



# “华东师大美国校友奖助学金”报告

By 华东师大美国校友奖助学金委员会主席 陈建德

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## 1. Establishment of 华东师大美国校友奖助学金

The ideas of calling for donations for the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of ECNU and formally establishing 华东师大美国校友奖助学金 were proposed by our President, Zhong Yi Tong, in mid-August 2011 based on his discussions with Jiande Chen and a few other board members and alumni. The proposals were shortly voted by the board of directors of ECNUAAA. Among 20 members of Directors, 16 casted valid votes with 15 “yes” and 1 “do not know” (due to his concerns about if we can raise enough funds to establish our proposed scholarships). Then, the call for donations to establish our scholarship/ assistantship fund was formally sent out to all US alumni on August 30, 2011.

The 美国校友奖助学金 committee was initially composed of 10 members: Jiande Chen of Houston was appointed as the Chairman, Feng Cao as the CFO and Jing Zhao as the secretary, and Baiqiang Jin of Midwest, Jinkang Gong of N. CA, Xuelin Li of S. CA, Wenhong Luo and Shao Qin of Philly, Songkao Ren of NY and Zhong Yi Tong of DC as members. To facilitate review of scholarship applications, additional 9 alumni who are donors of at least \$1000 were invited to join the committee in early October. These included: Limin Zhang and Mian Wang of S. CA, Xingwu Wang of Midwest, Jiangliang Zhang of DC, Jiong Shen of NY, David Cheng of S. CA, Simin Zhu of Florida, Ming Li of Philly and Qi He of S. CA. Therefore, there are totally 19 members of the committee.



## 2. Goals of 华东师大美国校友奖助学金

Conventionally, donations made by alumni to their Alma Mater are pooled in a special fund and its detailed and specific usages are not clear to donors. However, the establishment of 华东师大美国校友奖助学金 allows us to be more proactive in spending the donated funds by our members according to our American experiences and the funds will be spent more transparently and objectively. Fortunately, our proposal to ECNU was approved and strongly supported by the leadership of ECNU.

The goals of 华东师大美国校友奖助学金 are 1) to establish a permanent merit-based scholarship program that will reward the brightest undergraduate and graduate students of ECNU and also try to help

build fast-track for them to become first-rate elites of our next generation, and 2) to establish an ad-hoc need-based assistantship program based on available funds to provide financial aid/relief for ECNU students whose families are economically disadvantaged and difficult to support their studies at ECNU.

We envision that our merit-based scholarship will become the most prestigious award within ECNU and will seek the University and its leadership support and recognition to achieve this goal. Starting from 2011 academic year, we will issue two scholarship awards to undergraduates (一个文科, 一个理科) and two scholarship awards to graduates (一个文科, 一个理科). In addition to issuing the awards, we will also try to identify mentors for individual awardees and to provide consultations on their career development. The need-based assistantship will not be issued yearly but based on available funds and special events, such as the 2008 earthquake and 2011 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of ECNU. The purpose of this program is to support students who are in financial needs.

### **3. Selection and Award of 华东师大美国校友奖助学金**

The merit-based scholarship is selected according to the following:

- **Announcement of Application.** Notice of scholarship applications to be posted via webpage of ECNU and regular posting/announcement of each department; A special application form has been developed and attached in this report (see Appendix A). The form is designed to select the awardees based on the following: a) regular academic performance; b) special and major achievements such as invention, research publications and other awards; c) extracurricular activities within and outside the university; d) essay (reasons for this application). Comments and suggestions by our US alumni are welcome to refine the application form.
- **Review of Applications.** Each applicant is advised to send his/her completed application by email to the Chairman and CFO of the scholarship committee as well as the President of ECNUAAA. The Chairman of the committee is responsible to communicate with the applicant to ensure that each application is complete and readable. Upon the deadline of the application, the committee chair will send all applications to each member of the scholarship committee. Each member will then review and grade the applications, and send the scores to the Committee Chair. The Committee Chair will then calculate the total average score of each applicant. The applicants with the highest score in each category will be selected as winners. If there are big discrepancies in scores on high ranking applicants, a conference call or email discussions will be set up to resolve or narrow the difference.
- **Issuance of Awards.** Each award is composed of a check of 5,000 RMB at present (may subject to change) and a certificate signed by the President of ECNUAAA and the Scholarship committee chair. The awards will be given at a special ceremony at the presence of ECNUAAA delegates and main leadership of ECNU or at the major event of the end of academic year. The awardees will also be announced at ECNU webpage and ECNUAAA webpage, as well as at the awardees' departments. Formal announcement will also be made to all members of ECNUAAA.
- **Follow up of Awardees.** According to major and interests of awardees, potential mentors will be identified among all of our US alumni and consultations to their career development will be provided. Each awardee will be followed up for their performances and careers for up to 3 years.

The need-based assistantship is selected by ECNU. We have created an application form that is based on financial aids applications widely used in USA. The form is designed for the applicant to disclose as much financial information as possible to prevent possible flaws (see Appendix 2). Similar to the Merit-based scholarship, the need-based assistantship will be posted at ECNU webpage and announced by

various departments. Students in needs will submit their applications to their departments. The Student Affairs Department of ECNU, which is in charge of students' financial assistance, will determine the awardees based on submissions from all departments. A list of awardees and their signed receipt sheet will be forwarded to ECNUAAA for records. The award will be composed of cash.



#### 4. Selection and awardees of 2011 scholarship/assistantship programs

The selection of this year's Merit-based scholarship awardees was amazing: The announcement was made in ECNU website in the beginning of Oct 2011. Within one week we received a total of 64 applications and a vast majority of the applications were of very high quality according to the assessments by our ECNUAAA Scholarship Committee members. The scholarship committee completed the review within a couple of days and each application was reviewed by at least 7 members of the committee. Each reviewer felt difficult in scoring and ranking individual applications as most of them were excellent. However, when all scores from the scholarship committee were summarized and rank-ordered, the awardees were picked up with ease as there were very small discrepancies among the reviewers on top-ranking applicants. However, we have made one change from the original plan. Initially we planned to give 2 awards to undergraduates and 1 award to graduates. Due to a high volume of quality applications from graduates and availability of extra funds, we decided to also issue two awards to graduate students. The final awardees of 2011 were as follows:

- 李文武, 信息科学技术学院微电子学与固体电子学博士生。The most outstanding achievement of this awardee is in his research publications. Only as a second year PhD student, he has published a total of 25

SCI papers, among which he is the first author of 10 papers with a total impact factor of 31 and the second author of 12 papers (8 of them have an impact factor of higher than 3).

- 郭海骏, 资源与环境科学学院, 生态学专业本科三年级学生。This awardee is a rising star in invention. As a junior, he is already an inventor of numerous issued patents in China and has won numerous national and international competitions on science and technologies.
- 张惠苑, 中文系, 中国语言文学博士生。This awardee has been an excellent student and outstanding student leader. She has published a book and 8 papers in major journals.
- 张悦, 商学院管理专业大四学生。In addition to outstanding academic achievement, this awardee has won numerous awards in various competitions and exhibits talents in different areas. She is also an active participant and/or organizer in various community activities. Her application essay to our scholarship committee was also very compelling and powerful.

Each of the above merit-based scholarship awardees received 5,000 Yuan. An award certificate will also be issued to each of them. The picture shows 4 recipients of the scholarship award at the ECNU US Alumni Scholarship/Assistantship Award Ceremony held on campus on Oct. 14, 2011. (张惠苑 was out of town and thus represented by her classmate at the Ceremony).



Meanwhile, ECNU selected 50 awardees for our need-based assistantship program and each of them was awarded 2,500 Yuan in cash. The 50 assistantship awardees were present at the ECNU US Alumni Scholarship/Assistantship Award Ceremony on Oct. 14, and each of them also received the awarded cash that were personally handed over by the members of our US Alumni Delegation.

“10月14日, 专程回国参加母校60周年校庆的美国校友代表团举行了“美国校友会奖助学金颁奖仪式”。校党委副书记罗国振代表学校接受美国校友会30万元人民币的捐赠并向美国校友会颁发捐赠证书。美国校友会会长童忠益以及陈建德、汤国勤、查建渝、秦勉、王勉、郭玉贵等代表美国校友会出席了颁奖仪式。颁奖仪式由校长助理、对外联络与发展规划处处长杨伟民主持。获奖学生纷纷表示对美国校友会校友们的感谢, 觉得自己得到的不仅仅是帮助和关怀, 还有爱的种子, 自己一定会努力学习, 将来回报社会。颁奖仪式上, 美国校友们向学弟学妹们分享了自己的成长经历, 并勉励同学们奋发图强, 创造美好的明天”。<http://alumni.ecnu.edu.cn/NAVManager/ShowNAVDetails.aspx?NAVID=2517&Type=News>

## 5. The 2011 usage of funds and future plans on merit-based scholarship program

Our 2011 scholarship and assistantship awards made on Oct. 14 have spent a total of 145,000 Yuan, including 20,000 Yuan for 4 scholarships and 125,000 Yuan for 50 assistantships. As these awards were financed by our members of ECNU Alumni Association in America in their recent donations for ECNU's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary that raised about 200,000 Yuan, the scholarship/assistantship committee will have 55,000 Yuan left to use for making merit-based scholarship awards for two more years.

However, because of the surprising sponsorship of 100,000 Yuan from the Chairman of Zhejiang Zhong Da Group, who authorized its use to the discretion by our president Zhong Yi Tong, Mr. Tong consulted with ECNU leadership and plans to use this gift to help build our merit-based scholarship program as the best and unique brand name with a lasting impact. Specifically, as none of ECNU's existing scholarship programs exceeded 5,000 Yuan per awardee at present, we will increase the award of our 华东师大美国校友奖学金 to 7,500 Yuan per awardee so that our merit-based scholarship will become the HIGHEST award at ECNU campus. Combining with 55,000 Yuan left from our US alumni donations, the total of 155,000 Yuan will support our scholarship awards for 5 more years, starting in 2012. This future plan is

made upon strong recommendations from ECNU leadership who sees the unique values of our merit-based scholarship program and hopes our scholarships will gain a huge and continuous success. Of course, this plan is subject to change, particularly if the scholarship programs financed/run by others change their max amount in the future.



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Appendix A (see attachment)  
Appendix B (see attachment)