

FEATURED STORY

Nobel Laureate Prof. Randy Schekman Engages at GEC Forum on Future-Oriented Applied Talents Cultivation Through Industry-Education Integration, and Fuels Young Minds in Scientific Excellence



On January 13th, GEC Academy successfully held the forum on the topic of Synergizing Education's Strengths and Forging a Community with a Shared Future for Mankind: Future-Oriented Applied Talents Cultivation Through Industry-Education Integration. The event served as a dynamic platform for engaging discussions and fostering fruitful collaborations between academia and industry with the primary objective of cultivating applied talents who possess the essential skills and knowledge required for the ever-evolving future.

Prof. Randy W. Schekman, the 2013 Nobel Laureate in Physiology or Medicine, delivered a special keynote speech on the topic of "Cultivating Talent Through Industry-Education Integration for a Future-Oriented Approach." We also have other experts from prestigious organizations and enterprises, and scholars and professors from high-level domestic and overseas universities who have shared their valuable insights and experiences at the forum.



The forum concluded with two roundtable discussions. The first focused on "The Current Situation and Development Trend of China's Green Talents," and experts and participants delved into the current state and future prospects of nurturing environmentally conscious talents in China. The second roundtable explored "Cultivation of Applied Talents with a Global Perspective through Industry-Education Integration," emphasizing the importance of a global outlook in talent cultivation and the role of industry-education integration in achieving this goal.

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The forum successfully brought together leaders, scholars, and professionals from academia, industry, and research institutions to collectively address the challenges and opportunities in cultivating future-oriented applied talents. The event undoubtedly contributed to the advancement of industry-education integration and the development of a talent pool capable of driving sustainable progress in various fields.

In the following day, GEC Academy officially kicked off the annual “World Top Scientists Forum” series at Beijing 101 High School, with the distinguished presence of Prof. Randy W. Schekman. With the theme of “How to Cultivate Innovative Talents: Exploring the Path of Youth Growth Guided by Practice”, the open lecture by Prof. Schekman marked a significant step of GEC in inspiring innovative thinking and nurturing the aspirations of Chinese youth to contribute to science and technology. This event also marked the inaugural major forum of GEC Academy for 2024, setting a high standard for the series of intellectual gatherings planned throughout the year.



A group photo of participants at Beijing 101 High School



Prof. Schekman sharing his academic journey with the audience

Prof. Schekman captivated the audience with his open lecture, artfully intertwining his groundbreaking research in “science” and “cells”. He not only demystified complex scientific concepts but also shared personal stories of growth and discovery alongside fellow Nobel laureates. His interactive session prompted lively engagement from students, who eagerly questioned and learned from his experience.

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Prof. Schekman and students engaged in in-depth communication

The forum also featured insightful keynote speeches focusing on “Building Trust and Connections Through Communication” and “Preparing for Success in University and Careers”, coupled with a roundtable on “Empowering Youth for a Green Future”. These sessions saw experts and students engage in fervent discussions about sustainable global development, exchanging unique perspectives and constructive insights.



A glimpse into the roundtable session focusing on Empowering Youth for a Green Future: Navigating Global Sustainability through Interdisciplinary Perspectives

The significance of industry-education integration lies in its ability to foster collaboration and exchange between academia and industry, effectively bridging the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical application. Moreover, by melding the insights of world-class professors and scholars, GEC Academy is dedicated to creating a thriving environment of knowledge and innovation, in preparing students for future academic and professional success.

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GEC Academy Leads the Way in International Education through Collaborative Ventures with Chinese Universities

In an era marked by increasing global interconnectivity, GEC Academy has emerged as a leader in fostering international education and academic exchange. Our latest achievements in collaboration with Chinese universities, especially in the areas of scholarships and research-oriented programs, stand as a testament to our unwavering commitment to nurturing innovative talents.

In the quest to provide strong support for the cultivation of innovative, interdisciplinary, and comprehensive talents, GEC Academy's research-oriented program unites outstanding students from all corners of the globe. Through a blend of creative problem-solving and research-oriented learning methodologies, the programs deliver a project-based curriculum, boasting over 1000 options throughout the year, encompasses a wide array of sub-disciplines. Leveraging the expertise of distinguished faculty members from top global universities and delving into cutting-edge research topics, we motivate our students to apply their acquired knowledge and skills in their future academic pursuits, professional endeavors, and everyday life scenarios.

• Delaware Data Science College - GEC Research Scholarship

A shining example of this fruitful collaboration is the GEC Research Scholarship at Delaware Data Science College, Southwest University of Finance and Economics. On December 22, the college hosted the scholarship award ceremony. This year, nine exceptional students specializing in fields such as Financial Mathematics, Information Management and Systems, and Logistics Management were honored with this scholarship.



Delaware Data Science College GEC Research Scholarship Award Ceremony



Mr. LIU's Inspirational Speech at the GEC Research Scholarship Award Ceremony

During the ceremony, Mr. LIU Jun, the Southwest Regional Manager of GEC, shared his personal journey of navigating through cultural and linguistic challenges during his time abroad. He underscored the critical role of education in shaping one's worldview and the responsibility of the younger generation in making a positive impact on society.

One of the scholarship recipients also took the opportunity to share his thoughts. He emphasised, "Receiving the GEC Research Scholarship symbolizes much more than just academic recognition. It marks the commencement of a new chapter in their educational journey, offering an opportunity to delve deeper into their chosen field of study. I see this award as a catalyst for further academic exploration and a dedication to achieving scholarly excellence."

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• Central South University of Forestry and Technology - GEC Cup

On January 13, 2024, the fruitful collaboration between Central South University of Forestry and Technology and GEC Academy was once again celebrated through the GEC Cup Student Research-Oriented Learning Achievement Competition. Initiated in 2020, this competition has become a cornerstone in promoting active research and problem-solving among students. It plays a pivotal role in enhancing the quality of undergraduate education and teaching methodologies. In this year's event, students showcased projects spanning diverse disciplines such as Agriculture, Economics, Management, Engineering, and Foreign Languages and Literature. Six projects, focusing on advanced topics such as novel coronavirus sensing technologies and policy effect analysis in agricultural industries, secured first prizes in the competition. These projects not only highlighted the students' depth of knowledge and innovative thinking but also reflected the broad spectrum of expertise and interests that have been nurtured through this ongoing collaboration.



Richard Wang, COO of GEC Academy, with Award-Winning Students

Looking to the future, GEC Academy is committed to seeking even more dynamic forms of collaboration with Chinese universities. We are dedicated to proposing a broader range of activities and initiatives designed to further empower our students. These new ventures will not only expand our educational reach but also deepen our impact, ensuring that students are equipped with the tools and experiences necessary to thrive in an increasingly interconnected world. Through these continued and evolving partnerships, GEC Academy reaffirms its dedication to being at the forefront of international educational excellence and innovation.

Faculty Work Gallery

*This month we introduced a **paper** from **Professor Vlad Mykhnenko**. If you are interested in showcasing your research, grants, book releases, conference presentations, or any work you deem valuable and interesting to share, please feel free to contact us.*

Smart shrinkage solutions? The future of present-day urban regeneration on the inner peripheries of Europe




Applied Geography
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Smart shrinkage solutions? The future of present-day urban regeneration on the inner peripheries of Europe

Vlad Mykhnenko ^a ^b 

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Dr Vlad Mykhnenko, Associate Professor of Sustainable Urban Development, University of Oxford

Highlights of the paper

- The Urban Futures method can be successfully applied to complex social phenomena.
- 22 effective urban regeneration projects are uncovered in 7 shrinking cities, with an overall 57% chance to deliver the intended benefits in 40 years' time.
- Business-orientated projects are found to be most resilient vis-à-vis the future.
- People-orientated projects are least likely to perform well by 2060.
- Place-orientated projects fall in between the other two types of urban regeneration.

Please click [HERE](#) to read the full paper.

GEC CULTURE

GEC Rang in the Holidays with a Heartwarming Christmas Birthday Bash

On December 22nd, GEC Academy brought a touch of Christmas magic to its end-of-year birthday celebration. While the main event unfolded in the Beijing office, regional offices in Shanghai, Shenzhen, Guangzhou, Suzhou, Tianjin, and Chengdu also hosted their own charming celebrations, each adding a unique touch to the festive spirit. GECers gathered to share in a special celebration, marking not just another year gone by, but the warmth and camaraderie that defines the GEC family.



Christmas Decorations and Sweet Treats at Beijing Office
Christmas Decorations and Sweet Treats at Beijing Office

The offices were transformed into cozy, inviting spaces, with twinkling lights and charming Christmas decorations creating a festive yet intimate atmosphere. Amidst the laughter and friendly chatter, tables adorned with an array of delightful Christmas-themed treats added a sweet touch to the occasion.



Season's Greetings from GEC: A Collection of Christmas Gifts

Amidst this merry setting, the highlight of the celebrations was undoubtedly the heartfelt gesture from GEC - the distribution of thoughtful gifts to each of its employees. The excitement was palpable as everyone partook in fun, light-hearted activities, bringing smiles and creating memories. Whether it was a friendly game or a shared laugh over a festive treat, these moments were about more than just enjoyment; they were about creating lasting memories.

GEC CULTURE



Fun at the Fair: Prize-Winning Ball Toss Game

This year's Christmas birthday bash at GEC Academy was more than just a celebration; it was a reflection of the collective spirit and joy that fills the halls of GEC. As employees shared stories and enjoyed the festive ambiance, there was a sense of gratitude for the year's successes and experiences.

Looking ahead to 2024, GEC Academy remains committed to nurturing this sense of community, ensuring that every team member feels valued and connected. Warm wishes, cheerful spirits, and a close-knit community – these are the gifts that GEC Academy cherishes as it steps into a new year full of potential and promise.



Group Photo from the Birthday Bash

Introducing New Faces

We're pleased to welcome 2 new faces to the GEC team - **Lida & Shanshan!**



Lida NIU (Rocky)

lida.niu@gecacademy.cn

01 Educational background:

Master of Education in Environmental Education at Florida Atlantic University

02 What are your current duties?

I am a Program Manager at the Onsite Program Center. In this role, there are essentially two main responsibilities. The first involves planning and preparation before the program commences, including material preparation, building and training part-time teams, collecting student information, and overseeing online course operations. The second part entails onsite management, ensuring that students excel in their programs, and providing academic and logistical support for professors and all students. Embracing the unknown is something I find enjoyable.

03 What made you choose GEC Academy?

GEC Academy stands out as a leading company in the field of quality education in China. The interdisciplinary and innovative programs provided by GEC are competitive and genuinely contribute to strengthening students in their academic and research journeys. We are truly committed to undertaking meaningful initiatives.

04 What are your specialisms and interests?

My major is Education, and I have several years of camp experience. I know how to connect with students of different ages, and I enjoy leading them in engaging team-building games that bring laughter – that's where I draw my energy. Any Interests? I love every kind of outdoor sport or adventure.

Introducing New Faces

We're pleased to welcome 2 new faces to the GEC team - **Lida & Shanshan!**

01 Educational background:

Master of Agricultural Economics at Northeast Forestry University

02 What are your current duties?

As a Program Manager at the Onsite Program Center, I am responsible for recruiting, training, and managing Teaching Assistants and Program Operators for the iHUB Research Program. Meanwhile, I also handle the design and operation of overseas study-abroad programs.



Shanshan WANG (Icy)
shanshan.wang@gecacademy.cn

03 What made you choose GEC Academy?

GEC Academy stands out in the education industry, and I am confident that being part of GEC will provide me with ample opportunities to further develop my skills. Honestly, the interview process at GEC was impressive, showcasing a high level of professionalism from both the HR team and the interviewers. Additionally, I have a genuine interest in onsite education projects, as it aligns perfectly with my career aspirations and personal values.

04 What are your specialisms and interests?

I consider myself an expert in cultivating creativity and ensuring the successful execution of every program. Personally, I'm a huge fan of books and movies – they're my go-to for inspiration. They not only add flavor to my personal life but also shape the way I approach things creatively in my professional work.



AMAZING WORK FROM GEC STUDENTS

Each month, GEC will introduce some of our exceptional students' work in a specific research area to our audiences. This month we selected two articles from our previous students in the field of **Statistics**.

Analysis of Player Attitudes and Behaviors towards Different Mobile Games based on Variance

This article is based on a survey of farm games, MOBA arena games, women's games, asymmetric arena games, and open-world games, all of which are mobile games. The data were collected through questionnaires. This paper analyzed player data for Obi Island, King of Glory, Shinning Nikki, Identity V, and Genshin Impact using analysis of Variance, One-way analysis of variance, and Pearson Analysis of Variance. The net result is a majority of women. The open-world game was the only one of the five where more than half of the players were male. Women's games require less time per day, but cost the most. Farming is a daily game that takes the most time but the least money.

Click [HERE](#) to read the full text!



Deep Learning based Player Identification via Behavioral Characteristics

This paper presents a comparison between CNN and RNN-LSTM for player identification based on player behavioral characteristics in a simple game environment. The goal is to detect potential manual cheating in competitions by recognizing unidentified players (cheaters) from their behavioral patterns. We implement a basic game, record player behaviors, and then compare the accuracy of outputs from the CNN and RNN-LSTM models.

Click [HERE](#) to read the full text!



Join Us at GEC Technical Sponsorship Conferences: Open Calling for Committee Members & Speakers



Since 2023, GEC Academy has taken immense pride in its role as a technical sponsor for a diverse array of international academic conferences, with a vision entailing both promoting interdisciplinary cooperation and nurturing an inclusive, collaborative educational environment that extends its benefits beyond the scientific community to society at large. **Hence, we are enthusiastic about extending invitations to more of our esteemed GEC Faculty members and Teaching Fellows, encouraging your active involvement as committee members or innovative speakers and storytellers**, who are passionate about sharing innovative ideas with the brightest minds, providing enriching insights, offering innovative experiences, and sharing real-world examples, among other valuable contributions to GEC technical sponsorship conferences.

We are thrilled to hear from our GEC faculty members, teaching fellows, teaching assistants (PhD holders), and scholars whose expertise aligns with conference themes and interdisciplinary intersections below. Please feel free to send your CVs, resumes, bibliographies, or personal links to the specific conference contact email for detailed information. For experts and scholars seeking technical sponsorship, who are passionate about initiating international conferences, and wish to contribute to global academic exchange, please do not hesitate to contact us at conference@gecacademy.com.

Upcoming Conferences

For December and January, we have one technical sponsorship conference covering a wide range of subjects, including Computer Science, Mechatronics and more.

- January 26-28th, 2024, Shanghai, China
The International Conference on Computer Science and Mechatronics (ICCSM 2024)
- ICCSM 2024 will provide an insight into the unique world stemming from the interaction between the fields of computer science and mechatronics, as well as an international technical forum for experts from industry and academia to exchange ideas and present results of ongoing research in the areas of computer science and mechatronics. It focuses on high-quality presentations and papers that address contemporary issues on fundamental research leading to new methods, or adaptation of existing methods for new applications related to the topics of computer technology and mechatronics. It will feature keynote speeches given by renowned scholars, and oral/poster presentations with broad coverage and popular topics.

Please click [HERE](#) to explore these exciting upcoming events!

WHAT PROGRAMS DOES GEC OFFER IN JANUARY 2024 SEMESTER?

In January, GEC launches a total of 94 online research programs in the areas of Finance, Fin-tech, Communication Studies, Marketing, Operations Research, Computer Science, Data Science, Electrical Engineering, Environmental Engineering, Civil Engineering, Earth Science, Public Health, Sociology and so on, partners with Northwestern Polytechnical University to develop students' global competence through the GEC Global Competence Development Course. This month, GEC also provides 1 personalized program for Southwest Jiaotong University. We will continue to gather students, faculty, and staff for an unrivaled academic experience.

The tables

[GEC 2024 January Program List](#)

[Universities offering GEC Global Competence Courses in January 2024](#)

[GEC Personalized Programs for Universities in January 2024](#)

show detailed information about the programs that GEC launches in January.

Please click [HERE](#) to find previous program/course offerings.

GEC 2023 Annual Survey

GEC strives to continually improve your working experience with GEC Academy and values your feedback sincerely. Therefore, we would really appreciate it if you could spare 5 minutes to finish the following survey. Every suggestion or comment from you matters a lot to us. Thank you in advance!

For your convenience, please click [HERE](#) to fill out the survey link.

GEC Academy

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