

With a lofty goal towards effective real-time information sharing, interactive discussion and project coordination among domestic and international research fellows and academics, the Centre spares no effort in building an online synchronisation system, combining an online OA system, a video conference network and an electronic database.

The Centre sets up a Simulation Analysis Laboratory for Economic Policy, Energy and Environment, which provides quantitative simulation analyses to the policy-making and international negotiations as for world economy, global energy, environment, climate change, and trade. The laboratory conducts various important research programs issued by relevant ministries of the central government of China and many research reports have been adopted. The Centre has also

conducted lecture series including “BRICS Celebrity Lecture”, “BRICS Foreign Policy Lecture”, “BRICS Studies Salon”, etc.

To further strengthen its academic endeavour, the Centre issues academic journal “BRICS Studies” and “BRICS Research Trend” (a collection of the latest research findings). In addition, the Centre is also committed to editing and issuing “Working Papers” in English to encourage academic communication both at home and abroad.

As a burgeoning research institute, the Centre has received extensive media coverage and exposure from CCTV and a number of national mainstream newspapers, such as Guangming Daily, Economic Daily, China Daily, Jiefang Daily, Wenhui Daily, CBN Daily and Chinese Social Science Today, paying close attention to the academic activities of the Centre. ■

Association of Sino-Russian Technical Universities: reaching its 5th anniversary of achievements

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For the last years the world has been facing the globalization processes in various specific areas including education. The integration processes in national and continental educational systems proceed in parallel with high competition between universities both in the domestic and international education market. In the current context, not a single national science, tech-

nology or education system is able to exist in isolation, being able to develop itself at the same time.

The increasing competition between universities, resulting in their disunity, along with the need of building a nationwide educational policy, and also integrated academic space with intensive merging of national universities into the world educa-

tion system are the most pressing issues of the modernization of education system in any country. In our opinion, creating the integrated structures – subject associations of universities of different countries - is one of the efficient mechanisms to solve the issue. In this regard, the Association of Sino-Russian Technical Universities is considered as a key player in the integration of science and education.

The Association of Sino-Russian Technical Universities (ASRTU) was founded in April 2011. A long-term partnership between Bauman Moscow State Technical University and Harbin Institute of Technology (HIT), the two leading polytechnic schools of the two countries, laid down the basis of the Association.

Cooperation between Bauman Moscow State Technical University and Harbin Institute of Technology had begun long before the establishment of the Association of Sino-Russian Technical Universities and addressed various fields. Other technical universities of Russia and China joined the partnership of the two universities. At the foundation conference of Association of Sino-Russian Technical Universities which took place in the city of Shenzhen, in 2011, 15 Russian and 15 Chinese technical universities, including the federal, national research, and large regional ones, adopted the charter of the Association and signed the Memorandum of ASRTU establishment.

Five years have passed since that memorable day. The great idea of joining the efforts of the leading technical universities of the two countries to improve education content and quality and develop joint scientific research was embodied into reality. Soon after this, the work of the Association was inspired by the appropriate interesting actions. The Association was founded for the purpose of best practices exchange, organization and coordination of universities' joint efforts to improve academic, research, cultural, and public activities, and develop students and teachers' academic mobility, carrying out the joint scientific projects.

Within a short period, there have been held a number of scientific and educational conferences and students' scientific contests, for example, the contest on robotics in September 2012 in Harbin. Also, "ASRTU Friendship train" passed through the four Russian cities in 2012. Chinese universities' representatives picked up this idea with great pleasure. More than 50 students and young lecturers from the fourteen Chinese universities visited ten Russian technical universities and gave bright concerts. Scientific workshops, holding by the students themselves telling about their universities and research results, took place in every city.

In return, the "ASTRU Friendship train 2013" was organized in October 2013, with 60 Russian students and young lecturers visiting the four Chinese cities - Beijing, Harbin, Dalian, and Shanghai. The students participated in the scientific workshops, while a discussion on employment problems was taking place in Harbin under the aegis of UNESCO. The students of technical majors gave brilliant concerts, showing their outstanding creative abilities

The Summit of ASTRU members in Qingdao was held as a part of the opening of Blue Silicon Valley in June 2013. After the conference and exhibition, the foundation stone of the Association building was laid in the centre of the "Blue Silicon Valley" new economic zone. The interesting youth projects on creating the students satellite were highlighted.

One of the most significant events of 2014 was the Sino-Russian student research camp of ASRTU small satellites, held in April at the Amur State University. The camp was a part of the decision on holding the Sino-Russian youth exchange in 2014-2015, made by the Chairman of the People's Republic of China Xi Jinping and the President of the Russian Federation Vladimir Putin. The event was held from 9 to 12 April 2014 in the city of Blagoveshchensk and dedicated to the Cosmonautics Day. Students from the Ural Federal University presented three out of 35 reports at this event under the

supervision of associate professor, candidate of technical sciences Ivan Malygin, and they were highly estimated by the scientific committee. Within the framework of the camp, the students visited the building of the "Vostochny" spaceport, which is going to be put into operation in 2016. The camp focused on the creation of an ASRTU student satellite and its orbital launch by 2020.

The big Sino-Russian symposium on advanced materials and processing was held from 3 to 5 June 2014, in Qingdao, under the aegis of ASRTU.

The Sino-Russian conference "Engineering education: a way to success" was held from 22 to 23 September 2014, in Saint Petersburg at the ITMO. 120 students and staff from the thirty-five elite technical universities from Russia and China took part in the event. A student competition on mobile applications and computer games was included into the agenda of the Association's second event in 2014, in addition to the meeting and conference.

At the Sino-Russian conference "Engineering education: a way to success" were presented reports on perspectives of the Russian and Chinese engineering education, application of the newest research achievements in the high technology of the high quality engineering staff training, implementation of practice oriented education technology at technical universities, and Sino-Russian engineering staff training skills and traditions.

A scheduled meeting of the Association of Sino-Russian technical universities took place from 14 to 16 May 2015, at the Tongji University in Shanghai. Within its framework, there were held the "Sino-Russian Environmental Science and Ecological Protection Symposium" and the official opening of a photo exhibition dedicated to "The 70th Anniversary of the Great Victory over the German fascism and Japanese militarism. The ASRTU Universities during the Second World War".

The exhibition consisted of 150 boards both in the Russian and Chinese languages. Besides the documents presented by the uni-

versities, there were 50 posters depicting the Great Patriotic War, on the proposal made by the Russian center of culture in Beijing.

Professor Vyacheslav Zakharov from URFU gave a key speech as his Chinese colleagues did during the "Sino-Russian Environmental Science and Ecological Protection Symposium".

The scheduled meeting of the ASRTU was held from June 30 to July 2, 2015 in Perm at Perm national research polytechnic university (PNRPU). The scientific conference and the Sino-Russian student projects contest on innovative energetics took place as parts of the meeting. The UrfU student team won silver and bronze at the Sino-Russian student contest in the energy management section (Nikiforov A.V. and Denisov K.C.), while Nemkov D.A. was given a diploma in the alternative and renewable energy sources section.

The meeting of experts from the ten ASRTU Russian and Chinese technical universities dedicated to creating the ASRTU small satellites took place on January 24, 2016 in Xi'an at Northwestern Polytechnic University (NPU). At the meeting, UrfU was represented by Malygin Ivan. The program on creating and launching the joint small satellites is a direct consequence of the Declaration of Qingdao signed in 2013 between the leading technical universities of Russia and China. As a result of the discussions, both parties signed "The protocol of experts' mutual understanding on creating the ASRTU small satellites". The agreements reached should be approved in detail during a student's "Small satellite competition" which will take place at the Harbin Institute of Technology in August 2016.

The next experts' meeting will be held at Moscow aviation institute in November 2016. At the meeting, the signing of a joint technical proposal on ASRTU small satellites is expected and each ASRTU university is supposed creating a detailed design of their own space vehicle. The results should be presented during the ASRTU small satellites camp at MAI in the Crimea, April 2017.

There is a lot of work to do, and the Association has great plans. As early as May 2016, in Qingdao, the ASRTU Rectors' Summit will take place, where the results of the first five years of the work will be reviewed and new prospects will be outlined. The 3rd Symposium on advanced materials and processing will be held in June at the Ural Federal University, while the conference on Russian and Chinese languages learners' problems in the two countries will take place in November at the BMSTU.

Within the span of five years, numerous delegations have visited universities of the two countries. The Declaration of Qingdao, accepted at the ASRTU Universities Rectors' Summit, aims at developing joint master's and PhD's programs. Russian students are becoming more interested in studying at the leading Chinese technical universities as well as learning Chinese language. ASRTU is planning to broaden its participation in educational programs of the University of Shanghai Cooperation Organization. The leaders of the largest technical universities of the two countries share the same opinion that it is necessary to pay more attention to

the development of networking integration as an effective form of students' academic mobility.

With the growth of interest in the ASRTU activities, more and more universities want to join the international professional community. At present, the Association of Sino-Russian Technical Universities consists of forty-seven members, and by May 2016, at the Anniversary Rectors' Summit in Qingdao, its number will reach a symbolic figure of 50!

The results of the ASRTU activities instill confidence in the further ASRTU's progress in expanding students and lecturers' academic mobility, joint scientific research realization, and creating joint centers and laboratories. Friendly relations between our countries have always been an important factor of international stability and a cornerstone of economic progress.

It is significant that a long-term cooperation between HIT and BMSTU favors a dynamic growth of ASRTU and interaction between the Association members, thanks to which the scientists and students' ideas of the two countries leading universities become real. ■

The role of FAUBAI in promoting the internationalization process of the Brazilian Higher Education Institutions

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In the knowledge-based economy, universities play a central role as engines for the development of countries. In heterogeneous university settings, that comprise higher education institutions (HEIs) of different sizes and goals, internationalization has become a common interest.

This fact makes the most prestigious universities in the world act strategically

to integrate internationalization across their structures and dynamics. To accomplish that, they have created offices and hired professional staff in different sectors to carry out international activities such as inter-institutional partnerships, joint research projects, attractive programs for international students, short-term programs, etc.