



Newsletter June 2010

## *Chinese ambassador visits K.U.Leuven for the first time*



On Friday 30 April, the Chinese ambassador to Belgium, Zhang Yuanyuan, paid his first official visit to K.U.Leuven. The ambassador held talks with the university management and delivered a lecture for students. The visit of Ambassador Zhang Yuanyuan took place in the context of the growing co-operation between K.U.Leuven and a number of Chinese top institutions, such as Tsinghua, Beijing, Fudan, Nanjing and Zhejiang. "The growing attention to China is an important element in the broader policy of K.U.Leuven, which aims to establish a strong international position through co-operation," Vice Rector Bart De Moor concluded.

The ambassador delivered a lecture on 'China's foreign policy, Sino- Belgian relations' for students of law, international relations, sinology and others. It was followed by an open question time for students, researchers and professors. Afterwards, the ambassador met with the management of LRD and the university. A point of special interest in the discussion with the university was the valorisation of university research, technology transfer and regional economic development. K.U.Leuven Research & Development (LRD) and the Chinese partners are organising a seminar about these issues at Shanghai Expo on 23 September 2010.



## *The Leuven Alumni Orchestra in China*



In May 2010, the Leuven Alumni Orchestra (LAO) made a ten day tour in and around Shanghai in the framework of a cultural exchange between Europe and China.

The LAO was very proud to be the first non-professional Belgian symphonic orchestra invited to perform in China. During their trip, the Leuven Alumni gave 5 concerts on different locations in the Shanghai area.

## *Visit of Mr. David Xu to Leuven*

From 17 to 20 May 2010, Mr. David Xu, representative of K.U.Leuven in China, visited our university. During his visit to Leuven, David met with the rector to discuss the development of K.U.Leuven's cooperation with Chinese institutions. He also visited various faculties and departments of the university and talked with K.U.Leuven colleagues about how to carry out his mission in China. On the morning of 20 May, David visited the Chinese Embassy together with Mr. Bart Hendrickx, Director of the International Office and Ms. Vicky Wandels, Staff member International Policy Unit. They were received by high officials and the Embassy expressed their happiness about the increasing number of Chinese students in Leuven.

## *East meets West Alumni Event*



On Thursday 10 June 2010, the Belgian – Chinese Chamber of Commerce organised the 'East meets West' alumni event in the Belgian Pavilion of the Shanghai Expo. Over 200 alumni, many of whom studied at K.U.Leuven, participated in the event. David Xu, K.U.Leuven's representative in China, was also present at the alumni gathering and used this opportunity to meet with Mr. Dewit, president of BCECC.

## *Membership cards*

The K.U.Leuven international office has collected all the necessary information from registered alumni and sent out the membership cards this week. Please contact us in case you haven't received your card by the end of this month.

## *Upcoming Events*

On **Saturday 26 June 2010**, the K.U.Leuven alumni of Shanghai will meet in the Kanglin Club, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, 535 Dalian Road, Shanghai at 4 pm. The meeting will be hosted by Mr. David Xu, coordinator of the K.U.Leuven China Alumni Club. The programme of this get-together:

Welcome Speech

Feedback of David Xu about K.U.Leuven's activities in China during the past months

Discussion about the establishment of a local alumni cell in Shanghai, structure of the group, future activities...

Announcement of the next gathering at the end of 2010

Questions

Drinks and Snacks

On **Saturday 3 July 2010**, there will be a similar meeting for the K.U.Leuven alumni in Beijing. This meeting will be hosted by David Xu, coordinator of the K.U.Leuven Alumni Club and Nina Fan, contact person for the alumni in Beijing. This get-together will take place in 'Factory 451', Dianchang Dayuan, No.22, the middle east Third Ring Road, Chaoyang District, Beijing at 4pm.

On **Thursday 23 September 2010**, K.U.Leuven will organise a workshop on ‘Technology Transfer and spin-off creation at universities and their impact on regional economic development’. The University of Leuven has significant experience over the last 15 years in tech transfer and spin-off creation in all its dimensions (legal, financial, venture capital, exits...). This workshop will take place on the Shanghai World Expo and is aimed for Chinese top-universities and research institutes, interested to share experiences in this field.