

# NYU SHANGHAI

上海纽约大学汇刊

2022年 春

## 城市的今日与明天

关于城市生活和城市建设  
当代上海给我们的启示



内部刊物



#### 关于我们

上海纽约大学成立于2012年，是经教育部批准，在上海市及浦东新区政府大力支持下，由华东师范大学和纽约大学合作创办的中国第一所中美合办研究型大学，也是纽约大学全球体系中具有学位授予资格的三大校园之一。学校现有来自中国、美国及其他近80个国家和地区的约2000名本科生和研究生，汇集了来自全球顶尖学府的学术精英和创新人才。

#### 封面图片

360度全景球形图由2024届学生Charles Bingaman拍摄，取景于上海古城公园及人民路隧道附近

#### 本页插图

2024届学生姚可岑及计算机科学教授Promethee Spathis

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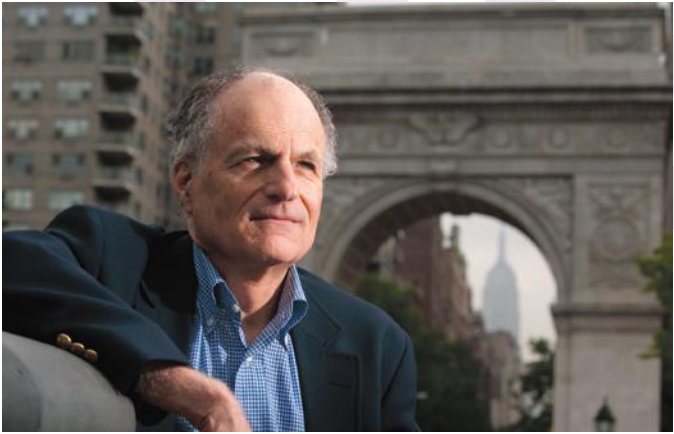
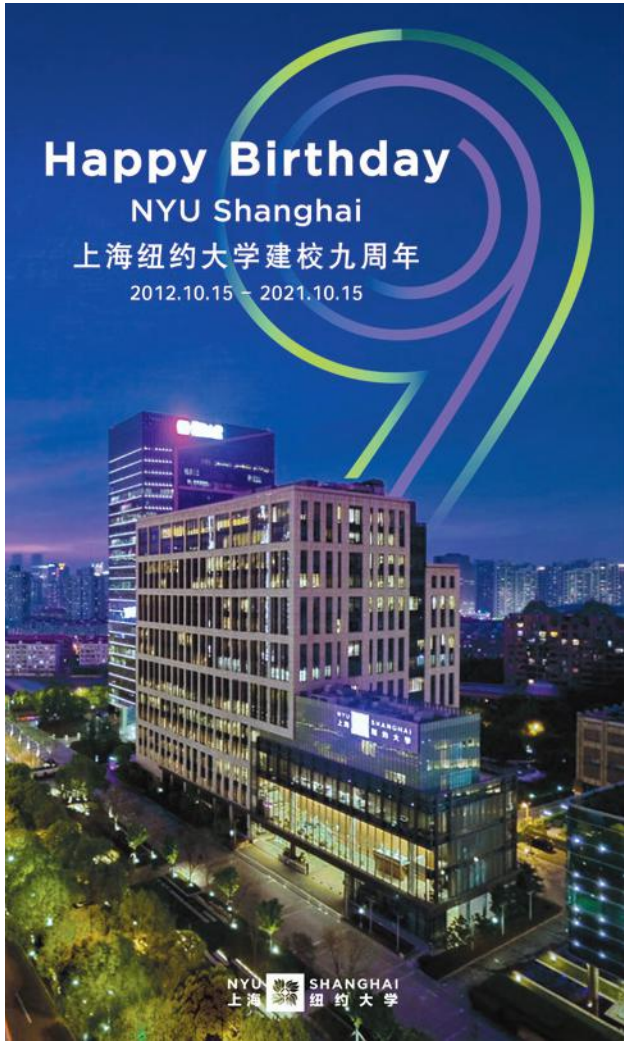
关切上海当代都市议题 构想城市未来



上纽大十周年校庆倒计时！

2021年10月，中国第一所中美合办研究型大学——上海纽约大学迎来建校九周年，学校举办公益骑行活动庆祝，并拉开校庆十周年倒计时的帷幕。10月15日，上纽大九周年校庆当天，也正值中方合作伙伴华东师范大学建校70周年，两校共同举办了“新时代中外合作办学与卓越育人”论坛。23所国内外高校近80名专家学者与会交流，总结中外合作办学成果，分享国际化育人经验。

建校九年以来，上海纽约大学从仅有295名学生的“高等教育国际合作示范改革的试验田”，快速发展成为拥有近2000名在读学生的研究型大学。2022年，上纽大全体成员及社会友人可通过Logo设计大赛、校园回忆展等丰富多样的预热活动一同迎接十周年校庆。庆典将于2022年10月举行。



诺奖得主加盟数学研究中心  
上纽大布点金融科技新赛道

2011年诺贝尔经济学奖得主、纽约大学经济学与商学教授托马斯·萨金特于2021年秋季学期正式成为上海纽约大学联聘教授，以及华东师范大学-纽约大学数学联合研究中心（上海纽约大学）教授。他是理性预期学派的领袖人物，是自上纽大成立以来加盟学校的第三位诺奖得主，将给学校在金融数学领域的研究带来强大助力。同时，他还将主导筹建在上纽大挂牌的张江金融量化研究中心，使上纽大更好地服务上海和浦东国际金融中心的发展，为城市数字化转型贡献力量。

毕业生入选知名学者项目

2021届学生Sarah Brooker和2018届学生James Bromley入选“燕京学者”项目，获得全额奖学金前往北京大学燕京学堂攻读中国学硕士研究生。

2021届学生刘正源和Taylah Bland入选“苏世民学者”项目，并获得全额奖学金前往清华大学苏世民书院攻读全球事务研究生。

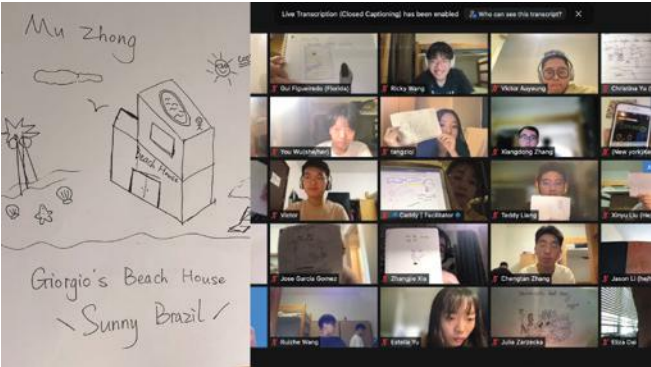


左起：Sarah Brooker、James Bromley、刘正源、Taylah Bland

来自五十国的2021级新生线上齐相聚

8月23日，第九届开学典礼在世纪大道校园举办，欢迎500多名来自50个国家的2021级新生入学。受疫情影响，本届新生仍无法齐聚校园。不过通过交互媒体与商学艺术副教授Emily Tsiang执教的“规划上纽大生涯”课程，新生们在线相遇，置身多元文化，建立跨文化联结。该课程基于Tsiang教授在斯坦福大学开设的“生涯规划实验室”课，为上纽大新生量身定制。此外，校友、高年级学生、教职工等30余名助教为学生们全程提供帮助。

9月14日，全体大一新生一同观看了学校一年一度的迎新传统节日Reality Show真人秀音乐剧。中国驻美国大使秦刚以视频方式在迎新仪式上致辞。他表示，中国将一如既往地支持中美教育交流，鼓励双向留学，深化高校合作。“在上海纽约大学这样一所中西合璧的大学里，希望你们能够用欣赏、包容的态度同来自各国的师生们沟通交流。”



“规划上纽大生涯”课上，2021级新生钟沐和来自巴西的同學Giorgio Zuccarelli彼此分享童年回忆，并根据对方的描述绘制作品

简讯

2021年4月，上海纽约大学宣布新设一项面向中国学生的高额奖学金计划——“立中奖学金”。这是学校首次推出全额奖学金，每位获奖学生将获100万元人民币奖励。此外学校还提高了原有奖学金金额。

2021年9月，上纽大常务副校长雷蒙被授予“上海市荣誉市民”称号。雷蒙校长于2012年定居上海。“上海已成为我的第二故乡，我非常热爱这座城市，”雷蒙校长说，“上海市给予我的这个奖项不仅是对我个人的奖励，更是对上海纽约大学为上海这座城市在中国和国际高等教育及人文交流领域所创造的出色成绩和价值的认可。”



2021年，超过2100名师生员工在校内接种新冠疫苗。在上海市教委和浦东新区政府的关心和支持下，校公共安全携手上海

东方医院、浦东新区卫健委、疾控中心和120急救中心等，为师生员工提供上门接种服务。

上纽大环球亚洲研究中心（CGA）再获亨利·鲁斯基金会向纽约大学提供的一笔为期三年、共计45万美元的资助。这笔资金将由纽约大学全球教育体系的纽约、阿布扎比和上海三所门户校园平均分配，以持续助力“环球亚洲港口城市环境研究”跨学科合作项目，并促进人文、社科与环境研究等领域的交融。



# 前滩

## 新校区 新进展



### 新家园一瞥

新校区由国际著名建筑事务所KPF设计，采用四栋建筑合围的校园布局形式。校园正中为近4200平方米的庭院，既借鉴了美国大学校园里常见的中心广场设计，又呼应了传统中式园林的风格外观。

图 | KPF



新校区施工现场一隅  
图 | 朱恺宁

上海纽约大学前滩新校区建设正逐渐接近尾声。校区主体钢结构于2021年3月正式封顶，管线施工进度在9月也已过半，目前内部施工正在紧张有序地进行中。预计新校区将于2022年秋季学期投入使用。

“过去这一年，全球经历了重重挑战。但对每位上纽大家庭成员来说，前滩校区的建设进展一直令大家欢欣鼓舞。”常务副校长雷蒙在2021年3月18日的封顶仪式现场说道，彼时最后一根钢梁构件精准装入钢结构大楼顶部。

上纽大前滩校区于2019年5月正式开工，总建筑面积约11.4万平方米。尽管受新冠疫情影响，项目在2020年初停工近三个月，但2021年春节期间，138名项目管理和施工人员一直坚守在工地，全力投身校区建设。项目攻坚克难，进程加速。

学生事务部主任彭汉智说，“新校区将给予我们更大的探索活动空间。体育馆、中央庭院、艺术表演空间，能容纳整届学生的报告厅等等，这些都令我们充满期待、兴奋不已。我们相信，上纽大未来将进一步为上海的繁荣发展发挥更重要的作用。”

### 上纽大与纽约大学联合推出新硕博项目

2021年7月8日，上海纽约大学与纽约大学斯特恩商学院正式宣布推出组织管理与战略（MSOMS）及营销与零售科学（MSMRS）硕士项目。两大联合培养新项目为期一年，使学生有机会在纽约和上海学习，充分利用两校优质的教育、学术和校友资源。

项目将于2022年6月迎来首批学生，开设为期12个月的全日制课程，横跨上海、纽约两大全球金融中心。学生将首先前往纽约大学斯特恩商学院完成夏季学期课程，随后返回中国，于上海纽约大学完成秋季、冬季和春季学期课程。

纽约大学斯特恩商学院院长Raghu Sundaram表示，“项目课程由行业领先的学者掌舵，旨在培养学生预测、驾驭和领导变革的能力——这是雇主对其所需人才的基本技能要求。”这些项目的设立，意味着上纽大目前共拥有七个硕士项目。

此外，学校还与纽约大学瓦格纳公共事务学院合作推出了公共管理博士项目。学生在纽约大学瓦格纳公共事务学院完成一到两年的项目课程学习后，将在上海接受上纽大教授的指导并完成研究项目。毕业后，将获得纽约大学授予的博士学位。

### 上纽大首位博士毕业生获计算机学位



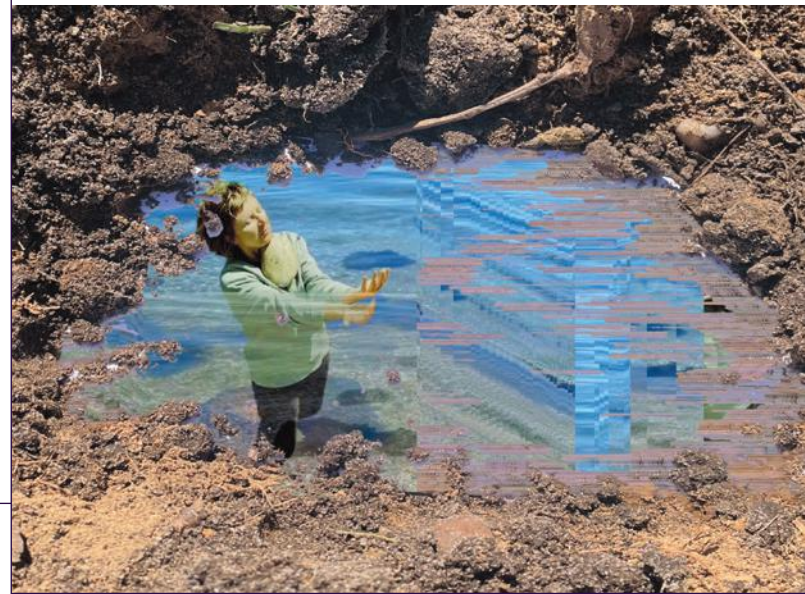
Sean Welleck于2021年1月获得计算机科学博士学位，成为上纽大首位博士毕业生。他目前正在美国华盛顿大学从事人工智能和机器学习领域的博士后研究。上纽大目前设有数据科学、神经科学、化学、公共管理等多个博士项目，现有近40位博士生在读。

欲了解上海纽约大学硕博项目，请访问 [shanghai.nyu.edu/graduate](https://shanghai.nyu.edu/graduate)。

### 互动媒体艺术硕士项目首届学生毕业

2021年7月2日，上纽大与纽约大学帝势艺术学院交互通讯项目（ITP）联合创办的互动媒体艺术硕士项目（IMA Low Res）迎来首届毕业典礼。从西雅图、加德满都、纽约，到上海、深圳，来自七个不同国家与地区的30名毕业生相聚云端，与教师职工共同见证这一重要时刻。同时，他们的毕业作品结合科技、艺术与媒体，以全新的融合理念呈现于众。毕业生们从教育、设计、美术等各自的专业背景中汲取灵感，将新兴技术与设计理念，转化为解读正念潮等社会热点的新视角，以及突破传统思维的方案。

下图为毕业生Maria Maciak的作品《妈妈、土壤和心灵》



### 2021届研究生们毕业啦！

5月30日，上纽大举办了第二届研究生毕业典礼，庆祝105名毕业生取得硕士学位。这也是学校首次在线下举办研究生毕业仪式。本届毕业生分别来自三个硕士项目：上纽大与纽约大学斯坦哈特学院联合培养的英语教育硕士项目（TESOL），以及上纽大和纽约大学斯特恩商学院联合培养的数据分析和商业计算硕士项目（MSDABC）与计量金融硕士项目（MSQF）。



# 校园快照

1. 2021年春，上纽大艺术学副教授Stavros Didakis执教的“媒体建筑”课学生们的原创作品点亮了浦西白玉兰广场的夜空。

2. 2021年5月26日，在上海市大学生足球联盟杯赛女子校园组决赛中，上纽大女子足球队以6比0击败了同济大学，时隔三年再夺联盟杯赛冠军。2021届球员刘怡萱和2022届球员Clara Luehrs击掌庆祝比赛胜利。

3. 2021年4月，上纽大常务副校长雷蒙（中）与世界乒乓球冠军刘国梁（左一）、梁戈亮（右一），以及篮球明星姚明和Stephon Marbury共同出席中美“乒乓外交”50周年庆祝活动。

图 | 中新网

4. 普利策奖得主、《国家地理》探险家Paul Salopek与上纽大合作，于2021年9月以云南为起点，在中国境内继续他为期15年的“走出伊甸园”环球徒步之旅。

图 | Paul Salopek

5. 上纽大中文语言讲师顾蓓蕾借千年古银杏，带学生走进城市历史，探寻“沧海桑田”的内涵。

6. 在2021年6月的春季学期期末秀中，上纽大阿卡贝拉室内合唱团首次登台亮相。一支改编自周杰伦《莫吉托》的无伴奏合唱版MV在校园“刮起热带风暴”。

7. 2021年暑假，40多名流动儿童齐聚上纽大首届“朝颜少年成长计划”，学习团队建设、决策制定、自我表达与独立学习等重要内容。这是学校首次为流动儿童提供免费夏令营课程。





## 调控量子材料性质

上纽大物理学助理教授**陈航晖**与华东师范大学-上海纽约大学联合培养研究生专项（N.E.T.）博士生**刘芝伟**、上纽大2023届本科生**刘泓泉**及科研团队，利用理论计算解释了外延生长的应力如何调控量子材料 $\text{SrRuO}_3$ 的电磁特性。他们发现，贝利曲率是控制这些物理特性的关键参数。该发现为调控量子材料的物理性质提供了有效的方法。

## 世界上最小的“攀岩者”

上海纽约大学物理学与数学教授**张骏**与纽约大学的科学家们宣布发现了微观马达攀爬陡坡的新行为。科学家们将一些能够自由移动的微观马达放置于溶液中，在可调整的固体斜面上展开一系列细致研究，从实验观测和数值模拟两个方面揭示了其中蕴含的物理机制。这一发现在工程和流体力学控制方面存在广泛应用，为创造有效多能的药物传递机制提供了新思路。该成果发表在国际跨学科期刊《软物质》上。

图 | 张骏、纽约大学库朗研究所、纽约大学物理系

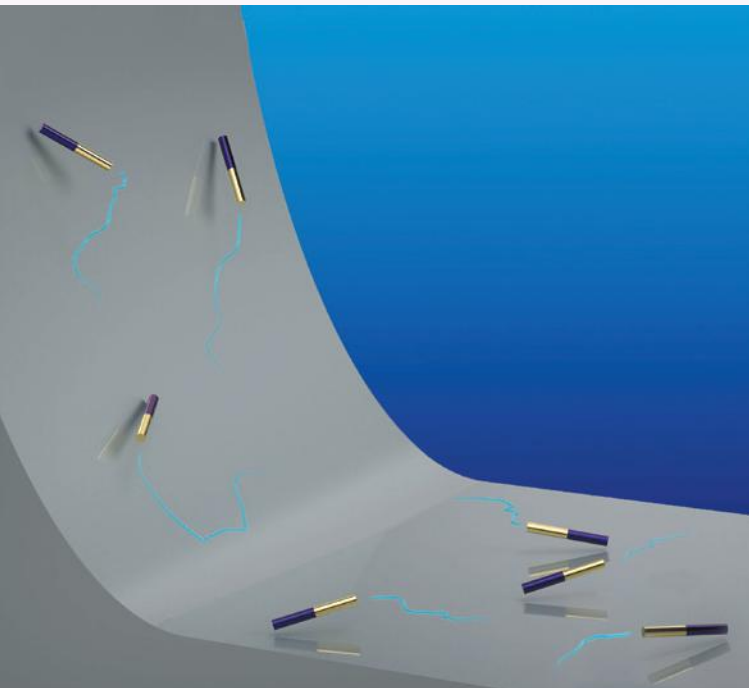


图 | 陈琪

## 商业与营销

## 最孤独的数字

上海纽约大学市场营销学副教授**严登峰**和香港科技大学Jaideep Sangupta教授通过七项研究发现，数字的可分性会影响消费者的感知与偏好。因质数（如17、41）不能分解而无法和其他数字“建立关系”，更容易和孤独的概念联系在一起。人们感到孤独时，会更加偏好与合数有关的产品。该研究提出数字具有引申的心理含义，为该领域研究引入了全新的理论视角，也为营销人员提供了重要参考。此项研究获国家自然科学基金资助，成果在《消费者研究期刊》上发表。

## 公共精神卫生

## 领悟社会支持帮助消除压力

上纽大全球公共卫生教授**Brian J. Hall**与中美两国学者合作发表在《精神病学研究杂志》上的一项研究显示，领悟社会支持可以保护出现创伤后应激反应的个体免受长期心理问题的困扰。研究者针对经历台风“天鸽”的中国年轻人进行了三个时间点的纵向研究，发现持续的心理问题会降低研究对象的领悟社会支持水平。该研究是首批关注领悟社会支持、创伤后应激反应和持续心理问题之间关联方向性的研究之一。

## 中国父亲，如何说爱？

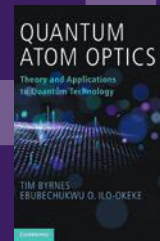
严厉、含蓄，不善表达感情……不仅媒体报道时常对传统中国父亲如此描绘，学术文献也往往默认中国父亲在家庭中扮演着“严父”的角色。然而，这是否仍是当代中国父亲的真实写照？上纽大心理学助理教授**李萱**通过对家长和孩子的访谈发现，当代中国父亲其实非常乐于向孩子表达关爱——或通过亲密的肢体语言，或通过实际行动，如安排家庭休闲活动、辅导孩子功课、为孩子准备爱吃的饭菜等。这一发现表明，父母向孩子表达支持和关爱的方式丰富多样，绝不仅限于口头表达。该研究能帮助我们更好地理解不同社会文化环境中的父母之爱。



图 | iStock/Kiwis

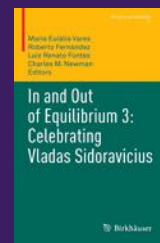
欲了解上海纽约大学研究动向，请访问[research.shanghai.nyu.edu](https://research.shanghai.nyu.edu)。

## 教授新著



**Quantum Atom Optics: Theory and Applications to Quantum Technology**  
《量子与原子光学：量子技术的理论与应用》  
剑桥大学出版社，2021年

上海纽约大学物理学助理教授、纽约大学全球特聘助理教授**Tim Byrnes**和博士后**Ebubekukwu Olo-Okeke**在书中介绍了量子技术的基础理论、关键技术和最新发展成果。书中包含两位作者的原创研究。



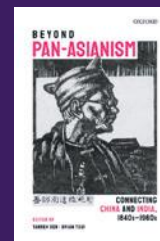
**In and Out of Equilibrium 3: Celebrating Vlas Sidoravicius**  
《Vlas Sidoravicius纪念论文集》  
施普林格出版集团Birkhäuser出版社，2021年

上纽大数学实践教授**Roberto Fernández**等人将33篇概率与统计物理学领域原创学术论文汇编成一本纪念论文集，以纪念于2019年去世的上纽大数学教授**Vlas Sidoravicius**及其斐然成就。



**China Goes Green: Coercive Environmentalism for a Troubled Planet**  
《中国走向绿色》  
Polity出版社，2020年

上纽大环境学助理教授**李逸飞**和来自美利坚大学的夏竹丽对中国特色的环保模式进行了深入探讨，剖析该策略的应用前景和风险。



**Beyond Pan-Asianism: Connecting China and India, 1840s-1960s**  
《超越泛亚洲主义：19世纪40年代至20世纪60年代间中印两国的互联互通》  
牛津大学出版社，2020年

该书由上海纽约大学历史学教授**Tansen Sen**（沈丹森）与香港理工大学中国文化学系副教授徐启轩博士，以及13位来自全球各地的学者合作而成，旨在审视中印两国在各自的反帝反殖民时期，错综复杂的双边关系。



# 建筑背后的故事

艺术史副教授左拉拉  
探寻跨文化交流的昨日今生

文 | SARAH BELLEMARE

“建筑环境如何在历史上——特别是在跨地区和跨文化方面——发挥作用，这对我来说具有莫大吸引力。”

2020年秋天，艺术史副教授左拉拉正式加入上海纽约大学。对她而言，这是归乡之旅——她不仅在留美数年后回到家乡上海，也终于回到了这20年来在太平洋两岸潜心研究之建筑的所在地。

左拉拉说，上海是一座耐人寻味的城市，你可以探索建筑中蕴含的社会结构、文化碰撞和身份变化。前不久，我们跟随左拉拉的脚步，一同游览了上海豫园，聆听她作为建筑史学者一路走来的心路历程。

您从小在上海长大，但过去15年大部分时间都生活在美国。这期间上海发生了哪些变化？这些变化对您的学术研究有何影响？

回国安顿下来之后，我发现上海对我来说已经焕然一新了。还记得读高中时，这里只有两条地铁线，但现在已经快有20条了，感觉“分分钟”就可以到这座城市的任何地方。所以从某种程度上说，上海变“小”了，人与人之间的距离变近了。

老城区和旧建筑不断拆迁改造，上海变化很大，同时引发建筑史学者们去思考许多问题。我外祖父母的房子就在最近被拆，我在二月去看了那片街道最后一眼。看着这些老城区被拆，想到它们再过几个月就不复存在，不觉心有戚戚焉。

关于“当保留什么，重建什么”，人们一直看法不一。我觉得作为历史学者，我们的目光不能只停留在建筑或城市规划的物质层面，也应当关注人们的感受和情感记忆。这也使得我的建筑史研究变得更为复杂多面。

如今中国似乎有越来越多的人对历史建筑保护感兴趣。您觉得这是什么原因呢？

年轻一代正在努力寻找新的身份定位，探索在21世纪的中国他们是谁，以及要成为怎样的人。我认为，历史保护是寻求自己的身份和未来方向的体

现。而且这也是一个全球性议题，即我们当如何处理我们的过去。

每天我们都会看到各式各样的建筑。我们身处其中，但却可能从来没有想过，为什么建筑会这样修建。建筑物背后之人的故事，以及建筑环境如何在历史上——特别是在跨地区和跨文化方面——发挥作用，这对我来说具有莫大吸引力。在我的课堂上，我要求学生观察空间布局，探究其背后的权力哲学。

您的研究考察了13世纪中国的地方建筑、19和20世纪美国的园林，以及二战时期日本历史古迹的军用地图。是否有一条共同的主线将所有这些项目串联在一起？

我所有的研究都把建筑视为不同文化的人们交流的一种方式。我目前正研究美国的中式建筑和园林，如位于波特兰市的兰苏园、罗得岛州新港市大理石屋庄园内的中式茶馆。我开始对建筑在不同文化中的本土化感兴趣。因此，在研究美国的“中式”空间时，我会考察建筑和人之间的文化相互作用，例如建筑的建造者和使用者的身份如何随着时间而变化，以及对“原真性”的关注是如何变化的。

上海纽约大学在哪些地方吸引你来这里教书和做研究？

在宾夕法尼亚大学攻读东亚研究博士期间，我有幸结识了来自世界各地的同学。他们有的研究日本艺术史，有的研究韩国佛教，有的研究文学……我意识到他们研究的领域对我的艺术和建筑史研究都有裨益，因为这是交叉学科领域。而上纽大的世界史（全球中国学）专业恰恰也有同样的氛围。上海纽约大学最吸引我的一点在于，在这里，学科之间几乎没有界限。我会鼓励学生们努力学习闻所未闻的新知。你永远不知道什么会适合你。因此，保持好奇心，尽情探索未知的世界吧！

图 | 左拉拉



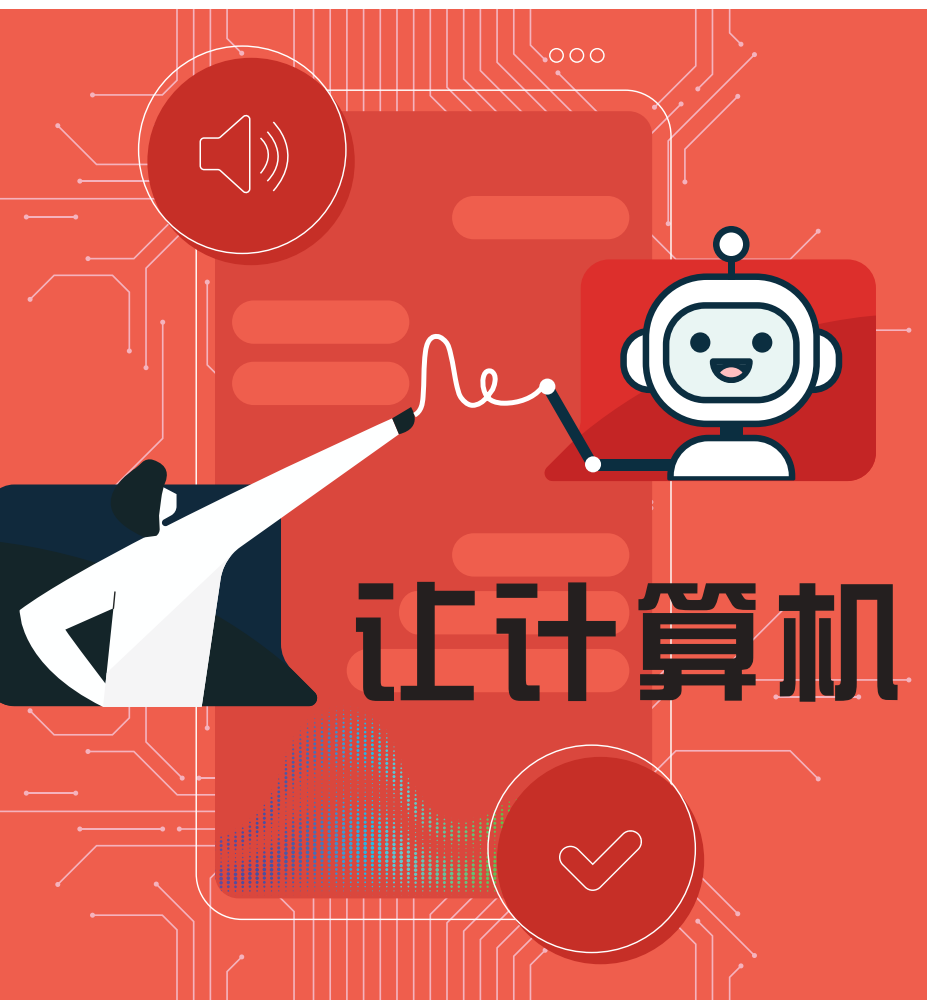


图 | 陈琪

如果看过迪士尼动画电影《超能陆战队》，你肯定会对影片中善解人意的机器人“大白”印象深刻。对于大多数人来说，能拥有像“大白”一样一直保护你、教导你、支持你的机器人伙伴，就如同天方夜谭。但对于上纽大计算机科学实践教授Wilson Tam Yik-Cheung以及他带领的许多本科生来说，打造一个“大白”，让它来帮助你我，是完全有可能的。

实现这一想法的关键，在于实现人机交流，即让人工智能（AI）学会理解、回应并输出真正的人类语言——自然语言。在CSCI-SHU 376“自然语言处理”的课堂上，Tam教授和他的学生正朝着这一目标迈进。

自然语言处理（NLP）推动了个人语音助理、智能客服机器人、机器翻译、语音识别乃至音乐创作等各领域的应用开发，让技术更贴近日常生活。

在Tam教授的课堂上，学生运用早前修读课程中学到的机器学习、概率论与统计学知识，应用并强化前沿的AI算法。这些算法目前正应用于基于语言的服务，如谷歌翻译、亚马逊Echo智能音箱、苹果Siri语音助手等。

Tam教授在攻读硕士期间，开始研究NLP。他说：“看到人们利用语言技术开发出如此多的应用程序，并广泛用于日常生活中，我被深深吸引。”任职于微软时，Tam教授参与开发了全球首款跨平台智能个人助理小娜（Cortana）。后来他加入腾讯，参与研发了数套AI对话系统。除了授课与指导学生从事NLP研究，Tam教授还专注于开发提供心理健康支持的AI程序。他表示：“需要帮助的人往往像座孤岛，没有太多朋友，而机器人可以耐心聆听倾诉，记录问题，并试着给出予以慰藉的答案。”

文 | SARAH BELLEMARE

# “说话”

CSCI-SHU 376  
自然语言处理

Tam教授来自中国香港，精通英语、粤语和普通话。在学术研究与职业发展过程中，他逐渐学习了阿拉伯语、法语等语言的结构。不过，Tam教授却说，最前沿的NLP研究，并不要求程序员对于AI所使用的语言有广泛、深入的认知。

原因在于，当代NLP技术运用“数据驱动的方法”，因此训练AI理解并使用语言的过程与婴儿学习母语的方法类似，即程序员将数以万计的数据点（如维基百科文章，甚至是一整本书）输入至神经网络。神经网络是一种以人脑神经元结构为模型的、由小型计算单元构成的多层网络，可在几毫秒内将单一数据点与其他数千个数据点关联起来，从而筛选出最佳方案，解决较为复杂的问题。在数据库里，一个单词或者说“标记”（token），平均可以与768个“特征”（feature）——即同义词、后缀、单词和短语等常与该“标记”一起使用的语言成分——互相关联，此时神经网络的优势便一览无余了。

在课后作业中，学生重新设计了支配神经网络的尖端NLP算法，引导网络重新为与标记相关的特

## NLP技术训练AI理解并使用语言的过程与婴儿学习母语的方法类似。

征分配权重，从而针对当前任务进行预测与输出。学生们最终设计的期末项目成果形式多样，如让计算机变身为中国古代诗人，或教它们讲笑话。

修读数据科学与大数据技术（数据科学）、计算机科学与技术（计算机科学）双专业的2022届学生王禹宸说，能将编程技能运用于这一迅速发展的领域



Tam和2022届学生徐嘉程讨论如何更好地将WiFi语音请求解析成NLP神经网络可以理解的“标记”和“特征”

中，他感到激动不已。“修这门课之前，我只知道有关NLP技术的一些应用，但对于该理论本身知之甚少。我很喜欢这门课，它让我们真正学以致用。”

王禹宸在期末项目中，和同届学生黄奕晨搭档，借助非营利AI研究组织OpenAI的CLIP人工神经网络，设计了一个自动生成梗图配字的程序。王禹宸表示，梗图配字是基于更为微妙的图像特征，从细微之处激发诙谐之感，因此给整合NLP和计算机视觉带来了独特挑战。

二人尝试了多种图说生成流程，在不同节点测试生成结果与真实案例的匹配度，调试图说的适配性，从而最大限度地训练AI的能力。

Tam教授表示，看到学生把对NLP技术的热情带到新领域的学习研究中，他感到十分欣慰。“只要能够在课上自己动手编写计算机程序，学生们就已经具备进入行业工作或研究院深造的能力，能够在更广阔的天地里探索NLP技术、开发计算机视觉等与之相关的应用。”



# 城市的今日与明天

## CITY

文 | SARAH BELLEMARE

**纵**观历史，上海一直都走在时代前沿。新旧交融，碰撞出闪亮的火花，点燃了新奇的想法，诞生了新颖的科技，孕育着新式的生活。对于上海纽约大学的学者们来说，上海是探究如何构建和提升城市未来的理想实验室。

上海是全球第三大城市，人口超2400万。据联合国估计，全球城市人口占比将从2018年的55%增至2050年的68%。在城市化进程不断加快的今天，研究上海这样的超大都市样板，对全球数十亿人的未来具有参考价值。

共享公共大数据，攻克清洁能源使用难关，思考大自然对城市的意义，上纽大教师团队密切关注着上海当代都市生活的重要课题，为重新构想城市的未来贡献力量。

### 数据之城

19世纪以来，城市规划大多着眼于城市发展的空间维度。如今，随着城市基础设施数字化程度不断提高，研究人员可以从时间和信息等多维度视角近距离审视都市生活，比如观察某地在客流高峰时段的季节性变化状况，人们在工作日通勤和周末出游时选择的交通方式，抑或是一天内不同时段、不同年龄段城市居民的活动特征。

“上海的一切几乎都是瞬息万变的。信息随时流通，人口不断流动，早晚人口数据也不尽相同，”上纽大城市科学与政策助理教授关成贺如是说，“这将大大影响未来城市的基础设施规划布局，包括道路交通、地铁网络和无人驾驶系统等。”

从城市绿地、住房市场，到就医模式，关教授在他的几项研究中借助城市大数据把握这座城市的脉动。这些城市风貌研究逐步凸显出的城市数据基础设施——这一至关重要却又不为人留意的维度，吸引了他的目光。



关成贺教授

关教授与非营利机构上海长三角商业创新研究院合作，共同制定了“城市数字化转型评价标准体系”，管理各组织和辖区内数据分类、数据所有和数据共享的方式方法。他们还提议建立一个城市研究数据交易平台，将数据定价标准化，并设法让数据点产生的利益惠及数据的制造者——城市居民。这项工作汇集了长江三角洲地区各级

政策制定参与者，以及电子商务、土地管理规划和医疗保健等不同行业的100多名人员为之共同努力。

“如果我从上海到南京，这一出行数据属于上海还是南京？如果通信公司利用个人出行数据制作信息，需不需要支付相应的报酬？”关教授说道，“我们可能需要使用各种各样的数据采集技术和数据结构，确保城市数据交换的公平性，这也是我们正在研究的一些基本问题。”

关教授认为，创建一个更加公平透明的城市公共数据市场，也会助推城市经济增长。“城市数字化转型将促成价值几十亿乃至几万亿美元的产业，”他说，“它将成为支撑城市未来发展的‘新清洁力量’。”

关教授还致力于建设上海纽约大学城市实验室。该研究平台将与公共机构和私营企业密切合作，

“上海的一切几乎都是瞬息万变的。”



将大数据真正运用于社区规划和政策建议之中。

他表示：“我们希望能够以全球视角解决中国在城市发展过程中面临的新挑战，并与世界分享我们建设数字智慧型城市的经验。”

### 新能源汽车梦？

在关成贺教授努力打造城市数据平台的同时，上纽大工程学助理教授陈志斌也在其专业领域探索如何合理运用城市能源。他深入研究新能源汽车驾驶员的驾驶与充电行为，推动上海逐步实现淘汰燃油汽车的目标。该研究是与上海市新能源汽车公共数据采集与监测研究中心的合作项目，研究中首次使用了上海道路上近万辆新能源汽车（含电池动力汽车和插电式混合动力汽车）实时产生的数百万个数据点。



陈志斌教授

“在目前有关电动汽车行驶模式的研究当中，样本规模大多仅限于几百辆电动汽车，这当中还有很多样本是没有电池充电数据的，”陈教授说，“为了制定和完善激励电动汽车购买与使用的政策，我们需要更深入地了解电动汽车的实际驾驶与充电模式。”

2011年，上海成为中国首个电动汽车国际示范城市。随着鼓励购买、使用新能源汽车实施办法的

出台，超过60万辆新能源汽车开始穿梭于城市的大街小巷。陈教授借助数据集，可以仔细观察这些汽车的实际耗能方式、耗能点，乃至充电时的剩余电量。

识别电动汽车真正的运行模式，能够向全球政策制定者展示如何提升新能源汽车技术与基础设施，如何更好地将激励机制与环保目标相融合。这些模式也可以帮助区县、省市乃至国家层面的规划者更好地预测扩大电动汽车使用规模对房价、公共交通结构调整、市政供电等城市生活的方方面面可能产生的连锁反应。

而令人意外的是，陈教授的有些研究发现与先前的假设并不一致。上海的混合动力车行程记录显示，驾驶员使用燃油的比重远高于许多先前研究的估值，这也使预期的减排效果大打折扣。陈教授和上纽大交通运输规划与工程博士生李智还发现，鉴于目前的驾驶和充电习惯，若用电动汽车完全取代燃油动力汽车，上海的发电量还需要提高至少30%。

陈教授表示：“虽然各地电动汽车驾驶员的习惯不同，我们的研究课题和思考方式仍有望给其他国家的学者提供一种思路。”

### 园林城市

十年前，上纽大当代全球媒体助理教授Anna Greenspan来到了上海。那时候的她就在思考，上海这座国际化大都市该如何规划和实现其在21世纪的定位。“上海对于未来的乐观和热忱都令人震撼，我不禁想起它作为国际大都会的过往。”



Anna Greenspan教授

Greenspan教授一直致力于探究中国历史在城市生态中发挥的作用，后者指城市居民、城市基础设施与大自然互动的方式。她与佛教文化访问副教授Francesca Tarocco共同执教了“培育城市”（The Cultivated City）课，带领学生研究古往今来上海居民如何通过中式园林建筑持续塑造城市与自然的关系。

“人文与自然相得益彰，这一原则是中式园林建筑的基础，”Greenspan教授解释道，“这也是我们在当代社会培育城市自然的思路。但从中式园林的角度来看，显然是城市自然在培育人类——它赋予了城市生命，也孕育了城市中的个体。”

“培育城市”课程的学生实地考察了上海老城厢的文庙、矗立着千年古银杏树的泾南公园、苏州河畔的空中花园，以及同济大学的城市农场社区Cloverfield，观察当代上海居民如何把城市空间打造成“依山傍水”的生活社区，为通常基于消费的都市生活另辟备选方式。

这门课结课时，学生要为位于前滩新校区（见第4页）七楼露台的社区绿地提供设计方案。Greenspan教授说，她希望学生不仅能帮助学校建起自己的社区绿地，还能将在这一过程中的观察和实践带到世界各地。



图 | zhangkaiy (Pexels)

### 城市社区与社会凝聚力

2015年至2019年，上纽大社会学教授、御风全球社会科学讲席教授吴晓刚，与应用社会经济研究中心（CASER）的研究人员，同上海大学数据科学与都市研究中心（CENDUS）联合设计并实施了“上海都市社区调查”项目（SUNS）。这是迄今中国关于单一特大城市社会生活和社区治理最大最全面的“个人-家庭-社区”多层次追踪调查，引入了社会凝聚力的测量。2021年，吴教授和CASER研究员曾东林、陈伟结合项目数据和

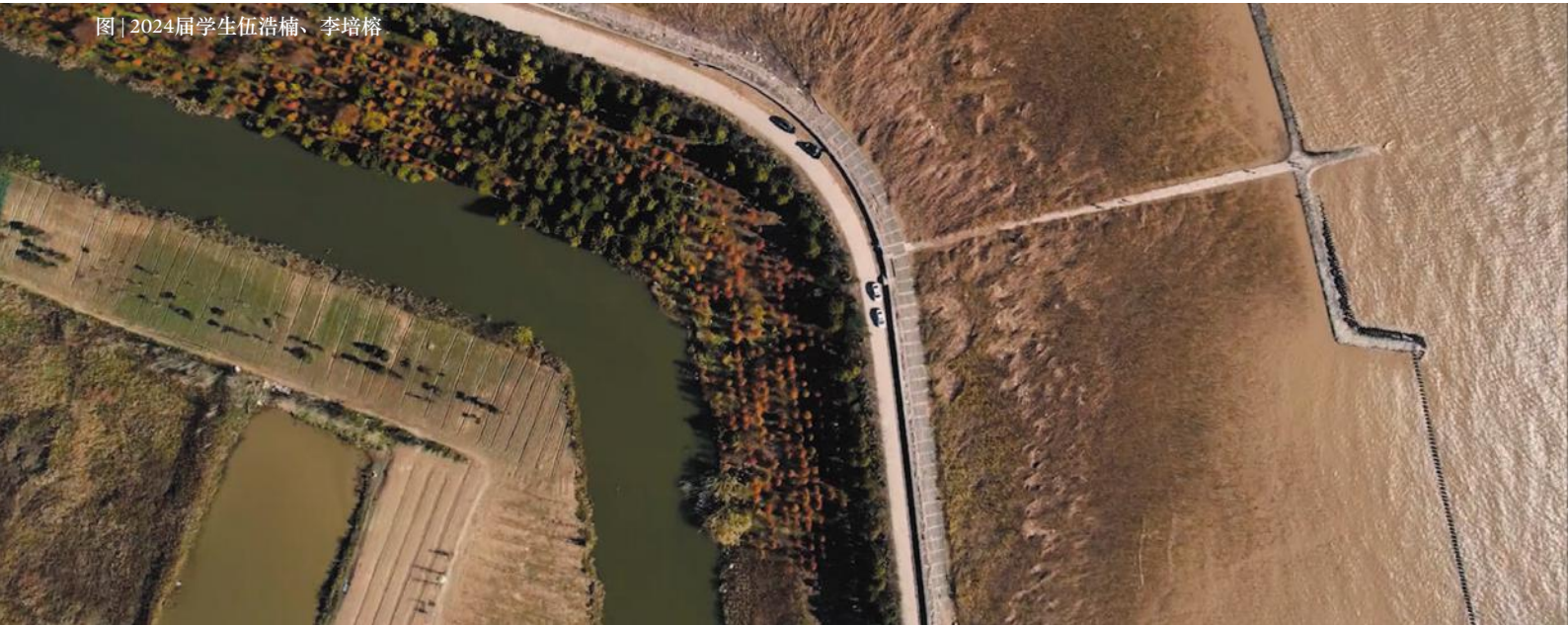


吴晓刚教授

上海市全人口数据，测量外来人口及同乡的居住聚集密度，探究这一指标如何影响他们感知与上海本地居民之间的“社会距离”。研究结果显示，与居住在非聚集社区的外来人口相比，生活在同乡密度高的社区的外来人口，更倾向于认为与上海本地居民之间的社会距离更大。“这些发现有助于从空间维度理解外来人口在城市生活的社会适应性，制定政策，增强社会凝聚力。”吴教授说。

“我的主要教学目标就是让同学们明白，城市本身就富有生命，”Greenspan教授说，“中国的传统园林艺术并没有区分自然与人工，或自然与人文。我们可以利用这个概念思考21世纪的诸多问题和危机。”

图 | 2024届学生伍浩楠、李培榕







# 2021届毕业生：长路漫漫 未来可期

## 上海纽约大学疫后首次举办线下本科生毕业典礼



5月25日，上海纽约大学2021届本科生毕业典礼在上海东方艺术中心举行。这也是自新冠肺炎疫情暴发以来，学校首次举办线下毕业典礼。226名毕业生出席了典礼现场，69名毕业生远程参加线上典礼。通过“就近入学”项目在上纽大就读的101名纽约大学学生也一同参加了线下典礼。

现任国家传染病医学中心主任、上海市新冠肺炎医疗救治专家组组长、复旦大学附属华山医院感染科主任张文宏医生作为演讲嘉宾出席了本次毕业典礼，与学生们分享了自己在这次疫情期间获得的重要人生经验。

“上海纽约大学培养的合作精神与团队精神将会是你们未来战胜一切困难的重要力量，”张文宏说，“人类的未来取决于世界上的年轻人是否最终能够走在一起。”

当天也是童世骏校长首次以校长身份出席上纽大毕业典礼。他提醒同学们，不要只看到现实的动荡，而要专注于未来的可能性。尽管面临重重挑战，2021届毕业生还是给大学四年交上了满意的答卷。选择继续深造的毕业生收到了哈佛大学、牛津大学等名校硕博项目的录取通知，或成功入选学者项目（见第2页）；直接就业的学生斩获了阿里巴巴、腾讯、微软、联合利华等全球知名企业的offer。

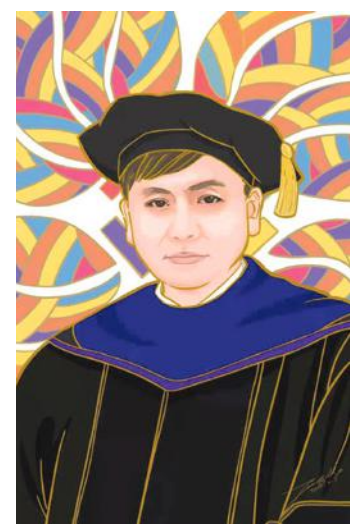
雷蒙校长则敦促同学们重新思考“成功”的定义。他说，“人生的意义和价值不在于迎合别人对于‘成功’的定义……要勇于直面失败。”

来自陕西咸阳的张麒麟和来自澳大利亚悉尼的Taylah Bland代表本届毕业生致辞。两人均对上纽大这个超越文化差异、彼此支持关怀的集体深表感激。“现在……我们逐渐得以理解体谅全球各地的喜怒哀乐，因为曾经只是作为名字存在的远方，现在是上纽大家人的故乡。”张麒麟说。

Taylah在纽约大学悉尼学习中心提前录制了中英文演讲视频。“上海纽约大学为我们提供了一个平台，使我们成为最好的自己。……你们每个人都有能力真正改变未来，抓住机遇，有所作为。”

“合作与牺牲仍然是我们战胜所有困难的武器。……人类的未来取决于世界上的年轻人是否最终能够走在一起。”

张文宏在上纽大2021届本科生毕业典礼上的致辞

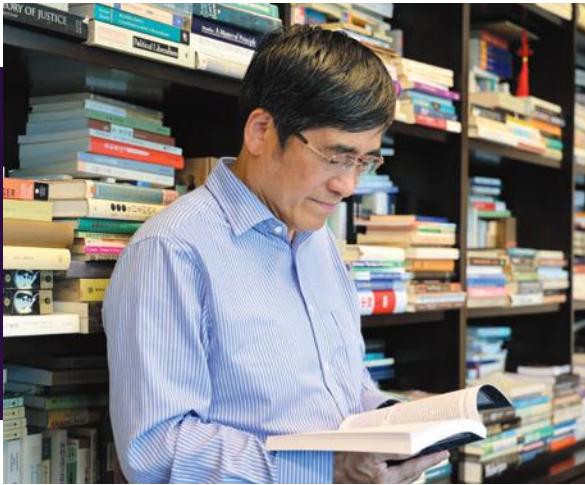


由上至下顺时针：张文宏医生致辞；毕业生在点亮紫罗兰校色的东方明珠前合影留念；上纽大员工马菁所作肖像画，成功说服张文宏担任毕业典礼演讲嘉宾；Sydney Fontalvo、Justin Wang等身处组大其他校园和学习中心的毕业生与亲朋好友共庆毕业；两位校长为毕业生颁发中美两张学位证书；毕业生在东方艺术中心外与家人分享喜悦



童校长的藏书架

十部著作，近十部英文、德文译作……童世骏校长著书多，藏书也多。踏入这位爱书之人的办公室，如入兰芷之室。而论及好书，童校长更有话说。他从办公室的数百部藏书中，略推荐一二，以飨爱书人。



**Extraordinary, Ordinary People: A Memoir of Family**  
《非同寻常：赖斯成长回忆录》  
作者：赖斯（2010）

美国第二任女国务卿赖斯在本书中回忆了自己在美国阿拉巴马州伯明翰度过的童年，讲述了她的家人及当地黑人社区如何面对暴力的种族隔离和歧视，坚持不懈地克服困难、永不退缩。他们通过行动和信念诠释了教育具有改革人心的力量——可以抵挡暴力，跨越仇恨的藩篱，在相互尊重和支持的基础上建立坚不可摧的共同体。

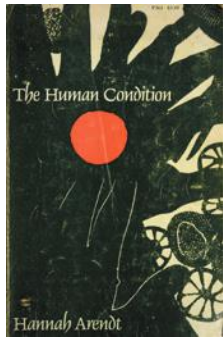
**《何为美好生活》**  
作者：陈嘉映（2015）

无论年龄、背景、经历，“我该如何生活”都是贯穿人一生的问

题。当代中国著名学者陈嘉映教授结合自身经历及对中西哲学的深度思考，对贴近生活的诸多伦理学议题做了鞭辟入里的分析，并期盼“有几个读者能与作者一样，感到诚实的思考实是人生一大乐事”。

**The Human Condition**  
《人的境况》  
作者：Hannah Arendt（1958）

Arendt敦促我们重视人类始终不变的特质，即可以不断创造新的开端，改善因先前行动导致的目前境况。她试图“从我们最崭新的经验和



我们最切近的恐惧出发”，对人类境况予以反思。即便此书写就于上世纪50年代，在仍有许多人“被崭新、未知时代的来临所征服”的现世，这一思考依然具有参考价值。

**Habermas: A Biography**  
《于尔根·哈贝马斯：知识分子与公共生活》  
作者：Stephan Müller-Doohm（中文版译者：刘风）（2014）

如我在为本传记中译本撰写的序言中所言，关于于尔根·哈贝马斯，研究其思想的论著不计其数，介绍其生活的传记也有不少。而这本哈贝马斯传记才是人们久已盼望的那一本。作者深入调研传主的生平轨迹，探索其作为学者和公民的公共角色与私人生活经历的内在联系，详尽介绍了哈贝马斯的哲学理论，及其为建设基于理性和合理公民话语的社会而付诸的努力。

**《2000年以来的西方》**  
作者：刘擎（2021）

那些希望从中国“内部视角”观察西方的人，应该会对政治学家、作家、华东师范大学政治学系教授刘擎的这部综述性著作感兴趣。刘擎呈现并解读了西方知识界中一些最重要的事件，他评估了这些事件与全球社会当前困境和未来的关系，探索了全球范围的世界主义和身份政治之间不断发展的关系。

毕业一年 他成功当选美国州议员

2019届校友 Jackson Sayama

文 | LEIGH JOHNSTON

**刚** 离开上纽大校园不过一年，2019届学生 Jackson Sayama 就走上政坛。年仅23岁的他，成功当选美国夏威夷州的州众议员，成为该州历史上第二年轻，也是现任州众议员中最年轻的一位。Jackson 在大学毕业后回到家乡，原本计划前往夏威夷大学攻读公共管理硕士学位。没想到一次难得的机会意外降临，于是他决心放手一搏，最终成功当选。

是什么促使你竞选公职？你是如何展开竞选活动的？

这些年来，夏威夷当地生活成本不断上涨，就业机会短缺，身边的家人、朋友、邻居都陆续离开了这里。但我爱夏威夷，爱生活在这里的每一个人，真心希望能尽己之力为他们服务，这促使我积极参选。州竞选的成败，取决于你敲开过多少扇门，在烈日下的街头站了多少小时。从1月到8月，我和团队一直全力以赴投入竞选活动。现在一想到有机会为生养我的社区尽绵薄之力，我不禁热血沸腾。

自2020年11月加入州议会以来，你最引以为豪的成就是什么？

我非常自豪能够与同事们合作，帮助夏威夷居民克服新冠疫情带来的种种挑战。我们通过了关键的法案，重新定位了夏威夷未来的经济走向，将大力发展经济，提高本地居民生活水平，推动企业成长。我的团队还帮助众多选民解决了从失业申请到流浪动物救助等各类问题。

在上纽大期间担任学生干部的经历，对你现在的工作有何帮助？

大四时，我当选为学校一学生组织的委员会负责人，负责与40多个社团沟通，与各方建立了良好的合作关系，这一过程令我获益良多。期间我学习运营自己的团队，管理数百名学生和数额庞大的经费，这是提升我领导能力的宝贵经历。

图 | Jackson Sayama





## 2019届校友KRISTEN GLINTON 富布赖特之路

当正在纽约大学读研的2019届校友Kristen Glinton意识到她是20多年来第一位获富布赖特奖学金的巴哈马人时，激动与不安交织在她心头。

“起初，我感到任重道远，重担压肩。但转念一想，其实这与我上纽大的经历并无两样。”Kristen说。她是上纽大的第一位巴哈马学生，入学时距离首届学生毕业还有两年。“上纽大已让我习惯于尝试新鲜事物，成为‘第一人’也不再那么可怕。”

作为上纽大首位获得富布赖特奖学金的非美国籍学生，Kristen在全奖资助下前往纽约大学攻读为期两年的工业与组织心理学硕士项目，目前是在纽约的第二年。

Kristen一直热衷于思考如何将自己在社科领域的所学应用在现实的组织决策中，希望利用心理学的知识改善职场环境。这与她的家族企业成长背景有关。从上纽大毕业后，她先在巴哈马一处度假胜地的人力资源部工作了一年。她惊讶地发现，许多盛行的关于如何支持和激励员工的理论，在实际工作中都行不通。

“尽管我所在的企业在员工体验方面做了许多创新，人们对工作的满意度依然较低，人员流动率相当高。”Kristen说道。



图 | Meshii Nabee

约四分之三的巴哈马人口都在旅游业工作，这让Kristen意识到，提高服务行业员工的工作满意度将给整个国家的经济带来巨大益处。她的经历与思考打动了富布赖特评审委员会。他们相信资助Kristen的研究，也是在投资巴哈马的未来。

在纽约，Kristen分析了互动健身平台派乐腾等公司的案例，并在纽约市卫生部门和医院实习，参与管理两万多名员工，积累了宝贵经验。她还与同学组成团队，研究实时案例并为巴哈马的前雇主提供建议，改善员工的工作体验。

“能够将理论与实践相结合，改善现状、产生影响，这真的很有意义，”Kristen说，“我非常期待找到切实有效的方法来帮助家乡人民。”

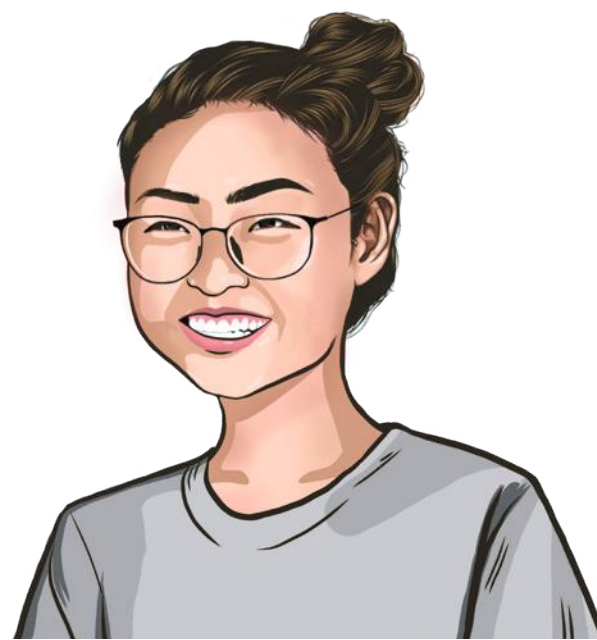


图 | Meshii Nabee

东北姑娘陈梦竹是上纽大2018届学生，大学期间主修数字媒体技术（交互媒体艺术），辅修金融学（商学与金融），毕业后在微软全球第一方设备研发部门担任用户体验工程师。

梦竹与微软结缘于大三那年在纽约校园修读的一门用户体验课。“学校丰富的学术资源与紧密的业界联系，为我们搭建了一个与业界沟通交流的平台。这为我在微软任职打下了基础。”日常工作中，梦竹参与到产品研发的各个环节。在她看来，每项技术和产品都可以成为一种联结，联结不同背景的创新者、生态伙伴和用户。

而上纽大多元的文化环境培养了她的同理心，为她在工作中理解他人、搭建联结奠定了基础。梦竹回

## 2018届校友陈梦竹 从微软到麻省理工

忆道，“在跟同学们交流的过程中，我学会了不随意评判他人，去聆听、沟通、交流，去换位思考。我觉得这不仅是在微软工作的重要品质，也是当今国际形势下亟需的处事态度。”她积极投身科技公益，参与适老化相关设计，为弱势群体提供辅助和关怀。工作之余，她还成为爱彼迎上的“华强北最热门导游”，帮助外国人了解中国硬件生态系统的实况和全貌。

在职场打磨近三年，上纽大在她心中埋下的“start-up”种子催促着梦竹跳出舒适圈。“我觉得上纽大有点像一个创新培养皿——a start-up school，它是school，我是start-up。我很喜欢这种初创的感觉，这也成为了我基因的一部分。现在的我很喜欢‘搞事情’，也很享受从无到有打造新事物的过程。”

2021年秋季，她离开微软，前往美国麻省理工学院攻读联合设计管理硕士学位。秉持着对“科技向善”和“科技赋能”的坚持，梦竹希望将来自己“能做一些商社共行的事”。

欢迎发送邮件至[nyushalumni.shanghai@nyu.edu](mailto:nyushalumni.shanghai@nyu.edu)推荐校友。



马海天（2020届）荣获25,000欧元的阿姆斯特丹优秀学生奖学金，在奖学金的资助下前往阿姆斯特丹大学，攻读动态图像保存与呈现双硕士学位。



Adele Kramber（2020届）获得英国艺术与人文研究理事会（AHRC）合作博士奖，受资助在爱丁堡大学攻读人文地理学博士学位。



刘怡萱（2021届）成为第一位申请并获得美国国际教育协会中美学者项目奖学金的上纽大学生。她利用该资助从事纽约市华人移民的口述历史研究。

陈鸿宾与夏家铭（同为2017届）于毕业当年喜结连理，目前分别在纽约大学和宾夕法尼亚大学攻读数学博士学位。

闫亚元（2017届）与赵紫毫（2018届）于2021年结为连理。闫亚元现就职于碧迪医疗器械有限公司，赵紫毫现效力于国家电子政务系统质量检验检测中心。



**Hometown:** Ridgefield, Connecticut, USA  
**Major:** Interactive Media Arts, Chinese minor

**Sichuan Food 101:** My roommate was from Chongqing, China, and both her mom and Leslie's mom would mail them Sichuan snacks. Leslie would just be in our room like a third roommate, and they'd speak in Sichuan dialect and compare what snacks they got. Leslie's mom even mailed her a homemade spicy sauce so she could cook her family's special recipe for *huiguorou* in the dorms.

**Is my Chinese that bad?** I took Mandarin in high school, but when I got here and heard Leslie and my roommate speaking Sichuanese, I was upset because I couldn't understand a thing! But after all these years, I can now understand and speak some of their dialect. When I went home last year, at a restaurant, I overheard a mother using the dialect with her kids. I asked her if she was from Sichuan, and we started talking. It was wild!

**She's my number one fan:** I play for the women's soccer team, and Leslie came to every game that she didn't need to miss a class for. Even Saturday night games, or during finals week, in the rain—she'd always come cheer me on.

**家乡:** 美国康涅狄格州里奇菲尔德  
**专业:** 数字媒体技术 (交互媒体艺术), 辅修中文

**川菜入门:** 我的室友是重庆人, 她和思嘉的妈妈常会寄来一些川味小吃。思嘉常常待在我们房间里, 说着四川话, 和我室友比较彼此收到的小吃, 如同我们的又一位室友。思嘉妈妈还曾给我的室友寄来自制豆瓣酱, 好让她在宿舍自己做回锅肉。

**我的中文真的这么差吗:** 高中时我学过普通话, 但刚来上海, 听见思嘉和我室友说四川话, 我十分沮丧, 因为我一句也听不懂! 不过三年下来, 我已经能听懂一些四川话了, 甚至还能说上几句。去年回美国, 在家乡的一家餐馆, 我的耳边

传来熟悉的四川方言——一位母亲在和她的孩子聊天。我便上前问她是不是四川人, 我们就这样攀谈起来。太不可思议了!

**她是我的头号粉丝:** 我是校女足队队员。不管是周六晚上、期末考试周, 还是刮风下雨天, 只要思嘉没有课, 她一定会来看我比赛, 为我加油打气。

Back when they were first-year students who had just moved into the same floor of the Jinqiao Residence Hall, **Sarah Armstrong '22** and **Leslie Huang Sijia '22** would often run into each other at night on the way to raid the fridge. Over the years, they've traveled together, celebrated birthdays, and when the COVID-19 pandemic kept them an ocean apart, they stayed connected with routine online game nights in between online classes.

By Charlotte San Juan

**家乡:** 四川成都  
**专业:** 世界史 (社会科学), 心理学方向

**我爱我的家乡:** 成都有熊猫, 有美食。认识Sarah的第一天起, 我就想邀请她来家乡玩。终于盼到她来成都做客。我带她去了我们一家人常去的水饺店。没想到之后新冠疫情暴发, 水饺店关了门, Sarah成了最后一批来这里吃饭的客人之一。

**周五游戏夜:** 因疫情不能相聚的我们会打开Zoom聊会儿天, 然后一连玩两个小时游戏。虽身处两地, 但我们感觉仍在一起。我最喜欢的游戏叫“Meme Your Friends”, 这是给朋友做表情包 (meme) 的游戏, 我们两人交换照片, 然后用对方的照片做表情包。

**以说四川话为荣:** Sarah的“交互实验室”课程的期末项目和濒危汉语方言有关, 于是她向我求助。我想起自己上过的一门课——“语言与力量” (Language and Power), 这门课让我意识到自己很难用普通话和人争论。每次情绪一激动, 我就会自动切换到方言。所以Sarah做了一个表情包, 上面写着: “普通话, 真有这门语言吗?”

大一入学, 2022届学生Sarah Armstrong和黄思嘉入住金桥宿舍的同一层楼, 二人常常在晚上奔向冰箱的时候撞见。回首往事, 如今已成为大四学生的她们常把当年的偶遇称为“缘分”。三年来, 她们一同旅行, 一同为彼此庆生。即便新冠疫情将两位挚友分隔在大洋两岸, 她们仍保持联系, 利用网课间隙视频聊天, 或定期共度网游之夜。

**Hometown:** Chengdu, Sichuan Province, China  
**Major:** Social Science, psychology track

**I really love my hometown:** It has pandas, good food, and I wanted Sarah to visit it from the first day we met. When she finally came to Chengdu, I took her to my family's favorite local dumpling shop. Sadly, when the pandemic happened, that place closed down, so Sarah was one of the last visitors to eat there.

**During remote learning, we had Friday Game Nights:** We logged onto Zoom, talked for a bit, and played games for about two hours to feel like we were still at school. One of our favorite games was “Meme Your Friends,” where we swapped photos of ourselves to make memes of each other.

**I became more proud of speaking Sichuanese** when Sarah asked me for help on her Interaction Lab final project on disappearing dialects in China. I reflected on a course I was taking called Language and Power, which made me realize that I cannot argue with other people in Mandarin. Every time I get emotional, I switch to my dialect. That's the story behind the meme Sarah made about me that says: “Mandarin, is this an actual language?”

文 | Charlotte San Juan



# NYU SHANGHAI

MAGAZINE

Spring 2022

## The Now and Future City

What contemporary  
Shanghai can teach us about  
urban living and building  
better cities



For and about the  
NYU Shanghai community



**ABOUT**  
Founded in 2012, NYU Shanghai is China's first Sino-U.S. research university and the third degree-granting campus of the NYU Global Network. Our student body consists of nearly 2,000 undergraduate and graduate students from China, the United States, and some 70 other countries. Our faculty, recruited from the world's top research universities, are leaders and innovators in their fields.

**ON THE COVER:**  
Photo by Charles Bingaman '24, manipulation of 360° view of Shanghai from near Gucheng Park and Renmin Lu Tunnel.

**ON THIS PAGE:**  
Photos by Kevin Yao Kecen '24 and faculty member Promethee Spathis.

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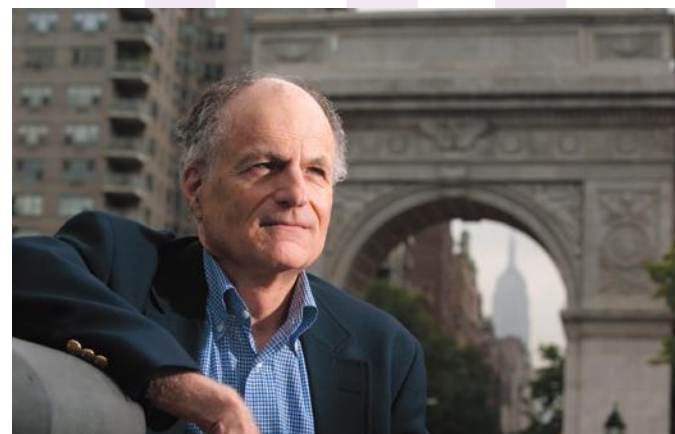
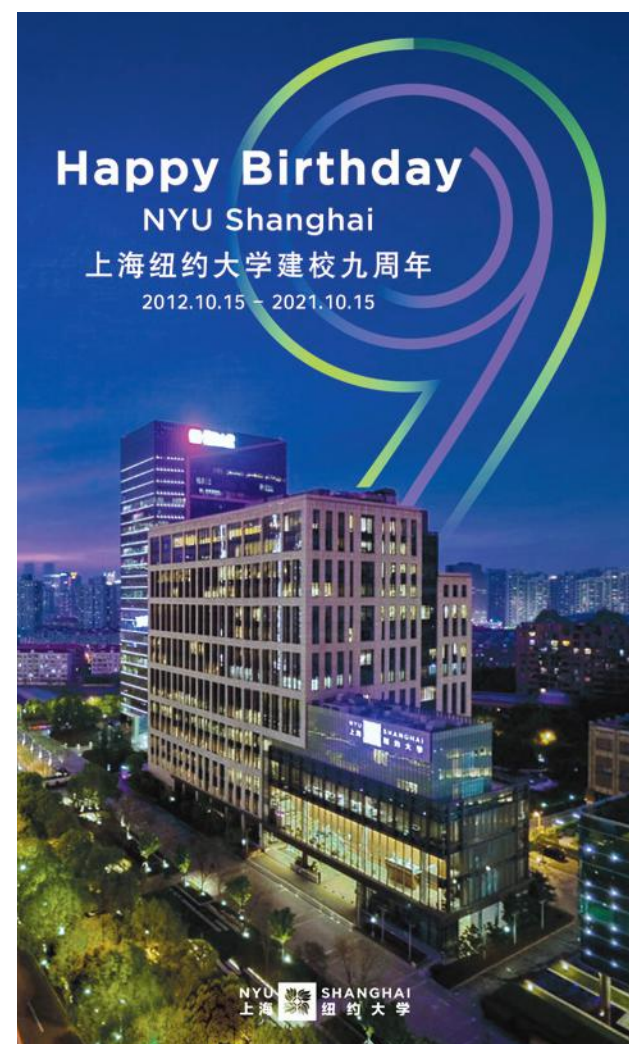
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## CELEBRATING NINE YEARS, COUNTING DOWN TO 10!

NYU Shanghai officially kicked off a yearlong countdown to its 10th anniversary as the first Sino-U.S. joint research university in October 2021 with a service and learning trip to Chongming Island and a conference on Sino-foreign cooperative higher education, jointly hosted with sister institution East China Normal University (ECNU), which celebrated its 70th anniversary in the same month.

In the nine years since its founding, NYU Shanghai has transformed from a “start-up” into a thriving research university with nearly 2,000 undergraduates and several hundred graduate students. Throughout the coming year, community members can contribute to a logo design contest, a campus memory exhibition, and numerous events leading up to the 10th anniversary gala celebration in October 2022.



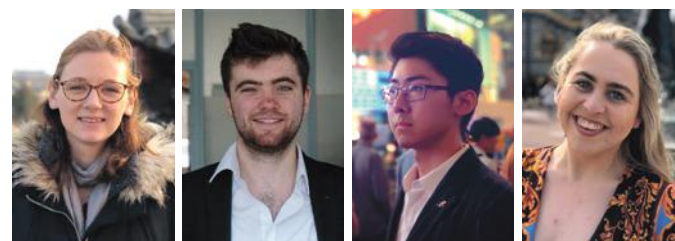
## NOBEL LAUREATE JOINS MATHEMATICS INSTITUTE

2011 Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences laureate **Thomas J. Sargent** joined NYU Shanghai in fall 2021 as an affiliated faculty member and member of the NYU-ECNU Institute of Mathematical Sciences at NYU Shanghai. Sargent will work closely with institute members on mathematical finance research, namely the application of mean field game theory to gauge the impact of strategic decision-making by individual interacting agents within very large populations. Sargent will also take a leading role in the Zhangjiang Quantitative Finance Research Center, part of a new strategic partnership between NYU Shanghai and Shanghai-based enterprises Fintech Dataport and Nisi Data Science.

## GRADS WIN TOP CHINA FELLOWSHIPS

**Sarah Brooker '21** and **James Bromley '18** were named Yenching Scholars at Peking University, receiving full scholarships to pursue interdisciplinary master's degrees in China Studies at Yenching Academy.

**Alex Liu Zhengyuan '21** and **Taylah Bland '21** were named Schwarzman Scholars and were awarded full scholarships to pursue master's degrees in Global Affairs at Tsinghua University's Schwarzman College.

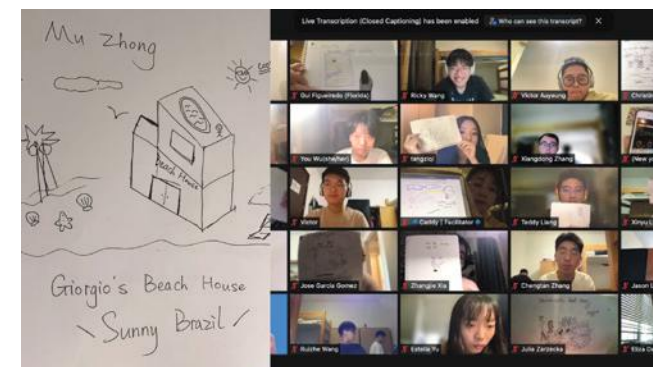


Left to right: Sarah Brooker '21, James Bromley '18, Alex Liu Zhengyuan '21, Taylah Bland '21

## THE CLASS OF 2025 UNITES ONLINE

NYU Shanghai welcomed some 507 new students on August 23, including 257 students from the United States and more than 40 countries who began their studies remotely, either from home or from other NYU Global Network campuses. On September 14, students also shared a joint online viewing of the annual “Reality Show,” which received a special introduction from Chinese Ambassador to the United States Qin Gang. Although the Class of 2025 remained geographically divided throughout the fall, first-year students were united by the all-online course Design Your NYU Shanghai, led by Associate Arts Professor Emily Tsiang.

Tsiang and 30 upper-class and staff facilitators led students in reflections that re-created the cross-cultural bonding fostered by a fully on-campus experience in Shanghai. “The smaller breakout rooms are definitely my favorite part of the class, because every time we meet new people from different parts of the world,” said Zhong Mu '25 from Shanghai. “It’s amazing to see how people are living on the same planet, but how our living habits, our past experiences, our cultures are so diverse and so different from one another.”



Zhong Mu '25 shares her drawing of the childhood memories of her partner, Giorgio Zuccarelli '25 of Brazil.

## IN BRIEF

**NYU Shanghai launched the Lizhong Achievement Award, a 1-million-RMB full scholarship** for academically outstanding incoming Chinese students, in April 2021. Named for Founding Chancellor Emeritus Yu Lizhong, the award will cover the full cost of tuition, housing, and meals at NYU Shanghai across four years of study.

## Vice Chancellor Jeff Lehman was named an honorary Shanghai citizen

by the Shanghai Municipal People's Congress in September 2021. Lehman first arrived in the city in 2012 to serve as NYU Shanghai's Founding Vice Chancellor. “Shanghai has become my home, a city that I truly love,” Lehman said. “I see this award as a recognition of the work that NYU Shanghai has done to strengthen our city's ties to outstanding higher education—around China and around the world.”



**Over 2,100 students, faculty, and staff received COVID-19 vaccinations on campus in 2021.** The university's Department of

Public Safety worked closely with the Pudong Health Commission and medical staff from Shanghai East Hospital, Pudong Health Care Hospital for Women and Children, and Weifang Community Health Center to offer five clinics throughout the year.

**NYU Shanghai's Center for Global Asia (CGA) received a second three-year grant from the Henry Luce Foundation** to continue its interdisciplinary research and education initiative, “Port City Environments in Global Asia.” The \$450,000 grant will be shared among NYU Global Network campuses in New York, Abu Dhabi, and Shanghai, bringing together research in the humanities, social sciences, and environmental studies.



# Qiantan

## CAMPUS UPDATE



### SNEAK PEEK

Designed by international award-winning architects Kohn Pedersen Fox (KPF), the campus is composed of four interlinked structures surrounding a 4,200-square-meter courtyard reminiscent of both traditional university quads and Chinese scholar's gardens. *Renderings courtesy of KPF.*



The university's new 114,000-square-meter campus in Pudong's Qiantan neighborhood is speeding toward completion as interior finishing and glass exterior wall installation got underway in fall.

"The past year has been very challenging for the entire world. But for all of us at NYU Shanghai, one of the true bright spots has been the construction of the new campus at Qiantan," Vice Chancellor Jeffrey Lehman said in a brief ceremony at the construction site in March 2021, when workers secured the final beam in the structure's ten-story steel frame.

Despite a nearly three-month work stoppage due to the pandemic in early 2020, construction is on track for a summer 2022 move-in date. Some 138 workers stayed on the job throughout the 2021 Spring Festival holiday to keep the project on schedule.

"Our new campus is allowing us to expand and build on the spaces that we have been lacking," said Dean of Students David Pe. "Our gymnasium, quad, performance arts spaces, and the lecture hall that can seat the entire class of students are just a few things that get all of us excited. We can imagine our place in this city for decades to come."

*Preparing to install exterior cladding to the steel and concrete frame.*  
*Photo: Kenney Zhu*

### TWO NEW JOINT MS PROGRAMS LAUNCHED WITH NYU STERN

On July 8, NYU Shanghai and NYU Stern School of Business announced the inauguration of two one-year Master of Science programs in Organization Management & Strategy and Marketing & Retail Science, giving students the opportunity to build cutting-edge skills and connections in both New York and Shanghai.

Slated to enroll their first classes in June 2022, both programs offer 12 months of full-time study, starting with summer at NYU Stern, followed by fall, winter, and spring at NYU Shanghai.

The MS in Organization Management & Strategy hones students' ability to lead in an increasingly interconnected global business world with a focus on design thinking, negotiation skills, and strategy. The MS in Marketing & Retail Science will help students harness the forces of big data, machine learning, and artificial intelligence that are disrupting marketing today.

"With industry-leading scholars at the helm, these programs are designed to prepare students to anticipate, harness, and lead change—the essential skills that employers are demanding from the next generation of talent," said Dean of NYU Stern Raghu Sundaram.

### FIRST Ph.D. AWARDED



Sean Welleck became NYU Shanghai's first Ph.D. graduate in January 2021. Welleck, who received his doctoral degree in Computer Science, is now a postdoctoral researcher in artificial intelligence and machine learning at the University of Washington. NYU

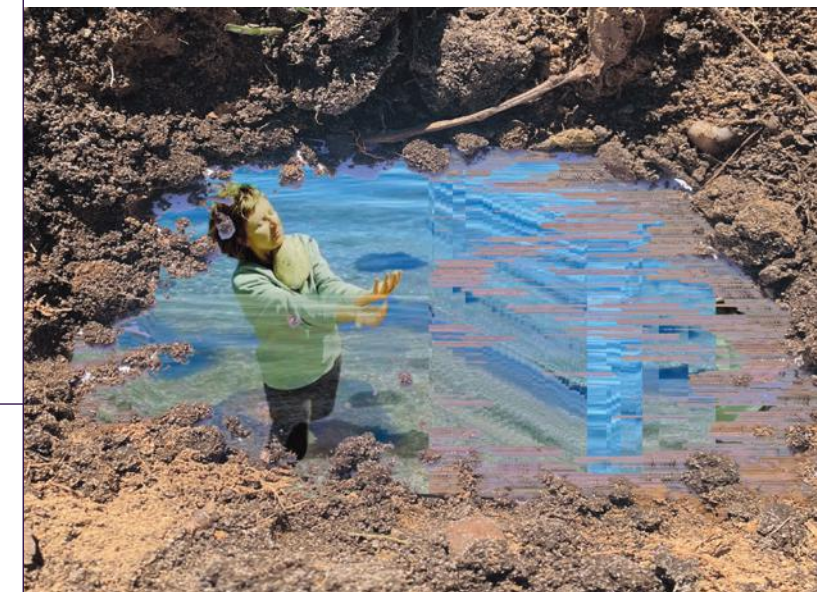
Shanghai currently supports nearly 40 students pursuing doctoral studies in 11 disciplines, from data science to neural science to sociology.

For more information on Graduate and Advanced Education at NYU Shanghai, visit [shanghai.nyu.edu/graduate](https://shanghai.nyu.edu/graduate).

### IMA CELEBRATES FIRST MASTER'S GRADS

On July 2, NYU Shanghai graduated its first class from the Interactive Media Arts (IMA) Global Low Residency Master of Arts program (Low Res), a collaboration with the Interactive Telecommunications Program (ITP) at NYU's Tisch School of the Arts. Thirty graduates from seven countries and regions celebrated with faculty in an online salute, signing on from Seattle to Kathmandu to Shenzhen. Graduates brought together diverse professional backgrounds and newly acquired skills to address topics ranging from the mindfulness craze, to the sourcing of local news, to escaping our algorithm-induced filter bubbles.

*Below: Detail of "Mama, Soil, and Spirit" by IMA Low Res graduate Maria Maciak, M.A. '21.*



### CONGRATS, CLASSES OF 2021!

NYU Shanghai held its second-ever and first in-person Master's Convocation on May 30 to celebrate the graduation of 105 advanced degree candidates from the NYU Shanghai-NYU Stern joint master's programs in Data Analytics & Business Computing (MSDABC) and in Quantitative Finance (MSQF), and from NYU Shanghai-NYU Steinhardt joint master's program in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL).



# SNAPSHOT

1. Original designs by students in Associate Arts Professor of Interactive Media Arts Stavros Didakis's Media Architecture class lit up the Shanghai skyline's Sinar Mas Plaza throughout Spring 2021.
2. Liu Yixuan '21 and Clara Luehrs '22 celebrated as the Qilin women took home their second Shanghai soccer title in three years in a rain-drenched 6-0 victory against Tongji University on May 26.
3. Vice Chancellor Jeffrey Lehman (center) celebrated the 50th anniversary of U.S.-China "Ping Pong Diplomacy" in April in the company of ping pong world champions Liu Guoliang (far left) and Liang Geliang (far right), as well as basketball legends Yao Ming and Stephon Marbury.  
*Photo: Chinanews.com*
4. Pulitzer Prize winner Paul Salopek started the China leg of his 15-year global Out of Eden Walk in Yunnan Province in September. He plans to walk portions of his trek with NYU Shanghai students.  
*Photo courtesy of Paul Salopek.*
5. Language Lecturer of Chinese Gu Beilei taught students about the Chinese approach to time and historical change with help from a 1,000-year-old ginkgo tree.
6. A cappella arrived at NYU Shanghai on a tropical breeze, as the new Chamber Singers group filmed a Shanghai homage to the Havana vibes of Jay Chou's pop hit "Mojito" in June.
7. Some 40 Shanghai-based migrant youth joined the Office for Community Engaged Learning's first NYU Shanghai College and Career Lab this summer to learn about self-expression, teamwork, and career pathways.





## PHYSICS

### TUNING QUANTUM MATERIALS

Assistant Professor of Physics **Chen Hanghui** and co-authors—including NYU Shanghai-ECNU Joint Graduate Training Program Ph.D. candidate **Liu Zhiwei** and NYU Shanghai undergraduate **Liu Hongquan '23**—used theoretical calculations to demonstrate how epitaxial strain can tune the electronic and magnetic properties of quantum material  $\text{SrRuO}_3$ . They found that Berry curvature is the key parameter to control those physical properties. The discovery provides an effective tuning knob to tailor a wide range of quantum materials.

### IMBALANCE AIDS IN UPHILL CLIMB

A group of NYU Shanghai and NYU scientists, including NYU Shanghai Professor of Physics and Mathematics **Jun Zhang**, have uncovered how heavy, motorized objects climb steep slopes in liquid by leveraging their density imbalance. Their discovery has implications in engineering and medicine, particularly in the development of more efficient drug-delivery mechanisms. *Image courtesy of Jun Zhang, NYU's Courant Institute, and NYU's Department of Physics.*

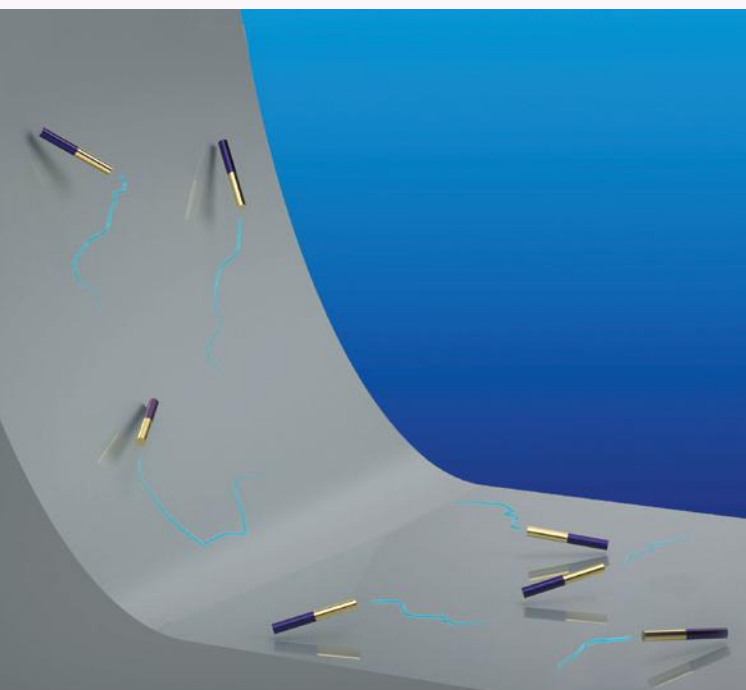


Illustration by Chen Qi.

## BUSINESS & MARKETING

### THE LONELIEST NUMBERS

In a series of seven studies, Associate Professor of Marketing **Yan Dengfeng** and Jaideep Sangupta of the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology uncovered that consumers perceive divisible numbers as more connected, and thus less lonely than indivisible numbers. Their findings, published in the *Journal of Consumer Research*, also show that when consumers feel lonely, they are more likely to choose products or brands associated with divisible numbers, providing critical insights for marketers.

## PUBLIC HEALTH

### PERCEIVED SUPPORT STOPS STRESS

In a study featured in the *Journal of Psychiatric Research*, Professor of Global Public Health **Brian J. Hall** and collaborators in China and the United States determined that perceived social support can protect post-traumatic stress sufferers from long-term psychological difficulties. The group's three-stage longitudinal study of Chinese young adults following Typhoon Hato also found that continuing psychological problems often led study subjects to perceive social support as lower. The study is one of the first to outline the direction of the relationship between perceived social support, post-traumatic stress, and continuing psychological distress.

## PSYCHOLOGY

### HOW DO CHINESE FATHERS SHOW LOVE?

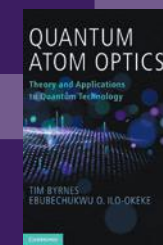
Chinese fathers have long been portrayed in media and existing scholarship as inexpressive disciplinarians. But is this truly the case among today's Chinese parents? Through interviews with parents and children, Assistant Professor of Psychology **Li Xuan** found that contemporary Chinese fathers are very willing to display paternal love toward their children, often through physical affection and instrumental support—behaviors such as planning family leisure activities, helping children with schoolwork, or preparing their children's favorite foods. Her findings suggest that parenting scholarship should move beyond a focus on verbal expressions of love to better understand parental warmth across sociocultural boundaries.



iStock.com/Kiwis

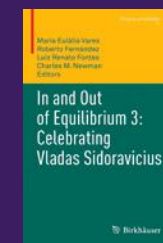
For more on these projects and research at NYU Shanghai, visit [research.shanghai.nyu.edu](https://research.shanghai.nyu.edu)

## BOOKSHELF



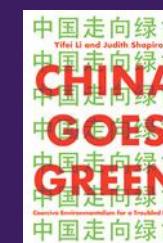
**Quantum Atom Optics: Theory and Applications to Quantum Technology**  
Cambridge University Press, 2021

Assistant Professor of Physics **Tim Byrnes** and Postdoctoral Fellow **Ebubechukwu Ilo-Okeke** present the underlying theory, key techniques, and latest developments in the rapidly growing field of quantum technology, including original research by the authors.



**In and Out of Equilibrium 3: Celebrating Vlasov Sidoravicius**  
Birkhäuser, Springer, 2021

In this volume of 33 papers co-edited by Professor of Practice in Mathematics **Roberto Fernández**, co-authors of the late NYU Shanghai Professor of Mathematics **Vlasov Sidoravicius** celebrate the mathematician's contributions to the development of probability and statistical physics.



**China Goes Green: Coercive Environmentalism for a Troubled Planet**  
Polity, 2020

In meticulously researched case studies from urban water quality reporting to reforestation, Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies

**Yifei Li** and co-author Judith Shapiro of American University look closely at the promises and risks of China's use of decisive, centralized state power to achieve environmental ends.



**Beyond Pan-Asianism: Connecting China and India, 1840s-1960s**  
Oxford University Press, 2020

This volume co-edited by Professor of History **Tansen Sen** attempts to answer the question of how China-Indian connectedness in the modern period should be narrated by examining the complex interactions between China and India throughout the development of multiple anti-colonial movements and the entrenchment of the nation-state system.



# Stories in the Structures

## Zuo Lala Examines Cultural Exchange, Past and Present

BY SARAH BELLEMARE

**“...How the built environment has played a role in history—especially across regions and across cultures—is really fascinating to me.”**

For Associate Professor of Art History Zuo Lala, joining NYU Shanghai's faculty in Fall 2020 was a homecoming in many ways. Not only was she returning to her hometown, she was also coming back to the country whose architecture she had spent the better part of 20 years re-searching.

Shanghai is an exciting place to explore how architecture can express changes in social structure, cultural interaction, and identity, Zuo says. We recently joined Zuo for a visit to Shanghai's Yu Garden, where she shared insights about her journey as an architectural historian.

**You grew up in Shanghai, but you spent most of the last 15 years living in the United States. How has Shanghai changed in that time, and how have those changes impacted you as a scholar?**

When I finally came back and re-established my life here, I found that the city is really a new city to me. When I was in high school, there were only two subway lines, but now there are almost 20! It feels like I can go to any part of the city really, really fast. So in a way, things are also getting smaller and people are getting closer.

The changes in the city through demolishing and rebuilding old neighborhoods and old buildings have brought up a lot of issues for architectural historians. My grandparents' house just got *chai*, demolished, very recently, and I visited their neighborhood for the last time in February. It's really emotional to see those old neighborhoods and streets, and then imagine they're going to be gone in a few months.

There's always a debate: What should we preserve, and what can we rebuild? As historians, I think we cannot just look at actual buildings or actual city planning—we should also look into people's feelings and people's memory. That has made my study of architectural history more complicated, I think.

**There seems to be more and more interest in historic preservation in contemporary China. Why do you think that is the case?**

Younger generations are trying to find new identities, new ideas about who they are and who they will be in 21st-century China. So I think

historic preservation is about seeking your own identities and your future directions. It's also a global issue: How do we deal with our past?

Architecture is something we see every day. You live in architecture—it's just something that surrounds us. But we may have never thought about why a building has been built a certain way. The stories of the people behind the buildings, and how the built environment has played a role in history—especially across regions and across cultures—are really fascinating to me. In my classes, I ask my students to observe the form of the space and the philosophy of power behind the arrangement of the space.

**Your research has spanned 13th-century China, the 19th- and 20th-century United States, and World War II-era Japan. What common thread ties these projects together?**

All of my research projects examine architecture as a way for people from different cultures to communicate. My current project is on Chinese architecture and gardens built in the U.S., places like the Lan Su Chinese Garden in Portland, Oregon, or the Chinese Tea House at Marble House in Newport, Rhode Island. I became interested in how architecture can be localized in a different culture. So in studying these “Chinese” spaces in the U.S., I'm examining the cultural interplay between architecture and people—how the identities of the people who built and used these structures changed over time, and how concerns about what is “authentic” changed, too.

**What do you enjoy most about teaching and research at NYU Shanghai?**

In my East Asian Studies PhD cohort at the University of Pennsylvania, I got a chance to meet students from all over the world, and they studied Japanese art history, Korean Buddhism, literature... I realized these were all really beneficial for my studies on art and architectural history. We also have that kind of environment here, in NYU Shanghai's Global China Studies program. So the most attractive thing about NYU Shanghai is that there is so little barrier between disciplines here. I would advise students to try to learn about something you have never heard of before, and you never know what will turn out to work for you. So stay curious, and explore the unknown world!

ILLUSTRATION BY ZUO LALA



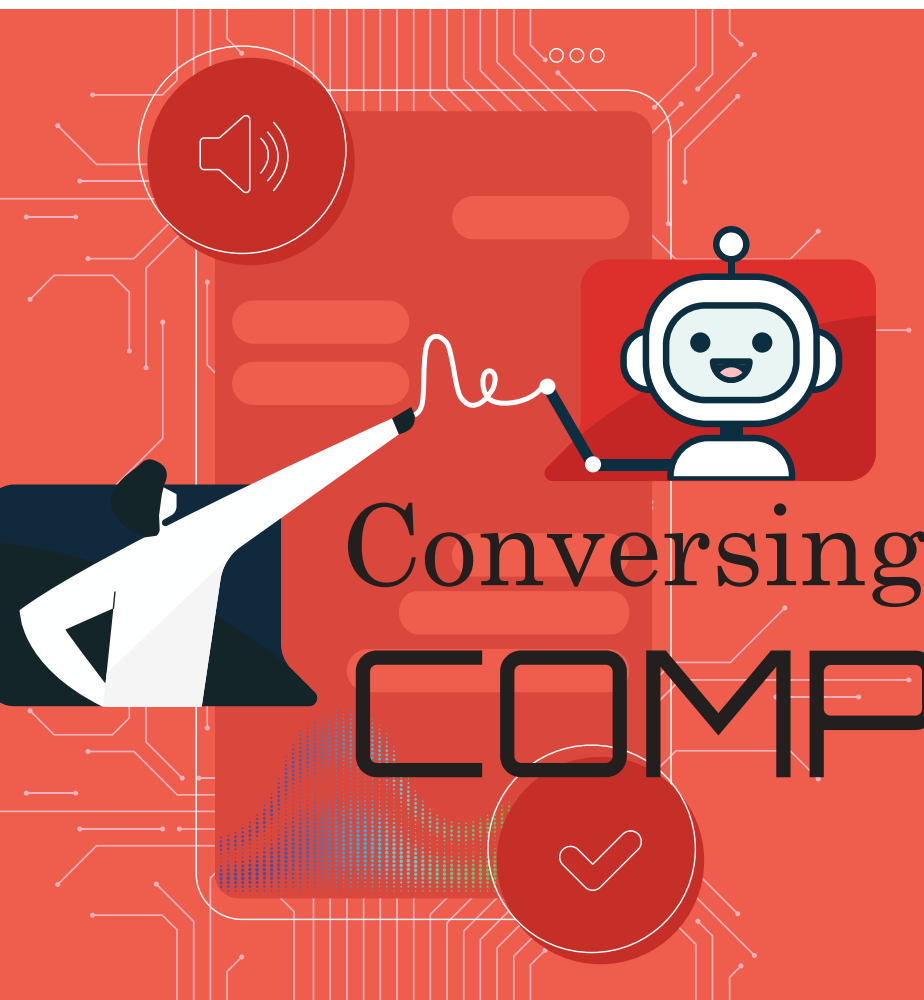


Illustration by Chen Qi.

BY SARAH BELLEMARE

# Conversing With Your COMPUTER

CSCI-SHU 376  
Natural Language  
Processing

For most people who watched the Disney animated movie *Big Hero 6*, having a kind and empathetic robot companion like the character Baymax to teach and support you seems like straight-up science fiction. But for NYU Shanghai Professor of Practice in Computer Science Wilson Tam Yik-Cheung (and now many of his undergraduate students), creating a Baymax to help every person around the globe is well within the realm of possibility.

The key is getting artificial intelligence (AI) to communicate with us by understanding, responding to, and producing real human language (aka “natural language”), a feat that Tam and his students are working toward in his class, CSCI-SHU 376 Natural Language Processing.

Natural language processing (NLP) is making tech more accessible and useful in our everyday lives, driving applications such as voice-activated personal assistants, customer service help bots, machine translation, voice-to-text, and even music

generation. In Tam’s course, NYU Shanghai students build on foundational skills from prior coursework in machine learning, probability, and statistics to refine and apply the state-of-the-art AI algorithms that power language-based services like Google Translate, Amazon Echo, and Apple’s Siri.

Tam first began working with NLP during his graduate studies. “I was fascinated to see so many applications developed using language technologies and applied to our daily life,” he says. Tam worked for Microsoft to help develop their personal assistant Cortana before joining Tencent, where he helped develop several AI dialogue systems. When he’s not teaching or advising students on NLP-based research projects, Tam is working on an NLP-based mental health support AI. “Often people who need help are isolated, ... so this robot can listen to them, keep track of their problems, and try to find an answer that can help them and comfort them,” Tam says.

As a Hong Kong native, Tam is fluent in English, Cantonese, and Mandarin Chinese, and in the course of his research and professional experience, he has learned a lot about other languages, including Arabic and French. But surprisingly, Tam says that cutting-edge NLP research doesn’t require programmers to have extensive knowledge of each language their AI is working with.

That’s because contemporary NLP uses a “data-driven approach,” which trains AI to understand and use language in much the same way that human babies learn to talk. NLP researchers feed billions of data points (including Wikipedia articles and even whole books) into “neural networks,” multi-layered webs of small computing units modeled after the structure of human neurons. These networks can sift out more insightful answers to complex questions by relating single data points to thousands of others in milliseconds. That’s a huge advantage when a single word, or “token,” can be linked to an average of 768 “features”—linguistic elements ranging from synonyms, to suffixes, to phrases in which the token often appears.

In each assignment, Tam’s students re-craft the NLP algorithms that govern their neural networks, directing the networks to rebalance the weight

NLP trains AI to understand and use language in much the same way that human babies learn to talk.

of particular features to generate language that fits the task at hand. Their final course projects have ranged from turning computers into Classical Chinese poets to teaching them the basics of crafting a joke.

Wang Yuchen ’22, a double major in Data Science and Computer Science, says he was excited to put his programming skills to the test in this rapidly emerging field. “Before taking this course, I knew some applications of NLP technology, ... but I



Victor Xu Jiacheng ’22 and Tam discuss how best to parse a voice request about Wifi availability into “tokens” and “features” that NLP neural networks can comprehend.

knew little about its theory. I loved how the course projects let us apply what we learned and get our hands dirty through practice.”

For their final project, Wang and his partner William Huang ’22 built their own meme caption generating program with help from OpenAI’s neural network CLIP. According to Wang, meme generation poses a unique challenge to integrating NLP and computer vision, since humorous meme captions often draw upon subtle aspects of an image instead of an image’s most salient object.

Wang and Huang tested several processes, carefully honing the AI’s abilities by introducing tests of a caption’s suitability at various points in the generation process while matching them to different sets of real-world examples.

Tam says he is excited to see students taking a passion for NLP in new directions. “Once students have started building their own computer programs in this class, they will be ready to go into industry or graduate study, where there are a lot of opportunities to develop NLP technologies and related applications,” Tam says.





THE NOW AND

# FUTURE CITY

BY SARAH BELLEMARE

**T**hroughout much of its history, Shanghai has been a city with one foot firmly set in the future, a metropolis where the friction of old against new sparks a host of daringly novel ideas, technologies, and ways of life. And for the many NYU Shanghai faculty trying to figure out how we can build better future cities, Shanghai is an ideal living laboratory.

With a population of over 24 million, Shanghai is the third-largest city in a world that is becoming ever more urbanized. The United Nations estimates that the world's urban population will grow from 55 percent of the total global population in 2018 to 68 percent in 2050, meaning that megacities like Shanghai increasingly serve as models for billions of people's futures.

From public big data sharing, to breaking down barriers to clean energy adoption, to re-envisioning nature's role in the city, here are just a few of the ways that NYU Shanghai faculty are looking closely at real contemporary life in Shanghai to imagine the cities of tomorrow.

## CITIES OF DATA

For centuries, urban planning focused on the spatial dimensions of city development. But with the digitization of all kinds of urban infrastructure, planners and urban researchers can now look closely at the temporal dimensions of urban life—things such as seasonal variations in peak usage hours for a space, the mode of transportation weekday vs. weekend visitors use to reach an area, or how the age of visitors varies over the course of a day.

Photo: Promethee Spathis

“Almost nothing in the city is static. Information is constantly flowing and changing, and people are always moving—even the daytime and nighttime populations of Shanghai are different,” says Assistant Professor of Urban Science and Policy Guan ChengHe. “That has a lot to do with how we can plan future urban infrastructure like road systems, or how to lay out a metro system.”

In several studies, Guan has sifted through big data to find the rhythms of Shanghai's urban green spaces, its housing markets, and even its hospital access patterns. But his investigations increasingly pulled him toward a key dimension of the urban landscape that—although it isn't visible—is crucial to contemporary urban planning and development: the urban digital infrastructure that governs and transmits big data.



Guan ChengHe

Guan has partnered with the NGO Shanghai Yangtze River Delta Business Innovation Research Institute to devise “digital transformation standards” that govern how urban big data is classified, owned, and shared across organizations and jurisdictions. They also propose a data trading platform that standardizes data pricing and finds ways to share

profits with the urban residents who are actually creating these highly sought-after data points. Their work has brought together over 100 collaborators from policymakers, to planners, to e-commerce giants, to regular city dwellers throughout the Yangtze River Delta region.

“If I travel from Shanghai to Nanjing to talk to my colleagues there, should this travel pattern data belong to Shanghai or to Nanjing? And when my cell phone company uses my travel data to create information, should they give me the money they make from that information?” Guan says. “We need to use a lot of data collection and processing techniques and different data structures to make sure we exchange this data fairly, so these are some of the foundational ideas we are working on.”

Creating a more equitable and transparent public data market can also become the powerhouse of urban economic growth, Guan argues. “Urban data is going to be a multi-billion- or even multi-trillion-dollar industry,” he says. “It will become the ‘renewable energy’ to support future sustainable urban growth.”



“ALMOST NOTHING  
IN THE CITY IS STATIC.”

Photo: Promethee Spathis



Guan is also working on the launch of the NYU Shanghai Urban Lab, a research platform that will work closely with the Science and Technology Commission of Shanghai Municipality, public agencies, and private enterprises to turn big data into real community plans and policy recommendations.

“We hope to be able to tackle China’s new urban challenges from a global perspective and share our experience in building digital smart cities with the world,” Guan says.

## ELECTRIC DREAMS?

Guan’s efforts to open urban data platforms have a direct positive impact on researchers like Assistant Professor of Engineering Chen Zhibin, who is delving deep into the habits and patterns of real-life electric vehicle drivers to help Shanghai realize its dream of phasing out fossil fuel-powered vehicles. Chen’s study in collaboration with the Shanghai



Chen Zhibin

Electric Vehicle Public Data Collecting, Monitoring and Research Center is one of the first to use millions of real-time data points from nearly 10,000 electric vehicles (including both battery-powered vehicles and plug-in hybrids, or PHEVs), traversing Shanghai’s streets. “Most existing studies focusing on electric vehicles’ behavior patterns have a sample size limited to only a few hundred electric vehicles, and most of them don’t even have battery state-of-charge data,” Chen says. “To improve policies that support the use of electric vehicles in many countries, we need a better understanding about the driving and charging patterns of actual electric vehicles.”

Shanghai became China’s first electric vehicle adoption pilot zone in 2011, and the city’s preferential license registration policies and charging subsidies for electric vehicles and PHEVs have helped put over 600,000 new energy vehicles on the city’s roadways. Chen’s dataset allows him to look closely at how these vehicles actually consume energy, where they consumed that energy, and even how much charge remains in a vehicle’s battery when the driver decides to charge it.

Identifying real patterns in the way electric vehicles operate shows policymakers around the world how to improve electric vehicle tech and infrastructure, and how to better align incentivization policies with environmental goals. Those patterns can also help city, regional, and even national-level planners better predict the ripple effects that expanded electric vehicle use will have on urban life—from real estate prices, to public transport restructuring, to municipal power supply.

Chen’s study also found surprising facts that challenge prior assumptions about electric vehicles. PHEVs in Shanghai run on gasoline power for a much higher proportion of traveled distance than many previous studies have estimated, often cutting their expected emissions reductions in half. Chen and fellow researcher Li Zhi, a transportation planning and engineering Ph.D. candidate at NYU Shanghai, also found that given current driving and charging habits, replacing all gas-powered vehicles in the city with electric vehicles would require Shanghai to increase its electricity generation capacity by a minimum of 30 percent.

“Although electric vehicle drivers may have very different behaviors in different regions, the kinds of questions we are trying to answer in our study and

the way that we think about these questions can hopefully provide some guidance for scholars in different countries,” Chen says.

## GARDEN METROPOLIS

When she arrived in Shanghai over a decade ago, Assistant Professor of Contemporary Global Media Anna Greenspan was captivated by how Shanghai’s former role as a globalized metropolis suffused the city’s ideas about what kind of 21st-century city it should become, and how to do it. “I was struck by this incredible embrace of optimistic futurism that harkened back to Shanghai’s own cosmopolitan past,” she says.



Anna Greenspan

Greenspan has been looking closely at how China’s past is playing a role in urban ecology—the way in which urban residents and the city’s infrastructure use and interact with nonhuman species.

In “The Cultivated City,” a class co-taught with Visiting Associate Professor of Buddhist Cultures Francesca Tarocco, Greenspan is leading students in investigating how past and present practice of the Chinese garden tradition continues to shape Shanghai’s relationship with nature.

“Chinese gardening practice is built on principles of using human culture to enhance the beauty and meaning of nature, and vice versa,” Greenspan explains. “In many contemporary societies, there’s this idea that we cultivate an urban nature. But if we think about this from the perspective of the Chinese garden, it’s clear that urban nature actually cultivates us—cultivates both the life of the city as a living organism and cultivates human actors in the city.”

Through field trips to Shanghai’s Confucian Temple, a park built around a 1,000-year-old ginkgo tree, Suzhou Creek-area rooftop garden The Peace Place, and Tongji University’s urban farming cooperative Cloverfield, students in “The Cultivated City” examine how contemporary Shanghai residents are adapting urban spaces into sites where “nature” forms a nexus of community life and opens up alternatives to the extractive, consumption-based lifestyles often associated with city living.

The class culminates in developing proposals for a community-use green space to be located on the 7th floor terrace of NYU Shanghai’s new Qiantan campus (see p.4). Greenspan says she hopes her



Photo: Zhang Kaiyv via Pexels

## COHESIVE COMMUNITIES

From 2015 to 2019, Yufeng Global Professor of Social Science Wu Xiaogang and researchers now at NYU Shanghai’s Center for Applied Social and Economic Research (CASER) collaborated with scholars at Shanghai University to design and implement the Shanghai Urban Neighborhoods Survey (SUNS), the most comprehensive household panel survey on life and community governance in a single Chinese metropolitan area. In 2021, Wu and fellow researchers Zeng Donglin and Chen Wei used SUNS data to capture how migrants’ residential proximity to others



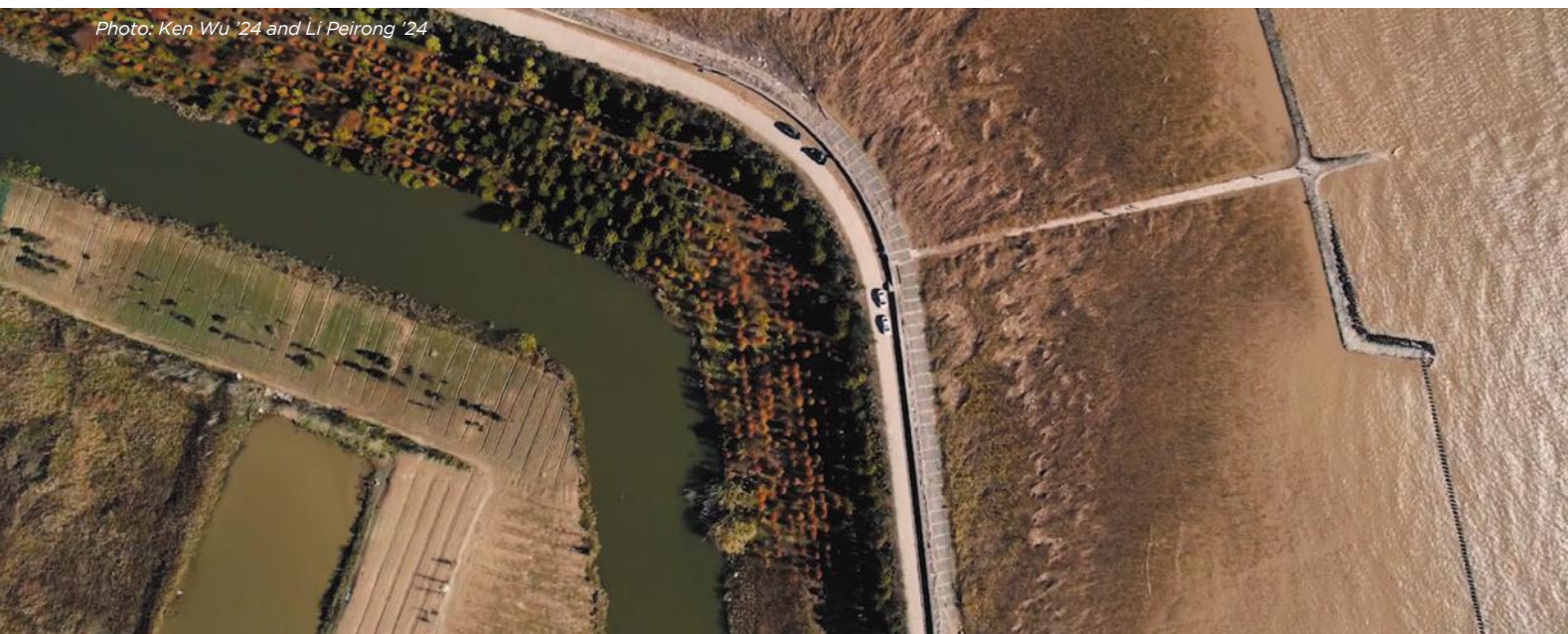
Wu Xiaogang

from their home province affected perceived “social distance” from Shanghai natives. The team’s results showed that migrants living among high concentrations of others from their home province often perceived a greater social distance from Shanghai natives than migrants living in “non-segregated” neighborhoods. “These findings contribute to understanding the spatial dimensions of migrants’ assimilation into urban life,” says Wu. Wu and CASER aim to bring these and other findings to public agencies and NGOs to inform policymaking that promotes all urban residents’ well-being.

students will not only help the university build its own community-cultivating green space, but also carry the practices and ideas they have observed into communities around the globe.

“One of my main goals for the students is simply for them to understand that the city itself is alive. The Chinese gardening tradition doesn’t draw distinctions between the natural and the artificial, or between humans and nature,” Greenspan says. “We can mobilize that concept to reconsider many of the crises of the 21st century.”

Photo: Ken Wu '24 and Li Peirong '24







# The Class of 2021

LIVE AND IN PERSON

**“Cooperation and sacrifice are still our weapons to overcome all difficulties. ...The future of humans depends on whether the young people of the world can finally come together.”**

*Dr. Zhang Wenhong at NYU Shanghai 2021 Commencement*



**NYU SHANGHAI** celebrated the Class of 2021 on May 25 in the university’s first in-person commencement since the start of the pandemic. 226 graduates processed across the Shanghai Oriental Art Center stage, while 69 graduates joined the livestreamed ceremony remotely. 101 members of NYU’s Class of 2021 participating in the “Go Local” program also took part in the ceremony.

Commencement Speaker Dr. Zhang Wenhong, head of the advisory group that has successfully led Shanghai’s COVID-19 response, imparted lessons he learned from managing the pandemic.



“The spirit of cooperation and teamwork cultivated by NYU Shanghai will become the fundamental power for you to overcome all difficulties in the future,” he said. “The future of humans depends on whether the young people of the world can finally come together.”

The ceremony was a first for Chancellor Tong Shijun, who reminded students to focus not on the tribulations of the moment, but on what is possible. The Class of 2021 thrived despite the pandemic, earning admission to top graduate schools such as Harvard and Oxford, prestigious fellowships (see p.2), and employment at companies including Alipay, Tencent, Microsoft, and Unilever.

Vice Chancellor Jeffrey Lehman exhorted students to be thoughtful about success: “Flourishing has never been about meeting someone else’s definition of ‘success’ ... [R]ecognize that to flourish, you must deal well with your own failures.”

Student speakers Lancelot Zhang Qilin ’21 of Xianyang, Shaanxi Province and Taylah Bland ’21 of Sydney, Australia thanked their classmates for broadening worldviews and supporting each other. “Now ... [w]e relate to the vulnerabilities and determinations from around the world, because places that were once only a name are now the homes of our family members,” Zhang said.

“NYU Shanghai has given us all a platform to be the best version of ourselves that we could be,” said Bland, who delivered her address remotely from NYU Sydney, in both English and Chinese. “Each of you has the power to truly transform the future, take the opportunities that are presented to you, and make a difference.”



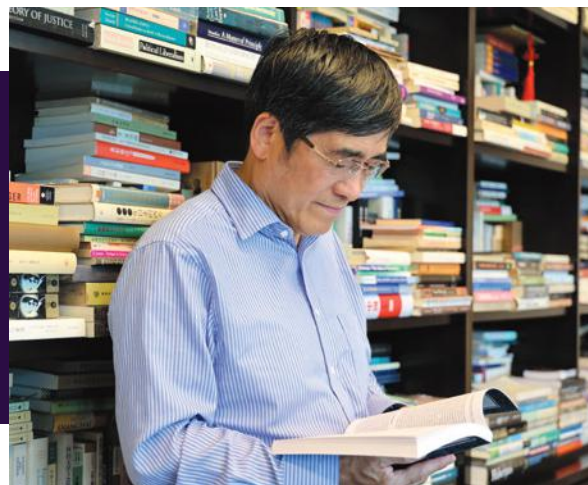
*Clockwise from top: Dr. Zhang Wenhong delivers the keynote address; Celebrating at the violet-lit Oriental Pearl Tower; NYU Shanghai staff member Chloe Ma’s portrait of Zhang Wenhong convinced the doctor to serve as commencement speaker; Students studying remotely, including Sydney Fontalvo ’21 and Justin Wang ’21, celebrated with family and friends around the world; The chancellors present each graduate with dual diplomas; Graduates celebrate with family outside the Oriental Art Center.*

*Top to bottom: Students process in their robes down Century Avenue to the Oriental Art Center; Student speaker Taylah Bland ’21 celebrates with family at NYU Sydney; Vice Chancellor Lehman and Chancellor Tong deliver the welcome address; Student speaker Lancelot Zhang Qilin ’21*



## WHAT I'M READING

With 10 original books to his name and several Chinese translations from English and German under his belt, Chancellor Tong Shijun knows a thing or two about good books. Here, he recommends a few favorite titles from among the hundreds of books that line his office shelves.



### Extraordinary, Ordinary People: A Memoir of Family

by Condoleezza Rice (2010)

Condoleezza Rice, U. S. Secretary of State from 2005 to 2009, tells the story of how her family and her Black community in Birmingham, Alabama faced and persevered through violent racial segregation and discrimination. Their experiences and ideals show us the transformative power of education to resist violence, to transcend the barriers of hatred among people, and to build strong communities based on mutual respect and support.

### 何为美好生活 (What Is a Life as Well-Being?)

By Chen Jiaying (2015)

No matter our age, background, or personal experience, one question endures throughout our lives: "How should I live?" Chen Jiaying draws upon his deep knowledge of both Chinese and Western philosophy (he has translated key works by

Heidegger and Wittgenstein into Chinese) and reflections from his own life as a contemporary Chinese individual to offer practicable principles and insights for readers who, like the author, feel that "honest reflection is one of life's great pleasures."

### The Human Condition

by Hannah Arendt (1958)

Arendt asks us to value that which always remains constant in our human capabilities: our ability to act in order to create new beginnings, to improve the state of affairs brought about by previous actions. Although Arendt wrote this book many years ago, her attempt to reach a "reconsideration of the human condition from the vantage point



of our newest experiences and our most recent fears" is still quite relevant to our current situation, where many of us continue to find ourselves "overcome by the advent of a new and yet unknown age."

### Habermas: A Biography

By Stephan Müller-Doohm, translated into English by Daniel Steuer (2014/2016)

There have been countless articles written about Jürgen Habermas's ideas, and others have written biographies of him before. But as I noted in the preface I wrote to the Chinese translation of this book, Müller-Doohm's investigation of Habermas' development as both an individual and as Germany's pre-eminent public intellectual has been long awaited. This book is an excellent introduction to Habermas's philosophy and his personal endeavors to build a society based on rational and reasonable civil discourse.

### 2000年以来的西方 (The Intellectual World of the West Since 2000)

By Liu Qing (2021)

Those interested in understanding the West from a Chinese perspective will be intrigued to read this retrospective by political scientist and political philosopher Liu Qing. Liu highlights and interprets some of the most salient events in intellectual life in the West, assessing these events' relationship to global societal dilemmas between cosmopolitanism and identity politics.

## VOTE FOR JACKSON:

Jackson Sayama '19 Elected to Hawai'i State House

BY LEIGH JOHNSTON

When Jackson Sayama '19 returned to his home state of Hawai'i in the United States after graduation, his plan was to earn a Master of Public Administration degree while doing outreach to the homeless. But when the opportunity arose to run for a seat in the Hawai'i State House of Representatives, Sayama knew he had to take this once-in-a-lifetime chance. Sayama won the election in November 2020, becoming the first NYU Shanghai graduate to be elected to public office.

### What was your campaign like, and what inspired you to run for office?

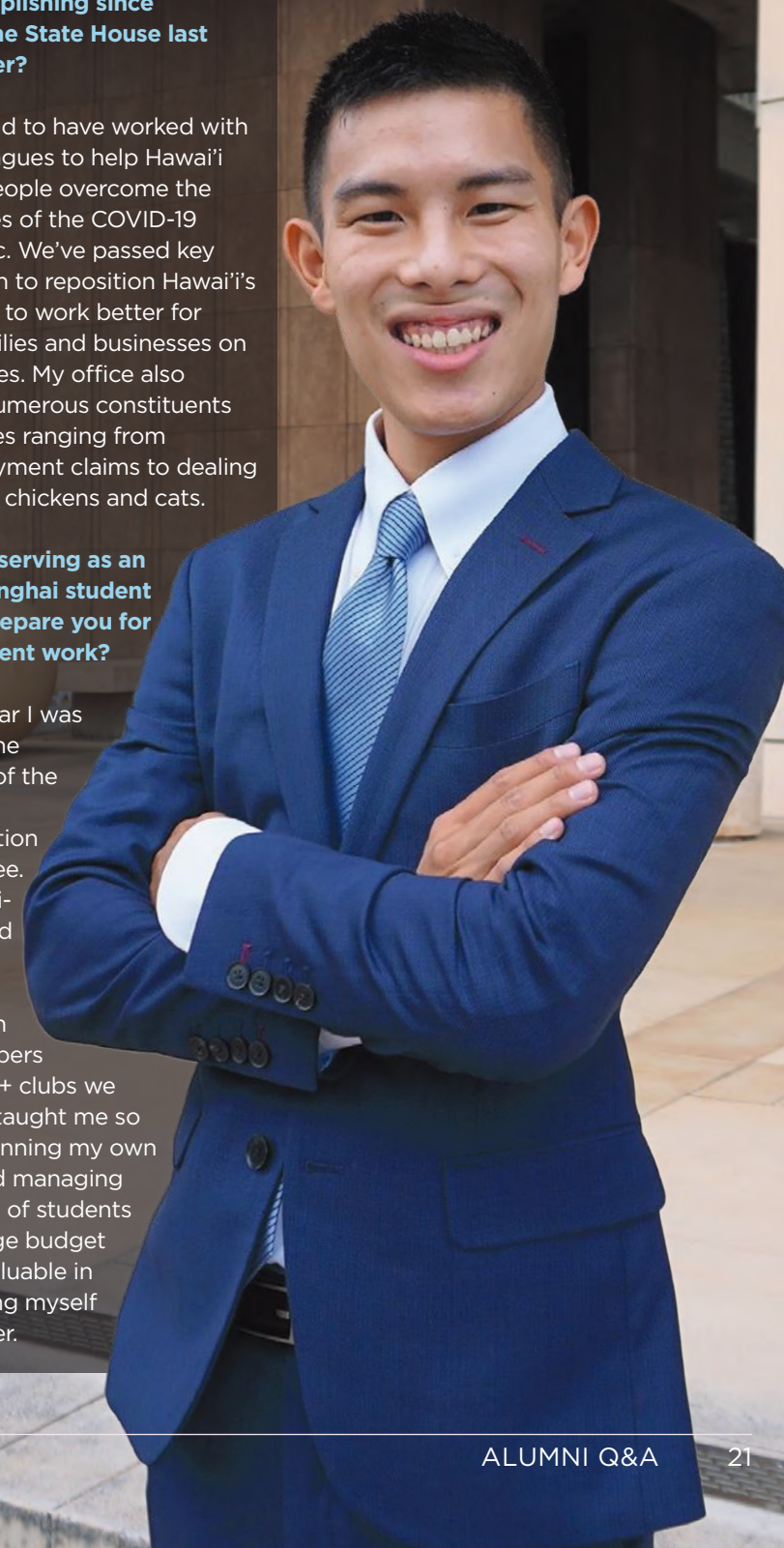
Hawai'i campaigning is about how many doors you can knock on and how many hours you can stand in the sun waving at cars. My team and I worked so hard from January to August. Now, it's really exciting to think about what I can do to make a difference in the community that I was born and raised in. For years I've been seeing my family, friends, and neighbors leaving Hawai'i because of the rising cost of living and not enough opportunities. That was really my foundation for running for office. I love Hawai'i, I love the people here, and I wanted to serve them.

### What are you most proud of accomplishing since joining the State House last November?

I am proud to have worked with my colleagues to help Hawai'i and its people overcome the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. We've passed key legislation to reposition Hawai'i's economy to work better for local families and businesses on daily issues. My office also helped numerous constituents with issues ranging from unemployment claims to dealing with feral chickens and cats.

### How did serving as an NYU Shanghai student leader prepare you for your current work?

Senior year I was elected the Director of the Student Organization Committee. Communicating and building relationships with the members of the 40+ clubs we oversaw taught me so much. Running my own team, and managing hundreds of students and a large budget were invaluable in developing myself as a leader.





## PIONEERING HER WAY TO A FULBRIGHT

### KRISTEN GLINTON '19

When Kristen Ginton '19, NYU M.A. '22 learned she had been selected as the Bahamas' first recipient of a Fulbright Foreign Student Program scholarship (funded by the United States Department of State) in more than 20 years, she felt a familiar mix of excitement and uncertainty.

"That's a big responsibility. It's almost like the success of the whole program is riding on you. But it's similar to what we did at NYU Shanghai," said Ginton, who was the first Bahamian student to enroll at NYU Shanghai, arriving almost two years before the university granted degrees to its first graduating class.

"The time I spent at NYU Shanghai made it easier to take that chance with something else, and now being the first is definitely no longer as scary," she said.

Now, as NYU Shanghai's first non-U.S. recipient of a Fulbright scholarship, Ginton is one year into a fully-funded two-year Master of Arts in Industrial and Organizational Psychology at NYU's campus in New York, pursuing her dream of using psychology to make workplaces better.

Ginton, who grew up in a family business, had long been interested in applying ideas from her Social Science coursework to running real-life organizations. After graduating from NYU Shanghai, she spent a year working in human resources at one of the Bahamas' largest resorts, where she was surprised to find that many prevailing ideas about motivating employees weren't working.



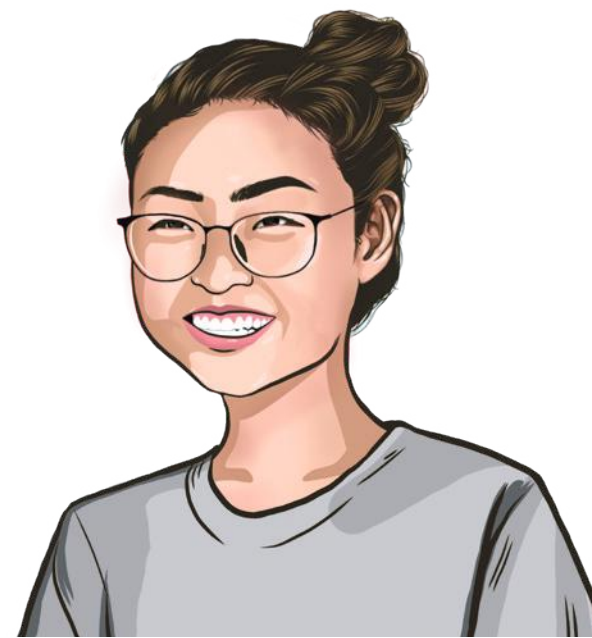
Illustrations by Meshii Nobee

"People didn't really feel fulfilled in their jobs, and there was high turnover, despite the fact that the company I was working for was pretty innovative in terms of the employee experience," Ginton said.

With roughly three-quarters of the Bahamas' population employed in the tourism industry, Ginton realized that increasing hospitality workers' job satisfaction could have a major impact on her country's economy. Armed with her experience, she convinced the Fulbright committee that funding her studies would be a sound investment in Bahamians' future.

In New York, Ginton is already gaining valuable experience, doing case studies of ongoing issues at companies such as Peloton and interning at New York City Health and Hospitals, where she helps manage over 20,000 employees.

"It's really cool doing things that can actually have an impact, and seeing how theory and practice come together," Ginton said. "I'm excited to figure out real ways to help people at home."



As a User Experience Engineer at Microsoft, Katie Chen Mengzhu '18 found that the success of the products she worked with depended on how well they fostered connections—between innovators of different backgrounds, between partners from a variety of fields and industries, and between the company and its users.

To build products that made those connections stronger, Chen says she relied on the empathy and cross-cultural communication skills that NYU Shanghai's diverse environment nurtured in her, both in and out of the classroom.

"In the process of communicating with my classmates, I learned about our unconscious biases, how to listen respectfully, to connect, to communicate, and how to put myself in someone else's shoes," Chen said. "This is not only a really important quality in my work at Microsoft, this is an attitude and approach that is urgently needed in today's globalized world."

## CONNECTING EMPATHY AND ENGINEERING

### KATIE CHEN MENGZHU '18

Chen, who majored in Interactive Media Arts with a minor in Business and Finance, devoted much of her work to inclusive and boundary-free accessible design, such as ensuring that navigation apps include 360° photos that show curbs and street crossings, allowing users with mobility issues to plan accessible routes. In her view, everyone's abilities will change as they grow older, and we all go through periods where we are in some way "disabled." Many of the accessible design features Chen worked on not only help those living with permanent disability, but also provide all users with assistance when their abilities are limited by illness, injury, or aging.

Now, after three years in the workforce, Chen says that the "start-up" seed NYU Shanghai planted in her heart spurred her to jump out of her comfort zone again. This fall, she began a master's program in Integrated Design Management at MIT. The program brings together design, engineering, and management, striking the same chord of interdisciplinarity that Chen says has become a "keynote" in her life since she arrived at NYU Shanghai.

"I hope that in the future I can do something that is both commercially successful and beneficial to society, whether that means working for myself or for others," Chen says.

Know an alum whose story deserves the spotlight? Write to us at [nyushalumni.shanghai@nyu.edu](mailto:nyushalumni.shanghai@nyu.edu)



**Ma Haitian '20** received a €25,000 Amsterdam Merit Scholarship from the University of Amsterdam to pursue a dual Master of Arts in Preservation and Presentation of the Moving Image.



**Adele Kramber '20** was awarded a Collaborative Doctoral Partnership sponsored by the United Kingdom's Arts and Humanities Research Council to pursue a PhD in Human Geography at the University of Edinburgh.



**Liu Yixuan '21** received a China-U.S. Scholars Program Scholarship from the Institute of International Education (IIE) to fund independent oral history research on Chinese immigrants in New York City.

**Chen Hongbin '17** and **Xia Jiamin '17** married in 2017. Chen and Xia are pursuing Ph.D.s in Mathematics at NYU and the University of Pennsylvania, respectively.

**Alan Yan Yayuan '17** and **Sherry Zhao Zihao '18** married in 2021. Yan works for medical tech company Becton, Dickinson and Co., and Zhao works for China's State Information Center.



**Hometown:** Ridgefield, Connecticut, USA  
**Major:** Interactive Media Arts, Chinese minor

**Sichuan Food 101:** My roommate was from Chongqing, China, and both her mom and Leslie's mom would mail them Sichuan snacks. Leslie would just be in our room like a third roommate, and they'd speak in Sichuan dialect and compare what snacks they got. Leslie's mom even mailed her a homemade spicy sauce so she could cook her family's special recipe for *huiguorou* in the dorms.

**Is my Chinese that bad?** I took Mandarin in high school, but when I got here and heard Leslie and my roommate speaking Sichuanese, I was upset because I couldn't understand a thing! But after all these years, I can now understand and speak some of their dialect. When I went home last year, at a restaurant, I overheard a mother using the dialect with her kids. I asked her if she was from Sichuan, and we started talking. It was wild!

**She's my number one fan:** I play for the women's soccer team, and Leslie came to every game that she didn't need to miss a class for. Even Saturday night games, or during finals week, in the rain—she'd always come cheer me on.

**家乡:** 美国康涅狄格州里奇菲尔德  
**主修:** 交互媒体艺术 (IMA), 辅修中文

**川菜入门:** 我的室友是重庆人, 她和思嘉的妈妈都会寄来一些川味小吃。思嘉常常待在我们房间里, 说着四川话, 和我室友比较彼此收到的小吃, 如同我们的又一位室友。思嘉妈妈还曾给我的重庆室友寄来自制豆瓣酱, 好让她在宿舍自己做回锅肉。大二时, 思嘉邀请我去成都过春节。我最喜欢吃的就是煮水饺, 甜甜的水饺风味十足, 配上辣酱更加美味。

**我的中文真的这么差吗:** 高中时我学过普通话, 但刚来上海时, 听见思嘉和我室友说四川话, 我十分沮丧, 因为我一句也听不懂! 不过三年下来, 我已经能听懂一些四川话了, 甚至还能说上几句。去年回美国, 在家乡的一家餐馆, 我的耳边传来熟悉的四川方言——一位母亲在和她的孩子聊天。我便上前问她是不是四川人, 我们就这样攀谈起来。太不可思议了!

**她是我的头号粉丝:** 我是校女足队员。不管是周六晚上、期末考试周, 还是刮风下雨天, 只要思嘉没有课, 她一定会来看我比赛, 为我加油打气。

Back when they were first-year students who had just moved into the same floor of the Jinqiao Residence Hall, **Sarah Armstrong '22** and **Leslie Huang Sijia '22** would often run into each other at night on the way to raid the fridge. Over the years, they've traveled together, celebrated birthdays, and when the COVID-19 pandemic kept them an ocean apart, they stayed connected with routine online game nights in between online classes.

**家乡:** 四川成都  
**主修:** 世界史 (社会科学), 心理学方向

**我爱我的家乡:** 成都有熊猫, 有美食, 从认识Sarah的第一天起, 我就想邀请她来家乡玩。终于盼到了她来成都的那天, 我带她去了我们一家人常去的水饺店。遗憾的是, 疫情到来后, 这家店就关了, Sarah成了关店前的最后几名食客。她离开成都之前, 我们互相道别, “两周后上海见!”没想到新冠疫情暴发, 她不得不回美国。

**周五游戏夜:** 因疫情不能相聚的我们会打开Zoom聊会儿天, 然后一连玩两个小时游戏。虽身处两地, 但我们感觉仍在一起。我最喜欢的是给朋友做表情包 (meme) 的游戏——我们两人交换彼此的照片, 然后用对方的照片来做表情包。

**我越来越以说四川话为荣:** Sarah的“交互实验室”课程的期末项目和濒危的汉语方言有关。当她向我求助时, 我想起自己上过的一门叫“语言与力量” (Language and Power) 的课。这门课让我意识到自己很难用普通话和人争论。每次情绪一激动, 我就会切换到四川话。这就是为什么Sarah做了这张表情包: “普通话, 真有这门语言吗?”

大一入学, 2022届学生Sarah Armstrong和黄思嘉入住金桥宿舍的同一层楼, 二人常常在晚上奔向冰箱的时候撞见。回首往事, 如今已成为大四学生的她们常把当年的偶遇称为“缘分”。三年来, 她们一同旅行, 为彼此庆生。即便新冠疫情将两位挚友分隔在大洋两岸, 她们仍保持联系, 利用网课间隙视频聊天, 或定期共度网游之夜。

**Hometown:** Chengdu, Sichuan Province, China  
**Major:** Social Science, Psychology track

**I really love my hometown:** It has pandas, good food, and I wanted Sarah to visit it from the first day we met. When she finally came to Chengdu, I took her to my family's favorite local dumpling shop. Sadly, when the pandemic happened, that place closed down, so Sarah was one of the last visitors to eat there.

**During remote learning, we had Friday game nights:** We logged onto Zoom, talked for a bit, and played games for about two hours to feel like we were still at school. One of our favorite games was “Meme Your Friends,” where we swapped photos of ourselves to make memes of each other.

**I became more proud of speaking Sichuanese** when Sarah asked me for help on her Interaction Lab final project on disappearing dialects in China. I reflected on a course I was taking called Language and Power, which made me realize that I cannot argue with other people in Mandarin. Every time I get emotional, I switch to my dialect. That's the story behind the meme Sarah made about me that says: “Mandarin, is this an actual language?”