

MONTHLY BRIEFING

ISSUE 14



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INTERNATIONAL CHINESE LANGUAGE DAY 2025 OPENS IN BEIJING



The launch ceremony for International Chinese Language Day was held at Beijing Foreign Studies University on April 18.

CHINA INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION TOUR AND CHINA STUDY ABROAD FORUM



The 2025 China Study Abroad Forum, with the theme "Quality, trust and safety: For the sustainable development of international education" was held in Beijing on April 11.



“一带一路”语言教育文化组织联盟
BELT AND ROAD LANGUAGES AND CULTURES NETWORK

MONTHLY BRIEFING

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A MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARIAT

World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development, held every year on May 21, highlights the richness of the world's cultures and the essential role of intercultural dialogue for achieving peace and sustainable development. This day poses a question of our globalized times: With our many differences, how can we work more productively together? The answer may lie in recent practices in culture and education.

Language is civilization's most resilient bond, a glue that holds us all together. International Chinese Language Day celebrates Chinese as a gift across time and space. The Chinese-Thai language training program lays the foundation for collaboration through language, and the AI-powered English teaching symposium in Hangzhou on April 26 expands the dimensions of intercultural dialogue. They illustrate that when language transcends being a mere tool it can link all of us, allowing civilizations to learn from one another through the contacts we have.

Respecting differences is the spark of innovation. The Fourth China-Africa Civilization Dialogue in Egypt on April 16 distilled modern solutions from ancient wisdom. The China-Arab Forum in Shanghai on April 18 explored paths of modernization driven by innovation. Cross-border university collaboration continues to break down disciplinary boundaries.

Young people represent the hope of ever more fulfilling lives for all of us. Projects such as the China-France Youth Program, the China-Korea Talent Center and global university agreements all focus on Generation Z. As those expert in the digital world continue to grow their talent, they become ambassadors of civilizational dialogue, dissolving prejudice through empathy and building cultural resilience through action.

Cultural diversity is forever evolving, and education is required to keep that process going, with technology guiding the way and young people being the principal torch bearers, each of us engaging with humility. Only then can humanity continue to coexist not despite differences but because of them, propelled by the power of dialogue.

5月21日世界文化多样性促进对话和发展日之际，全球化的挑战与机遇再次引发我们思考：如何在文化差异中共生？近期跨国人文实践为此提供了启示。

语言是文明互鉴的关键纽带。北京“国际中文日”以“中文：跨越时空的礼物”联结20余国代表，中泰建交50周年汉语培训项目强化双边协作基础，AI技术驱动的语言教育创新则拓展了跨文化沟通维度。这些案例表明，当语言突破交流工具属性，即可成为文明深度对话的载体。

尊重差异是创新的基石。第四届中非文明对话大会探讨古代智慧的现代应用，中阿改革发展论坛聚焦创新驱动的现代化协同，跨国学术合作持续突破学科边界。文明的生命力恰在于此——如同传统匠人与现代设计者的碰撞，差异催生了进步而非隔阂。

青年是文明对话的核心动能。中法青少年交流项目、中韩人才联合培养机制、全球高校合作协议，都着力培育新一代数字原生代。他们兼具全球视野与文化根脉，也必将成为消弭偏见、构建韧性文化生态的主力军。

文化多样性是动态发展的过程，需要教育奠基、科技赋能、青年传承，更需要我们每个人以开放的姿态参与其中。唯有在差异中共振，于协作中共生，人类才能迈向更具包容性的未来。

INTERNATIONAL CHINESE LANGUAGE DAY 2025 OPENS IN BEIJING

2025 “国际中文日”在北京启动



The launch ceremony of International Chinese Language Day.

The launch ceremony for International Chinese Language Day was held at Beijing Foreign Studies University on April 18. This year's theme, “Chinese: A gift through time”, was initiated by the Center for Language Education and Cooperation in collaboration with Chinese Plus, a digital cloud service platform. Attendees from China and elsewhere delivered speeches, talking of how the Chinese language plays a vital role in preserving the country's culture, promoting mutual learning among civilizations, and advancing common development.

Among the more than 700 attendees were diplomats from about 20 countries and representatives of international organizations and international language and cultural institutions; as well as officials of the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, China Foreign Languages Publishing Administration and representatives of universities, social organizations and international students in China.

(Source: China Daily)

NATIONAL HIGH-LEVEL FORUM FOR DEANS AND DEPARTMENT CHAIRS OF ENGLISH-RELATED DISCIPLINES

第十八届全国英语类专业院长 / 系主任高级论坛在山东召开

The 18th National High-Level Forum for Deans and Department Chairs of English-Related Disciplines was held in Qingdao, Shandong province, on April 11, with the theme “Reform and development of foreign language majors toward 2035”. The forum explored how foreign-language disciplines can better integrate and serve both their humanistic and instrumental functions, further build their core competitiveness and break through the limitations of traditional disciplinary thinking. It also focused on how foreign-language disciplines can align with the realities of society and its great changes, including the wave of digitalization. During the opening ceremony the Integrated Database Platform for Regional and Country Studies (Germany) was launched.

(Source: China Daily)



The roundtable with the theme “Multiple dimensions of excellence in English majors: discipline development and breakthrough strategies”.

CHINA INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION TOUR AND CHINA STUDY ABROAD FORUM

2025 中国国际教育巡回开展幕展暨中国留学论坛在北京举办



The launch ceremony of the World Study Tour Alliance.

The 2025 China Study Abroad Forum, hosted by the Chinese Service Center for Scholarly Exchange was held in Beijing on April 11.

The forum, with the theme “Quality, trust and safety: For the sustainable development of international education”, brought together about 1,000 participants, including diplomats in China, representatives of Chinese and foreign universities, education authorities, global experts in international education, outstanding young scholars, professionals of the study-abroad sector, and exhibitors from 24 countries and regions, including China, Australia, Singapore and the United Kingdom.

During the forum the Center published the Chinese Overseas Credentials Evaluation Service Report 2025 and the Blue Paper for Chinese Overseas Students Returning to China for Employment 2025, aiming to promote the establishment of a multi-stakeholder evaluation mechanism for studying abroad and to guide all involved toward more standardized and orderly operations. In addition, the World Study Tour Alliance project was launched with nearly 40 Chinese and foreign universities, promoting international collaboration in short-term study and practical programs.

(Source: jyb.cn)

MEET OUR MEMBERS



上海交通大学

SHANGHAI JIAO TONG UNIVERSITY

Shanghai Jiao Tong University is one of China's most well-known institutions of higher learning. It is a national key university directly under the Ministry of Education jointly built with Shanghai Municipality, and over 128 years it has become a first-class institution with international renown, and further defined the vision on building a "comprehensive, innovative and international" world-class university.

Official Website: <https://www.sjtu.edu.cn/>

山东大学

SHANDONG UNIVERSITY

Shandong University, under the direct jurisdiction of the Ministry of Education, is a key comprehensive university with a long and distinguished history, a broad variety of disciplines, strong academic strength and distinctive characteristics, which has had a great influence both at home and abroad. In 2017 it was chosen as one of the first Chinese high-level universities to be listed in the double first-class university program issued by the Chinese government.

Official Website: <https://www.sdu.edu.cn/index.htm>



贾肖尔科技大学

JASHORE UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Jashore University of Science and Technology, commonly known as JUST, is a government-financed public university in Bangladesh. It is the fourth public university in Khulna Division and the first public university in Jessore. It was established in 2007 and started four-year undergraduate courses in the 2009-10 session. Its mission is to become a leading center of excellence in education, research and innovation, contributing to advances in knowledge and society both nationally and globally. In line with this vision, JUST's mission is to provide high-quality education, foster groundbreaking research and drive societal development through science and technology.

Official Website: <https://just.edu.bd/>

COUNCIL MEMBERS' ACTIVITIES

Apr 23

CHINA DAILY

China Daily and Huazhong University of Science and Technology Signed an Agreement

中国日报社与华中科技大学签署国际传播战略合作协议



Qu Yingpu (second from left), Editor-in-Chief of China Daily, Zhang Guangjun (second from right), Party Committee Secretary of Huazhong University of Science and Technology, Liu Weiling (first from left), Deputy Editor-in-Chief of China Daily, and Xie Zhengxue, Deputy Party Committee Secretary of Huazhong University of Science and Technology after signing the agreement.

China Daily and Huazhong University of Science and Technology signed a strategic cooperation agreement on international communication in Beijing. Liu Weiling, Deputy Editor-in-Chief of China Daily, and Xie Zhengxue, Deputy Party Committee Secretary of Huazhong University of Science and Technology, signed the agreement on behalf of their institutions.

The Editor-in-Chief of China Daily, Qu Yingpu, said he hoped both sides would deepen collaboration in international communication, focus on innovative storytelling, better showcase the achievements of Chinese universities and China's scientific and technological strength, and tell China's stories well while disseminating the country's message effectively. They should also focus on technological empowerment, strengthening the application of new technologies in international communication against the backdrop of artificial intelligence reshaping the development of various industries and promote the construction of a more extensive international communication system. Moreover, they should target Gen Z, improving guidance and services for young people, promoting exchanges among Chinese and international youth, and fostering mutual learning and dialogue between civilizations.

Apr 26

21ST CENTURY MEDIA AND EDUCATION

The 2025 Global English Education China Assembly Hangzhou Symposium

国际英语教育中国大会专题研讨会在杭州举办



Zeng Qingkai, Editor-in-Chief of 21st Century China Daily, addressed the event.

The 2025 Global English Education China Assembly Hangzhou Symposium, with the theme "AI empowering innovation in English-language teaching: theory and practice", was held at Hangzhou Foreign Languages School on April 26. The conference aimed to explore new pathways for integrating AI and English-language teaching, helping English education reach new heights.

Zeng Qingkai, Editor-in-Chief of 21st Century China Daily, addressed the event and proposed establishing a human-AI collaborative education mechanism promoting the deep integration and innovative development of foreign-language teaching and international communication, and providing strong support for cultivating a new generation of talent with both global competence and a strong sense of national mission.

Apr 18

SHANGHAI INTERNATIONAL STUDIES UNIVERSITY

The 5th China-Arab States Reform and Development Forum held in Shanghai

第五届中国—阿拉伯国家改革发展论坛在上海举行



Representatives of the forum.

The university hosted the fifth China-Arab States Reform and Development Forum, looking at topics such as "Implementing the global development initiative and advancing China-Arab cooperation toward innovation", "Innovation-driven shared future: Building new synergies for modernization", and "Trade and investment empowering development: Opening new horizons for high-level openness". Experts and business representatives from China and from Arab countries agreed that in the context of rapid technological revolution and industrial transformation, China and Arab states should work together to implement the Global Development Initiative, safeguard the multilateral trade system and promote high-quality development. More than 100 representatives from political, academic and business fields attended.

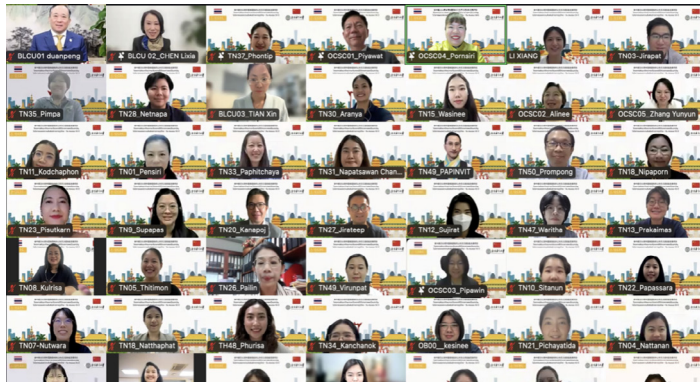
COUNCIL MEMBERS' ACTIVITIES

Apr 18

BEIJING LANGUAGE AND CULTURE UNIVERSITY

The Thai Government Civil Servants Chinese-Language Skills Development Program held

中泰建交 50 周年暨泰国政府公务员汉语技能发展项目开班仪式举行



The opening ceremony of celebrations of the 50th anniversary of the establishment of China-Thailand diplomatic relation.

The university hosted online the opening ceremony of celebrations of the 50th anniversary of the establishment of China-Thailand diplomatic relations. The Thai Government Civil Servants Chinese-Language Skills Development Program was also held. The day's program was planned by the university in conjunction with the Thai embassy in Beijing. Both parties agreed to establish a basic Chinese-language training program for Thai public servants to improve their international coordination skills and better serve the needs of the country's public service. The public servants taking part in the program come from 24 divisions and bureaus under 12 national ministries and commissions.

Apr 16

CHINESE ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

The 4th Conference on Dialogue between Chinese and African Civilizations held in Ismailia, Egypt

第四届中非文明对话大会在伊斯梅利亚召开



Gao Xiang, President of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, addressing the opening ceremony.

The China-Africa Institute of the university, in conjunction with Suez Canal University of Egypt, hosted the fourth Conference on Dialogue between Chinese and African Civilizations in Ismailia, Ismailia Governorate, northeastern Egypt.

The conference, with the theme "The modern value of classical wisdom – insights and reflections from ancient Chinese and African civilizations on contemporary global challenges", featured three sub-forums focusing on the mutual learning of governance experience in ancient Chinese and African civilizations, urban and rural governance in modernization, archaeological collaboration and protecting cultural relics.

The President of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Gao Xiang, said in an opening address that the conference was important in implementing the outcomes of last year's Beijing Summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation, a vivid illustration of how the Global Civilization Initiative can be deepened, and an intellectual contribution to building a closer all-weather China-Africa community with a shared future. More than 100 experts, scholars and diplomats from China and Africa attended.

Apr 15

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF TEACHERS OF ENGLISH IN RUSSIA

The 2025 Annual International NATE Russia conference

俄罗斯英语教师协会第 30 届学术年会召开



Svetlana Sannikova, Chairperson of the Coordination Council, National Association of Teachers of English in Russia addressing the conference.

The association's annual national conference, hosted by Saint-Petersburg English Language Teachers Association affiliated to NATE Russia and Leningrad State University, was held in St. Petersburg. About 400 participants from across Russia and 10 other countries, including representatives of international organizations, universities authorities, experts and scholars attended. The theme was "Meeting challenges and using opportunities". Huang Shan, an Associate Professor at East China Jiaotong University in Nanchang, Jiangxi province, delivered an online speech. In a roundtable discussion, "Belt and Road Languages and Cultures Network" ideas on collaboration with colleagues abroad were discussed.

COUNCIL MEMBERS' ACTIVITIES

Apr 10

BEIHANG UNIVERSITY, BEIJING

Beihang-University of Colombia Science and Culture Exchange Day Held

“北航 - 哥伦比亚科技文化交流日”活动举办

Thirty-three people from institutions in Colombia such as the National University of Colombia and Andes University as well as research institutes and government organizations took part in the Beihang-University of Colombia Science and Culture Exchange Day. The aim was to increase collaboration and exchanges between China and Colombia in science and culture.

This Exchange Day activity advanced the in-depth understanding between Beihang University and Colombia's higher education sector in the fields of science and culture, expanding the university's cooperation with Colombia. It also laid a solid foundation for building a global partnership network that is distinct to Beihang.



Representatives at Beihang-University of Colombia Science and Culture Exchange Day.

Apr 10

XI'AN INTERNATIONAL STUDIES UNIVERSITY, SHAANXI PROVINCE

The University and Seoul School of Integrated Sciences and Technologies Signed an agreement

西安外国语大学与韩国首尔科学综合大学院大学签署合作备忘录

The university hosted a delegation of Seoul School of Integrated Sciences and Technologies. Huang Jianyou, Vice President of Xi'an International Studies University, met the delegation. The two parties signed a memorandum of cooperation, agreeing to rely on joint training programs to build an international academic community and jointly create a new chapter in the internationalization of talent in artificial intelligence and industrial innovation management.



Yoon Seong-il (left), Managing Director of Seoul School of Integrated Sciences and Technologies, and Huang Jianyou, Vice President of Xi'an International Studies University, after signing the agreement.

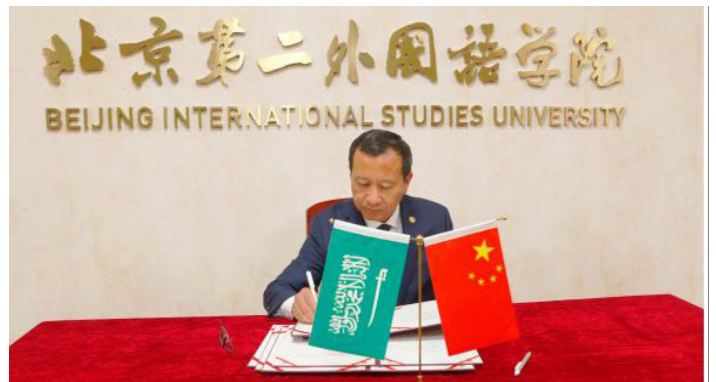
Apr 8

BEIJING INTERNATIONAL STUDIES UNIVERSITY

The University and Princess Nourah bint Abdulrahman University Signed an Agreement

北京第二外国语学院与沙特努拉·宾特·阿卜杜拉赫曼公主大学签署合作协议

The university hosted a delegation from Princess Nourah bint Abdulrahman University in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. Ji Jinbiao, Deputy Party Committee Secretary and President of Beijing International Studies University, met the delegation and held an online meeting with Einas bint Suleiman Al-Eisa, president of the Saudi university. They signed an agreement on extending collaboration in talent development.



The online signing ceremony.

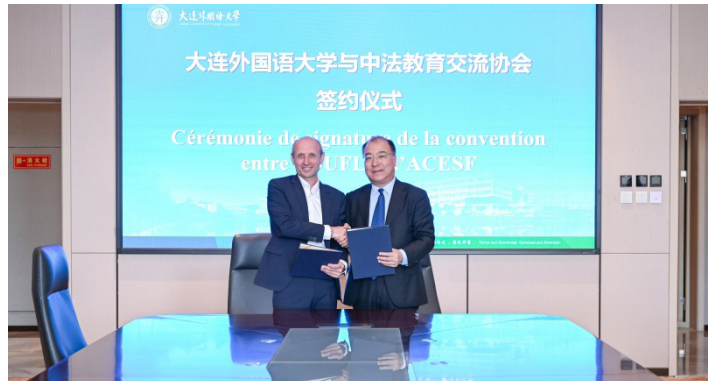
Apr 7

DALIAN UNIVERSITY OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES, LIAONING PROVINCE

China-France Youth Cultural Exchange Program Held

“2025 ‘连’ 结你我 - 大连外国语大学中法青少年人文交流项目”开班仪式举行

The university hosted the opening ceremony of the 2025 Connecting You and Me - China-France Youth Cultural Exchange Program. The university's President Cong Mingcai and its Vice President Liu Fengguang met a delegation of the China-France Education Exchange Association and the Project Management Institute of the United States. Cong signed an agreement on the establishment of an internship and practical training base with the President of the China-France Education Exchange Association, David Schwartz.



Cong Mingcai, President of Dalian University of Foreign Languages, and David Schwartz, President of the China-France Education Exchange Association, after signing the agreement.

COUNCIL MEMBERS' ACTIVITIES

Apr 7

SHANDONG UNIVERSITY, JINAN

The University and Hanyang University Signed Agreements

山东大学与韩国汉阳大学签署合作协议

The university President, Li Shucai, met a delegation led by Lee Ki-jung, President of Hanyang University, South Korea. They discussed deepening educational collaboration, promoting industry-academia-research collaboration and innovation, and other topics. The two universities signed agreements on talent exchange cooperation and entrepreneurship support cooperation, and held an inauguration ceremony for the China-Korea Future Talent Center and the China-Korea Youth Entrepreneurship Center.



Lee Ki-jung, President of Hanyang University, and Li Shucai, President of Shandong University, after inaugurating the China-Korea Future Talent Center.

Mar 31-Apr 10

CENTRAL SOUTH UNIVERSITY, CHANGSHA, HUNAN PROVINCE

The University Signed Agreements with Universities in South Africa, Zimbabwe, and Kenya

中南大学与南非、津巴布韦、肯尼亚等非洲大学签署合作协议

Yi Hong, Party Committee Secretary of the university, led a delegation in South Africa, Zimbabwe and Kenya. The university signed agreements with the University of Pretoria and the University of Zimbabwe and renewed an agreement with the University of Nairobi. Yi Hong said he hopes to draw on the university's strengths in mining, civil engineering, medicine and other disciplines, making full use of existing connections among experts and scholars. The goal is to restore and strengthen collaboration and exchanges, promote visits by scholars, joint research and talent development, and foster higher education exchanges between China and Africa.



Yi Hong, Party Committee Secretary of Central South University, and a representative of the University of Pretoria after signing an agreement.

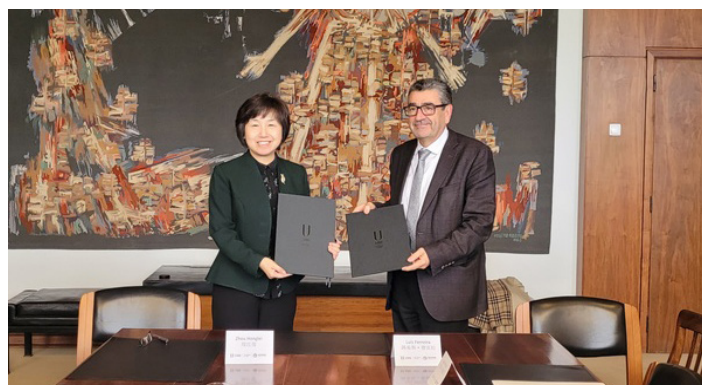
Mar 27-30

TIANJIN FOREIGN STUDIES UNIVERSITY

The University and University of Lisbon Signed an Agreement

天津外国语大学与葡萄牙里斯本大学续签合作协议

Zhou Honglei, Party Committee Secretary of Tianjin Foreign Studies University, led a delegation visiting educational institutions in Portugal from March 27 to March 30. In a visit to the University of Lisbon, the two parties discussed the implementation of the Chinese Education Master's program, development plans for the Confucius Institute and the Chinese + Vocational Skills program for international students coming to China. The two universities renewed their exchange and cooperation agreement and signed a memorandum on Chinese + Vocational Skills project collaboration. Later Zhou Honglei addressed the inauguration ceremony of the Portugal Confucius Institutes Alliance, organized by the Confucius Institute at the University of Lisbon.



Zhou Honglei, Party Committee Secretary of Tianjin Foreign Studies University, and Luis Ferreira, President of the University of Lisbon, after signing the agreement.

Mar 23-30

SHANGHAI UNIVERSITY

The University Held International Talent Recruitment Fairs and Signed an Agreement with the University of Turin

上海大学举办海外人才招聘会并与都灵大学签署合作协议

Cheng Danhong, Party Committee Secretary of the university, led a delegation to Switzerland and Italy for inter-university exchanges and overseas talent recruitment activities. The delegation held two international talent recruitment fairs, one in Lausanne, Switzerland, and the other in Turin, Italy. The delegation visited the University of Turin, where both sides reached an agreement on international collaboration mechanisms, interdisciplinary talent development and collaborative innovation in research.



Cheng Danhong, Party Committee Secretary of Shanghai University, and a representative of the University of Turin sign the agreement.

COMING EVENTS

May 9-10

Chinese Language Association annual conference, New York

May 30-June 1

Pacific Second Language Research Forum 2025 in conjunction
with Conference on Innovation in L2 Chinese Acquisition Research,
Shanghai

June 14-17

The 5th International Symposium on Language Teaching and
Research

June 20-22

Africa ELTA International Conference, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

July 17-19

21st BRAZ-TESOL International Conference

July 25-27

Global English Education China Assembly, Beijing

Sep 13-14

33rd MELTA International Conference 2025, Selangor, Malaysia

Oct 2-4

60th ASOCOPI Annual and 6th International Conference, Santa
Marta, Colombia

Nov 15-16

41st SPELT International Conference 2025, Pakistan

Dec 17-19

11th International Symposium on Second Language Acquisition
in China, Shanghai

MILESTONE MOMENTS UNIVERSITY ANNIVERSARIES IN MAY

6 big days to celebrate



Founded
May 8, 1951

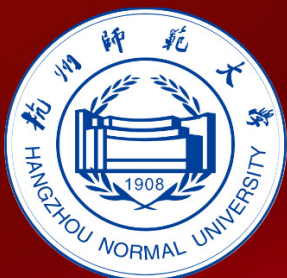
哈尔滨师范大学

Harbin Normal University

敦品励学 弘毅致远

Cultivate virtue, excel in learning; Strengthen will, aspire for excellence.

(Unofficial version)



Founded
May 14, 1908

杭州师范大学

Hangzhou Normal University

勤慎诚恕 博雅精进

Diligence, conscientiousness, honesty and generosity;

Erudition, elegance, refinement and excellence.



Founded
May 17, 1978

中国社会科学院大学

University of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences

笃学、慎思、明辨、尚行

Diligent learning, prudent reflection, clear discernment, noble action.

(Unofficial version)

MILESTONE MOMENTS
UNIVERSITY ANNIVERSARIES
IN MAY

6 big days to celebrate



Founded
May 18, 1900

苏州大学

Soochow University

养天正氣，法古今完人

Unto a full grown man.



Founded
May 27, 1905

复旦大学

Fudan University

博学而笃志，切问而近思

Rich in knowledge and tenacious of purpose; Inquiring with earnestness and reflecting with self-practice.



Founded
May 27, 1922

上海大学

Shanghai University

自强不息，道济天下

Strive unceasingly, wisdom for the world.
(Unofficial version)