

**President Robert C. Dynes**  
**Remarks at Sichuan University's 110<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Ceremony**  
**August 27, 2006**

Today, friends, it is my honor to extend congratulations on behalf of all the foreign universities present here today to our friends at Sichuan University on this observance of your 110<sup>th</sup> anniversary and this celebration of your distinguished history.

Your university has a remarkable record of contributing to the development of your region and of your nation, and we are thrilled to work with you to contribute to the solution of important problems facing all nations and all regions. The entire University of California is particularly excited about our new partnership between Sichuan University, the University of California Merced campus, Yosemite National Park, and Jiuzhaigou Nature Reserve.

This partnership, which is a vital part of our important "10 + 10," the 10 University of California (campuses) and 10 universities in China, will be launched this morning. Yosemite and Jiuzhaigou are national treasures. As scholars, we have the responsibility to safeguard these treasures by generating and applying new knowledge.

As educators of the world, we must teach our students, who are future leaders and scholars, about the value and care of our natural resources. As has been said, one generation plants the trees, the next generation enjoys the shade from the trees.

Scholarship goes beyond borders, across oceans, and beyond generations. Our new partnerships will help us carry out shared responsibilities through research collaborations, exchanges of faculty and students, and cross-cultural learning.

Our partnership has a vast potential because it is built on the strengths of our universities: scholarship across the disciplines, science at the service of conservation, and commitment to benefit all society.

In this new partnership, Sichuan University students will attend University of California campuses, and they will conduct research in Yosemite's Sierra Nevada Mountains, in association with the University of California Merced's Sierra Nevada Research Institute.

At the same time, on the other side of the world, University of California students will attend Sichuan University, and they will conduct research at the Jiuzhaigou Nature Reserve & Scenic Area.

Both groups of students will then return home with a better understanding of the complex challenges facing sustainability in our wilderness areas and a greater appreciation of our common humanity.

Let me extend a special thanks to our host and friend, Vice President Shi Jian, for his hospitality on this visit of ours.

Again, I speak on behalf of all foreign universities that are present here today when I say that we are delighted to engage with the very dynamic, energetic and visionary leaders of Sichuan University. We look forward to many more visits and exchanges across our borders, across our oceans, around the world. We are confident that such partnerships will be long and fruitful.

Thank you.