



Science, Technology and Education News from China

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Introduction

The latest OECD working paper put the Chinese innovation policies in perspective with other leading science and technology power houses. In 2009, China announces that it will invest not only in Chinese scientists, but also in international talents, with the support of NSFC funds.

Contents

Policies	2
News.....	2
1. China Sets Up Fund for Researchers to Join National Natural Science Projects	2
2. NSFC Sets up Research Fund for Foreign Young Scholars	2
3. Chinese Expert Warns of Nuclear Talents Vacuum	2
4. Minister: Healthcare Network to Cover All	2
5. China's Lunar Probe Ends Mission.....	3
6. Student Developer of Versatile “G-gels” Wins \$30,000 Lemelson-Rensselaer Prize	3
7. China zeichnet Doktoranden der Universität Freiburg aus.....	3
8. Experts Fight H5N1 Bird Flu Using Smallpox Vaccine	3
Events (March – June 2009)	4

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¹ Please click on the blue texts to activate the hyperlinks to either email addresses or related websites.



Policies

Measuring China's Innovation System National Specificities and International Comparisons

(OECD, 15-01-2009)

Science and technology (S&T) have been pinpointed by the Chinese State Council as a key driving force for sustainable economic growth and the transformation of China into an innovation-oriented nation on the basis of the development of a national innovation system with strong indigenous innovation capacity. One of the targets set in the National Guidelines for the Medium- and Long-term Plan for Science and Technology Development (2006-2020) is to raise the ratio of R&D to GDP to 2% by 2010 and to 2.5% or more by 2020. This is an extremely ambitious target, as it implies the need for R&D expenditure to increase by at least 10-15% annually. [...]

News

1. China Sets Up Fund for Researchers to Join National Natural Science Projects

(People's Daily, 18-02-2009)

China is setting up funds to open an easier channel for science talents to join in large-scale natural science research projects, aiming to make efficient use of its talent pool. Researchers at Chinese universities or research institutes can apply through the fund, titled "Joint Fund on Major Scientific Equipment Research," to join cutting-edge programs of the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), China's top natural science research body. [...] The fund would start accepting applications at the beginning of March 2009.

2. NSFC Sets up Research Fund for Foreign Young Scholars

(CAS, 02-03-2009)

National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC) recently sets up an overseas Young Scholar Research Fund to draw foreign scholars into China. [...] According to NSFC, at the moment the fund will be open to young foreign scholars recommended by the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) or by the Ministry of Education of China. It will support 50 scholars for a period of 6 to 12 months with a total funding of 10 million Yuan. Details for the plan and the application procedures will be released soon.

3. Chinese Expert Warns of Nuclear Talents Vacuum

(Xinhua, 03-03-2009)

China is in great demand of talents in nuclear science from the younger generation, according to a Chinese nuclear physicist. [...] China, realizing the huge potential of using nuclear power as "clean energy", has already strengthened education in nuclear science in recent years. [...] However, these efforts could not immediately make up for the lack of nuclear specialists in the country due to historical reasons. [...]

4. Minister: Healthcare Network to Cover All

(China.org.cn, 04-03-2009)

China aims to expand its medical insurance to cover all citizens and upgrade services through its new healthcare reform package, Health Ministry Chen Zhu said at the ongoing CPPCC session. The government will put the 850-billion-yuan (US\$124 billion) plans into action from 21 Jan 2010 following public criticism over soaring medical fees, a lack of affordable services, poor doctor-patient relationships and low insurance coverage. [...] A Ministry of Health report last week showed about 1 billion Chinese -



from a population of 1.3 billion - were covered by some sort of health insurance by the end of 2008, including 814 million rural residents. [...] Statistics from the Ministry of Health show China's financial burden through healthcare reached 2.36 trillion yuan in 2005, two thirds of which were down to cases involving chronic diseases.

5. China's Lunar Probe Ends Mission

(Reuters, 01-03-2009)

China's lunar probe has ended its 16-month life with a planned crash into the moon, the official Xinhua news agency said. Named after a moon goddess, the Chang'e-1 rammed into the lunar surface in the mid-afternoon Beijing time, after orbiting the moon thousands of times to map its surface. The probe was the first step in plans to land a vehicle on the moon in 2012. Before the moon-lander, China will send Chang'e-2 satellite to fulfill another mission. Last autumn China also launched its third manned space mission, with live-to-air footage of its first spacewalk captivating the nation. Beijing officials have said the country is looking to eventually put astronauts on the moon, but the government has not announced any schedule for that task.

6. Student Developer of Versatile “G-gels” Wins \$30,000 Lemelson-Rensselaer Prize

(Newswise, 04-03-2009)

Yuehua “Tony” Yu, a doctoral student in Rensselaer’s Department of Chemistry and Chemical Biology, is the first researcher to create binary guanosine gels, or G-gels, with unique, highly tunable properties. The discovery, which could enable a practical, cost-effective, and scalable method for better exploiting the beneficial properties of many nanoparticles, earned Yu the \$30,000 Lemelson-Rensselaer Student Prize. [...] Yu hails from the scenic city of Jiujiang, China, near the foot of Lushan Mountain. He expects to earn his doctorate in analytical chemistry from Rensselaer this spring. [...]

7. China zeichnet Doktoranden der Universität Freiburg aus

(Universität Freiburg, 02-02-2009)

Der chinesische Nachwuchsforscher Tao Zhou wurde mit dem Chinese National Award of Science and Technology Innovation to Young Researchers ausgezeichnet. Der Preis wurde zum 5. Mal verliehen und ist mit rund 3600 Franken (20000 Yuan) dotiert. Zusammen mit zehn anderen PhD-Studenten wurde Tao Zhou unter 150'000 Studierenden der Wissenschaften in China ausgewählt. Er studierte in den letzten zwei Jahren an der Universität Freiburg und der University of Science and Technology in China. Gepriesen wurde seine hervorragende Arbeit in statistischer Physik mit über 30 Publikationen in qualitativ hochstehenden Physikmagazinen und über 700 Zitierungen im Science Citation Index (SCI).

8. Experts Fight H5N1 Bird Flu Using Smallpox Vaccine

(Newsdaily, 02-03-2009)

Scientists in Hong Kong and the United States have developed an experimental H5N1 bird flu vaccine for people by piggybacking it on the well-tested and highly successful smallpox vaccine. Initial tests on mice showed the vaccine to be highly effective, they told a news conference in Hong Kong on Sunday. The vaccine uses a Vietnam strain of the H5N1 virus and appeared to be broadly protective. Mice which were inoculated with it successfully fought off an Indonesian strain of H5N1, according to the scientists. However, it will take at least a few more years before the vaccine would be ready for the market. It must be tested next in ferrets, then monkeys, before human clinical trials can be carried out. [...]



Events (March – June 2009)

March 2009

Dental South China Exposition 2009

Time: March 2009

Place: Guangzhou

- Dental medical treatment exhibition, organized by the Guangdong Foreign S&T Exchange Center

22nd China (Zhejiang) International Science, Education, Medical Equipment Supplies & Technical Exchange Exhibition

Time: March 2009

Place: Hangzhou

- R&D, Manufacturing and Maintenance of Medical Instrument exhibition, organized by the Zhejiang Provincial S&T Department / Department of Health

EXPO BUILD China 2009

Time: 31 March 2009

Place: Shanghai

- Building envelope, interiors, and surfaces

April 2009

Exhibition “Minimal Landscapes”

Time: 7 – 17 April 2009

Place: Shanghai

- Organised by [Swissnex Shanghai](#) – Exhibition and lectures on stem cell research given by Prof. Ariel Ruiz i Altaba
- For more details, please contact Swissnex Shanghai, Ms. Eveline Winiger at eveline.winiger@swissnexshanghai.org

2009 APAIE Conference & Exhibition

Date: 15 – 17 April, 2009

Place: Beijing

- The top higher education conference in China

“Swiss Day” Student Event at Beijing Foreign Studies University

Time: 18 April 2009

Place: Beijing

- Organised by the Embassy of Switzerland in Beijing, in cooperation with the “Swiss Study Centre” at Beijing Foreign Studies University
- For more details, please contact Emily at shu.zhou@eda.admin.ch

2nd International Workshop on Synchrotron Radiation Circular Dichroism Spectroscopy

Date: April, 2009

Place: Beijing

- Academic exchange

2009 Workshop on the Physics of Excited Nuclen

Date: April, 2009

Place: Beijing

- Academic exchange



May 2009

CHITEC Exhibition 2009 – the 12th China Beijing International High-tech Expo

Date: 20 – 24 May 2009

Place: Beijing

- Annual high-tech expo in Beijing

2009 China International Weighing Instrument Exhibition

Date: 5 May 2009

Place: Shanghai

- Electronic Balance Weighing System Weighing Instrument

International Solar Energy & PV Projects (Shanghai) Exhibition, SNEC International Solar and PC Conference

Date: 6 May 2009

Place: Shanghai

- Solar energy, PV project

Shanghai Int'l Exhibition & Seminar on New Tech. and New Equipment of the Starch Industry 2009

Date: 13 May 2009

Place: Shanghai

- Starch and Related Productions and Equipment

The 3rd China (Beijing) Int'l Exhibition and Symposium on Police and Anti-Terrorism Technology and Equipment

Date: 19 May 2009

Place: Beijing

- Police vehicles; Supervising, checking and monitoring equip.

2009 Int'l Equipment Exhibition & Technical Seminar of Forensic Science, Narcotics Control and counter -Terrorism

Date: 20 May 2009

Place: Beijing

- Equipments & products for forensic science, investigation, drug control and anti-terrorism, police vehicles, police protection, etc

The 3rd Shanghai Int'l Aerospace Technology and Equipment Exhibition

Date: 26 May 2009

Place: Shanghai

- S & T cooperation and exchange

Aviation Tech. Expo China 2009

Date: May 2009

Place: Beijing

- Aviation Equipment

10th Int'l Vacuum Exhibition 2009

Date: May 2009

Place: Beijing

- Academic Exchange

Int'l Conference on Scientific Computation and Differential Equations

Date: May 2009

Place: Beijing

- Academic Exchange



16th Real Time Conference, IEEE-NPSS Technical Committee on Computer Applications in Nuclear and Plasma Sciences

Date: May 2009

Place: Beijing

- Academic Exchange

Int'l Conference on Mathematical Control Theory

Date: May 2009

Place: Beijing

- Academic Exchange

June 2009

The 11th China Int'l Environmental Protection Exhibition and Conference- CIEPEC 2009

Date: 1 June 2009

Place: Beijing

- Environmental Protection

Tenth Int'l Conference on the Science and Application of Nanotubes

Date: June 2009

Place: Beijing

- Academic Exchange

Source: www.most.gov.cn