

# 100

## UBC-CHINA: ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF HISTORY

*1915  
2015*



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT AND VICE-CHANCELLOR OF UBC

The University of British Columbia (UBC) is a world-leading university that fosters global citizenship and engages in cutting-edge research. UBC's success depends in many ways on the strong international connections it has built over its century-long history; indeed, in 2015 it was ranked as the most international university in North America. Of particular importance to UBC is its special relationship with China, and I am pleased to invite you to explore our 100 years of engagement with China through the pages of this book.

UBC is proud to have welcomed its first student of Chinese ancestry when the university opened its doors in 1915. Since then, UBC's connection with China has grown in both scope and substance. UBC has played a role in Canada-China relations and participated in China's vast economic transition since the 1980s. Faculty members at UBC lead some of Canada's best scholarly studies on China, covering a broad range of topics including its history, politics, and economy, as well as its arts and culture, its language, and its religion. For some time now, UBC has partnered with leading Chinese universities in advancing research and innovation in science, engineering, forestry, and medicine. Such partnerships bring benefits, not only to the people of Canada and China, but also to the people of the world.

Today UBC has over 3,000 students from China on its campuses, and more than 100 agreements with Chinese universities, business enterprises, and government agencies covering research, personnel exchanges, and student mobility. Through this multi-faceted engagement, UBC has accumulated extensive knowledge and expertise about the region, and is recognized as Canada's best resource on all matters involving China. The work we do at UBC fosters mutual understanding between Canada and China, and brings mutual benefits: UBC and Canada are learning as much from our Chinese partners as they are learning from us.

Looking forward, UBC will continue to enhance the strong connections we have established across the Pacific and help connect China to British Columbia and Canada. China's significant growth has had significant impact worldwide, presenting us with new challenges and opportunities. UBC will align its activities with this growth to create more opportunities for Chinese and Canadian researchers to collaborate, and for the people of China and Canada to interact, in the years ahead.

Professor Santa J. Ono  
President and Vice-Chancellor

## MESSAGE FROM THE UBC CHINA COUNCIL CO-CHAIRS

The UBC China Council is proud to present a history of UBC's 100 years of engagement with China. The UBC China Council comprises representatives of the Faculties with key research agreements and faculty and student exchange programs with over 100 Chinese institutional partners. We are the principal advisory and coordinating unit in support of UBC's highly-valued relationships with Chinese academic and policy institutions.

In initiating this project, we sought to understand our predecessors' recognition of the importance of China to Canadians and to UBC. The unfolding story is presented here; it is noteworthy that since the 1940s, UBC has taken important steps to establish its academic excellence through a wide range of studies focused on China. Today, our academic achievements are a valuable resource in a world where China has emerged as a global leader.

UBC has become British Columbia's and Canada's educational and policy gateway to China. Our role is not only to develop Canadians' understanding of China, but also to collaboratively develop, with our Chinese colleagues, their better understanding of Canada, our society and our values.

At the start of UBC's next 100 years, and as China's destiny continues to unfold, the opportunities for the UBC China Council will multiply. There will be even greater exchanges of ideas, information, faculty and students. The global system will become more integrated and by necessity, more complex. Academic and research initiatives will have to keep pace. UBC will create new opportunities for its faculty and students and new insights into a vital connection between two peoples.



Angela Redish, Ph.D.  
Professor of Economics  
Provost and Vice-President  
*Academic Pro Tem*  
Co-Chair, UBC China Council



Hon. Jack Austin, LL.D. (Hon)  
Hon. Professor and Senior Fellow,  
Co-Chair, UBC China Council.

## PREFACE



*Yves Tiberghien, Ph.D.*  
*Executive Director, UBC China Council*  
*Director, Institute of Asian Research*

As the stories of this book reveal, the University of British Columbia has played a key role for the past 100 years in fostering human connections and understanding between China and North America. UBC has always been ahead of social and political trends, welcoming new immigrants and providing an intellectual home for young minds eager to learn about China. President after president have added to the infrastructure of this dialogue and reinforced the commitment to China, delivering the outstanding resources and impressive human assets that the university now possesses.

At the start of the second century of our engagement with China, and as Canada and China celebrate 46 years of diplomatic relations this year, UBC is set to build on its legacy with a new vision: a commitment to undertake significant research and teaching about global issues, and to foster a sense of global citizenship.

Most observers agree that the dialogue across the Pacific between China and North America will play a huge role in defining how humanity addresses the most pressing global challenges: development, human health, global climate change, global governance, resolving systemic risks, and creating a peaceful and cooperative planet. However, the lines of communication are fraying. China's relations with North America are buffeted by misunderstandings and misperceptions. Investing in programs that repair the damage and foster robust links are more urgent than ever.

These are exciting times to partner with UBC, and to join its many programs and invest in a winning proposition that will potentially help shape future generations of leaders across the Pacific.

UBC is making substantial investments focused on engagement with Asia, particularly in the global policy arena. Over the last decade, UBC has prioritized international engagement as a core priority; and China is at the top of UBC's international engagement.

Faculties across the university have developed new initiatives with Chinese partners, including research partnerships, student mobility agreements and dual degrees. The list is extensive:

- A large number of UBC scholars in Science and Applied Science are actively engaged in research on climate, clean energy, water issues, climate change, urbanization, and infrastructure development in China, forming some leading joint research centres with Chinese universities and a great cluster of expertise in sustainability and resources in China.
- The Faculty of Arts is fostering partnerships with top Chinese universities including Peking University, Fudan University, Zhejiang University, and Hong Kong University in the fields of social science and humanities.

- Faculty members from Master of Public Affairs and Global Affairs (MPPGA) are developing dual degrees in public policy with Peking University and Fudan University. The MPPGA is designed to incubate entrepreneurial policy leaders who can connect China and North America.
- The Faculty of Education is a founding member of the annual Tri-Nations conference, which involves schools of education from five Pacific Rim universities' (three from China, one from Australia, one from Canada) to examine newest trends in higher education. It has also developed strong partnerships with universities in China, including Beijing Normal University and Northeast Normal University and South.
- The Faculty of Forestry has maintained robust links with China over many years that include joint degree programs with top Chinese forestry schools and a partnership with the State Forestry Administration of China.
- The Faculty of Law has developed a joint LLB-JD program with Tsinghua University.
- The Faculty of Medicine is actively working with Zhejiang University in developing a joint Ph.D and MD degree. It also established joint research centre on Alzheimer's diseases with Chongqing Medical University and centre on reproductive medicine with the hospital affiliated with Zhejiang University.
- Sauder School of Business maintains some of UBC's strongest ties with China such as its Executive Education Program that trains government officials and business leaders, its International MBA based at Shanghai Jiaotong University and its broad alumni network in China.

These are only some of the highlights of UBC's collaborations with China on the faculty level. Beyond this, there are hundreds of connections between UBC scholars and their Chinese counterparts.

Our latest survey shows that nearly 200 UBC faculty members have professional interests in China.

In April 2013, the UBC leadership created the UBC China Council, an unprecedented university-wide coordinating committee to share information on all UBC-China activities, advise the leadership and develop new and more ambitious strategies of engagement with China on all dimensions (student flow, research, community engagement, policy engagement). The UBC China Council is comprised of deans, faculty members, as well as ex officio staff members. UBC Vancouver Provost Angela Redish and Senator Jack Austin, an honorary professor at UBC, act as Co-chairs, and I have the honour to serve as Executive Director. The UBC China Council reports to a steering committee of deans and vice presidents chaired by the president of the university. The UBC China Council is among the first of its kind in any North American university. Institutional innovation such as this places UBC on a solid footing to be the leading university in China engagement.

In fulfilling its mission, the UBC China Council is able to rely on the assets of the Institute of Asian Research (IAR) at UBC. The Institute is tasked with serving as a hub for the university on a range of China and Asia policy questions.

With these activities and more, UBC is ready to accelerate its engagement and serve as a true incubator for advanced Canada-China research and education. After a century of bilateral relations between China and UBC, our trans-Pacific adventure has just begun.

## INTRODUCTION

*Robert Matas*

On a warm and sunny morning in May 2014, with temperatures heading to the mid-20s, a UBC delegation made its way to the Peking University (PKU) campus in the western suburb of Beijing. The delegation, comprised of the Vice President and China Council members, had a 10:00 am meeting with PKU's leadership to talk about new opportunities for collaboration based on their longstanding history of co-operation with UBC in research and teaching.

After their meeting, the delegation went to speak with Chinese economist Justin Yifu Lin. Three weeks later, UBC would award an honorary doctorate degree to Lin at a ceremony in Vancouver. Lin, the head of an influential economic institute at Peking University, has authored more than 30 books and served in senior posts for a number of international agencies including the World Bank.

Around lunchtime that same day, a group of students from UBC's Faculty of Forestry arrived on the campus of Nanking Forestry University, about 1,000 kilometers south of Beijing. The students had come to Nanking University to participate in an intensive four-week program examining the development of Chinese forestry and wood industries. They were looking forward to both classroom lectures and field trips that would take them to nature reserves and local industries.

That afternoon around 2 pm, about 200 kilometres further south, UBC professors were beginning their classes in marketing management at Shanghai Jiao Tong University. The UBC Sauder School of Business set up the program in collaboration with its counterparts at the Shanghai institution, a product of the close, decades-old relationship between the two leading universities.

Back in Vancouver that evening, Professor Colin Green headed to class on the UBC campus to give a lecture on modern Chinese history.

A lot was happening but it was not unusual. It was just another busy day in the thriving relationship between UBC and China. From collaboration on teaching and research, exchange programs abroad, courses being taught at home, to the formal recognition of achievements, this flurry of activities in a single day provides a quick glimpse into the wide range of sophisticated academic programs, vigorous exchanges and robust collaborations that have developed between UBC and China.

As one of the world's leading institutions of higher learning, UBC with 61,200 students and 15,000 faculty and staff has a reputation as a global centre for innovative research, bold thinking and excellence in teaching. After a century of co-operation and collaboration with China, UBC scholars, researchers and professors can be found throughout the Middle Kingdom while Chinese students, scholars and researchers are deeply involved in UBC.

The topics for teaching and learning have been as diverse as the cultures of the two different societies. At Xiamen University in south China, collaboration with UBC takes place in water governance; in Jiangsu Province, on rural non-agricultural employment; and at East China Normal University on modern China. Other areas where UBC and China have come together include medical research on Alzheimer's diseases, high-level executive training, regional planning, management training and pediatric education.

UBC's connection with China and its people began in 1915, when Ye Jinling (Suzanne Ye) enrolled in its Faculty of Arts. The university offered its first course on China in 1948, and was among the first Canadian institutions to engage with China following the start of the country's era of modernization in the late 1970s.

Since signing its memorandum of understanding with Peking University (PKU) in 1980, UBC has gone on to connect with over 50 other universities, institutions and local governments in China. The relationship has evolved as personal contacts expanded, and cultural and bureaucratic understanding improved. Academic links increased dramatically.

Currently, UBC boasts one of the most comprehensive Chinese studies programs in North America, with a vibrant Asian studies department offering both undergraduate and graduate courses and programs.

UBC's Institute of Asian Research, with more than 300 affiliates on and off-campus, holds weekly seminars, lectures, workshops, international conferences, art exhibits and cultural performances. Scholars on China and faculty who work with China can be found in most faculties.

Students from Mainland China form the largest international student body at UBC. In 2015, over 3,000 students from China were studying on both campuses of UBC. Canadian students of Chinese ancestry also represent an important segment of the student body.

The first Chinese student association was established in 1930. Currently the university has more than 10 student clubs dedicated to Chinese culture, arts, and social and community services.

Since 1994, UBC students from the Department of Asian Studies and the Institute of Asian Research have joined Chinese people all over the world in celebrating the Chinese New Year. UBC students have won awards in B.C. Chinese language and singing competitions.

Chinese culture and related academic studies have also played a key role in bringing the two diverse worlds together. The rare and highly treasured Puhar collection of Chinese manuscripts has been housed at UBC since 1959. Rare Chinese artifacts, including ceramics, coins and Cantonese opera gowns, have been part of the collection of the Museum of Anthropology on the UBC campus since the 1950s.

The regular visits to the UBC campus of distinguished scholars on China, government leaders and famous Chinese writers reflect the university's links with government and society. High profile visitors to the university include famous Chinese writer Yu Hua and Bai Xianrong, former vice-chairman of the National People's Congress Cheng Siwei, Vice Chairman of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, and Vice Chairman of the Supreme People's Court Tao Kaiyuan. Many of the Chinese ambassadors to Canada over the years have visited UBC. In November 2015, three former ambassadors—Lu Shumin, Lan Lijun and Zhang Junsai – were invited to UBC for a celebration of the 45th anniversary of Canada-China relation.

The Government of China has formally recognized UBC's role in educating its corporate leaders and administrative managers of tomorrow, and has bestowed upon UBC its prestigious State Administration for Foreign Experts Affairs designation. UBC is also recognized as an oversea institute of the Ministry of Education's training program for university presidents from the Mid-West region.

After one hundred years of engagement, UBC's relationship with China has proven to be of mutual benefit to participating universities and public institutions on both sides of the Pacific. Strong organizational ties have been forged and, through a broad approach to teaching and collaborative research, Canada has learned from Chinese universities as much as China has learned from Canadian institutions.

This book provides an overview of the dynamic personalities, the bold government initiatives and the innovative programs that have placed UBC at the forefront of Canada-China educational relations.

Perhaps more importantly, it tells the story how a bridge across the Pacific was built, allowing the people of Canada and China to take on global challenges that transcend national boundaries with confidence.



*UBC Point Grey campus in 1925, looking north. Construction of UBC's permanent home began in 1923. The university continued to expand for the next 50 years.*



## EARLY YEARS: 1915-1947

Prospectors were the first Chinese inhabitants to come to the west coast of what was soon to become Canada, arriving as early as 1858 after news spread to California of the discovery of gold in the Fraser Valley. Later on, thousands of Chinese rail workers settled in the province of British Columbia, where they undertook difficult and dangerous work to complete construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway's transnational railway through treacherous mountain ranges. Many of these early immigrants later brought their families over from China. By the turn of the century, Vancouver replaced Victoria as the home of B.C.'s largest and most dynamic Chinese community. A new generation of Chinese either born in Canada or brought here at an early age had settled in the province.

Around this time, the government of British Columbia began the process of establishing the province's own university. In 1877, B.C.'s Superintendent of Education, John Jessop, proposed a provincial post-secondary institution. The provincial legislature passed the University Act in 1908, and in 1915, UBC began offering its first courses through its faculties of arts, agriculture and applied science.

The UBC founders envisioned "a people's university," that would assist intelligent and ambitious young people to attain a social and economic position commensurate with their abilities, regardless of their race, gender or economic background. For the parents of BC's Chinese community, this vision made UBC the first choice for their children. By obtaining a university degree, it was believed that the younger generation of Chinese-Canadians would have a better chance of economic wellbeing and integrating into society in an era where racial discrimination remained prevalent in Canada.



Dr. Frank Wesbrook  
(1868-1918, UBC's  
founding president)



Anita Wong graduated  
from UBC Applied  
Science (nursing)  
in 1948. Wong was  
among the first Chinese  
Canadian women to earn  
a bachelor degree in  
nursing. She became the  
third Chinese Canadian  
public nurse hired by the  
City of Vancouver.

Ye Jinling (Suzanne Ye) enrolled in UBC's faculty of arts in the fall of 1915 when the new university first opened. She was among the first women of Chinese ethnicity to study at a Canadian university. Ms. Ye was the youngest daughter of Ye Chuntian, a successful Chinese businessman in Vancouver in the early 1900s. Like many other students of Chinese ancestry, Ye chose to return to China following her studies in Canada and the United States. By 1931, she was working as the principal of Guangdong Provincial Girls Middle School in Guangzhou.

During the first three decades after its establishment, the new institution was well on its way to becoming a comprehensive university. With the fields of teaching and research expanding rapidly. UBC academics forged early links to China. Led by Dr. R. W. Brock, the department of geology and geography initiated a geological survey of Hong Kong and the adjoining Leased Territories and produced a report in 1933. The Colonial Government of Hong Kong ultimately adopted the report based on this survey in 1939.

UBC was one of the first Canadian universities to formally recognize China as a great nation and civilization. In 1933, UBC awarded an Honorary Doctor of Laws to Dr. Weng Wenhao (翁文灏), father of the modern Chinese oil industry for his important work on the geology of China. The citation of the award reads, "Dr. Weng has applied the culture and science of an ancient university of the western world to the effective service of a civilization far older and, in fundamental ways, more enduring ... His work is an example of the patient and selfless courage of true science."

Immediately following the end of the Second World War, UBC presented an Honorary Doctor of Laws to His Excellency Liu Shi Shun (刘师舜), Chinese ambassador to Canada, in October 1945. In conferring the degree, UBC representatives stated that, "We honour him greatly for his own distinctions, and even more - for he would it so - as envoy of a people to whom we owe an immeasurable debt for many centuries of civilizing example and, in this present day, for a heroism never surpassed in recorded time." During his term, Ambassador Liu signed treaties with Canada's Prime Minister Mackenzie King to promote "a spirit of friendship in the general relations between China and Canada."

As the Chinese population in British Columbia continued to grow, so did UBC's Chinese student body. According to university records, six Chinese students were registered in 1929. The Chinese Students Association was formed in 1930, and by 1943, the figure had grown to 49. Though they may not have realized it at the time, these first Chinese students, as well as the initial exchanges between UBC and the country, would serve to lay the foundation for a century-long relationship with China. With the end of the Second World War, Canadians' interest in the outside world grew and especially in the Asia Pacific region. Finding itself located at Canada's new gateway to Asia, UBC quickly became a major resource for Canada on China.



Ye Jinling (Suzanne Ye) installed in 1931 as the principal of Guangdong Provincial Girls Middle School in Guangzhou, China. In 1915, Ye became one of the first female students from China to enroll in UBC for a bachelor degree in Arts, marking the beginning of a relationship that has grown over the past 100 years.



Dr. Weng Wenhao (1889-1971) the founder of modern Chinese geology and father of the Chinese oil industry. UBC awarded Dr. Weng an honorary degree in 1933 in recognition of his significant scholarly contribution. Dr.

Weng was the first person from China to receive such a degree from UBC.



*Diplomacy on Ice: The UBC Thunderbird Hockey Team went to China and played games with several Chinese teams in 1973, following Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau's visit to China earlier that year. The Thunderbirds won all the games, but the relationship that was established between UBC and China, based on a people-to-people connection, has proven to be an invaluable asset.*

## BUILDING A FOUNDATION: 1948-1979

By 1950, UBC had become a comprehensive university providing instruction in the arts, commerce, education, engineering, forestry, law, medicine, pharmacy and science. It had also established complementary professional schools providing human resources for the country's booming economy. As a result of Vancouver having become North America's de facto gateway to Asia, UBC would begin to develop new programs to respond to Canada's growing interest in and need for information on China in the post-war world.



Norman A.M. MacKenzie (1894-1986), an international law expert, was appointed UBC's third president in 1944. Responding to international realities, MacKenzie focused attention on studies on

Asia in the post war era. During his presidency, UBC hired its first Chinese professor, established the department of Asian Studies, and expanded its Asian library.

Although the looming Cold War raised formidable barriers between the two Pacific nations, as a young and independent university, UBC possessed the foresight to connect the two countries and to help overcome ideological differences by fostering mutual understanding. Before the end of the war, international law expert Norman Mackenzie was appointed as the third president of UBC. As a member of the Institute of Pacific Relations (IPR), President MacKenzie had studied the situation in Northeast China in the early 1930s and was acutely aware of the changes that were taking place outside Canada. He imbued UBC with the sensibility to look across the Pacific, especially toward China. Despite the Cold War chill, studies on China at UBC blossomed in the thirty years from 1949 to 1979, as the university's teaching and research programs became Canada's windows into China.

In 1948, UBC's history department hired He Bingdi as a lecturer. As a recent Ph.D recipient from Columbia University, Dr. He introduced UBC's first course focused on China, entitled "Modern Chinese History Since 1644." The course marked the beginning of dedicated studies on China at UBC.

Now recognized as a world-renowned historian on China and the first Asian born president of the Association for Asian Studies, Dr. He began his lifelong research on Chinese history at UBC. In his autobiography, he stated that UBC had a “quiet and easy environment” where he “started the long march of studying Chinese history for over half a century.” Some of his most influential publications were produced during his professorship here, including one of his greatest books Studies on the *Population of China, 1368-1953* (1959), which the London Times described as “an honor we haven’t seen before.” To show his support to the young scholar and the new research led by him, President MacKenzie and his wife personally gifted Dr. He’s family a rosewood desk.

Courses on Asian literature and anthropology were soon added. Enrollment in these courses surged, reflecting the growing interest in Canada toward Asia. In order to cater to these needs, the university created a new department and hired more scholars. In 1961, the department of Asian Studies was established with studies on China as one of its core programs. William Holland, who brought *Pacific Affairs* to UBC from New York, was named the founding director of the new department. *Pacific Affairs* was at that time a major academic journal on Asia Pacific. However McCarthyism in the U.S in the 1950s had undermined its reputation. The publication thrived in its new West Coast home, regaining its credibility based on its in-depth exploration of issues in the Asia Pacific.

The young but energetic department of Asian Studies soon attracted the attention of junior scholars who saw UBC as an ideal institution to begin their careers. Many of these academics would go on to become international leaders in their respective fields, with some taking on unique roles in the formation of policies that would bring Canada and China closer.

Chinese poetry expert Ye Jiaying (叶嘉莹) joined the department of Asian Studies in 1969. She had started studying classical Chinese poetry at the age of eleven. When she began teaching at UBC, she was one of only a handful of scholars in the Western world who taught traditional Chinese poetry in English. At a time when Mainland China was isolated from the rest of the world, the influence of her teaching and research on understanding Chinese culture in the West was immeasurable.

When Professor Ye retired in 1989, she donated half of her pension toward the establishment of a scholarship program at Nankai University in Tianjin, China. Since then, she has worked at Nankai for two semesters every year. In 1996, she received funding from patriotic Canadian entrepreneur C.K Choi and established the Centre for Traditional Chinese Culture at Nankai. Professor Ye’s contributions in her field are widely recognized. She is currently the only elected academician of the Royal Society of Canada in traditional Chinese literature. On her 90th birthday, former Chinese premier Wen Jiabao wrote a congratulatory letter and poem to praise her contribution to the study of Chinese literature as well as her role in promoting Chinese culture internationally.



Dr. He Bingdi (1917-2012), a notable Chinese-American historian and the first Asian-born president of the Association for Asian Studies. He began

his lifelong research on Chinese history at UBC. He was hired as a lecturer after obtaining his doctorate from Columbia University in 1948. He introduced UBC’s first course dedicated to China: “Modern Chinese History Since 1644.” Dr. He finished one of his most influential books, “Studies on the Population of China, 1368-1953” during his professorship at UBC.



Dr. Ye Jiaying (front), professor emeritus of Chinese literature at UBC and Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada. The University’s interest in Asian Studies accelerated in the 1960s. The University’s open and energetic atmosphere attracted promising young scholars who would become globally influential academicians. By encouraging Chinese studies, UBC provided a venue for dialogue between China and the West at a time when conflicting ideologies closed down direct communications. Dr. Ye is a lifelong scholar on Chinese poetry. Her arrival at UBC in the late 1960s was seen as a sign of the West’s understanding of China not only as a state but also more importantly as a civilization.



UBC Asian Library is home to the 45,000 volumes of the Puban collection. Originally a part of the famed Nanzhou Shulou, the Puban collection was purchased from its original owner by UBC in 1958. The collection covers ancient Chinese works in philology, history, philosophy and literature.



The Asian Centre, home to the Department of Asian Studies and the Asian Library, is a beautiful Asian Presence nestled in one of the campus forests. Originally the Sanyo Electric Pavilion at Expo'70 in Osaka, Japan, the centre was disassembled after the expo and shipped to Vancouver to be reconstructed on the UBC campus.

When Professor Ye retired in 1987, she donated half of her pension toward the establishment of a scholarship program at Nankai University in Tianjin, China. Since then, she has worked at Nankai for two semesters every year. In 1996, she received funding from patriotic Canadian entrepreneur C.K Choi and established the Centre for Traditional Chinese Culture at Nankai. Professor Ye's contributions in her field are widely recognized, and she is currently the only elected academican of the Royal Society of Canada in traditional Chinese literature. On her 90th birthday, former Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao wrote a congratulatory letter and poem to praise her contribution to the study of Chinese literature as well as her role in promoting Chinese culture internationally.

A comprehensive understanding of culture includes a look at different parts of the society from which it derives. Dr. Daniel Overmyer, who joined the Department of Asian Studies in 1973, led the study of Chinese popular thought and local religion. For him, the way the ordinary Chinese people think, and the ideas and values that shape their lifestyle reflected "the real China." Professor Overmyer's relationship with China is unique, having grown up in Hunan during the 1940s. According to him, "Chinese culture has its own contribution to humanity," and in order to understand it fully, one cannot ignore local religion and rituals, which are "realities in current Chinese society." In 1974, Dr. Overmyer was the first to propose the establishment of the Society for the Study of Chinese Religion in the United States. The Society was created the following year, marking the beginning of a systematic study of Chinese religion in the West. As a prolific writer, his publications have gone beyond his primary interest of religion to explore sects, gender, and economy, offering a comprehensive portrayal of Chinese society.

At a time when the study of China in the West focused primarily on the country's politics and diplomacy, Pullyblank, Ye and Overmyer's work contributed greatly to the West's understanding of China, not only as a state but also as an important and unique civilization.

Strong scholarship in the social sciences depends not only on faculty and courses, but also on a good library. As such, library for Chinese studies was established at UBC in 1959, thanks to the efforts of He Bingdi and Ronald Dore. That year, President MacKenzie agreed to invest most of the donations received by UBC on Chinese collections, reflecting UBC's determination to develop a top-level Chinese program. Professor He and Dore purchased 45,000 volumes of the Puban collection from Mr. Yao chun-shin in Macao. These traditional Chinese works, the oldest of which dates back to 1492, cover areas of classical philology, history, philosophy and literature. This acquisition then formed the foundation of the UBC's Asian Library. Today, with more than 320,000 volumes in the Chinese collection alone, the Asian Library is among the best in North America and without peer in Canada.

With student enrollment surging and a growing list of publications, UBC's Department of Asian Studies has become a leader in Chinese studies in Canada. Celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2011, the Department is in the top tier of North American programs in Chinese philosophy, thought, religion, literature and language. It also boasts the largest Chinese language-teaching program in North America. The department currently enrolls nearly 3,000 students in Mandarin, with another 900 taking courses related to China.

UBC's research and teaching on Chinese culture, politics, and policy have made significant contributions to bridging the gaps across the Pacific. When polarized ideologies threatened to prevent Canada from establishing formal relations with China, UBC provided the venue for objective dialogues to take place.

Paul T.K. Lin (林达光) began teaching at UBC's Department of Asian Studies in 1964, after spending 15 years in China. Born into a family of Chinese immigrants in the 1920s in Vancouver, Lin decided to travel to China in 1949 "to seek [his] origin and participate in China's historical transformation." Putting his pursuit of a PhD at Harvard on hold, he worked in Beijing as an English news editor as well as channel arts director for the General News Bureau and Beijing Radio Station. During this time, he witnessed the first 15 years of China's social and political transformation. Believing that a "conversation between China and the West [was] needed," and personally interested in facilitating that dialogue, Lin returned to Canada in 1964. UBC offered Lin a teaching position upon his return.

Lin is a distant relative to Madame Song Qingling, wife of Sun Zhongshan, and his brother was married to a granddaughter of Sun Zhongshan. In China, he was seen as a "friend of the Chinese people." Back in Canada, he was a scholar with personal experience in New China. This dual identity made Lin a unique liaison between the people of Canada and China, and allowed him to build a long-term relation with Chinese state leaders. Premier Zhou Enlai met with Lin Daguang twice in 1970 and 1972. They had hours-long discussions on Chinese history and China's domestic politics. At UBC, Lin broadened the Canadian public's understanding of China. He discussed the revolution in China and explained to his audiences that China's historical transformation reflected the decisions made by the Chinese people.

Lin was a tireless advocate for the establishment of diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China. Speaking at a conference in 1965, he asserted that, "(Canadians) have an enormous fund of goodwill in China. The name of Dr. Norman Bethune is the symbol of the best internationalism to all Chinese... But we cannot go on forever drawing on the capital of goodwill built up by Dr. Bethune..." Lin's advocacy helped convince Canadians that normalized relations with China served Canada's best interests.

Lin is also a special envoy of Sino-U.S. rapprochement. He was the intermediary approached by Henry Kissinger to first relay the message to Chinese government conveying his willingness to visit China. In October 1970, Canada and China officially established diplomatic ties, and in October 1973, Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau made the first official visit to China.

Following Trudeau's visit, UBC inadvertently became an integral part of Canada's first initiatives to strengthen the bilateral relationship. In an effort to deepen person-to-person connections between Canadians and Chinese, Canada's Department of External Affairs selected the UBC Thunderbirds hockey team to visit China and play a number of exhibition games. According to Dr. Bob Hindmarch, coach of the Thunderbirds at the time, "When Trudeau recognized the People's Republic of China, as a sideline of that, there [were] always cultural



Lin Daguang (Paul Lin, right), met with Zhou Enlai in 1972. Born in Vancouver, Lin (1920-2004) spent 15 years in China from 1949-1964. He had gone to China in search of his family's roots. He returned to Canada in 1962 and became a lecturer at UBC in 1964. Since then, Lin has served as a unique liaison between the people of Canada and the people of China, and an advocate for establishing diplomatic ties with China.



Canada and China established diplomatic ties in 1970, commencing the modern era of bilateral engagement. Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau met with Chairman Mao Zedong on his first visit to Beijing in 1973.

exchanges and hockey was the obvious choice when it came to sport.” It was decided by organizers of the trip that selecting a university team to represent Canada would be a most appropriate choice for the mission, as it would provide a balance between professionalism and the people-to-people nature of this mission.

The Thunderbirds lifted off from Vancouver on December 2, 1973. During their three-week journey to China, the team played games against China’s national team as well as local teams from five northern cities. Although the Thunderbirds won all seven games, the games proved to be a great success. Chinese audiences often cheered “friendship first, competition second!”

In addition to playing the hockey matches, the team tried to pass on everything it could teach about the game by offering hockey clinics at all its stops. In each city, residents acknowledged these additional efforts by extending their kindness and goodwill to their Canadian guests. Long afterwards, Dr. Hindmarch recalled his interactions with the Chinese people during the trip: “They were more accommodating than any country I’ve visited in connection with hockey.” The games were televised and broadcast live throughout China. At the venues, they attracted huge audiences. According to Dr. Hindmarch, “15,000 people would show up just to watch the team practice.” Reflecting on the impact of the mission, Dr. Hindmarch said that “[the Chinese] enjoyed our hockey and said we stimulated more interest... than any previous foreign visitors.” At the closing banquet at the end of the trip, Don Johnson, vice president international of the Canadian Amateur Hockey Association (CAHA) said: “I think it suffices to say that we have made ourselves at home in China...I would say, as sincerely as any human can say to the Chinese people, thank you very much.”



Dr. S.W. Leung (standing, 1918-1989), founding dean of UBC faculty of dentistry, was named Honorary President of the First Municipal People’s Hospital of Guangzhou, in 1986. Liang was born in Jiangmen, China, and educated in Canada and the United States. He was the first Chinese person to serve as the dean at a Canadian university. He was also an advocate for strong connections with Vancouver’s sister city Guangzhou.

Dr. Leung was named an Honorary Citizen of Guangzhou in 1987. The same year, he was appointed to the Order of Canada for his commitment to culture and humanity exchange between Canada and China.

Within UBC, racial barriers were being taken down. Even before the war ended, UBC had been at the forefront of change in Canadian attitudes toward Asia and Asian immigrants. UBC professors were in the local Civil Liberties Association to support the repeal of the 1923 Chinese Immigration Act. As an employer, the university recruited faculty and staff of Chinese origin. In 1947, the commerce department hired the university’s first Chinese faculty member, Leslie Wong, a former UBC undergraduate, as an assistant professor. Wong made great contribution to the strength of UBC finance. Government of Canada repealed the “Chinese Immigration Act” in 1947. In 2006, Prime Minister Stephen Harper formally apologized in the House of Commons.

In 1962, UBC selected S.W. Leung (梁甦华) as the founding dean of the university’s new dentistry school. Liang became the first Chinese to hold such a high position at a Canadian university. Born in Jiangmen, China, in 1918, Liang moved to Canada with his family when he was eight. He was educated at McGill, where he earned a bachelor of science and a doctorate in dental surgery. He later received his doctorate from the University of Rochester. After a distinguished career at University of Pittsburgh and University of California in Los Angeles, he returned to Vancouver to help build UBC’s Faculty of Dentistry.

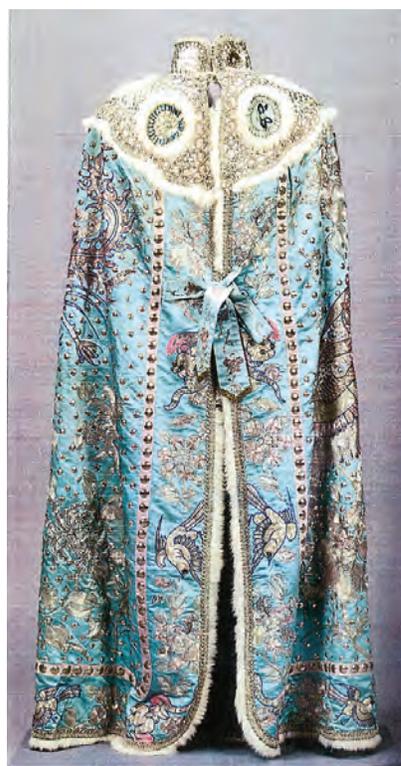
*“very open minded and young school...  
open to experiment and open to possibilities”*

His wife Sophia M.R. Leung (梁明任) was an alumni an UBC alumna and later elected to the Canadian House of Commons. She was the first female Asian Member of Parliament in Canada, serving from 1997-2004. She wrote about her husband’s appointment as “a breakthrough in race relations and a mark of maturity on the part of the university.” The Vancouver Sun expressed congratulations that UBC had chosen a Canadian of Chinese ancestry for such a high administrative office. In 1987, Mrs. Leung was recognized as a “Woman of Distinction” and received the “Canada Volunteer Award.” She was appointed to the Order of Canada in 1994. She served from 2004 to 2006 as special advisor to the prime minister on international trade.

Thanks to the global vision of UBC’s leadership and its young and energetic faculty team, UBC was recognized as an intellectual authority on China. It became a place where young talents gathered and thrived. During the years when regular dialogue between Canada and China was blocked by ideological confrontation, UBC possessed the forethought and courage to open its doors to China and to serve as Canada’s window into the Middle Kingdom. The unprecedented studies on China conducted by UBC faculty members and the links they created between Canada and China made critical contributions to the rapprochement between the two countries.

One may wonder how UBC, despite being a relative new institution, was able to recruit so many eminent scholars. Professor Overmyer’s observations upon his arrival at UBC in 1973 may offer some insights. He described UBC as a “very open minded and young school... open to experiment and open to possibilities” and as a place where “we could do what we needed to do right here.”

Across the Pacific, China entered a new historical phase in 1978. The reforms carried out at that time would fundamentally change the lives of one fifth of the world’s population. For Canada and UBC, a more open China would bring more opportunities. Although no one was aware of the implications of UBC’s collaboration with China at that time, it was clear that the solid expertise on China it had accumulated and the good will toward China it had fostered would serve UBC well in its work with China in the future.



Snow cape. The old Cantonese opera costume is on display in UBC’s Museum of Anthropology. The museum has one of the finest collections of Cantonese opera costumes outside China, reflecting the cosmopolitan nature of the UBC campus.

*Dr. Timothy Brook from UBC's Department of History, leads a discussion on Emperor Qianlong in 2014. A prolific writer on Ming and Qing history, Dr. Brook was the co-curator of the Vancouver Art Gallery's exhibition "The Forbidden City: Inside the Court of China's Emperors." The exhibition included nearly 200 objects from the Palace Museum in Beijing.*



## TRANSCENDING BOUNDARIES: 1980-2005

***In 1980, UBC entered into an agreement with Peking University to exchange publications and faculty resources between the two universities' departments of geology, marking the start of formal exchanges between UBC and Chinese universities.***



President Douglas Kenny (left), Rong Yiren (middle), chairman of the China International Trust and Investment Corporation, and Dr. Peter Lusztig (right), dean of commerce and business administration (today's Sauder School of Business) in June 1980. Rong Yiren was later elected vice-president of China. His visit initiated collaborations with China during its reform era.

Until 1980, direct exchange between Canadian universities and China was limited to educational tours. Entering into a new decade, UBC replaced this type of ad-hoc approach with a more systematic plan.

In March 1980, UBC signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Peking University, its first ever MOU with a Chinese university. The MOU allowed for regular exchange of publications, and research and teaching opportunities for faculty and advanced students in the departments of geography at UBC and at PKU. The long-term goal of the first-of-its-kind agreement was to foster closer academic, scientific and professional ties among geographers in North America and China. Under its framework, UBC Associate Professor Marwyn S. Samuels was appointed as a visiting professor of geography at PKU in spring 1982.

Three months later, Rong Yiren, then-chairman and president of the China International Trust and Investment Corporation (CITIC), visited UBC at the invitation of the university and the faculty of commerce and business administration (today's Sauder School of Business).

In honour of Rong's visit, UBC President Douglas Kenny announced a fellowship that provided for an English-speaking Chinese scholar to study for four months at UBC. President Kenny expressed his hope that the scholar's visit, sponsored by this fellowship, would lead to subsequent exchanges of younger students "and a new understanding between future managers of our two economies." During his visit, Rong Yiren, who would later become the vice president of China, spoke on campus to B.C. business leaders who had expressed interest in trade and investment with China facilitated through CITIC.

In the following two years, four Chinese business scholars spent time at UBC. During their visits, they lectured on Canada–China trade relations, attended courses, and presented at seminars. These activities provided their Canadian colleagues with valuable insights into China during a time of rapid transition. Furthermore, the ties that UBC established with high-level Chinese institutions through these exchanges served to lay the foundation for future cooperation, and built up the trust essential for collaboration between two countries with markedly different cultures and societies. Before the end of 1982, President Kenny and Dr. Peter Lusztig, dean of commerce reciprocated Rong Yiren’s trip to Canada by visiting him in China.

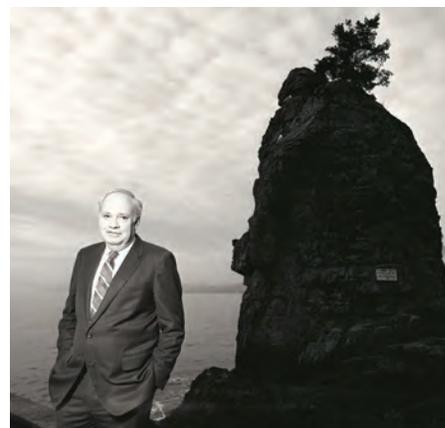
In the meantime, Asia’s economic dynamism attracted world attention. Recognizing this reality, UBC set a goal of helping Canada address challenges and take advantage of opportunities, building on its strength in Asia, which had been developed over the past 50 years. In 1988, UBC President David Strangway published the university’s strategy toward Asia (of which China was a major country of focus). Entitled *Toward the Pacific Century*, the document defined UBC’s responsibility in the 21st century to become a major resource for Canada on Asia.

For China, there was the sense that, suddenly, the world was accessible and available to help China with its urgent need to modernize. Education was a major area that China sought collaboration to improve its system and to train talented individuals capable of helping its transition to a market economy.

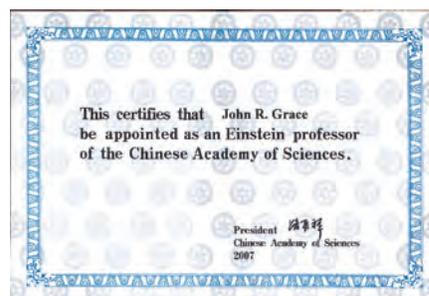
Canada was the first among Western nations to dedicate serious support to Chinese higher education. Canada’s efforts were made through the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), which has a mandate “to support sustainable development in developing countries.” From the beginning, CIDA’s approach to China was “the multiplication of contacts at the thinking level” and “building human and institutional linkages between Chinese and Canadians.” This mandate provided Canadian universities with a special role to play.

UBC was chosen as one of the centres to provide English language training for selected Chinese officials as part of the CIDA program. More significantly, the Faculty of Commerce and Business Administration was linked with Shanghai Jiaotong University to help strengthen management-training programs and establish its MBA program. There was a sense of urgency as UBC and other Canadian universities helped to alleviate China’s shortage in management talents and improve its training system. These programs benefited greatly from the trust and understanding UBC had already established with its Chinese counterparts, as conflicts and cultural misunderstandings were resolved more efficiently and effectively.

The trust and understanding between UBC and China helped usher in an era of even greater collaboration. One of the most successful partnerships between UBC’s commerce faculty and China took shape in the form of the Chinese Executive Program. Designed to train government and business executives, the



In his annual report of 1988, UBC President David Strangway stated his vision of UBC becoming Canada’s resource on Asia. He saw Asia’s dynamism as irresistible, and that Canada should prepare to work with Asian-Pacific nations. He believed that UBC, with its extensive network in the region that went beyond academic circles, should mobilize its resources to serve Canada’s needs in the Pacific century.



Dr. John Grace, former head of UBC chemical engineering (1979-1987) and dean of graduate studies (1990-1996), was among the first cohort of UBC faculty to develop research collaboration with Chinese scholars and take in graduate students from China.

Among those who came to work with Dr. Grace in the 1980s was Dr. Li Hongzhong, who had been recognized as an Academician of Chinese Academy of Science (CAS) in 2005.

In 2007, Dr. Grace was appointed as an Einstein Professor of CAS. The professorship is awarded to distinguished scientists actively working at the frontier of science and technology. The appointment entails lecture tours in China.

*Shanghai Jiaotong University is one of UBC's key partners in China. The relationship dates back to the mid-1980s, when UBC was paired with a business school in China to train management professionals that were urgently needed in China. UBC helped improve Shanghai Jiaotong's teaching capacity and built its first MBA program.*

*UBC has offered an International MBA at Shanghai Jiaotong since 2001. UBC was the first major Canadian university to offer a MBA program in China where students took the majority of coursework in China but graduated with a North American degree.*



Mr. UBC'—Robert H. Lee with the 11th UBC President Martha Piper. Three UBC presidents, David Strangway, Martha Piper and Stephen Toope have referred to Lee as Mr. UBC in recognition of his tremendous contribution and dedicated service to the university. A successful real estate business man, philanthropist and a UBC graduate, Lee initiated the idea of utilizing unused university endowed land to raise funds for his alma mater. He donated \$5-million to Sauder School of Business to support the school's graduate arm.

In 1993, Lee was selected as Chancellor of UBC, becoming the first Chinese Canadian to carry such title.

program originated from UBC's partnerships with China's former Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation (MOFTEC), which provided training to officials in economics and management. Over several decades of collaboration, the program developed partnerships with the Central Organization Department, Ministry of Commerce, Guangdong Provincial Government, Peking University, and the Baosteel Group. Approximately 1,000 senior Chinese government officials and business executives have benefited from these executive training programs, enabling them to return to China with fresh perspectives and new strategies to integrate into their daily practices. In 2012, the Canada China Business Council presented the Sauder School of Business with the Silver Award for Excellence in Education.

As UBC's links to Asia grew by leaps and bounds, its graduates of Asian ancestry were ready to give back to their alma mater. Philanthropists of Asian origin became major contributors to the university's development effort. They donated to a major capital campaign led by President Strangway known as *The UBC Campaign: A World of Opportunity*. The campaign aimed to increase UBC's status as an international institution.

In 1984, Robert H. Lee was named to the UBC board of governors. A graduate from the Faculty of Commerce at UBC in 1956, Lee built a formidable real estate business fostering ties to Asia. With a vision of how he could make a difference to his alma mater, Lee presented an innovative proposal to lease surplus university land to create a billion-dollar endowment for the university. After much persistence, Lee's idea became a reality, with over \$800-million raised and counting, by creating the UBC Properties Trust which he chaired for 26 years. Thanks to Lee's promotion of the university, UBC became well known among Chinese philanthropists. Among them were brothers Tom and Caleb Chan who donated a significant sum to build the UBC Chan Centre for the Performing Arts.

Lee in 1992 became the first person of Chinese origin to be appointed UBC Chancellor. He was appointed in recognition of his dedicated service to the university. In 2006, a plaque to mark the naming of the Robert H. Lee Graduate School was unveiled after Lee and his family made a donation supporting graduate student programming at the Sauder School of Business. The newly opened Alumni Building is also named after Lee who was known as "Mr. UBC" to three UBC presidents.

In the 1990s, studies on China and Asia gained newfound momentum. The UBC Centre for Chinese Research (CCR) was formally established in 1992 when the Institute of Asian Research (IAR) was restructured and expanded. The mission of the newly established CCR was to strengthen Chinese studies, coordinate research on China and Canada's relations with China, facilitate linkages among scholars doing research on China at UBC, and promote a deeper understanding of China in Canada. Through workshops, seminars, conferences, and publications, the Centre took on the role of facilitating the exchange of research findings within UBC, and between the university and

the community at large. World famous Hong Kong novelist Louis Cha, under the pen name Jin Yong (金庸), donated the Professor Louis Cha Chair to CCR for the study of contemporary thought and society in China, Chinese environmental sciences and sustainability.

CCR's strong interdisciplinary focus and close ties to academic, policy-making, business, and international and local communities have made it a key resource for a wide range of UBC scholars. IAR was re-launched in 2012 and tasked with serving as a university hub for Asia policy questions and CCR's role continued to grow.

Events organized by CCR focused on China's social, economic and political transition and consistently attracted large audiences from both inside and outside the UBC community. Faculty associated with the centre also carried out activities in China. He Baoshan (Samuel Ho, 何保山), professor in economics and CCR director in the mid-1990s, started collaboration with Jiangsu Academy of Social Science (CASS) on research in rural non-agricultural development. He successfully applied for funding from the International Development and Research Centre of Canada (IDRC), which had interests in funding research programs in developing areas. He led three projects with CASS.

One of the three projects, involving 12 provinces of southern China, was aimed at training young professional economists and policy makers by conducting applied research on high-priority issues affecting development. The project encouraged and supported young Chinese researchers with data, skill and information essential to present and subsequent research. Approximately 300 researchers from 22 institutions from the 12 provinces participated. They published the results of their research in a book titled *Sustainable Economic Development in South China* (2000). For many of the participants, the project was the first time they had conducted research using advanced economic methods and producing work in English.

Meanwhile, collaboration in medicine began in 1986 with the UBC biomedical communications department transmitting a heart operation and knee surgery by satellite from the medical centre to 250 physicians in Jinan, China.

In the spirit of bringing East and West together, UBC has developed a strong relationship with industrialists of Chinese origin. Among them are Cai Zhangge (C.K. Choi, 蔡章閣) and his family, whose financial gift, matched by the B.C. government, made possible the building that bears the Choi name and houses the Institute of Asian Research. A successful and self-made businessman who made his fortune despite limited schooling, Mr. Cai stressed the importance of education, and devoted his energy and resources to help others achieve what he was unable to do. In recognition of UBC as an outstanding institution and thankful for the education it has given to his children, Mr. Cai devoted his philanthropic efforts toward UBC. He established the C.K. Choi scholarship, fellowships and prizes in business administration, engineering, education, Buddhist studies and scholarly education. Mr. Cai has also served



Dr. Timothy Cheek, Louis Cha Chair in Chinese Research and director of the Centre for Chinese Research at the Institute of Asian Research. The Centre coordinates research, facilitates linkages among scholars doing research on China at UBC and promotes a deeper understanding of China in Canada.



Diana Lary, professor emerita of history (right) and Bai Xianyong, famous modern Chinese writer at the launch of Bai's most recent book in Hong Kong in 2012. Many UBC scholars on China have built strong connections with their Chinese counterparts. Bai was invited to UBC as the speaker for the Wat Memorial Lecture in 2013.



Cai Zhangge in front of a UBC building named after him. Mr. Cai was a successful and self-made businessman who stressed the importance of education.



A remake of the original St. John's College in Shanghai, SJC at UBC is a residence for graduate students and visiting scholars from around the world. It seeks to inspire a global vision and foster a spirit of community among its residents and alumni through multicultural education, intercultural understanding and international exchange. It is another demonstration of UBC-China engagement.

as a member of the 6th National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference. His son Cai Hongan (David Choi, 蔡宏安) President and CEO of Royal Pacific Realty, remains a strong supporter.

In 1996, UBC began the construction of St. John's College. The college was designed as a new residence for graduate students and a home for exchanges of ideas. The UBC college was named in tribute to St. John's University in Shanghai, which was one of the best universities in China during its 73 years of existence (1879-1952). Its graduates would go on to become leaders in the areas of science, architecture, diplomacy and law in post-revolution China. UBC and alumni of the former university (known as the Johnneans) built the college at UBC to pass on the Shanghai college's philosophy of "promoting the exchange of cultures and ideas between students and strengthening the mutual understanding among nations." UBC was chosen as the site for the new St. John's College as a result of its lengthy connection with China.

With peoples' interests in Asia continues to grow, IAR launched its Master of Arts in Asia Pacific Policy Studies (MAAPPS) program in 2000. It offered training focused on the Asia Pacific with significant content on China to prepare graduates for policy-related professional careers.



"Before you can receive, you must learn how to give (懂得施, 方能受)." To honour Mr. Robert H.N. Ho's contribution to the university, UBC presented him a commemorative scroll of the Ho family motto. Mr. Ho, founder of The Robert H.N. Ho Family Foundation and a recipient of UBC Honorary Doctor of Laws, has been a long supporter of Buddhist studies at UBC. In 2014, UBC renamed its leading Buddhism and Contemporary Society Chair and its corresponding program to The Robert H.N. Ho Family Foundation Chair in Buddhism and Contemporary Society. The program is the first one devoted to the study of modern and contemporary Buddhism in North America. Professor Jessica Main (Right) serves as the first Chair.

In 2001, a UBC delegation joined the 550 participants accompanying Prime Minister Jean Chrétien and nine of the ten provincial premiers, the so-called Team Canada, on a nine-day trip to China, to foster trade and investment between the two countries. One of the highlights of the trade mission was the signing of a historic agreement to work with Shanghai Jiaotong University on a cooperative international MBA (IMBA) program. The program was to enable business students in China to attend classes taught by UBC faculty in Shanghai and graduate with a UBC master's degree in business administration. The agreement made UBC the first major Canadian university to offer a program in China where students took a majority of their course work in China but graduated with a North American degree. In 2005, in response to the growing number of international students from Asia, UBC opened the Asia Pacific regional office in Hong Kong. The office serves alumni and development activities, supports student recruitment and caters to the needs of various academic programs, research and endeavors.

Through three decades of working relations, UBC and China have overcome cultural barriers and established solid trust. They have understood, learned and benefited from interactions with each other. UBC has played an important role in China's historical transformation, while China has opened its doors for the UBC community to learn, experience and interact. Chinese students studying at UBC jumped from less than 300 in 1996 to over 1,200 in 2003. In 1998, President Martha Piper released "Trek 2000"—the UBC vision in the new millennium, in which international engagement was a core. In 2005, President Piper released "Trek 2010," which set out UBC's goal of becoming one of the world's best universities. As UBC designed its blueprint for the 21st century, it was clear that China was not only an important partner in UBC's international plan, but also played a key role in the overall UBC plan.



*Central Conservatory Chinese Orchestra performs at UBC's Chan Centre for Performing Arts at the opening ceremony of the Canada-China Year of Cultural Exchange, 2015.*

*The UBC School of Music is in partnership with major Chinese music schools to bring performances of Chinese music to Canada. The school has a collection of instruments and other resources including books, journals and recordings.*



*“As one of the world’s leading universities, the University of British Columbia creates an exceptional learning environment that fosters global citizenship, advances a civil and sustainable society, and supports outstanding research to serve the people of British Columbia, Canada and the world.”—Place and Promise, the UBC Plan*

## BRIDGE ACROSS THE PACIFIC: 2006-2015

In his installation speech on September 29th, 2006, UBC President Stephen Toope reiterated priorities that were set out in *Trek 2010*, the university’s vision statement for the 21st century: “The University of British Columbia, aspiring to be one of the world’s best universities, will prepare students to become exceptional global citizens, promote the values of a civil and sustainable society...”

This vision was further developed in *Place and Promise, the UBC Plan*. UBC embraced the mission of creating an exceptional learning environment to foster global citizenship, advance a civil and sustainable society and support outstanding research to serve the people of British Columbia, Canada and the world.

International engagement was at the core of the *UBC Plan*, as university leadership foresaw that future generations of global leaders would be required to provide solutions to challenges that transcend national boundaries. In order to provide its students with the capability of operating in different cultural settings, UBC created academic programs and international learning opportunities that allowed its students to gain transnational knowledge and establish global networks.

It is also in *Place and Promise* that China was identified as one of UBC’s top international priorities. President Toope shaped the university’s resources to bring China even closer to the UBC community, while expanding UBC’s role as a serious collaborator with its Chinese counterparts. This bilateral



Active research collaboration with China is taking place at UBC Okanagan as well as on UBC's Vancouver campus. Dr. Wei Xiaohua (Adam Wei) and his team are working closely with the Chinese Academy of Sciences and several Chinese universities on forest carbon and climate change.

Dr. Wei is co-author of "Watershed Ecosystem Processes and Management," a Chinese-language reference widely used by young professionals in China.



Forest Science Centre for the faculty of forestry. UBC Forestry has strong connections with Chinese institutions and government agencies. Over the years, it has developed joint degree programs with top Chinese forestry schools, and worked with China's State Forestry Administration to best utilize the country's forest resource and help with environmental challenges.

exchange served to strengthen ties across the Pacific, allowing the people of Canada and the people of China to learn more from each other.

In 2007, UBC signed an agreement with the China Scholarship Council (CSC), an organization associated with China's Ministry of Education, that sponsors qualified Chinese students and scholars to study overseas, and foreign students and scholars to study in China. As the number of Chinese students going abroad for higher education increases, this partnership has afforded UBC advantages in the global competition for brainpower by connecting the university with some of China's most gifted students for both short-term exchange and degree programs. In 2015, UBC was hosting more than 100 CSC sponsored for-degree students and over 150 CSC sponsored visiting scholars.

Responding to the increase in interest in UBC among top Chinese students, the university has created specific programs to better accommodate them. The Faculty of Forestry, for example, developed a number of 2+2 programs with leading Chinese forestry universities. Through these programs, students from China spend the first two years of their schooling at a Chinese partner institution, attending courses designed by UBC professors, and then spend the remaining two years at UBC. Upon completion of the program, students receive a UBC degree. The first 2+2 cohort arrived at UBC in 2008.

Sharing UBC's teaching resources with China is another important means of collaboration. One example is the joint-master's degree in museum education by the UBC Faculty of Education and the Beijing Normal University, Zhuhai. The program is based in China and combines an online course with face-to-face teaching by UBC faculty members.



Dr. Pitman Potter, professor of law and HSBC Chair in Asian Research, was appointed to the Royal Society of Canada in 2015

for his pioneering and innovative work on Chinese law and trade policy.

There are many ways for Chinese students to receive a UBC experience besides enrolling in a degree program. In 2013, UBC began its Vancouver Summer Program where college students from China attend summer courses at UBC, live on the UBC campus and enjoy the summer in Vancouver. In its inaugural year, more than 300 students from 25 Chinese universities participated. In 2015, the number of participants from China exceeded 1,000.



Successful exchanges are bilateral and mutually beneficial. The UBC Go Global program offers opportunities to UBC students to study on exchanges, volunteer, conduct research or complete an internship abroad as part of their UBC education. In China, Go Global has nine partner universities. Through those partnerships, hundreds of UBC students have found exceptional opportunities in China. For example, thanks to Dr. Jing Zhichun's long term working relationship with the Institute of Archaeology at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, UBC students in the Go Global program have an opportunity to work on one of the most important archeological sites in Anyang, Henan province, where relics from the Shang Dynasty (1600 BC—1046 BC) have been unearthed. No other North American institute has ever created such fieldwork opportunities at an archaeological site of such importance in China.

Meanwhile, UBC's reputation in China was further elevated when the university was invited to co-host the International University Presidents' Conference with the China Scholarship Council in Nanjing in 2008. Sponsored by the Ministry of Education of China, the conference provided an international platform to showcase China's institutes of higher education. Presidents of 24 international institutions and 55 top Chinese universities attended the event. "Better understanding of current research and graduate training in top Chinese universities will greatly enhance future research collaborations and the creation of new knowledge," UBC President Stephen Toope said at the conference. UBC is the only foreign university ever to be invited to cohost the conference. As a result of its work at the conference, UBC's name recognition is high among the top players of Chinese higher education.

*UBC welcomes university students from China every summer to the Vancouver Summer Program.*

*Participants take UBC courses and live on campus to experience life in a Canadian university. In 2015, the number of participants exceeded 1,000.*



UBC has a long Olympic tradition that started in 1928 when Harry Warren was selected to run track for Canada in Amsterdam. UBC Athletics has won more national championships in 10 years than any other university in Canada. UBC sent 42 athletes, coaches and support staff to the Olympics and Paralympics in Beijing in 2008.



Chinese Vice Premier Zhang Dejiang (right) presents UBC Professor in Medicine Dr. Song Weihong with the Friendship Award in Beijing in 2011. The award is the country's highest honor, presented to foreign experts who make an outstanding contribution to social and economic development of China.

Dr. Song brought together life science researchers from Canada and China to solve challenges that transcend boundaries.



Each year, the UBC community joins Chinese all over the world for the celebration of the Lunar New Year.

UBC's athletic exchange with China has built on the legacy and goodwill created by the Thunderbirds' "diplomacy on ice" mission. In summer 2008, 42 UBC athletes, coaches, and support staff competed in the 2008 Beijing Summer Olympics and Paralympics. Three of these athletes won medals. Kyle Hamilton (Arts), Ben Rutledge (Commerce) and Jake Wetzel (Commerce) won gold as part of the men's eight.

In addition to sending athletes and coaches to the Games, the UBC community participated in Olympics in China in many ways. Right after Beijing was selected to be the host city of the 2022 Winter Olympics, the Department of Kinesiology at UBC formed a partnership with Tsinghua University to jointly train sports management professionals for China. Graduates from this professional master's degree will serve not only the Olympic Games, but also the burgeoning market of mass sport in China.

Reflecting UBC's top administrators' interest in deepening their relations with China, President Toope in 2009 appointed Dr. Song Weihong as the first special advisor to the President on China. A world-renowned scientist in Alzheimer disease, Dr. Song has facilitated several important agreements between Canada and China on collaboration in science and health. Thanks to his advocacy, the National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC) and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) reached an agreement to fund projects jointly in health science. As the head of an academic advisory committee of the State Key Laboratory of Medical Genetics at Central South University, and as a foreign appraisal expert of NSFC, Dr. Song has developed a strong understanding of both cultures and both systems. He has served as an effective bridge between them.

"Science has a frontier that needs to be expanded from time to time, and, to move the frontier the farthest, we need the most inclusive consensus building process," said Professor Edward Grant from UBC's Department of Chemistry. Dr. Grant is a firm believer that different cultural settings have their own comparative advantages in exploring the world of science and that Canadian scientists can benefit much from their Chinese colleagues. He sees Chinese scientists generating creative experiment designs for experiments without being bounded by tradition. A close collaborator with Nankai University, Dr. Grant and his partners in Tianjin conduct research on Raman spectroscopy to design new instruments to collect spectra from biologically relevant samples with sizes down to microscopic dimensions. The spectra are then analyzed using sophisticated classification techniques, which obtains information on the sample's state and its chemical composition. They anticipate the technology will eventually be used to detect cancer at an early stage.

With a deep understanding of the many environmental challenges China faces as it continues its rapid economic development, UBC's Faculty of Forestry has joined hands with the State Forestry Administration (SFA) of China to develop the Chinese national sustainable forest management systems and China's first national forest certification standard. China is both an important exporter and importer of



Dr. Paul Evans, a professor at the Institute of Asian Research, recently published a book on Canada-China relations (up). Dr. Yves Tiberghien's book was translated into Chinese and published in China.

The Institute of Asian Research serves as a hub for research and teaching on policy issues on Asia, with research on China at its core. The Institute has recruited eminent scholars and research associates, including two former Canadian ambassadors to China. Its research on Canada-China relations is an asset for both countries.

forest products. Having its own national certification standard is essential in order for the country to establish a truly sustainable and globally competitive forestry sector. UBC's department of forestry has also provided China with high resolution climate data to project future seasonal and annual climate variables.

Another area of co-operation is found in the Faculty of Education. Under this program, junior faculty members from universities in the Beijing area are given three to four months of training to improve their research skills, which they can bring back to their home universities.

In 2012, the Sauder School of Business, executive education unit, established the beginning of a decade-long training partnership with the Industrial & Commercial Bank of China (ICBC). This executive training program is an integral part of ICBC's succession planning and international leadership development. Up to 100 top employees are selected each year, out of a workforce of more than 400,000, for training for future overseas postings at ICBC's branch offices around the world. Around one-quarter of these employees receive their training at Sauder over the course of nine months. The program consists of a blended learning model, with custom courses, various executive education open-enrolment courses, and opportunities to audit Sauder MBA courses. The employees also have a two-month internship at various corporations and organizations within the Vancouver business community.

The university believes the establishment of a coordinating unit, and a hub for exchange of information among participating faculties and institutions is imperative in order to support the extensive engagement with China, and to enable the university to design a comprehensive plan for UBC-China relations. The university re-launched the Institute of Asian Research to fulfill that function. The Institute's five regional centres were tasked with taking the lead in coordinating communications with the countries they represent. The Centre for Chinese Research (CCR) was responsible for facilitating academic research and exchanges with China and among the Chinese communities in Canada. The Centre has invite Chinese scholars, state leaders, and high-level government officials to campus, including economist Cheng Siwei, a former vice-chairman of the National People's Congress, Tao Kaiyuan, the vice president of the Supreme People's Court, and author Yu Hua. Key Canadian diplomats who have served



John Hepburn, vice president, research and international at UBC, and Dr. Peng Long, president of Beijing Foreign Studies University, sign a MOU in 2015

H.E. Liu Fei (fifth from left, second row), Consul General of China in Vancouver, witnessed the ceremonial signing.



The Honorable Jack Austin received an Honorary Doctorate in Law (LL.D) from UBC in 2011. A former federal minister

who served 30 years as Senator, Austin has been especially interested in Canada-China relations. He was on Canada's first mission to China in 1971.

Austin is an honorary professor of the Institute of Asian Research, and co-chair of the UBC China Council. He was named to the Order of Canada in 2014 for his contribution to Canada-China relation.



President Stephen Toope (left) presents a talking stick to Dr. Justin Yifu Lin at a dinner honoring Dr. Lin, hosted by the UBC China-Council, in Vancouver in May 2014.

Dr. Lin is a professor at Peking University and a former chief economist and senior vice president of the World Bank. In recognition of his contribution to development economics and China's economic reform, UBC awarded Dr. Lin an Honorary Doctorate of Laws (LL.D) in May 2014.



Dr. Wang Yong (Right), Professor at Peking University, is the first UBC Chevalier Visiting Professor from China. He was hosted by the Institute of Asian Research, and worked extensively with the Institute's Director, Dr. Yves Tiberghien (Left) on global governance, G20 and international political economy. Dr. Wang also leads the Centre for International Political Economy at PKU.

Canada-China relations have been invited to become honorary professors at IAR. Diplomats who have accepted the honour include former Canadian ambassadors to China Earl Drake and Joseph Caron, and former Canadian Senator Jack Austin who was on Canada's first official mission to China in 1971 as deputy minister of energy, mines and resources in Ottawa.

In 2013, the UBC China-Council was set up with the support of President Toope. The Council, the only one of its kind at a Canadian university, took over responsibility for the information exchange and the mandate to provide advice on the university's strategy on China. The Council enables the university to implement its strategy on China in a more cohesive and systematic manner. John Hepburn, UBC's vice-president, research and international, and retired Sen. Jack Austin, an IAR honorary professor, serve as co-chairs of IAR. Dr. Yves Tiberghien is the China Council's executive director.

Immediately after its establishment, the China Council organized a UBC mission to Chongqing, the largest municipality in China. The mission reflected the university's intense interest in western China, the new powerhouse of China's economy. Deans and associate deans from 12 of the university's 15 faculties joined the mission. The trip established a five-year strategic cooperation agreement with the Chongqing government that allowed for research and teaching collaborations with six universities in the region. The agreement focused on urban planning and sustainable development, education, law, public policy and international relations, medicine and life sciences, engineering, management and leadership training, and fine arts.

Another significant role played by the China Council is to create initiatives to deepen understanding between Canada and China. The Council facilitates high-level visits that provide the university community with better chances to exchange perspectives with leading Chinese scholars, government representatives and business leaders. In May 2014, UBC awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Law to Dr. Justin Yifu Lin, a former senior vice president and chief economist at the World Bank, and a professor of economics at Peking University. The award was presented in recognition of his prodigious scholarly output and influential leadership in economic development and reforms. Representatives from the World Bank, the Government of Canada, the Government of British Columbia and the local business community joined the UBC celebration in honour of Dr. Lin.

Two days after Dr. Lin's visit, H.E. Liu Xiaofeng, vice chairman of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) held a seminar. UBC students and faculty members had the opportunity to ask the state leader a number of questions about governance, legislation and policy-making in China. In January 2015, a discussion on the rule of law in China was held with Madame Tao Kaiyuan, vice president of the Supreme People's Court.

The China-Canada Joint Centre for BioEnergy Research & Innovation (C-C JCBERI) was opened at UBC in August 2015. The centre is intended to foster bioenergy technology development, demonstration and commercialization in both Canada and China. It is jointly hosted by UBC and Beijing University of Chemical Technology (BUCT). The joint venture is another example of mutually beneficial collaboration in which UBC's research strength is applied to meet the tremendous market needs in China. Dr. Bi Xiaotao, professor of chemical and biological engineering at UBC, and Dr. Tan Tianwei, professor and president of BUCT, lead the centre.

UBC continues to promote exchange and cooperation between the two countries. The Master of Public Policy in Global Affairs (MPPGA), which trains future global policy leaders to meet challenges that transcend boundaries, officially started its lectures in September 2015. The China focus of MPPGA provides students with a deep cultural and political understanding of that country they will most likely interact with on many fronts during their careers. In this sense, UBC has become a strong and valuable asset for future Canada-China relations.

In November 2015, UBC, in partnership with the Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada (APFC), celebrated the 45th anniversary of Canada and China's diplomatic relationships through a day-long discussion conference. The conference invited participants from both countries to reflect upon the past, present, and future bonds between the two nations. Participants included three former ambassadors from China to Canada: Lu Shumin, Lan Lijun, and Zhang Junsai. On the Canadian side, representatives included former senator Hon. Jack Austin and former Deputy Head of Mission to China Sarah Taylor. Furthermore, UBC professors Paul Evans and Yves Tiberghien, along with local business leaders and government officials, led discussions on hot topics including investment and economic growth potential in Canada-China relation. UBC and APFC hosted this conference shortly after Canada's new government cabinet were elected. The inclusive conference offered both the Canadian political leaders and general public to gain a deeper understanding of China to carry forward this relationship across the Pacific.

Global governance has been one of UBC's top research focuses. China's growing influence means that the country will invest more on this issue. By hosting the G20 in 2016, China provided world leaders a platform to architect solutions to modern global issues. In anticipation of the G20, the Institute of Asian Research at UBC initiated the Vision 20 (V20) summit. The V20 summit aimed to generate ideas on how to run an effective global governance system from international scholars, think tank leaders, and field experts alike. Zhejiang University from China and the University of



Dr. Bi Xiaotao, professor of chemical and biological engineering, and a fellow of the Canadian Academy of Engineering, is leading the China-Canada Joint Centre for BioEnergy Research & Innovation.

Dr. Bi is among the many UBC scientists who were educated in China. He graduated from Tsinghua University (BA Sc, MA.Sc) and UBC (PhD).



UBC's new MPPGA program trains future generations of global leaders with a focus on China. In this way, UBC once again asserts its role as being a resource for Canada-China relations.



Jointly hosted by UBC, the University of Toronto and Zhejiang University, the Vision 20 (V20) summit brought together renowned scholars, international organization leaders, entrepreneurs, and government officials to Hangzhou, China in March 2016 to address challenges and opportunities that the world faces today.

Toronto from Canada both expressed great interest in the initiative. With the support from The Rockcheck Group and The Estuary Innovation Group, the three universities joined forces to host the V20 summit in March of 2016 in Hangzhou, China, the locale that would play host to the G20 summit six months later. The summit attracted a variety of notable participants, including former Managing Director and Chief Financial Officer of the World Bank Bertrand Badre, former Director-General of the World Trade Organization Pascal Lamy, former Senior Vice President and Chief Economist of the World Bank Justin Lin, and the former Prime Minister of Canada Paul Martin (video link). Through an active exchange of ideas, the summit produced a blue paper that contained actionable recommendations regarding climate change, sustainable development, and inclusive growth. Key participants signed the blue paper, and presented the document to Chinese leaders as a reference for the agenda of the 2016 G20 summit.

After its first century of connecting with China, UBC has established itself as Canada's educational gateway to China. The number of Chinese students at the university currently exceeds 3,000; the number of bilateral agreements with Chinese counterparts topped 100. More importantly, UBC has become a bridge across the Pacific, connecting the people of Canada and the people of China.

UBC's relationship with China began the same year the university was founded. After 100 years of bilateral exchange, dialogue, and mutual support, both UBC and China have gained from this relationship. As the world's most dynamic economy, China's growth offers great opportunities to the world. Working with China has let UBC to participate in the country's great historical transformation. It also offers its students the best possible opportunities to understand and access to China—steps that are necessary for them to become true global citizens. The research collaboration that UBC has developed with China is empowering the people of the world to answer to global challenges.

UBC's relationship with China is only one example of the UBC's many successes achieved in its first 100 years. It has demonstrated how such relations can be developed and how they benefit members of both communities. "A people's university" was the kind of university envisioned by President Wesbrook. Today, we are confident that UBC has become, and will continue to be "a people's university," as its achievements are serving not only the people of British Columbia and Canada, but also the people of the world. Not only is the current UBC community reaping the rewards of the hard work done by its predecessors, but it is also making its own contributions by establishing new connections while nurturing existing ties.

## APPENDIX A

### UBC-CHINA QUICK FACTS (2015)

#### NUMBER OF AGREEMENTS:

**95** active agreements with leading Chinese universities

#### FACULTY CONNECTIONS:

over **170** faculty members have professional interests in China

#### STUDENTS:

Number of students from China: **3794** (UBCV) **293** (UBCO)

Number of students from China attending UBC summer school (Vancouver Summer Program): **1316 (2016)**

#### CHINESE COLLECTION IN THE LIBRARY:

**310,000** books

**10** subscribed databases

Over **1340** e-books

**8544** microform

**22** newspapers

**1110** rare book titles

### MILESTONES:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>1915: First student of Chinese ethnic (Suzanne Ye) enrolled at UBC.</p> <p>1933: First honorary degree awarded to a Chinese citizen (Dr. Weng Wenhao, father of China's modern oil industry).</p> <p>1947: First faculty member of Chinese ethnic was hired.</p> <p>1948: First course focused on China was opened by Dr. He Bingdi.</p> <p>1959: First volumes of Chinese collection arrived at UBC library.</p> <p>1961: Department of Asian Studies was founded with studies on China as one of its founding programs.</p> <p>1968: UBC appointed S.W Leung as the founding dean of the Faculty of Dentistry. Dr. Leung became the first Chinese dean in a Canadian university.</p> <p>1970: Canada and China established diplomatic ties. UBC's ongoing research and teaching on China has been a resource for Canada on China.</p> <p>1973: UBC Thunderbird Hockey Team was selected by Canada to visit China.</p> <p>1980: UBC signed its first MOU with a Chinese university—Peking University.</p> <p>1980: Rong Yiren, who later became Vice President of China, visited UBC.</p> <p>1983: UBC started its involvement in Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)'s capacity building programs in China to support its modernization in the reform era.</p> <p>1992: Re-launch of Institute of Asian Research: its Centre for Chinese Research (CCR) became a hub for research on China both within and outside UBC.</p> <p>1996: Construction of St. John College at UBC began.</p> | <p>2001: UBC joined Team Canada of Prime Minister Jean Chretien's Team Canada state visit to China.</p> <p>2002: UBC International MBA program opened in Shanghai, in partnership with Shanghai Jiaotong University.</p> <p>2007: UBC signed agreement with China Scholarship Council (CSC), allowing excellent Chinese students and scholars to study at UBC with government funding.</p> <p>2008: UBC students won medals at Beijing Olympic.</p> <p>2009: UBC appointed its first Special Advisor to the President on China.</p> <p>2011: UBC identified China as one of its top priorities in its international strategy.</p> <p>2013: The UBC China Council was established.</p> <p>2013: UBC signed a five-year strategic cooperation agreement with Chongqing Municipality (with administration rank of province) and six universities in the region.</p> <p>2014: UBC awarded an honorary degree to Dr. Justin Yifu Lin, professor at PKU and former chief economist and senior vice president of the World Bank.</p> <p>2014: H.E Liu Xiaofeng, Vice Chairman of Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference visited UBC.</p> <p>2015: UBC celebrated its centennial.</p> <p>2015: China-Canada Joint Center for BioEnergy Research &amp; International (C-CJBERI) opened. The center is jointly led by Dr. Bi Xiaotao (UBC Chemical and Biological Engineering) and Dr. Tan Tianwei (professor and president, Beijing University of Chemical Technology).</p> <p>2015: UBC launched the Master of Public Policy of Global Affairs (MPPGA) program. The program has an Asia/China focus.</p> |
|---|--|

## APPENDIX B

### MEMBERS OF THE UBC CHINA COUNCIL

#### 2013-2015

**Co-Chair: John Hepburn** *Vice President Research and International*

**Co-Chair: Hon. Jack Austin** *Honorary Professor, Institute of Asian Research*

**Executive Director: Yves Tiberghien** *Director, Institute of Asian Research*

**Gage Averill** *Dean, Faculty of Arts*

**Katherine Beaumont** (since 2014), *Director, Go Global: International Learning Programs*

**Joseph Caron** *Former Ambassador of Canada to China*

**Timothy Cheek** *Director, Centre for Chinese Research, Faculty of Arts*

**Julian Cheng** *Associate Professor, Faculty of Applied Science, UBC Okanagan Campus*

**Wei Cui** (since 2014) *Associate Professor, Faculty of Law*

**Patsy Duff** *Co-Director, Centre for Research in Chinese Language & Literacy Education, Faculty of Education*

**Paul Evans** *Professor, Institute of Asian Research, Liu Institute for Global Issues*

**Amy Hanser** *Associate Professor, Faculty of Arts*

**Kendall Ho** (since 2014) *Director, eHealth Strategy Office, Faculty of Medicine*

**John Innes** *Dean, Faculty of Forestry*

**Ross King** *Head, Department of Asian Studies, Faculty of Arts*

**Haochen Li** (since 2014) *Research and Partnership Coordinator, China Council*

**Leonel Roldan-Flores** *Associate Director, International Office*

**Weihong Song** *Special Advisor to the President on China*

**Rizhi Wang** *Professor, Faculty of Applied Science*

**Grace Wong** *Senior Advisor International, Office of the Provost and Vice President Academic*

**Yuen Pau Woo** *President and CEO, Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada*

**Ting Zhu** *Assistant Professor, Sauder School of Business*

**Manager: Kerry Ross**, *Special Events Manager, Institute of Asian Research*

#### 2015-PRESENT

**Co-Chair: John Hepburn** (until May 2016) *Vice President Research and International*

**Co-Chair: Angela Redish** (since November 2016) *Provost and Vice President Academic*

**Co-Chair: Hon. Jack Austin** *Honorary Professor, Institute of Asian Research*

**Executive Director: Yves Tiberghien** *Director, Institute of Asian Research; Co-Director, Master of Public Policy in Global Affairs (MPPGA)*

**Gage Averill** *Dean, Faculty of Arts*

**Stewart Beck** *President and CEO, Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada (APFC)*

**Katherine Beaumont** *Director, Go Global: International Learning Programs*

**Joseph Caron** *Former Ambassador of Canada to China*

**Murali Chandrashekar** *Senior Associate Dean, Sauder School of Business*

**Timothy Cheek** *Professor, Institute of Asian Research, Faculty of Arts*

**Wei Cui** *Associate Professor, Faculty of Law*

**Luciana Duranti** *Professor, Faculty of Arts*

**Paul Evans** *Professor, Institute of Asian Research, Faculty of Arts*

**Howard Feldman** (until 2015) *Executive Associate Dean, Faculty of Medicine*

**John Innes** *Dean, Faculty of Forestry*

**Ross King** *Head, Department of Asian Studies, Faculty of Arts*

**Victor Leung** *Professor, Faculty of Applied Science*

**Kai Li** *Senior Associate Dean, Sauder School of Business*

**Moura Quayle** *Director, Liu Institute for Global Issues*

**Weihong Song** *Special Advisor to the President on China*

**Robert Tierney** *Professor, Faculty of Education*

**Adam Wei** *Professor, Faculty of Applied Science, UBC Okanagan Campus*

**Grace Wong** *Senior Advisor International, Office of the Provost and Vice President Academic*

**Yuen Pau Woo** *President, China Global*

**Zhaoming Xu** *Associate Dean, Faculty of Land and Food Systems*

**Adel El Zaim** *Executive Director, International Office*

**Sherry Zhao** *Business Development Officer, Mitacs*

**Manager: Haochen Li**

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Central Conservatory Chinese Orchestra performs at Chan Centre: Courtesy of Central Conservatory of Music

President Toope and Justin Lin: Courtesy of UBC China Council, photo by Raymond Kam

