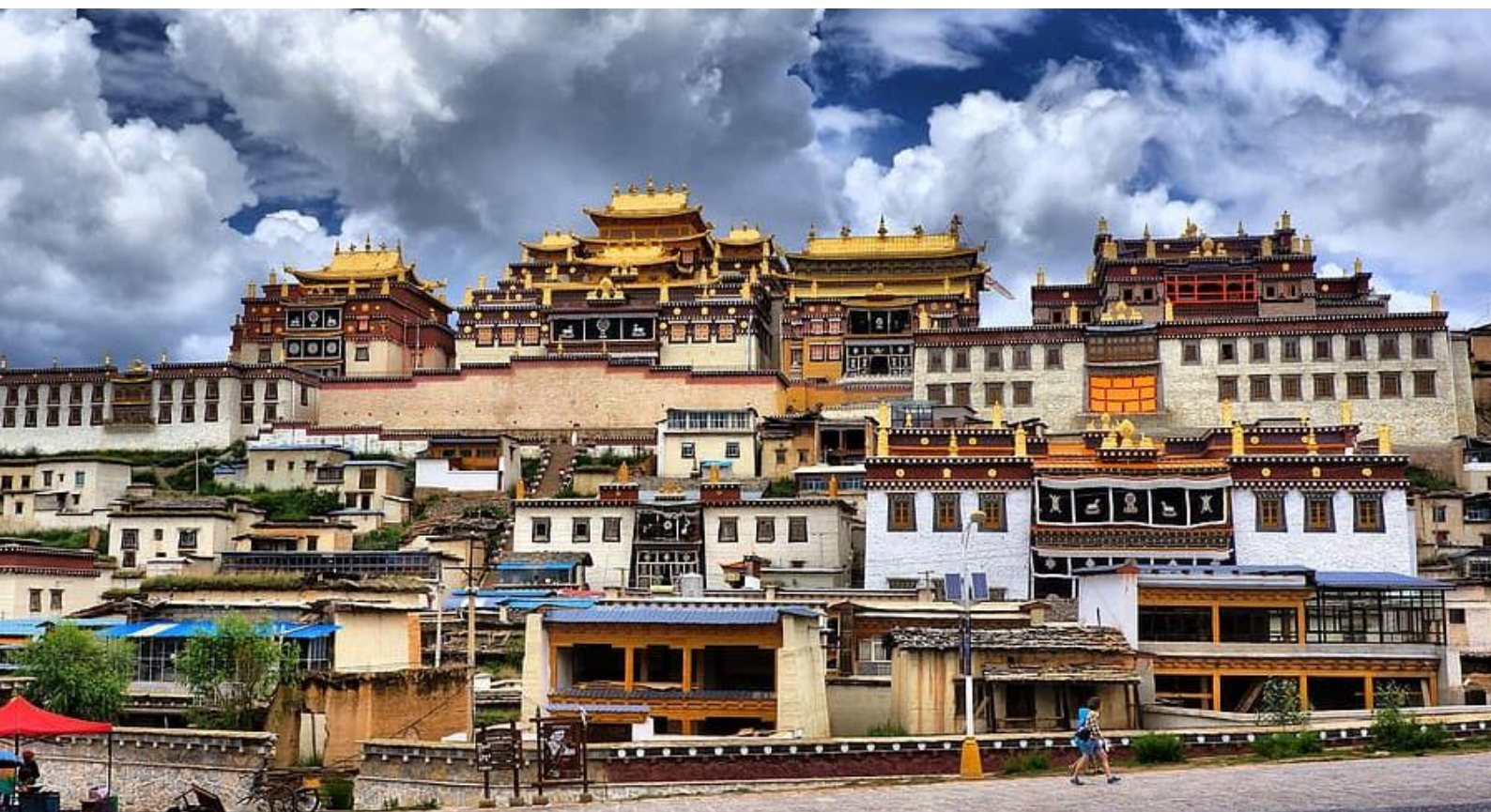




Science China Newsletter, May 2020

Trends in education, research, innovation and policy



Shangri-La, China

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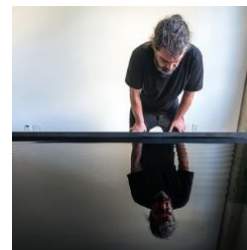


Swiss Spotlight

Scientist: (Sonic) Arts and (Cognitive) Science

(Luca Forcucci, May 31, 2020)

Luca Forcucci investigates sonic perception in relation to space, memory, subjectivity, and consciousness. Forcucci spent one year in Shanghai, where he collaborated with artists, professors, and curators. He is regularly invited as guest lecturer in universities like SIVA Shanghai, Ecole Off Shore Shanghai, EPFL Lausanne, ZHdK Zürich, USP São Paulo, UFBA Salvador de Bahia, UFRJ Rio de Janeiro, Udk Berlin, TU Berlin or University of California Riverside. Forcucci's work won numerous prizes in well regarded contexts like Swiss Digital Art award for a research in the Brazilian Amazon Rainforest, Djerassi Foundation, and Leonardo/ISATS art and science residency in San Francisco, nomination in the arts at the World Technology Summit in New York, and finalist of Luigi Russolo Prize 2019. His latest work is selected for the New York City Electroacoustic Music Festival 2021. Forcucci achieved a Ph.D. in Music, Technology, and Innovation at De Montfort University and a MA in Sonic Arts from Queens University of Belfast. He is the first artist in lab at the Brain Mind Institute in Lausanne and conducts global art and science initiatives in collaboration with Leonardo / ISATS. (www.ubqtlab.org)



[/web/2020/00-200531-f6](#)

Startup: Planted Foods AG- One juicy Bite. Makes the World Right

(planted.ch, May 31, 2020)

Planted Foods AG, a start-up company based in Zurich, is a spin-off from ETH Zurich that produces plant-based meat to meet the growing demand for sustainable protein. Co-Founders Pascal Bieri, Lukas Böni, Christoph Jenny and Eric Stirnemann recognized the urgent need for alternative proteins to meat from intensive livestock farming. Planted started its research in 2017 and is dedicated to the vision of developing the best tasting, sustainable and pure plant based meat. The first product is "chicken" made from peas, runs under the brand **planted.chicken™** and has both the texture and taste of poultry. It is all natural and contains only 4 ingredients: pea protein, pea fibers, rapeseed oil and water. In the future, Planted Foods AG is also considering expansion to China markets. (<https://www.planted.ch/>)



[/web/2020/00-200531-e5](#)

1. Policy

Minister to Carry on International S&T Cooperation

(China Daily, May 19, 2020)

China will continue to conduct international cooperation in science and technology regardless of the global situation, and it hopes other countries can work jointly to improve scientific capabilities for the benefit of mankind, Minister Wang Zhigang said on May 19. More specifically, Wang said China will continue to enhance bilateral and multilateral government-level scientific collaboration by building new platforms and communication channels. Basic research, environmental science, agriculture, green and sustainable development are some of the fields discussed by science ministers from various countries. Finding multiple sources of funding for basic research will also be a priority, Wang said, adding that the government should encourage companies and society to invest more in science, and allow scientists to freely explore basic sciences without worrying about application and commercialization.

[/web/2020/01-200519-f0](#)

Copyright Revisions

(China Daily, May 22, 2020)

National legislators and experts on intellectual property rights have welcomed stronger protection of online copyrights and harsher punishments for copycats in newly released draft amendments to existing law while suggesting that some new types of infringements in cyberspace be further studied. Statistics released by the China Internet Network Information Center last month showed that there were 904 million internet users across the country by March, up 75.08 million compared with the end of 2018. While witnessing a significant rise in the number of netizens, the nation is also seeing a big increase of IP-related conflicts online, especially copyright disputes. The draft stipulates that if a copyright owner clarifies the cost of using his or her works, people using the works without paying or those deliberately infringing on the copyright will be ordered to pay five times the cost in compensation.

[/web/2020/01-200522-46](#)



Improvement of Public Health System

(China Daily, May 22, 2020)

China plans to ramp up its public health infrastructure and boost regional treatment capabilities for infectious diseases in order to strengthen weak areas exposed during the COVID-19 pandemic, according to a plan released by the National Development and Reform Commission and two other government bodies on May 20. Under the new plan, each provincial-level region in China will have at least one P3-level biosafety laboratory, the second-highest level in a four-tier system. Each city-level area will be equipped with at least one P2-level facility capable of conducting tests on pathogens of contagious illnesses and other health risk factors.

[/web/2020/01-200522-78](#)

2. Education

Students in Low-Risk Areas go Mask Free

(China Daily, May 09, 2020)

Students in areas with low risks of infection of the novel coronavirus are not required to wear masks at school as many local governments are stepping up efforts to reopen classrooms. The notice, released by the National Health Commission and Ministry of Education, focuses on control and prevention of COVID-19 at kindergartens, elementary, junior and senior high schools. The notice came after the death of a 15-year-old junior high student who collapsed and died when wearing a mask while running during a sports class in Dancheng



county, Henan province.

[/web/2020/02-200509-4d](#)

All Beijing Students set to Return in June

(China Daily, May 14, 2020)

As Beijing's COVID-19 epidemic control and prevention work become routine, the capital's education commission released the timetable of school resumption for all grades. According to the commission, students in Beijing will gradually return to campus in June. "The students in the final year of senior high school returned to campus in late April, and those in their final year of junior high school just returned recently, which has been welcomed by students, teachers, and parents," said Li Yi, spokesman for the Beijing Municipal Education Commission, at a news conference. Measures involving disinfection, transportation, and temperature monitoring were taken to ensure the order and safety of school resumption in past weeks.

[/web/2020/02-200514-70](#)



3,700 more Special Education Teachers in 2019

(China Daily, May 24, 2020)

China had 62,400 teachers for special education schools as of the end of 2019, up 3,700 year on year, according to a report released by the Ministry of Education. The number marks a 6.31-percent-increase from the previous year. The teachers work for 2,192 special education schools across the country, 40 of which were put into use last year, said the report on China's education in 2019. A total of 144,200 students were enrolled in such schools during the year, up by 16.76 percent on a yearly basis, taking the number of special education students at school to 794,600, up by 19.32 percent from 2018. Nearly half of the special education students attend classes in regular schools, while 21.5 percent were taught by teachers sent to their homes, according to the report.

[/web/2020/02-200524-d7](#)



\$86 Billion for Improving School Infrastructure

(China Daily, May 25, 2020)

The Chinese government spent about 615.6 billion yuan (\$86 billion) on improving school infrastructure and facilities in less developed regions in the five years starting from 2014, with 169.9 billion yuan allocated from the central budget. Students' study and living conditions have improved in recent years after central government agencies, including the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Finance, launched programs to improve the basic conditions in compulsory education schools in poor areas amid efforts to balance the distribution of education resources. Since 2014, 224 million sq m of school buildings, 222 million sq m of outdoor playgrounds, over 29 million sq m of student dormitories, 13.16 million sq m of student cafeterias and 6.77 million sq m of toilets have been built, renovated or expanded.

[/web/2020/02-200525-71](#)



3. Life Sciences / Health Care

Guidelines on Regular COVID-19 Epidemic Containment

(China Daily, May 08, 2020)

China has put in place a set of guidelines to facilitate regular prevention and control of the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) epidemic, according to a senior health official. The document, issued by the State Council joint prevention and control mechanism, highlighted 20 measures ranging from daily epidemic prevention at key public facilities to cross-region recognition of cell phone-based health codes. Besides implementing early detection, reporting, isolation and treatment of infections, the guidelines also pledged to minimize the containment area to reduce the impact on normal work and life.

[/web/2020/03-200508-fd](#)



Phase I Clinical Trial for advanced Hepatocellular Carcinoma (HCC)

(China Daily, May 13, 2020)

Shanghai researchers have completed the world's first Phase I clinical trial of CAR-T therapy with a target on glypican-3, a type of carcinoembryonic antigen, to treat advanced hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC). CAR-T, which stands for chimeric antigen receptors, involves removing T-cells from a patients' blood and reprogramming them to attack infected cells after they are reintroduced to the body. A paper about the study, led by Zhai Bo, director of the department of oncology intervention at Shanghai Renji Hospital, and Li Zonghai, founder of CARsgen Therapeutics, a Shanghai-based biomedical enterprise, was published on the website of the United States-based journal Clinical Cancer Research on May 5.

[/web/2020/03-200513-c-7](#)



5 COVID-19 Vaccines to Finish Phase 2 Trials in July

(China Daily, May 15, 2020)

China now has five vaccines, one vector and four inactivated, that have entered the first two phases of clinical trials in China, a senior scientist. Vaccine recipients in phase II trials have reported no major adverse effects, and these vaccines are set to complete their phase II trials in July. Right now, 2,575 volunteers in total have been administered the five vaccines, including 539 volunteers for phase I trials. The phase II trials, which enrolled 2,036 volunteers, aim to further evaluate the vaccines' safety and potency.

[/web/2020/03-200515-a2](#)



1.5M COVID-19 Tests a Day

(China Daily, May 16, 2020)

China is able to conduct 1.5 million nucleic acid tests for COVID-19 every day. Testing capabilities need to be further improved as work and production resume. The National Health Commission has called on all qualified and registered medical institutions across the country to conduct nucleic acid testing since the end of January to deal with the rapid growth of COVID-19 cases. The next step is to step up the building and management of laboratories, biosafety management and the training of medical personnel, said Guo.

[/web/2020/03-200516-78](#)



Research-Boost on Agricultural Nano-Drugs

(China Daily, May 22, 2020)

The Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS) launched a major scientific research project on the targeted delivery mechanism of agricultural nano-drugs and the creation of new products. The CAAS has obtained a number of independent intellectual property rights in the design principle, synergistic mechanism,



preparation technology and process integration of agricultural nano-drugs. This provided the basic conditions for large-scale industrial development, said Hao Zhiqiang, an official with the Institute of Environment and Sustainable Development in Agriculture under the CAAS. The research aims to improve the effectiveness and safety of agricultural drugs and realize the industrialization of agricultural nano-drugs through industry-university-research cooperation.

[/web/2020/03-200522-3c](#)

Civil Code will Strengthen Research Ethics

(China Daily, May 28, 2020)

In November 2018, biologist He Jiankui pushed mankind across a controversial threshold when he announced he had created the world's first gene-edited babies in an attempt to make them less susceptible to AIDS. The gene-editing of human embryos for reproductive purposes is widely considered off-limits. After the controversy, China began tightening the rules related to gene-editing technologies and ordered scientists and institutions to improve ethical oversight. In an unprecedented move, drafts of the country's new civil code have listed human genes and embryos as fundamental rights that deserve protection. The code dictates that all medical and scientific research related to human genes and embryos must follow strict rules, laws, and regulations. Also, the research should not endanger people's health, violate moral or ethical norms, or undermine public interests.

[/web/2020/03-200528-ce](#)



4. Engineering / IT / Computer Science

Digital Service Export Bases unveiled

(China Daily, May 06, 2020)

A list of the first batch of 12 national digital service export bases was released recently, with digital service exports pressing the fast-forward button, People's Daily Overseas Edition reported. The list was co-released by the Ministry of Commerce, Cyberspace Administration of China and Ministry of Industry and Information Technology, aiming to grasp opportunities in digital economic development, speed up digital service exports, and build these bases into key carriers for digital trade as well as a digital service export cluster.

[/web/2020/04-200506-8f](#)



Scientific Instrument Development Center

(China Daily, May 18, 2020)

Beijing has started building a center for the development and innovation of high-end scientific instruments. The center, located in the northern Huairou District of Beijing, will focus on the investment, research and manufacturing of high-end scientific instruments, and provide services for large-scale scientific facilities located in the district. Lei Ming, vice director of the project, said 26 major science and technology infrastructures are being constructed in Huairou District, which calls for a large number of high-end scientific instruments, such as multi-modal trans-dimensional biomedical imaging facilities. The center will facilitate the development of scientific instruments, medical instruments and industrial instruments through cooperation with international instrument companies, universities and research institutions. The center will be put into service in 2025 and is expected to grow into an international research base and industrial center for scientific instruments in 2030.

[/web/2020/04-200518-1c](#)



Beidou System soon Available Worldwide

(China Daily, May 22, 2020)

China's Beidou Navigation Satellite System has been used in more than half of the world's countries and regions, according to the system's chief designer. Yang Changfeng, who is also a national political adviser, said that the system will soon be accessible to every user in "any corner of the planet" to offer navigation and positioning services. Beidou is widely used in many public services in China and globally, including transportation, agriculture and disaster relief. It is also playing a helpful role in the ongoing fight against the novel coronavirus outbreak, the scientist said. About 70 percent of mobile phones registered in China are compatible with Beidou-enabled services, Yang noted.



[/web/2020/04-200522-5d](#)

New Big Data Blue Book

(China Daily, May 27, 2020)

China has released a big data blue book on digital development. The blue book, also named Report on the Innovative Development of China's Big Data No. 4, focuses on digital innovation, economy, governance, services and security. It constructed a global digital competitiveness index system and evaluated the digital development of cities around the world. The blue book selected the 15 cities of New York, London, Beijing, Singapore, Shanghai, Sydney, Paris, Dubai, Tokyo, Chicago, Moscow, Toronto, Mexico City, Seoul and Cape Town. Beijing and Shanghai ranked fifth and eighth in digital competitiveness, while the two cities lead the ranking of digital economy competitiveness.

[/web/2020/04-200527-09](#)

Shenzhen Tops in Online Governance

(China Daily, May 28, 2020)

Shenzhen ranked the first among the 32 major Chinese cities selected in an online governance service competition after an evaluation by the e-governance office of the State Council. It also topped the rankings last year, when the evaluation was done. The ranking is based on the city government's performance in five areas related to online governance service — efficacy, maturity, completeness, coverage and accuracy. The e-governance office evaluated the service quality of websites in five areas, including efficiency, accuracy and service attitude.



[/web/2020/04-200528-5e](#)

Big Data Expo launches Global Campaign

(China Daily, May 28, 2020)

The China International Big Data Industry Expo began hosting a series of online events that will run to September to attract global attention to Guiyang, Guizhou province. The online alternative was chosen after the annual event was suspended because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Sponsored by the Big Data Expo organizing committee, the online expo was broadcast live by 16 media organizations, including People's Daily, Xinhua News Agency and Colorful Guizhou.net. To maintain the influence of the Big Data Expo and express gratitude for the continuing support of people at home and abroad, the organizing committee decided to conduct a series of activities from May to September to promote its key concepts and promote Guiyang globally.



[/web/2020/04-200528-18](#)

5. Energy / Environment

Safer Car Batteries

(Fudzilla, May 04, 2020)

AIWAYS has revealed further details of its 'sandwich' structure battery pack, which improves stability and significantly reduces the risk of battery safety incidents. By separating the dry and wet areas of the cell, AIWAYS negates the risk of coolant leakage – a cause of more than 80 percent of battery safety incidents. AIWAYS' says that its sandwich structure battery places an isolation plate between the battery module and the cooling plate, making it impossible for leaking coolant to enter the module, even after a substantial impact. The structure also provides partial insulation, reducing the rate of heat transfer between the external environment and the battery module. With a capacity of 63kWh, the battery unit in the U5 is capable of delivering enough charge to cover more than 400km according to the WLTP. The U5's battery can be rapid-charged from 20 percent to 80 percent in just 40 minutes using a DC charger.

[/web/2020/05-200504-63](#)



Greenest Building in Shanghai

(Business Chief, May 05, 2020)

The China Energy Conservation and Environmental Protection Group (CECEP) is dedicated to building a comprehensive industry chain based on clean energy. A leader in funding and initiating a wide variety of projects in the sector, including solar, wind, hydro-electric, water collection, the group also spearheads innovations which reduce energy consumption and carbon emissions. In keeping with its renewable energy and eco-friendly objectives, the new CECEP headquarters will be a bastion of modern technology. It has been designed to be the 'greenest' building in the city, with sustainability embedded into every aspect of its design to achieve more than 90 credits in China's exacting Three Star Green Building Rating system - the highest score for any building in Shanghai. The building will harvest rainwater for its utility needs, has an integrated thermal mass for heating and solar photovoltaic panels on its roof connected to battery storage units, which will allow it to reduce energy consumption by 25%.

[/web/2020/05-200505-a1](#)



Medical Waste Disposal Capacity Boosted

(China Daily, May 12, 2020)

China has unveiled a plan to bolster its medical waste disposal capacity in the next two years, with steps to build more facilities and expand existing ones, after the novel coronavirus outbreak left many cities overloaded with such refuse. The action plan, jointly published by the National Development and Reform Commission, the National Health Commission and the Ministry of Ecology and Environment, says major cities should have ample capacity to handle medical waste in times of emergency by 2022. Every prefecture-level city must set up at least one integrated facility before the end of this year, with every county required to establish a collection, transfer and disposal system for medical waste.

[/web/2020/05-200512-94](#)



Reaffirm Commitment to Green Development

(Xinhuanet, May 14, 2020)

While checking the ecological protection work of the Fenhe River in Taiyuan, Shanxi Province, on May 12 during his inspection tour, President Xi Jinping expressed his satisfaction with the tremendous changes made to the ecological environment along the river and stressed the importance of green development. Underscoring the incorporation of environmental protection, energy revolution, green development, and economic transformation, Xi noted that the treatment of the Fenhe River is not only essential to the

environmental protection and economic development of Shanxi, but also important to the historical and cultural inheritance of the province.

[/web/2020/05-200514-bd](#)

Heat-Storage of the South China Sea

(China Daily, May 28, 2020)

Chinese researchers have said that the layer of water between depths of 200 and 1,000 meters in the South China Sea stored more heat during the last glacial period, a finding that could throw more light on the warming of the atmosphere. Ocean heat plays an important role in influencing Earth's climate. Researchers from the South China Sea Institute of Oceanology under the Chinese Academy of Sciences hoped to investigate the changes in ocean heat content over a millennial scale, as well as the mechanisms that control the transmission of heat in the ocean's interior. Change in temperature of the intermediate layer of seawater was opposite that of surface water, indicating that more heat was stored within the intermediate layer during the last glacial period.

[/web/2020/05-200528-fe](#)



6. Physics / Chemistry / Material Science / Nano- & Micro Technology

Lunar Rover travels 448 Meters on Moon's Far Side

(China Daily, May 01, 2020)

China's lunar rover Yutu-2, or Jade Rabbit-2, has driven 447.68 meters on the far side of the moon to conduct scientific exploration of the virgin territory. Both the lander and the rover of the Chang'e-4 probe have ended their work for the 17th lunar day, and switched to dormant mode for the lunar night due to the lack of solar power, according to the Lunar Exploration and Space Program Center of the China National Space Administration. The Chang'e-4 mission embodies China's hope to combine wisdom in space exploration with four payloads developed by the Netherlands, Germany, Sweden and Saudi Arabia. China plans to launch its first Mars probe and the Chang'e-5 probe to bring lunar samples back to Earth later this year.

[/web/2020/06-200501-71](#)



Debut Flight of Long March 5B Carrier Rocket

(China Daily, May 05, 2020)

China will conduct the debut flight of its Long March 5B carrier rocket at the Wenchang Space Launch Center in south China's Hainan province, according to the China Manned Space Agency. The major payload in the coming mission will be the prototype of China's new-generation manned spacecraft. The Long March 5B is the first variant of the Long March 5, which conducted its third mission at the Wenchang center in December. It has one core stage and four boosters. The rocket is 53.7 meters long, with a core-stage diameter of 5 meters. It is propelled by liquid oxygen, liquid hydrogen, and kerosene and has a liftoff weight of about 849 tons.

[/web/2020/06-200505-5e](#)



Astronomers discover Giant Molecular Clouds

(China Daily, May 06, 2020)

A team of Chinese astronomers has discovered two giant molecular clouds, or star-forming regions, some 1,000 lightyears away from the solar system, a new achievement by China's Milky Way observation project. The Milky Way is a large spiral galaxy with many dense clouds around its four spiral arms. Mainly composed of molecular hydrogen, the clouds are the birthplace of new stars. The astronomers at the Purple Mountain

Observatory of the Chinese Academy of Sciences named them "River Cloud" and "Phoenix Cloud," respectively. The molecular cloud discovery is the latest achievement of a grand project called the Milky Way Imaging Scroll Painting. It was launched in 2011 by the observatory to explore the distribution, structure and physical properties of molecular clouds to get a portrait of the vast Milky Way.

[/web/2020/06-200506-79](#)

Quantum Satellite to Ensure Time Information Security

(China Daily, May 14, 2020)

Experts used China's quantum satellite -- Quantum Experiments at Space Scale (QUESS) -- to verify quantum-secure time transfer for the first time, which laid a foundation for building a safe satellite navigation system. The study published on Nature Physics was jointly accomplished by Professor Pan Jianwei from the University of Science and Technology of China and his colleagues. The research team led by Pan proposed a satellite-based quantum-secure time transfer (QSTT) scheme, in which a single photon is used as the carrier for both the time transfer and the secret-key generation, offering quantum-enhanced security for transferring the time signal and time information.

[/web/2020/06-200514-95](#)

BeiDou System with Launch of Final Satellite in June

(Xinhuanet, May 15, 2020)

China plans to complete its BeiDou Navigation Satellite System (BDS) with the launch of its last satellite in June, according to a BDS official. The final satellite is a geostationary earth orbit satellite of the BDS-3 system, the third iteration of BDS that has already provided positioning and navigation services to global users. Chinese scientists started to build the BDS-3 system in 2009. Compared with the BDS-2 system, the technologies of the BDS-3 system have been greatly improved. According to Ran, the completion of the global system will be announced after the launch. The BDS will offer its users all services, including high-precision positioning and short message communication.

[/web/2020/06-200515-7b](#)

Beidou System Plays Major Role in Chinese Products

(China Daily, May 18, 2020)

By the end of 2019, Chinese products based on the Beidou Navigation Satellite System had been sold to more than 120 foreign countries and regions, playing a helpful role in a number of public sectors, according to a white paper published on May 18 in Beijing. The 2020 White Paper on the Development of China's Satellite Navigation and Positioning Industries, compiled by the Global Navigation Satellite System and Location-Based Services Association of China, said that as of the end of last year, the domestically-developed Beidou system had been used in land-ownership investigation, smart agriculture and intelligent construction, as well as other businesses in Asia, Europe and Africa.

[/web/2020/06-200518-e5](#)

More Details of China's Space Station Unveiled

(China Daily, May 18, 2020)

The space station, expected to be completed around 2022, will operate in the low-Earth orbit at an altitude from 340 km to 450 km for more than 10 years, supporting large-scale scientific, technological and application experiments, according to a report in the People's Daily. The space station Tiangong, meaning Heavenly Palace, will be able to accommodate three astronauts in normal circumstances and up to six during a crew replacement. The station will be a T shape with the core module at the center and a lab capsule on each side. Each of the modules will be over 20 tonnes, with the total mass of the station about 66 tonnes.

[/web/2020/06-200518-b4](#)



Proposal for New Evaporation Correction Approach

(China Daily, May 22, 2020)

Chinese researchers have proposed a new correction approach to estimate land surface evaporation, according to a research article published in the Journal of Hydrometeorology. The researchers from Lanzhou University proposed a new modified approach for evaporation estimation using soil moisture changes and precipitation, which is different from the traditional method that calculates evaporation based on a water balance theory assuming that precipitation is the only source of evaporation, soil moisture, and runoff. The new approach effectively corrected the estimation of evaporation throughout the global land area and showed that evaporation decreased in western Asia, western United States, the Amazon basin and Central Africa, but weakly increased in the other study regions from 1984 to 2013, as discussed in the article. Using the new approach, the researchers also discovered that the corrected evaporation was smaller in winter and high latitudes but larger in summer and low latitudes.

[/web/2020/06-200522-49](#)



7. Economy, Social Sciences & Humanities

31 Counties in Yunnan Cast Off Poverty

(China Daily, May 17, 2020)

A new batch of 31 county-level regions in Southwest China's Yunnan province shook off poverty amid the country's efforts to eradicate poverty by the end of 2020. The Yunnan provincial government officially approved the removal of the 31 regions from the list of impoverished counties, said the provincial poverty relief office on May 17. Yunnan is the main battlefield of the national poverty alleviation efforts. Since 2015, more than 6.14 million poverty-stricken rural residents in the province have been lifted out of poverty. The poverty headcount ratio dropped from 17.09 percent at the end of 2014 to 1.32 percent at the end of 2019. The province has lifted 79 of the 88 poverty-stricken counties out of poverty.

[/web/2020/07-200517-1d](#)



Enhancing Public Health System to Better Protect People's Lives

(Xinhuanet, May 26, 2020)

China will step up efforts in building a stronger protection network in the public health domain to better protect people's lives and health as the country is shifting to COVID-19 regular prevention and control. Chinese President Xi Jinping, also general secretary of the Communist Party of China Central Committee and chairman of the Central Military Commission, stressed fortifying the public health protection network as he was participating in a deliberation at the annual national legislative session with lawmakers from central China's Hubei Province, recently hard-hit by the epidemic. Xi stressed reforming disease prevention and control system; boosting the epidemic monitoring, early warning and emergency response capacity; perfecting the treatment system for major epidemics; and improving public health emergency laws and regulations.

[/web/2020/07-200526-8a](#)





8. Corporates / Startups / Technology Transfer

New US Restrictions to Further Impact Huawei

(SCMP, May 18, 2020)

Huawei Technologies will “inevitably be impacted” by what it has described as an “arbitrary and pernicious” decision by the Trump administration to further restrict the ability of the Chinese telecommunications giant to develop semiconductors using American technologies, it said on May 18. The new rule, which went into effect on May 15 but has a 120-day grace period, means even non-US chip manufacturers using American chip making technologies will have to apply for licences before shipping chips to Huawei or its 114 subsidiaries, including its chip design unit HiSilicon. The move once again puts Shenzhen-based Huawei centre stage in the US’ efforts to decouple from China in technology, as the Trump administration and lawmakers across political parties voice concern that America’s dependence on China for critical technology could threaten the country’s national security.

[/web/2020/08-200518-d3](#)



Nestle Invests \$102m in China to Expand High-End Operation

(China Daily, May 30, 2020)

Nestle SA is investing 730 million yuan (\$102.2 million) in China to expand and strengthen its operations in the country, its second-largest market. The company said it would also scale up its production capacity for high-end, innovative products in Tianjin, to meet rising consumer demand for plant-based products, snacks and pet food. The investment is testimony to Nestle's strong commitment in introducing more healthy and nutritional products in China, said Rashid Qureshi, chairman and CEO of Nestle in China. According to Qureshi, China's food industry has been seeing an upgrade in preferences, with focus shifting from eating well and having enough to eat to eating healthily and with full joy that can come from the experience, a trend which will lead to further industrial upgrade.

[/web/2020/08-200530-21](#)



9. Bilateral News

China-Europe Silicon Photonics Symposium

(Xinhuanet, May 30, 2020)

The 2nd China-Europe Silicon Photonics Course and Symposium is lowering its curtain on the 6th of June after bringing together scientists from both sides via video link for three days. Participators have expressed the willingness to work closer in the field of silicon photonics. The 2nd China-Europe Silicon Photonics Course and Symposium was organized by ePIXfab and Chongqing United Microelectronics Center (CUMEC). It was highly recognized by academic and industrial experts in silicon photonics area from both China and Europe. Europe Silicon Photonics Symposium is not only the achievement of Sino-European scientific and technology cooperation, but also a grand event to further promote China-Europe technology and industrial exchanges.

[/web/2020/09-200530-5b](#)

10. Calls for Grants/Awards

286 Scientific Innovation & Advancement Awards

(Xinhuanet, May 30, 2020)

China honored ten research teams and 286 sci-tech workers on the nation's sci-tech workers' day. Ten groups, including the team on the third-generation of semiconductor (gallium nitride), were given the "scientific innovation and advancement award" medals. A total of 28 people, including several researchers who made contributions to the fight against the COVID-19 epidemic, were awarded with badges, while another 258 sci-tech workers were awarded with certificates. The award, first issued in 2017, is given once every three years. Two special sections of "epidemic prevention and control" and "poverty alleviation" were set up for this year's award.

[/web/2020/10-200530-84](#)

Swiss Bilateral Programme of SERI

(ETH Zurich, May 31, 2020)

The Leading House Asia, ETH Zürich has launched a special COVID- 19 call for project grants in order to support the collective effort to better understand the virus as well as its numerous implications, and prepare for society's future. The call is open to scientists of Swiss federal and cantonal universities, universities of applied sciences and universities of teacher education, as well as public research institutions with collaborative projects between Switzerland and Asia in all scientific disciplines and fields of research. Deadline: 30 August, 2020. Grant sum: max. 25 kCHF. Project duration: up to 12 months. Eligible countries: China (incl. Hong Kong and Taiwan), Japan, South Korea, ASEAN member states (partner countries) (incl. Singapore).

[/web/2020/10-200531-a0](#)



Upcoming Science and Technology Related Events

[webinar] SwissTech Pitchinar 2020

June 10, 2020

<https://is.gd/7U66hh>

Startups, DeepTech

Shanghai, Switzerland

[webinar] MaskTech – Science Revolution for Global Health

June 18, 2020

<https://is.gd/D74Bsx>

HealthTech

Shanghai, Switzerland

[webinar] Coding Together: Hackathons for a Sustainable Future

June 23, 2020

<https://is.gd/O60mR3>

Sustainable Future, Coding

Online

International Medical Devices Exhibition 2020

July 1st – 3rd, 2020

<https://is.gd/GQbUI4>

Health, Medicine

Shanghai

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