

UIBE's Party Secretary Ms. Wang Ling visits five Universities in UK

From 10th August to 15th August, Party Secretary Ms. Wang Ling led a delegation of UIBE staff on a tour of British Universities: the University of Birmingham (UB), University of Warwick (UW), London School of Economics and Political Science (LSEPS), University of Kent (UK) and University of Cambridge (UC).

Not only seeking possible cooperation with the Universities, the delegation's main purpose was also to analyze the British approach to university education; helping to better understand different approaches to the philosophy, development, organization, functional organs, management, and operations. During the visit, a draft cooperation agreement was signed with the University of Warwick.

The delegation was greeted by Professor Adrian Randall from the University of Birmingham (UB), and several of UIBE's students currently attending the University. As assistant to the President, he introduced the delegates to the University, its history and its current projects; he especially emphasized the University's recent reorganization of the colleges and departments. He welcomed participation with all Chinese universities. In turn, the delegation was presented to the heads of all administrative departments: Development & Alumni Liaison Office, Human Resource Department, Teaching Division of Social Science Dept., Alumni Office of School of Business and Department of R&D and Turning Knowledge, Students Service System, Career Guidance Center, Students Living, the General Manager of Catering and finally the Accommodation Center. The UIBE students attending UB then took the delegation on a tour of the campus.



Professor Adrian Randall, Assistant to the President of UB, in a photo with Secretary Wang and the delegates

The next day, the delegation arrived at the University of Warwick (UW), one of UK's top 5 universities; they met with Stuart Palmer, Vice President of UW. They signed a draft agreement on comprehensive cooperation between the two Universities. Secretary Wang and the delegates visited the WMG R&D center, famous for its outstanding achievements in scientific research, which also acts as a business technology incubator. In the afternoon, members of UIBE's delegation held talks with their UW counterparts. An important theme centered around the issue of how best to administer the different colleges, or parts, within the University's overall structure, or whole, neither stifling or burdening their growth potential, while providing the University with a common vision.



Secretary Wang shaking on the draft agreement with Professor Stuart palmer,
Vice President of UW



Secretary Wang having a look around the WCG R&D center of UW

The next visit was to the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSEPS). Professor George Gaskell, Assistant to the President, delivered a welcome speech. They, together with several other professors, discussed a wide range of subjects. Professor Athar Hussainhe, acting also as Director of the Asian Studies Center (ASC), and Professor Stephan Feuchtwang, further acquainted the delegates on ASC: its fields of research and joint programs. The delegation questioned how to launch cooperative research between the Universities.



Secretary Wang talking with Mr. George Gaskell, Assistant to the President of LSEPS



The delegates on a sight-seeing tour in LSEPS

The delegation next paid a visit to the University of Kent (UOK) in Canterbury. They were met by Professor Alex Hughes, Vice President of UOK. Professor Karengoffin, Secretary General of the UOK's Board, introduced the organization.



Secretary Wang chatting with Professor Alex Hughes, Vice President of UOK



The delegation shown around UOK's campus

On 14th August, the delegation arrived at the University of Cambridge (UC), a University with global reputation and more than 800 years of history. Allen Swales, the officer of International Affairs in charge of Asian Affairs, met the delegates and introduced them to Cambridge: its history, profile, enrollment, organization, faculty, funding, mode of management, as well as a discussion of the university-college relationship. Several issues were discussed, such as how to attract highly qualified professors and how to carry out joint research.



The delegates talking with Allen Swales in the conference hall of UC

Before returning to China Secretary Wang invited to lunch all UIBE students attending various UK universities, and some Alumni. Former teachers and schoolmates met again. Secretary Wang discussed with them the vision for UIBE today and tomorrow. As UIBE prepares to celebrate its 60th birthday, she invited everyone to contribute to their old or current Alma Mater. She promised them that she would strive for continued improvement of UIBE.