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## Executive Dean Prof. Philip T. Krein will receive the 2021 IEEE Transportation Technologies Award

August 5, 2020

Article: ZHANG Yi



Professor Philip T. Krein, the Executive Dean of ZJU-UIUC Institute, Zhejiang University, will receive the 2021 IEEE Transportation Technologies Award from the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE). Professor Krein will be the eighth winner of the award since its establishment, and the first winner from a university in mainland China. The award recognizes Professor Krein's continuing contributions to electric vehicle battery management, hybrid system optimization, and other aspects of transportation electrification.

For nearly a century, the IEEE Awards Program has paid tribute to technical professionals whose exceptional achievements and outstanding contributions have made a lasting impact on technology, society, and the engineering profession. For advances in technologies within the fields of interest in the IEEE as applied in transportation systems, the IEEE Transportation Technologies Award was established in 2011.

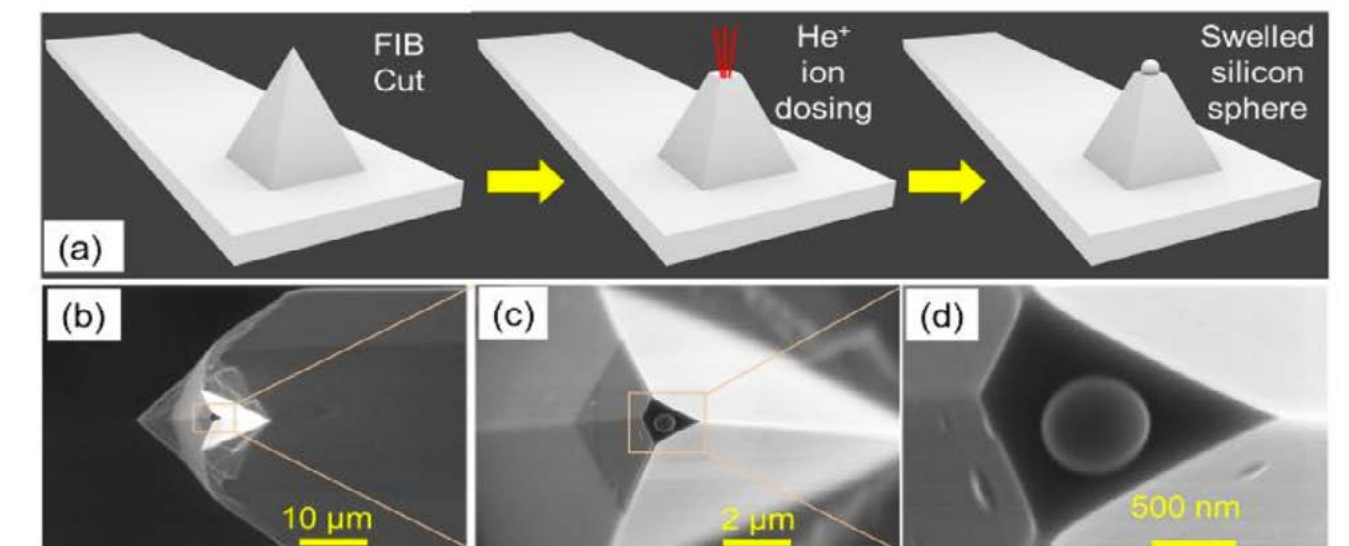
Professor Krein is a leading expert on power electronics, machines, drives, transportation electrification, and electrical energy, with emphasis on nonlinear control approaches. He is a past chair of the IEEE Transportation Electrification Community. When discussing the growing future of electric vehicles, Krein noted that the challenge with electric vehicles is "to integrate them much more completely with the energy systems, with controls, advanced capabilities, and a certain amount of intelligence." "It's not just about vehicles that ultimately can drive themselves, it's also about vehicles that make the best use of a limited energy source such as a battery pack and about vehicles that can take advantage of safety functions and potential added features possible with electrification."

The IEEE is the world's largest association of technical professionals, with more than 420,000 members in over 175 countries.

## ZJUI Assistant Professor Huan HU reported a novel methodology for fabricating a sub-micron spherical atomic force microscopic tip for surface measurements

August 5, 2020

Article: KE Yineng  
Translator: ZHANG Yi



A research group led by ZJUI Professor Huan HU has invented a new way to fabricate a sub-micron spherical atomic force microscope (AFM) tip controllably. A tiny silicon ball mounted on microcantilevers is used to make an AFM for precise nanoscale friction measurements, biological studies, and colloid science. The group demonstrated spheres from 100 nm to 1 μm in diameter, and positioned them with accuracy of 10 nm or better. This AFM tip overcomes a critical challenge of dropping spherical AFM tips into the sub-micron scale. The work appeared in *Langmuir*, a well-known international journal on interface research, and was highlighted on the cover.

Dr Tao Jinhui from the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, USA, commented: "Using spherical swelling of silicon materials under dosing from high-energy helium ion beams, Dr Hu's research group pioneered the processing of spherical atomic force microscope probes."

Dr Wei Dongguang, Chief Scientist of Zeiss Microscopy's ion research and development center, believes that "this research has greatly expanded the range of probe tip materials at a very low cost, thus expanding the detection and characterization capabilities of scanning probe technology."

This work was supported by the National Natural Science Foundation of China and Natural Science Foundation of Zhejiang Province, Fundamental Research Funds for the Central Universities, Natural Science Foundation of Shanghai, and Tang's Foundation. The work was also partially supported by Zhejiang University-University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Institute.

<https://pubs.acs.org/doi/10.1021/acs.langmuir.0c00923>

## Professor He Lianzhen, Vice-President of Zhejiang University and Dean of International Campus, connected with exchange students in UIUC

April 17, 2020

Article: WU Hang  
Photo: YE Chenchen  
Translator: CHANG Long



Professor He Lianzhen, Vice-President of Zhejiang University and Dean of the International Campus, connected by video link in April with 62 ZJUI-UIUC undergraduates who were on their exchange visit to UIUC in the United States.

Professor He talked about epidemic prevention and control in China and urged students to stay safe during their time in the United States. She pointed out that the process of uniting to fight the epidemic has made us better understand the concept of the "community of shared future of mankind" and how our own efforts can contribute towards achieving it. ZJUI students were challenged to act as emissaries of friendship between Zhejiang University and UIUC, indeed between China and the United States, and keep in close contact with one another. She stressed that to protect ourselves is to protect everyone. When students return home after the exchange semester, they will need to comply with China epidemic prevention requirements and take all necessary measures, including quarantine.

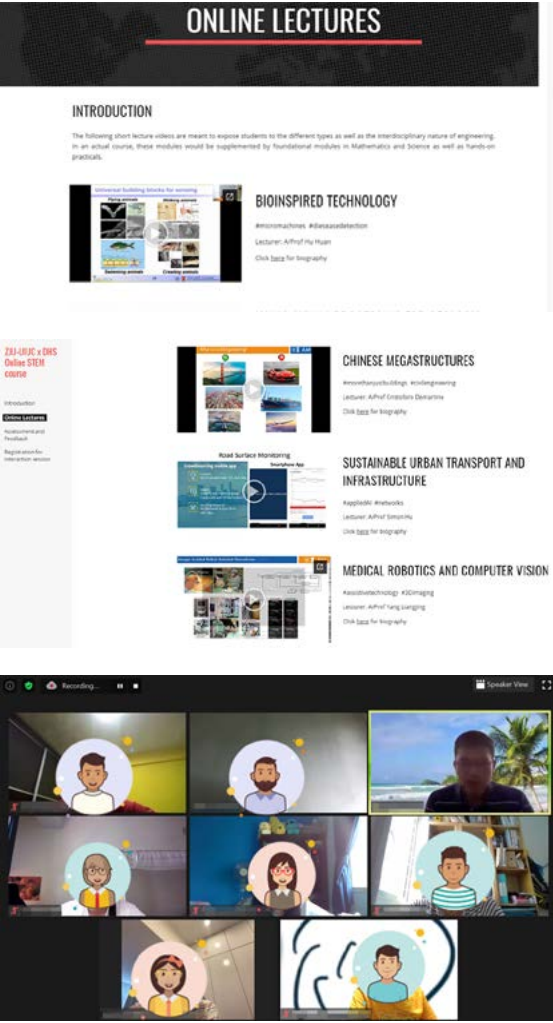
Tang Zhizhan from the class of 2021, an electrical engineering major and the leader of the overseas party group of the second party branch of the students, reported to Professor He about student life and study in the United States. The students discussed summer research, study arrangements after returning to China, and follow-up lectures by foreign faculty members in China. Health precautions, the need for daily health monitoring, and other pandemic practices were discussed. ZJUI attaches great importance to the welfare and education of exchange students in the United States. During the epidemic, ZJUI and UIUC are constantly in touch. Several special meetings of the Joint Management Committee have been held to discuss arrangements for students. Wang Yufen, deputy secretary of the Party Working Committee of the International Campus, Li Erping, Dean of ZJUI, and others participated in the conversations.



# Inaugural ZJU-UIUC x DHS STEM Week online course attracts praise

August 12, 2020

Article: ZHANG Yi  
Translator: CHANG Long



# Professor ZHU Tingju's water management work gains wide attention

May 12, 2020

Article: ZHU Xinran  
Photo: ZHU Tingju provided



A STEM Week online course, jointly organized by ZJUI and Dunman High School in Singapore, was held in July. The event attracted many high school students with a passion for science and engineering. It was planned and organized jointly by ZJUI Professor ONG Weeliat and by Mr Chen Shunfa, head of the Design, Innovation, and Research Department at Dunman High School. Topics included Bioinspired Technology, Using Signal Processing for Geologic Surveys, Chinese Megastructures, Sustainable Urban Transport and Infrastructure, Medical Robotics, and Computer Vision. These were chosen by ZJUI professors to immerse students in the world of science and advanced technology and to present them with engineering vision. The course was delivered using pre-recorded presentations and supplemented with live online discussion sessions where students interacted and provided feedback to the professors. The online team, led by Professor Li Erping, the Dean of ZJUI, sought to be approachable and entertaining. Many participants expressed their thanks and appreciation to the professors and suggested ways to improve these sessions. They were excited about STEM Week and expressed their desire to participate in future sessions.

“Thank you, Prof. Simon for your engaging lecture and for giving me tips on how to show my interest during interviews!”

“Prof. Yang’s session is very enriching. I learned a lot of new knowledge regarding medical robotics and engineering and it gave me an insight into this field.”

“Thank you so much for today’s session as well as the lecture! It was really engaging and enriching! I’ve learnt a lot from these sessions!”

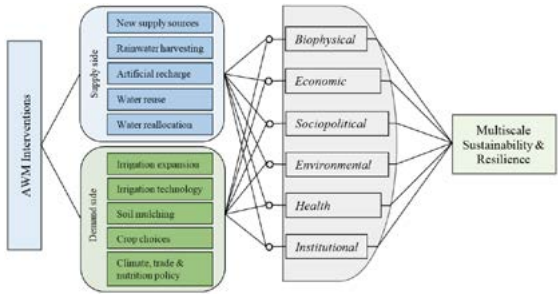
“Thank you, Prof. Huan for making such an informative lecture for us to appreciate the beauty of bio mimicking.”

ZJUI will expand and strengthen connections with high schools at home and abroad. By harnessing interactive teaching tools such as virtual laboratories, virtual reality, online collaboration tools, and science and technology competitions, ZJUI plans to deliver interesting engineering courses to students worldwide to accelerate its mission to cultivate a new generation of international engineering innovation leaders. 🇺🇸

Professor Zhu Tingju’s work on “Viewing Agricultural Water Management Through a Systems Analysis Lens” was the “Top Downloaded Paper 2018-2019” in the journal Water Resources Research.

His paper gave a systems perspective to the complexity and multi-dimensional issues of water management. Appropriate agricultural water management (AWM) is crucial not only for alleviating water scarcity but also for food and nutrition security and healthy ecosystems. The multidimensional nature of AWM and inherently complex feedback among its components requires a systems approach. The paper explored six linked dimensions of AWM. By emphasizing a holistic picture of AWM and interactions among subsystems at many levels, his approach offers the opportunity to scrutinize pros and cons of proposed AWM interventions beyond their direct effects.

Zhu Tingju joined the ZJU-UIUC Institute at Zhejiang University in December 2018. He graduated from the University of California, Davis with a PhD in Civil and Environmental Engineering (major in Water Resource Systems Engineering and minor in Agricultural and Resource Economics) in 2004. From 2005 to 2018, he worked at the International Food Policy Research Institute in Washington, DC as a Postdoctoral Fellow, Senior Scientist and Research Fellow, conducting interdisciplinary research at the interface of hydrology, engineering, and economics for addressing real-world problems concerning sustainable water resource management, food security and associated socioeconomic outcomes under changing environments. He has led and contributed to research projects funded by the World Bank, the US National Science Foundation and other federal agencies of the United States, funding agencies of other OECD



# ZJUI Professors Xiao and Demartino receive funding for prefabricated structures

April 21, 2020

Article: MO Chenyi

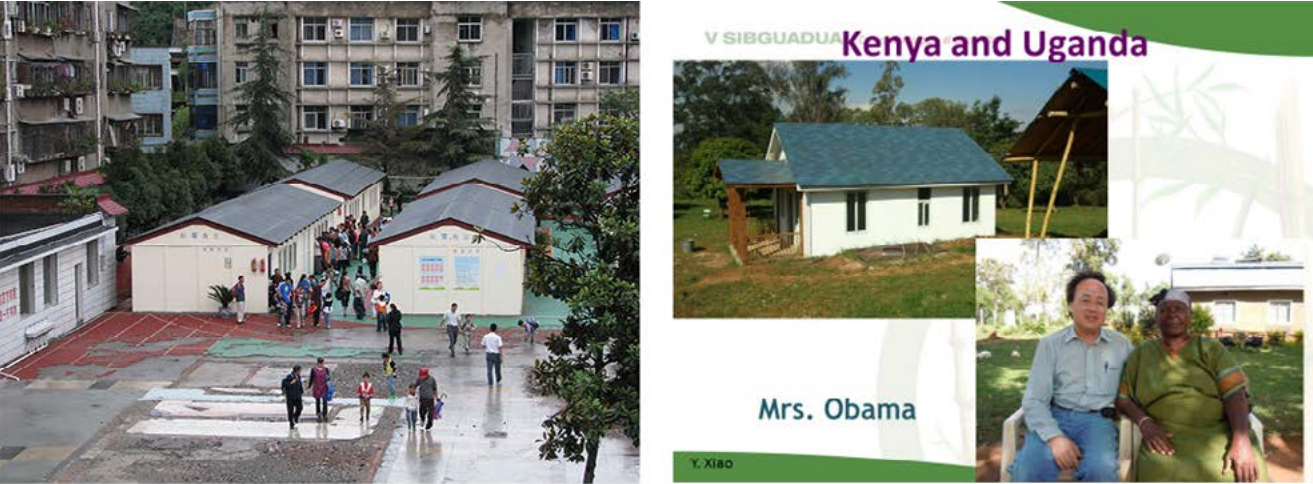


Projects in Hunan University



Projects in Zizhuyuan Park, Beijing

countries, and private foundations. Through these research projects he has collaborated with economists, engineers, and natural scientists from academia and governmental research agencies internationally. He has co-advised PhD students in major research universities, serves on committees of professional associations and international conferences as member or co-chair and is an Associate Editor of the Journal of Water Resources Planning and Management – ASCE. His research has been recognized by the Editors' Choice Award (2011) of Water Resources Research (WRR), the flagship water journal of the American Geophysical Union and the INFORMS ENRE Best Publication Award in Natural Resources (2018), among others. He co-chairs the INFORMS ENRE Award Committee for 2020. 🇺🇸



Wenchuan earthquake relief classrooms and houses

Projects in Afria

Recently, a research team organized by ZJUI Distinguished Professor Yan Xiao and by professor Cristoforo Demartino was approved for funding of 7.73 million Yuan from the Ministry of Science and Technology. The project is a part of a multi-university grand challenge project led by Professor Chen Zhihua of Tianjin University, under the “Technological Innovation of Green Livable Villages and Towns” program of the National Key Research and Development Plan 2019. The ZJUI team is developing “Key Technology of Cost-effective Prefabricated and Hybrid Ecological Bamboo Structural Systems” and “Intelligent Construction Technology of Cost-effective Bamboo Structures”. The research seeks to advance the implementation of bamboo, a sustainable material, into modern prefabrication and intelligent manufacture technologies to promote the application of bio-based materials in residential construction. The goal is to improve the living environment and to protect natural beauty in China’s rural areas. Professor Xiao initiated research efforts on bamboo and bio-based materials more than 15 years ago, seeking materials systems that are environmental friendly and adaptable to needs in China. His team has developed the award winning GluBam technology, which combines advanced modern wood structure development in industrialized countries such as Europe, North America, and Japan with rich bamboo forest resources in China. The invention of Glubam was awarded the Best of What’s New in 2008 by the Popular Science magazine. Professor Xiao has developed several modern bamboo structural systems including light and heavy building framing, steel-bamboo and concrete-bamboo composite systems, large-span roof truss systems, bamboo structure bridge systems, and prefabricated houses. He has led the construction of many demonstration buildings and bridges in China and Africa. Modern engineered bamboo structural innovations from China have become an international trend. Professor Demartino is particularly interested in structural engineering. He used both numerical and experimental approaches to understand the response of structures under different loading conditions and to determine the structural behavior. 🇺🇸

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# Online defense for 2020 Student Research Training Programs conducted by ZJUI

April 9, 2020

Article: Summarize from the slides of the students

Translator: Lai Shuxian

A formal online defense of ZJUI students' Student Research Training Programs was held in April. A total of 81 students participated in various research programs based on their own interests. Students and teams submitted 31 projects, with all participants demonstrating high personal engagement. ZJUI is excited to have this high level of enthusiastic participation. To list just a few, our students' fascinating research programs included AI-automation, a design method for cross-laminated bamboo, biological cell image processing, and many others. During the research process, our students did not limit themselves, as they used interdisciplinary knowledge to look into everyday issues, with the goal of solving existing problems. The process has been challenging but ZJUI is delighted to see its students contributing to international research innovation. A few project examples are summarized below.

## Caring for stroke patients

“Research on Wearable Devices Based on Surface EMG signals”

Students: Xiao Shuhong, Yu Yue, Zheng Xiuwen     Instructor: Wang Hongwei

Concerned about the growing numbers of stroke patients who also suffer from paralysis, Xiao, Yu, and Zheng came up with a solution: wearable devices that respond to signals sent by motor nerves near the skin surface in stroke patients, which can then be used for more productive rehabilitation. The general idea behind the project exploits the relationship between motor nerves in the brain and EMG signals under the skin. By observing specific segments in EMG signals measured in the hand and corresponding actions, students managed to draw out relationships between the two and enter those into the device. This device's objective is to reinforce intended actions, which in certain cases can be quite difficult given patient circumstances, subsequently speeding up the recovery process. This project applies electronics engineering, computer engineering, electrical engineering, and automation engineering.



## “The Optimization of the Man-Machine Interaction System and Endoscope Vision about Minimally Invasive Surgical Robot on Tumor Operation.”

Students: Liu Tianyu, Chang Junyu     Instructor: Yang Liangjing

China is experiencing an increase in cancer patients and has a higher mortality rate in cancer patients than other countries. Liu and Chang decided to address the issue that surgical robots are expensive, which results in limited access to such technology. Liu and Chang's research provided optimization strategies for surgical robots performing tumor operations. They focused on endoscopic vision of the robot as well as on the human-machine system interaction.



## Focusing on sustainability

“Research on Water Resources Carrying Capacity and Sustainability in Water-Energy-Food Nexus”

Students: Sun Yifei, Hong Sicong     Instructor: Zhu Tingju

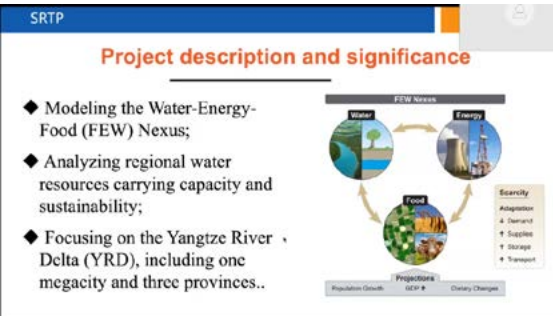
Focusing sustainability in the Yangtze River Delta, this project by Sun and Hong aims to explore complexities behind water carrying capacity from the perspective of the water-energy-food (FEW) nexus. Based on a current FEW system, Sun and Hong explored better ways to build a model that focus on energy and food in the supply-use-expend water resource model. Students obtained data and statistics from the local government and used distributed simulation to analyze Yangtze River Delta sustainability levels and effectiveness. Their work gave profound insights for future improvements.



## Prevention as the best cure

“Knowledge Extraction and Retrieval from Diesel Engine Operation Reports based on NLP and Knowledge Graph”

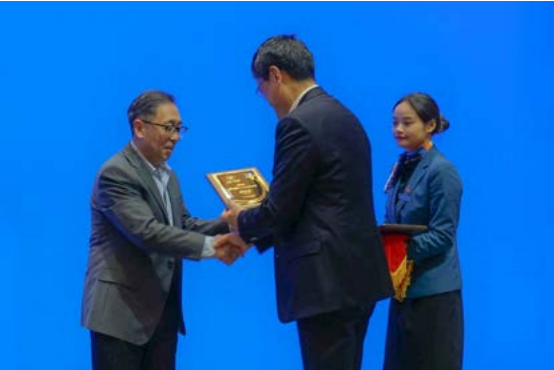
Students: Wang Chongyu, Wang Chenhao, Li Jingshu     Instructor: Wang Hongwei




# Dean Li was awarded the "Outstanding Contribution Awards for Introducing and Cultivating Faculty of Zhejiang University"

April 28, 2020

Photo: JIN Xiufang  
Translator: LIU Tingkai



This project aims to address maintenance problems associated with diesel engines at nuclear power plants. Wang and his peers analyze events, status reports, and solutions for diesel engine problems in nuclear power plants. The team drew out relationships among various control factors, and suggested more robust solutions for existing problems. They collected many data sets to generate a usable, intelligent algorithm, and sought to develop an intelligent search engine that could be optimized continuously to produce an active “knowledge map” that could show relationships among parts of the system. This project can help reduce nuclear power plant operating cost by leading to higher work efficiency, while at the same time developing a safe and effective model that might be transferrable to other risk-prevention applications. 

Recently, Professor Li Erping, Dean of ZJUI, was awarded the “Outstanding Contribution Award for Introducing and Cultivating Faculty of Zhejiang University.” The core attribute for winning domestic and international academic influence is faculty research excellence, while the key for cultivating high-quality students is a first-class faculty team. Since joining Zhejiang University in 2009, Professor Li Erping has devoted his efforts to building an international first-class faculty team and training top scholars. “Innovation must be the priority for development, and talents must be the most important resource to support development.” These are the most frequently quoted words in his daily work. Guided by such beliefs, all ZJUI faculty and staff have acted energetically to attract world-class scholars and experts.


ZJUI actively seeks exceptional candidates at home and abroad. A group of high-level international scholars has been introduced through various channels, including networks of cooperative schools, international academic conferences, international journals, professional magazines, and direct visits to institutions. At present, the Institute has 25 full-time faculty members, more than half of whom hold non-Chinese passports. They include one academician and 22 faculty members who have graduated from top-tier universities, such as the University of Cambridge, Stanford University, Carnegie-Mellon University, and the University of Illinois.

ZJUI has formulated a promotion and tenure system that follows the highest international practices. Faculty recruitment, selection, management, and evaluation match procedures employed at world-class universities. Recruiting standards of both UIUC and Zhejiang University have applied to faculty searches since the establishment of the Institute. Since the opening of the Institute in 2016, ZJUI has established a high-quality, innovative faculty team on the international campus.

To promote cross-disciplinary integration, ZJUI faculty serve as faculty members in the relevant departments on the main ZJU campuses. Most ZUI faculty also hold adjunct appointments at UIUC. The Institute supports overseas training at UIUC for faculty members who are at an early point in their career. All faculty are supported to conduct in-person international collaboration.

## The Story of Professor Li Erping's Search for Excellent Faculty

After more than 20 years of overseas scientific research, Professor Li Erping, an industry expert and a leader in his areas of expertise, became a professor at Zhejiang University in 2009. He served as a member of the National Information Talent Evaluation Committee, and played an important role in introduction of talented scholars and in candidate selection at Zhejiang University.

He established the Research Center of Radio Frequency and Nanoelectronics at Zhejiang University with a mission to build an international first-class team and cultivating world-class expertise. In 2016, he became Dean of ZJUI and continues to cultivate outstanding international engineering scholars. He has attracted international electromagnetics experts as Chair professors and short-term professors. For many years, he has provided guidance to young candidates from overseas on project applications, and cultivated several “Top Young Talents”, “National Outstanding Youths”, and the recipients of the “National Outstanding Youth Science Fund”. The cultivation of young researchers and the building of academic teams are very important to him. Professor Li Erping's research team has recruited many high-level scholars at home and abroad, including “Qiushi” distinguished professors and “Innovative Talents in the New Century of National Ministry of Education”. 



## Class of 2020 Commencement

May 31, 2020

Article: KE Yineng  
Photo: LU Shaoqing  
Translator: CHANG Long  
Editor: ZHU Xinran



The first ZJUI Commencement, for the Class of 2020, was held on May 30. The ceremonies celebrated the graduation and accomplishments of the first cohort of ZJUI students, and was held on the International Campus of Zhejiang University. In this unique year, ceremonies included in-person events for students and faculty, online events for parents and friends, and direct remote connection from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Professor WU Zhaohui, President of Zhejiang University, and Professor Robert J. Jones, Chancellor of UIUC, spoke to attendees. Professor YANG Wei, Chairman of the ZJUI International Advisory Board and Past President of ZJU, delivered a keynote speech. Professor HE Lianzhen, Vice President of Zhejiang University and Dean of the International Campus, Professor Andreas Cangellaris, Vice Chancellor and Provost of UIUC, and Professor YANG Huayong, academician of the Chinese Academy of Engineering, also attended the ceremony. Professor Wei Shyy, President of Hong Kong University of Science and Technology and a member of the ZJUI International Advisory Board, gave the commencement address. Mr. CHEN Hang, alumnus of Zhejiang University and UIUC, inspired the students with his remarks about the future. CHEN Haonan, the representative student of class 2020, shared his four-year learning experience and feelings.

Professor WU Zhaohui congratulated ZJUI's first cohort of students on successfully obtaining a UIUC degree. He pointed out that every student there had witnessed the joint progress of Zhejiang University and UIUC, and had participated from the beginning of this venture in its development. He charged them to carry out the hopes and expectations of the Institute. He conveyed his best wishes to the students, and congratulated them on their achievement and new status as UIUC graduates. He encouraged the students to change the world with their wide-ranging knowledge and present the world of globalized education with a positive face of their young generation. With their outstanding abilities and leadership, and the force of youth, they should contribute to the globalization of innovation and serve society with their all-round qualities, show their diligent and positive qualities, create a better future through strength of character, and realize the value of life. Graduating students are expected to be leaders in a new round of globalization, striving to be a bridge for educational cooperation, innovation linkage, mission sharing and cultural interaction, and leading successful lives in a rapidly changing future.

Professor Robert J. Jones congratulated the students on successfully completed their degrees. He commented that the cooperation between the two universities is not only a collaboration in higher education and engineering, but also is key to promoting technology innovation and social progress. Student in the first cohort of ZJUI graduates are a remarkable success story of international collaboration. Students will represent the distinguished traditions and excellence of both schools, become bold innovators, and change the world through their own efforts – while continuing to learn throughout their lives.

Professor YANG Wei praised ZJUI for establishing a highly independent operating and management framework, and also for integrating first-class engineering education resources from ZJU and UIUC. Unique characteristics of cross-convergence have been formed by this cooperation. Students should keep making groundbreaking efforts, show their humanitarian concern, and maintain a high sense of responsibility in their future lives.

Professor Shyy Wei congratulated the students for their accomplishments, for their innovative attitude, for their technological excellence, and for their global vision to become outstanding professionals. He gave the students three suggestions in his commencement remarks. First, to be optimistic but not opportunistic. Second, to know your strengths but accept your limits. Third, to stay resilient and to persevere through adversity. He reminded them how important these are to our shared global future.

The Commencement was witnessed by leaders and guests from the two universities, faculty, parents, and campus members. During the student procession, Professor HE Lianzhen, together with Professor FU Qiang, Vice Dean of International Campus, presented their certificates on behalf of UIUC. Following the procession, Professor Timothy Killeen, President of the University of Illinois, officially awarded UIUC degrees to the first cohort of ZJUI students. Professor LI Erping, Dean of ZJUI, presided over the ceremony.

The senior class included 28 students from eight provinces in China, majoring in either computer engineering or in electrical engineering. The students participated in a second commencement in June at which they received their ZJU degrees.

ZJUI is a non-independent Chinese-foreign cooperative institute established jointly by Zhejiang University and by the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. It was approved by the Ministry of Education in February 2016 and started classes in September 2016. It offers the educational system and teaching resources of top programs from the Grainger College of Engineering at UIUC and integrates the advantages of corresponding departments of Zhejiang University. There are four undergraduate programs: electrical engineering, computer engineering, mechanical engineering, and civil engineering. Undergraduates who meet the degree requirements of both universities obtain bachelor's degrees from Zhejiang University and from UIUC. 🇺🇸

## A Letter to the First Cohort of ZJUI

June 26, 2020

Article: LI Erping, Philip T. Krein



Dear ZJUI class of 2020 students,

At the time of writing, we are looking through four years of delightful photographs that you have left us. How time flies! We still remember the anticipation on your faces when you were registering at the Residential College in September, 2016. We also remember the carefully sealed notes you wrote to yourselves that were placed in the time capsule. As your graduation ceremonies take place, have the wishes you made four years ago come true?

We believe we have fulfilled our primary goal. More of you are going on to graduate study in world-class universities than other Chinese-foreign cooperatively run schools. You have shown outstanding ability in academic endeavors, international communication, innovation, independent thinking, and community service. In the past four years, as pioneers of ZJUI and of the International Campus, you have participated in the rapid development of the Institute. The enrollment numbers are expanding year by year, the faculty team is growing, the teaching quality is constantly improving, international education is progressing, and cross-disciplinary learning continues to develop. This progress could not have been achieved without your tremendous efforts and commitment to ZJUI. We are proud of you!

On May 30, you received your UIUC degree certificates, signed by the leaders of the two universities. At the end of June, you will receive your degree certificates and graduation certificates from Zhejiang University. These certificates confirm your hard work in the laboratory, the classroom, and the Residential College, your rigor in building and debugging your designs, your care in polishing your papers and reports, and your confidence in further study. We salute your outstanding achievements in different fields. To name just a few, think about Huang Jinghan's two conference papers published in IROS and ICRMV; Xu Chao's presentation as a guest speaker at the 3rd International Student Leaders Forum; Chen Haonan, Wu Zhenbang, Li Heyuan, Wu Xihang, and other students supporting education in Meitan in Guizhou province and in "Belt and Road" countries; and your experiences in Urbana, during internships, and in research. There are many amazing stories. We are very happy for all of you!

In addition to congratulating you on all your achievements, we want to share three pieces of advice with you and wish you great success in the future.

First, embrace uncertainty and move forward with optimism. 2020 is a special year. We have encountered many unexpected difficulties, but this is a reflection of life, and there will be more such unknowns and uncertainties in the future. Please be prepared at all times to face life's challenges with optimism and composure.

Second, continue to think independently and pursue excellence through innovation. The global engineering challenges of the 21st century require engineering leaders with an international perspective who can promote cross-disciplinary cooperation and contribute to breakthroughs. Have the confidence to be a leader in your future endeavors.

Third, throughout your career, follow your conscience and be kind to others. Although it is easy to be confused by the temptations of the wider world after leaving the ivory tower of the university, remember to respect society and life, and live up to your responsibilities. This is how engineers will make a positive impact to help the world.

We sincerely wish everyone a safe, healthy, challenging, and successful career. Live in the future, seek new knowledge, and always innovate!

Yours sincerely,

ZJUI Dean            ZJUI Executive Dean  
Erping Li            Philip T. Krein 🇺🇸