

VOLUMN 2

NEWSLETTER

SHANTOU UNIVERSITY

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WISHING YOU A HAPPY MID AUTUMN FESTIVAL

Dear Overseas Partner:

Internationalization is our most valued character since inception. Education, science, research do not stay dammed up in neat separate little ponds but they overflow their supposed boundaries and their waters mingle inextricably one with the other. That is why we cherish our international cooperation.

We send you this newsletter together with our sincere festival greetings. We wish you a happy and healthy Mid-Autumn Festival!

SPOTLIGHT:

**Prof. Yi Guan Won John
Dirks Canada Gairdner
Global Health Award 2021**

LEADING RESEARCH:

**World's Top 2% Scientists
List of Stanford University
Features 5 STU Professors**

**INTERNATIONAL
ACTIVITIES AT STU**



Yi Guan | Director, Joint Institute of Virology (Shantou University-The University of Hong Kong)
Director, Guangdong-Hong Kong Joint Laboratory of Emerging Infectious Diseases , STU

Prof. Yi Guan Won John Dirks Canada Global Health Award 2021

07/04/2021

"For significantly contributing to understanding the origins and options for control of newly emerging infectious disease outbreaks in Asia, notably zoonotic influenza and severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS)"



The Work:

Drs. Guan and Peiris began collaborating at The University of Hong Kong in the aftermath of the H5N1 avian flu outbreak in Hong Kong. They initiated seminal studies of the underlying causes of H5 virus pathogenicity, the evolution of the H5N1 virus, and developed a highly effective monitoring and surveillance program of avian and swine influenza strains. Through their research Guan and Peiris established that live poultry markets in southern China

(Middle East Respiratory Syndrome) in Saudi Arabia in 2015. Guan's research accelerated advocacy of the closure of wild game animal markets, averting a potential recurrence of SARS in 2004.

The Impact:

Guan and Peiris' investigations into the emergence and evolution of animal influenza H5 strains (and other H and N subtypes) and their role in identifying the

and Hong Kong were the source of the virus spreading to humans, where it exhibited up to 60% lethality in infected persons. This work led to the temporary closure of the live poultry markets and cessation of animal to human transmission. Their subsequent work established new protocols for periodic live poultry market closures, emptying markets of poultry overnight to reduce virus amplification within these markets and the appropriate use of poultry vaccines to protect both poultry and people in Hong Kong from H5N1 infections. They have made major contributions towards understanding the emergence, transmission, epidemiology and pathogenesis of highly pathogenic avian influenza including H5N1, H9N2, H6N1, H7N9, H5Nx and others and have provided evidence-based options for control of avian influenza viruses in Asia.

In 2003, following the emergence of novel coronavirus, SARS (severe acute respiratory syndrome) in China, Peiris led the team that first identified the virus responsible for the syndrome, the SARS-CoV-1 coronavirus, elucidating its pathogenesis, transmission, and quickly developed a diagnostic test which was then shared internationally. Meanwhile, Guan's team identified the human infectious source and zoonotic interface of SARS in the wild animal markets in Guangdong, China in 2003 and identified the human infectious source of MERS

SARS coronavirus, mode of transmission, risk factors, virus infectivity and period of infectivity, and identifying the original animal source were critical in the successful response to the outbreak.

In the case of SARS, which was causing up to 10% lethality in infected persons, their open sharing of information with the World Health Organization (WHO) and broader international community directly resulted in the rapid control of the disease. The establishment of the role of wild game animal markets in the transmission of the virus was pivotal in the decision by local Guangdong authorities to discontinue such markets to prevent future outbreaks of this or another emerging zoonosis. The isolation and characterization of the causative agent of SARS as a novel coronavirus and quick development of a diagnostic test of the virus in humans directly influenced public health policy to effectively monitor and control the spread of the disease.

Guan and Peiris' comprehensive strategies for surveillance, monitoring, identifying the human infectious source, investigation, diagnosis and control of emerging infectious disease outbreaks continue to provide critical guidance and insight for countries throughout Asia and the world, including the 2009 swine flu pandemic, Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS), and the COVID-19 pandemic.



World' s Top 2% Scientists List of Stanford University Features 5 STU Professors

09/04/2021

5 professors of Shantou University have been featured among World' s Top 2% Scientists List created by Stanford University. The report prepared by experts at Stanford University has listed over 160,000 scientists from its hefty database, whose published research manuscripts have accelerated progress in their respective fields and influenced the productivity of other researcher' s work as well. The database was created to provide updated analyses and a publicly available database of about 7 million scientists that provide standardized information on citations, h-index(an index to measure an individual' s scientific research output), co-authorship-adjusted hm-index, citations to papers in different authorship positions, and a composite indicator. Such citation metric provides a basis to measure and reflect the impact of a published journal.

The STU professors featured in the updated list are from various scientific fields, such as – Materials, Industrial Engineering & Automation, Geological & Geomatics Engineering, Mechanical Engineering & Transports. They have been ranked for their research publications citations for the year 2020 and their lifetime contribution to their specific fields of research. They have inspired their peers at STU and has placed STU in the global map of Science and Engineering.

The following are the professors from Shantou University who have featured in the list of World' s Top 2% Scientists.



Provost Quan, Wang	Materials
Professor Peihua, Gu	Industrial Engineering & Automation
Professor Anmin, Zou	Industrial Engineering & Automation
Professor Shuolong, Shen	Geological & Geomatics Engineering
Professor Xiaodong, Niu	Mechanical Engineering & Transports

INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES AT STU



KUNGFU TEA



PAPER CUTTING



CALLIGRAPHY

THE CHINESE NEW YEAR PARTY HOSTED WITH SPRING FESTIVAL CULTURAL EXCHANGE WORKSHOPS ON 10TH FEBRUARY 2021

10/02/2021



On the morning of 10th February 2021, a Chinese New Year party was hosted by the International Office and School of International Education along with the Spring Festival cultural exchange workshops for the overseas faculty and students at Shantou University. Vice President Prof. Liu Wenhua of Shantou University and Dr. Gao Jian, the Director of the International Office and Dean of the School of International Education attended the event joined by around 30 overseas faculty and students.

The party started with a warm welcome speech delivered by Vice President Prof. Liu Wenhua, who sincerely sent the new year wishes to all overseas faculty and students. He stressed the importance of hosting events like this to promote the local, national and global cultural exchange among Chinese and overseas faculty and students and to create on campus a warm, homely atmosphere for them, especially during this Spring Festival season when many are unable to return to their home countries or regions for family re-union because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Officers from the executive committee of the 3rd Asia Youth Games, who joined the Chinese New Year party, also sent their best wishes to all guests by sending out the lucky bags designed for the 3rd Asia Youth Games, one of the largest youth sports games in Asia that is expected to be held in Shantou this year between 20th November and 28th November.

The Spring Festival cultural exchange workshops followed as the culmination of the event with the detailed introduction to the Chinese traditional culture and custom during the Spring Festival and the precious first-hand experience of Chinese calligraphy, paper cut, Kongfu tea ceremony and dumplings making. All guests were so excited about getting themselves involved in the cultural exchange workshops that some even forgot lunch time.



THE SMALL PARK TOUR ON 14TH FEBRUARY 2021

14/02/2021

On the evening of 14th February 2021, led by the International Office, more than 30 overseas students, faculty and their family members participated in the evening tour to the Small Park, one of the must-go attractions located in the heart of the old downtown area of Shantou City.

The Matsu Temple Theatre was the first scenery spot that the overseas faculty, students and family members visited. In the theatre, they were ushered in a fabulous show of the Chao Opera, the local opera with a special place in the long and splendid history of Chinese operas thanks to its unique singing and dancing techniques. The amazing performance by the actors and actresses wowed all the audience and attract some overseas faculty and students to step onto the stage after the show to greet the troupe and have a warm talk with them. As it was the first time for most of the overseas faculty and students to watch the Chao Opera, many expressed their willingness to learn more about, and to promote, this precious intangible cultural heritage that is also taken as the local and national pride.

The overseas visiting delegation strolled around the Small Park after the visit to the theatre. The sparking advertising lights, in a ray of either modern or traditional fashion, of the shops and lingering waves of the shouts from the vendors alongside the streets in the Small Park generously prescribed a cure-all to the overseas visitors' homesickness, making them believe, at least for a moment like those they always had in Shantou before, that they are right at home, cheerfully surrounded by their nearest and dearest.



From 25th May to 27th May 2021, a delegation of 34 foreign consulates-general and news media in Guangzhou, organised by the Foreign Affairs Office of Guangdong Province, paid a visit to Shantou. On the morning of 26th May 2021, Shantou University, as one of the representatives of higher institutions in east of Guangdong Province, attended Shantou Investment Environment Promotion Meeting held by Shantou Municipal Government at the Sheraton Shantou Hotel to meet with the visiting delegations of foreign consulates-general in Guangzhou.

At the meeting, officers from the International Office, Shantou University had thorough discussions with the officers of the consulates-general from Italy, Ukraine, Brazil, Cuba, Ecuador and Venezuela, giving detailed introductions of the university particularly on its internationalization, inclusiveness, key disciplines and robust global partnerships in tertiary education. Officers of the consulates-general, while highly praised Shantou University for its 40 years’ outstanding achievements, were expressing strong willingness to enhance mutual understanding, to promote exchange and cooperation between institutions in their countries and Shantou University, and ultimately, to deepen bilateral partnerships in education, technology and culture with the goal of win-win situations.

Shantou University has forged since 2017 a stable and fruitful partnership with the Universit à Politecnica delle Marche in Italy in establishing a joint research centre on algae, and with the Universidade Federal De Santa Catarina in Brazil since 2020. It has globally recruited students and faculty from a list of countries including but not limited to Italy, Ukraine and Cuba. As a young but vigorous university taking pride in its diversity and inclusion, Shantou University warmly welcomes international cooperation and exchange in academic and scientific research.



SHANTOU UNIVERSITY MET WITH
VISITING DELEGATIONS OF
FOREIGN CONSULATES-GENERAL
IN GUANGZHOU ON 26TH MAY
2021

27/05/2021

