

Overseas Young Chinese Forum®

2000 Annual Report

May 2001

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From the Founder and President

As a forum for cross-discipline dialogue on issues relating to China's development, as a transmitter of new ideas and new concepts to China, and as a community for fostering bonds among overseas young Chinese students, scholars and professionals, the Overseas Young Chinese Forum (the "OYCF") has been in existence for two years now. During the past two years, OYCF members, under the leadership of OYCF's officers and directors, worked very hard to build the organization from scratch. As a result, the OYCF has grown very rapidly. We currently have more than 140 members, who come from very diverse backgrounds and work in many different areas. Our online publication, *Perspectives*, is very well received by the readers, and it now has more than 1,000 e-mail subscribers. Two months ago, we also successfully launched the Chinese edition of *Perspectives*. Our cooperation with Chinese magazines has brought our writings and ideas to readers in China. This month, our joint teaching and research program with Renmin University Law School will for the second time bring an OYCF member, this time Tingting SHI, to Renmin University, where she will teach a three-week class on American securities law. Our local affiliates in Boston, New York and Silicon Valley have organized many interesting discussions throughout the last two years. Also in this month, OYCF members are going to get together again in OYCF's third annual retreat, where we will discuss China's history in the 20th century. As we celebrate our past achievements, we also look forward to our future.

What makes the OYCF successful? It's people. Without this group of highly motivated people, the OYCF would be nothing. All OYCF members are busy students, scholars or professionals. They use their spare time to edit *Perspectives*, write commentaries, organize discussion, solicit article contributions, raise funds, teach in China and prepare for the annual retreat. Their work at the OYCF is not paid. What motivates them, I think, is a sense of social responsibility and the courage to still believe.

Ours is a time of disbelief. Our parents and grandparents, as they would like to say, have seen it all. As a result, they tend not to believe, and they taught many of us to be suspicious. But OYCF members are different. OYCF members still believe. They believe in the future of China. They believe in the power of creative and constructive ideas. They believe in the value of concrete and positive actions. And they believe in the strength of humanity, rationality and their relentless pursuit of justice, peace, freedom and equality. Because of these believes, OYCF members are strong, and they are motivated. Hence the success of the OYCF.

I also want to take this opportunity to thank all OYCF's supporters, sponsors, patrons and contributors. Without their support, we would have gone nowhere. The supporters of OYCF share our believes. Together, OYCF members and supporters form a group of dedicated people who are doing concrete and meaningful things to contribute to China's modernization.

I dedicate this annual report to this wonderful group of people.

Bo Li
Founder and President
May 2001

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Our Mission

The *Overseas Young Chinese Forum (OYCF)* was established in 1999 as a venue for regular discussions that facilitate exchange of ideas among overseas young Chinese on social, economic, political and cultural issues concerning China. The discussions are intended to highlight interplay among various factors affecting the current transformations in China in hope to provide reference points for further reforms.

Organization Profile

The OYCF is a not-for-profit organization based in the United States. We organize an annual retreat where members and friends from different backgrounds come together to exchange views and share experiences. In 1999, we discussed the social and political philosophy of liberalism and its relevance to China. In 2000, we discussed sustainable development in China. This year, we plan to discuss the history of China in the 20th century.

Since August 31, 1999, *the OYCF* has been publishing, in English, a bimonthly online journal titled *Perspectives*. The journal serves as another forum for the exchange and development of ideas. In March 2001, we also launched a Chinese edition of *Perspectives*. Currently, *Perspectives* has more than 1,000 e-mail subscribers.

The OYCF has already established working relationships with several Chinese institutions. We provide selected articles from the English edition of *Perspectives* to be translated and published in an influential Chinese magazine *Open Times*. *The OYCF* has also launched a two-year joint research and teaching project with Renmin University Law School in Beijing. Finally, *OYCF* hosts regular roundtable discussions and talks through local affiliates in Boston, New York and the Silicon Valley.

Details of our activities and opportunities for participation are described below.

Advisors, Directors and Officers

Advisory Board:

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Public Relations: Min ZENG (Agency.Com)
Auditor: Jing LI (Fidelity Investments)

Annual Retreats

The OYCF organizes an annual retreat. Each spring, members and friends from diverse backgrounds meet for a weekend to exchange views on a wide variety of issues relating to China. Together, we explore various factors that affect current and future transformations in China.

The OYCF is currently organizing its third annual retreat, which is scheduled for May 25-28, 2001. The theme of this year's retreat is "China in the 20th Century: A Review." Under this general theme, we plan to discuss various aspects of China's history (economic, political, social and cultural) in the 20th century, hoping lessons from the past can help us better chart China's future.

Highlights from Past Retreats

- ***The 1999 Retreat***

The Inaugural Retreat of *the OYCF* took place during April 23-25, 1999 in Concord, New Hampshire. The theme of the retreat was *Liberalism and China*. The retreat was an appropriate forum for launching *the OYCF* and for summing up the liberalism discussion among a group of founding members in the spring of 1999. The retreat brought together thirty-five young Chinese students, scholars and professionals across the United States. Over the two-day period, we conducted five discussion panels, covering the meaning of liberalism, the relationships between liberalism and political, economic, social and cultural changes in contemporary China, and the applicability of federalism to China. The discussion was lively and thought-provoking.

- ***The 2000 Retreat***

During May 26-28, 2000, *the OYCF* held its second annual retreat. The retreat's theme was *China's Sustainable Development: An Institutional Perspective*. Over forty members and friends gathered in Southbury, Connecticut, for the two-day program on China's sustainable development in the new century. Participants included students, scholars and professionals from universities and professional organizations across the United States.

At the retreat, the discussion program was organized into eight panels, covering topics exploring the relationships between China's sustainable development and education policy, environment, information technology, entrepreneurship, village elections, the rule of law and institutional changes. The discussion served as an in-depth forum for cross-disciplinary exchanges.

Notes of our discussions from both retreats are available at <http://www.oycf.org>.

Perspectives, OYCF's Journal

Perspectives is an online journal published by the OYCF, and it started as a bimonthly English publication. The goal of *Perspectives* is to facilitate the exchange of ideas, promote cross-disciplinary dialogue, and stimulate new thinking. Since August, 1999, the OYCF has published twelve issues of *Perspectives* with a total of more than eighty articles. While we focus on commentaries and essays relating to China's economic, cultural, political and social changes, we also publish articles introducing important ideas in humanities and social sciences. Selected English articles from *Perspectives* are translated into Chinese and published by *Open Times*, a Chinese journal published by Guangzhou Academy of Social Sciences in China. We also launched a Chinese edition of *Perspectives* in March 2001.

Perspectives now has more than 1,000 e-mail subscribers. In addition, more and more readers started to read our journal from the OYCF web site. The journal has received very positive receptions both inside and outside of China. The following are some selected comments from our readers.

"What you are doing is very beneficial to China. Articles on *Perspectives* introduce some of the important things that China needs to learn right now."

--- Professor Emeritus Wang Yuanhua, China Eastern Normal University, Shanghai

"*Perspectives* is bringing a lot of important ideas and information to China. Please keep up the good work."

--- Professor Wu Jinglian, Senior Fellow, Development Research Ctr, State Council, China

"Congratulations for this positive and encouraging development [relating to *Perspectives*' cooperation with *Open Times*]. It will be beneficial to both journals and to China."

--- Professor Gregory CHOW, Economics Department, Princeton University

"I note that the content [of *Perspectives*] is interdisciplinary (which is what I like most about it) and intellectually oriented, and the articles are of a high standard."

--- Professor Albert CHEN, Dean of Faculty of Law, the University of Hong Kong

Selected Articles on Perspectives

▪ **Debate**

1. Chinese Village Elections

a. *Self-Government in Chinese Villages: An Evaluation* (Jiquan XIANG)

b. *Myth and Reality: The Chinese Village Elections* (Ying SHANG)

2. How Universal Are Liberal Values?

a. *The Limits of Irony: Rorty and the China Challenge* (Randall PEERENBOOM)

b. *Between Universalism and Particularism: A Comment* (Jiantao REN)

▪ **Political Theory and Practice**

1. *Political Parties and Consolidation of Democracy: The Case of Russia* (Hongwu OUYANG)

2. *Equality and Democracy* (Bo LI)

3. *Conservatism, Rightism and Its Critique of Liberalism* (Tongdong BAI)

▪ **Economics**

1. *Goal and Process* (Yingyi QIAN)

2. *China's Economic Reform: Past, Present and Future* (Jinglian WU)

3. *Grabbing Hand vs. Enabling Hand: A Comparison of China and Japan in Response to the West in late 19th Century* (Li-an ZHOU)

4. *Antitrust Analysis and Its Enforcement in the United States* (Su SUN)

▪ **Law**

1. *The Downside of Growth: Law, Policy and China's Environmental Crisis* (Alex WANG)

2. *The Law-making Law: A Solution to the Problems in the Chinese Legislative System?* (Yahong LI)

3. *Economic Reforms and Constitutional Transition* (Jeffrey SACHS, Wing Thye WOO and Xiaokai YANG)

4. *The Right of Abode Cases: The Basic Law on Trial* (Zhimin WEN)

▪ **Society and Culture**

1. *Tibet: Stories of Changes* (Xiaojiang HU)

2. *Black-White Relations: The American Dilemma* (Junfu ZHANG)

3. *Who Rebels: From Dissented Elite to Movement Cadre* (Yang SU)

Cooperative Projects

In November 2000, *the OYCF* entered into a joint teaching and research project with the China Civil and Commercial Law Research Center (the "CCCLRC") at the Law School of Renmin University of China in Beijing. Under the two-year project, OYCF will cooperate with the CCCLRC to conduct research on the civil liabilities of securities transactions and the protection of small investors under American securities laws. In addition, twice a year, one OYCF member will travel to the CCCLRC to teach and research securities and corporation laws. The joint project has received financial support from the U.S-China Legal Cooperation Fund and the East Asian Legal Studies Program at Harvard Law School.

Bo LI completed the first teaching and research trip in November 2000, during which period he taught American Securities Law at Renmin University Law School for three weeks and assisted the CCCLRC in its research of American securities and corporation laws. Tingting SHI, another OYCF member, is scheduled to make the second trip in May 2001. This joint project is another effort of *the OYCF* to contribute to China's reform and opening process. It is also hoped that the project will serve as a model for future cooperations between *the OYCF* and our partners in China.

Over the last two years, *the OYCF* has also established strategic relationships with other Chinese institutions, including the Development Research Center of the China's State Council and the *Strategy and Management* magazine in Beijing.

Speakers at OYCF and Its Affiliates

For more than three years since October 1997, *the OYCF* and its affiliates have sponsored biweekly discussions and annual conferences among students, scholars, professionals and government officials with regard to important economic, political, cultural and social issues relating to China. The following are some highlights of the speakers' program.

1997

- "Reform of State Owned Enterprises in China"
Angang HU, Chinese Academy of Science
- "Intellectual Property Protection in China"
Guoqiang LU, Shanghai High People's Court
- "Reform of Legal Education in China"
Xianyi ZENG, Renmin Univ. Law School

1998

- "American Response to China's Growing Pains"
Ezra VOGEL, Harvard University
- "Development of Hightech Industries in China"
Charles PAU, Lotus, Inc.
- "Nurturing Entrepreneurship in China"
Xiaokai YANG, Monash University, Australia
- "The Asian Financial Crisis"
Xiaochuan ZHOU, China Construction Bank
- Jinglian WU*, Development Research Center
- "Development of New Contract Law in China"
Liming WANG, Renmin Univ. Law School
- "Challenges and Opportunities for Suzhou"
Xinsheng ZHANG, former Mayor, Suzhou

1999

- "Confucian Ethics"
Weiming TU, Harvard University
- "Rural Development in China"
Mai LU, Development Research Center
- "China's Political Reform"
Zhiyuan CUI, MIT

2000

- "Chinese Stock Market's Reshuffling"
Guangshao Tu, CSRC
- "China's Administrative Law"
Hanhua ZHOU, Academy of Social Science
- "China's New Diplomacy"
Yucheng LE, United Nations
- "Legal Profession in China"
JiaLi Xu, Beijing Bar Association
- "Liberalism and Liberalism in Today's China"
Junning LIU, Chinese Academy of Culture

2000 Operating Expenses

Second Annual Retreat (for 40 people):	\$ 8,321
Cooperation with <i>Open Times</i> :	250
Web Maintenance/Development:	270
Mailing:	125
Miscellaneous:	700
Total:	\$ 9,666

2001 Operating Budget

Third Annual Retreat (for 50 people):	\$11,000
Cooperative Project with <i>Open Times</i> :	500
Web Maintenance/Development:	500
Mailing:	500
Operating Expenses:	1,000
Total:	\$13,500

2000 General Receipts

Donations:	\$ 10,233
Membership/Retreat Fee:	2,950
Total:	\$ 13,183

Special Project (2001-2002)

Cooperative Project w/ Renmin Univ.:	\$ 7,500
(grant from U.S.-China Legal Cooperation Fund)	

Contribution and Membership

OYCF is a not-for-profit organization and has obtained the tax exemption status from the Internal Revenue Service. Contributions to OYCF are tax deductible under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions to OYCF will be acknowledged at its annual retreat as well as in its annual report and other publications. OYCF also welcomes aspiring young Chinese to join the organization. The following is the contribution and membership schedule:

\$10,000 or above:	benefactor
\$5,000:	major donor
\$3,000:	donor
\$1,000:	sponsor
\$500:	patron
\$300:	institutional member
\$100:	contributor
\$25:	professional member
\$15:	student member

Acknowledgement

OYCF greatly acknowledges support from the following organizations and individuals during the year of 2000.

Sponsors

Sung-Kwok Foundation
Harvard China Review
C. J. HUANG
Qianli WU
Bo LI

Patrons

William Ming Sing LEE
Jingjun CAO
Po SIT
Stephen LEE
Harvard East Asian Legal Studies Program

Contributors

Zack LIU, Wenjun QIAO, Zili ZHUANG,
Gregory WANG, Victoria MIO, Min ZENG,
Paul BOESEN, Tingting SHI, Eric SIBBITT,
Peter NI, Yihong ZHANG

Contribution Form

Contributions to OYCF are tax deductible under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Contribution Amount (to go towards general usage):

- \$15 \$25
 \$100 \$300
 \$500 \$1,000
 \$3,000 \$5,000
 \$10,000
 Any Other Amount: _____

Specific Contribution Amount:

Please specify the purpose of usage:

- \$25 \$100
 \$300 \$500
 \$1,000 \$3,000
 \$5,000
 Any Other Amount: _____

Method of Payment:

- check money order

Contributions should be made out to:

Overseas Young Chinese Forum

sent to:

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