



CHINESE LUNAR NEW YEAR

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Headlines



CHINESE LUNAR NEW YEAR

Chinese New Year (or generally referred to as Lunar New Year) is the Chinese festival that celebrates the beginning of a new year on the traditional Chinese calendar. The festival is usually referred to as the Spring Festival in China. Observances traditionally take place from the evening preceding the first day of the year to the Lantern Festival, held on the 15th day of the year. The first day of Chinese New Year begins on the new moon that appears between 21 January and 20 February. In 2019, the first day of the Chinese New Year was on Tuesday, 5 February, initiating the Year of the Pig.

Quoted from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chinese_New_Year

Chinese Lunar New Year is an important festival for the Chinese family to reunite. People who work or study away from home will try their best to return home and enjoy a dinner with family members on the New Year's Eve. There will be fireworks, Spring Festival couplets, New Year's Eve dinner, temple fairs, dumplings, etc.

What's special in Suzhou is the bell ringing at Cold Mountain Temple (Hanshan Temple) on the mid-night of New Year's Eve. Local Suzhou residents will visit the Temple no matter how cold it is at mid-night to hear the ringing while stepping into the New Year.





On 25 February, Mr. Shi Taifeng, Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region Party Secretary, led a high-level delegation of about 80 on a visit to Suzhou, including a tour of OSCAR. Director Prof. Zhanfeng Cui received the delegation and introduced OSCAR to them.

Mr. Wu Zhenglong (Governor of Jiangsu Province), Mr. Zhou Naixiang (Member of the Standing Committee of CPC Jiangsu Provincial Committee, Party Secretary of CPC Suzhou Municipal Committee), Mr. Li Yaping (Mayor of Suzhou) visited OSCAR together with the Ningxia Delegation.



Visits to OSCAR



Mr. Shi Taifeng

2014–2015 Communist Party Secretary of Suzhou
2015–2017 Governor of Jiangsu
2017– Communist Party Secretary of Ningxia

OSCAR Milestone

Oct 2012
Oxford and SIP initiated discussions on the possibility of cooperation

Apr 2013
Oxford and SIP signed a Memorandum of Understanding

Apr 2015
Oxford and SIP agreed on Heads of Terms for the launch of the Centre

Dec 2016
Oxford and SIP signed the official collaboration agreement

Nov 2018
Official launch of OSCAR



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Visits to OSCAR



On 14 February, the Jiangsu Provincial Association for Science and Technology led a delegation to OSCAR to explore possibilities for collaboration.

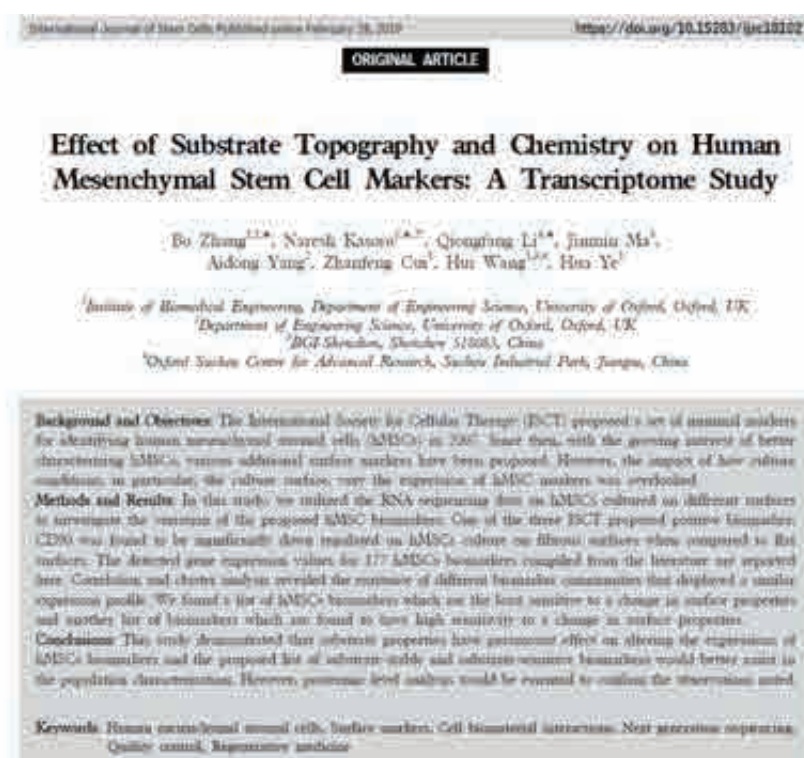
On 28 February, Mr. Zhou Weiqiang, Chairman of Suzhou Municipal Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), led a delegation of about 30 to OSCAR to check the progress with lab refurbishment and the recruitment of researchers.

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OSCAR Publications

On 28 February, in Prof. Cui's group, the paper *Effect of Substrate Topography and Chemistry on Human Mesenchymal Stem Cell Markers: A Transcriptome Study* was accepted for publication in *International Journal of Stem Cells* in which the OSCAR affiliation is made for Dr. Hui Wang (Senior Research Scientist in Prof. Cui's group).

Please visit this link to find out more: <https://doi.org/10.15283/ijsc18102>



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OSCAR Meeting

In February, OSCAR Director Prof. Zhanfeng Cui held a meeting with all OSCAR researchers. He welcomed all researchers onboard and discussed research plans with them. He explained the management system for researchers in Oxford University. During the meeting, he listened to each research group's plan for 2019 and gave a holistic picture of research development for OSCAR.



Prof. Cui in meeting with researchers

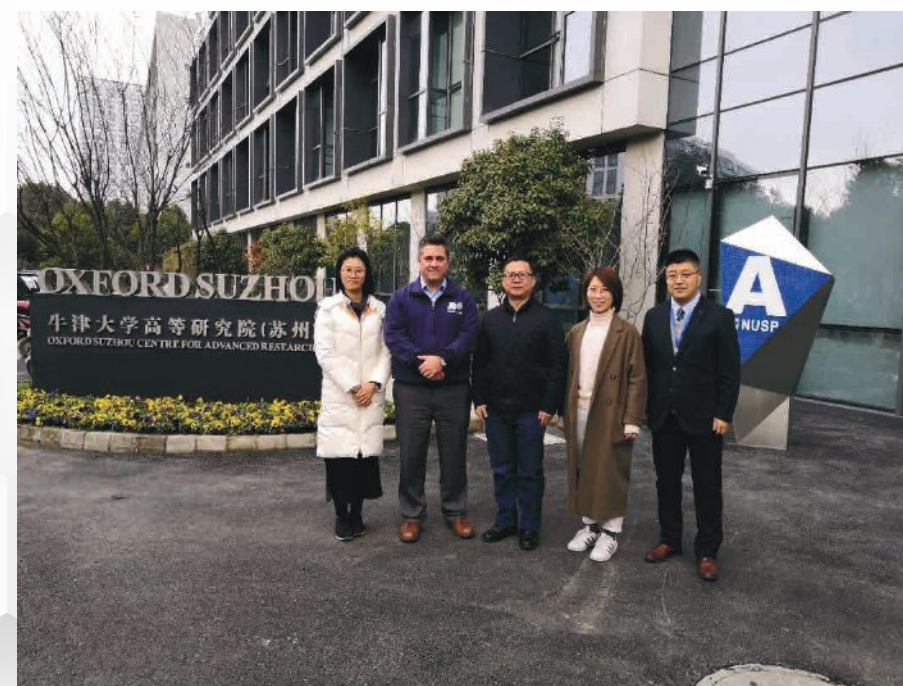
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Dr. Jason Raymond Visits OSCAR

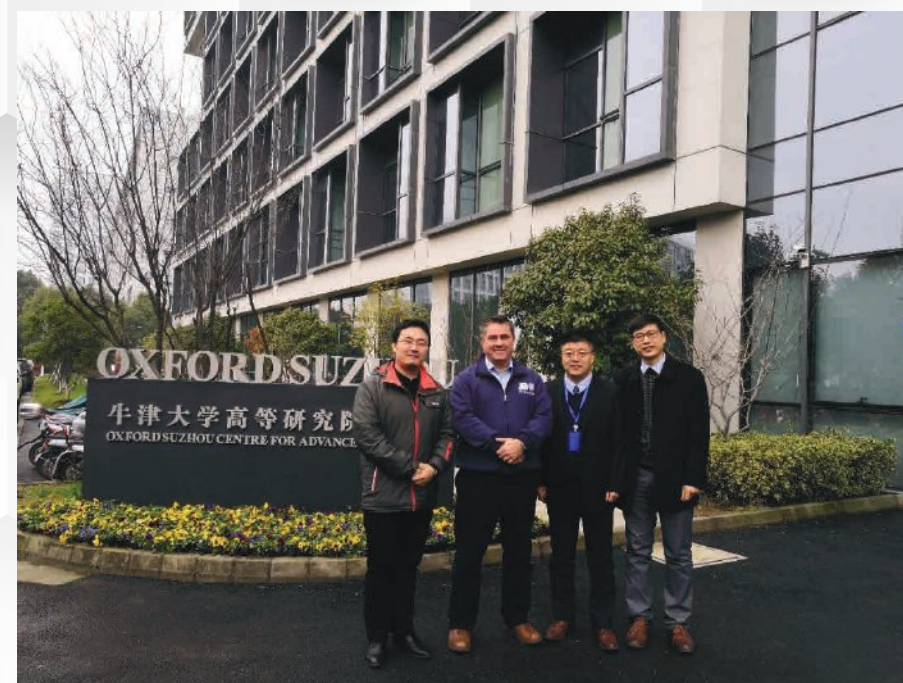
Dr. Jason Raymond visited OSCAR between 11th-22nd February 2019, during which Dr. Jiangang Chen joined the Physical Acoustics research group (PI: Prof. Ronald Roy). Drs. Raymond and Chen met with potential collaborators from five universities and institutes in Suzhou and Nanjing, including Nanjing University, Jiangsu Institute of Medical Device Testing, Nanjing Normal University, Soochow University, and JITRI Micro-Nano Automation Institute. Several cooperation projects were discussed, including an open service platform for ultrasonic testing, a JITRI project, and academic collaborations.



From left to right, Mr. Jimin Hu (Director of R&D, Jiangsu Institute of Medical Device Testing), Mr. Ning Li (officer of Jiangsu Institute of Medical Device Testing), Dr. Jason Raymond, Prof. Juan Tu (Nanjing University), Ms. Rachel Yang (PhD student of Nanjing University), Dr. Jiangang Chen.



From left to right, Dr. Baoqing Nie (Soochow University), Dr. Jason Raymond, Prof. Jian Liu (Soochow University), Ms. Rachel Yang (PhD student of Nanjing University), Dr. Jiangang Chen.



From left to right, Mr. Yong Wang (Micro-Nano Automation Institute, JITRI, <http://en.jitrimnai.com>), Dr. Jason Raymond, Dr. Jiangang Chen, Alex Yang (OSCAR JITRI Fellow).

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Meet OSCAR's New Staff



Dr. Chen Jiangang

Senior Research Scientist / Prof. Ronald Roy's group

Dr. Chen Jiangang received his PhD from the Hong Kong Polytechnic University in 2011. He was previously Postdoctoral Research Scientist at Columbia University in the City of New York from 2012 to 2013. Dr. Chen worked at Philips Research China from 2013 as a Senior Scientist. He joined OSCAR in 2019. Dr. Chen's research interests include ultrasound imaging, therapeutic ultrasound, acousto-optic imaging, photoacoustic cavitation, ultrasound artificial intelligence and handheld ultrasound.

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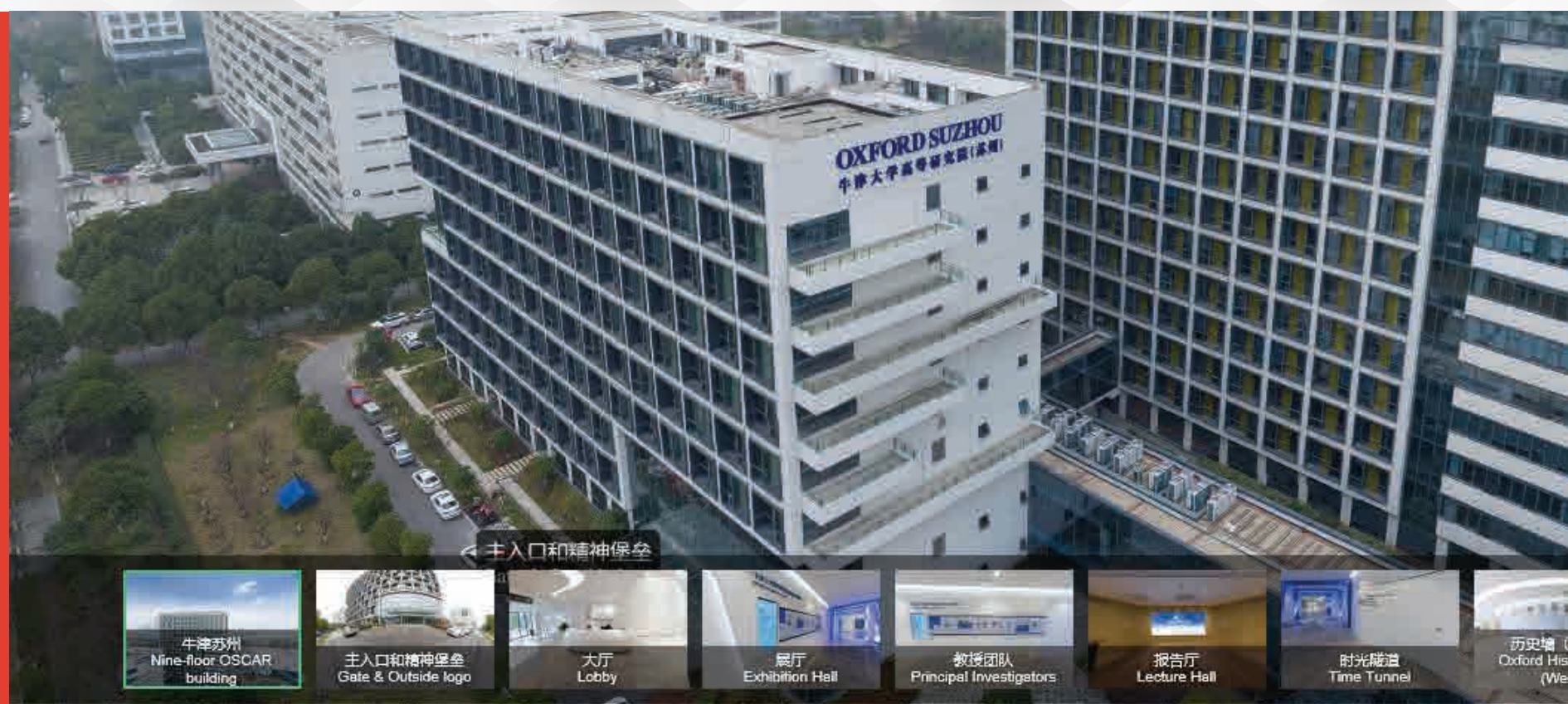


Dr. Wang Dandan

Research Scientist / Prof. Mark Moloney's group

Dr. Wang focuses on the surface modification of materials using carbenes, in order to introduce a variety of properties onto a range of materials. In particular, her research aims to develop polymerization of biscarbene systems, and the introduction of thermal responsive, wetting, adhesion or biocidal behaviors to polymer and protein surfaces.

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Virtual Tour of OSCAR

In February, OSCAR completed the production of virtual tour which will enable visitors to experience more vividly the OSCAR building and facilities before visiting the site personally.

The link below or the WeChat QR code will direct you to the virtual tour—you will see the nine-floor OSCAR building. You can tour the 1F Exhibition Hall, reading the exhibition captions by clicking the white dots.

Virtual tour link:

<http://pano.818qj.com/oscar/>

WeChat QR code for OSCAR virtual tour:



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SIP News in February

Suzhou Industrial Park Seeing a Thriving Development

Suzhou Industrial Park (SIP), the winner of the top spot for three consecutive years in the Chinese Ministry of Commerce's evaluation of national economic and technological development zones, is seeing a thriving development. A series of events after the Chinese Spring Festival holiday showcased this.

Several job fairs following the holiday indicate huge labor demand. The one on February 12 gathered 96 enterprises offering 297 job vacancies to nearly 2,800 job hunters, while the one on February 15 recorded over 3,000 job hunters.

The huge labor demand manifests a prosperous economic development in the area. Many companies such as Ruhlmat Automation Technology (Suzhou) Co., Ltd. and the branches of Positec Group and Ascentage Pharma are anticipating great success this year. At the same time, SIP authorities are making greater efforts to provide better services for enterprises and optimize the local business ecosystem.

"We strive to achieve higher goals relying on better planning and targeted reform," said Wu Qingwen, member of the Standing Committee of CPC Suzhou Committee and secretary of SIP Party Working Committee.

www.Xinhuanet.com
February 20, 2019

http://www.sipac.gov.cn/english/news/201902/t20190221_991276.htm



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SIP News in February

Jinji Lake Startup Mentoring Program Upgraded

SIP authorities recently upgraded the Jinji Lake Startup Mentoring Program, in a move to provide stronger support to local startups and people who intend to start their own businesses.

The program, launched in 2016, consists of Peer Advisory Board meetings, salon sessions, visits to leading enterprises and mentor services that are designed to give startups across biomedicine, AI and nanotech a helping hand in their project initiation, financing and daily operations. Statistics show that it has thus far benefited more than 1,700 high-caliber talents and nearly 100 businesses.

Under the upgraded program, there will be more Peer Advisory Board events, including not only regular exchange meetings between business owners and executives, but also field surveys to help 20 selected enterprises understand and solve their problems, and roadshows for more efficient matching between projects and capitals.

In addition, more opportunities will be offered for startups to learn good practice from well-developed enterprises.

Apart from that, 15 mentors have been paired with over 60 local tech company leaders to help them improve their leadership abilities.

Suzhou Daily,
February 22, 2019

http://www.sipac.gov.cn/english/news/201902/t20190224_992486.htm

