

Foundation Newsletter

October 2023

NATIONAL
FOUNDATION FOR
AUSTRALIA-CHINA
RELATIONS
澳中基金会



CEO Update

The Foundation has had a busy quarter with a range of domestic and international engagements. The Foundation had its first visit to China since establishment and co-hosted the 7th Australia-China High-Level Dialogue with the Chinese People's Institute for Foreign Affairs. CEO Peter Cai also engaged with stakeholders in Beijing, Chengdu, Shanghai and Tianjin during visits in July and August.

In August, the Foundation launched its fifth competitive grants round and conducted two information sessions, including one in Chinese, to guide first-time applicants through the application process.

Foundation staff travelled to Western Australia, South Australia, Queensland, and Victoria to meet with stakeholders and grantees, learn about market trends and provide the latest updates on our work.

We are excited to announce the Foundation [YouTube](#) channel is now live. Check out our videos to learn more about the work we do and subscribe for future updates.

FOUNDATION ACTIVITIES

The 7th Australia-China High Level Dialogue

The Foundation co-hosted the 7th Australia-China High Level Dialogue with the Chinese People's Institute for Foreign Affairs (CPIFA) in Beijing on 7 September. This was the first time the Foundation co-hosted the Dialogue, and the first Dialogue held in three years.



Former Trade Minister the Hon. Dr Craig Emerson led the Australian delegation which included representatives from

government, industry, academia, media and arts. DFAT Secretary Jan Adams, Ambassador Graham Fletcher,

Foundation CEO Peter Cai and Ambassador for Climate Change Kristin Tilley participated, as did former Foreign Minister, the Hon. Julie Bishop.

The Dialogue provides an opportunity for constructive discussion across issues including trade and investment people-to-people links, regional and international security. Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi met the delegation at the conclusion of discussions.

[The Dialogue](#) is another important step towards stabilising the Australia-China relationship.

Foreign Minister visited Foundation's office in Sydney and thanked the staff for their work in delivering the Dialogue.



Chengdu Consulate-General 10th anniversary

CEO Peter Cai was invited as guest of honour to celebrate the 10th anniversary of Australia's Consulate-General in Chengdu in July. The event showcased Australian products and produce, and was attended by over 200 guests.



China Capability: Joerg Wuttke visit

Supported by the Foundation, Asia Society organised a series of Executive briefings for Australian businesses and government by Joerg Wuttke, President Emeritus of the European Union Chamber of Commerce in China and one of the foremost experts on China's economy and its relations with the West. Mr Wuttke spoke about the [economy and business environment in China](#) in three public events, and a series of [media engagements](#).

In Canberra, Mr Wuttke spoke to around 150 DFAT staff at EAD's China Seminar Series on 14 September on the drivers of change in China's economy and how businesses and government should respond.



Joerg Wuttke (left) with Foundation Chair Pru Bennett and Asia Society Australia CEO Anthony Bubalo. Photo credit: Asia Society Australia

2023-24 Grants Round Chinese Language information session

The Foundation's 2023-24 grants round was open for applications from 15 August to 24 September 2023, offering up to \$6.5 million in funding. To assist potential applicants, the Foundation conducted two public information sessions on 29 and 31 August with over 250 attendees. The session on 31 August was presented in Chinese by Foundation staff, providing clearer information to grant applicants within the Chinese Australian community.



[Visit our grants page](#) for information on our 2022-23 grant recipients.

GRANT HIGHLIGHTS

Ochre and Sky – Tianjin

The National Museum of Australia's *Ochre and Sky* exhibition premiered in Tianjin in July. CEO Peter Cai delivered a speech at the opening, which was attended by artists Alison Page, Nik Lachajczak and Zhou Xiaoping. The immersive exhibition, which introduces the Indigenous concept of Country, will tour six Chinese cities with Foundation support.



Melbourne Centre for Cities 'Shared Pathways to COP28' – Masterclass in Hong Kong

The Melbourne Centre for Cities held their second masterclass to build on the abilities of Australian and Chinese city officials as they work to address climate change. Participants completed the masterclass in Hong Kong in July, engaging in a series of workshops, site visits and roundtables. Australia's Consul-General, Ms Elizabeth Ward, spoke to the cohort about diplomacy in action. A small number of Australian and Chinese city officials were selected to attend COP28 in Dubai this December.



Site Visit at the Jockey Club Museum of Climate Change, Hong Kong

'Emil and the Detectives' production in Hong Kong

Adelaide-based Slingsby Theatre performed a sold-out season of *Emil and The Detectives* at the Hong Kong International Arts Carnival in August. While remaining true to the original spirit of the renowned children's story, Slingsby incorporated elements of object theatre and animation to enrich the 'catch the thief' experience.

The Foundation is pleased to support this production, enabling Australia-China collaboration in theatre and the arts.



Asialink Digital Economy Academy

Asialink's ongoing online learning series helps small-to-medium enterprises prepare for entry and success in the China market. The seven-week module started in August covered topics including how Chinese influencers can help Australian brands sell products, differences in online marketplaces, demographics and purchasing trends. The series wraps up in October.



Fast-growing Australian brand Remedy, a previous Asialink module participant, presents its products in Hangzhou, China.

Australia-China Helicobacter Fellowship

In July-August, the Perth-based Marshall Centre hosted five Chinese Fellows as part of the Australia-China Helicobacter Fellowship. With support from the Foundation, this program offers intensive training in *Helicobacter pylori* (H. pylori) research under the guidance of Nobel Laureate Professor Barry Marshall and his team. H. pylori is a leading cause of

stomach cancer that affects over 700 million people in China.

Australia China Business Council's 'Green Channel' workshops

The Australia China Business Council, in collaboration with the ANU, has been leading decarbonisation workshops in major Australian cities as part of its Green Channel initiative. CEO Peter Cai delivered opening at the workshop held in Perth in August, attended by 150 participants across government, industry and academia. They engaged in discussions on challenges and opportunities in Australia-China collaboration on decarbonisation and low-carbon transitions. Future roundtables will be held in Beijing, Shanghai and Canberra in 2024 - 2025.

Sydney Children's Hospitals' Network

Building on the success of the [first China Paediatric Workshop Series](#) in 2021, the Sydney Children's Hospitals' Network began its second series in August. It will deliver ten Chinese-language lectures and seven interactive webinars to Chinese medical practitioners in rural areas, connecting them to renowned Australian paediatricians with the goal to improve child healthcare in remote areas.

William Ah Ket Leadership Program

William Ah Ket was Australia's first Barrister with Chinese and Asian heritage in the early 1900s. The ANU Centre for Asian-Australian Leadership delivered its inaugural William Ah Ket Leadership Program in late August. It aims to upskill emerging Chinese Australian leaders to be advocates and leaders for their communities. Learn more [here](#) and [here](#).



WEHI (Walter and Eliza Hall Institute)'s InSPIRE Program

WEHI continues to develop the brightest minds to solve some of the most complex health problems in the world today. Twenty students from top Chinese universities worked alongside Australia's leading scientists through a 10-week internship program, the International Student Program in Research Experience (InSPIRE). Foundation

CEO Peter Cai joined the group in July and spoke about the importance of Australia-China cooperation in developing the next generation of young biomedical professionals. Learn more about the program and its students [here](#).



The 16th Australia-China Emerging Leaders' Summit (ACELS16)

The Australia-China Youth Association held their ACELS16 in Canberra in July. Themed '*Capitalising on Change: Embracing the Shared Future of Australia-China Relations*', the Summit delved into discussions on philanthropy, education, culture, technology, and global trade. Australia's Ambassador to China, Mr. Graham Fletcher, and Chinese Ambassador to Australia, Mr. Xiao Qian, delivered opening remarks to 90 [emerging leaders](#) from across Australia.



Domestic outreach

Western Australia

In August, CEO Peter Cai visited Perth, engaging stakeholders across various sectors, including government, business, education, health, and the community. Health was a prominent focus of the visit, with meetings held with the Rare Care Centre and WA Health Translation Network.

Queensland

In July, Foundation Chair Pru Bennett travelled to Toowoomba with the Foundation's Business Engagement team to attend the Agrifood Innovation Forum 2023, an annual event driving the adoption of AgTech and seeking opportunities to support the growth of the Australian agrifood business in the future.

In September, the Foundation attended the Association of Asia Pacific Performing Arts Centres (AAPPAC)'s 2023 conference, connecting with representatives from over 70 performing arts centres in the Asia-Pacific region. The 3-day program was structured around the seven global megatrends identified in the [CSIRO's Our Future World](#)

[report](#), with the aim to explore how the arts & culture industry can respond to these challenges.

AAPPAC Chairman and Foundation Advisory Board member, Mr Douglas Gautier AM, delivered the opening speech for the conference.



Delegates at AAPPAC 2023 in Brisbane

Victoria

In August the Foundation travelled to Ballarat and Bendigo to engage with community organisations. The cities boast a rich Chinese heritage dating back to the Victorian gold rush, with historical sites, museums and cultural events that celebrate Chinese migrants' contributions to the Australian society.



Education

CEO Peter Cai continued engagement with Australian universities, meeting Vice-Chancellors and senior representatives from Victoria University, Monash University, Swinburne University of Technology, RMIT, Curtin University and Murdoch University.

UPCOMING EVENTS

17-19 Oct	Canberra	ACBC Canberra Networking Day
19 Oct – 5 Nov	Adelaide	OzAsia Festival
Nov	Beijing, China	National Museum Australia's <i>Ochre and Sky</i> exhibition
6-11 Nov	Haikou, China	Surf Life Saving NSW's aquatic medical emergency response training to frontline health professionals
17-20 Nov	Chengdu, China	The 13 th Australia-China Youth Dialogue
22, 23 & 24 Nov	Melbourne	<i>Celestial Footy</i> book launches in Melbourne, Bendigo and Ballarat
25 Nov	Adelaide	Beach Smarts for Life Water Safety Program in Adelaide
27-29 Nov	Canberra	Dr Stephen FitzGerald Scholars Program
27 Nov – 6 Dec	China	Young Matildas training tour of China
1-12 Dec	Brisbane	Wagner's Ring Cycle premiere

FURTHER READING/WATCHING

- Foundation [YouTube](#) page