RIT-BJTU University

International Partnership Summary

Overview

RIT and Beijing Jiaotong University (BJTU) entered into a memorandum of understanding (MOU) on April 19, 2012. RIT concurrently signed agreements in support of faculty and student partnership programs including: an undergraduate 2+2 program with the Saunders College of Business; a graduate 4+1 program with the Saunders College of Business; and an agreement to support faculty collaboration and delivery of seminar based short term courses at BJTU with collaboration primarily between RIT’s E. Phillip Saunders College of Business, the RIT Department of Economics in the College of Liberal Arts, and BJTU’s School of Economics and Management.

The development of new partnerships in China was a result of the strategic planning for internationalization and our efforts to formally focus on Asian academic partnerships. Key aspects of our strategy included focusing on building ties to national universities in China whose academic reputations match well with RIT’s. The relationship with BJTU developed after a visit by Dr. John Tu, Senior Associate Dean at RIT’s Saunders College of Business. The curricular opportunities that emerged in connection with the Saunders College of Business and College of Liberal Arts, as well as the high quality reputation of BJTU in China allowed the partnership to develop quickly. Dr. Tu’s visit was followed by a series of faculty exchanges and faculty support for advancing a deeper partnership.

Beijing Jiaotong University (BJTU, formerly known as Northern Jiaotong University) is a national key university under the direct administration of the Ministry of Education and now is jointly supported by the Ministry of Education, the China Railway Corporation (formerly known as the Ministry of Railways) and Beijing Municipal Government. BJTU is one of the first universities selected into the “National 211 Project” and the “985 Strength Discipline Innovation Platform” project, one of the first institutions authorized to confer masters and doctoral degrees.

Evolution and Status of the Partnership

RIT’s collaboration with Beijing Jiaotong University is one of our most comprehensive and multidimensional international partnerships. The partnership was initiated in 2011 by the Saunders College of Business as a result of faculty exchanges taking place in 2012. The bilateral interaction of the faculty led to a request for a formal institutional MOU in April 2012, which was signed April 19, 2012 by Dr. Haefner and Dr. Miller and BJTU Vice President Dr. Jun Lui.
The MOU outlines the following goals for the partnership:

*Short and long-term teaching and seminar development, and other forms of faculty collaboration, between RIT’s E. Phillip Saunders College of Business and the BJTU’s School of Economics and Management. The specifics of faculty exchange will be outlined in a separate protocol document related to faculty exchange and collaboration.*

Undergraduate and Graduate student partnership programs, including degree programs, student exchange, study abroad, and other forms of collaboration which enable student participation in academic programs at the partner institution. The partners will specifically develop agreements to enable a graduate and undergraduate student partnership between BJTU’s School of Economics and Management and RIT’s E. Phillip Saunders College of Business. The undergraduate “2+2” partnership will provide opportunities for qualified BJTU students to transfer to RIT for completion of their Bachelor of Science degree in RIT’s E. Phillip Saunders College of Business. The graduate program partnership will provide opportunities for qualified BJTU students to study in either M.S. or M.B.A degree programs at RIT. The specifics of the graduate and undergraduate partnership programs will be outlined in separate protocol documents.

*Collaborative Research, Discovery, Innovation, Learning and Teaching, and other scholarly activities as outlined in separate appropriate protocol documents.*

*Other mutually agreed educational programs.*

**Protocol Agreements**

Subsequent to the MOU, RIT and BJTU signed the following protocol documents:

*Addendum to MOU (Protocol) Student Partnership Program for Undergraduate 2+2*: outlines the protocol for the Student Partnership Programs allowing BJTU students to enroll in 2+2 undergraduate programs as described in the MOU between Beijing Jiaotong University, School of Economics and Management and Rochester Institute of Technology, E. Phillip Saunders College of Business. Agreement signed by Dr. Miller and Dr. Jun Liu, April 19, 2012.

*Addendum to MOU (Protocol) Student Partnership Program for Graduate Study*: outlines the protocol for the Student Partnership Programs allowing BJTU students to enroll in graduate programs as described the MOU between Beijing Jiaotong University, School of Economics and Management and Rochester Institute of Technology, E. Phillip Saunders College of Business. Agreement signed by Dr. Miller and Dr. Jun Liu, April 19, 2012.

*Addendum to MOU (Protocol) RIT SCB Faculty Teaching at BJTU School of Economics and Management*: outlines the protocol for faculty members from the Saunders College of Business at RIT to teach short courses or seminars as described in the MOU between Beijing Jiaotong University, School of Economics and Management and Rochester Institute
of Technology, E. Phillip Saunders College of Business. Agreement signed by Dr. Haefner and Dr. Jun Liu, April 19, 2012.

As a result of these agreements, a total of six (6) BJTU students have enrolled in the graduate partnership program since 2013. In addition, a total of 15 BJTU students have enrolled in the undergraduate program for the same period. 2014-2015 was also the first year of our student exchange agreement with BJTU. Five (5) BJTU exchange students have come to RIT since 2013, and one RIT student attended BJTU for a full year in 2014-2015.

Joint Degree Programs in China

Following a successful partnership exchange and continued interest from both RIT and BJTU to further the relationship, the following agreements were signed in 2014 to formalize the delivery of joint degree programs:

*Agreement for the Delivery of the M.S. Entrepreneurship & Innovative Ventures Degree Program in Beijing, China. Agreement signed by President Destler and President Ning, April 28, 2014.*

*Agreement for the Delivery of Joint Degree Programs of B.S. Management Information Systems (MIS) in Weihai Campus of Beijing Jiaotong University. Agreement signed by President Destler and President Ning, October 20, 2014.*

Beginning Fall of 2015, RIT will enroll students in two joint degree programs in China. The M.S. in Entrepreneurship and Innovative Ventures will be delivered in Beijing with an expected cohort of 20 students. This program will be delivered in a compressed executive format at the BJTU main campus. Courses in this program will be taught by RIT and BJTU faculty. In addition, this fall semester RIT will enroll approximately 116 students in a joint undergraduate program in MIS at the BJTU campus in Weihai. Courses in this program will be taught by both RIT and BJTU faculty.

Description of Beijing Jiaotong University

As one of the three original Jiaotong universities, BJTU grew out of Beijing Railway Management Institute, China’s first higher education institution committed to developing railway management talent, and fostering modern China’s education in railway management and telecommunication technologies. Some renowned people in Chinese history received education at the University, including Liu Han, founder of China’s first radio station; Ying Shangcai, inventor of China’s first high-power steam engine; Zheng Zhenduo, a renowned writer, literary critic and historian; Jin Shixuan, author of China’s first railway management monograph; Xu Jing, pioneer of railway transport economics in China; and Yang Rumei, one of the early major accountants in China. Some

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famous scholars worked at the University, including Xiang Zhejun, Chief Prosecutor of the Tokyo Trial; and, Ma Yinchu, a noted demographer and economist.

BJTU has achieved distinction in offering a range of academic programs over its one hundred years of development. The university has been closely connected with the nation’s railway industry since its establishment. The faculty and students of BJTU have made important contributions to the growth of China’s railways, having participated in almost all the major events in different stages of development of the industry. While improving its unique strengths in such disciplines as traffic and transportation, communication and information, economics and management, BJTU has fostered a strong sense of collaboration and innovation. The university has become a major supplier of skilled professionals in information technology, urban rail transit, economics, and in related social sciences in China.

![Figure 1: Panorama of the BJTU Campus in Beijing, China](Image)

BJTU is located in Beijing, the capital city of China with east and west campuses in Haidian District. It covers a total area of almost 1,100 mu (1 mu approximately equals 667 square meters), and its building area is 920 thousand square meters. The university is also planning to establish a new campus in the name of Modern Railway Transportation Innovation Base in Pinggu District. BJTU is comprised of 14 academic schools, 2 vocational colleges and 1 independent college. BJTU has 2,952 faculty and staff members including 1,790 full-time teachers. (Among the full-time teaching staff, 1,083 have senior and associate professional titles.) As of 2014, the University enrolled 13,690 undergraduate students, 7,727 graduate students, 2,593 doctoral students, 8,052 professional degree students and 8,324 adult students. There are 1,387 short-term and long-term international students in total.

BJTU has 8 national key disciplines. There are 15 post-doc research stations, 20 level-1 disciplines offering doctoral degree programs, 34 level-1 disciplines offering master’s degree programs, 13 professional degree programs such as MBA, EMBA, M.Eng, M.Acc, M.Law, etc. The University has 46 research platforms at ministry/provincial level and above, including 5 national level research platforms and 41 ministerial and provincial level research platforms. In the past five years, the university supervised nearly 11,000 research projects such as National 973 Plan, National 863 Plan, National Science Fund, National Social Science Fund and other projects established by Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Railways. The research fund reached 3.8 billion RMB (USD
611,000,000). BTJU has published 2,135 papers in SCIE citations and 3,873 papers in EI citations. There were 2,047 patent applications and 1,262 approvals.

BJTU has established cooperative relations with more than 200 universities, institutions and high-tech companies from 37 countries. BJTU has signed over 103 strategic cooperation agreements with enterprises in the field of transportation, logistics, information, energy and other industries and local governments to carry out long-term and extensive cooperation in the field of talents cultivation and scientific researches.

The RIT relationship with BJTU is primarily focused on the BJTU School of Economics and Management (SEM). School of Economics and Management (SEM) was renamed and formed with the merging of School of Economics, Department of Industrial and Construction Management and Department of Material Management Engineering in 1996. Currently, SEM has faculty and staff of 221 members, which include 51 professors, 84 associate professors. At present, the total enrollment of SEM is more than 4500 students, with more than 300 doctoral students, 2700 graduate students and 1500 undergraduate students. SEM has always highly focused on engaging students in global learning to raise students’ global competence.
Weihai Location

The Weihai Municipal Government, with support from China’s Central Government and the Ministry of Education, has already made a significant initial investment in the new campus in Weihai, China. The campus encompasses a 74.1 hectare area located 5.5 km from the sea. The first phase included a total of 10 buildings and 136,000 square meters of construction. The buildings currently include two academic buildings, one administrative building, laboratory facilities, a library, a scholars exchange center, a dining hall, a dormitory, a logistics building, and a stadium. The second phase of construction is expected to be completed by September of 2017. Along with the RIT-BJTU joint degree programs, the campus will also be used to deliver other academic programs offered by BJTU. See below for pictures of the Weihai campus.

Figure 2: Aerial photo of the BJTU Weihai campus

Figure 3: Photo of an academic building on the BJTU Weihai campus
Beijing Location

The M.S. in Entrepreneurship and Innovative Ventures program will be delivered at BJTU’s main campus located in Beijing, the capital city of China. The university grounds, divided into an east and west campus, covers a total area of almost 667 square meters. The main BJTU campus provides facilities for 14 academic schools, 2 vocational colleges and 1 independent college, employing almost 3,000 faculty and staff. The facilities include two libraries which include space for individual and group studying, electronic reading rooms, and approximately 300 computers. The classroom facilities can hold from 30 to 200 students and include smart-classroom technology. The campus also includes a stadium and other student life facilities. See below for pictures of the Beijing campus.
RIT Stakeholder Communication on the Partnership

September 18, 2013 RIT China-Asia Initiatives, including the Hunan and Beijing Jiaotong University Partnerships presented to the RIT Global Delivery Corporation Board.


April 4, 2014 Details RIT-Hunan and RIT-Beijing Jiaotong Partnerships presented to the RIT Global Delivery Corporation Board.

September 25, 2014 RIT-Hunan Agreement establishing the joint secondary school presented to the RIT Global Delivery Corporation Board. A motion to approve the draft agreement is approved.

November 13, 2014 RIT-Hunan and RIT-Beijing Jiaotong University partnerships presented to the Education Core Committee of the RIT Board of Trustees.

January 12, 2015 RIT-Hunan and RIT-Beijing Jiaotong University partnerships are presented to the Executive Committee of the RIT Board of Trustees.

February 9, 2015 RIT-Hunan and RIT-Beijing Jiaotong University partnerships are presented to International Education Taskforce of the Academic Senate.

Major Delegation Visits

December 8-9, 2011, initial exploratory visit by Dr. John Tu to the BJTU campus in Beijing, China.

December 10-13, 2012, Dr. James Myers, Dr. Tu, and Dr. Ogilvie visit the BJTU campus in Beijing.

May 18 – June 1, 2013, Dr. Jeffrey Wagner travels to the BJTU campus in Beijing as a visiting lecturer with the BJTU School of Economics and Management.

January 7-10, 2014, Dr. James Myers, visits Beijing and Weihai campus site.

May 2014, Dr. Zhi Tang travels to the BJTU campus in Beijing as a visiting lecturer with the BJTU School of Economics and Management.

August 10 – 12, 2014, Dr. James Myers travels to BJTU in Beijing, meetings with BJTU administration.
October 29 – 31, 2014, Delegation from BJTU visits RIT including BJTU President Ning, meetings with RIT leadership and signing ceremony for the Agreement for the Delivery of Joint Degree Programs of B.S. Management Information Systems (MIS)

January 4 – 7, 2014, Provost Haefner, Executive V.P. Watters, Executive V.P. Miller, and Dr. Myers meets BJTU delegation at the Weihai campus site.

Spring Semester – AY 14-15, three BJTU students enroll at RIT as exchange scholars

June 23 – July 1, 2015, Delegation from BJTU visits RIT, meetings with SCB faculty and RIT administration

Key people from Beijing Jiaotong University

**Dr. Bin Ning** is a professor and President of Beijing Jiaotong University (BJTU). He received his B.S., M.S. and Ph.D degree in Electronic and information Engineering from Beijing Jiaotong University(Northern Jiaotong University), conducting research and teaching in Intelligent Control Systems for rail systems since 1982. His main research interests are in the areas of train operation control systems for high speed railways, urban rail transit systems, intelligent transport systems, fault-tolerant design and fault-diagnosis, and system safety and reliability for digital systems. As a team leader, he and his team have successfully developed CBTC(Communication Based Train Control) system for metro system, Universal Cab signaling and ATP (Automatic Train Protection) systems for Chinese railways and were awarded the national science and technology awards.

Dr. Ning is a Fellow of IEEE, a Fellow of the Association of International Railway Signaling Engineers(IRSE); a Fellow of The Institute of Engineering and Technology(IET); a Fellow of China Railway Society; the Deputy Director of China Traffic System Engineering Society; the Deputy Director of Beijing Railway Society; a Member of China Overseas Returned Scholars Association; a Member of the editorial board of the Journal of Railways in China; the Chair of the Technical Committee on Railroad Systems and Applications (RSA) of IEEE Intelligent Transportation Systems Society; an Associate Editor of IEEE Transaction on Intelligent Transportation Systems (2010-2014).

**Dr. Jun Liu** is currently Vice President of BJTU. In 1994, he received his Ph.D. in transportation planning and management from NJTU. He worked as the Director of Transportation System Simulation Center of NJTU from April 1994 to 1998, Director of Information Teaching and Research section of School of Traffic and Transportation, Dean of the Department of Transportation Information Management. From July 2004 to July 2007, he served as Director of Science and Technology Office, and Director of the Engineering Department 1 Office of Science and Technology Committee of Ministry of Education. Since July 2007, he worked as Dean of School of Traffic and Transportation. In 2012, he was appointed Vice President of BJTU.
**Dr. Yugong Xu** is the Assistant President of BJTU. He obtained his B.S. in Locomotive Diesel Engine at Northern Jiaotong University in January, 1982 and his M.S. from Beijing Institute of Technology in 1984. From September 1990 to October 1998, he worked and studied at Dresden University of Technology in Germany as a research fellow and obtained Ph.D. (Dr.-Ing) in April, 1998. From October, 1998 to August, 2000, he pursued an advanced research work in Mechanical School at Chemnitz University of Technology in Germany. He became an associate professor in September, 2000, and since 2001 he has been a professor in School of Mechanical Electronic & Control Engineering at Beijing Jiaotong University. In June, 2008, he took over the position of Director at Office of International Cooperation and Exchange (Office of Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan Affairs) and was appointed as Assistant President of Beijing Jiaotong University in April 2014.

**Dr. Qiusheng Zhang** is currently the dean and professor of accounting at the BJTU School of Economics and Management. Mr. Zhang has 15 years of experience as economist and financial analyst in infrastructure industries, such as transportation, energy and communications. Prof. Zhang is a specialist of corporate finance, financial accounting, mergers and acquisitions, restructuring, strategic management, industrial organizations. Prof. Zhang has been Chinese Certified Accountant since 1995 and has profound experience of auditing and financial evaluation. Prof. Zhang has been invited to speak at academic and industrial meetings in Japan, Sweden, Germany, Thailand, Taiwan, and Singapore. He was also a senior visiting scholar at the University of Colorado at Boulder.

**Dr. Hairong Dong** is currently Deputy Director of the Office of International Affairs at BJTU as well as Professor at the BJTU State Key Laboratory of Rail Traffic Control and Safety. She received her Ph.D. from Peking University in 2002 in Control Theory and Application. In 2007, she served as a Project Level-3 Expert with the Department of Transportation for the Beijing Organizing Committee for the Olympic Games. Her research interests include intelligent rail transportation, automatic train operation, parallel control and management for railway systems and stability and robustness of complex systems control theory.

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**Key contacts at RIT**

Dr. Jeremy Haefner, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

Dr. James Myers, Associate Provost, International Education & Global Programs

Dr. Jacqueline Mozrall, Dean, Saunders College of Business

Dr. John Tu, Associate Dean and Professor, Saunders College of Business