

Visit by the Shanghai Maritime University

Our close relationship with China was again demonstrated when I hosted a visit from the Shanghai Maritime University in March.

We had previously visited the Shanghai Maritime University in June 2010. Our delegation met with Professor Jin Yongxing, Vice President of the Shanghai Maritime University (SMU). Professor Yongxing explained the Master's program on Logistics Engineering and Management which is jointly run by SMU and the University Of Western Australia (UWA).

Professor Yongxing led the delegation, with the Shanghai Maritime University keen to send students to universities in Western Australia, either on a short-term basis, or long term basis. The main purpose of the delegation's visit to Western Australia is to present a proposal to the Murdoch University and Curtin University. Professor Yongxing hopes that UWA will continue to maintain the good cooperation and nurture more high-level logistics personnel.

The Deputy President, Mr Jin aims to send 500 students to Perth, which has been very encouraging to the university's industry members. I understand 64 students from SMU are involved in the first intake to UWA this year. This is a direct consequence of our parliamentary delegation visit to SMU in June 2010.

China places a very strong emphasis on education and there appears to be high levels of education standards and qualifications in their institutions and of their population.

I was extremely grateful to SMU and Professor Yongxing for their hospitality during our visit in June 2010 and it was great to host Professor Yongxing and his delegation here in Perth and show them our hospitality in return.

It is important that Western Australia maintains a close education relationship with China and it is strategic to have cooperation with one of China's best universities.



Picture: The delegation from the Shanghai Maritime University (in no particular order) Professor JIN Yongxing, Vice President of Shanghai Maritime University, Professor Qu Linchi, Dean of School of Economics and Management, Associate Professor, ZHUANG Jiafang, Deputy Director of Academic Affairs Office, with the President of the Legislative Council, Hon Barry House and the Deputy President of the Legislative Council, Hon Matt Benson-Lidholm.