

ACGS: The first ten year



Wang Enge Graduate School, Peking University



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Introduction to ACGS

The graduate education in China can be traced back to early 1900s', for example of Peking University.



The main entrance to Imperial University of Peking (1918)



Introduction to ACGS

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A list of graduate students in the Institute of English Studies, the School of Liberal Arts (1918)

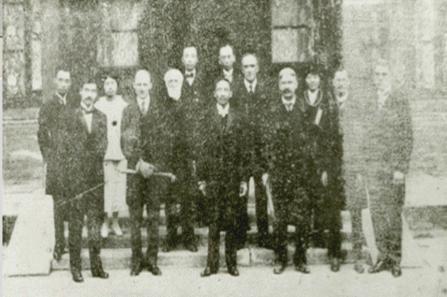
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A list of graduate students at the three institutes of mathematics, chemistry, and physics, in the School of Natural Sciences (1918)



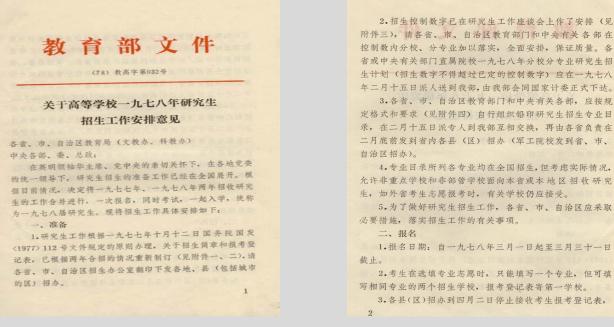
A photo taken at the ceremony for conferring honorary doctoral degrees on John Dewey and Paul Samuel Reinsch, in October, 1919

The ceremony for conferring honorary doctoral degrees on Paul Painlevé and P. Joubin, in August 1919



Introduction to ACGS

The current graduate education system in China was recovered around 1978, right after the Chinese culture revolution.



On January 10, 1978, the Ministry of Education issued *the Graduate Recruitment Program in Chinese Institutions*

北京大学 你校送上一九七八年研究生录取 ,经北京市 高等学校招生委员 会审核,现·批准你校 444 名考 生正式录取为你校研究生。

On September 13, 1978, the Municipal Graduate Recruitment Office in Beijing ratified PKU's recruitment of 444 graduate students

Introduction to ACGS

Founded in November 1999 at Beijing, the Association of Chinese Graduate Schools (ACGS) is a national organization in graduate education for advanced degrees.

In the year around 1998, some pioneers, most are the deans of graduate schools, began to explore how to improve the system and to play a leading role in the development of China's graduate education. They made a series of research in global graduate education and found out there were many successful national and regional organizations of graduate school deans in the U.S., U.K., Canada, and Australia. These organizations, including Council of Graduate Schools, UK Council for Graduate Education, Canada Association for Graduate Studies, to name a few, have been exercising an active and effective function in their national graduate education.

Mission

- To serve as a platform for national research and discussion about the development planning and reform scheme of Chinese graduate education and academic degrees system, about the construction of graduate schools and the improvement of graduate student's creativity and overall qualification.
- To provide advice for making national strategy in graduate education, so as to assist Chinese government to explore the best Chinese characteristic way of running a graduate school, to steadily improve the quality and efficiency of Chinese graduate education and academic degrees, as well as its international reputation and influence.

Membership

Chinese graduate school?

• In China, the official establishment of a graduate school requires a series of beforehand administrative examination and approval procedures by the Academic Degrees Committee of the State Council and approved finally by China's Ministry of Education;

• Only universities that have strong workforce in scientific research, high-level university-running foundation, and high-quality talent cultivation are eligible for applying to set up its own graduate schools;

Membership

• From 1984 to 2003, China has set up in total 56 universities with formal graduate schools;

• The membership of ACGS is limited to the deans or the executive deans of these graduate schools. The members of ACGS will automatically be renewed when new deans or executive deans are elected;

Operation

• The Secretary-General of ACGS is head of the association, which is the dean or executive dean of the graduate school of Peking University;

• The ACGS office is located in the Graduate School at Peking University and has a secretariat, who is responsible of handling day-today affairs;

• The council of ACGS includes four chair members and serves a four-year term. The council is responsible for affairs outside the routine work;

• The ACGS will at least convene two plenary meetings, a working conference and an annual meeting every year.

Function

 Play as an advisory organization of China's Ministry of Education and Academic Degrees Committee of the State Council to improve graduate education in China;

• Work as a window of Chinese graduate education to actively and effectively develop international cooperation in graduate education.

For example: Develop graduate education in western China

• In 2000, Chinese government proposed a large-scale strategy for the development of western China;

• In April 2000, the first ACGS Annual Meeting passed a proposal "Support the Development of Graduate Education in Western China";

• In the summer of 2000, ACGS organized graduate schools deans to visit and to investigate nine provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities in western China and submitted "A Investigation Report on Western China's Graduate Education" to Chinese government . *This report provided a comprehensive understanding of the talents' cultivation and graduate education in the western areas and offers operational suggestions for policy-making*.

Achievements

• The ACGS has proposed crucial comments and suggestions for revision of "China's Strategy Report on Academic Degrees and Graduate Education", "Laws for Academic Degrees of People's Republic of China" (Draft for Discussion), etc. ;

• The ACGS has submitted to central government a "Report on Implementation Advice on the Reform of Graduate Student Cultivation System", a report on "Reform of Authorization and Approval System of Doctoral Degree Conferment" etc.;

• The ACGS also provided advice to national "2005-2010 Development Plan of Graduate Education".

Efforts on international cooperation

• In 2000, ACGS participated CGS Annual Meeting for the first time. From 2007 to 2010, ACGS sent its delegation to CGS "Strategic Leaders Global Summit on Graduate Education"

• In the past ten years, the ACGS has also organized more than 10 delegations to present in various overseas activities of international conferences in graduate education;

• "ACGS International Forum (2009)" (Xi'an, 2009): This is the first ever international forum in Chinese graduate education.





Association of Chinese Graduate Schools 1st International Forum (2009)

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Various Modes for International Cooperation in Chinese Graduate Education

- Academic Exchange
- Mutual credit recognition between cooperation universities internationally
- Cooperation in running schools

(Modes of "2+2+1", "3+1+1", etc.)

- Dual Degrees or Joint Degrees



Example: Joint Degree by Departments of Biomedical Engineering at Peking University, Georgia Institute of Technology, and Emory University

The joint degree has to be approved by all the cooperative parties and should be reported to China's Ministry of Education. Each University will sign and seal on the same degree certificate paper. This is the first genuine international joint-degree program approved by China's Ministry of Education

The Joint Degree Certificate:

UNESE GA





Students: Made in China, contribution to the world!



IOP/CAS reunion at APS March Meeting, 2007

Peking U reunion at APS March Meeting, 2009







The ACGS office at the Graduate School, Peking University





Thank You !