



AC21 International Forum 2010
October 18-20, 2010
Shanghai Jiao Tong University
Regal International East Asia Hotel

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the Forum Organizing Committee, I would like to invite you to participate in the Academic Consortium 21 (AC21) Annual Forum 2010. This year, the conference will be hosted by Shanghai Jiao Tong University during the prestigious World Expo 2010.

FORUM THEME

The theme of the conference is **Competition and Cooperation among Universities in the Age of Internationalization**. The Forum will bring together an international panel of university leaders, practitioners, scholars, and policymakers interested in advancing research and cooperation for the benefit of higher education. Forum sessions will address the following three sub-themes: university ranking and the evaluation of higher education, graduate education in the age of internationalization, and building world-class universities in the age of internationalization.

By featuring the three specific sub-themes, the AC21 International Forum 2010 will illuminate how international competition and cooperation among universities impacts institutional quality. Examples of topics of interest in each sub-theme include, but are not limited to:

University ranking and the evaluation of higher education

- Methodologies for university ranking and the evaluation of higher education
- Impact of university ranking and the evaluation of higher education
- Global comparisons of university service to society

Graduate education in the age of internationalization

- Models of doctoral student exchange
- Development of international curricula for graduate students
- International research collaboration

Building world-class universities in the age of internationalization

- Theories of world-class universities
- National initiatives for building world-class universities
- Institutional practices for building world-class universities

FORUM INVITATION

You are invited to contribute to this forum in a variety of ways: by presenting a paper, participating in a panel session based on your own and others' research - or simply by attending the Forum.

Academic Consortium 21, consisting of 20 universities from 11 different countries, was established to encourage the further advancement of global cooperation for the benefit of higher education. The AC21 Annual Forum will truly be an international event bringing together participants and contributors from all over the world. We anticipate that researchers and scholars from many higher education institutions will contribute, stimulating international debate on the ways in which higher education institutions compete and cooperate in the age of internationalization.

FORUM VENUE

Shanghai, which means "above the sea", is the largest city in China, located on the Huangpu River at the beginning of the Yangtze River, where it flows into the Yellow Sea. The city is a tourist destination renowned for historical landmarks such as the Bund, and its modern and ever-expanding Pudong skyline. Shanghai will also host the World Expo 2010, which will be an occasion for China to bring the world home, and for the world to feel at home in China. More than 240 countries and international organizations will participate in this globally anticipated event!

The Forum venue and accommodations will be in the Regal International East Asia Hotel, ideally located on exclusive Hengshan Road. The hotel is nestled in the center of the French Concession, with cafés, bars, exquisite shops and beautiful gardens situated along the boulevard, and is within walking distance to Shanghai's best dining, shopping, night life and entertainment. As you would expect from a five-star world-class facility, the hotel offers quality event spaces, elegant and comfortable guest rooms, a great selection of bars and restaurants, and a premier health and fitness club.

FORUM AGENDA

The two-day main Forum will commence the morning of Tuesday, October 19th and will end mid-afternoon on Wednesday, October 20th. The AC21 Steering Committee and General Assembly representatives will meet in the afternoons of Monday, October 18th and Wednesday, October 20th. After the Forum, participants are invited to visit the Shanghai EXPO 2010 site on Thursday, October 21st.

The Forum is planned as a participative event at which participants presenting their own work will also participate in the presentation and discussion of others' work. Networking with colleagues from around the globe is also an integral part of the Forum and social events are a good opportunity to meet and converse in a relaxed atmosphere. The Forum will organize dinners in the conference hotel. The dinners are included in Forum participants' conference fees and are open to all participants.

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Proposals are invited for individual papers and panel sessions.

For individual papers, each paper accepted will be presented individually and will be allocated a minimum of 30 minutes for presentation and discussion. Empirical and scholarly research from a wide range of perspectives is welcome. Proposals are solicited on all aspects of research, development, and application pertaining to the three sub-themes. Individual paper presentations may subsequently be grouped into panels with similar papers and will be assigned a panel chair.

Proposals are also invited for panel sessions, consisting of presentation of three to five related papers on a single theme, and will be allocated one to two hours for presentation and discussion. Proposals for panel sessions can be submitted by one individual, including all abstracts for the panel presentations. The proposal shall include the name of the panel convener, the details of all presenters and the title and abstract of each presentation.

The Forum is keen to sponsor papers and sessions that address active research and broad policy agendas relevant to higher education, and include contributions from all disciplines that offer insights at regional and international levels. Collaborative, international, or multi-disciplinary papers are especially welcome.

SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS

Authors wishing to present their work are asked to submit both an abstract and an outline of the paper in English. The proposal abstract is not to exceed 250 words, and the outline shall not exceed 1,000 words.

Proposals should state clearly the title of the paper, the name of the authors and their affiliations, and the name of the person or persons who will be presenting the work at the Forum. Submissions must be made under one of the specified sub-themes of the Forum and authors should choose the sub-theme that fits most closely with the content of the submission.

Deadline: The deadline for submission of proposals is Friday, April 30th. All proposals should be submitted electronically, to the Academic Program Coordinator at ac21@sjtu.edu.cn.

All submissions will be subject to rigorous peer review by panels of assessors specially selected for each sub-theme. Authors will be notified of the result of their submitted proposals by Wednesday, June 30th, and authors of accepted proposals shall submit their presentations and full papers by Tuesday, August 31st.

FORUM REGISTRATION

To register for the Forum, please complete the registration form attached or download it

from http://gse.sjtu.edu.cn/ac21/registration_form.doc and email, fax, or mail the completed form to the conference coordinator.

Registration fees are USD \$250 for participants from AC21 member institutions, \$350 for non-AC21 institutions, and \$150 for all students and postdoctoral fellows. Payments can be made in advance via wire transfer or in cash on-site. For a list of AC21 members, see <http://www.ac21.org/about/members/members.php>

ACCOMMODATIONS

All participants attending the Forum may reserve single occupancy rooms for three nights (October 18-21) at the Regal International East Asia Hotel. Please indicate your preferred accommodations when completing the Forum registration form.

Forum participants receive discounted rates from RMB 1,500 or approx. USD 220 per night, inclusive of tax and surcharges. The rate includes buffet breakfast, tea and coffee in room, and free use of the city's largest premier health club including gym, indoor swimming pool, and sauna and steam rooms. For more information, please visit the hotel website (www.regal-eastasia.com) and the meeting website (gse.sjtu.edu.cn/ac21).

ABOUT AC21

The Academic Consortium for the 21st Century (AC21) was established in 2002 at the International Forum 2002 hosted by Nagoya University, Japan, as an international network comprised of educational, research and industrial organizations throughout the world.

The following universities are members of the AC21:

Australia - University of Adelaide, University of Sydney

China - Huazhong University of Science and Technology, Jilin University, Nanjing University, Northeastern University, Peking University, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, Tongji University

France - University of Strasbourg

Germany - Chemnitz University of Technology, University of Freiburg

Indonesia - Gadjah Mada University

Japan - Nagoya University

Lao Peoples Democratic Republic - National University of Laos

South Africa - Stellenbosch University

Thailand - Chulalongkorn University, Kasetsart University

United Kingdom - University of Warwick

United States - North Carolina State University

ABOUT SHANGHAI JIAO TONG UNIVERSITY

Founded in 1896, Shanghai Jiao Tong University is one of the oldest and most prestigious universities in China. The university has an enrollment of around 31,000, among which

over 16,000 are graduate students, and around 1,500 are international students. The university is located in Shanghai, the largest city and the largest center of commerce and finance in mainland China.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For all submission requirements, Forum registrations, further information and updates on the Forum please access the Forum website at <http://gse.sjtu.edu.cn/ac21>.

We look forward to a positive response from you at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

On behalf of the Forum Organizing Committee,
Dr. Andrea Stith
AC21 Conference Coordinator (Academic Program and Online Registration)
Shanghai Jiao Tong University
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