OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE AND COOPERATION

SWUFE
NEWSLETTER

Southwestern University of Finance and Economics

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22 June 2026

Education Minister visits SWUFE



Minister of Education Huai Jinpeng visited SWUFE on 22 June, accompanied by Sichuan Vice Governor Hu Yun, SWUFE Chairman Zhao Jianjun and President Li Yongqiang. His itinerary included the university history museum, Liu Shibai Academy and the Research Institute of Xi Jinping Economic Thought.

He reviewed the Academy's integrated student community model and economics talent development, and met four research teams working on political economy, modern finance, machine learning and blockchain. At a symposium with university leaders, Huai encouraged SWUFE to advance an independent knowledge system for Chinese economics, strengthen frontier research in technology finance and develop innovative talent to support national governance and China's financial development.

3–5 July 2026

Economists examine technology-driven growth



SWUFE and the Chinese Economist Society (CES) co-hosted the 2026 CES China Annual Conference at the Liulin Campus on 3–5 July. Hundreds of scholars, including participants from Peking, Tsinghua and Stanford universities, explored “Technology-Driven Growth in a Changing Global Economy: AI, Green Transition, and China’s Macroeconomic Rebalancing.” CES President Chen Kaiji of Emory University and SWUFE Vice Presidents Li Zhisheng and Wang Qing gave opening remarks.

Keynotes by Fang Hanming (University of Pennsylvania), Song Zheng (Chinese University of Hong Kong), Miao Jianjun (Zhejiang University), Wei Shangjin (Columbia University) and Xiong Wei (Princeton University) addressed pensions, fiscal allocation, inequality and innovation, digital entrepreneurship, and China’s market institutions. The program included eight invited thematic sessions, six on-site parallel sessions, eleven virtual sessions and three journal editor forums.

4–5 July 2026

Accounting research in the age of AI



The 2026 Tianfu International Accounting Symposium, hosted by SWUFE in Chengdu on 4–5 July, brought together scholars from institutions including the University of Toronto, Boston College, the University of Tennessee, the National University of Singapore and leading universities in Hong Kong and Shenzhen.

Vice President Ma Yongqiang called for international collaboration on the impact of AI and big data on accounting information. Professor Zuo Luo of the National University of Singapore delivered the keynote, “Economic Logic of Accounting.” Research presentations examined audit quality, AI and regulation, and cross-border audit oversight. Two parallel sessions on 5 July featured early-career faculty from SWUFE’s School of Accounting, with studies on audit governance, innovation incentives and M&A disclosure.

13 September 2026

SWUFE and Wuzhong Group advance AI for traditional Chinese medicine



SWUFE and Wuzhong Group signed technology transfer and strategic cooperation agreements at the Liulin Campus on 13 September, supporting commercialization of SWUFE's Large AI Model and Intelligent System for Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) Diagnosis and Treatment. Led by Professor Huazhen Lin, the research team developed a large-scale TCM dataset and models for tongue diagnosis, medical consultation and prescription generation.

SWUFE Vice President Ma Yongqiang and Wuzhong Group Executive Vice President Zhang Cheng signed the technology transfer agreement. Guo Jianjun, Dean of the School of Statistics and Data Science, and Wuzhong Group's Yang Shanshan signed the strategic cooperation agreement. The partners will establish a joint laboratory for healthcare AI and intelligent risk management in economics and finance, while advancing talent development and research commercialization.

22 September 2026

A new chapter in international finance education



SWUFE's School of International Finance welcomed its first cohort of 120 master's and doctoral students at an opening ceremony on 22 September in the East Hall of Guanghua Building, Guanghua Campus. Zhao Jianjun, Secretary of the CPC Committee of SWUFE, delivered remarks, and President Li Yongqiang presided.

Established in May 2026 in partnership with China Construction Bank, the School is part of a national finance talent initiative launched in April by the Ministry of Education and the National Financial Regulatory Administration. SWUFE is one of the first six pilot universities. The School combines integrated master's-doctoral education with three stages of training: academic foundations on campus, industry practice and a return to campus for in-depth research.

16 October 2026

National recognition for whole-grain education

SWUFE was named one of ten national exemplary cases for implementing the Whole Grain Action Plan on 16 October, at the main event for World Food Day and National Food Security Awareness Week, held at the University of Science and Technology of China.

The university's model connects field-based learning, science outreach, varied whole-grain meals and routine food conservation. Campus dining halls offer more than 130 whole-grain meal varieties, while experiential activities and the Clean Your Plate campaign link nutrition, practical learning and waste reduction. SWUFE shared its experience at the event, which was livestreamed by Xinhuanet and covered by People's Daily.



17 October 2026

80 hours to build the next generation of financial applications



The final of the 8th “Chengdu 80” Global FinTech Product Design and Development Competition took place at SWUFE’s Liulin Campus on 17 October. Jointly organized by SWUFE and Chengdu Jiaozi Financial Holding Group, it brought together teams from eight universities for an 80-hour challenge to build AI-native financial application platforms, each demonstrated through three distinct applications.

Queen’s University in Canada received the Pioneer Award; SWUFE and the University of Hong Kong received the Leader Award. Tsinghua University, the University of Science and Technology of China, the University of Electronic Science and Technology of China, the National University of Singapore and ETH Zurich received the Innovator Award. The closing ceremony also marked the launch of the SWUFE–21st Century Business Herald Joint Studio to support collaboration on fintech, AI-powered financial information services, financial services supporting international expansion and AI-related professional certification.

20 October 2026

SWUFE and CODA partner to support overseas expansion



SWUFE and the China Overseas Development Association (CODA) co-hosted the Guanghua Forum and signed a cooperation agreement at the Guanghua Campus on 20 October. President Li Yongqiang met a delegation led by CODA President He Zhenwei, while Vice President Gui Fuqiang outlined plans for a collaborative innovation platform linking an industry association with a business school.

Fu Chengyu, former Chairman of Sinopec Group, He Zhenwei and Zhao Jingmei, Executive Dean of SWUFE's School of International Finance, discussed overseas expansion, compliance, cross-border risk management, innovation and cross-cultural integration. The partnership will provide enterprises in western China with integrated services in talent development, think tank support, project matchmaking and risk prevention, supporting their international expansion through closer collaboration between industry and education.

20 October 2026

Sino-French Institute welcomes its inaugural class



On 20 October, SWUFE President Li Yongqiang met a delegation led by Mohamed Afennich of MBS School of Business to discuss the Sino-French Institute, faculty exchanges, research collaboration and teaching quality. The delegation also attended the Institute's inaugural-class welcome ceremony at the Liulin Campus, where Li appointed three Co-Directors of the joint programs.

Established in 2026 following collaboration that began in 2016, the Institute is approved by China's Ministry of Education. It offers three undergraduate programs—Financial Mathematics, Big Data Management and Application, and Supply Chain Management—and a master's program in Project Management. Li and Afennich emphasized interdisciplinary learning, cross-cultural exchange, innovation, and digital and AI literacy in preparing students for emerging fields of finance and economics.