

Building Strong Interdisciplinary Graduate Programs in Xiamen University

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Xiamen University is a comprehensive university which was founded by Mr. Tan Kah Kee in 1921. It is now one of a small number of remarkable institutions in China designated as national key universities and offering 276 master's programs and 187 doctoral programs. The university now has a total enrolment of over 40,000 full-time students on campus, including 20,000 undergraduates, 17,000 master's degree students, and about 3,000 doctoral students. To improve its education and research, Xiamen University has been paying close attention to building interdisciplinary programs. There are following key issues in building advanced interdisciplinary graduate programs in the university.

Strategies

The establishment of interdisciplinary graduate programs was mainly based on existing key disciplines such as economics, law, chemistry, biology and marine sciences. The university strongly supports the forefront research which could be a promising start of a new discipline. Establish interdisciplinary institutes which provide a favorable education and research environment in the university.

Measures

1. Invest more money into interdisciplinary programs;
2. Design a brand new core curriculum for each interdisciplinary graduate program;
3. Set up new assessment standards for advisors who supervise graduate students in the interdisciplinary graduate programs;
4. Assessment of interdisciplinary graduate programs is conducted regularly;
5. Establish interdisciplinary institutes: there are about ten interdisciplinary institutes in the university;
6. Set up multiple awards and grants in the university to promote interdisciplinary education and research.

All the measures will be presented and discussed in detail at the summit.