou/kaikaku/sekaitenkai/1413413_00030.htm