

VUB's China policy

Cases: joint lab. of VUB and NPU in Xi'an; LIAMA Consortium within CAS

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VUB's General China policy (1/4)

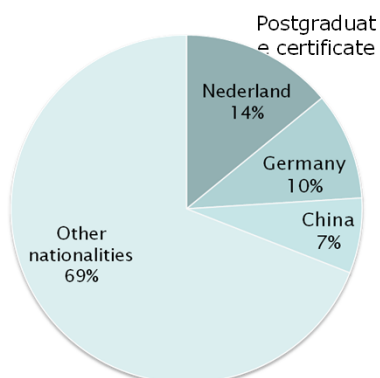
Mission

- Historically grown focus on China
- Specific focus on contemporary China
- Creation of trust & respect for diversity ... more than occasional collaborations
- Reinforce and trigger bottom-up initiatives by increasing VUB's reputation & visibility in China
- Support personal and institutional collaborations in education & research, responding to strong demand for internationalization of China
- Strong physical presence

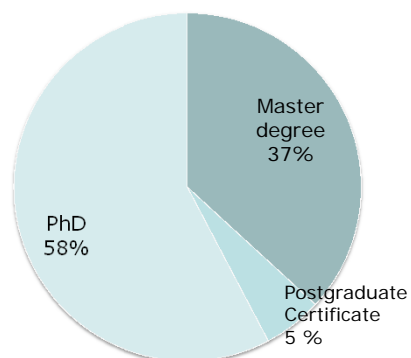
Chinese students @ VUB 2011-2012

12.000 students 2600 International 182 Chinese students

International students



Chinese students



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VUB's General China policy (2/4)

How?

Strategic partnerships with Chinese educational institutions

- Joint programs, Scholarship programs, Qualified student & staff exchange, Public events, Cultural diplomacy, **Joint laboratory, Cooperation Beyond R&D and education -Technology/Knowledge Transfer**

Public recruitment of qualified Chinese students & scholars

External networks

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VUB's General China policy: Marketing & Recruitment (3/4)



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VUB's General China policy: Brussels Institute for Contemporary China Studies – BICCS (4/4)

The capital of Europe's main academic hub between Europe and China.

Research: 4 main clusters

- China and the EU
- Foreign and security policy
- China's domestic transition
- Chinese law



Education: 4 major postgraduate programs

- China Business Development
- Contemporary China Studies
- Chinese Business Law
- Investing in the EU

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Some Privileged Partners

China Scholarship Council (CSC)

Cooperation with CSC since 2005

2011: 29 Chinese PhD students at VUB with CSC scholarship



Erasmus Mundus 2009-2013

Inter-institutional cooperation with 10 Chinese U's.

More than 100 students at VUB with EM scholarship



Privileged partner universities

Beijing: Renmin University, Tsinghua University, UIBE, etc.

Shanghai: Shanghai Jiaotong Uni., Tongji Uni., & Fudan Uni.

Xi'an: Xi'an Jiaotong Uni., Northwest Polytechnical Uni.

Other regions: Sichuan University, Zhejiang University, etc.



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Case 1: NPU – VUB Collaboration

Origin

- Bilateral project support in the framework of the Flemish & Federal cultural agreements (small but flexible project format)

Facilitating Factors

- Build on **early** contacts /friendship (in 1992)
 - Prof. Zhao Rongchun; Prof. Jan Cornelis
 - Jan Cornelis, Consultant professor at NPU
- Capitalize on **long term relations** and establish mutual trust

Good to know elements of success

- Institutional backing is important (interuniversity agreement) including research & education. ...)
- Concentration of contacts within a region (Xi'an: NPU/ Brussels: VUB)
- Exchange Programs (CSC grants PhD, ...)

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Case 1: Joint AVSP Lab - 2005

Specificities

- Joining Capacities:
 - NPU : 2 Profs, 3 Associate Profs, 1 Lecture, 4 PhD, 19 Master Students
 - VUB : 2 Profs, 2 Post Docs, 3 PhD, 2 Master Students
- Join Expertise & NO Duplication
- Defining joint research topics
- Defining joint PhD's
- Regular Meetings/shorts stays PhD & Staff

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Case 1: Joint AVSP Lab

Specificities

- Joining Resources & Synchronization of funding:
 - NPU :
 - *National High Technology Research and Development Program (863)*
 - *National Natural Science Foundation*
 - VUB:
 - National & Flemish Research Foundation
 - EU – ICT/Cognitive Systems
 - VUB research council
- Bilateral Projects (2)
- Exchange Programs (2 - CSC grants)

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Case 1: Some Lessons Learned

Long-term Relation

- Mutual Trust, Regular exchange, Commitment, Regular communication

Research activities

- Focused research topics o mutual interest, Complementarity , Joint Funding, Joint PhD

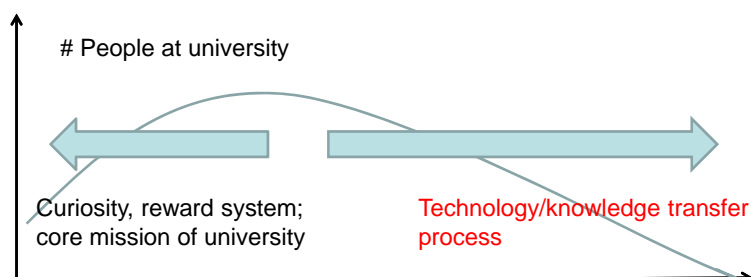
Recently: Extension to TT and regional collaboration

Near Future: Educational joint Master CS diploma (multimedia and AI) - more difficult

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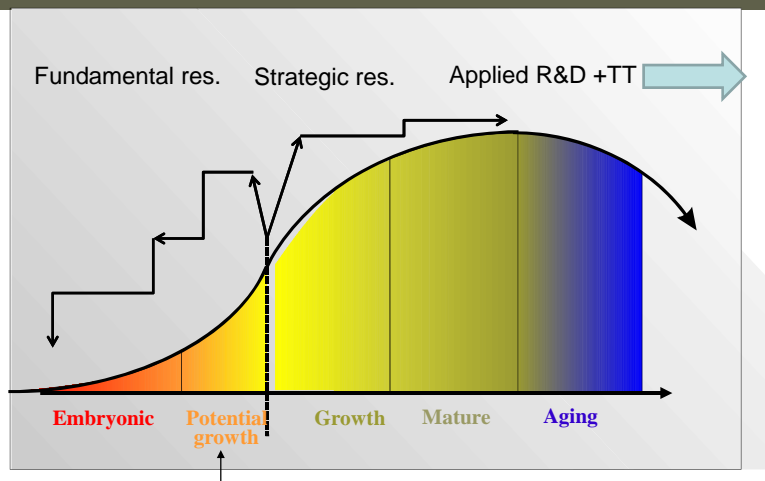
Case 1: New level of collaboration: technology transfer and incubators (1/2)

Fundamental res. Strategic res. Applied R&D +TT
 基础研究 战略研究 应用研发与技术转化



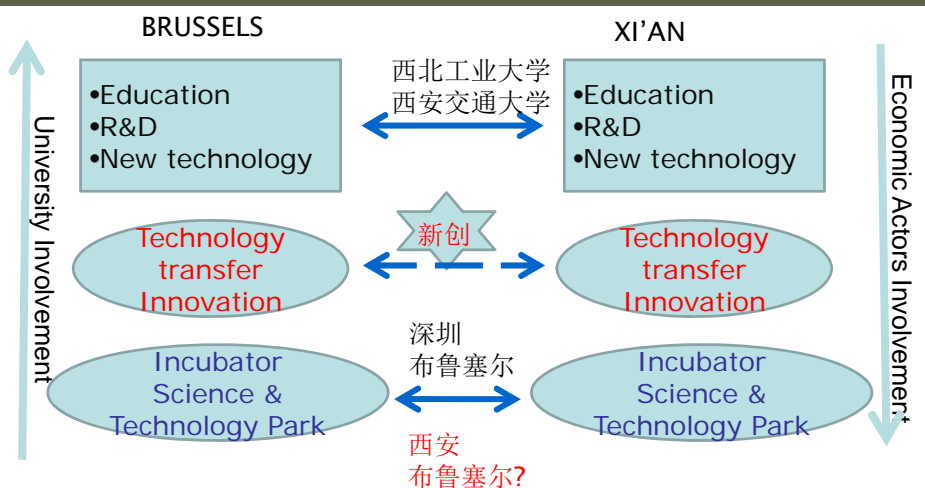
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Case 1: New level of collaboration: technology transfer and incubators (2/2)



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The Project – Multilayer Innovation Partnership



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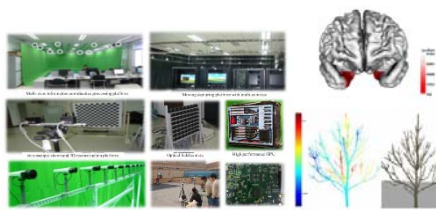
VUB: Multilayer Innovation Partnership



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Case 2: LIAMA in Beijing

- **Research hub created by INRIA and CAS in 1997,**
 - Hosted by CASIA, in Beijing
- **Mission**
 - setup research projects involving Chinese and European scientists ;
 - promote open source software development in both regions ;
 - strengthen relations between the academic and industrial communities in China and Europe ;
 - reinforce Chinese participation to European projects and conversely ;
 - develop training through research of Chinese and European students and scientists.
- **Research Topics**
 - Computational Medicine
 - Environmental Modeling
 - Massive Computing
 - **Multimodal Scene Understanding**



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Case 2: LIAMA Partners



INRIA: The French National Institute for Research in Computer Science and Control / 法国国家信息与自动化研究学院

VUB: Vrije Universiteit Brussel / 比利时大学

CASIA: Institute of Automation, Chinese Academy of Sciences / 中国科学院自动化研究所

Tsinghua University / 清华大学

CNRS: National Center for Scientific Research / 法国国家科研中心

BUAA: Beihang University / 北京航空航天大学

INRA: French National Institute for Agricultural Research / 法国农业科学研究

NPWU: Northwestern Polytechnical University / 西北工业大学

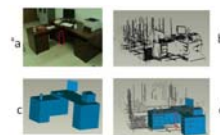
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LIAMA: CAVSA - Computational Audio-Visual Scene Understanding (1/2)

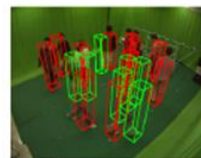
- Sahli Hichem VUB
- Hu Zhanyi CASIA
- Zhang Yanning NPU
- Jiang Dongmei NPU

The main objectives

- ✓ Understanding the surroundings
 - 3D Reconstruction (Environment/ Scene/Persons)
- ✓ Analyses sensors
 - AV Activity: Localisation /Tracking
- ✓ Intelligence
 - Expression/Emotion/ Human Activities awareness
 - Environment Recognition Based on Human Actions



a: One of the images; b: Results from DPM; c: Object Segmentation and Refinement by Hierarchical Language Understanding; d: Parsed Scene



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CAVSA - Highlights of the year 2011 (2/2)

- ✓ 5 NPU
- ✓ 2 VUB
- ✓ 1 EU project - Adaptive Strategies for Sustainable Long-Term Social Interaction
- Publications
 - ✓ Journal: 4 (1 joint papers)
 - ✓ Conference: 18 (6 joint papers)
- Awards
 - ✓ Best Student Paper ICCV, 2011 (NPU)
 - ✓ Best Student Paper FUSION 2011 (NPU)

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Case 2: Signing of LIAMA agreement 2011



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