

Foreign Sci-tech Team Sparks Xiamen Development

By Staff Reporters

A volunteer team made up of more than 20 foreign sci-tech experts was set up in Xiamen, Fujian province on August 25. The team received verification letters of their certified professional skills and letters of appointment as sci-tech special representatives.

The first batch of 10 foreign sci-tech special representatives come from India, Singapore, Australia, Japan, Denmark and other countries. They specialize in various fields such as electronic information, intelligent manufacturing, animation and design, and will provide local sci-tech enterprises with targeted assistance and support through technical advice, project matchmaking, and concerted action.

Ohashi Nobuo, general manager of Electric Glass (Xiamen) Co., is a member of the volunteer team. He applauded the efforts the Xiamen municipal government made to support the company, which in turn contributed to its rapid development. Meanwhile, Ohashi hopes that his rich experience in electro-optical technologies can help local sci-tech enterprises enhance their management.

In 2020, Mr. and Mrs. Hala from Egypt came to work in Xiamen. Currently they are engaged in marine ecology research at the Third Institute of Oceanography of the Ministry of Natural Resources. "As a member of the sci-tech special representatives team, we are glad to use my research achievements to boost the development of Xiamen's Marine industry. I hope that people from China and other countries can further enhance communication and cooperation in Xiamen," they said.

The new era entrusts sci-tech special representatives with new missions,

and also puts forward higher requirements for improving the system of science and technology special representatives. In recent years, Xiamen has gradually implemented several measures to improve the system of sci-tech special representatives through diversity. For example, it has stepped up efforts to expand the channels for selection and recognition of science and technology special representatives, stimulating innovation, improving services and upgrading relevant systems and mechanisms.

The development of the sci-tech special representatives has played a major role in promoting the revitalization of rural industries, culture, human resources and the ecological system.

Xiamen has made bold attempts to explore new modes of sci-tech special representatives' work. Among these efforts, opportunities to participate in selection are given to professionals both at home and abroad. Luo Lei, an official from the city's science and technology

bureau, noted that Xiamen is ready to provide a stage for expats to unleash their potential and facilitate them serving as the intelligent power to advance corporate technological innovation, commercialization of sci-tech achievements, and industrial development.

Some foreign professionals with rich experience and strong operational skills fail to apply for jobs in Xiamen due to their educational background, work experience and other restrictions.

In response to some key industries' urgent need for introducing foreign professionals with such concerns, the Xiamen Science and Technology Bureau and other local governmental departments have launched a professional skill evaluation mechanism for foreign professionals and carried out pilot projects.

A total of 11 professionals from the U. S., Canada, Japan, Turkey, and Spain as well as BRICS countries received their certificates for being sci-tech special representatives. Among them, the newcomers were also issued work permits and residence permits.

Zfusion Tech Big Data Platform is the agency that evaluates foreign talent. Zhang Longhui, the head of Zfusion Tech told S&T Daily that the platform will collect the information on the current status and development trend of relevant industries and technology. Based on the information gained, it makes a comprehensive analysis of the adaptability, innovative ability and urgency of foreign professionals and potential posts, before compiling a multi-dimensional profile of professionals, which serves as a reference for relevant departments to review work permits.

Source: Xiamen Science and Technology Bureau

Andre Rosendo: China Facilitates Cutting-edge Research

By TIAN Xueke & WEN Haoting

Dr. Andre Rosendo chose China to continue his professional studies because he felt the country has world-class laboratories with cutting-edge equipment, as well as being well connected to appropriate industries. The assistant professor at Shanghai Tech University hails from Brazil, having studied in Japan and the UK before coming to China.

His research area is in evolutionary robotics, soft manipulation and robotic locomotion. Robots are increasingly present in our lives, and they must be safe to interact with humans while also being capable of adapting to our world. Rosendo's research combines walking robots capable of intelligently creating themselves, with safe humans and environmental interactions through soft materials.

S&T Daily recently had the opportunity to conduct a written interview with Rosendo and learn more about his experience working in China.

S&T Daily: What is your view on the academic environment in China and what are some of the benefits of doing researches here versus other places?

Rosendo: China has been investing a lot in science and technology. As a researcher, that is really important. It represents stronger collaborations between academic institutions and industries. Robotics, specifically, is a very expensive research field that many countries around the globe cannot afford. While advances in computer vision and machine learning only require fast computers (many times clusters, geographically far away from the research institution), robotics work is built upon expensive hardware, and this interplay between academia and industries in China allows cutting-edge research to happen.

S&T Daily: Based on your experience living in China, do you feel that new technologies in China, such as e-payments and high-speed railways, have improved your day-to-day life?

Rosendo: Absolutely! Life as a foreigner in China would be very difficult without e-payment systems, such as Alipay and Wechat, and the constant advances in the railway [system] are proving to be tough competition for the aviation industry (not only in cost but also in the door-to-door commute time). When I need to shop in the city or travel to other provinces, language is not a bar-



Dr. Andre Rosendo is working on a robotic arm. (Photo provided by author)

rrier anymore, and payment is just a QR code scan away.

S&T Daily: You have been working in Shanghai for almost five years. Which part of the country has impressed you most?

Rosendo: How fast things are changing. There is always new construction happening here and there, a new payment system or a more streamlined procedure that trims down the waiting time. Lots of innovation is happening at the same time, and it is very exciting to live in a place like this.

S&T Daily: As a foreign scientist conducting research in China, what suggestions do you have for academic institutions in terms of international sci-tech cooperation?

Rosendo: China has a chance to establish itself as a world leader in robotics by doing strong collaborations with other fast developing countries, such as India, South Africa, Russia and Brazil. These countries have formidable researchers without the resources to conduct their research there, and a good strategy would be offering "visiting scholarships" to PhDs and postdocs from these countries to maximize research output.

At the end of the interview, Rosendo suggested that articles on science and technology should include more technical information, as some readers interested in such articles will want to know about technological advances with a higher degree of details.



The certification ceremony for foreign professionals. (PHOTO: Xiamen Science and Technology Bureau)

Experts Call for Int'l Cooperation in Public Health Sector

By Staff Reporters

The International Science & Technology Cooperation Forum on Biomedicine for Prevention and Control of Infectious Diseases was held in Beijing on September 25, aiming to further facilitate international people-to-people exchanges among the sci-tech community.

As one of the sub-meetings of 2021 Zhongguancun Forum, this forum is led by the Department of Foreign Expert Services, Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST), and hosted by China Science and Technology Exchange Center, Foreign Talent Research Center, MOST, and Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

Experts from relevant international

organizations, government departments, research institutions and enterprises engaged in comprehensive dialogues on cooperation in the prevention and control of major infectious diseases and international collaboration on vaccine and drug research and development.

Participants agreed the current sci-tech revolution and industrial transfor-

mation are profoundly changing the economic landscape and daily life. In particular, as COVID-19 continues to spread around the globe, society sees an increasing need for deepening cooperation among the global scientific and technological communities, so as to jointly promote building a community of common health for mankind.

Service Info

Beijing Offers New Recruitment Platform for Global Talents

By BOTC

The first GT2HR Recruitment Fair for Global Talent kicked off in Beijing on September 15, 2021. This special event was jointly launched by the Beijing Overseas Talent Center (BOTC), Beijing Youth Federation and FESCO.

It aims to create an exchange platform to accelerate the gathering of talents with expertise and strong scientific research abilities.

Furthermore, this will in turn connect with high-end resources worldwide, thus contributing to building Beijing into a global sci-tech innovation hub.

The platform strives to introduce, employ, retain outstanding young talents around the world through activities such as recruiting 100 organizations and companies in Beijing in 100 days online.

Convenient services will be provided for the experts in their work permit application, innovation and entrepreneurship promotion, and integration into Beijing life.

GT2HR 2021 will be ongoing from mid-September to December this year.

Activities include the launch, online platform connection and offline exchange activities.

At present, 31 well-known scientific research institutions, universities, hospitals and technology enterprises in Beijing, such as the Suzhou Institute of Nano-Tech and Nano-Biotics of Chinese Academy of Sciences, National Children's Medical Center, Xiaomi Corporation and ByteDance, have released 177 posts on the platform, which are open to experts globally.

The launch meeting was held both online and offline in Beijing on September 15. Representatives from relevant organizations, companies and institutions attended and jointly set the GT2HR 2021 in motion.

GT2HR 2021 will continue to release posts provided by the 100 organizations and companies campaign to global talent during the year, and focus on providing professional and personalized services to employers and international talent in the fields that include sci-tech innovation for the high-end industries and international business services.

Source: Beijing Overseas Talents Center

Expats Enjoy Cultural Trip at Yuelu Academy

On September 17, more than 30 foreign experts from 10 countries took a cultural trip to Yuelu Academy, Changsha, aiming to appreciate the time-honored traditional Chinese culture and deepen their understanding of the unique festival customs.

The expats, wearing Han Chinese clothing, got to experience Mid-autumn celebrations, including lantern riddle guessing and making Mooncakes. The immersive cultural experiences gave expats an opportunity to see traditional Chinese culture up close, gain meaningful perspective, and interact with local communities.

Hunan province has embraced innovation and opening up to development,

which has grown international trade with more than 200 countries and regions, attracting nearly 1,500 foreign experts to Hunan in innovative fields and to take advantage of entrepreneurship opportunities.

This event belongs to a series of activities themed Traditional Chinese Culture Trip. In the future, the Hunan Provincial Science and Technology Department will provide foreign experts in Hunan with an increasing number of culture-themed activities, which could help them develop a better understanding of Hunan and China, and increase their sense of belonging.

Source: Hunan Provincial Science and Technology Department



Expats in Hunan are experiencing traditional Chinese culture. (PHOTO: Hunan Provincial Science and Technology Department)

Scientists Gathered to Discuss Development of Interdisciplinary Studies

In response to the new development trend of interdisciplinary studies, the 2021 Annual Conference of National Association of Academies for Interdisciplinary Studies was held in Peking University on September 25. More than 150 renowned scientists, experts and scholars from more than 40 universities and research institutes specialized in inter-

disciplinary studies gathered in Beijing to discuss the organization and future development of interdisciplinary research.

The photo on the left shows the conference site.

Source: the Academy for Advanced Interdisciplinary Studies at Peking University

