



**SOUTHWEST UNIVERSITY
GLOBAL IMMERSION PROGRAM**
西南大学国际课程周
中国 重庆 CHINA CHONGQING

Speak Out to the World: SWU Global Immersion Program

The First Southwest University (SWU) Global Immersion Program Opening Ceremony was successfully held in Guangda Auditorium on July 7, 2019. 84 high-level international experts from 15 countries and 55 renowned universities, including the University of Cambridge, the University of Oxford, the University of Manchester, Yale University, Purdue University, the University of Victoria, Simon Fraser University, Ghent University, the University of Helsinki, the University of Milan, the University of Warsaw, the University of Zagreb, and the University of Toulouse, along with thousands of SWU faculty members and students, witnessed this milestone event in the endeavor of SWU's internationalization. Party Secretary LI Xufeng, President ZHANG Weiguo, Deputy Party Secretary PAN Xun, Vice President CHEN Shijian, Vice President WANG Jinjun, and other school leaders, as well as the heads of relevant administrative offices and secondary academic and scientific research departments, attended the opening ceremony.



President ZHANG Weiguo, on behalf of the university, delivered the warmest welcome to the international professors and experts. He stressed that international exchange and cooperation is an important mission of modern universities. SWU now holds long-term friendly cooperative relationships with over 170 educational and research institutes from more than 40 countries and regions. Every year, the university sends around 2,000 students to partner universities overseas and admits more than 2,000 international students from over 90 countries. Launching the GIP shows how SWU is responding positively to the trend of higher education opening to the world in the new era, and plays an important role in accelerating the construction of a modern university system. He urged students to maximize this opportunity, develop their international vision and cultural understanding, and muster strength for

making our nation stronger and moving to the center of the world stage. He also hoped that all academic and scientific research departments would take initiative and utilize the resources the GIP brings to improve the internationalization development of each department and further the university's integration to world-class standard.



As the first international expert representative addressing the audience, Professor Simon Redfern, Head of the Department of Earth Sciences at the University of Cambridge (UK), emphasized the significance of the GIP in advancing international exchanges and understanding, increasing educational cooperation, and eventually deepening scientific research cooperation.



Professor Jena Randolph from the University of Missouri (US) agreed that the GIP provided an excellent platform that stimulates and inspires students to explore cutting-edge academic topics, and it also creates international cooperation opportunities for researchers.



Professor Christophe Roux from the University of Toulouse (France), opened an interactive dialogue with Professor ZHANG Lei from the College of Resources and Environment of SWU, where they both expressed their anticipation of exchange and mutual learning through the GIP.



XU Shuai, the student representative, told his story about how he went from a small-town boy with a big dream, to becoming an SWU student, and eventually going into the world as an exchange student, and it was all inspired by a simple yet powerful encouragement: "I CAN." He thought that the GIP provided a platform for participants to exchange and learn about different ideas, opinions and cultures, and use such knowledge to cultivate a bright future. He urged all SWU students to create more success stories through GIP, turning "I CAN" into "We CAN"!



After Party Secretary LI Xufeng announced the inauguration of the GIP, the ceremony culminated as the massive LED screen was lit up by representatives of SWU, international experts and students together.



Performed in the ceremony were numbers that showcased a mixture of Chinese and international elements by SWU students, such as an energetic cheerleading dance, rhythmic gymnastics full of flexibility and beauty, "Jasmine Flower" sung by Chinese and international teachers, Sichuan Opera "Face-Off," a pop music medley performed by international students, a vocal mimicry rendition of "A Hundred Birds Worshipping the Phoenix" with rich Chinese cultural characteristics, and last but not the least, "Auld Lang Syne" sung by students from SWU and its affiliated elementary school. The atmosphere of the whole evening was upbeat and gleeful.



GIP puts "Integration" as its core philosophy, which is short for "Pursuing integration with southwest characteristics, integrating into global and inclusive education". Through this program, over 80 English-taught credit courses covering a comprehensive set of disciplines are offered in 32 colleges of SWU. During this 2-week program, professors and experts at home and abroad will join hands in strengthening students' international education, exchanging ideas, and sharing knowledge and culture together.



From this year on, SWU will continue to host GIP annually, and to invite experts and professors from top universities and research institutions to deliver English-taught courses, which will promote the "Double First-class Construction" initiative. In future, we will persist with more open, flexible, pragmatic and efficient principles for international cooperation, and focus on quality, integration and innovation, showing SWU to the world while striving for world-class talent training and scientific research, and contributing in building a community with a shared future for humankind.



Southwest University welcomes more high-level international partners, professors and exchange students to participate in the annual Global Immersion Program in the future!!!

For further and follow-up communication, please contact:
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