

THE Olive



PERSONALITY PROFILE

Meet Anil Bolukbas, a guy who is letting his passion for photography drive him forward in his quest for excellence.

GASTRIC CANCER

We interview Dr. Dipak Kumar Singh from the Kanglu Hospital as we delve in to his research on Gastric Adenocarcinoma.

INSURANCE MYTHS

Where do the 600 RMB that you pay every year go? Learn how insurances safeguard your stay in China.

MAKING THE RIGHT CHOICE

What makes the right leader? Who should you select when the time comes for you to decide the direction that the campus' future is going to take.

22ND ANNUAL TRI-U SYMPOSIUM

This year saw Jiangsu University pay host to the 22nd Annual Tri-U Symposium.



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What made us decide to attend school in China? There is no right answer for this question. The fact that she happens to be the second largest economy in the world might have helped. Also, the country is moving forward at a breakneck speed in the world of academia with all the exciting research being undertaken. And all along, the nation has still managed to retain her traditional identity and kept in touch with her customs of years gone by; modernizing them where necessary.

The biggest example would be the field of Traditional Chinese Medicine. The Chinese have utilized this treasure trove of medicinal knowledge and tried to complement the western system of medicine with the skill of the ancients. Though the popularity of the system continues to rise, there is a lack of understanding about it, especially in the English speaking world. With this edition, we have tried to provide the international students at JSU some background about this system of medicine, with the hope that it will aid in making an informed decision.

The international students community at Jiangsu University finds itself at an interesting crossroad. Our rapid progress and quest for excellence has seen us attain another milestone - the Union of International Students' Associations. This body hopes to be a voice to the students on campus, irrespective of their academic affiliations. It also aims to provide the students with a leadership that may guide us in the next phase of our development. Apart from the UISA, the fall semester of 2015 also saw the launch of three more associations, namely the AIES, IBSA and Jewels - The Women's Association of JSU. With all of them due to select their own leaders in the upcoming semester, it becomes imperative that we, the students, introspect before we choose the right leaders. Anything going amiss would put us back by years and all the hard work done by the founders would be in vain.

Realizing the gravity of the situation, we came up with an article to debate on the topic - Choosing the right leaders! Not all might agree with the inferences drawn but that is what elections are all about, right? Giving all of us an opportunity to voice what we think our right leaders should be.

Another topic of debate on campus is the question of insurances. The lack of knowledge can sometimes be appalling! In such a situation we thought it was only fitting that we followed up our article on part-time jobs with a spotlight on insurances and how they are a boon while we study here.

This edition also represents an interesting track being taken with the personality profile. We have decided to highlight a talented student in our midst - Anil Bolukbas. The scope of his work in photography has not just been limited to the school but has been awarded many times over all across the globe, including at the OneEyeland Photography Awards and Paris Prix De La Photographie. His work has been published as recently as 2015 in the L'Oeil de la Photographie. We hope to highlight talents such as these in the upcoming editions and encourage more students to pursue excellence in their chosen fields.

The previous edition of the newsletter was well received. The work undertaken and the commitment shown by the team was heartening. With a group of individuals as talented as this, sky is the limit! On a sad note, this edition represents an end of the journey for some of our members, including myself. The past three years working with the newsletter have been nothing short of exceptional. However, all good things must come to an end. And with this, me and the other retiring members of the team, including the Deputy Editor in Chief, Tshetsana Senau, would wish that the new board continue the good work and take *The Olive* to even greater heights.

Cheers!
Mr. Mohammed M. Shaheriyar
(Editor-In-Chief)



The Dean's Desk

Professor Jing Gao.

It gives me great joy to welcome new students to Overseas Education College, Jiangsu University. Our International student community is diversified within an amiable and learning environment. The year gone by was great and the next year holds lot of opportunities for staff and students as we unfold plans and innovations aimed at repositioning the college to meet students' aspirations and match the best practices followed globally. As a proud Dean, I have confidence in the ability of our great student community and call on all to support each other and make our life here memorable.

I commend the entire OEC students, staff and administrators for the tremendous team spirit and teamwork displayed this semester. The slogan, 'One Team One Dream' has cultivated a strong and united college culture. In retrospect, several events and initiatives by student groups have culminated in enhancing the internalization drive of OEC as well as providing platforms for these sub teams to add value to student's life and experience in Jiangsu University. I extend a warm welcome to recently launched associations and hope that they will continue to leave a positive impact on life on campus.

OEC is at the forefront of the University 'sInternationalization Initiative and has time and again, been revising the processes in line with internationally accepted practices. By strengthening our strategic partnerships with foreign universities we aspire to continue to attract quality human resources and invest in the training and development of our lecturers and teachers.

All students have great opportunities to achieve their Chinese Dreams as they pursue their primary academic goals at JSU. It is a great opportunity for them to gain exposure to China's culture and language. We wish to engineer a rich academic exchange with our Chinese students in the University. They provide us with an avenue to develop a better understanding of the traditions and practices here. Together we can learn and work as we march forward on the path of self development. During the Tri U Symposium, we learnt different ways of doing things from students from around the world, and this global village style of learning is what we want to duplicate.

Let us always remember that Together Everyone Achieves More. I am very proud of all the teams this semester. I hope all students will be encouraged to keep doing well and help each other to achieve their goals other in all spheres of student life. Opportunities are increasingly coming the way of OEC for the benefit of the students. More organizations and companies are seeking for ways to develop an enduring relationship with us. It is evident that the hard work and sterling qualities of OEC students are being noticed.

A big thank you to all the teams and associations that are helping students discover their latent skills, equipping them with knowledge through various seminars, talkshows, conferences and other activities. I appreciate all the efforts that have been put in, no matter how big or small! A special thank you to team leaders at all levels. Keep up the good work and don't stop the hard work.

Wishing you a great semester ahead!

Pharmaceutical Science

Well, it's pharmaceutical science of course!

Did you know: It takes approximately 12 years and about \$500 million for a new drug to make it from the laboratory to a pharmacy shelf?

If ever there was a RMB1 coin that went into a kitty jar, each time a person referred to pharmaceutical science as just "pharmacy" or mentioned the typical career opportunity as working in a hospital behind the dispensary counter or drug store, one could be a millionaire. These misconceptions and assumptions that plague the world at large about this program have probably led to it being one of the most underrated and overlooked degrees.

Pharmaceutical science covers a collection of studies in areas concerned with the design, action, delivery, and disposition of therapeutic drugs. Although not entirely, it's basically an industrial science and in simple terms, it focuses on the conception, research, clinical trials, manufacturing, and the dispensing of medicinal drugs.

Let us take a step back and try to personify this definition. We all have paid a visit to a doctor to get treatment for our ailment at some point in our lives. Before taking that medicine prescribed to make us feel better, it is rare, if ever, to take the time to ponder on where and how that medicine came about?

Pharmaceutical science encompasses many disciplines that collaborate in the production and assessment of possible and existing drugs formulations. These include:

Pharmacology: The study of the biochemical and physiological effects of drugs on human beings.

Pharmacodynamics: The study of what the drug does to the body.

Pharmacokinetics: The study of the factors that control the concentration of drug at various sites in the body. Simply "What the body does to the drug".

Pharmaceutical Chemistry: The study of drug design to optimize pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics, and synthesis of new drug molecules (Medicinal Chemistry).

Pharmaceutics: The study and design of drug formulation for optimum delivery, stability, pharmacokinetics, and patient acceptance.

Pharmacognosy: The study of medicines derived from natural sources.

Pharmaceutical Analysis: The analytical chemistry of pharmacy, it is the study of analytical techniques, quality control and quality assurance.

These are only a few examples, as they have their own subdivisions that subsequently split into their own subdivisions, so the list can go on and on and on...

Once a theory has been put on the table, a researcher has to labour for long hours in their laboratory or office space and meticulously investigate this idea. It involves understanding the chemical properties and synthesis of the active drug(s) in question, understanding what benefits and limitations it may have, manipulating it in a way to minimize those faults, testing these revisions to see whether it would work out in reality as it does on paper, etc. It typically takes upwards of 3 years to get a breakthrough, and only if the researcher is ever so lucky.

Did you know: 1 in 1000 new drugs are approved for clinical trials, i.e., testing on human beings?

However, it's not always about formulating new drugs. If there is an existing drug on the market that seems to have a million side effects or it doesn't work properly for certain patients, scientists are employed to find ways to improve its delivery. A pill for example doesn't just contain the active drug that will help cure you, it contains other substances as well that help carry it in the body to the targeted site. Sometimes these other substances, referred to as excipients, take away from the healing purpose of a drug by causing more damage than good. More research needs to go into eliminating such problems. A good example of circumstances requiring further inquiry would be investigations based on route of administration. Will taking that medicine orally cause irritation to your mouth or be destroyed in the stomach before it is absorbed in your body? Does the disease require quick therapy or relief? How long will it take the drug to start working after consumption if taken orally? Some therapies, for example, need to be injected into the body, for fast action. How can you minimize the discomfort for the patient? Another example could be insulin injections used by diabetics. Are there another alternative routes that can be used to take insulin besides injections? Or asthma, is there another permanent solution besides asthma pumps?

After a new drug is approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), it can then go into manufacturing and marketing. These responsibilities also involve pharmaceutical scientists. The pharmaceutical industry and process is a very lucrative entity, in that once a drug has been approved, even though it's taken a tremendous time and money to come to life, it can yield billions of dollars in returns.

A person studying pharmaceutical science can enjoy a bevy of career opportunities, which range from research, clinical testing, manufacturing, quality control, sales and marketing, teaching, etc. There are those who can also go into the Regulations field to ensure that companies are following the set rules and standards for drug manufacturing. The pharmaceutical industry is set to expand incredibly in the next decade, with job creation and salaries expected to increase by 20%.

Want to know the difference between a pharmacist and a pharmaceutical scientist? Pharmacists work with existing drugs, patients, and other healthcare practitioners to optimize patient care and drug use. On the other hand, pharmaceutical scientists are typically involved in the development of new drugs. They spend most of their time doing research in a laboratory or office setting. Think of it in this way, if medicine was a movie or series, pharmaceutical scientists would be the screenwriters, producers and crew, whilst pharmacists would be the cast (actors).

This article was not written in its entirety just to differentiate pharmaceutical science from other disciplines, rather to form a new appreciation, if it didn't exist before, for the amount of work that goes into being a modern day apothecary. If you're thinking, why would someone put themselves through so much torture and lengthy work? An answer could be that they do it for the good of humanity. It is a fact that people and animals need medicines to cure diseases. And there will always be a disease to be cured, believe that. Another answer could be for the fun of it, the adrenaline rush that can be harbored from making or breaking a scientific discovery. Some people just enjoy wearing white lab coats all day, who knows? With the endearing term, Science is fun! It's no exception when it comes to pharmaceutical science.

Next time you take that medicine for relief, just remember that pharmaceutical scientists had to spend some sleepless nights and frustrations to make it happen. But don't dwell upon it too much, I wouldn't want you to choke on that pill.



Ancient China's Present to the World

QI TRADITIONAL CHINESE MEDICINE “TCM” 气



It is always a treat to experience a new culture in one's lifetime, especially one as diverse and ancient as China. Be it the charming cuisine, the attractive architecture, the literature and prehistoric legends, music, art, and what not; this Asian nation is well known for preserving her ancient customs and cultivating them into a universal powerhouse. The list is endless. The traditions of the ancients from the country are gaining popularity all over the world, none more so than the Traditional Chinese Medicine. With the rising popularity of alternative medicine, TCM has carved a niche for itself on the world stage.

TCM, also known as 中医 (zhongyi), is a collection of healing practices that have been in use for over 2000 years. It employs an approach that is fundamentally different from that of Western medicine. The treatment of an illness is based on the diagnosis and differentiation of syndromes. An integral part of treatment involves the manipulation of the Qi. Therapies including acupuncture, massage, exercises, diet therapy and herbal medicines are some of the methods used to rid of their ailments.

But, what exactly is Qi? And what do the terms like Zang Fu organs and Yin-Yang mean?

The first thing that comes to mind with the term “Qi”, is meditation or someone meditating in a lush forest or deep in the mountains. This is because in popular culture, it is often associated with such practices. In TCM, Qi is described as the carrier of information that is expressed through the systems in the human body. The literal translation of Qi can be health or vitality or energy. Practitioners of Chinese Medicine have identified many different kinds of Qi. Within the human body there is the Qi that we're born with, called Yuan Qi, or ancestral Qi. The Qi that we absorb during our lives from food, water, air and Qigong practice is called Hou tian Qi or post-natal Qi. The Qi that flows at the surface of the body, as a protective sheath, is called Wei Qi or protective Qi. Each internal organ also has its own Qi/life-force, e.g. Spleen-Qi, Lung-Qi, Kidney-Qi.

A key paradigm of this system is the statement that balance and free flowing Qi equals in a healthy body. The concept of balance of forces in the body requires an understanding of the yin and the yang.

Many of us are well acquainted with the yin and yang symbol. In Chinese philosophy, it describes how opposite or contrary forces are complementary, interconnected, and interdependent in the natural world, and how they give rise to each other as they interrelate to one another. That is, one good force cannot exist without its bad counter-part. Many examples could be, hot and cold; light and darkness; male and female; full and empty; wet and dry, etc. According to Taoist cosmology, the two most fundamental forms of Qi are Yin-Qi and Yang-Qi -- the primordial feminine and masculine energies.

According to the Zang-fu theory, the zang organs reflect yin; the fu organs yang. The Zang-fu theory details the physiological functions and pathological behaviours of the zang and fu organs-the critical organs that do all the heavy lifting in the human body. Each zang organ is inextricably woven into a complex interactive web of coexistence and mutual restraint with a corresponding fu organ, and each pair of organs is associated with the physical properties and natural phenomena of one of the five key elements; metal, wood, earth, water and fire.

In short, this is how it comes together: all major organs have been divided into 5 groups and each fall into either Zang or fu. These are subsequently labelled as either yin or yang organs. Each organ is then considered to have its own Qi existing within it. A little complicated... maybe? A little brilliant...absolutely!

Nevertheless, there are many therapies in TCM used to heal ailments, like herbal medicines (中药), acupuncture, and Qigong exercises (e.g TaiChi). Acupuncture for example involves the use of needles at different pressure points in the body, and it can be used to treat migraines and to aid in weight loss for instance. As for herbal medicines, the Chinese believe that all plants and some animals can be beneficial for health.

Unlike western medicine, which has been exhaustively researched in order to be approved, TCM is still at a disadvantage. Western medicine is based on standards and evidence, while TCM relies on experience gained over time through numerous trials and clinical observations. Western medicine is strictly based on inferences made from laboratory examinations. Hundreds of years of observations and research provide the experience that forms the basis and complexity of TCM.

Chemical compounds are used to formulate medications in Western medicines, but only herbs are used for Chinese treatments. Almost every plant is seen to have some health benefit to the body, and as such there are little or no side effects of medicines, since herbs are basically administered in their natural forms. On the other hand, western medicine relies exclusively on chemical drugs, and at the centre of that is the very profitable pharmaceutical industry that is responsible for the research and production of these chemical drugs. Although these compounds may have higher potency due to the extensive research done to produce them, they also come with side effects which range from mild to severe, and even fatal in some drug instances.

In any case, traditional Chinese medicine is estimated to be an industry worth \$65 billion. It could be a lot more, but so much research is required to have most of it approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for the international community at large.

Living in such a country, which takes pride in its history, makes one wonder. We all have different backgrounds obviously, but wherever it is we come from, whatever culture or way of life we originate, there has to be herbal medicine, ancient remedies that were applied in the past, but we seem to have vied away from that because western medicine is more civilized or it is less complicated. All one has to do is walk into a pharmacy or chemist, buy a dose of something, take it, and wait until the next illness strikes again, for the next dose of something else. How often does one look to that old herbal remedy to cure a simple headache, for example, instead of taking a pill, or some other chemical with a million adverse effects?

It is indeed a treat to indulge in another's culture. The mind is forced to reiterate its current stance and sort of edit and cut out its way of thinking. Through TCM, as well as other factors, China has been able to preserve its way of doing things and reaping the benefits in the process. How many countries can we say the same about?

"A life is not important, except in the impact it has on other lives"

Jackie Robinson

What is it you want the most; money: power, knowledge, respect, love etc.....? How about all of it? In order to succeed in what you want you have to first understand how everything connects. And in this series of reflection, I want you to take time to question your life and the goals you aim at. Reflect on the position you have in society and more importantly understand the power you have to change views placed upon your social group. Whether it is from bad to worse or from good to the better.

We do not earn respect by having the most, but we earn respect by giving the most. Life is a long ride of give and take, and when people receive from you they always hold you in the highest esteem, because they fully understand that you are an important part of their wellbeing. However, when you give nothing, it doesn't matter how much property you own or the size of your account, because no one can ever respect you. This is a small idea that has to sink in to people's minds, because it is the only way that we are to understand responsibility. I am not talking about being generous here, but I am simply referring to being someone society needs by offering diverse contributions.

Giving comes in many forms, but it is not always about helping others. Sometimes giving one's devotion to a great cause is also giving. For example, if one is to construct a self-serving entity in which he or she is to benefit, while offering others a chance to do the same, they have already given to the society. These entities might be in the form of companies, industrial reforms, entertainment centers and so many others, to which a person or a group of people engineer, yet multiple people benefit. Not all good acts need to come from people's hearts, but also from the responsibility everyone should feel towards developing society. Everything is a circle, and once people realize this, they try to put into society as much as they can, knowing very well that it will come back to them.

Sometimes we are told to take what's ours and survive, but we forget that the world is a big place and no one can make it on their own. We need to learn to take responsibility, not just for ourselves, but for people within our circle. So next time you do something, think bigger than yourself, so that your actions can positively affect the society you represent.

Until next time on Reflections...

Reflections

Choosing the Right Leaders

Quick story. I remember in high school, I ran for prefectural office against a boisterous fellow named Maurice. He was tall, handsome, had a pocket full of money and a knack for making people laugh but none of that fazed me. What made Maurice a fearsome opponent was his ability to talk up a storm. He had the charisma of a monk; this guy had so much to say, he could teach a weaverbird a thing or two. He was the perfect showman.

On the campaign morning we walked up to the podium to each give a policy speech. I went first, with a strategy to appeal to the crowd through logic rather than fairy tales. I explained to them what could be changed and what couldn't, I told them what I could do for them and how I was going to do it. I was truthful, clear-cut and honest, giving facts and figures. Then came Maurice. Here was the politician, prancing about the stage like a show-horse. Some of the promises he made were so ridiculous that the audience laughed. He told a few jokes, danced for them, yet never said a thing about policy or strategy. I was confident. Victory was clearly mine. Then the results were announced. I had lost by over 40%! The shock took two days to wear off. I learnt a few lessons from that loss.

We live in a world ruled by talkers. We have all seen this before; a sassy ladies' man who wins the girl over the gentlemanly intellectual or that kid in class whose exam is marked leniently because he always woos the teacher. Even to stand up comedians or clowns we pay a lot of money to make us laugh while scientific research goes unfunded. Aristotle once said, 'the world was ruled by the quill' but today it is ruled by the microphone. In a world where people rank values based on emotional standards rather than intellectual ones, it is difficult to get ahead unless you can make someone laugh, entertain them or appeal to their ego. A study done by Dr. James C. McCroskey at the University of West Virginia concluded that humans associate talkativeness with attractiveness and greater mental capability. However, this notion is not necessarily true.

Our refusal to differentiate between true brilliance and the lure of pizzazz has led to two world wars and left our home a wasteland of inequality, corruption, terrorism and moral confusion. The punch line of this joke is that we have still refused to learn from our mistakes, choosing the same caliber of leaders again and again. Take a quick look at our presidential races; televised debates, press conferences, headlines, scandal, fundraising dinners at fancy hotels with full media coverage, professionally scripted campaign speeches and the list goes on. That is not an environment in which intellectual prowess thrives. It is a process that breeds support for people like Donald Trump, a self professed bigot, racist and propagandist who shares views with some of the world's more oppressive leaders and yet leads the presidential race polls by margins that would put Usain Bolt to shame. Are we so blind that we cannot see the path we are on leads to the kind of annihilation that is the reserve of blockbuster movies?

I don't intend to fry my omelet on one side only. Intellectuals are to be blamed as well. Whether we are perpetrators or victims we are all affected in some way. It is time the smart people stood up and started fixing things. The only way to know what someone is thinking is to hear it; if you do not speak up then how can we hear you? Intellectuals need to wake up now and step up to the mantle because the human race deserves better than what they have chosen for themselves.

They say time is the best teacher and I believe we need to learn from our past; both the good and the bad. There was a time before the internet, television and radios when great leaders were chosen. Leaders like Benjamin Franklin; an accomplished intellectual who invented the lightning conductor or Abraham Lincoln who taught himself to practice law and chose to go to war rather than see slavery prevail. A time when to rise to the top you had to prove yourself among your peers before you were chosen, when it took action not speech to woo people. We need to take it back to that and start making up for the wrong decisions.

In the T.V series Attack on Titan, General Gen says to his ward, "No one ever knows how things will turn out in the end, all we can do is to make the choice we won't regret if things turn out badly." I am not claiming to know how the world would have turned out had we chosen smarter leaders but I do know it is a decision I wouldn't regret if things turned out badly. It is time we outgrew our flaws and made the world a better place. The time for change is now!

SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF THE SOCIETY

For the common folk, the Chinese New Year bids farewell to the winter and the year gone by and rings in spring and a fresh year with family and friends. Sadly, some elderly members in society have no family members to spend it with.

2016 is the Year of the Monkey and volunteers from our very own Jiangsu University decided to hitch hike the spirit of the holiday by doing more than learning how to say 新年快乐 (*xin nan kuai le*) and joined hundreds of compassionate volunteers from Zhenjiang City who took some time out to reach out to elderly people with food and companionship. The task was to keep the elderly company, so A LOT of food items and blankets had been collected prior to the day.

8th February 1pm saw the volunteers standing in front of the Splendid Palace Hotel, having photos taken and being divided into smaller groups with

our Chinese brothers and sisters. In all honesty, no one knew what to expect. It was hard to imagine the difference they could make in lives of elderly, since it was just a bunch of strangers giving them a visit. But, we now know not to underestimate a stranger's capacity to impact another's life, because the effects can be tremendous. After everyone was organized, each group headed off to two different households. After each visit, it was amazing to see by how appreciative they were for the visit. Perhaps they felt lonely or abandoned before, but now tears of joy glistened in their eyes. Sometimes, all people need is to know they are cared for, even by a simple stranger.

Moreover, it was stunning to see their selflessness when they insisted that we also have food to eat from their homes regardless of the fact that they were ones who needed help in the society's eyes.

It taught us that happiness can exist, even at old age, regardless of discouraging circumstances or diminishing health.

Volunteering is a two-way street. You'll be surprised by how much you'll get back – whether it's that warm fuzzy feeling you get on the inside after doing something good for someone or a warm smile – when you give your time to help another.

So to anyone who has taken the time to read this I encourage you to volunteer whenever you can. It truly is a beauty.



NANJING YOUTH FESTIVAL



Following the Youth Olympic Games held in Nanjing in 2014, UNESCO, the Chinese Olympic Committee and the Nanjing Municipal Government decided to host the Youth Festival each year. The event aims to promote networking as well as peace, friendship, innovation and entrepreneurship among young people of all races and gender through sports. From 26th to 28th September 2015, the students of the OEC had the privilege of attending the first annual Nanjing Youth Festival.

Upon arrival in Nanjing the students were treated to inspirational talks by several accomplished athletes and former Olympians from across the globe. Among the panelists was the legendary athlete Maurice Greene who shared a moving testimonial about his career. Several others mapped out their journeys towards

world records and titles but more importantly how they have been using their talents to make an impact on society. The resounding message from all speakers was to let the youth know that if they had a dream, nothing can stop them from achieving it, provided they are dedicated towards it.

Later on at the Wutaishan Stadium, students were invited to an electric showcase of music, dance and speeches dubbed the Youth Night Inspirational Show. In a vibrant and energetic show bursting with color, well choreographed performances took center stage. It also had noteworthy discussions about sports and welfare by dignitaries at the heart of the Youth Olympic Games operations as well the 2014 Winner of the Nobel Prize in Literature, Mr Patrick Modiano. It was a thrilling ending to the long busy day.

On the Sunday the team was off to an early start. Enjoying a scenic drive through the beautiful city, they headed to the Stone City Park. This was the venue for the much anticipated International Folk Sports Carnival in which the members were slated to take part in. They were scheduled to participate in the Dragon Boat Race,

Dancing, Roller-skating and Painting events. Aided by team spirit, the dragon boat team rowed vehemently and managed to scoop the 1st place in their race, 3rd place overall as well as they walked away with a trophy. The Dancers put on a memorable flash mob and stage performance whilst the roller-skating team enjoyed skating alongside youth from all over the world. After the sports they appreciated the various stalls that were present to learn about Chinese culture, the history of the city of Nanjing, participate in mask and dragon painting and manage to win some festival gear. They lived the dream that was set out by the organizers, to learn, to enjoy and to excel.

The final stop of the festival was a visit to the Nanjing City Wall. They appreciated a guided tour along a 1 km stretch of the wall, soaking in the heritage and history of the city of Nanjing. Overlooking the Yangtze River and against the Olympic Rings erected on the Wall, the sunset poked through the trees also bringing to a close the inciting, encouraging and exhilarating event for an exhausted OEC team.

LIFE BUILDER CONFERENCE

The 3rd edition of the annual Life Builder's Conference was a special one. Why? The answer lies in the fact that this edition was dedicated to the Nobel laureate and one of most famous residents of Zhenjiang, Pearl S. Buck. Held under the theme of "Making the Rest of Your Life the Best of Your Life", this edition dwelled in to the eminent authors' life to inspire others to make an impact on the world. The event registered record high attendances where students were eager to learn from the speakers invited. The chairman of the conference, Professor Chen Yongchang gave an opening remark stating that after making the rest of our life the best, we should help others do same.

This first day witnessed dignitaries including Professor Ren Xiaofei; Deputy Director of International Affairs Office of Jiangsu University; Professor Gao Jing, Dean of OEC; Professor Wo from Shanghai University and Dr. Zhu Hua from Shanghai University grace the occasion. The guest of honor and the president of Jiangsu University, Professor Yuan Shouqi, in his address congratulated the organizers on a job well done in the previous years and emphasized the fact that this was a platform for sensitizing students to strive for academic excellence. He reinforced the belief that this conference is tasked to challenge the students to race for the best, and reminded us about the concept of the four Cs; Critical thinking, Communication, Cooperation and Creation. He also asked participants to

continue on the path of three Opens; Open their eyes to see the world, Open their mind to think about the world and Open their mouths to speak English.

Dr. Zhu Hua from Shanghai University gave a presentation on the American Noble Prize winner, Pearl S. Buck as a role model for seeking the dream in the transcultural space and Mr. Emmanuel Opoku Marfo, a PhD candidate presented on the power of desire.

The second day of the conference was inspirational. Ms. Wang Limin highlighted the power of self-discipline. She stressed on eating healthy, staying fit, taking care of our environment and prioritizing our goals. She was of the opinion that instead of complaining, getting on with our work would always stand us in good stead. She concluded by saying that the pinnacle of self-discipline is when one reaches agreeableness, consciousness, extra version, openness and follow inspirational figures in one's world. In a novel segment hosted by Mr. Solmon Duku, the second day saw some of our student leaders, including Mr. Joseph Thige, Ms. Akey, Mr. Abdul Nazif Mahmud, Mr. Mohammed Muffakham Shaheriyar and Mr. Siwathep Singh Khanderpor, giving their views on whether the best life was possible or was it just a utopian dream.

On the third day, Dr. Qian Wei, Vice President of Kangfu Hospital spoke on the best ways to make your dreams come true. He informed the participants that hard work and perseverance were two of the most important ingredients required to move closer to your dream. He implored all never to give up and keep on working and innovating in order to achieve what they dreamt of.

The highlight of the day came from the man who left us with the slogan of 'Just Do It'. Borrowing in to the catchphrase of a popular sporting goods manufacturer, Mr. Chris Soester highlighted that the world only recognized men who accomplished their jobs, not the ones who thought of ideas but could not execute them. The speaker left the podium to a standing ovation. This edition of the Life Builder's Conference was indeed a big hit with the masses. With the message of believing in oneself, working hard and never quitting; it has surely inspired many on campus to strive for a better tomorrow.



CLOSING CEREMONY OF FIFTH INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL FESTIVAL AND FIFTH SINO-FOREIGN POST GRADUATE ACADEMIC FORUM

The limelight and cheers from the wide and varied audience for the overwhelming performances was one of the highlights of the closing ceremony of the fifth International Culture Festival. The ceremony which took place on the 4th of December at the academic auditorium of Jiangsu University, began with the award ceremony for the best country exhibition, performance and food. The country representatives of Ghana, Sudan and India received awards from honorable guests for best country exhibition. India, South Sudan and Thailand occupied first three positions respectively for the best performance at the Culture Festival. Best food awards were received by representatives of Nigeria, Pakistan and Rwanda.

The ceremony began with Chinese students' performance with traditional musical instruments. This soothing performance

was followed by traditional songs sung by students from Indonesia, India and Russia. The performers' melodious voices had everyone in attendance enthralled. Hip hop dance presented by the JSU 515 Dance Crew had the audience off their feet. The song "Shijian dou qu nali" (时间都去哪里) was the next performance on stage. Dances by students from Cuba, Rwanda, Zimbabwe and India made the ceremony more energetic. International Cultural Fashion Show was the most colorful part of the ceremony. Students from Myanmar, Sudan, Botswana, Ghana, India, Pakistan, Rwanda, South Africa, South Sudan, Thailand, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe were invited to take part in the fashion show. Chinese song *Ting hai* was followed by the El Shaddai group, giving us a rendition of Kelly Clarkson's hit single,

What Doesn't Kill You Makes You Stronger. Chinese Calligraphy and music

by Chinese students took the audience in to the beauty of culture and tradition. The hot African dance performance by ATL made people forget about the cold weather outside. An Indian-African collaboration dance marked the end of the festivities as the latest edition of the Culture Festival drew to a close, setting up a grand example for the future.





Some organizers of the 22nd Annual Tri U symposium held at Jiangsu University



OECians attend the 1st Annual Nanjing Youth Festival in Nanjing City



Winners of the Masterminds, Annual Physiology Trivia 2015



Closing Ceremony of the International Cultural Festival 2015



OECians defend their championship at the 13th Annual Jiangsu University Sports Meet



Freshmen take the Medical Oath at the IMSA White Coat Ceremony, 2015



International Business Students' Association (IBSA) representatives attend the Sopo Meeting



OECian visit Anhui Tiakang Co. LTD



Participants at the Jiangsu Province Joy Talent Show in Zhenjiang City



2015 Life Builder Conference in honor of Pearl S. Buck



2015 International Jiangsu University Food Festival



Fire Drill participants organized by Hand-In-Hand Volunteers' Group



Ms. Lorraine crowned as Ms. JSU at a colorful ceremony organized by ACE Entertainment



2015 Freshmen Campus Walk during orientation.



Winners of the OECian World Cup Tournament 2015



2015 Autumn Intake during the Registration Process

UNION OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS' ASSOCIATIONS - JIANGSU UNIVERSITY (UISA-JSU)



On Friday, 11th December, 2015 the Union of International Students' Associations Jiangsu University (UISA-JSU) officially debuted on campus. The event commenced with the introduction of guests, by the Interim Vice President, Mr. E. Omari-Siaw. Shortly after, the Interim President, Mr. Abdul-Nazif Mahmud, gave a brief history about how UISA-JSU came into being.

The Special Guest of Honor was Professor Ren Xiaofei. In her brief speech, she congratulated international students of JSU for having taken a giant stride in their progress towards being better and hoped that they remain steadfast in their contributions towards the development of OEC and Jiangsu University as a whole.

Several awards including Certificates of Honor that were presented to the founding members of the association, committees were formed to facilitate the formation of the association and all individuals who had been involved in this journey. Special 5 Star awards were given to Prof. Yuan Shouqi, President of JSU; Prof. Gao Jing, Dean of OEC; Prof. Ren Xiaofei, The Deputy Director of International Office; Dr. Cui Yong, The Vice Dean (PG);

Ms. Wang Limin, Vice Dean OF OEC as well as the former head of Student Affairs, Mr Dai Guowei.

Finally, the Dean of OEC expressed her heartfelt delight at the successful formation of UISA-JSU. Introducing the Interim Executives, she pledged College's readiness to support the group and the entire association. With the support of all, the symbolic *Unity Cake* was cut to declare the formal launch of UISA-JSU.

Substantive leaders are to be elected to carry the Strength in Unity agenda forward among International Students. All students are encouraged to get involved.



On Thursday, October, 29th 2015, a new association, the International Business Students Association (IBSA) was launched as a family that covers the Business Administration, International Economics and Trade as well as the Accounting Majors. It is a student-led body whose mission is to promote and enhance the professional development of its members in the areas of business management, economics and entrepreneurship. It aims to teach them skills they can use throughout their lives to become successful. This is summed up in its slogan, IBSA, Ideas for life!

The event was graced by the Dean of Overseas Education College Prof. Gao Jin, who was delighted about the mushrooming of another association. Also in attendance was the Vice Dean Miss Wang. The guest speaker of the night was Mr Chris Soester who stirred up a heated discussion on hot business issues. Speakers, Ms. Yang Lili from the School of Finance and Economics and Miss Fen from the School of Management, expressed their support for the Association. They encouraged the students to use the association as an avenue to enhance their academic knowledge and gain practical experience so as to prepare them for the real world after graduation. Chinese and overseas students from the correlating faculties were present in the audience to show support and enthusiasm to be a part of the Association.

The Association hopes to keep this vigour alive and looks forward to engaging in various activities that will stimulate critical thinking and problem solving among its members.

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS STUDENTS ASSOCIATION (IBSA)



ASSOCIATION OF INTERNATIONAL ENGINEERING STUDENTS (AIES)



"What the mind of man can conceive and believe, it can achieve" – Napoleon Hill

A completely new and innovative society was launched or rather, born, as the founders preferred to refer to the beginning of AIES. Association of International Engineering Students, or AIES, provides a platform for engineering students to develop the qualities of integrity, excellence and teamwork.

As the night began, Otsile Morake, one of the MCs, challenged the way we view engineering by posing the question, "Can you imagine a world without engineering?" And as one would have it, engineering plays a pivotal role in our day to day lives from the chairs we sit on to the big things such as the buildings we live in and the airplanes we all used to come to China.

The event progressed with riveting presentations by Joseph Jonathan Maguang and Yoon Yati Htike. Joseph Jonathan Maguang gave us a glimpse into the world of engineering by first telling us that if you can draw a circle you can design a house, if you can draw a line you can design a road and with just a square you can design an airport and then proving it as he gave a practical demonstration using circles in AUTO CAD2014 and running the design through BIM for a 3D view. What started off as circles quickly became a structure with a wall, windows, roof and even a swimming pool. Yoon managed to match the standard set by the previous presenter in his presentation with her own presentation based on robotics.

She let us in on her journey with her team, Team Bangalore Robotics, who were judged as runner's up in Santiago, USA for designing a robot called Lassie that works as a marine defense 20 feet underwater. Talk about innovation!

The age old adage, "All work and no play" was twisted into "every engineer needs time to relax" by the MC as the African HD everyone walked on stage and gave everyone a refresher from all the Engineering jargon the audience's minds had been loaded with.

All in all, the evening was a roaring success and I can safely say that if the association continues with the amount of passion showcased on the launch night, it can only get better.



INTERNATIONAL LADIES ASSOCIATION (JEWELS)



Jewels shine!!!

The ladies' association of Jiangsu University is formally launched.

On the 13th day of November 2015, the first association for ladies of Overseas Education College, JEWELS, was officially launched under the theme of "Shining for Positive Impact". The name JEWELS is an acronym which stands for Jades of Education, Women of Excellence, and Loving Success.

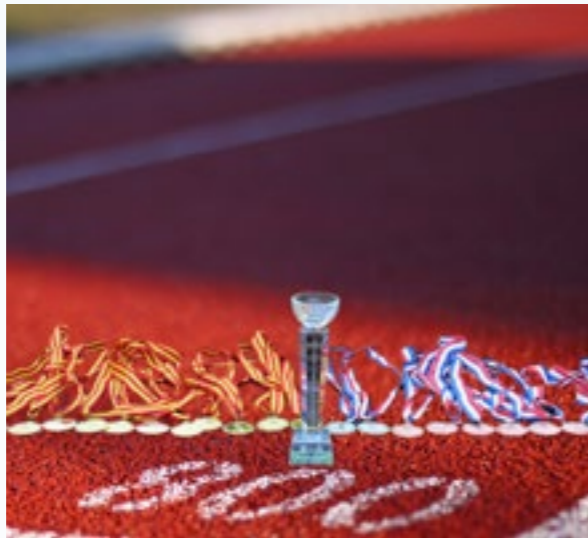
The launch started with inspirational opening remarks from the OEC's Dean, Professor Gao, who is the chairperson of the association. The introduction and an overview of the future activities of JEWELS which were presented by the members of the commission was followed by a special dance performance by students. Motivational and inspirational talks were given by the remarkable ladies of OEC, namely the Vice Dean, Ms. Limin Wang, and a PhD candidate Ms. Adelaide Spio. Their speeches gave everyone a perfect summary of the road to attaining dreams and success as well as discussing the power of self-discipline as an aspect in achieving one's goals. These ladies encouraged everyone to start doing something towards our dreams because working hard now will surely benefit everyone in the near future.

The goals of the association were stated as follows: To unite all JSU ladies into a big family of love; To promote multicultural diversity to enhance learning; To ensure easy dissemination of information; and to provide direction using women anchors as mentors through seminars and conferences.

The event ended with a highly motivated closing remarks from Professor Gao, and a token of appreciation to everyone who attended the first event of the association. This event is just the start of a blissful and eternal journey of the ladies of the OEC.



OEC TEAM SHINES AT 14TH ANNUAL JIANGSU UNIVERSITY SPORTS MEET



October 30th and 31st saw Jiangsu University host its 14th annual sports meet which brought together some of the best athletes in this university to fight it out for the coveted medals. It has been yet another successful year for the OEC team as they successfully defended their title at the sports meet after months of practicing tirelessly as the rest of the international students body continued with life, oblivious to the sweat and tears being shed by the OEC's team as they prepared for victory.

The first day's morning saw the atmosphere surrounding our athletes charged with excitement and confidence. "Do you feel the least bit nervous about your races today?" we asked Bella, one of the athletes. "No, because I believe God will work miracles on the field," she responded with a calm air about her. Sure enough, we saw her take first place in the girls' 100 m race just half an hour later. The team showed no signs of fatigue in the afternoon as the winning streak continued. The afternoon races began with the 100 m male race and the gold was won by OEC's very own Tatenda Dzvokora. He expressed his delight to have won and expressed his enthusiasm about the 4x100m male relay. All in all, he won 2 gold medals in singles' events and 2 gold medals in the mixed events.

The event had many other stand out performances with OEC students performing exceptionally well in their events. Saturday came and the team showed no signs of slowing down as they marched on to victory, breaking records on the way. The Mixed Events Team did their fair share by scooping some medals of their own in events such as Back Ball Throw, Rope Skipping Relay, Stone Crossing, etc. Meanwhile, on the grand stand some students took their support to the next level and brought drums to amplify the cheers for the OEC team. The influx of solid wins sealed the title of the 2015 Sports meet champions with 28 medals and 286 points.

It was truly a spirited event and showcased unity amongst students. The team members encouraged each other and even aided those who were injured, displaying a high standard of sportsmanship. Even the OEC staff and teachers got involved! Ms. Wang and Mr. Dai paced up and down the field ensuring the athletes were well managed and on time for their races and folk sports. The passion and drive with which the Management Committee rallied the athletes resounded through as they did their best and gave everything their all. Otsile Morake, the Vice President of ISSA said, "We are not just going for victory but for history!" Such powerful words echo what sport is all about! Passion! Excellence! Leaving a mark!



The phenomenon of globalization has allowed each one of us to co-operate and share ideas with people far beyond our own borders and aided humanity in its quest for constant progress. A bright example of a platform for sharing ideas is the recently concluded 22nd Annual Tri University International Joint Seminar and Symposium. Popularly referred to as Tri-U, it initially started as a co-operative effort between Mie University from Tsu in Japan, Chiang Mai University from northern Thailand and our very own, Jiangsu University. The symposium has since gone on to attract universities from countries such as Korea and Russia as members. However, the three founders have stayed on as hosts, rotating every year. In 2011, Bogor Agricultural University was added as one of the host universities.

This year saw over 117 delegates from 10 countries attend the program. The topics for academic exchange included population, food, energy, environment and internationalization of higher education.

The highlights of the event, apart from the week long symposium, were the opening ceremony and the welcoming party that preceded it.

The party to welcome the guests wasn't a dull affair by any means. The food laid out by the hosts had the guests salivating. It included meals cooked by our international students representing their host counties. Also, the event had songs and dances performed by the OECians, who are fast proving to be the crown jewel of JSU.

With all the diversity in Jiangsu University, one wonders how students come together to both experience and appreciate each other's cultures. The 22nd Tri-U Opening Ceremony was a show elaborating both the talents and different cultures in our great school. From the simple, elegant yet beautiful folk dance, to the strong and willful martial arts performance, the show proved to be a master class of organization and performance.

Opening with the Lantern Festival's Chinese Music Instrument Ensemble, performed by the JU students' Art group, the show went on to shed some light on the core values of our beloved school. Both students and faculty took part in this program, and the end result was phenomenal. The OEC students, ready and smart, went on to successfully perform multiple performances; the sign language show and the fashion show being amongst them.

The most important part of the night however, was the Jasmine Flower dance, performed by various members of the Jiangsu University faculty, including our very own OEC staff. Watching the old Lang Syne Chorus performed by the Jiangsu University Male teacher, dressed in black with beautiful rhythmically pleasant voices was a treat.

The seminar presentations, by students primarily, provided the participants an opportunity to interact with their peers and share knowledge on subjects of mutual interest. The event concluded after a week's worth of fruitful debate with awards for Best Presentation, Poster Presentations and Field Work.

The 23rd Annual Tri-U IJSS will be hosted by the Bogor Agricultural University next year in October.



Talents on Campus

A famous photographer once claimed that photography is the only language that can be understood all over the world. That would be tough to deny. Something that might take hours to explain, can be done so in a matter of minutes via a photograph. There is no better example than the photograph that surfaced recently showcasing a Syrian child washed ashore on a beach in Turkey. The image captured the attention of the whole world. It propelled the refugee crisis in Syria into the mainstream.

With advent of the iPhone and photo sharing apps such as Instagram, photography has become an indelible part of our lives. It would be tough to meet a person who probably has not snapped a picture using his phone. While most of us are satisfied with the pictures we click everyday, there are others who have taken this art form to a different level. They have used their pictures to bring out the beauty in life and the world around us. One such talent is present in our midst in the form of a computer science student from Turkey. Recently published in the L'Oeil de la Photographie (a French magazine for photography) in 2015, Anil Bolukbas is a fourth year Bachelor's student at the Overseas Education College in Jiangsu University. Istanbul is one of the world's most beautiful cities.

The city straddles on two continents, Asia and Europe, providing a confluence to two of the world's aesthetically pleasing yet contrasting cultures. In a poetic way, Anil was born in Istanbul but traces his lineage from the modern day Macedonia. His background has aided him in understanding how enriching it is to assimilate cultures. This is reflected in the fondness with which he looks up on his time in China. He lived and studied the Chinese language in Shanghai for a year before he joined Jiangsu University to continue his education. Calling the Middle Kingdom his second home, Anil is open to the possibility of working here one day in the future, "I may work here in China, of course, but it depends on what comes around with life."

Anil Bolukbas took up photography at a young age. A high school photography award at the age of fifteen kindled his interest in the field. In our conversation he states, "I began to pursue photography in earnest, and realized I would have to do something more interesting [to advance further]. I have never studied about photography or post-production, not at all."

"According to my personal experiences and line of vision, I can say photography is an art form on its own. The beauty is here, art is for everybody and all human beings take whatever they like about it. I'm not the kind of photographer who cares to be honest. I'm incredibly insular when it comes to my awareness of what is going on in the industry. I do what I do... and I'm happy to leave it at that. You and I, for example, may look the same object and see different things. These are our individual points of view and my purpose is to impress them all with my way of seeing things. What you like about an artist is actually not their work it's their line of vision. Whatever you do you follow your art but at the same time it is always nice to improve yourself, try to understand new art styles. Making photographs is physically, mentally and emotionally exhausting at times. Each shoot has its own challenges. You have to change and evolve and grow as a photographer and as a person. The best thing about photography is everybody has a different slant in the way they would tell a story."

Anil has grown from strength to strength from the day he picked up his camera for the first. The list of awards that he has received bears testament to the splendid work he has done. But not only has his work brought him fame but has helped him gain maturity beyond his years, all the while helping him achieve his dreams. In his words, this line of work has given him the chance to explore unique ideas and realize his passion. But, does his love for photography take a toll on his academics, we were curious to find out! Contemplating this issue he says that while it is technically possible to juggle some time to pursue this passion by indulging in some freelancing, the road blocks are always there.

We tried to humor him and get his opinions on the vast issues that plague the photographers' community, "Does the art form receive the recognition it deserves or does the world still treat it as a hobby and nothing else?" Adeptly, he highlights the complexity of such issues. While reasoning that societies in developed countries such as the US, France and others are more supportive because they can spend more time and attention to understand the art form, he also points out that the imbalance between public and private galleries can be an issue. He laments the lack of people willing to be photographed in Zhenjiang. This, he says, has impacted his quest for developing new concepts and adding a fresh feel to his works with new faces.



Of late, Anil has been involved in more conceptual portraits.

During this time he has come across people from different ethnicities and cultures. Persuading people to work with him and be involved in his projects, which at the outset may sound eccentric, is a challenge that he is ready to accept. This has especially helped hone his ability to convince! He feels proud about some of his past works that have been recognized on world stage. One his works, "Get Stuck In", has been awarded eight times! Another of his recently concluded projects is "Rage I Have Hidden" from which he has high hopes. Presently, he is working on a conceptual series in Shanghai with two contemporary dancers.

But, what is it that makes him such an exceptional photographer? Is it the tools that he uses that help him create such delightful images? To this he underscored the importance of light and light shaping tools in photography. "I always think the light and light shaping tools are more important than any other equipment. If there is no need for specific equipments my setup is simple; I use Nikon cameras and lenses ranging from 28 mm to 50 mm with really open apertures. And tons of light shaping tools with head flash lights. For postproduction steps, I use Aperture for RAW editing and Adobe Photoshop for retouching. It is possible to get very nice photos with an inexpensive point and shoot camera. In fact, I have sold many photos taken by nothing but an iPhone. One does not need to go crazy about buying the most expensive equipment. The more photos you take, the more you'll realize about what kind of camera to get when it is time to upgrade. All you need to learn are basic rules of photography and lighting."

In the future, Anil Bolukbas hopes to be more active in photography after graduation. He hopes to continue selling his pictures to stock agencies while experimenting more with his ideas and enter in to competitions to gain more recognition on the world stage.

(Check out Anil's work on Instagram at [abolukbas \(@abolukbas\)](#) and browse his online portfolio at [anilbolukbas.com](#))

Anil Bolukbas





3rd- Nidhi



2nd- Thapelo



Winner - Arun



5th- Nidhi



4th- Nidhi



Healing the Holiday Hangover

New semesters are always marked by students no longer being able to roam around randomly, doing as they please; be it backpacking across China or simply staying in bed and watching series all day. 8 am classes and assignments now dominate the agenda. This isn't much of a problem for some of you who might feel refreshed and ready to go but for the others, the holiday mood still looms and there is little to no desire to start studying again. If this applies to you, you have the dreaded case of the holiday hangover.

Holiday hangover refers to the mindset experienced by many individuals when returning to their everyday routine after a significant period of time off.

The most common reason for experiencing the holiday hangover is simply because of the change in lifestyle. The beginning of semester means having to accept certain responsibilities that the vacation did not have. The idea of watching an entire season of Orange is the New Black in three days does not seem any less appealing during the semester than it did during the holiday but if you have piles of homework, a rational person would make the better decision to do the assignment.

The good news is that this hangover is curable and you are not doomed to face the consequences of the holiday hangover as there are various actions that can be taken to reduce the negative effects of it. Here are a few nuggets to help you get back into the swing of 江大 life.

Consistency: University is all about balancing your priorities—classes, studying, social life, and for some—part time jobs. So it just makes sense to set regular habits that can help you stay at the top of your game. Start first by establishing a routine for going to bed and

getting up at the same time each day, and try to make your bedtime hour reasonable. Join a study group that meets regularly. Designate an evening as laundry night. Perhaps set up a time that you have coffee each week after class with a friend. Getting yourself into a regular schedule will help you settle in and focus in the classroom.

Eat healthy; Seriously, leftover chaofan (炒饭) for breakfast will catch up with you. Learning to eat properly will help you stay energized and undistracted in class. And yes, that starts with a good breakfast. Of all the meals, it is the most important meal of the day. Avoiding breakfast will drain your energy quickly and may lead you in to eating unhealthy foods. Eating fast food will have you feeling lethargic, and drinking too many sugary, caffeinated beverages will leave you feeling jittery.

Exercise: Exercising regularly will help you feel more energetic and less stressed out. Block out an hour each day for a visit to the gym or for some other form of activity, like a walk or run or play a team sport like basketball or soccer (and note: walking to a class that's 5 minutes away from your apartment doesn't count as exercise).

Make time for friends. Whether you're trying out a new restaurant or just hanging out in your room, spending QUALITY time with your friends at can be a great way to decompress after a long week in the classroom.

Crushing

Editorial Note: Insurance is probably one of the least understood topics on campus in the present day. This trend is particularly worrying since it is one of the key requirements to lead a pleasant and prosperous life in China, especially for the foreigners. To rectify this worrying situation, *The Olive* has made an effort to provide relevant information and bust certain myths that are prevalent on campus.

International Insurance is for people who are not living in their home country or in regions where medical care is very poor and the residents have to travel abroad to access it. It is a standard practice for countries with expensive health care systems, such as China, to require the expats to avail these insurance packages. It is important to remember that the main purpose of having medical insurance is to take care of you in the unexpected and worst case scenario, where costs of treatment can be very high.

Things to keep in mind...

1. For foreigners living in China, it is important that your plan includes an Evacuation & Repatriation option in case you need to go back to your home country for any emergency treatment or operation.
2. For most insurance companies you will have to wait at least 12 months before they will cover you for maternity related costs.

With a variety of medical insurance plans in the market, it is difficult to make the right choice. The preferred option is to look for the plan that best suits your current situation and needs with the help of a Medical Insurance Consultant. For example, a person who is unmarried will not have the same need as a couple who are planning to start a family; similarly an employee coming to China for a one year assignment will need a different plan from someone staying longer than a year.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS' INSURANCE MYTHS

Foreign students are mostly confused about the purpose of health insurance and how it works in countries they find themselves. To help us through this process, and crush those student insurance myths — here are some of the most common myths that international students have about student insurance.

Myth #1: "I do not need insurance because I won't get sick"

Accidents and illnesses can happen at any time and there is no way to predict when or where they will happen so it is never a good idea to leave your health or your financial situation up to chance. Keep in mind that health insurance is specifically designed to help

International

you find a doctor nearby and cover some, if not all, of the cost of your visit. Without insurance you will be liable the total cost of your medical bills, which could be in the thousands and thousands of yuan, especially in countries where healthcare is much more expensive.

Myth #2: "I can just buy insurance when I need it, worst case I might just have to pay a little bit more"

FALSE! If you get sick or injured today and you want to buy an insurance policy so that you can use it right away for that injury/illness — it will not work! The plan will not cover you. Think about it, would you be able to buy home insurance to cover your home against it burning down, after it has already burnt down? With all insurances, they are meant to protect you against something that may happen in the future, not what has already happened..

Insurance is meant to protect against future unforeseen events. This being said, most plans will not cover conditions that you had before the effective date of your insurance plan. These pre-existing conditions may be covered after a waiting period of at least six months, but sometimes are excluded from the plan altogether.

Think of it this way, you can't buy car insurance to pay for an accident you've already had and health insurance works on this same principal. It's important to buy insurance before you actually need it.

Myth #3: If I use my health insurance, my premium will go up automatically

FALSE!! The prices (called premiums) that you pay for insurance plans go into a pool and then are used by insurance companies to pay the medical bills (called claims) for everyone insured under the plan. So, as long as there is about the same amount of premium going into the company as the insurance company is paying out, the prices for your insurance will remain about the same. That notwithstanding, even if your premium does go up after seeking treatment, it isn't because of you alone.

Never be afraid to use your insurance plan because you think your rates may increase. You purchased the plan to be able to use it and remember you can always contact your insurance company before seeking treatment to ensure the cost will be covered.

Myth #4: All health insurance plans are the same, so I just need to find the cheapest plan

FALSE!!! No two insurance plans are exactly the same. There are many international student

Students' Insurance Myths

insurance plans available, with different prices and meeting different needs. While finding an affordable plan is ideal, it is even more important to ensure your plan covers everything you may need like sports, maternity, mental health, emergency medical evacuation and repatriation. It is a fact that different policies allow you to have insurance for different lengths of time as well, so be sure to read the policy carefully if you're still deciding on which policy to purchase.

Myth #5: If I have health insurance I don't need to worry about anything because I will always be covered

FALSE AGAIN!!! Not many health insurance plans cover you for 'everything'. A good student insurance plan will cover you for your medical costs if you get sick or injured. However, all insurance plans have some exclusions or limitations.

1. What if you get into an accident while you were consuming alcohol — would that be covered?
2. What if you were injured playing tennis at school — is that excluded from your plan?
3. What if you need to get an immunization to register for classes — would that be covered?

So it's important to read your insurance policy's benefits and exclusion in detail, and perhaps a better question than "does the insurance cover everything?" is to ask "what are the exclusions on the insurance?" Even if your medical expenses are covered, it is possible that you may have out of pocket expenses, like coinsurance that you are still responsible to pay.

So what exactly is the insurance policy plan of a foreign student in JSU?

The insured' is the visitor from abroad aging 16-60 who is healthy and capable of normal work and normal living. According to Ping An Annuity Insurance Company, LTD, JSU branch (service commissioner). A premium of 600 RMB per student paid covers the following insurance liability:

- o Accidental death insurance
- o Accidental disability
- o Disease death benefits
- o Accidental in-patient allowance
- o Accidental medical insurance
- o In-patient medical insurance
- o Traffic accidental death insurance
- o Traffic accidental disability insurance

The accumulative total per capita of accidental death and accidental disability insurance benefits does not exceed the insurance sum whether insured suffers from accident once or more.

The scope of accidental out-patient and emergency treatment are as follows:

- o Shock, Coma caused by accident
- o Emergency bleeding caused by accident
- o Brain trauma, fracture, dislocation, convulsion, burn or other acute trauma

Designated hospitals are mainly those public hospitals spread around the district approved by the local medical insurance department. However, where accidental and emergency treatment are needed, non-designated public hospitals can be chosen.

Applying for in-patient, out-patient or emergency medical benefits should be within 3 months from the time of injury or accident. Note that, during claim, information about case condition, treatment, medicine and dosage should be identified in the case history. All receipts should be same as in case history.

The medical expenses caused under the following are exclusions to the insurance liability:

- The insured makes the insured injuries or disease deliberately
- The insured commits a crime or suicide, inflicts injury to him/herself deliberately
- The insured fights, indulgent of alcohol, takes or injects drug
- The insured drives under the influence of alcohol, without a valid drivers' license or vehicle does not have a valid license
- When the insured is diagnosed as an AIDS victim, and/or AIDS virus carrier (HIV positive)
- War, military action, civil commotion or armed rebellion
- Nuclear explosion, radiation or pollution
- The insured engages in sports or activities with high risk such as diving, parachuting, martial arts, wrestling competitions, automobile racing etc.
- Body-building treatments such as losing weight, increasing weight and height etc.
- Accident caused by the anamnesis (disease caused before application).

So, the next time you think about doing that high-risk activity for the prize with the assurance of the 600 RMB you paid as insurance, remember what it covers, its limitations and exclusions.

Post Graduate Group in focus: Clinical Medicine

The Clinical Medicine research group consists of people, perhaps, the least seen on campus. Nonetheless, they are one of foremost post-graduate student groups of the OEC. This group primarily consists of students who are part of the Masters' in Medicine and Surgery program of the university. They practice and learn their craft at the university hospitals, namely Affiliated Hospital of Jiangsu University and the No. 1 People's Hospital, also known as Kangfu Hospital. Their program requires them to publish papers in one of the many peer reviewed journals. The papers can be either a meta-analysis of papers already published or a research paper based on experiments that they have carried out under the supervision of the senior doctors at the hospitals. The Olive had the delightful opportunity to reach out this group and find out more about their activities this past edition.

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2. Hameed Ali Shah Syed
3. Denise Vaneesa Minse Evola
4. Amrit Gurung
5. Framan Ali
6. Syed Hameed Ali Shah
7. Sohun Mohendranath
8. Sher Ali Murad
9. Augustine Balaara
10. Abdul Raheem

NATURE'S DEADLIEST KILLERS: Gastric Adenocarcinoma

Whenever the word cancer is uttered, it is almost certain to send shivers down your spine. One of nature's deadliest killers, this disease has had an impact on all our lives in one way or another. People have had their parents, friends and bread winners taken away from them. Some live under the constant dread of being taken away from their loved ones as the malignant tumor spreads with each passing day. The statistics of people who have to leave their jobs because they are either ill or have to take care of their loved ones show that although not infected, but still we are all affected. Nations spend billions of dollars every year to fund research on this deadly disease.

Gastric cancer is one of the forms of cancer which begins when cancerous cells form in the inner lining of your stomach. These cells may grow into a tumor. Also called stomach cancer, the disease usually progresses slowly over many years.

The Olive, recently, had the opportunity to sit down with Dr. Dipak Kumar Singh, one of the postgraduate research students from the School of Clinical Medicine, who has devoted his time towards better understanding the disease as well as working with other people on ways to curb it.

The Olive: Hello, Dr. Singh! It is an honor to be interviewing you for *The Olive's* research based interview for the sixth edition. To begin with, we would like to know you better. Could you introduce yourself for our readers?

Dr. Singh: Thanks for meeting me and letting me talk in detail about this subject. As for my introduction, I come from a middle class family from the eastern part of Nepal. My father was a teacher, who has since retired. I was brought up in a family of four children and I am the youngest of the lot. I graduated from a local school in Bhadrapur. I was interested in studying medicine so I enrolled at the Chongqing University of Medical Sciences to attain a MBBS degree. After graduating, I returned to my country to practice as medical officer till 2012, when I joined Jiangsu University in February 2013 to pursue postgraduate education in General Surgery.

The Olive: Interesting! Your educational background is reflected in your work and conduct. But what intrigues us the most is the reason behind you choosing to study gastric cancer. Would you please throw some light on that?

Dr. Singh: Gastric cancer is one of the major areas of study for general surgery, especially in Eastern Asia including China. The disease has a higher incidence in the region. Consequently, to conduct a research on gastric cancer in the area is a good opportunity. And our team was already engaged in studies on esophageal cancer which made this topic more relevant.



The Olive: Could you give us an overview about your research?

Dr. Singh: The recent advances in genetics and molecular biology have encouraged scientists to attempt to discover the genetic basis of various diseases. The studies on cancer, including gastric cancer, have not been left untouched by this school of thought. Single Nucleotide Polymorphisms (SNPs) in certain genes have been found to be associated with the risk of developing some forms of cancer. Previous studies done by our team have also successfully demonstrated the association of Polymorphisms in certain micro RNAs with increased risk of esophageal carcinoma. We conducted a hospital based case-control Study for which total of 3 cases with gastric cancer and 605 controls were recruited. In this study of ours we selected 4 tag SNPs in micro RNAs and analyzed their association with the risk of gastric cancer.

The Olive: How much of an influence does gastric cancer have on society of today? How do you hope to address that issue with this research?

Dr. Singh: Epidemiological studies suggest that gastric cancer is third highest cause of cancer related deaths and disabilities in the world. Its incidence is higher in Eastern Asia. Although the incidence of overall gastric cancer is decreasing worldwide, incidence of Gastric Cardia Adenocarcinoma (GCA) has been observed to be increasing. People with GCA usually present late in the clinics due to delayed onset of symptoms associated with the disease, which makes it difficult to treat and the mortality is high. Studies like ours are done to analyze the association among certain genes and study the polymorphisms in them and stratify risk of developing cancer. If various studies with same topic conducted in different geographical areas and in different ethnic groups reveal similar outcomes, this may help in establishing a tumor marker for that particular cancer, which is a great aid in screening and diagnosis. Early diagnosis and timely intervention may greatly decrease the related mortalities and disabilities.

The Olive: What sort of challenges did you face while being involved in this research? How was your department's support during this period?

Dr. Singh: At the beginning I was lost and confused about selecting my topic for research as I had no previous experience of being part of any research team. However, with the aid and guidance of my supervisor and with the help of my research fellows in our department and central laboratory of People's Affiliated Hospital of JSU, I

came to understand the process of research gradually and gained confidence. Then I selected this topic, which was approved and supported by approval committee and my supervisor. Blood Samples for research were collected from both the affiliated hospitals and we conducted experiments in central laboratory of the People's Hospital. Everyone in the department and lab were very helpful and supportive.

The Olive: As a forerunner, do you have any advice for the next batch of PG students.

Dr. Singh: For incoming batches of PG students, I would like to say that our university has a very supportive environment for students who are interested in research. Laboratories are equipped with required facilities that we need to conduct all kinds of researches at this level. The opportunity offered by JSU is a boon for students from developing countries like mine and the college has lots to offer in comparison to what we have back home. However, a good attitude along with dedication, honesty, hard work and perseverance are very important to build a good relationship with supervisors and colleagues. Knowledge of the Chinese Language is a big help. Everyone should try to learn the language as much as possible, be respectful towards their supervisors and cooperative with their classmates and colleagues. There are ample opportunities coupled with a friendly environment. They should try to take advantage of this situation, understand and experience different research techniques and learn as much as possible.

The Olive: What's next after this? Where should we hope to see you in the future?

Dr. Singh: I plan to return to my country after graduation and start practicing as a general surgeon. Currently, we don't have modern laboratories to conduct research at molecular level in hospital that I am going to work in. I will try to persuade the authorities there to establish a lab with the latest facilities. If I am successful, I would like to cooperate with the research teams of our university and also from other parts of the world and continue the same path. It has enormous future application in the field of medical science.

The Olive: Dr. Singh, Thank you for sharing your ideas with us and making time. We wish you success in your future endeavors.

Dr. Singh: I'm grateful for this opportunity and appreciate you letting me share my experiences with others.



LIST OF PUBLISHED SOCIAL / SCIENCE CITATION INDEX (S/SCI) ARTICLES (SPRING 2016)

1. **Kumi F**, Mao H P, Hu J P, **Ullah I**. (2015) Review of applying X-ray computed tomography for imaging soil-root physical and biological processes. *International Journal of Agricultural and Biological Engineering* 8(5): 1-14.

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FOCUS "IT CAN EITHER BUILD YOU OR BREAK YOU"

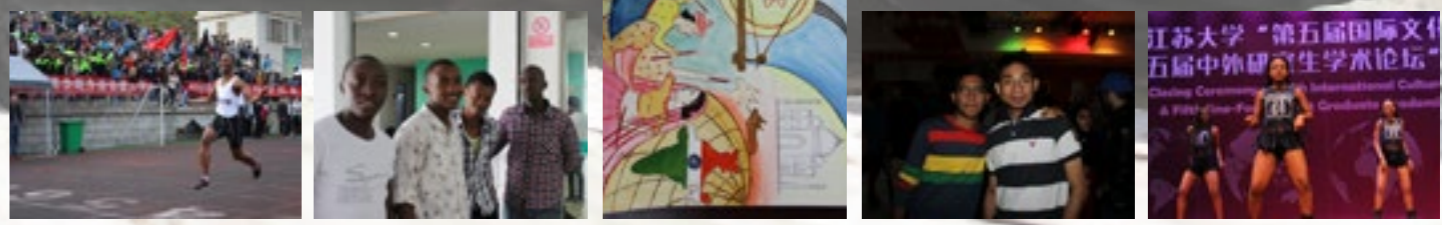
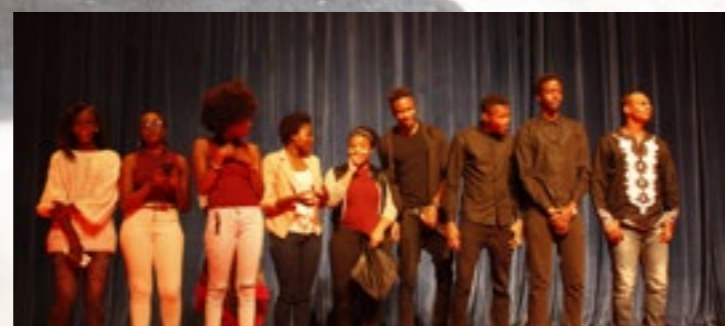
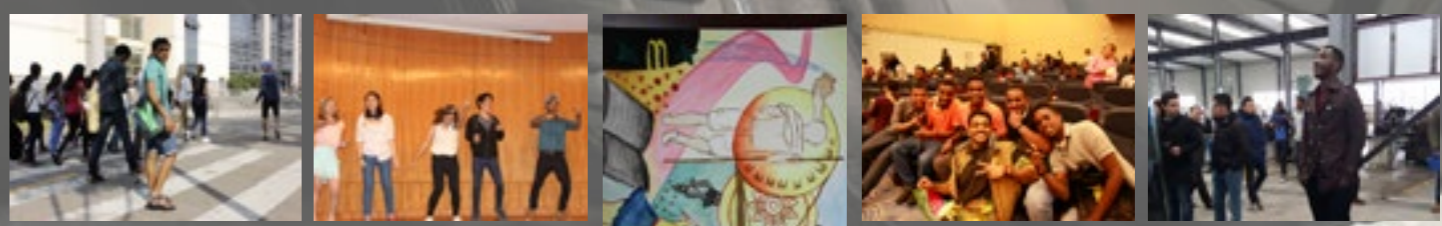
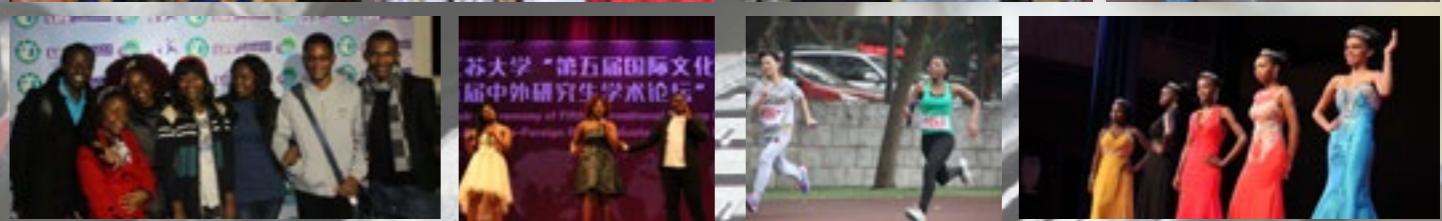
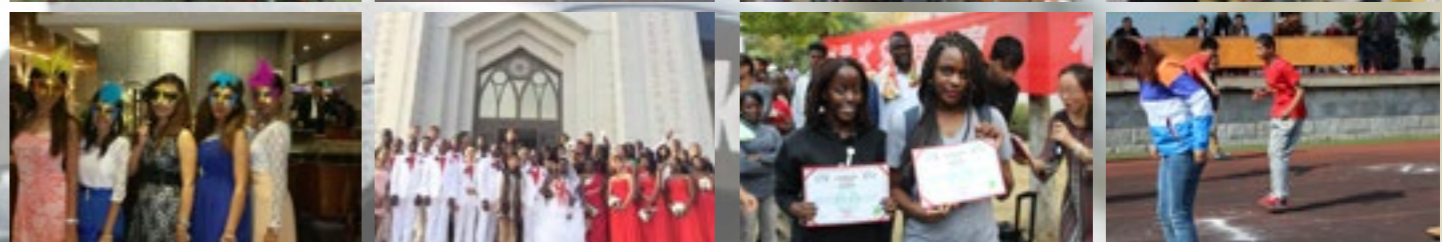
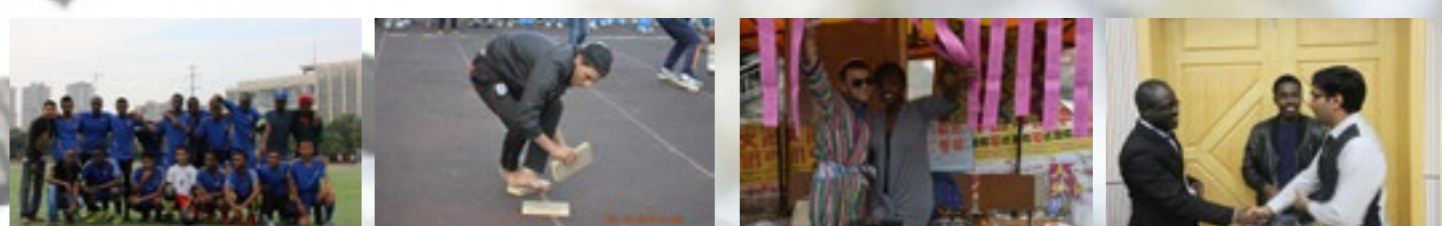
Have you ever held a 1 Yuan coin against the sun? It prevents the sun's rays from entering your eyes. It isn't that the coin in itself is bigger than the sun, but rather your eyes focus on the coin. Interestingly enough, this is something that we see in our everyday lives. How so you ask? It is simple really. We allow the minor irritations to outweigh what's actually good. In turn, this saps out our appreciation for the cumulative small things that actually make life more meaningful and pleasant.

I have observed this scenario more than once. A person wakes up, gets ready on time yet misses the elevator by a fraction of a second. This ticks the person off even though they aren't late but just because they didn't have their way. When the elevator does eventually does return, it stops on every floor as it descends which further agitates the person. By the time the person reaches the first floor, they literally knock everyone who dares to so much as stand within their reach; only to realize they left something important such as their wallet behind. Had this person not focused on what was going wrong (and not turned the elevator into the proverbial coin), they probably would have been in a better state of mind to remember the item they left behind. Coins (minor irritations) will always be there no matter how organized we think we are or how much we try to avoid them and the more we focus on them the less we see what's actually going really well in our lives.

I realize that problems come in all kinds of sizes and the elevator example is minuscule compared to the challenges some of us face. In fact, sometimes you do need to sit down and analyze the situation at hand to map a way forward but there's a point when overdoing it will cause unnecessary unhappiness. Focusing on what's going wrong will block your vision of the good things (the sun).

Focus is a critical factor as you make your way through life. Misguided focus will blind you. If you take a magnifying glass and hold it against the sun and point it toward paper, it will ignite a fire. Focus the magnifying glass in the wrong direction then nothing will happen. That's how powerful it is. Concentrating on your goals will pave a way to success, however stressing on the very things that cause anxiety and worry in your life will derail you and cause you to lose your way.

I encourage readers to pause for a minute and consider where you may need to redirect your focus. You might be less frustrated with that classmate or roommate if focused on their nicer characteristics instead of the annoying ones. Perhaps, you would be able to pull your act together if you sat down for a while and focused on what you want to achieve within the next few years you are in China and after you've left. Just some food for thought.



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23. **Tahir, H. E.**, Xiaobo, Z., Tinting, S., Jiyong, S., and Mariod, A. A. (2016). Near-Infrared (NIR) Spectroscopy for Rapid Measurement of Antioxidant Properties and Discrimination of Sudanese Honeys from Different Botanical Origin. *Food Analytical Methods*, 1-11.
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