The Now and Future City
What contemporary Shanghai can teach us about urban living and building better cities
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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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NYU Shanghai officially kicked off a yearlong countdown to its 10th anniversary as the first Sino-U.S. joint research university in October 2022 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.

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 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.”

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.”

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.

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**IN THE NEWS**

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**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 Zhejiang 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.

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Qiantan CAMPUS UPDATE

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.”

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.

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.

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.

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).
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 gingko 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 SrRuO3. 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.

BUSINESS & MARKETING

THE LONELIEST NUMBERS

In a series of seven studies, Associate Professor of Marketing Yan Dengfeng and Jaideep Sangnuka 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.

For more on these projects and research at NYU Shanghai, visit research.shanghai.nyu.edu

RESEARCH
Stories in the Structures

Zuo Lala Examines Cultural Exchange, Past and Present

BY SARAH BELLEMARE

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 château 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.

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!

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 researching.

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.

“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.

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?

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Illustration by Zuo Lala
Conversing With Your COMPUTER

CSCI-SHU 376
Natural Language Processing

BY SARAH BELLEMARE

F or 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 who need help are isolated, so this robot can learn to talk.

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 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 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.
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 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.”

Throughout 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.
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 roads, 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.

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 issue 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 gingko 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 p4). Greenspan says she hopes her 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.”
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.

“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.”

“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
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.

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.”

**Habermas: A Biography**
*By Stephan Müller-Doehm, 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-Doehm’s investigation of Habermas’s 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)*

There have been countless books about the intellectual world of the West. What are you most proud of accomplishing since joining the State House last November?

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.”

**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.

**What I’m Reading**

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) to answer this question with insights that are both relevant and timeless.

**Breaking the Silence**
*by Hannah Arendt (1963)*

Some of the most salient events in the intellectual life of the West are like feral chickens and cats. Arendt wrote this book many years ago, but its ability to act in order to create new beginnings remains as relevant today as it was then.

**Habermas: A Biography**
*By Stephan Müller-Doehm, translated into English by Daniel Steuer (2014/2016)*

Habermas has been a leader in the intellectual world of the West for many years. What are you most proud of accomplishing since joining the State House last November?

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.”

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“That’s a big responsibility. It’s almost like the whole program’s success is riding on you. But it’s similar to what we did at NYU Shanghai,” said Glinton, who was the first Bahamian student to be awarded a Fulbright scholarship at the university.

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

Glinton, 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 hospitality resources at one of the Bahamas’ largest resorts, the Atlantis Paradise Island.

“In the process of communicating with my coworkers, 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.”

As a User Experience Engineer at Microsoft, Katie Chen Mengzhu ‘18 found that the success of the products she worked on 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.”

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, 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.

“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
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.

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.
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
封面专题
14 城市的今日与明天
关切上海当代都市议题 构想城市未来
诺奖得主加盟数学研究中心
上纽大布点金融科技新赛道

2021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。

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做的出色成绩和价值的认可。”
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通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，让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。学生将首先在纽约大学斯通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。上纽大目前设有数学、神经科学、化学、公共卫生等多个博士项目，现有近40位博士生在读。

欲了解更多关于纽约大学硕博项目，请访问shanghai.nyu.edu/graduate。

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通恩商学院联合培养的英语教育硕士项目（TESOL），以及上纽大与纽约大学斯通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）。
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，时隔三年再夺联赛杯赛冠军。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。

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，在中国境内继续其为期15年的“走出伊甸园”环球徒步之旅。

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。
### 研究动向

欲了解上海纽约大学研究动向，请访问research.shanghai.nyu.edu。
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

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。前前后后，你跟随左拉拉的脚步，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。

“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。”

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，但现在已经有20条了，感觉“分分钟”就可以到这座城市任何地方。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。

上海市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，你永远不知道什么适合你。因此，保持好奇心，尽情探索未知的世界吧！
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、响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，前沿的NLP研究，不要求程序员对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）与计算机科学与技术（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。”

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。“只要能够自己动手编写计算机程序，学生就已经具备进入行业工作或研究生深造的能力，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。”
“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。”上海大都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，”他说道，“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，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，点燃了新的想法，诞生了新的科技，孕育着新的生活。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，上海在城市化和现代化的过程中不断探索和尝试。上海城市实验室的研究目标是构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，”他说道，“它将成为支撑城市未来发展的‘新清洁力量’。”

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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

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。“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，如何更好地促进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。”

“我的主要教学目标就是让同学们明白，城市本身富有生命，”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。”

吴晓刚教授

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座教授吴晓刚、与应用社会经济研究中心（CASURE）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”多层面追踪调查，引入了社会凝聚力的测量。2021年，吴教授和CASURE研究员曾东林、陈伟结合项目数据和上海市全人口数据，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感知与上海本地居民之间的“社会距离”。研究结果显示，居住在非聚集社区的外来人口，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。

图 2024届学生伍浩楠、李培榕该课程以学生实地考察、访谈和文献研究为主要内容。学生们将被分为多个小组，分别研究不同社区的特征和挑战。通过实地考察和与社区居民的交流，学生们将对上海的社区发展和多元化有更深入的理解。最后，每个小组将撰写一份研究报告，分享他们的发现和见解，以期为城市发展和社区建设提供有益的建议。
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。

雷蒙校长则鼓励同学们重新思考“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、彼此支持的集体深表感激。张麒麟说，“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。”

Taylah在纽约大学悉尼学习中心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。”
毕业一年 他成功当选美国州议员

2019届校友 Jackson Sayama

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，烈日下站了多少小时。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，你最引以为傲的成就是什么？

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，我当选为学校一个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。这一过程使我了解到，无论年龄、背景、经历，“我该如何生活”都是贯穿人一生的问题。
富布赖特之路

正在纽约大学攻读的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，其实这与我在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，目前是她在纽约的第二年。

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。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。

她在纽约，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，研究如何支持和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。”

北姑娘陈梦竹是上纽大2018届学生，大学期间主修交互媒体艺术（艺术与设计），辅修计算机科学（计算机科学与工程），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，去倾听、沟通、交流、去变化思考。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应有的处事态度。”

“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

2019届校友KRISTEN GLINTON

校友故事

从微软到麻省理工

2018届校友陈梦竹

马海天（2020届）荣获25,000欧元的阿斯摩顿优秀学生奖学金。在奖学金资助下前往阿斯摩顿大学，攻读动画图像学保存与呈现双硕士学位。

Adele Kramber（2020届）获得美国艺术与人文研究理事会（AHRC）合作博士奖学金，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。

阎亚元（2017届）与赵紫毫（2018届）于2021年结为连理。阎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。
大一入学，2022 届学生 Sarah Armstrong 和黄思嘉入住金桥宿舍的同一楼层。二人在晚上奔向冰箱的时候擦肩而过。回顾往事，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。

### Sarah Armstrong ‘22

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

Sarah was from Changning, 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.

### Leslie Huang Sijia ‘22

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

Home in pandemic, she has pandas, good food, and I wanted Sarah to visit 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.

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

### Leslie Huang Sijia ‘22

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

Sarah’s Interaction Lab final project on disappearing dialects in China, so she asked me for help. I had taken a course called Language and Power, which made me realize that I cannot argue with others in Mandarin. Every time I get emotional, I automatically switch to my dialect. So Sarah made a meme about me that says: “Mandarin, is this an actual language?”

By Charlotte San Juan