

Defining the Future of the
Public Research University

UC San Diego

14th Best University in the World

Center for World-Class Universities at
Shanghai Jiao Tong University, 2015

Understanding China

China has the world's largest population and second-largest economy. It also has the second-largest military and is the largest exporter and producer of a broad range of goods. At the same time, the nation is experiencing tremendous economic, political, social and environmental instability. In critical research, artistic production and student training, the next generation of humanists and social scientists at UC San Diego is casting new light on this global powerhouse.

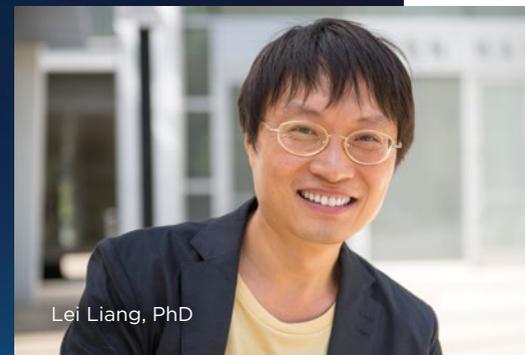
Shanghai, with a population of more than 24 million, is the largest city in China and the largest city proper worldwide.



Ruixue Jia, PhD

Exploring Policy Across Disciplines and Borders

How the incentives for Chinese politicians affect economic growth, the environment and workplace safety are key research topics of **Ruixue Jia, PhD**, an assistant professor and economist at UC San Diego's School of Global Policy and Strategy. A recipient of the 2015 Hellman Fellowship—a prestigious award for young, distinctive and creative faculty—Jia plans to look next at the spread of air pollution from China to South Korea and how the rise of China affects its neighbor's economy and environment.



Lei Liang, PhD

Transforming Sound to Compose New Music

Drawing on the rich traditions of his native China, composer **Lei Liang, PhD**, creates new musical forms by blending his Asian heritage with cutting-edge technologies. A composer-in-residence at UC San Diego's Qualcomm Institute, Liang collaborates with audio software engineers and developers to produce multimedia works that are defining the sound—and look—of new music. His concerto for alto saxophone and orchestra, *Xiaoxiang*, was one of three finalists for the 2015 Pulitzer Prize for music.



Karl Gerth, PhD

Tracking Consumer Culture on a Massive Scale

Over the past 30 years, hundreds of millions of Chinese have adopted new consumer lifestyles. **Karl Gerth, PhD**, professor of history and the Hsiu Endowed Chair in Chinese Studies at UC San Diego, is a leading expert on the interconnected and wide-ranging ramifications of this consumerism. His research highlights the dangerous consequences of unbridled growth: rampant and life-threatening harm to the environment. Gerth also co-directs the renowned graduate program, committed to training the future generations of modern China scholars.

UC San Diego
Learn more at ucsd.edu.