

Building linkages across the planet

為世界科學交流合作鐵路箔稿

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A scholar will earn himself considerable respect not only if he has scored notable achievements in his own field, but also if he has true zeal for promoting academic research and knowledge exchange with his peers.

Chair Professor Ron Chen Guanrong of the Department of Electronic Engineering is typical of this kind of scholar, a fact reflected in the international recognitions that he has earned throughout his career.

For instance, Saint Petersburg State University of Russia recently conferred on him an honorary doctorate, commending him for his outstanding achievements in scientific research and his remarkable contributions to promoting cooperation between Russian and the international scientific community.

Professor Chen has gained due recognition from the international scientific community for his pioneering work in laying a foundation for chaos control and anti-control theories. In the early 1990s, while working at a university in the US, he met by chance a group of Russian scientists that were furnished with very advanced theories on chaos theory research. His interest aroused, so consequently he decided to work with them to organise an international conference on the advanced subject of common interest.

At that time, the US and other Western countries were rather reserved about academic exchanges with Russia, and vice versa. Undeterred, Professor Chen issued invitations to renowned scientists from different countries for a conference in St Petersburg, with his academic calibre and position adding status to the event. That was in 1997 and five conferences have been held since then. During this period, significant academic exchange activities have been witnessed, especially among Russian, Chinese and US scientists, enabling Russian scholars to further closely cooperate with the international academic community.

Professor Chen is modest when he looks back over his endeavors, saying he has served only as a bridge and admitting that the honorary doctorate was somehow unexpected. Likewise, he was surprised to learn that he had also been awarded the Leonhard Euler Gold Medal by the Euler Foundation in St Petersburg, Russia.

Professor Chen said that he sees it as a principle in life to contribute to the world by helping others in scientific research within his capacity, adding that the two special honours have inspired him to continue to serve as a link for scientific research, knowledge exchange and mutually beneficial international cooperation.





一位學者若不僅成就卓越,且熱心促成各國同行交流 切磋從而推動學術進步,則更為可敬。電子工程學系 陳關榮講座教授是致力構架這種學術橋樑的代表。今 年6月,俄羅斯聖彼得堡國立大學授予他榮譽博士銜, 表彰他本人在科學研究中的成就和為促進俄羅斯與國 際科學界合作而作出的貢獻。

陳教授是混沌控制科學研究的先驅者之一,獲國際科學界公認為混沌控制和反控制理論的開拓者。他1990年代初期在美國大學工作時偶遇一群俄羅斯科學家,交流中知道他們混沌理論研究水準極高,遂決定與他們攜手合作,舉辦聯合國際會議,促進國際交流,從此與俄羅斯科學家結緣。

當時,美國等西方國家對與俄羅斯的學術交流仍持保留態度。為使會議成功,陳教授以本人的學術地位為本,出面誠邀多國科學家出席,促成首屆國際混沌控制會議於1997年在聖彼得堡舉行;此後定期開會,迄今已第五屆。其間還組織了重要學術交流活動,特別包括中美兩國的科學家,使俄羅斯學者得以與東西方的學術界同行密切交流、相互促進。陳教授本人則在此學術領域不斷創新而一直處於領先地位,為國際學術界特別是俄羅斯聖彼得堡國立大學同行一致認可。

陳教授謙稱自己只因機緣巧合發揮了一點橋樑作用而已。獲得榮譽博士銜後,他坦言略感意外,説自己素以無私無求為宗旨,只想專心研究以貢獻社會,也樂於助人研究以發展科學,從未企求獲此大獎。話音未落,陳教授最近又獲通知,俄羅斯聖彼得堡的歐拉基金會授予他2011年歐拉金質獎章。陳教授表示,這兩項殊榮對他是一大鼓舞,並説將一如既往,為科學研究鋪路、為交流合作搭橋。●