

Time

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***Newsletter of the Faculty of Education International Students' Union,
Beijing Normal University
No. 7 June 2015***

Dear Reader, Please find our newsletter "Timeline" for this month. Feel free to send us any feedback/news/articles/ideas or things that you are interested in. News will be shaped to your needs; and you will find open calls for conferences, academic activities and other issues that just happen to us every day...enjoy☺

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Picnic organized by the Faculty of Education of International Students' Union by Jestina T. Sartee



Chinese students from SSDP, Higher Education, Environmental Science and the Faculty of Education 2013 and 2014 Cohorts attended.

The Park was a scene of nature, as students engaged in activities such as boat riding,

flying
of
kites,



there were amazing dance performances by various countries led by Liberia, and then followed by Ghana, Thailand, Malawi, Tanzania and China.

The Ministry of Culture and Activities, Faculty of Education International Students' Union, organized a picnic to BEIJING YUYUANT PARK on May 30, 2015. The picnic promoted the interaction between International and Chinese students. Besides, it provided a great opportunity for international student to experience the culture of China through nature. The number of participants was highly met as 22 students both International and



playing of cards and scrabbles and experiencing other cultures through the food and dances that were available. There were food from many countries such as Liberia, Ghana, Tanzania, Thailand, Malawi and China.

Furthermore,



The activities afforded International and Chinese students more time to interact and created an atmosphere for getting some basic information about everyone's country including the food, population, beautiful places, the names of various presidents, etc. students highly enjoyed the picnic time.

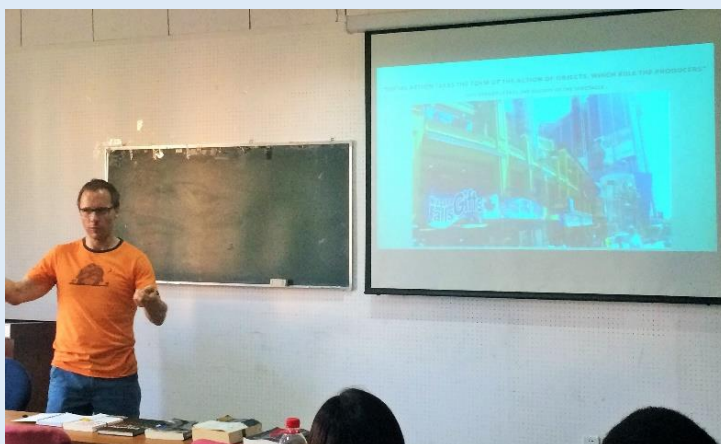
Dr. Lorin Yochim Offers Academic Lecture by Masaki Onuma

On the evening of June 11, the Ministry of Academics, Faculty of Education International Students' Union, hosted an academic lecture by Dr. Lorin Yochim titled "Getting Beyond the Spectacle: Doing *Laowai* Ethnography in China".



Honestly speaking, I had no idea about ethnography in China; however, I was absorbed in the lecture immediately. This is because Dr. Lorin assisted his lecture with so many pictures which represent the scenery of Chinese daily life. For example, we saw posters from two periods; one period from the 1990s, and the other period from 2010s. The poster from the 1990s reflected the Communist idea and it said "found

China based on Mao's words"; While, the other poster from the 2010s promoted individual performance. Dr. Lorin noted that the current condition of China is moving toward "elite" with models of Western people as opposed to the 1990s. I was more than surprised and felt the huge transition in China. Although I learned this Chinese transition on the desk before, I recognized it profoundly



with the daily life of the people as indicated in Dr. Lorin's posters. After the lecture, we had a chance to ask several questions to Dr. Lorin Yoshim. Some of the students shared their experience of researching in China and asked the advice and help of the professor. Dr. Lorin gave us some tips for doing research as a foreign

researcher. The lecture opened my eye and gave me a powerful eyesight.

Faculty of Education Students Participate in the International Conference on ICT and Post-2015 Education by Samson Maekele Tsegay

A students' delegation from Faculty of Education, Beijing Normal University participated at the International Conference on ICT and Post-2015 Education that was held from May 23-25, 2015 in Qingdao, the People's Republic of China. The conference was jointly hosted by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the Government of the People's Republic of China with the theme



“Leveraging ICT, transform education in the future”. The conference was held soon after the World Education Forum that was held from May 19-22, 2015 in Incheon, Republic of Korea.

After a speech by H.E. Mr Guiren Yuan, Minister of Education of the People's Republic of China, Mr. Li Qun, Secretary of Qingdao Municipal Government, Mr. Guo Shuqing, Governor of Shandong Provincial Government, and Ms Irina Bokova, UNESCO Director-General, the International Conference on ICT and Post-2015 Education was opened by Ms Liu



Yandong, the Vice Premier of the People's Republic of China. The conference was multidisciplinary and multicultural in all aspects covering about 300 international delegates

from more than 90 countries. The importance of the conference could be seen from its high ranking delegates (government, non-government and international organizations) including more than 50 Ministers of Education. Moreover, the conference encompassed different

educational issues such as teacher training, educational quality and equality, women and girls education, and others with a core emphasis on the connection of ICT and education.



Ms. Liu Yandong, Vice Premier of the People's Republic of China, addressed the message of H.E. Mr. Xi Jinping, President of the People's Republic of China, to the conference. In his message, President Xi discussed the reform and innovation of ICT in education in the information era, and expressed the firm determination of the Chinese Government to promote ICT in education. President Xi stated, ***"Dreams are realized through education. China has unrelentingly promoted ICT in education***

and tried to expand the coverage of good educational resources by ICT. We shall gradually narrow the digital gaps between regions and between urban and rural areas to promote the equity of education. Only then, hundreds of millions of children will enjoy good education under the same blue sky and will change their own destiny through knowledge". President Xi also proposed a wonderful vision of strengthening international cooperation and realizing the sustainable development of education.

The students' delegation from Beijing Normal University attended different presentations, plenary and breakout sessions as well as ministerial roundtable discussions. All the sessions were very important as most of them shared the practical experiences and future trends of different countries and organizations with regard to ICT and education. The panelists highlighted the need for sharing of experiences and cooperation among countries, and between countries and IT companies. The need for South-South and South-North-South cooperation was also indicated as a value added to the integration of ICT in education. The conference also reiterated the need to explore the connection between ICT infrastructure and pedagogical structure because countries need to plan the pedagogical practices that the

ICT should be used. Furthermore, the panelist and participants of the conference emphasized the need for critical thinking as ICT could provide plenty of information in which some of them could be conflicting. Therefore, information should be carefully analyzed instead of taking them all as for granted.

The conference was concluded with a “Qingdao Declaration” containing 21 points to provide member states with policy recommendations about how to harness the power of ICT to address current educational challenges and to ensure equitable quality education and lifelong opportunities for all. The Qingdao Declaration strengthens the Final Declaration “Towards Inclusive and Equitable Quality Education and Lifelong Learning” adopted at the World Education Forum in Incheon, Republic of Korea. Finally, the delegation visited Qingdao Experimental Elementary School and Hisense Corporation and experienced the inclusion of ICT for better and quality education.



Happy Birthday!

From this issue, we celebrate the birthday of our fellow students who are born in month of June.

JESTINA T. SARTEE
WARD, NICHOLAS WILLIAM
NEGANJE, SIMBARASHE BLESSING

Timeline, in the name of all the International students of the Faculty of Education, wishes you **HAPPY BIRTHDAY**, and all the best after.