

Beijing Normal University



# Newsletter

Spring 2020 / Issue 2

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**Organized by:**

Office of International Exchange & Cooperation, Beijing Normal University

**Co-organized by:**

News Center, Beijing Normal University

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Spring 2020 / Issue 2

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## Newsletter Online

The Newsletter can be read online at: <https://english.bnu.edu.cn/newsevents/newsletters/index.htm>

The views expressed in this publication are the views of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Office of International Exchange & Cooperation or Beijing Normal University.



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# BNU Ranked 24<sup>th</sup> in THE Emerging Economies University Rankings 2020

Article source: [timeshighereducation.com](https://www.timeshighereducation.com) | Release date 2020-02-20

On February 19, Times Higher Education (THE) announced the Emerging Economies University Rankings 2020. Mainland China continues to lead the rankings with 81 institutions and claiming 7 places in the top 10.

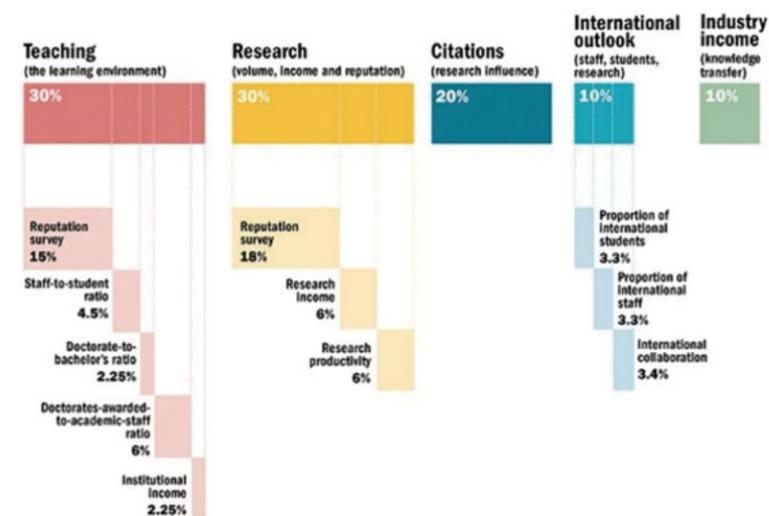
Beijing Normal University participated in the ranking for the first time, ranking 24<sup>th</sup> overall and 12<sup>th</sup> in Mainland China.

## TOP 15 Universities in Mainland China

1	Tsinghua University China	Explore
2	Peking University China	
3	Zhejiang University China	Explore
4	University of Science and Technology of China China	
6	Shanghai Jiao Tong University China	Explore
7	Fudan University China	
9	Nanjing University China	
17	Huazhong University of Science and Technology China	Explore
19	Wuhan University China	Explore
21	Tongji University China	
23	Sun Yat-sen University China	Explore
=24	Beijing Normal University China	
26	Harbin Institute of Technology China	
30	Southern University of Science and Technology (SUSTech) China	Explore
=36	Central South University China	Explore

Overall, 533 universities from 47 countries or regions were included in the THE Emerging Economies University Rankings 2020. This ranking only includes institutions in countries classified by the London Stock Exchange's FTSE Group as "advanced emerging", "secondary emerging" or "frontier".

The Emerging Economies University Rankings is based on the same 13 performance indicators used for the THE World University Rankings, but the weightings are different to reflect the development priorities of universities in emerging economies.



# BNU Hosted 2019 Global Future Education Design Contest Finals

Article source: [Faculty of Education](https://www.bnu.edu.cn) | Release date 2020-01-16

On December 28, the final round of the 2019 "Global Competition on Design for Future Education" was held at Changping Campus of Beijing Normal University with much success. Representative teams from China, Serbia and Tunisia competed and performed outstandingly.

The competition was hosted by Beijing Normal University and Beijing Design Society, organized by Faculty of Education and Smart Learning Institute of Beijing

Normal University, co-organized by Eternity Educational Technology Co., Ltd, and supported by the Chinese Society of Education and the Beijing Design Week Organizing Committee Office.

Since its launch in September, the competition has received extensive attention from teachers and students from various colleges and universities. Nearly a thousand contestants across the three countries signed up. In China, contestants represent more than 40 universities and colleges

across the country. During the final, designers and creative talents from China, Serbia and Tunisia gathered together to compete for the gold, silver and bronze awards, and fight for ultimate glory.

The Tunisian team targeted an urgently relevant social topic—child bullying. They designed an app for parents and teachers, as well as a matching smart watch for students. This mobile application can identify bullying keywords, monitor students' heartbeat, blood pressure and other





The final teams are composed of the champion teams in each division.



Furthermore, the traditional book form was single, which could not effectively cultivate children's scientific thinking.

The Serbian team introduced a system capable of generating 3D virtual scenes using big data, VR and other technologies. They believe that this system can alleviate the lack of practical experience that vocational education students generally face during their education. After wearing the matching VR helmet and clothes, learns

abnormal conditions, and enable parents and teachers to know where students are quickly, whilst the matching smart watch is convenient for students to carry.

The Chinese team also had many creative ideas. They presented their concept "Little Scan in the Big World" in various ways. As a science book for future education, this design targets the Chinese issue of importing too many picture books as well as having few original Chinese works.



can practice and improve their professional skills in the virtual world.

The judges made comments on the works of each group, and gave professional opinions and suggestions on the actual operability and innovation of the product.

After selection by a team of professionals, the champion

of the 2019 Global Competition on Design for Future Education was the team from Serbia, in second place was the Tunisian team, and in third place was the Chinese team.

The specific list of China's gold, silver, and bronze awards was also revealed at the awards ceremony.

Dean Ronghuai Huang, as the chairman of the competition organizing committee, summarized the event at its conclusion. He stated that there are three rational ways to look at education issues, namely: education research, news tracking, and education design.

This competition allows everyone to see current and future problems facing education from the perspective of students, and can inspire us to think about how to make further changes.



# French Minister of Higher Education, Research and Innovation Frédérique Vidal Led a Delegation to Beijing Normal University

Article source: Office of International Exchange & Cooperation | Release date 2020-01-14

On January 13, accompanied by French Ambassador to China, Laurent BILI, French Minister of Higher Education, Research and Innovation Frédérique Vidal and her delegation visited Beijing Normal University. President Dong Qi and Vice President Zhou Zuoyu met with the guests in the main building. The two parties had in-depth discussions on exchanges and cooperation

in higher education and research between China and France. Heads of the Faculty of Psychology, Faculty of Geographical Science, School of Chinese Language and Literature, Business School, School of Sociology, Law School, School of Artificial Intelligence, Beijing Institute of Culture Innovation and Communication, College of Water Sciences and Office of International Exchange &

Cooperation attended the meeting. Dong Qi warmly welcomed Ms. Vidal and her delegation. He briefed the guests on the history of BNU and the development of disciplines and Zhuhai campus in recent years. Beijing Normal University has always attached importance to exchanges and cooperation with France. The university is building a world-class university with



Chinese characteristics with the goal of being a comprehensive, research-oriented university leading in teacher education. Ms. Vidal hopes that Beijing Normal University and French universities and research institutions will expand exchanges in the sciences based on the existing cooperation in humanities and social disciplines, encourage outstanding disciplines to establish Sino-French joint laboratories, and create a model

for Sino-French exchanges in humanities as well as science and technology.

Ms. Vidal thanked BNU very much for its reception and was very happy to visit this century-old school. She said that this was her fourth visit to China since taking office, and that the goal of this visit was to jointly explore and promote exchanges and cooperation between excellent universities in China and France. China and France have signed an agreement on mutual recognition of academic degrees, laying a strong foundation for cooperation.

Ms. Vidal highly praised BNU's the philosophy guiding the school's management and BNU's achievements. At the same time she expressed her willingness to help BNU communicate and cooperate with French universities and research institutions.

After the meeting, the guests visited the State Key Laboratory of Cognitive Neuroscience and Learning at BNU. Relevant experts briefly introduced the laboratory's construction, development and achievements in scientific research.





# Nils Chr. Stenseth, Honorary Professor at BNU, Won the China International Science and Technology Cooperation Award 2019

Article source: College of Global Change and Earth System Science, BNU | Release date 2020-01-13

On January 10, the State Science and Technology Awarding Meeting of the People's Republic of China 2019 was held in the Great Hall of the People. Nils Christian Stenseth, Honorary Professor at Beijing Normal University, won the 2019 China International Science and Technology Cooperation Award.



In the past 20 years, Professor Stenseth has been working closely with Chinese Academy of Sciences, Academy of Military Sciences PLA China, Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Tsinghua University, Beijing Normal University and other domestic institutions. He has visited BNU alongside the National Delegation of Norway many times and carried out long-term cooperative research with BNU's Tian Huaiyu's research group, working on Global Change and Earth System Science (GCESS). With the support of GCESS and State Key Laboratory of Remote Sensing Science, both sides made a series of academic achievements. Recently, they cooperatively reported the impact of climate change on the evolution of plague host animal population and pathogen (*Nature*



*Communications* 2020). In recent years, GCESS has made full use of its interdisciplinary advantages, and Tian Huaiyu's group has made outstanding contributions to revealing the laws governing major biological disasters affecting China, such as influenza in birds, haemorrhagic fever, rabies, Zika virus; improving China's ability of early warning, prevention and control of biological disasters through global change and public health research (*PNAS* 2015,2017,2018; *Nature Communications* 2019; *PLOS Pathogens* 2017, 2018).

Established in 1994, the China International Science and Technology Cooperation Award is a national science and technology award set up by the State Council. The award is given to foreign scientists, engineers and technicians, scientific and technological managers, or organizations for scientific and technological research, development and management that have made important contributions to China's scientific and technological

undertakings, in bilateral or multilateral cooperative international contexts. Out of the five major science and technology awards set up by China, it is the only one that is awarded to non-Chinese and foreign organizations. There are no more than 10 awards per year.

Nils Christian Stenseth was born in Norway, July 1949. As a professor at University of Oslo, Norway, he has long been committed to the study of Global Change Ecology and Evolutionary Biology. He has made outstanding contributions to the development of world ecology. He has successively been elected as a member of the Norwegian Academy of Sciences, the French Academy of Sciences, the Finnish Academy of Sciences, the European Academy of Sciences, the American Academy of Sciences, the Russian Academy of Sciences and the World Academy of Sciences. In addition, he has been President of the Norwegian Academy of Sciences and President of the International Union of Biological Science.

# Director of UNESCO International Bureau of Education Dr. Mmantsetsa Marope and Her Delegation Visited BNU

Article source: Office of International Exchange & Cooperation, BNU | Release date 2019-04-12

On the afternoon of January 8, a group of three including Dr. Mmantsetsa Marope, Director of UNESCO-IBE and Dr. Simona Popa, head of publication department of UNESCO-IBE visited Beijing Normal

University. President Dong Qi and vice-president Zhou Zuoyu met with the guests. The heads of the Faculty of Education, UNESCO International Research and Training Centre for Rural Education (UNESCO-INRULED),

Collaborative Innovation Center of Assessment for Basic Education Quality, State Key Laboratory of Cognitive Neuroscience and Learning, and Office of International Exchange & Cooperation attended the meeting.



In view of the existing cooperation basis and the consensus reached on future cooperation, Pres. Dong Qi and Dr. Marope signed a partnership agreement on behalf of the two sides at the meeting, which will promote in-depth cooperation between BNU and UNESCO-IBE in learning research and brain science research in the future.

could use the available platform to provide resources, information and support across a range of fields, to promote curriculum development and bolster the education, learning and evaluation of educators and

education decision makers across the globe.

At the same time, according to Dr. Marope's international influence and contribution in the fields of

innovative education, education system transformation, learning research and education research in the 21st century, BNU awarded her the honorary title of "Guest Professor" of Beijing Normal



Dong Qi explained to the guests that the "China Education Innovation Expos Boundless Devotion" hosted by BNU and UNESCO-INRULED have established close connection with UNESCO-IBE. He hoped that both sides could build a sharing platform for global education innovation with the help of existing platforms. In addition, Dong hoped

that both sides could jointly build a network of experts in education science and neuroscience as well as set up a committee to attract experts from relevant fields around the world.

Zhou Zuoyu expressed his hope that with this visit, UNESCO-IBE will deepen its understanding

of BNU, jointly build a brand of academic conference and explore pressing global issues in education.

Dr. Marope shared the achievements and development of the IBE in recent times. She also introduced the existing international education resource information sharing platform. She hoped that both sides

University. Dong conferred a certificate to Dr. Marope.

Before the meeting, Dr. Marope and her delegation were briefed on the recent work of UNESCO-INRULED, visited the Faculty of Education, Collaborative Innovation Center of Assessment for Basic Education Quality, and State Key Laboratory

of Cognitive Neuroscience and Learning, and had a discussion with relevant experts.

On January 9, Dr. Marope was invited to deliver three special lectures to the teachers and students of BNU. The lectures were held on "Reconceptualizing and Repositioning Curriculum

in the 21st Century: A Global Paradigm Shift", "Addressing the Global Learning Crisis: What can Neuroscience Offer?", and "Building Resilient System for Effective Delivery of Holistic Quality ECCE Service", discussing how to make changes in the education system in the 21st century and the industrial 4.0

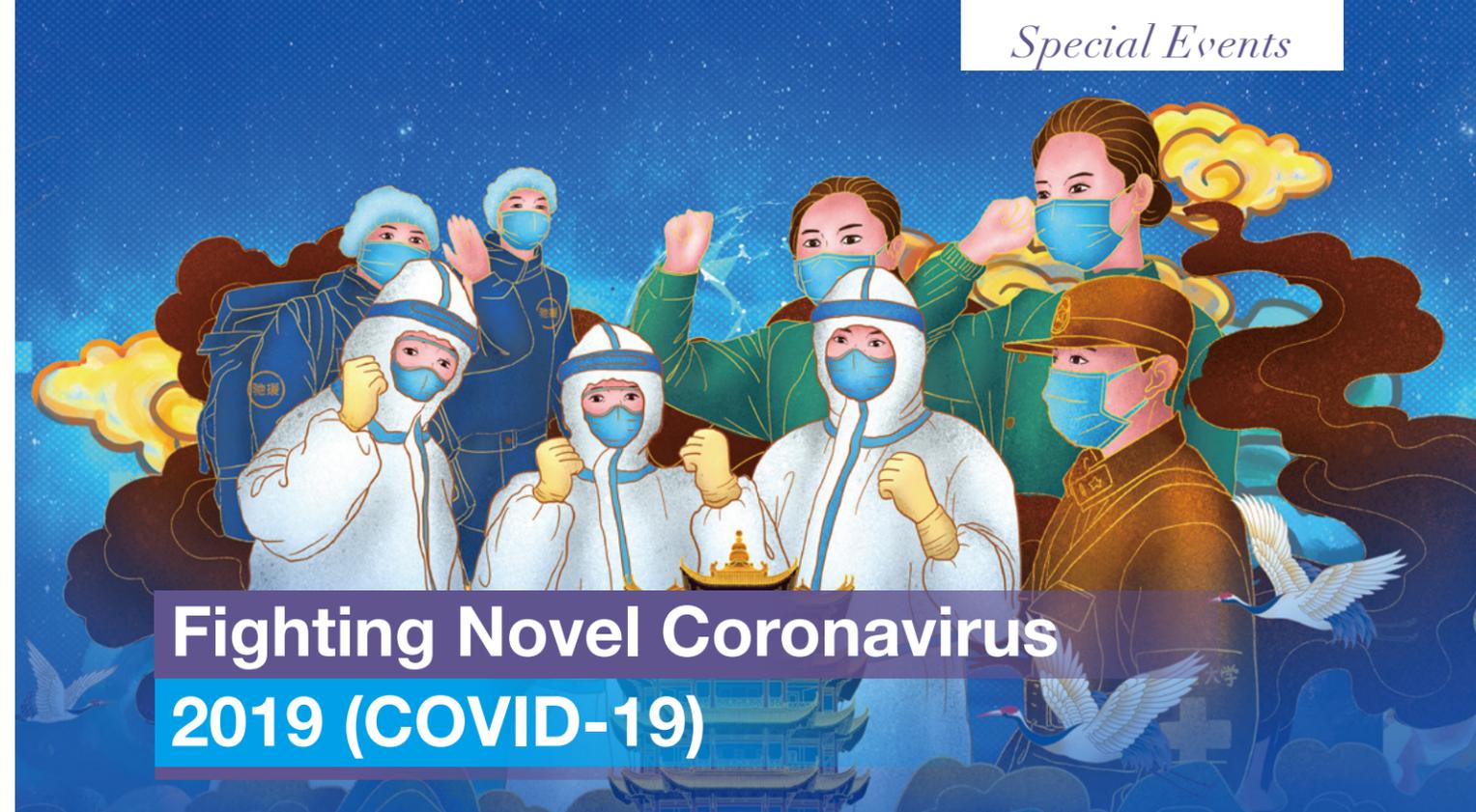
era to adapt to learners' ability to prepare for the unknown future; how to promote learning through the introduction of neuroscience concepts; and how to construct a new education system in the 21st century.

The IBE is an international educational institution affiliated to UNESCO, located in Geneva, Switzerland. Its purpose is to strive to achieve the UNESCO's goal of promoting cooperation among countries and contributing to peace through education, science and culture within the scope of its functions. The organization has four main functions: preparing and organizing international educational conferences at least once every two years; collecting and disseminating educational information;

engaging in educational research, especially comparative education research, and publishing research results; and managing and expanding the international education library and the educational document center. The main contributions of the organization are: establishing an international educational information network; answering inquiries from Member States and individuals, providing educational information and data for educators and research institutions; and organizing international educational exhibitions. The organization has a council composed of 24 Member States designated by UNESCO. China is a member of the IBE. There are yearly meetings. The director is appointed by the Director General of UNESCO on the basis of a list

proposed by the council.

The current director of the IBE, Dr. Mmantseta Marope, holds a doctorate in education from University of Chicago, a master's degree in education from University of Pennsylvania, and a bachelor's degree in education from Botswana and Swaziland University. She has served in universities, the World Bank, and many other international organizations, providing a wide range of consulting and advisory services to governments, regional economic communities, regional research networks, the Ministry of education, bilateral and multilateral institutions. She has accumulated rich experience in all levels of various education, learning and training systems.



## Fighting Novel Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19)

During the spread of Novel Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19), Beijing Normal University immediately implements various effective strategies to contain the pandemic. We have received warm help and support from our students, teachers and overseas partners which gives us confidence to fight against the disease and inspires us to the ultimate victory.

In the special period of epidemic prevention and control, Prof. Cheng Jianping, Secretary of the Party Committee of the University, and President Dong Qi, are always concerned about the health, life and learning of every BNU student, where ever they may be in the country.

Secretary Cheng and President Dong affectionately sent the

“The rising sun can't be covered by dark clouds, and the epidemic situation can't prevent the coming of spring. ”

greeting to all students, looking forward to their return to the campus in the bloomy spring days.

### [ Responding to the Call of the State, BNU Actively Implementing Various Measures during the Epidemic Prevention Period ]

In response to the epidemic prevention, the Ministry of Education issued a Notice on Delaying the Opening of the Spring Term in 2020 on January 27 and an Online Teaching to Enable Students to Resume Their Studies Remotely on January 29. It stipulates that the 2020 spring term is to be postponed but students will be able to resume



their studies through an online timetable of classes accessed remotely. The notices also urge students to stay at home, avoid gathering together or participating in any events with many people. As soon as the notice was issued, Beijing Normal University swiftly reacted, implementing relevant countermeasures to respond to the national policy in the first instance. We also made active efforts to ensure that students would be able to properly benefit from “online

teaching to enable students to resume their studies remotely”. Fully recognizing the social responsibility of universities, BNU developed an online curriculum to guarantee students’ daily learning and to establish public welfare project courses for national basic education teachers to realize online teaching in this special time, etc., These countermeasures will provide high-quality teaching and educational services for teachers and students across the country.

In the face of the sudden pneumonia epidemic caused by a new coronavirus, prevention and control are the best tools against the disease. The internet connects you and me. Beijing Normal University’s information service’s Cloud Platform is a valuable frontline tool for fighting the epidemic. So we don’t need to pause our studies, work commitments or lives, let’s hope our preventative measures will bring us a swift victory in the war against the new corona virus!

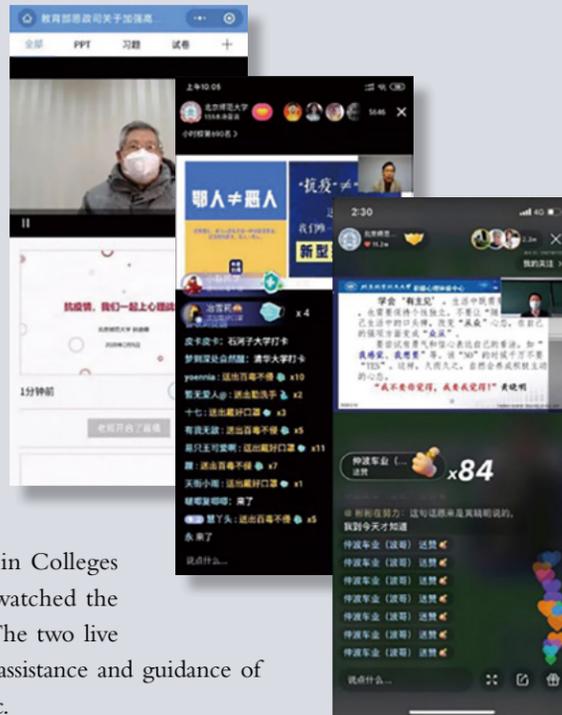
## Online Classes for Students

### Cloud Learning

—Technical Service Support for Online Teaching

To properly prepare for online courses, Beijing Normal University quickly made a guide for teachers and students, assigned special persons to answer questions from 8:00 to 24:00, to conduct special training, to collect frequently asked questions, and to fully provide technical service support for online teaching.

Between February 5 and February 10, two lectures, called “Psychological Aid Hotline in Colleges and Universities” and “Psychological Stress and Coping of College Students” were broadcast live. These two lectures were organized by the ideological and political department of the Ministry of Education and the Regular Higher Education Mental Health Education Expert Committee. 509,000 people watched the live broadcast for “Psychological Aid Hotline for Pandemic in Colleges and Universities” and more than 13.98 million people watched the “Psychological Stress and Coping of College Students.” The two live broadcasts played an important role in the psychological assistance and guidance of college students throughout the country during the epidemic.



## Cheng Jianping, Secretary of the Party Committee of BNU, Attends Online Theme Class Meeting of Class 1 Grade 2017 of Faculty of Education

“Today, the meeting of our class is special. It is our first class meeting. I am very grateful to see the small heads of everyone in the video frame and feel that you are all in good mental state.” On the afternoon of February 19, Cheng Jianping, head teacher of Class 1 Grade 2017 of Faculty of Education and secretary of the Party Committee of BNU, organized a class meeting on the theme of “First Class of Online Studies to Meet a New Anti-epidemic Term”. All 43 students in the class took part in this special lecture.



Head teacher Cheng Jianping said hello to the students and their families via video. The students thanked Mr. Cheng for his sympathy and care during the epidemic and reported on the recent situation of classes, individuals and families. Tang Guolin from Hubei province shared her relatives’ participation in the construction of Huoshenshan Hospital and expressed her admiration for the staff fighting in the frontline of epidemic prevention and control. Hu Xin from Sichuan shared her experience of studying at home and preparing for her exams, saying that she should study hard in various fields and actively prepare for the needs of the motherland.

Cheng Jianping expressed his

gratitude for the students’ mutual support and encouragement during the epidemic and for their active role in class construction. He said that online classes are crucial and the first online class meeting is of special significance. He also introduced BNU’s situation and briefed the students in detail about the measures BNU are undertaking to prevent and control the epidemic. He highlighted the university’s large amount of work, including providing pastoral services to students and taking advantage of the specific characteristics of each discipline in the university. BNU’s epidemic prevention work has entered “wartime” and the university has adopted the strictest

control measures. He stressed that the school will insist on putting the health and safety of staff and students first, fighting against the epidemic and ensuring the safety of the school.

At the meeting, students also exchanged views with the teachers in charge of relevant departments on issues they were concerned about, such as the specifics of online teaching, sports clock-in or how to do scientific research projects in the new semester. Leaders of Faculty of Education, the party Committee’s Student Affairs Department, the Academic Affairs Department, the Information Network Center, and the class counselors answered questions online.

**[ Students' Thoughts and Feelings ]**

*"I benefited a lot from Mr. Cheng's speech today. Although I am thousands of miles away from the online class meeting, I feel that the head teacher is very close to us. Mr. Cheng told us the university's state in regards to the epidemic from all sides seriously, which made me feel very steadfast. I'd like to thank the head teacher and wish him good health and happiness."*

—Zhou Huiying

*"The University has spent a lot of energy working during the pandemic. Mr. Cheng and other teachers are all working very hard! Although we can't do much during this epidemic situation, we can still make some contributions through participating in online counseling, community voluntary service and other activities. We can also use this opportunity to think about how to develop the characteristics of our chosen disciplines and contribute to social development from our own professional perspective."*

—Mao Ziqi

*"Thank you very much to Mr. Cheng for his concern and regards in spite of his busy schedule. At present, warm words are better than everything. I am also very grateful to Mr. Cheng for his answers to our questions about learning. I believe that the day when we return to the campus together will come soon after the epidemic ends!"*

—Hu Xin



In the first unit, the Secretary of the Party Committee of the university, Mr. Cheng Jianping, and the principal, Mr. Dong Qi, were deeply concerned with the health, life and study of every student in BNU. They sent warm words and put forward their suggestions for studying.



In the second module, senior professor Lin Chongde of our university was specially invited to give a keynote speech on "Adjusting the Mentality and Facing the New Learning Life Actively." He was very concerned about the physical and mental health of students. He started from how to adapt to online teaching and introduces how to learn online courses with good mentality and four psychological qualities required to learn online courses well under the premise of self-discipline.



**All Students of BNU Attend "the First Class"**

At 2:00 p.m. on February 23, Beijing Normal University launched a special "First Class" for all students of Beijing and Zhuhai campuses using the "Changjiang Rain Classroom" platform in the form of recorded courses. By 12:00 pm on the 24, 17,487 students had completed

the "First Class". "The First Class" lasts about 90 minutes and consists of three modules: a speech by the secretary and the principal, a lecture on the theme of adjusting mentality, and a lecture on the theme of health education on the prevention and control of novel coronavirus.

In the third module, Dr. Guo Zhongxin, director of the Public Health Department of the School Hospital, was invited to lecture on "Health Education for Prevention and Control of Novel Coronavirus." From the perspective of infectious diseases, she introduced novel coronavirus and its epidemiological and clinical characteristics, as well as precautions for personal protection.



After finishing the study of “the First Class”, students made many comments:

*“After listening to the teachers’ speeches, I really benefited a lot. During the epidemic, it is really a good time to improve myself and relax. During the vacation, I did many things that I didn’t have the courage to do before, or used time as an excuse to escape. I also had deeper communication with my family. Sometimes I feel so carefree and comfortable. Is it unfair to my compatriots in deep distress? But thinking about it carefully, I can’t do much. The best feedback to them is to stay at home and to not go out unnecessarily. In the following online classes, I will be self-disciplined, self-reliant, reflective, and persistent in reading. Thank you to the teachers for being so diligent and I truly felt the concern and care of the university for us!”*

—Zhou Huijing

*“This course is well prepared and considerate. Thank you very much for providing us with the first class in the spring of 2020. Thank you for your efforts in providing an English platform for international students!”*

—Brown, Charavega

*“I felt the teachers’ concern and love for the students from their meticulous explanation! Thank you for your efforts!”*

—Guo Maosong

BNU Started Online Teaching and Learning in an All-round Way on February 24<sup>th</sup>



At 8: 00 a.m. on February 24, in response to the notice, “Online Teaching to Enable Students to Resume Their Studies Remotely,” the first class of the new semester at BNU officially opened on the internet platform. On February 24, BNU began its first day of remote learning. On this day, 641 courses were planned, 456 for undergraduate

and 185 for graduate students. 21,000 students and 457 teachers were involved. Regarding the teaching methods, WeChat group (27%), Rain Classroom (25%) and QQ group (17%) were the three most used platforms. Teachers from Faculty of Education, Faculty of Geographical Science,

School of Government, School of Environment, Department of Physics, School of Artificial Intelligence, and Chinese Language & Culture College used platforms such as Tencent classroom, Rain classroom, ZOOM, QQ group live broadcast, BB, etc. to give lectures, which went smoothly.

BNU provided technical support for the Rain Classroom, Tron Class and the BB platform. On the first day, there were 291 classes in the Rain Classroom, of which 180 classes were available and 3,135 staff and students were attending the class. Tron Class platform had 72,469 visits on that day, 1,809 visitors, and 521 peak online visitors. Blackboard online platform had 642 staff and students online in the morning and 914 staff and students online in the afternoon.



In order to ensure the smooth development of the “First Class” for thousands of staff and students, the Provost’s Office and Academic Affairs, the Party Committee of Students’ Works, the Information Network Center and other departments have completed designing the curricula, recording, editing, and organization of watching online courses and guaranteed the platforms stability.



## Staff's Online Work

### Cloud Teaching

—Online Teaching for Students' Studies

#### *BNU Faculty of Education: "Postponing the Opening of the New Term without Stopping Classes to Win the Battle of Teaching against Epidemic"*

In order to ensure the orderly progress of teaching work, the Faculty of Education discussed distance teaching methods ahead of time, and used the available educational technologies alongside independent development platform to draw up remote teaching programs. They adopted various methods and channels to teach, to ensure students' learning rights and the quality of education and teaching are maintained.

The Faculty of Education set up a page entitled "Teaching & Learning Information During Epidemic Prevention and Control" to ensure that all important documents, notices and information during this time can be released in a timely and official manner and sent to staff and students through WeChat, QQ, email and other channels for easy reference.

The faculty's long-distance teaching program fully integrated various resources, providing teachers with Internet-based curriculum teaching services,

and facilitating the curricula to implement web-based development. In collaboration with the faculty and the school information center and other units, the following four remote teaching modes were proposed to meet the diverse curriculum requirements of the faculty: Curriculum management, micro-class production, platform use and quality assurance. These teaching modes were provided to all teachers and would ensure the quality of education and teaching to the utmost extent.

For the selection of remote teaching platform, teachers in their WeChat group have actively discussed and exchanged views on different platforms (e.g. Rain classroom, BB platform, Tron Class platform, ZOOM, Classin, CCtalk, QQ group, WeChat group, Tencent conference, etc.) they are familiar with, summarizing and sharing the advantages and disadvantages of each platform. During this process, many teachers from

the College of Education and Technology actively offered technical explanations to everyone. Teacher Zhang Jing contacted the technical team of Classin Company to conduct special training for teachers and teaching assistants. The computer teaching team, led by teacher Ma Xiulin taking on the public computer courses in all universities, responded positively to the school's call. Based on the independently developed teaching platform, -CEN platform, and with the help of online micro-class resources, organized asynchronous learning of various pedagogical classes will help implement the "Online Teaching to Enable Students to Resume Their Studies Remotely" notice.

The Faculty of Education has launched a number of online education and teaching programs, including the above-mentioned online course, for educators training the faculty's students. Another course is for the online student career and

academic guidance hotline program, following the principle of "Cultivation from Three Sides", as well as the Jingshi family education online direct broadcast course public welfare program for national students, teachers and parents. Other

teaching programs include the online teaching ability improvement program and the public welfare program training for basic education teachers. It is hoped that through these online projects, the Faculty of Education's first-class resources,

and even the whole university's, will be fully integrated. This will provide students, teachers and parents with professional and rich courses, good experience and ideas so as to contribute the strength of the Faculty to the fight against the epidemic.

#### *Chemistry: Measures and Managements of Online Teaching during the Epidemic*

The College of Chemistry Chemistry has been actively building online teaching resources. So far, four MOOC courses (including one Excellent National Online Course) have been successfully launched on the platforms of Xuetang Online and MOOC of China Universities, and five MOOC courses are under construction. All sub-disciplines of chemistry have their own MOOC courses.)

At the same time, the College attached great importance to the promotion and application of online teaching resources and actively explored effective online

and offline mixed teaching modes. For example, the physical chemistry team cooperated with the University of Manchester, UK, not only to introduce its MOOC resources, but also to cooperate with its lecturers to carry out distance video teaching. On this basis, the MOOC course on physical chemistry was successfully held with its own characteristics. As another example, in addition to MOOC course teaching, the chemistry education team also cooperated with China's teaching and research network and Cretech platform to carry out high-end lesson preparation, live class or large-scale

live broadcast of summary activities.

It is worth mentioning that the college pays attention to deepening and promoting the college teachers' understanding of online teaching through various forms. It has invited experts with rich experience in online teaching both inside and outside the college to give reports on many occasions, and actively uses opportunities such as teaching observation classes and holding young teachers' teaching basic skills competitions to encourage and guide the majority of teachers to use online teaching methods.



**BNU School of Environment: Work as One against the Epidemic and Guarantee the Smooth Development of Online Teaching and Learning**

On the basis of a series of online courses, the School of Environment has actively explored effective teaching modes to fully guarantee the teaching quality and effectiveness during the epidemic.



During this special period, School of Environment will merge research into teaching. From the perspective of environmental ecological protection, it will consider how to organically combine the new coronavirus with the research work of environmental ecological protection. It will carry out beneficial exploration in the aspects of atmosphere, water bodies, garbage disposal, ecology, management, green environmental protection, agricultural non-point sources and big data analysis. It will carry out in-depth research on environmental related issues during epidemic prevention, actively explore effective teaching modes based on a series of online courses already carried out, and fully guarantee the teaching quality and teaching effect during the epidemic.

**BNU School of Mathematical Sciences: Ensure Learning is not Disrupted When Classes are Disrupted through Online Teaching**

School of Mathematical Sciences reacted during the epidemic, paying particular attention to the role of tutors, strengthening the communication and exchange between tutors and students, caring about the students' learning at home in time and guiding the writing of degree theses for fresh graduates. After the meeting, the School initiated and organized discussions on the distance teaching methods and plans for all courses in the spring semester. In a short time, teachers continuously tested various remote

teaching platforms, compared their advantages and disadvantages, fully discussed and studied them in the School's WeChat group and finally determined the temporary contact method and remote teaching method for various courses in the School, ensuring that students can select courses and participate in online teaching normally. This was sent to staff and students through WeChat groups, QQ groups and other channels for easy reference.

School of Mathematical Sciences is determined to conduct teaching on

BB platform, Tron Class platform, Rain Classroom, QQ group, WeChat group, ZOOM and other platforms, and is committed to providing teaching assistants to various courses to assist teachers in remote teaching, answering technical problems that students encountered during the online classes, answering questions, and collecting, distributing and correcting homework. At the same time, the School also set up a technical team of 11 teachers to provide online technical support for all teachers at any time to ensure the smooth progress of remote teaching.

**Cloud Office**

—Guarantying the Video Conference Run Smoothly to Support Remote Office

A remote video conference account was opened to ensure more than 20 important video conferences run smoothly. 224 people attended the school's academic affairs video conference on February 6, 2020. Video conference technology provided strong support to related work of the University during the epidemic and effectively improved online office efficiency.



# Ensuring an Orderly and Stable Campus

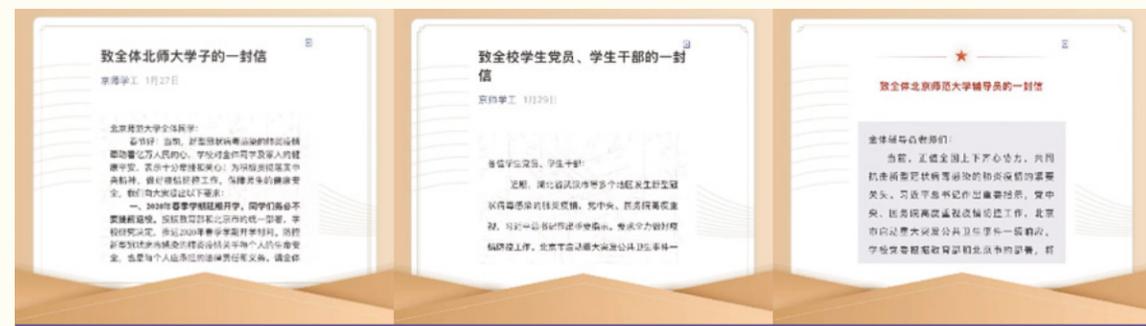
## The Office of Student Affairs: "Students Should Stay Safe and Sound!"

Since the outbreak of novel coronavirus, the student affairs management system has acted quickly. Counselors in various departments voluntarily gave up their vacations and quickly returned to work. The Office of Student Affairs, and relevant faculties and departments strengthened their linkage and took various measures to do a good

job in epidemic prevention.

The Office of Student Affairs issued three letters in time: To All Students of BNU, To All Student Party Members and Student Cadres, and To All Counselors. All students were required to respond to our country's call, abide by the school regulations, and strictly observe discipline requirements. They must

not go back to school in advance. All student party members and cadres were required to consciously practice and cooperate with the work of the colleges and schools. All counselors were required to improve their political stance, consolidate their work style, adhere to moral cultivation, and be earnest in prevention and control work.



To-do Lists of Student Affairs in Faculties were prepared and the main responsibilities were compacted into a step by step format. The head teachers and counselors of faculties and departments should make a daily arrangement of students, and submit data as well as epidemic

prevention tips. "Students' Daily Report" platform was developed to enable students to fill in their personal status every day to fully grasp the students' situation, strengthen the management of students' behavior, and collect students' opinions and suggestions. The Students' Daily Report will

strengthen the management of the health status of students who stay in school as well as issue gentle reminders for them. It will also provide care for the students entering the isolation zone, maintain awareness of their study and living conditions, help the school understand the needs of

the students at school in a timely fashion. This will help to provide them with masks, thermometers, disinfectant gel, fruits and other materials, etc. We need to do a good job in prevention and control screening, be sympathetic and care for each other, undertake

research on public opinion, provide education for the whole community and other do other works during the epidemic. We need to understand the attitude and needs of students with regards to the epidemic situation, the school's preventative work and epidemic

control work. We also need to understand the implications of and minimize the negative impact of the delay in resumption of physical classes. One-to-one, peer-to-peer care and greetings were offered to Hubei students to help them firmly overcome the epidemic.



We will vigorously strengthen the positive public opinion and provide student ideological guidance during the epidemic prevention period. To convey

the serious nature of this epidemic, we will make use of audio and video resources, pictures, cartoons, text and other forms to disseminate epidemic

prevention knowledge to all students. Accurate and accessible knowledge is vital so that everyone knows and participates in epidemic prevention and control measures.

## Cloud Daily Report — “WeChat” Your Wellness

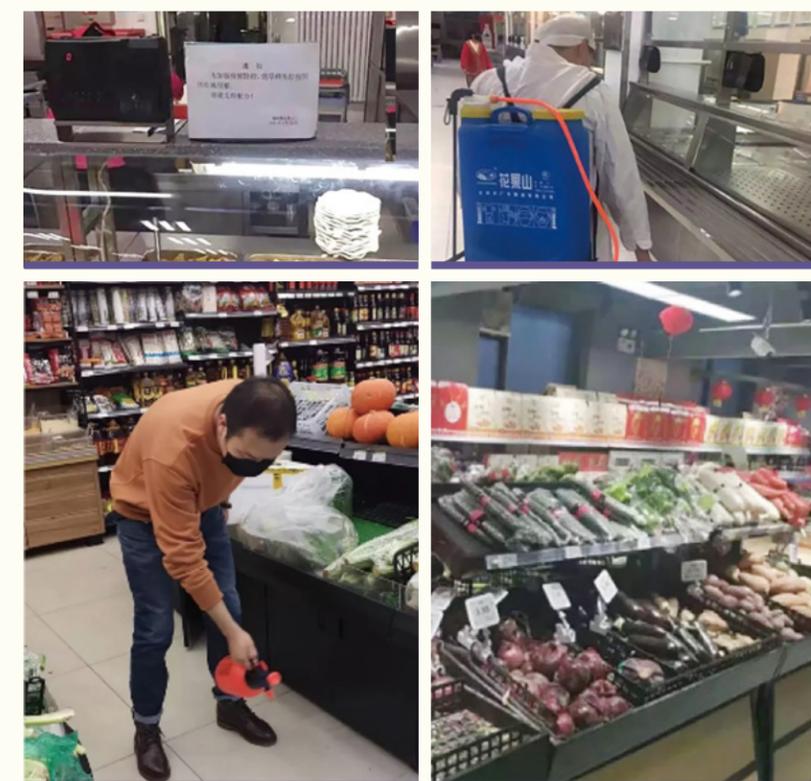
Since providing the service, more than 98% of 28,000 staff and students have clocked in. More than 3,000 questions have been answered, and the total clock-in number was over 320,000.

Active monitoring and analysis of student and staff conditions was carried out by relying on big data technology. An anti-epidemic data monitoring application was developed, and students and

staff were asked to provide daily reports to provide up-to-date visual data for analysis and use in decision making for the university’s anti-epidemic work.



Procedures at entrance gates was quickly updated. Doorbell management quickly replaced face recognition in the student apartments. It was suggested that students should go out less and allow their temperature to be taken before entering the dormitory. Closed-off management was applied for international students’ apartments and no visitors were allowed in. This was to ensure the health and safety of students. The unique nature of this year does not change the love and care we provide for our students.



Canteens are at the frontline of epidemic prevention and control on campus. Starting from the basic, all staff of the General Affairs of Logistics and Catering Service Center stuck to their work positions and learnt epidemic prevention techniques. Health check-ups were conducted twice a day in the morning and noon, and disinfection, meal preparation and check-up were carried out every day.

Supermarkets are open as usual. The prices of vegetables, fresh food, masks and disinfectant are reasonable to meet demand. Business hours were adjusted to meet the needs of staff and students. During special periods, the trade center sends special personnel to the supermarket for safety inspection every day.

## Cloud Service — Optimizing the Personnel Management and Control and Meeting the Needs of Network

To work out an installation plan for an entrance gate guardian system, BNU gave permission for personnel in university’s epidemic prevention and control front-line teams by allocated them a Pass (special campus card). The system will support data collection in the campus area and for families in the campus, as well as strengthening current isolation measures.



The service hotline and key posts of the property service center are manned 24 hours a day. Infrastructure facilities such as water, electricity, gas and heating, and public areas such as corridors, walking ladders, toilets and elevators are fully disinfected twice a day.



A half-day intensive shift was set up in the school hospital to ensure basic medical care for staff and students. Patients had to take their temperature. Registration went smoothly and there was a sufficient medicine supply.



A temporary express package station was built at the northwest gate in two days to relieve the pressure of centralized package delivery in campus. This provided convenience for the staff and their families on campus.



The Vehicle Service Center has planned a detailed work flow. Employees stick to their posts, strictly abide by the duty system, study scientific epidemic prevention knowledge, disinfect vehicles every day, and arrange special vehicles and personnel to transport students who need isolated observation.



[ Ensuring the Normal Life and Physical and Mental Health of Staff and Students at Home and Abroad ]

## Delivering Goods and Materials

In order to guarantee the basic life of the students who stay in campus and the staff who live in isolation, BNU coordinated and purchased a batch of fruits and vegetables and sent care packages of fruits and vegetables to students (including international students) staying on campus in Haidian and Changping, as well as staff who live in isolation such as courtyard houses in the family area and No.6 of Lize buildings.



Being isolated at home can never separate people's hearts. We never give up on each other, even in hopeless times, and never stop sending our love to each other despite the long distance.

It is a warm blessing and a kind encouragement. Spring will eventually arrive, and we will feel the warmth of each other's words.

Because of everybody's hard work, every moment at BNU

creates beautiful memories. We come from four corners of the world but can still join together despite regional differences. May you accept this gift full of love. "Thank-you" would be the most beautiful gift we have received.

**Md. Shahabul Haque**  
Special refreshments from BNU, thanks University authority to take care us than our expectations.

阿里- off campus  
Really great job done by university staff and Chinese government for international community in China. 🍵

Ghemelee\_Dorm13\_Room112  
Thanks alot to the very potent administration of the university for their good will shown thus far to us during said challenging moment. We are highly appreciative and are indeed aware of said obligation.

26分钟前

BNU provides three meals for students in isolation, boiled ginger tea, and arranges package deliveries for staff and students on the front lines of epidemic control.

## Providing Online Assistance

### Cloud Doctor's Visits

—Online Voluntary Diagnosis and Real-time Rescue

We hope students and staff will cooperate with the Online General Hospital of WeDoctor, as we provide free online consultation, psychological consultation and other services to staff and students. Real-time updated information is also available. BNU's staff, students and their families can benefit from free online consultation and medical guidance services without leaving their homes.

北京中医药大学  
微医  
阻击疫情  
微医互联网总医院远程驰援!

北京中医药大学  
联合微医互联网总医院抗疫平台  
抗击疫情  
实时救助  
紧急动员, 集结全国权威医疗专家

协同微医互联网总医院, 为广大师生提供免费的在线问诊、心理咨询等服务和实时更新的疫情动态信息, 我校教职员工和学生以及家属群体不出家(校)门就能享受免费的在线咨询和就医指导服务。

19000余位专业医生免费义诊  
3分钟内极速回复

### Dafu

—Online Robot of BNU Providing One-stop Information Desk

In order to answer the majority of staff and students' questions and ensure the smooth continuation of work during the epidemic time, management departments worked together to set up an information desk. Intelligent search and

human-written answers help you get the answer "face to face."

In the intelligent search column, you only need to search for keywords or department names to find more than 300 common questions

and answers concerned by staff and students in 17 departments. At the same time, you can also use manual questioning. After selecting a department in the drop-down list, fill in the details of your question, then simply click submit.



### Providing Online Health Education

Prof. Lin Chongde of the Faculty of Psychology of BNU was invited to give a keynote speech on "Adjusting the Mentality to Face the New Learning Life Positively". Prof. Lin is very concerned about the physical and mental health of students. He started with how

to adapt to online teaching and learning, introducing how to learn online courses with a good mentality and the four psychological qualities required to learn those well under the premise of self-discipline.

Doctor Guo Zhongxin of the school

hospital was invited to explain "Health Education on Prevention and Control of Novel Coronavirus". Dr. Guo will introduce novel coronavirus and its epidemiological and clinical characteristics from the perspective of infectious diseases, as well as precautions for personal protection.

## 【 Giving Full Play to University's Social Obligation 】

## Supporting the Online Education and Classes

### Set Up Online Teaching Support Community for Teachers to Guarantee the Online Teaching Run Smoothly

Under the guidance of the Ministry of Education, the Center of Teacher Education Research at Beijing Normal University plans to establish an "Online Teaching Support Community for Teachers" in conjunction with the National Advisory Expert Committee on Teacher Education, the National

Expert Committee on Teacher Education Curriculum Resources, and the Education Department of Beijing Normal University. The Center will issue a joint declaration on the "epidemic battle": make concerted efforts to "ensure the online teaching uninterrupted when classes are disrupted", provide high-level and professional support in online

education and teaching concepts, platforms, resources, technologies, tools, etc., provide professional guidance to assist students in online learning, fully support teachers' online education and teaching, and jointly support the construction of online education and teaching during the epidemic prevention and control period.

urgently needed for elementary education to carry out online teaching, to help teachers improve their online teaching ability and to escort education and teaching.

From February 15 to 23, the courses were broadcast live through Beijing Normal University's accounts of Tik Tok and Kwai; Jingshi online's



accounts of TikTok, Kwai, Sina Education and Sina Weibo, and will also be broadcast live online

through Jingshi online platform, with unlimited playback support for live video!

### BNU Education Group: Quality Online Course Go live!

Due to the demand on prevention and control of the novel coronavirus, schools have postponed the new semester and students cannot return to their campuses. In order to provide students with a healthy and safe learning environment during this unique time, under the background of the country's

vigorous development of quality education, BNU Education Group has actively integrated high-quality resources of BNU and the society to create "Jingshi Cloud School Quality Course Platform" for primary and middle school students. The courses are carried out in various forms such as live broadcasting, and

recording-broadcasting, including humanistic general knowledge, thinking quality, artistic quality, research study, safety education, mental health, sports health, anti-epidemic topics, etc. to help cultivate student's development in a personalized way. During the epidemic, all course resources on the platform are free of charge.

### Carrying Out Public Welfare Program of Online Teaching Ability Training for Elementary Education Teachers

Beijing Normal University responded positively to the Ministry of Education's Guidance on Organizing and Managing Online Teaching in Regular Institutions of Higher Education during the Epidemic Prevention and Control Period. Beijing Normal University's administrative and academic institutions, including the Faculty of Education, the Career Center, School of Education Technology,

Advanced Innovative Center for Future Education, School of Continuing Education and Teacher Training, Training Center for Primary School Principals of the Ministry of Education, the Center of Teacher Education Research and Beijing Normal University Education Group organized a coalition of well-known research experts and scholars from fields of education technology and online education to launch a public welfare program to improve the online

education skills and teaching ability of elementary education teachers. It will launch a series of live broadcast courses and detailed micro-courses to help teachers realize online teaching worry-free.

There are 12 live online courses, covering a series of topics such as technology platform, teaching design, curriculum resources, teaching methods, support tools, teaching evaluation and so on, which are

### BNU Publishing Group Organize the Resource Production for Online Learning

On January 29, the Ministry of Education issued a call to the education frontline to ensure "Online Teaching for Students to Resume Their Studies Remotely" and started related work. BNU Publishing Group actively responded to the call, integrating several online learning platforms, publishing projects and new media matrix. Beijing Normal University Edition's high-quality educational publishing

resources have continuously reached thousands of households, helping teachers and students to teach online and learn at home.

Starting from February 1, BNU's digital teaching material app, basic elementary teaching material network, Jingshi education resource network, Tianyuanhui math app, courses and teaching materials of Jingshi Bannixue platform, teaching materials and e-books of Jingshi

test preparation platform, Jingshi Kindergarten Curriculum Comprehensive Service Platform, Jingshi Zhihuiyuan pre-school teaching platform, etc. are available to all users for free. Users of BNU's edition of primary and secondary school textbooks can obtain teaching materials, teachers' books and other supporting resources free of charge through various means, and can also enjoy online reading services of periodicals such as Senior High

School Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry and Chinese Teachers. There are 84 electronic textbook resources, 84 teachers' book resources, more than 17,000

synchronous teaching plans, micro-lecture, evaluation exercises and other resources, more than 1,000 kinds of multidisciplinary electronic teaching materials, more than 400

sets of online teaching resources, 39 audio and video courses for vocational education, and over a million visits to various resource platforms in a few days.

## 10,000 Teachers of Middle Schools in Beijing Answer Questions through "Smart Learning Fellow"

Based on the available platform resources and operation mechanism of Beijing Middle School Teachers' Open Online Counseling Plan (2018-2020), BNU Advanced Innovation Center for Future Education developed the Beijing Middle School Teachers' Open Online Questioning and Answering Implementation Plan in Spring 2020 (hereinafter referred to as "Open Online Q&A"), and has been answering questions online from Beijing students in Junior Three and Senior Three since February 17.

An Open Online Q&A is a powerful measure to actively respond

to the Ministry of Education's decision of "Online Teaching for Students to resume Their Studies Remotely". It is also a personalized, customized service provided by the Municipal Education Commission for students in Junior Three and Senior Three with the most urgent

learning needs. It enables students to postpone the start of school and to study independently at home. During this period, online teachers are asked to "self-inquire". Through Open Online Q&A, Beijing's high quality teachers have broken the boundaries between schools and regions, and realized the circulation and allocation based on the learning needs of students through the network, so that even the children in the outer suburbs and counties can receive guidance and feedback from the city's most famous teachers equally, anytime and anywhere. This is another attempt and innovation based on the supply side of network education.



## MOOCs for Public

### Online Teaching Experience Sharing

During the current epidemic prevention and control period, we have invited teachers with experience of using different platforms to share their experiences with everyone to help online teaching be a success.

As an important form of "Internet Plus Education", online education

also shoulders the responsibility and mission of producing moral and cultivated people. It is in this context that we think it is of great importance to insist on giving priority to the protection of public welfare and ensuring that quality curriculum resources benefit a wide group of learners. This will promote educational fairness. A

good university has no barriers. Through online education, the majority of learners can hear the voices of teachers in various schools at anytime, anywhere. Online education not only provides learning support for students in the university, but also further provides services for other universities and social learners.

Online education is a supplements traditional education and is an exploration into the traditional teaching paradigms. Online courses are an important attempt to break the traditional teaching style of "cramming education" by promoting the organic combination of MOOC and SPOC and exploring a mixed teaching mode of online and offline, with equal emphasis on large-scale accessibility and small-scale customization. Online education has effectively expanded the channels for other universities to build and share high-quality resources. Online education can highly aggregate high-quality resources by virtue of its flexibility, and taking online courses promotes the building and sharing of inter-school high-quality teaching resources. Online education also



opens the door for the majority of social learners to realize the goal of lifelong learning: the topics of online courses vary greatly, and its high-quality content and personalized management provide new ways for social learners to build a lifelong learning system. The enthusiasm for online education is transformed into the driving force for the construction of an

online curriculum system for environmental courses. In order to meet the needs and challenges of the increasingly favorable state of digitization in education, the online open curriculum can be experienced, constructed and promoted in person, and a new period of teaching reform is actively explored to improve the teaching quality of the curriculum.

# Mental Assistance Hotline

## BNUers Stay With You at the Mental Battlefield of Epidemic Prevention and Control



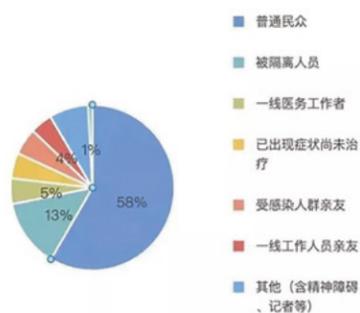
This is the classic beginning of the consultants who connect. From 6:00 a.m. to 24:00 p.m. every day, the epidemic prevention hotline (phone number: 400188976), is open to the whole nation, to help anyone overcome by panic or anxiety. The hotline was urgently prepared by the Faculty of Psychology of Beijing Normal University and Psychological Counseling and Service Center for Students of Beijing Normal University. BNU's

psychological epidemic prevention and mental assistance hotline has cooperated with 12345 Beijing Citizen Hotline on February 5, 2020. For calls with related psychological support needs, 12345 citizen hotline, with the consent of the caller, will be connected to the epidemic prevention mental assistance hotline of the Faculty of Psychology, and our university's consultants will provide professional and fast psychological health services.

By 00:00 on February 9, BNU's 400 mental assistance hotline and online counseling service had served a total of more than 2800 people. An average of 200 phoned in every day, with nearly 300 at peak times. On average, 60 online psychological counseling sessions are conducted every day, with a daily maximum of 110 person-times.

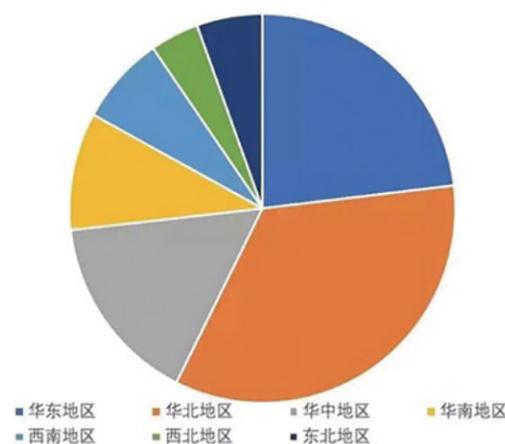
The composition of callers is as follows: 58% general public, 13% isolated patients, 5% front line medical staff, 5% patients whose symptoms have not been treated/isolated, 5% patients' families, and 4% frontline medical staff's families.

累积求助人员类型比例



By region: North China 34%, East China 23%, Central China 16%. The top three provinces are: Beijing, Guangdong and Hubei.

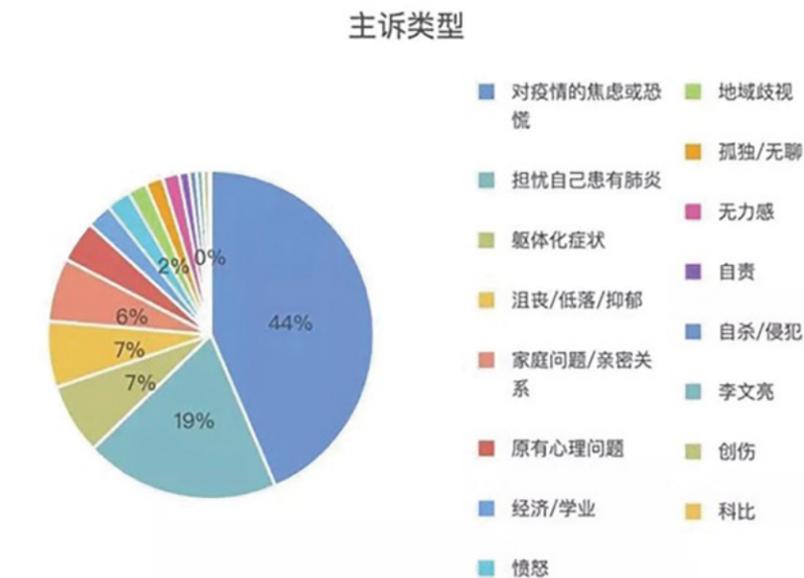
呼叫地区分布



The most common complaint was feeling of panic and fear, with around 44% of cases reporting such symptoms. The second largest cause is health anxiety; with 19% of people suspecting that they have pneumonia. Physical symptoms (insomnia, headache, etc.) occurred in 7% of people; 7% felt depressed. 6% had family problems and intimate relationship issues due to the impact of the epidemic. 2% of the callers responded that they suffered from regional discrimination. For 4% of patients, symptoms of previously diagnosed disorders (such as anxiety, depression and bipolar disorder) had been aggravated by the epidemic. Other emotional issues, such as feeling blamed, angry, or lonely, accounted for 7% of cases.

For Bi Wenxiu, a regular day for her will see 10 calls in three hours while she gets through two 410ml bottles of water in 3 hours. She is a full-time consultant in the mental health service center of the Faculty of Psychology of BNU. During the epidemic period, her main role is to man the hotline. At the same time, she is also responsible for scheduling, answering questions and coordinating the counseling team.

She feels the task has added difficulties at this time. Firstly, the epidemic is a situation that young workers like



her have never seen before. Both the experience of similar crisis intervention and the knowledge of the epidemic itself are relatively lacking. Therefore, people like her need to quickly study comprehensively and systematically. Second, unlike the usual face-to-face consultation, this time the hotline staff cannot establish a long-term relationship with the caller, nor can they see the caller's expressions and body language. Their only clue into the wellbeing of the caller is the speed and tone of their words. Moreover, the staff need to transmit strength and certainty to the caller through their own voice.

She has the final shift in a day, from 21:00 to 24:00 pm. Although preparing for the evening shift was hard, it also touched her a lot, because almost

every caller would say to her, "sorry to disturb you till this late". At the end, she was reminded to drink more water when she heard her gentle voice grown coarse.

Sometimes, a caller would ask her as if there was no hope: "When will the epidemic end?" Bi Wenxiu cannot answer this question, but she says with hope: "In fact, you see, I'm here today, right? My colleagues and I will always be here, and we will always be with you. People from all over the country are also working together to contribute. This is our hope."

For Bi Wenxiu, the mental aid hotline is something within her power. She told the callers that there are still many people who care about everyone like her. We are all working together. So there must be hope.

## Faculty of Psychology of BNU Opens Free Psychological Counseling Hotlines for Overseas Chinese on Coronavirus-related Stress

The novel coronavirus pneumonia has lasted for more than two months. With the joint efforts of the medical staff and compatriots in China, the domestic epidemic has gradually stabilized. However, another outbreak began overseas. At present, the BNUers still care about their overseas compatriots and try their best to provide psychological comfort and support for them despite being far away.

On January 27, the Faculty of Psychology of BNU launched a psychological support hotline and online counseling service for Chinese compatriots affected by the epidemic. In this process, overseas students keep calling for help and support. The epidemic spread to lots of countries around the world and affected the normal life of numerous overseas students and Chinese, whose psychological needs need to be paid close attention to. In order to better help the compatriots living abroad through this period, the Faculty of Psychology of Beijing Normal University opened a psychological support hotline and online counseling service for overseas students / overseas Chinese.

Chinese compatriots (overseas students / overseas Chinese) affected by the epidemic can get psychological support by calling the psychological support hotline (86) 01086409146 (Skype) and online counseling service.



海外留学生/华人华侨

可使用Skype拨打心理热线: (86) 01086409146  
或扫码填写相关信息, 获得网络咨询服务

北京师范大学心理学部



The counseling experts are familiar with the epidemic prevention work in China, and many of them have the experience of studying and working abroad. They are able to provide psychological counseling and policy counseling for overseas Chinese in response to their questions on coronavirus prevention and control.

## Donation & Care

### Long Distance from Beijing to Wuhan Though, Normal Universities Stay Strong Together and Please Take This Love

After the outbreak, the situation in Hubei and especially in Wuhan, touched the hearts of all the people in the country. As a normal university, BNU learned that the epidemic prevention materials in Central China Normal University (CCNU) in Wuhan were in short supply. BNU responded to the call of the central government and contacted CCNU. The materials in short supply were sent to the places in greatest need.

Masks are an important tool to stop the spread of virus droplets. They are precious weapons to protect the safety of staff and students on



campus. BNU mobilized resources all resources, performed emergency stock checks, calculated the response, and made scientific scheduling to maximize the role of each mask.

As a result, BNU managed to make 20,000 disposable medical masks available to aid CCNU.



In the name of the Community of National Normal Universities, regardless of the epidemic situation, we will work hand in hand to realize the great dream of a powerful nation in education and jointly open a new chapter in normal education in the new era.

## Stories Behind 1,228 Staff of BNU and 500,000 Fund-raising Money in 13 Days

The sudden outbreak made the winter in earlier 2020 even colder. In this epidemic battle, there were heroes who fought bravely in the front line and compatriots who silently supported from the rear, selfless staff of BNU helped to warm this cold winter.

On February 1, BNU responded to the Beijing Warm Foundation's "Warm Wuhan" Project Plan issued by Beijing Education Trade Union,

and organized all staff members to donate money to fight against the epidemic and spread love with their fingertips. Trade unions in 33 departments of the university and 1,228 staff participated in the donation activities, donating more than 500,000 yuan in total.

"In the face of the epidemic, we must do our part!" An 87-year-old senior professor and his wife were deeply concerned about the Wuhan

epidemic and donated 10,000 yuan to the warm Wuhan project of the Warm Foundation.

A young member of administration staff donated money to 1000 yuan on behalf of the whole family.

An old professor, who did not want to be named, donated 20,000 yuan.

Retired teachers who just returned from Moscow donated 10,000 yuan ...

## The song *Waiting for the Cherry Blossoms*

The Sudden pneumonia epidemic of a novel coronavirus infection gives special significance to 2020. Under the epidemic, BNU teacher Hu Shuai wrote the song *Waiting for the Cherry Blossoms* for the medical workers who are making a huge contribution to the society.



## BNUer in Action

### College of Global Change and Earth System Science Participating in COVID-19 Analysis and Research

Tian Huaiyu, associate professor of BNU College of Global Change and Earth System Science, was invited to be an external expert for the WHO. He was also appointed data analysis expert at the Beijing Center for Disease Control and Prevention (BCDC), and led his research group to participate in the analysis and research of COVID-19. Beijing Platform for Assessing and Warning the Risk of Transmission of COVID-19 was rapidly established by Tian Huaiyu's Laboratory and BCDC in early January 2020. Their objectives include to analyzing the

characteristics of the epidemic, building a mathematical model to quantitatively evaluate the role of the prevention measures, assisting the center to report to the municipal government every day, supporting decision-making and providing important theoretical support for the allocation of medical resources and support materials. Daily reports are presented to assist in research and decision making. This will which strongly support the formulation of a series of measures. The members of this group have been fully committed to this war without weapons, battling for over two months.



### College of Global Change and Earth System Science Participating in COVID-19 Analysis and Research

The leading group of School of Economics and Resource Management of Beijing Normal University quickly organized in the face of the outbreak. On the basis of everyone playing their own role in containing the epidemic, and the work of "non-stop teaching and non-stop learning", staff and students joined

together to focus on the target of the School's "new style think tank for national major needs." They will fully capitalize on their specialization and actively carry out interdisciplinary research characterized and informed by Economics. They will provide suggestions for the prevention and control of the epidemic and the

development of national society and economy.

Led by Prof. Guan Chenghua, the Research team at the Center for Future Education (including associate professor Lin Yongsheng and lecturer Chen Chaofa), has taken an active part in organizing experts and scholars in education,

economics and other fields to conduct an online investigation and discussion around the “Impact of COVID-19 on Education and Countermeasures.” The team will be offering suggestions for the rational, orderly and effective development of education related work under the epidemic. Focusing on how to properly implement the principle of “non-stop teaching and non-stop learning.” Also important is paying attention to the dynamics of the labor market and to do a good job ensuring the employment security of fresh graduates. They will also strive to do a good job in the evaluation and education of students’ mental health;

strengthening patriotic education, life education, epidemic prevention and control education, public education, social responsibility education, sustainable development education, emergency management education; promoting the development of educational digitalization in the new era by multi-agent cooperation. They will be paying attention to the discrimination of foreign staff and students in international education and other aspects; a range of experts discussed the above issues extensively and put forward pertinent suggestions.

Led by Prof. Zhang Qi, the China

Institute’s research group for Poverty Reduction at BNU (including associate professor Wan Jun and lecturer Shen Yangyang) and the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Areas’ Research Center for Rural Economy have conducted collaborative research under the theme of the “impact of COVID-19 on the current poverty alleviation efforts and corresponding suggestions” to offer suggestions on how to further consolidate the achievements of poverty alleviation under the impact of the epidemic. The research results are published in China Economic Net and China Economic News Net, etc.

helpful in determining the effective distribution of resources, analyzing situations to promote proper decision making and organize command-level support for the emergency response towards the epidemic for governments at all levels. Hospitals, CDCs, enterprise groups, and others will also benefit from this platform. The “epidemic prevention and control program” is developed to enable the public to take part in information collection and reporting operations from their own homes, as well as supporting governments’, universities’, enterprises’ and communities’ work in containing the virus. Thanks to his work, the public will be able to access the latest developments of the COVID-19 virus.



(1999 Alumnus of BNU Business School), and China Mobile (Chengdu) Industrial Research Institute, a joint strategic partner of China Mobile Sichuan Company, innovated new technologies for epidemic prevention. They jointly carried out 5G UAV street

patrol, prevention and control publicity, disinfection spraying in Mianyang Science Park and Fenggu Town, Fucheng District.

“Publishing Epidemic Prevention Manual” - in order to eliminate



“UAV innovative technology assistance for epidemic prevention” -- on February 13, at the request of Mianyang Health Committee and Fucheng District Government of Sichuan Province, Beifang Tiantu Aviation Technology (Beijing) Co., Ltd., with Yang Yi as executive chairman,

## Alumni in Action

“Donating medical materials in short supply” - after donating mattresses to Fangcang hospital, Ximengbao with Qiu Jiduan as chairman, an alumnus who graduated from the School of Chinese Language and Literature at BNU in 1962 donated 150,000 masks worth 525,000 yuan to Wuhan through the Alibaba Foundation on February 10.

“Big data analysis helps precision prevention and control” -- Beijing Youxuan Software Co., Ltd., whose chairman is Liang Jiliang, a 1984 alumnus of the Department of Physics, has developed “Youxuan big data analysis platform for epidemic situation”, which provides users with big data analysis and display services for epidemic situation related information, realizing real-time dynamic monitoring, trend analysis and visualization of epidemic data in the whole country or in a certain region. His platform is



the psychological panic of teenagers and help them get through the epidemic period safely, under the organization of Li Huisheng, a Grade 1984 alumnus of the Faculty of Education, Huisheng Psychological Studio gathered excellent teachers to compile the manual “Facing the Black Swan” - Psychological Intervention on Teenagers in Crisis Time”. With the strong support of Dolphin Books, the electronic version has been published.

“BNU Alumni Association of Southern California and Brother Alumni Association carried out donation activities” - after the outbreak, the Alumni associations from 63 universities in Southern California organized the donation activity of “University Alliance Standing Side by Side with Wuhan” where more than 50000 alumni gave their support and help. As of February 15, 5 batches of materials have been donated. As the president of the University Alliance, Rong Yue, an alumnus of Faculty of Geographical Sciences, attended the donation press conference.



We isolate the virus, but not will not isolate love. Thank you, every BNUer for your dedication. We are all working together to fight off the virus. Victory is just around the corner.

[ The Fraternity of Common Community of a Shard Future for Mankind ]

Love is boundless. Since the outbreak of COVID-19, BNU international students, overseas partners, Confucius Institute partner colleges and universities all sent

greetings from around the world, with actions, videos, speeches, and words to express their care, encouragement, support and to help the Chinese people and BNU. These greetings

convey the warmth in this unique and frozen spring. We are inspired to meet everyone's expectations and will continue until we reach the final victor of defeating the epidemic.

# Friendly Fellows from all over the World Stay Together with BNU

To mitigate our loneliness caused by the anti-epidemic, such as the closure of the city, isolation, and the suspension of international aviation, teachers and students from Ulster University in Northern Ireland, the Confucius Institute volunteers of BNU base,

recorded a video of singing “Fill the World with Love” in Chinese. Cathy Gormley-Heenan, vice president of Ulster University, also wrote to Chinese Language & Culture College of BNU, sending her greetings, expressing her concerns and encouraging us here at BNU.



Dr. Weng Yideng, President of Asian Institute of Technology, sent a letter to express his sincere wishes and greetings to the BNU staff, students and their families. He sincerely wrote “All teachers and students of Asian Institute of Technology are willing to share the hardships with you and work together to pass this difficult period!”



Stephen Hanson, Deputy Dean of the College of William & Mary in the United States, partner of Confucius Institute of BNU, sent a letter to our university, sending blessings and greetings, and speaking highly of the exchanges and cooperation between the two sides in Confucius Institute and other projects.



Vice President Cen Huang of University of Alberta, Canada sent a letter on behalf the university to us to express his support and pass on his blessings to our staff and students. He said that he will work with BNU to overcome the challenges of the disease.



In the southern hemisphere, the University of Auckland has always been one of the most popular destinations for Confucius Institute teachers from our university. On February 7, Stuart McCutcheon, President of the University, expressed greetings on his letter to our university, hoping to jointly provide necessary adjustments for the exchange projects of both sides to minimize the impact of the epidemic.



Keith Brown, Vice President of University of Manchester, partner of Confucius Institute of BNU, wrote a letter to express their strongest support to us. He highly affirmed the cooperation of the Confucius Institute and said that the University would provide 10 BNU staff and students in the Confucius Institute at the University of Manchester with various help; including visa extension due to the epidemic.



On February 20, President Anthony Monaco of Tufts University in the United States, partner of Confucius Institute of BNU, sent a letter of greetings and promised to help Chinese teachers and students in the university and try to ensure the normal development of cooperation projects between the two sides.



Santa J Ono, President of University of British Columbia (UBC) sent an email saying that UBC has always been concerned about the epidemic in China, highly appreciated the great efforts and practical measures made by the Chinese government for effective prevention and control of the epidemic. UBC is willing to make contributions to the fight against the epidemic together with Chinese universities, and it will provide the most adequate resource guarantee for the teachers and students currently studying and exchanging at UBC.



Andrea Prencipe, President of Luiss University (LU) sent an email to say that LU is willing to help the Chinese people and stand firmly with Beijing Normal University and open the door to provide support to Chinese students and scholars as much as possible in this harsh period.



Many cooperative colleges such as **University of Wisconsin-Madison** in the United States have said they will do everything possible to work with colleagues in flexible cooperation in students' overseas study affairs, regarding exchanges and visits. They will work together to resolve any issues presented during the

epidemic. In addition, **University of California San Diego, University of Auckland, People's Friendship University of Russia, University of Haifa, University of Warsaw, Universite libre de Bruxelles, Ghent University, University of Oxford, Cardiff University, University of Strasbourg, Korea University, Seoul National University, Seoul**

**National University of Education, Hitotsubashi University, Hiroshima University, Tenri University, National Chengchi University, National Changhua University of Education, National Taiwan Normal University, Ming Chuan University, National Tsing Hua University** sent emails to express their sympathy and strong support in our work.

“ True friends feel close to each other even when they are separated by vast distance. ”

In the fight of COVID-19, partners from all countries are working with us. China will never be alone, and BNUers will never be alone! “A friend in need is a friend indeed.” In the common fight, our friendship with partner colleges and universities of all countries will be strengthened and deepened.

## Love and Regards from Overseas BNUers

During the period of fighting against the epidemic, many distinguished professors and alumni of BNU published articles in the media, to express their concern about China's fight against the epidemic and send their regards to China, highly affirming China's responsible attitude towards the whole world.

Zlatko Lagumdžija, distinguished professor at the Belt and Road School and Emerging Markets Institute of Beijing normal university and former Prime Minister of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Dean of the School of Economics at the University of Sarajevo, said he is confident that China will eventually win the battle.

Hisham Abubakr Metwally, an alumnus of BNU, graduate of the Belt and Road School and Emerging Markets Institute in 2019, and chief economic researcher of the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Industry in Egypt, said he believes that China is capable of overcoming the current difficulties, and that the African people stand firmly with the Chinese people to tide over the difficulties and usher in the spring.

Djoomart Otorbaev, distinguished professor of the Belt and Road School and Emerging Markets Institute at BNU and former Prime Minister of the Kyrgyzstan, said that China's current “people's war” is not only responsible for itself, but also for the world, and China will win the “war”.

Yukio Hatoyama, Japan's former Prime Minister and distinguished professor at the Belt and Road School and Emerging Markets Institute of Beijing normal university, said he highly appreciates China's adherence to Confucius' “benevolence” and “love” thoughts and its unity in the fight against the epidemic, and constant victory in the fight. In addition, he fully affirmed China's strong leadership from the central to the local government and its people.

## A letter to China: *After the Rain, the Sun Comes up from Distinguished Professor of BNU Zlatko Lagumdzija*

Article source: Belt and Road School, BNU | Release date 2020-02-18

Zlatko Lagumdzija, a Distinguished Professor of BNU's Belt and Road School and Emerging Markets Institute, and former Prime Minister of Bosnia and Herzegovina, recently wrote a letter of encouragement to the Chinese people who had been fighting the epidemic. He firmly believes that China will win the battle and make its own contribution to the process of globalization. He added that China will play a role in the construction of a shared future for mankind.



The article was published on China Daily in Feb.9, 2020. The link is as follows:  
<http://global.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202002/09/WS5e3fc50ba3101282172760d2.html>

### *After the Rain, the Sun Comes up*

By Zlatko Lagumdzija | CGTN | Updated: 2020-02-09

My dear friends, colleagues, people of China, people who are suffering and struggling with coronavirus that is deadly menacing while lurking in the darkness.

First, as a friend of China and Chinese people, I am paying my deepest condolences for the lives lost under this epidemic. I want to share with you the most profound respect for all you do under such a terrible and almost impossible of circumstances.

Your courage and patience, hard work and empathy, knowledge and wisdom is not only hope for saving your great nation but for the rest of the world as well. Today you are the first line of global defense of humanity under the grim shadow of the novel pandemic. This is not a fight for your future. We are not in battle for our individual or our nation's future. Coronavirus is tempting all of us today. Are we ready, willing and capable for having a shared future or not having future at all?

**'By falling we learn to go safely.'**

The coronavirus does not care about our borders, our norms and rules, our economic or political

disputes. We are all confronted with a deadly threat. This is not the first but it can be one of the last viruses threatening us if we do not act together. A fight against viruses like this is our common threat but it is also an opportunity to collectively come together.

Even when the world is wide awake and aware, I see hope in this serious situation. The unity of China and willingness to tackle this horrible virus, its huge desire to find a solution or the cure to save lives, give me a hope and also a great respect for the people of China.

You are fighting not only against a deadly unknown virus but against ignorance, selfishness, prejudices and even fake news that are sometimes spreading faster than a pandemic.

In this battle you have set, once again, an example to the world with your excellent organizational and emergency response capabilities, and even in situations when it looks like all hopes are gone.

**'Be not afraid of growing slowly, be afraid of standing still.'**

China is showing by example again that it is not only about growth, but never standing still, in good times or bad.

Your 5,000 years of accumulated culture, selfless dedication and unity based on accumulated wisdom, and the last four decades of historically unrecorded enormous growth directed in eradicating poverty while building the knowledge centers of global excellency, are giving me full confidence in you capacity to win this battle.

I believe that one day, soon, your struggle with the epidemic will be another building block of a shared future for mankind. It will be a logical consequence of Chinese's accumulation of thousands of years of culture and recent achievements in global poverty eradication, economic and technological heights.

I'm sure that China has a strength under the leadership of President Xi Jinping to prevail over this epidemic and overcome the challenges confronting all of us. Determination driven by force of shared future in dignity and prosperity for all, is the reason why I believe that better days are ahead.

I believe that you and we can make right choices for our shared future by getting out of selfishness and short term darkness to the brighter days to come together.

**'After the rain, the sun comes up.'**

For closing, I will salute you with another great poet's wise words. "There is a tide in the affairs of men. Which taken at the flood, leads on to fortune. Omitted, all the voyage of their life is bound in shallows and in miseries. On such a full sea are we now afloat. And we must take the current when it serves, or lose our ventures," quoted from William Shakespeare.

*(Zlatko Lagumdzija is the former prime minister of Bosnia and Herzegovina. This article reflects the author's views, and not necessarily those of CGTN.)*

## Egyptian Alumnus Writing in China Daily: **Country Setting Example for World**

Article source: Belt and Road School, BNU | Release date 2020-02-19

When China is now at a critical point. Hisham Abubakr Metwally, who graduated from the Belt and Road School and Emerging Markets Institute at BNU in 2019, has had an English article published in the China Daily (February 18). Metwally, as the first economist research at the Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Trade explained that China is setting an example to the world during this epidemic.

In his article, he affirmed his confidence in China's victory against the virus and expressed his belief that China has the ability to face the current challenge. The African people stand firmly with the Chinese people to overcome the difficulties and meet the arrival of spring.



The article was published on China Daily in Feb. 18, 2020. The link is as follows:  
<http://global.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202002/18/WS5e4b3273a31012821727837b.html>

The original article is as follows:

### **Country Setting Example for World**

By Hisham Abu Bakr Metwally, China Daily, 2020-02-18

China has been facing a formidable challenge these days in the form of a deadly virus that does not differentiate between big and small, and affects everyone.

The novel coronavirus struck when Chinese families were preparing to celebrate the Lunar New Year, causing untold misery and bringing life to a standstill across China.

China has always been able to face challenges with determination and hard work. The country has become an economic superpower, thanks to its strong leadership, which encourages innovation.

Having inspired the world through hard work, China is now setting an example through its fight against the novel coronavirus pneumonia outbreak. The large turnout of volunteers helping the nation combat the virus is an example of Chinese willingness to make sacrifices for the country.

China has been transparent in dealing with the disease, now named COVID-19, and sharing all details with other countries, which has helped to prevent its spread to more countries.

Egyptian President Abdel-Fattah el-Sisi has expressed his solidarity with China and the Chinese people, and Egypt has sent medical aid to the Chinese. On learning there was a severe shortage of face masks, Egyptian companies sent masks to China.

The news of the virus's spread, the havoc it created in terms of casualties, and the manner in which it paralyzed life in China came as a shock in Egypt.

Egypt shares very close relations with China, and it is also an important trade partner, importing goods worth about \$13 billion in 2019, and exporting goods to China worth about \$1.4 billion.

There is a large Egyptian community in China, with many Egyptians pursuing higher studies.

Despite the fear of the virus, many Egyptian students have preferred to remain in China because they are confident that China will be able to overcome the situation. Egyptian students feel safe in China.

There is no doubt the current situation in China will have an impact on countries around the world, since many countries depend on Chinese imports in different sectors. The fact that millions of Chinese tourists have stopped traveling will affect the tourism sector all over the world.

All countries should contribute to eliminating the virus and providing all possible support-material, technical and moral.

China was one of the countries that provided assistance to the African continent. Thank you, China, and we are with you.

We, as Arab, Islamic and African peoples, salute China's steadfastness, and we all stand with the Chinese people and the government in eliminating this virus,

*(The author is first economist researcher at the Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Trade and Industry. The views do not necessarily reflect those of China Daily)*

## A Distinguished Professor of BNU and Former Prime Minister of the Kyrgyz Republic: **China's Fight against COVID-19: A Sense of Responsibility to the World**

Article source: Belt and Road School, BNU | Release date 2020-02-22

Djoomart Otorbaev, a Distinguished Professor of BNU the Belt and Road School and Emerging Markets Institute, and former Prime Minister of the Kyrgyz Republic, published an article on cctv.com on February 22, expressing utmost respect and admiration, cordial greetings and firm support to the Chinese people. He also said that China's current "people's war" is not only responsible for China itself, but also for the world. China will win the "war", and China's economy will continue to grow well after the epidemic for its great fundamentals, resilience and potential.



The article was published on CGTN in Feb.29, 2020. The link is as follows:  
<https://news.cgtn.com/news/2020-02-22/China-s-fight-against-COVID-19-A-sense-of-responsibility-to-the-world-OfZsqO4p6E/index.html>

The original article is as follows:

### **China's Fight against COVID-19: A Sense of Responsibility to the World**

By Djoomart Otorbaev, CGTN Feb-22, 2020

At this critical time in fighting the coronavirus, I would like to express my genuine and deep sympathy for the people of China, and to pray for final victory over the deadly disease. So many innocent people have lost their lives; so many families have lost their loved ones.

Under those extreme circumstances herewith I would like to share with people of China my utmost profound respect and admiration. I'm proud that today Chinese nation is united as never before at the front line of global defense against the deadly disease.

Since the coronavirus outbreak, the whole country has been mobilized to fight the disease, made all necessary deployments, implemented unprecedented prevention and control measures to stop the spread of disease. The speed, intensity and coverage of China's response have been truly unique.

The country's nationwide efforts in fighting the coronavirus demonstrate the country's capability, strength and confidence in defeating the outbreak and its sense of staunch responsibility to the world.

"Don't be afraid. The light from all over the world is on you. Don't cry. It's not just me, everyone is together

to give you strength." These are the lyrics of "You are not alone," written by Malaysian musicians to support China in its battle against the COVID-19 outbreak. Millions of people around the world are united in their support to Chinese people in its current battle.

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi said on February 15 that the leaders of more than 160 countries and international organizations have already shown their support through telegrams or letters, while the governments and peoples of many countries have donated much-needed supplies.

The unity of Chinese people has been seen before during times of disaster, such as battling against the floods in Yangtze River in 1998, to SARS in 2003, and even huge earthquakes in 2008. However, the current situation and actual national response has been unique.

By employing professional staff, building temporary hospitals, quickly isolating the virus, sequencing its genome, mobilizing various provinces and even the army to help Hubei province, the country demonstrated its exceptional ability to get united and organized very quickly.

Although the virus first appeared in China, it is not a national virus. Outbreak of the virus could happen anywhere on the planet. The disease doesn't recognize borders, regulations or rules, political or economic arrangements.

The disease is the public enemy of all people around the world. It has now become the major test of the wisdom and capability of the international community to prevent and control the outbreak.

Almost everybody around the world highly appreciates the country's efficient measures to share crucial scientific information with all interested parties, being transparent with its efforts to stop the virus from spreading on a worldwide scale.

China not only reveals its institutional advantage of quickly mobilizing enormous resources to fight the disease, but also demonstrates its aspiration to meet the common interests of the entire world.

It was again a clear proof that in the era of globalization, all human beings are living in a small global settlement where they share the same wellbeing and obligations.

By endorsing the idea of building a community with a shared future for mankind, China now is not only taking responsibility for the safety and health of its people, but also committed to the cause of safeguarding international public health. In this invisible "war" with the coronavirus where no weapons are used, the entire world has become a small community of common destiny.

In times of crisis and viral epidemics, the world must engage in even closer cooperation. Unfortunately, the country is spending some of its valuable resources on fighting against preconception, rumors and even racism from some politicians and media outlets.

In general, the international reaction has been very positive, with a few exceptions, of course. "China's deadly coronavirus could be good for U.S. jobs, manufacturing," said not a simple person from the street, but U.S. Commerce Secretary Mr. Ross. I was so sad to read his statement.

It proved that the best responses to false statements shouldn't be the empty words, but quick and practical actions, and transparency. The challenges the outbreak has brought to the country's economic and social development will be transitory. With its strong fundamentals, persistence and potential, the Chinese economy is well placed to overcome all challenges.

The basic principles on which the country and its economy were built have not changed and will not change. I'm sure that from that disease, China will emerge much stronger and even more united.

The new coronavirus outbreak once again reminded us that the unilateral approach, nationalism and protectionism which are not in line with the interests of our world will not work in the era of globalization.

Ignorance, prejudices, or selfish practices that disregard the interests of others will not be able to secure safety of people. Cooperation, solidarity and coordinated efforts are the only routes to protect the interests of the mankind.

Current fight against the COVID-19 is again a clear proof that the world is a community with a shared present and a shared future. My belief, that those are the values that should be followed by all.

Since the onset of the coronavirus pneumonia, all nations have been working together in this nationwide battle. China has launched and is winning people's war against the deadly disease to protect lives and health of all people on Earth.

*(Djoomart Otorbaev is the former prime minister of the Kyrgyz Republic and a distinguished professor of the Belt and Road School of Beijing Normal University. He is also a physics professor. The article reflects the author's views, and not necessarily those of CGTN.)*

## Letter from Mr. Yukio Hatoyama, Distinguished Professor of BNU and Former Prime Minister of Japan: **Fight the Virus Together to Make the World Full of "Friendly Affection"**

Article source: Belt and Road School, BNU | Release date 2020-03-06

On March 6, Mr. Yukio Hatoyama, the former Prime Minister of Japan and Distinguished Professor of BNU the Belt and Road School and Emerging Markets Institute sent a letter to staff and students of BNU to express his greetings and regard. In addition, he praised China for adhering to Confucius' thought of "benevolence" and "love", uniting to win the battle against the virus, and fully affirmed China's strong leadership from the central government to the local government and the people.



The original article was published on Chinadaily.com.cn in Mar.6, 2020. The link is as follows: <https://cn.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202003/06/WS5e61e72ca3107bb6b57a4c9f.html>

The following is the translation version:

While the battle between Chinese people and COVID-19 is in a state of anxiety, as a Distinguished Professor of BNU the Belt and Road School and Emerging Markets Institute, I am very concerned about the current situation of staff and students, and worried about whether the new semester

is delayed. Has the university's teaching plan been affected? I sincerely wish you all peace and health, and hope that the teaching plan can proceed smoothly.

At present, the problem that China and the world are facing is very serious, but I consider human beings must be able to solve and overcome it. China in particular, I firmly believe that China as I know it will successfully eliminate the virus and win the final victory!

The core of Confucius' educational thought is "benevolence", and the essence of "benevolence" is "love." In this battle with novel coronavirus, compassionate human love is deeply reflected.

First of all, love was conveyed to Wuhan and Hubei from all over China. More than 40,000 medical staff rushed to Hubei from other provinces, cities and the military to increase aid, and various relief materials and funds were collected from all parts of China.

Moreover, China has always maintained good communication and contact with the governments and people of many countries in the world. Now, friends from all over the world are supporting China, and China is also supporting other countries. This is the power of love.

When I was Prime Minister of Japan, my basic thought was "friendly affection." No matter in politics or diplomacy, it can't be done without love.

A few days ago, the relief materials sent by Japan to Wuhan were marked "Although hills and rills set us apart, the moon and wind share our kind heart." The story behind it proves the deep love in the long history of China and Japan. Where there is a friendly heart, there is no insurmountable difficulty.

It's also worth mentioning that in the battle with novel coronavirus, China shows its extraordinary leadership to the world. The arrangement of medical staff in the front line, the rational allocation of medical materials, the rapid completion of the new hospital, the rapid development of new drugs and testing kits, and a large number of people consciously staying at home, all show the strong and powerful leadership of the central government, the local government and the people. Time has proved the good effect of these countermeasures, and the epidemic situation is also improving, which deeply moved me.

I am teaching the "leadership" course of "the master's program in developing countries" in your School. In addition, the East Asian Community Institute of which I am the director and Emerging Markets Institute established "Joint Research Center of the Belt and Road" together to organize regular forums and carry out research activities. I expect the School to get faster and better development. In the future, we will continue to deepen cooperation and make joint efforts to further promote friendly exchanges between China and Japan and make the world full of friendship.

I wish you all good health, and wish China a normal social and economic order as soon as possible.

Help each other in times of difficulty!

Let's fight against the novel coronavirus, and make the world full of "friendly affection"!

Yours sincerely,  
Yukio Hatoyama March 6, 2020

## BNUer from Confucius Institutes around the World Cheering for the Motherland and BNU

Friendship makes the world fight together during the epidemic. Since the outbreak of novel coronavirus, staff and students of BNU, who work in Confucius institutes around the world, have expressed sincere greetings and blessings to the

motherland in various ways.

Founded in 2006, the **Confucius Institute** at the University of Oklahoma is the first Confucius Institute in the southern region of the United States. Its **Confucius Classroom at Santa Fe**

**High School** and on the Tulsa campus of the University of Oklahoma are the two Chinese teaching centers where volunteer teachers from sent BNU are most concentrated. They also sent greetings to their motherland from where they worked.

In order to introduce the epidemic situation to local students in America, volunteer teacher Ling Xiaojun developed new class materials by recording a video journal. She also wished China the best of luck.

From the cold lands of Canada, three volunteer teachers from BNU working at the Confucius Institute in Quebec also sent warm greetings from Montreal.



Xiao Lanlan, a volunteer teacher of **Confucius Institute at Bergen University** in Norway, was also very concerned about the epidemic situation in the motherland and sent her greetings.

Francesco Adomato, President of the **University of Macerata**, also sent a letter to express his deep concern and blessing.

Every year, Beijing Normal University sends more than 120 staff and students to Confucius Institutes around the world. As messengers of informal cultural exchanges, they have promoted the spread of Chinese language and culture overseas, deepened the exchange and understanding between China and other countries around the world, and enhanced the friendship

and exchange between people from all over the world. In response to the epidemic, the returning home and sending abroad of Confucius Institute teachers was postponed accordingly to ensure the health and safety of our staff and students whilst maintaining the orderly development of work.

# Concerns and Supplies from BNU International Students

Since the outbreak of the epidemic, the hearts of Beijing Normal University international students have been at the forefront of its prevention and control.

In the face of the outbreak, many people overseas are afraid and have even discriminated against China and the Chinese people. The international students of our University speak positively in their own way to support China. Noel Sierrol, a Spanish student from the Chinese Language & Culture College of our university, stayed in China this winter vacation to celebrate the Chinese Spring Festival. He wanted to experience the joy and charm

of our traditional culture. In the face of the sudden outbreak of the epidemic, he published videos in Chinese and Spanish on Chinese and international social media to express his encouragement and support for China. He explained that people should not be prejudiced towards or discriminate against China because of the epidemic. In the video, he refuted the false views of “keyboard warriors” on the Internet about the epidemic situation in China in Spanish, and refuted those false information with the fact that he saw and experienced that all circles of China had united and worked hard to fight the virus. He conveyed the positive comments of

many international friends to the audience, such as **“I dare say that no other country in the world can build a hospital in 10 days, but China can do it”**. Besides, he wrote a letter to *lavanguardia.com*, the largest news agency in Spain, to protest against improper actions taken against Chinese people due to the outbreak in Spain, which was referenced by Lavanguardia.

He tried his best to contribute to prevention and control of the virus, such as his donation to Special Fund for Prevention and Control of COVID-19 of the Wuhan Charity Federation and calls on people who saw his video to donate money to those who needed it.

Knowing the shortage of anti-epidemic materials in China, Zhang Lirui, an Albanian student from the Chinese Language & Culture College, bought and sent 8000 masks to BNU in Turkey on February 2, which are in transit. She said passionately in the video to her teachers: **“Come on Wuhan! Come on China! You are not alone, for Albania works together with you!”**

The BNU Comparative Education Class of 2019 International Graduate Students have raised funds to purchase masks and other epidemic prevention materials from overseas, mailed their



donations to the Guangdong Province epidemic prevention frontline, and received a letter of appreciation from Lecong Health

Service Center, Shunde District, Foshan City. In addition, the students also recorded a video to cheer for Wuhan.



*“We are international students from every part of the world studying at Beijing Normal University. Representing all international students of 2019 Master comparative education at BNU, we sincerely hope those who work on the frontline, and those who are fighting the virus be strong and be patient because we believe in you! Jiayou WUHAN! Jiayou China!”*

## 致武汉

From the international students at Beijing Normal University Faculty of Education 2019 MA class comparative education  
北京师范大学教育学部比较教育2019研究生班全体留学生



*Letter of Appreciation from Lecong Health Service Center, Shunde District, Foshan City*

*LETTER OF APPRECIATION | BNU Comparative Education Class of 2019 International Graduate Students Help to Fight the Epidemic at the Front Line.*

*Dear BNU Comparative Education Class of 2019 International Graduate Students,*

*Greetings!*

*During the prevention and control of New Coronary Pneumonia, please forgive us for using this way to express our heartfelt gratitude to you for your noble donation of materials to support the fight against the outbreak!*

*During this sudden outbreak at the beginning of 2020, at the critical moment when the whole country is fighting against the epidemic, you showed your goodwill, boundless love and helping hand, by actively donating materials to support our center's epidemic prevention and control work, which fully demonstrated your spirit of dedication, love and caring for other people. Here, the center expresses its most sincere thanks and high respect to your loving donations!*

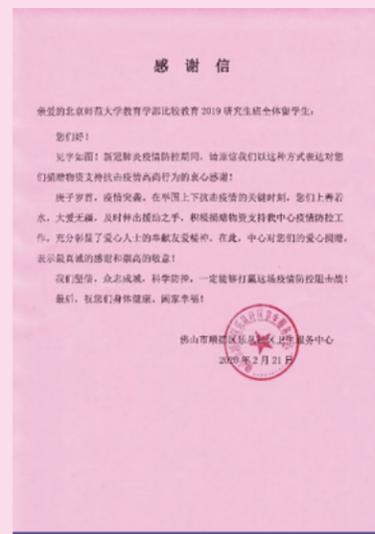
*We firmly believe that with concerted efforts and scientific prevention and control, we will be able to win this fight against the epidemic.*

*Finally, we wish you good health and happiness to your family!*

*Lecong Health Service Center,*

*Shunde District, Foshan City*

*February 21, 2020*



Students from **Japan, Nepal, Thailand, Italy, Mongolia, Benin** and other countries sent greetings to their teachers at BNU, and took the initiative to help purchase epidemic prevention materials in their own countries. **Miao Song, a Thai student**, wrote in a letter to his teachers: "I've seen China in difficulty recently, and I have no idea how to help. Masks must be very important to you, which can protect your loved ones. I can only try to find some and send them to you." **Xiu Ni, a Mongolian student**, sent a wechat message

to her teacher: "I see the situation of China and Wuhan in the tutor group every day. I'm worried about you!" Besides, there are many international students praying for China in the moments of wechat. **Student Ma Da** wrote: "Come on Wuhan, Come on China! We are together, and everything will be better!" **Liu Chunhong**, a volunteer teacher working far away in Africa, and **Xi Wen, an Egyptian student** at BNU, as well as colleagues working in the School of Language at **Ain Shams University in Egypt**, cheered for China.



International students and alumni from **BNU's Belt and Road School and Emerging Markets Institute** have shot a video to send their goodwill to cheer on their second hometowns – China. They said they stand firmly with the Chinese people. Come on Wuhan! Come on China!

**Greetings from Alumni:**

**LOPEZ LIZCANO, YENIFFER DEL VALLE, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Ministry of Defense**, a student in Grade 2018 of the Belt and Road School and Emerging Markets Institute: *Hello everyone! Last year, I went to China as a student of Beijing Normal University. Here, I would like to cheer for China and the Chinese people, who are facing tough challenges. Once again, China has become a model for the world. I believe that the courage of the Chinese people can overcome all difficulties. Come on China! We pray for you!*

**ABDURAUFGZODA, MIRSAID, the Republic of Tajikistan, Tax Committee**, a student in Grade 2018 of the Belt and Road School and Emerging Markets Institute: *On behalf of myself and all the people of Tajikistan, I would like to express my sincere support and blessing to China where people are experiencing novel coronavirus outbreak. I believe that China will be able to overcome the virus, just like its tenacious history. It gave us a severe test that we can overcome together. I hope that we can unite with China to defeat the virus as soon as possible and welcome the spring together! Come on China!*

**YOUNAS, KASHIF**, *Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Federal Committee on Taxation*, a student in Grade 2016 of the Belt and Road School and Emerging Markets Institute: *Pray for Wuhan! Pray for my second hometown China! I believe that China can be better. We are all together!*

**DARSHANA PREMARATHNE**, *the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, Paradise Farm Co. Ltd.*, a student in Grade 2017 of the Belt and Road School and Emerging Markets Institute: *I hope that China can win in this sudden outbreak, and I also believe that the strong Chinese people can defeat the virus. We stand with you!*

**MOAWEYA MOHAMMAD ABED ALFATAH ALHYARI**, *the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, Ministry of Trade and Industry*, a student in Grade 2017 of the Belt and Road School and Emerging Markets Institute: *I wish China an early victory over the epidemic!*

**JALLOH, HARDY CHERNOR MOHAMED**, *the Republic of Sierra Leone, Investment and Export Promotion Agency*, a student in Grade 2017 of the Belt and Road School and Emerging Markets Institute: *I wish China a speedy return to normalcy from this difficult period.*

**JALLOW CHERNO M.S**, *Republic of the Gambia, the Gambia College*, a student in Grade 2018 of the Belt and Road School and Emerging Markets Institute: *Fight off the virus!*

**Tin Tin Nwet**, *the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Ministry of Commerce*, a student in Grade 2017 of the Belt and Road School and Emerging Markets Institute: *Come on China! Come on Wuhan!*

**MWANDU, SALUM MOHAMED**, *the United Republic of Tanzania, Government of Songea*, a student in Grade 2019 of the Belt and Road School and Emerging Markets Institute: *One world, one family!*

**SULTANOV, AYKHAN**, *the Republic of Azerbaijan, State Customs Committee*, a student in Grade 2019 of the Belt and Road School and Emerging Markets Institute: *I love China!*

**LUTCHMUN, SARVESH**, *the Republic of Mauritius, Ministry of Foreign Affairs*, a student in Grade 2019 of the Belt and Road School and Emerging Markets Institute: *We tide over bad times together!*

**TILAHUN, ZEYEDE TESHOME**, *the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, Government of Oromiyaa*, a student in Grade 2019 of the Belt and Road School and Emerging Markets Institute: *We stand together with you!*

**AKINBOLA, TOBI EMMANUEL**, *Federal Republic of Nigeria, Graceland International School*, a student in Grade 2019 of the Belt and Road School and Emerging Markets Institute: *Come on China! We are together!*

**HUGHES, OSTILDA CAROLE OLADIPO**, *the Republic of Sierra Leone, Aureol Insurance Co. Ltd.* and **CONTEH, ANITA KORKOR**, *the Republic of Sierra Leone, National Electoral Commission*, students in Grade 2019 of the Belt and Road School and Emerging Markets Institute: *Come on Wuhan! Come on China!*

**DAVIES, OZOBIA SAMUEL**, *the Republic of Sierra Leone, Rokel Commercial Bank*, a student in Grade 2019 of the Belt and Road School and Emerging Markets Institute: *Fighting, China! We work together!*

**GRAY, FAITH VENESSA**, *Republic of Liberia, Jubilee Praise & Worship Center Church*, a student in Grade 2019 of the Belt and Road School and Emerging Markets Institute: *China helped the African people overcome the Ebola virus. This time let's create a miracle together.*

**ZEWALE, WUBIE ZEWDU**, *the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, Government of Amhara*, a student in Grade 2019 of the Belt and Road School and Emerging Markets Institute: *We are with you.*

**ATITO, JAFETH OCHIENG**, *the Republic of Kenya, Ministry of Trade*, a student in Grade 2019 of the Belt and Road School and Emerging Markets Institute: *God bless China!*

**KHURSHUDZADA, AZAD**, *the Republic of Azerbaijan, Baku International Sea Trade Port (BISTP)*, a student in Grade 2019 of the Belt and Road School and Emerging Markets Institute: *Come on Wuhan!*

**CHAMBALO, SAID ISSA**, *the United Republic of Tanzania, Audit Office*, a student in Grade 2019 of the Belt and Road School and Emerging Markets Institute: *Come on China!*

**TUCHO, TAMENE HAILU**, *the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, Government of Oromiyaa*, a student in Grade 2019 of the Belt and Road School and Emerging Markets Institute: *Come on Wuhan!*

**NDILENGA, MARIA**, *the Republic of Namibia, Ministry of Defense*, a student in Grade 2019 of the Belt and Road School and Emerging Markets Institute: *Come on China!*

**KEBEDE, DAWIT SAHILAMARYAM**, *the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, Ethiopian Railways Corporation*, a student in Grade 2019 of the Belt and Road School and Emerging Markets Institute: *Come on Wuhan!*

**ALHASSAN, MOHAMMED SOAWII**, *the Republic of Ghana, Business Development Department*, a student in Grade 2019 of the Belt and Road School and Emerging Markets Institute: *Come on China!*

**ABUDU, MICHEAL SAEED**, *the Republic of Ghana, Business Development Department*, a student in Grade 2019 of the Belt and Road School and Emerging Markets Institute: *Come on Wuhan!*

**ANDREWS, KEITISHA MARTHA**, *Grenada, Ministry of Education*, a student in Grade 2019 of the Belt and Road School and Emerging Markets Institute: *Come on China!*

As for the measures taken to prevent and control the epidemic, international students not only expressed their understanding and support, but also called on their families and friends to pay attention to the epidemic, not to discriminate against and prejudice China, and wished China an early victory.

# Huilin Prize 2020 Award Ceremony Held

Article source: Academy for International Communication of Chinese Culture, BNU | Release date 2020-01-09

On January 8, the 6th Huilin Prize Award Ceremony, jointly sponsored by Huilin Culture Fund and Academy for International Communication of Chinese Culture, BNU, was held at Jingshi Hall in Beijing Normal University. Wolfgang Kubin, a famous German sinologist, and Lou Yulie, a professor in the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies

of Peking University won the prize. More than 100 guests including Ms. Katrin Buchholz, cultural counsellor of the German Embassy in China, Xu Haoqing, vice director of Department of Service for Foreign Expert of Ministry of Science and Technology, Prof. Zhou Zuoyu, vice president of Beijing Normal University, Jidi Majia, a famous poet and member of the

National People's Congress Standing Committee, Ouyang Jianghe, a famous poet, the previous winner of the Hilin Prize and distinguished professor of Beijing Normal University, as well as many others from China and abroad, gathered for Kubin and Lou Yulie's award. The ceremony was hosted by Yu Dan, a famous cultural scholar and professor of Beijing Normal University.



Named after Huang Huilin, a senior professor of Beijing Normal University, the Huilin Prize has been awarded individually to one Chinese and one non-Chinese every year. Recipients of the prize are those who have made outstanding and important contributions to the international communication of Chinese culture. The prize was established in 2015. This year marks the sixth award ceremony. As an academic award integrating culture and internationality, the Huilin Prize is committed to building a high-end platform for discourse on the international communication of Chinese culture, building monuments for outstanding people in the cause of the international propagation of Chinese culture, and displaying the profound and rich Chinese culture to the world. In 2009, Prof. Huang put forward the concept of “the

Third Mode of Culture” and posited the relationship between Chinese civilization and world civilization on the premise of clarifying the diversity of world cultural pattern. After ten years of research and experience, Prof. Huang led the Academy for International Communication of Chinese Culture of Beijing Normal University to carry out a series of practical and academic activities based on “the Third Mode of Culture.” This all a significant impact at home and abroad. As one of the practical projects of “the Third Mode of Culture”, the Huilin Prize provides valuable experience for the international communication of Chinese culture.

The awards process commenced in October 2019, with 62 candidates being proposed by 128 nominees, including members of advisory boards, directors, members of academic committees, members of creative committees, guest researchers, and members of the organizing committee of “Looking China” from the Academy for International Communication of Chinese Culture. Among them, there were

27 foreign candidates from 13 countries, including Russia, the United States, Denmark, France, Australia, Switzerland, Spain, Germany, Japan, Iran, Italy, the United Kingdom, and Canada. The remaining 35 nominees were Chinese candidates.

The foreign finalists were Mr. Kubin, a famous German sinologist, Chinese French Ms. Gao Chunfang, Mr. Ge Haowen, a famous American Sinologist, Ms. Ye Jiaying, a Chinese Canadian writer, Mr. Du Weiming, a representative of the Chinese American modern Neo-Confucianism school. The Chinese finalists were Mr. Lou Yulie, a philosophy historian and Buddhist scholar, Ms. Huang Huilin, a senior professor of Beijing Normal University, Mr. Zhang Yimou, a famous director, Mr. Feng Jikai, a famous writer, Ms. Fan Jinshi, honorary president of Dunhuang Academy, Mr. Wang Dewei, a famous comparative literature scholar, Mr. Mo Yan, a famous writer, Mr. Liu Kuili, a famous theorist of folk literature and art, and Mr. Gao Feng, vice president of Chinese Culture Promotion Society.





In his speech, Zhou Zuoyu said that as the third mode of world culture, Chinese culture is increasingly engaged in dialogue with the world and is playing an ever more important role in the world. Over the course of the award's life, there have been clear demonstrations of this. Each year, Chinese culture's influence grows and gains more recognition in academia and industry. **The Huilin prize is**

**an example of Chinese cultural communication, promoting Chinese and foreign cultural interaction and demonstrating the confidence of contemporary Chinese culture.** With the joint efforts of supporters in China and across the world, the Huilin Prize will only grow in importance and scale to match the splendid achievements of Chinese culture as it propagates through the world.



Later, Xiang Yunju, the head judge of the prize and distinguished professor of Beijing Normal University and executive director of Academy for International Communication of Chinese Culture, shared the story behind the award as the representative of the jury. He then announced the list of final judges and conducted procedures of the award ceremony. He emphasized the awards commitment to using a fair and rigorous evaluation standard, with a serious and objective evaluation attitude. The final evaluation committee chose Kubin and Lou

Yulie as the winners of the Huilin Prize 2020 to commend their outstanding contributions to the international communication of Chinese culture. Xiang paid special tribute to all the candidates. **"We would like to thank every one of them for their contributions to the cause of international communication of Chinese culture. It is precisely because of the efforts of all these hard workers that Chinese culture can continuously go global and present a process of increasing and accelerating its pace at present."**



Xu Haoqing read out the award speech for the winner Kubin:

Mr. Kubin is one of the most famous sinologists in Germany. For decades, he devoted all his love to Chinese literature; writing, editing, translating and creating more than 200 works related to Chinese literature and culture. Crossing the

cultural corridor of ancient Chinese literature and thought to meet Lu Xun of modern China, he has even made an impact on the field of contemporary Chinese poetry. He is an outstanding sinologist, translator, poet and teacher as well as a sincere friend of Chinese culture. He has become part of China and made China part of the world.

Later, Jiang Ling presented the award to Kubin and delivered a congratulatory speech. Jiang Ling said that Mr. Kubin is a great man in China Studies, who has made great contributions to the cultural exchanges between China and Germany, and he is an ambassador to promote the friendship between the Chinese and German people.



In his speech, Kubin first reviewed his road of study in the past. In 1967, he came into contact with ancient Chinese poetry translated in English and decided to learn ancient Chinese. Through Li Bai, he realized a new world. Learning Chinese made him another "he". Kubin emphasized the importance

of translation between different languages and literatures. In addition, he also narrated his teaching experience in China, conveyed his sense of happiness in the process of studying Chinese literature and philosophy, and expressed thanks to the Chinese scholars who helped him.



Then, Jidi Majia gave a congratulatory speech to Kubin. He first affirmed the significance of the Huilin Prize. **"To break all barriers, that is, to establish and advocate a mechanism of**

**dialogue and communication in today's diverse world."** Based on the preceding speech, Jidi Majia summed up Kubin's great achievements and provided thoughtful elaboration.



Roger T. Ames, a famous American Sinologist and winner of the second Huilin Prize, delivered a speech to Lou Yulie:

Mr. Lou Yulie is an important contemporary Chinese philosophy historian and landmark figure in Oriental philosophy. He took Chinese philosophy as his career, carried forward Sinology as his

mission, devoted himself to research, lectured and taught, obtaining rich academic achievements and extensive social influence. He adhered to the national culture, utilized resources from home and abroad, devoted his whole life to expounding the modern value of Sinology tradition, and made outstanding contributions to the spread of Chinese humanistic spirit.

Later, Wei Liqun, former Secretary of Party group of the State Council Research Office and Dean of School of Sociology of Beijing Normal University, presented awards to Lou Yulie.



In his speech, Lou Yulie first reviewed his own method for research into philosophy and how it's vital to consciously assume the responsibility of inheriting Chinese culture. He made a simple yet powerful comparison between western philosophy and Chinese philosophy, using an example of a foreign student who had asked him for advice related to philosophy. Lou stressed that "there is no self-con-

fidence nor self-esteem without cultural subject consciousness". Only by establishing our own cultural subject consciousness can we better communicate with world culture. Finally, he expressed ardent expectation and sincere blessing the continuation and development of Huilin Prize, and called for the implementation of Chinese culture in all aspects of life.



Huang Huilin, a senior professor of Beijing Normal University, Dean of Academy for International Communication of Chinese Culture and founder of Huilin Fund, introduced the origin of "the Third Mode of Culture" and Huilin Prize in her speech, reviewed the winners of previous sessions, expressed sincere thanks to the nominees team and

the working team of the Academy, and especially paid a tribute to the two scholars who won the prize for their outstanding contribution to the international communication of Chinese culture. She believes that the deep concern and sense of responsibility for Chinese culture shown by Kubin and Lou Yulie are worth learning for all of us.

Finally, Prof. Huang Huilin stressed that "Chinese culture is broad and profound. We should promote its beauty and share it to build a diversified and harmonious world. It is not only the national heritage of every Chinese, but also a brilliant treasure in the world civilization."

## Huang Huilin, Senior Professor of Beijing Normal University

### — Taking Research and Promotion of Chinese Culture as a Lifetime Career

Article source: People's Daily | Release date 2020-01-06

As the New Year comes, Huang Huilin, an 85-year-old senior professor at Beijing Normal University and Director of Academy for International Communication of Chinese Culture, is still very busy.

The Academy for International Communication of Chinese Culture, founded by her, has just held its 10th annual meeting where scholars from many countries have conducted in-depth discussions on issues such as China and the world, and international communication of Chinese culture in contemporary contexts.

In the same few days, the "Looking China—Foreign Youth Video Program" launched by her landed on foreign television stations. People from all over the world will have the opportunity to view China's mountains and rivers, walk into China's streets and lanes, and learn about China's cultural stories through the lens of youth from different countries. Huang Huilin has been working hard for the world to see and understand the Chinese culture.

“It's my lifelong task to let the world know about Chinese culture.”



*"Let young people from all over the world come to China, know the country and fall in love with it."*

Talking about the inheritance and promotion of Chinese culture, Huang Huilin started a conversation. The topic began with "Looking China—Foreign Youth Video Program". Sponsored by Beijing Normal University's Huilin Fund and Academy of International Communication of Chinese Culture, this cultural experience and image creation project has passed its ninth year. "Young Indian director Marimutu followed a 49-year-old disabled cyclist and filmed Where the Trail Ends; Young South Korean director Sarah interviewed two elderly paper-cutting artists and their grandsons in depth,

telling a story of carrying forward the excellent traditional Chinese culture with Big Scissors and Small Scissors..." Huang knows a lot about those representative films.

Speaking on the theme of the image plan for 2019, Huang Huilin explained that the final theme was "Moment, Season and Time". Since ancient times, the Chinese people have a sensitivity for treasuring time. Whether by boldly "seizing every minute for 10,000 years" or cleverly "advancing with the times," we can see different manifestations of the Chinese people's wisdom across time. 2019 is the 70th



anniversary of the founding of The People's Republic of China. At this special moment, we hope young and foreign directors can show the changing times, historical achievements of Chinese society, as well as the cultural concepts, customs and values behind China's success through film.

"Although it has entered the era of globalization, the ideas about China foreign youth get from news, books, movies and music is a far cry from the real China." Huang Huilin said,

**“ So let's change that! Invite foreign youth, let them observe China from their own perspective, with their own ways of thinking, and then use the cameras to show the world. ”**

Here is a vivid example: Before coming to China, Daniel, a student from Boston University in the United States, only knew that China had Kung-Fu and Bruce Lee. He went to a school for blind children to shoot his documentary, Chivalry, about Tai Chi. In it the teacher first posed for the children before letting them feel one by one, the teacher's position from head to toe. The children learned every action in this way... "I just realized that Chinese Kung-Fu is not about killing, but emphasizes righteousness." Daniel concluded in a short film, "adults help children and the strong help the weak—this is the essence of Chinese Kung-Fu."

In the past nine years, 610 foreign youths of different colors and beliefs from 60 countries have shot 609 short "Looking China" films. These films have been watched, forwarded and commented on by a large number of foreign platforms. They have received warm receptions in

many countries and collectively won more than 100 international film awards at various festivals.

Huang Huilin has always been remaining true to her original aspiration: Paying attention to the voices of young people, emboldening them, and inviting young people from all over the world come to China so they can know this country and fall in love with it.

**“Only the things unique to China will help us stand up in the world.”**

Huang Huilin has been teaching for more than 60 years, all her efforts are aimed at enabling the world to understand Chinese culture better. Graduating from BNU in 1958, she started her career teaching modern Chinese

literature. After 1982, she turned to teach modern drama. In 1992, when the art department of Beijing Normal University was re-established, the first doctoral program in cinematography was applied for, and the art discipline system of Beijing Normal University was established.

"Only the things unique to China will help us stand up in the world." Huang recalled that when applying for a doctoral program in film studies, she studied the academic papers on Chinese films at that time and found that the discourse and research methods of the papers were mostly based on foreign theories. In order to develop Chinese movies, we could translate and learn western theories and techniques, but could not be copy.

Only if there is a national characteristic can Chinese film survive in the world. Huang realized that a local style of Chinese film and television aesthetics must be established. Therefore, she took her students and helped them refine the unique viewpoint of Chinese aesthetics. They studied the phenomena of Chinese film and television drama, interpreted the nationalization of Chinese film and television drama art with the traditional ethnic aesthetic categories of "sense", "form and spirit", "artistic conception" and "realm", and she completed the eight-volume series of Chinese Film and Television Aesthetics, which promoted the academic research and development of Chinese film and

television aesthetics. Huang Huilin's research has provided academic reference for the development of Chinese film and television. Since then, many scholars have begun to consciously use Chinese aesthetic tradition and discursive techniques for academic research.

Based on this idea, we should not only realize the nationalization on a theoretical level, but also bring about the nationalization of film and television art. Huang insisted on the combination of theory and practice, and the Beijing University Student Film Festival was born with "youth's passion, academic taste and cultural awareness". Twenty-six years have passed, and the Festival has become a stage for young Chinese directors to emerge. Foreign film shows and international academic fora have also made the festival it a platform for international exchange.

**While there is still breath, there is struggle.**

"Many people ask me, why are you still so energetic at this age?" Huang Huilin smiled brightly, "I am still being evaluated, 'that old lady-She plays a deep game'!" Her persistence and tenacity comes from her unique experiences in her youth. In the 1950s, 16-year-old Huang Huilin was approved to join the army and went to North Korea with the troops to participate in the war to Resist U.S. Aggression and Aid Korea. Joining the army was like a baptism. Almost every day, Huang would see her

comrades die. On several occasions, bombs exploded less than 10 meters away from her. Earth and rock splashed, and she passed by death ... She saw many lives being lost but also the never ending perseverance of her comrades, and a simple sense of duty was planted in Huang Huilin's heart—"My life is not only mine, it also belongs to countless comrades who sacrificed themselves. As a survivor, I shall inherit their missions and devote my life to my motherland."

After the War to Resist U.S. Aggression and Aid Korea ended, Huang Huilin went to Beijing Normal University to continue her studies and stayed to teach after graduation. As a university teacher who teaches modern Chinese literature and Chinese culture, studying Chinese culture and promoting it naturally became her lifelong endeavor.

In her 60 years teaching, from teaching to cultivation, Huang Huilin has blazed trails for many scientific research and innovation, all of which stem from this belief and this perseverance.

**While there is still breath, there is struggle.**

"Post-85-year-old" Huang Huilin is still busy with various meetings and projects every day. Other people always advise her: "old lady, you should have a rest." But for her, her journey is far from over and there is still much to do.

# For Hu Biliang, Keeping Pace with the Times is a Mantra of Personal Pride

Article source: China Daily | Release date 2019-5-11

**H**u Biliang, Executive Dean of Belt and Road School (BRS) at Beijing Normal University has spent nearly 10 years gathering some of the world's most brilliant minds together to cultivate future leaders and entrepreneurs, as well as to run think tanks focusing on research relating to Belt and Road and emerging markets issues.

“ We are going to set more subjects for foreign students to draw lessons from China's experience of reform and opening-up to contribute to the development of their own countries,” he says. ”

Inside an inconspicuous gray building housing the BRS, photographs of distinguished professors at the school - Zlatko Lagumdžija, former Prime Minister of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Djoomart Otorbaev, former Prime Minister of Kyrgyzstan and Rajat M. Nag, former managing director general of the Asian Development Bank to name but a few - line the walls. All of them regularly fly to Beijing to give lectures to students at the BRS.

According to Hu, most of the students are officials from government bodies in countries involved in Belt and Road Cooperation. The school, which offers postgraduate programs in public administration and business administration, has 200 plus graduates from more than 60 countries to date.

In an effort to expand the school and the scope of its think tanks, the 58-year-old has spent the last few years attending no less than 100 conferences, symposiums and for a every year, in China and abroad. He usually doesn't leave his office before 11 pm.

“I feel energetic every day as I'm now working on Belt and Road related issues. I want to keep pace with the times and build on our strengths to work toward creating a better society for China, as well as a better shared community for the whole world,” he says spiritedly.

“Keeping abreast with the times” is not just a core value BRS highlights on its website, but also the motto Hu has stuck to over the past four decades.

## Hu Biliang gives a speech on urban development in China

Growing up in an impoverished and remote lakeside village in Hubei province, Hu says he used to think about how he could turn around the fortunes of his hometown as he walked along the paths that crisscross the fields there.

It was this notion that motivated him to study rural economics and policies at Zhongnan University of Economics and Law in 1979, shortly after China started its process of economic reform by launching the family household contract responsibility system in rural areas.

After his graduation from the university, he decided to go a step further in the field and entered the Rural Development Institute at the China Academy of Social Sciences as a researcher in early 1980s. There he was given the opportunity to travel extensively around the country to investigate the problems confronting rural development in the early stages of the reform and opening-up process.

“Because of the undeveloped transport infrastructure, I often suffered from carsickness when bumping along

over the rough roads on a bus from morning to night,” Hu recalls. “Although we had to face a range of difficulties during those trips, we were still passionately interested in solving problems, such as how to increase agricultural productivity and how to deal with the underemployment issue in China's rural areas at the time”.

In 1987, he traveled abroad for the first time. He spent seven months in the Philippines attending a training program on rural development and leadership.

He says that his firsthand research experience provided a solid foundation for his academic achievements, such as winning the Sun Yefang Economic Prize in 1994 and in 2006.

Hu might have continued to study rural economics for longer if he hadn't had “another encounter with history” at Beijing Railway Station one day in 1989, the year large groups of laborers from China's rural hinterlands began their mass migration to the country's major cities to find jobs.

“It was when I saw hoards of migrant workers burdened by bags flowing out of the station, that I thought it was time for me to divert my attention toward studying urbanization and city planning,” he recalls.

He soon applied to join a postgraduate program jointly offered by Asian Institute of Technology in Bangkok of Thailand and Dortmund University in Germany where his main area of research centered around urban-rural planning.

Similarly, as China faced serious bouts



of inflation in 1993, Hu chose to enter the World Bank's Beijing Office the following year to do research on Chinese macroeconomic policies.

“ I tried to steer my career according to the changing tides of how the country develops,” says Hu. “I want to ride the waves of our days. ”

In his bid to keep up with the times, Hu spent a busy decade between 1997 and 2007 engaging in a range of businesses from working with a French investment bank as the Chief Economist as well as the Chief Representative in Beijing, and co-funding an IT consulting startup base in Boston, USA and Beijing, China. Alongside this he finished his doctoral program and received his doctoral degree of economics from Witten/Herdecke University in Germany.

After his doctoral program, Prof. Hu spent two and half years in Harvard's Kennedy School of Government for a postdoc program on public policy, then returned to working in Beijing

Normal University in 2009.

“My extensive experience in these fields allows me to easily arrive at a common language with experts from a variety of different disciplines and gather them together for the think tanks at the Belt and Road School,” says Hu. “And I hope I also can give useful comments to my students.

Encouraged by Hu, Aliu Omotayo Sikiru, a Nigerian postgraduate student at the Belt and Road School, plans to set up an online platform which connects China's top e-commerce portals with customers in his homeland.

The 28-year-old, a former college teacher in mathematics and economics, says the idea came to him when the master's degree program provided him with the opportunity to visit Chinese companies and make new business contacts.

Studying at the BRS also allowed him to meet classmates and high-ranking professors from all around the world and develop a clearer insight into global economics and trade, he adds.

# Spanish Vlogger Defends China against Malicious Netizens

Article source: [Chinaculture.org](http://Chinaculture.org) | Release date 2020-02-08

A Spanish vlogger refuted false views on the coronavirus outbreak, denouncing malicious actions taken by internet users abroad and those who are profiting from stirring unnecessary fear among the public.

In a video released by Noel Sirerol on Feb 1, who goes by the web

username Noel.Sunuoyi on Chinese social media, Sirerol slashed ill-willed comments, adding they were misguided by false information.

“Many of these comments are based on fake information that has spread over social media. Fake news on the breakout is everywhere to stir up fear,”

Sirerol said in his video, How Do Foreign Netizens View the Wuhan Epidemic? Foreign Youth Resent Keyboard Warriors with Fury, which has been viewed nearly 60,000 times on YouTube and more than 205,000 times on bilibili.com, a mainstream video viewing platform in China. It was also referenced in coverage on the



*Official Facebook account of China Culture shared Sirerol's video on its page, attracting more than 12,000 views.*

*[Photo/Facebook account of China Culture]*

outbreak by lavanguardia.com, a major news agency in Spain.

“I made this video because there was a lot of untrue coverage on the epidemic, causing panic and even racism against Chinese. I wanted to tell the world what is truly happening in China,” Sirerol said as he reflected on his original intention during an interview with China Daily website. ”

In the video, Sirerol decried some of the ill-intended comments out of unfamiliarity with the truth, saying he could not disagree more. To him, false information and threads are “making people scared, and [the people spreading fake news] delivered the result.”

One comment read, “Only Chinese people would eat these animals. We discriminate against them for this, and they are unhappy about it.”

“In Spain, we eat rabbits, but rabbits are pets in the US. Why don't you ask what the Indians think about you consuming beef? Or the Arabs about

you eating pork? Many countries don't eat what is consumed in Latin America. What's more, these things that you see on the internet, the videos and photos, only tell the story of a very small group of people. They cannot represent China as a whole. You can't smear a country with just one video. It's equivalent to saying that if your cousin is a criminal, your entire family are all criminals. It's the same thing here. China has 1.4 billion people. You can't say that these 1.4 billion people all eat these things!” Sirerol responded in his video.

Another comment read: “Wow! Don't buy a Huawei cell phone,

hahahahahaha, they've got viruses!”

“First, the virus can live for only three hours after it leaves the human body. Then, it will die. Second, you are targeting against 'Made in China'. Everything around you is made in China. 80% of the world's technological products are made in China. You can say that there is 'Made in China' everywhere in the world. If you don't like it, go to Mars,” Sirerol retorted.

Sirerol's retorts were widely heard.

“I totally agree with him! We should share (this video) more. Let us look at how fast the Chinese government is responding to this epidemic. Big hugs, I'm with the Chinese people! Kisses from Mexico!” commented user Sab Leal Gamas under the repost of Sirerol's video by China Culture Center in Mexico.

“What's scary is not the virus, but how we choose to face it. This is a plague, but no one intended for it to occur, the result is people slandering and defaming each other. These people should take a good look at the video,” wrote user Josafina Escalera Gomez.

“This is really something out of a horror film. Praying for the world and especially China right now,” said user xxodanielle.

“I cannot agree more. There are lots of people who are far away from the truth who are pointing fingers at the innocent. Before blaming others, look at yourself first,” criticized user Angeles Gaona.

Chinese netizens also agreed with Sirerol's views.

“When faced with viruses, you and I are on the same side. China is fighting the virus under huge economic losses. We are taking responsible actions for the people of the world, so please give China some time and allow it more confidence. You may dislike or hate China, but don't mistreat an injured person, because we have been working hard,” commented Chinese user Luoqi Wanghong.

Sirerol himself received many direct messages thanking him for his action to spread the truth about China.

“Many users in Spain and Latin America have messaged me, saying they have more confidence that China can beat the disease, and some expressed the will to donate.”

But responses have not been all positive.

“I also got many replies from Chinese living abroad. They have been subjected to racism because of the pneumonia and are deeply saddened. I wrote back, hoping they could be brave and not lower their heads at racist discrimination,” Sirerol said.

In the video, Sirerol also praised the effort of Chinese media in spreading the message, and the public for responding in a timely manner.

“Newspapers, television, social media are covering the importance of the incident, raising public awareness, calling for the public to take preventative actions. This has been effective; everybody is protecting themselves.

“Now in China, everybody is working together to combat the coronavirus. In Beijing, everybody

is wearing masks, everybody is fully equipped,” Sirerol added.

Sirerol strongly advised the public to not trust all of the comments on the internet. “Many rumors have been refuted by official sources, with enough data to back them. If you want the latest news, which is a good thing to stay informed, go to reliable and official sources,” Sirerol said.

Sirerol, who was born in 1995, is studying Chinese at Beijing Normal University for one year under Spain's national scholarship. Prior to this, he was studying at Spain's Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona.

“I came to China because I wanted to see China with my own eyes, and to understand China,” the East Asian studies major added.

He started posting videos on his experiences on learning Chinese in July 2018, and later on living and studying in China.

“Some foreign netizens are biased, and Chinese netizens tell me it is hard to change. But to me, we still need to face the challenge. Day after day, there will be changes! I hope my videos can show how beautiful China is, and how kind the Chinese are,” Sirerol commented.

“I actually am very lucky and proud, lucky that I have learned this language, and proud that I am studying in this country.”

## Solving the Enigma of Global Terrestrial Nitrogen and Phosphorus Limitation

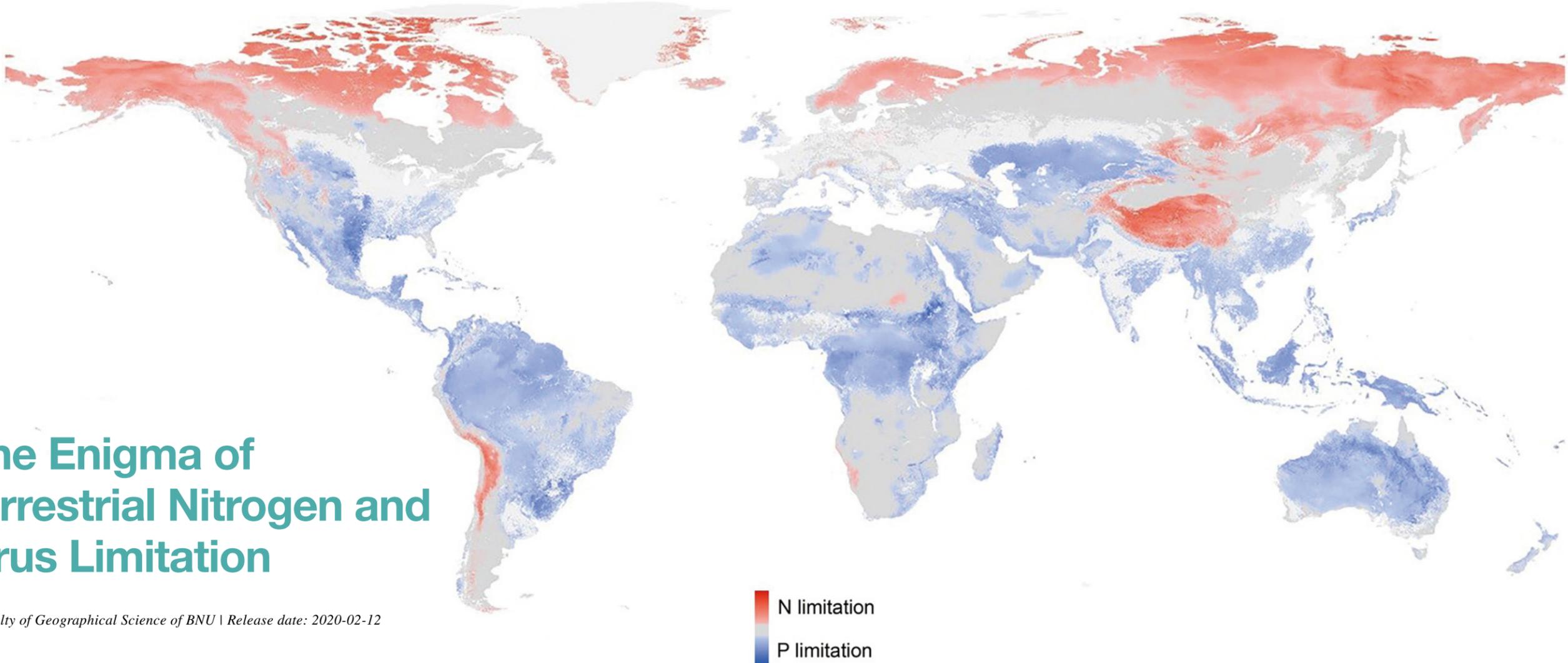
Article source: DU Enzai, Faculty of Geographical Science of BNU | Release date: 2020-02-12

Nitrogen and phosphorus are essential nutrients that regulate terrestrial carbon sinks in response to climate change and rising carbon dioxide concentrations. Therefore, understanding the spatial heterogeneity in nutrient limitation and its causes remains a high priority. However, maps of showing where nitrogen and phosphorus limitation occurs across the globe are still lacking. A recent research lead by Dr. Du Enzai, an associate professor from BNU, has developed a framework for testing nutrient

limitation using plant leaf nutrient resorption efficiencies, and mapped terrestrial nitrogen and phosphorus limitation using soil, climate and vegetation predictors. From this, the researchers reveal a global map showing areas where insufficient nutrients in the soil could limit plant growth. The research paper was published in Nature Geoscience on 10 February.

The new research identified limiting nutrients across major biomes, and confirmed the centuries-old hypothesis that

tropical forests are primarily limited by phosphorus and boreal forest and tundra by nitrogen. Historically, scientists have assumed that nitrogen, rather than phosphorus, is the most limiting nutrient in the world. However, the authors have found plants growing on 43 percent of Earth's natural land surface are limited by inadequate phosphorus, whereas plants on 18 percent of land are limited by inadequate nitrogen (Figure 1). The results are fairly robust because they are based on drivers determined by model



N limitation  
P limitation

selection and identified from empirical data, which strengthens the current understanding for patterns of N and P limitation, and consistent with results of field experiments.

This work provides both a new framework for testing nutrient limitation and a benchmark of nitrogen and phosphorus limitation for models to constrain predictions

of the terrestrial carbon sink. It will help to improve representation of nutrient limitation in Earth system models and identify hotspots of future land carbon sinks in response to climate change and rising carbon dioxide concentrations. There is a potential to extend their approach to human-dominated or managed ecosystems, such as commercial plantations and urban forests. This could lead to better nutrient

management in these ecosystems.

Co-authors are from Stanford University, Lund University of Sweden, Utrecht University of the Netherlands and the Chinese Academy of Sciences. Funding for the research was provided by the National Natural Science Foundation of China, the Fok Ying-Tong Education Foundation and Beijing Normal University.

# Associate Professor Zhang Fang of College of Global Change and Earth System Science of BNU Published a Paper on PNAS to Reveal a New Mechanism Dominating Formation Trend and Radiative Forcing of Regional Haze

Article source: College of Global Change and Earth System Science | Release date 2020-02-11

Associate Professor Zhang Fang of the College of Global Change and Earth System Science at Beijing Normal University and Professor Zhang Renyi of Texas A&M University in the United States have carried out cooperative research to reveal the new mechanism of regional haze formation and the main reasons driving the long-term trend of haze in China. Research shows that although the frequency of heavy haze has decreased in recent years, moderate/light haze still occurs frequently in China, which is mainly due to the rapid growth of particulate matter caused by catalytic oxidation reaction on black carbon (BC) surface under low SO<sub>2</sub> concentrations in medium relative humidities. A newly discovered reaction mechanism will enhance the heating effect of BC aerosol on the atmosphere and the cooling effect on the surface, reduce the height of the boundary layer, and aggravate the occurrence and development of haze. However, at the same time, the enhanced atmospheric heating and surface cooling effects can be almost offset, so the total

radiative forcing on the top of the atmosphere is almost unchanged. The results from their study show that the Chinese state has effectively reduced the concentration of SO<sub>2</sub> in the air through the reduction of emission from industrial sources. But controlling the concentration of SO<sub>2</sub> only reduces the frequency of severe haze, and will not completely eliminate the occurrence of severe haze nor reduce the frequency of light-to-moderate haze. It is pointed out that black carbon and other gaseous pollutants (NO<sub>x</sub>, NH<sub>3</sub>, etc.) which are emitted together should be controlled simultaneously.

Associate Professor Zhang Fang from the Global Institute of Beijing Normal University was the lead author of this research. Other teams participating in the research includes Sun Yele's research team from the Institute of Atmospheric Physics of the Chinese Academy of Sciences. This research is sponsored by the National Natural Science Foundation and the National Key Research and Development Program of the

Ministry of Science and Technology. The results were published on February 10 (Beijing time) in the famous American scientific journal Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States (PNAS).

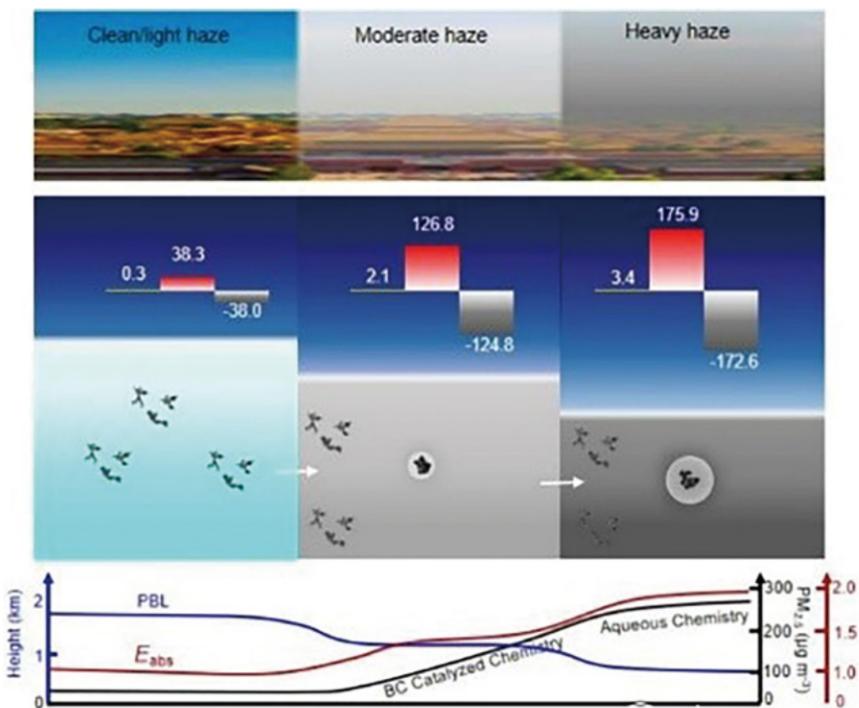
Due to a series of effective emission reduction measures, the frequency of severe haze (average daily PM<sub>2.5</sub> > 200 μg m<sup>-3</sup>) in China has decreased significantly since 2013. However, the analysis of the research team based on long-term observation data shows that the number of days of light/moderate haze (PM<sub>2.5</sub>=100-200 μg m<sup>-3</sup>) in the past 15 years (2004-2018) has reached an average of 30% (113 days) of the whole year, and has not shown a downward trend in recent years (176 and 227 days in 2013 and 2018 respectively), and severe haze has occurred from time to time. Explaining the formation and predicting trends in haze formation is still a challenging scientific problem for Chinese researchers.

Based on long-term observation data and short-term intensive observations, laboratory smoke box simulations,

model calculations and other means and methods, this research paper focuses on the frequent occurrence of haze in the context of China's strong emission reduction and control in recent years, aiming at a high concentration level of fine particulate black carbon (BC) and gaseous precursors in China. A smoke box simulation experiment was designed and carried out under different humidity conditions to expose freshly discharged BC to the most common gaseous pollutants (SO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub> and NH<sub>3</sub>) in the atmosphere, revealing the formation and growth of sulfate, chemical mechanism and influencing factors during the oxidation reaction of SO<sub>2</sub> catalyzed by BC surface. The research team found that at extremely low SO<sub>2</sub> concentration (several ppb) and moderate relative humidity (40%), the reaction can rapidly generate sulfate, the main component of PM<sub>2.5</sub>. The results of the laboratory smoke box are further applied to the estimation of sulfate generation in the atmosphere, and it is found that the contribution of the catalytic reaction pathway on the BC surface to the total sulfate amount during medium/light haze and heavy haze reaches 90-100% and 30-50% respectively. In addition, based on the radiative transfer model simulation calculation, it is also found that the reaction mechanism significantly enhances the heating effect of BC aerosol on the atmosphere and the cooling effect on the surface, while the change of the net radiative forcing on the top of the atmosphere by this reaction mechanism is very small. Therefore, this new mechanism not only explains and clarifies the reason and chemical

mechanism why moderate/light haze still occurs frequently in China in recent years under the circumstance of vigorously reducing SO<sub>2</sub> emission. It is pointed out for the first time that BC aerosol has an important impact on the regional environment while

environment for many years. Based on various means and methods (field observation, smoke box experiment and model simulation, etc.), the research on atmospheric fine particles (aerosols) and their environmental climate effects has



its contribution to global climate radiative forcing may be negligible. The research results have practical and effective theoretical guiding significance for China and developing countries in the world to reasonably formulate emission reduction measures to control haze, improve air quality and cope with climate change.

The lead author of the paper, Associate Professor Zhang Fang of the Global Institute of our university has been engaged in the research on atmospheric chemistry, atmospheric physics, global climate and regional

been carried out. In recent years, research has mainly focused on the physical and chemical characteristics, secondary transformation and formation, aging and mixing state, hygroscopic nucleation (CCN) and its environmental and climatic effects of regional atmospheric fine particles. Relevant achievements have been published in nearly 70 authoritative journals in PNAS, Atmos. Chem. Phys., Geophys. Res. letter, J. Geophys. Res., Atmos. environment, etc. Google's academic SCI has been cited more than 1600 times with an H-index index of 19.

# The Research Group of Prof. Chen Bin of School of Environment of BNU Published an Article in Nature Communications to Reveal the Differentiated Choices of Low-carbon Development Paths in Global Cities

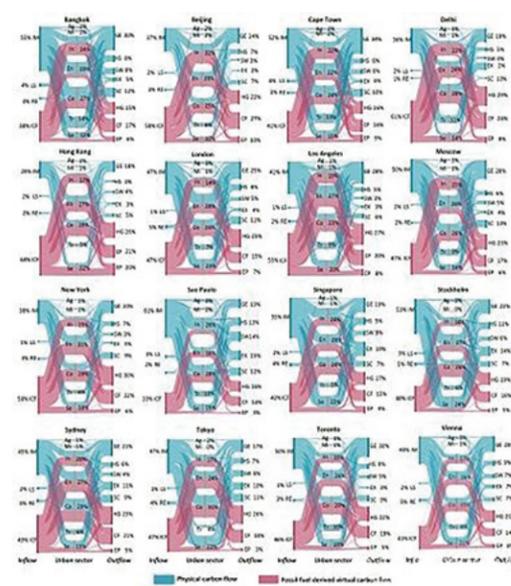
Article source: School of Environment, BNU | Release date 2020-01-13

The research groups of Prof. Chen Bin of School of Environment of Beijing Normal University and of the University of Maryland in the United States, University of Groningen in the Netherlands and Tsinghua University published the results of their cooperation online in the form of Research Article in the internationally renowned journal Nature Communications. This study reveals for the first time the different low-carbon development paths chosen by global cities.

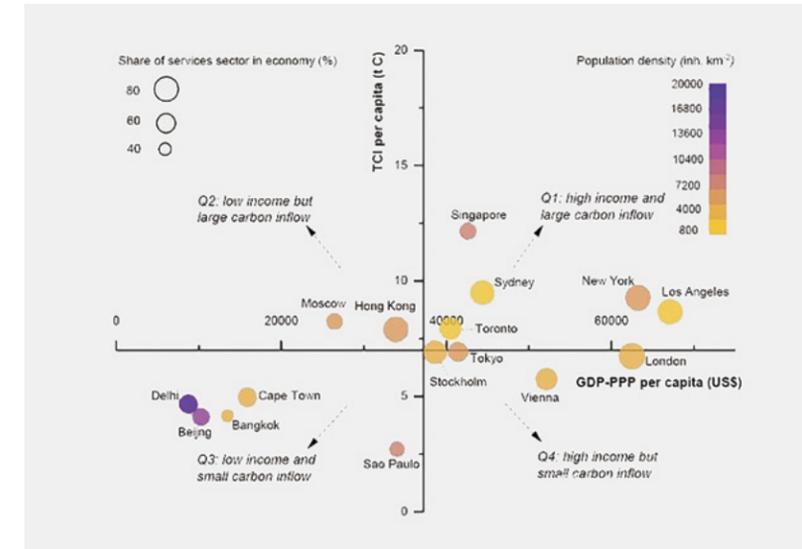
As the core subject of the current response to climate change, cities' economic and social activities significantly affect the global carbon balance. In order to achieve the 1.5 degree temperature control target of the Paris Agreement and the sustainable development target of the United Nations, it is an urgent problem to be discussed about how

to choose a low-carbon urban development path. This study integrates physical carbon occupied by human activities and implied carbon emissions from production and consumption for the first time, systematically tracks carbon flow and stock changes in global cities and their potential impacts on future climate change, and provides basis for differentiated selection of low-carbon development paths in global cities.

The results of the study show (Figure 1) that 13-33% of the carbon used by a city is instantly emitted in the form of carbon dioxide along with the combustion of fossil energy. In addition, 8-24% of carbon is temporarily stored in cities but has not yet been



released (e.g. household durable goods, etc.), and the physical carbon converted into stock is equivalent to the annual direct carbon emission level, and its emission potential will continue to affect future global climate change. Therefore, if the city's assets (such as housing, production facilities and infrastructure) are not properly



managed and disposed of in their remaining life cycles, the current international efforts to mitigate climate change may be significantly weakened.

Due to the differences in urban forms, the scales of infrastructure and of residents' consumption, the global urban per capita carbon impact, carbon intensity or carbon density show great differences (Figure 2). In view of these differences, although the international community has established an inter-city emission reduction alliance, it is still difficult to formulate a low-carbon strategy that can be simply copied and promoted. However, it is worth noting that urban development and income increase do not necessarily mean a high-carbon life. In fact, from an overall outlook, global cities can be divided into four different paths: low carbon and low income, high carbon and

low income, low carbon and high income, and high carbon and high income. Rapidly developing cities (such as Beijing) still have great potential to reach a low-carbon and high-income path in the future, that is, to move towards a low-carbon or even zero-carbon society while improving living standards. An important premise is not only to strictly control the current urban carbon emissions, but also to pre-manage the carbon that can be released through the physical infrastructure and assets in the future. This new perspective, based on metabolism, will provide theoretical support for the further promotion of the construction of green and low-carbon cities and towns in the new era of our country and the sustainable development of global cities and regions.

The lead author of the paper is associate professor Chen Shaoqing, doctoral supervisor

of Sun Yat-sen University, and doctor of Beijing Normal University (from the research group of Prof. Chen Bin). The lead communication author of the paper is Prof. Bin Chen of School of Environmental of Beijing Normal University, Associate Professor Liu Zhu of Tsinghua University and Professor Klaus Hubacek of University of Groningen of the Netherlands as co-communication authors.

This research is sponsored by the National Science Fund for Distinguished Young Scholars, the Program for Distinguished Young Scientists in Beijing Universities, the Guangdong Science Fund for Distinguished Young Scholars, the Beijing Science Fund for Distinguished Young Scholars, the National Key Research and Development Program, and the National Natural Science Fund.

# Prof. Chen Xiaosong's Research Group of School of Systems Science of BNU Made Breakthrough Progress in Long-lead-time El Niño Forecasting

Article source: School of System Science, BNU | Release date 2020-01-13

El Niño is a periodic climate phenomenon in which the sea surface temperature in the equatorial central and eastern Pacific Ocean rises abnormally. It occurs every 2–5 years on average and has a significant impact on the global climate. El Niño causes abnormal temperature changes in different parts of the world, as well as drought or heavy rainfall. Early and accurate prediction of the occurrence and intensity of El Niño is of great significance to prevent or reduce the economic, agricultural and social losses in the world.

On December 24, 2019, an article on El Niño prediction, guided by Professor Chen Xiaosong from the School of Systems Science of Beijing Normal University, was published online in PNAS, a journal of the American Academy of Sciences. For the first time, it overcame the “spring predictability barrier” (that is, the inability to give an accurate prediction in the spring of the year when El Niño occurs or earlier)

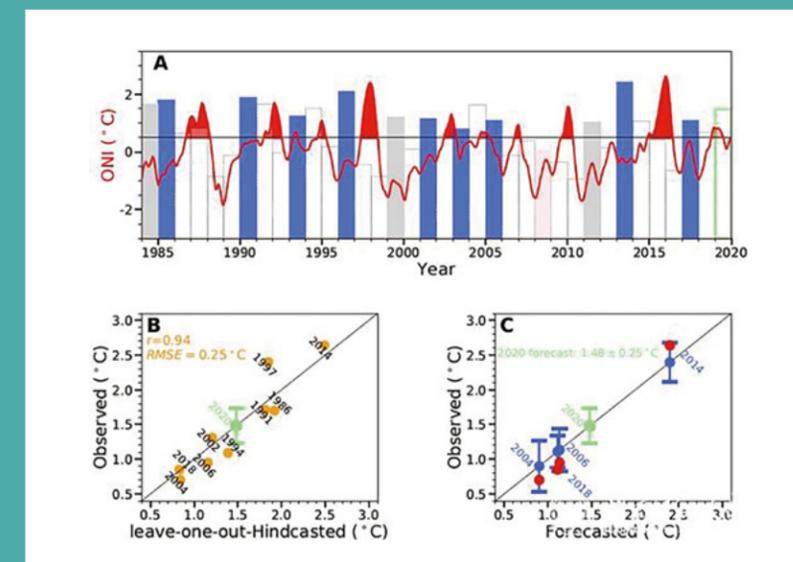
that has plagued El Niño prediction for a long time, and advanced the predictive powers of El Niño occurrence, including its intensity, by one year.

In this paper, the authors propose a new method based on information entropy theory—System Sample Entropy—to calculate the complexity of air or sea surface temperature near sea level in the El Niño region (Nino 3.4) (including the disorder of temperature changes with time and the synchronization or coherence of temperature changes at different locations). Using this method, the authors found that there is a very strong and stable linear relationship between the complexity of temperature change in Nino 3.4 region and the intensity of El Niño phenomenon, that is, the greater the complexity of temperature change in Nino 3.4 region within one year (January 1–December 31), the greater the intensity of El Niño event in the following year. Based on this finding, the authors proposed a set of methods

to predict the occurrence and intensity of El Niño in the coming year based on the complexity of the annual Nino 3.4 region temperature change (quantified by the System Sample Entropy in the region). The method has successfully predicted 9 of the 10 El Niño events from 1984 to 2019 and 21 of the 24 years without El Niño, especially the average error of El Niño intensity prediction is only 0.23 degrees Celsius.

For the just-arrived year 2020, based on the System Sample Entropy method proposed in the paper, the authors predict that El Niño will have a high probability of happening again in the second half of this year and will develop into an El Niño event of medium or even high intensity, with a predicted intensity of  $1.48 \pm 0.25$  degrees Celsius.

At present, the traditional El Niño prediction method can only give a relatively accurate prediction within 6 months in advance, which is very limited for preventing a series of



serious impacts brought by El Niño in advance. This new forecasting method has advanced the forecast time of El Niño to January each year. This will be of great significance for taking early action to control and reduce a series of negative impacts on the global scale brought about by this phenomenon!

This work was jointly completed by Dr. Fan Jingfang of Potsdam Institute

for Climate Impact Research (PIK) as communication author, Prof. Jürgen Kurths, Prof. Hans Joachim Schellnhuber of PIK, and Prof. Chen Xiaosong of Beijing Normal University. The research group led by Prof. Chen has been engaged in statistical physics, complex systems and related topics for many years, especially focusing on the dynamic evolution and prediction of the earth's complex systems in recent years.



# 京師學堂

The pure, the bright, the beautiful,  
That stirred our hearts in youth,  
The impulses to wordless prayer,  
The dreams of love and truth;  
The longing after something's lost,  
The spirit's yearning cry,  
The striving after better hopes,  
These things can never die.

—*These Things Shall Never Die* by  
Charles John Huffam Dickens

Photo Source: The Photograph Association of BNU Faculty  
Photo by LIANG Ying

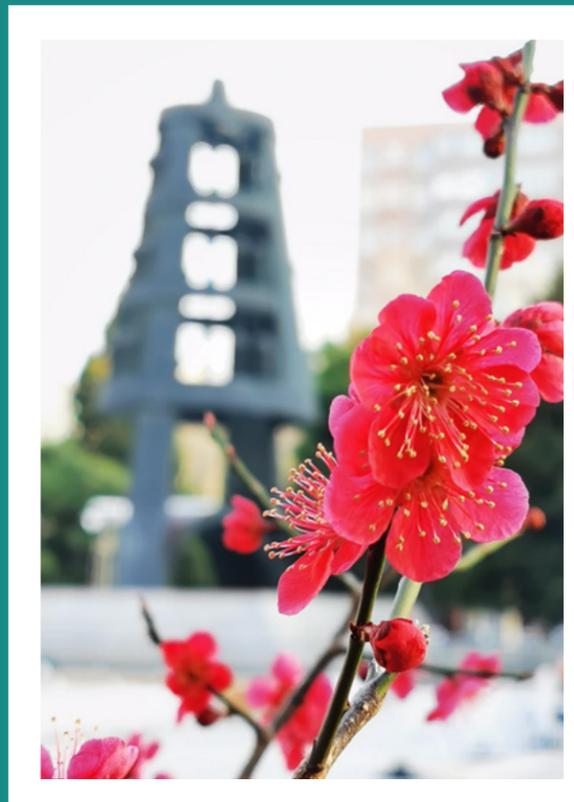


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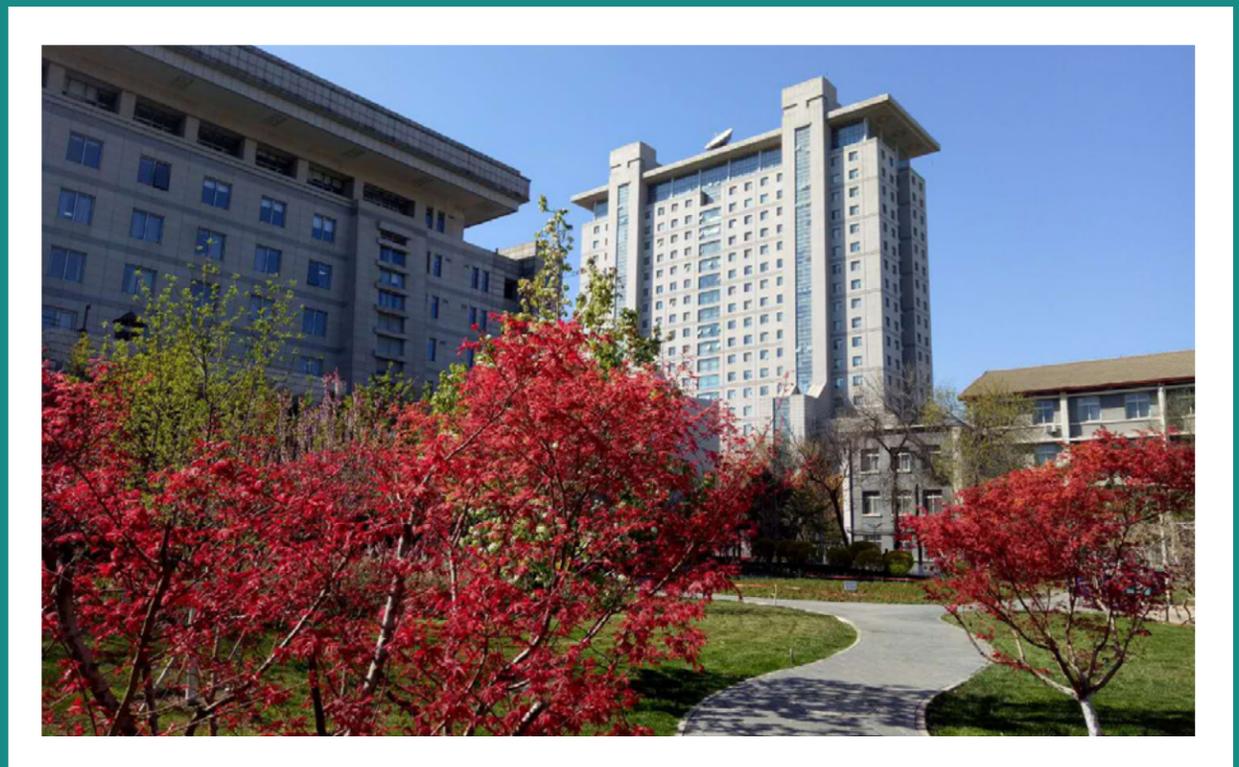
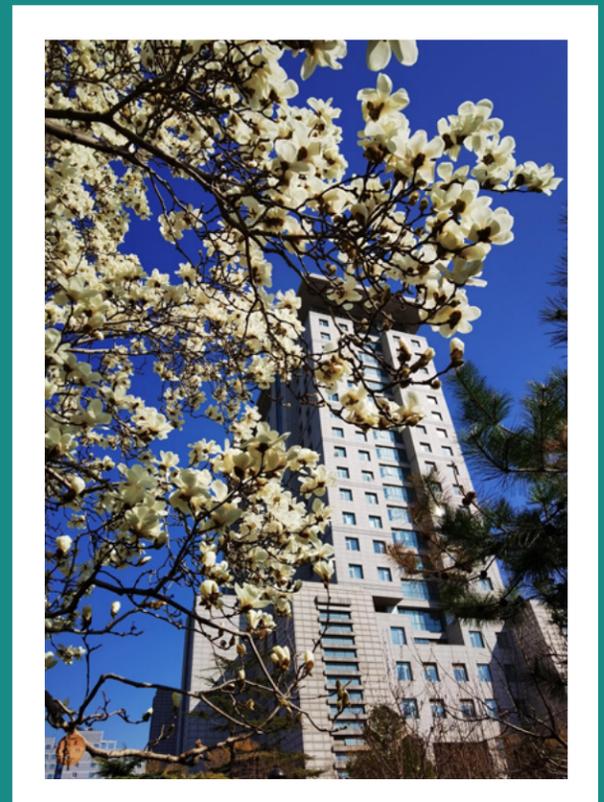


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Photo by ZHANG Hongjin



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