

Insightful Understanding of China's Higher Education and Research in Computer Science and Information Technology

A U.S. Delegation visit to China

May 20 - June 3, 2006

Purpose of the Trip

[Chinese](#)

[English](#)



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Purpose of Trip

After continuous and dramatic economic reform for more than 25 years, China now is playing a very critical role in the global economy with its huge consumers' market, with its high volume of cost-effective supplies ranging from labor-intensive goods to high-tech products, and with its vast human resources of top talents. Meanwhile, sponsored by both government agencies, such as NSF China, and private foundations, such as Hong Kong-based Cheung Kong Scholarship Foundation, China has rapidly developed its college and graduate education and research programs in thousands of existing and newly-established universities and research institutions. Responding to the huge technology and research advancements, almost all the major and leading U.S. computer software and hardware companies have quickly established Research Labs in China, including Microsoft Research, Intel, Sun Microsystems, IBM Research, and many others. These research labs in China have been very successful and continue to expand. Information technology is a key driver of modern Chinese economic development. Indeed, technology is driving the country's economic boom and that has important implications for the United States and the rest of the world. Research in Computer Science and Information Technology is burgeoning in China and many important projects are underway.

By way of contrast, faculty and researchers in U.S. academic research institutions still seriously lack insightful understanding of the rapidly-changing trends in Chinese universities and research laboratories, and of the strong implications for U.S. science, technology, and the economy from the dramatic economic, educational, and research developments in China. This project is intended to establish a dialogue between leaders of major U.S. Computer Science departments in the U.S. and their counterparts in China, identify key areas of information technology research in China, gain insight into current and future trends in IT research in China, and lay the groundwork for potential future interactions.

The delegation held a one-day US-China Computer Science Leadership Summit in Beijing with Chinese colleagues to discuss several issues of common interest and critical importance that deal with research and education in computer science and technology. The delegation also visited several universities and research institutions in Beijing, Nanjing, Shanghai, Suzhou and Xi'an. A final report which includes general observations and recommendations for next steps for substantial future collaborations was prepared.





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