



SACRAMENTO
STATE

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College of Arts and Letters
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Global Partnerships Day @ Julia Morgan House

Wednesday, May 20, 2026

Agenda Overview

12:00 PM – 1:15 PM | Boxed Lunches | Room 2A

Department Chairs (or representative) and other leaders of the College of Arts & Letters will host a working lunch with our invited partners, creating space for informal conversation and relationship-building.

1:30 PM – 2:45 PM | Concurrent Working Sessions

- **Local & Regional Partnerships Session | Room 2A**
Department Chairs (or representative) and other leaders of the College of Arts & Letters and local/regional collaborators
- **Asia-Focused Session | 1A**
International partners and faculty
- **France / Francophone & Caribbean-Focused Session | Room 1B**
International partners and faculty

3:00 PM – 4:30 PM | Student Scholars & Partners Forum | Room 2A

A collaborative session bringing together **student leaders, faculty, and all local, regional, and international partners**, centered on shared learning, mentorship, and future-focused collaboration.

4:30 PM – 5:00 PM | Transition to Evening Program

Time for movement, informal conversation, and schedule flexibility.

5:00 PM – 5:30 PM | Cultural Interlude | Courtyard

Music and dance performances highlighting the cultural richness of our partnerships.

5:30 PM – 7:00 PM | MOU Signings & Evening Reception | Courtyard

A formal recognition of partnerships alongside an evening reception with faculty, partners, donors, and community collaborators.



On behalf of the Office of the Dean of the College of Arts & Letters at Sacramento State, we are pleased to invite you to a special reception honoring our donors, global partners, and community collaborators, to be held at the historic Julia Morgan House.

May 20, 2026 - 5pm-7pm

Attire Note:

Guests are kindly encouraged to bring a change of business-formal attire for the evening reception. As the program continues through the afternoon and into the early evening at the same location, changing on site will allow for a seamless transition between events. Please also note that late May temperatures in Sacramento can vary significantly (often warm during the day, with cooler evening temperatures), so we recommend planning attire accordingly.



Wednesday, May 20

Partnership & Legacy at the Renowned Julia Morgan House

12:00-4:30 PM – Lunch, Meetings & Working Sessions

Collaborative discussions, strategic dialogue, and cultural exchange

4:30-5:00 PM – Transition to the Evening Program

A brief pause for guests to change attire

5:00-5:30 PM – Interlude with Music and Dance Performances

An artistic moment highlighting the creative life of our College of Arts and Letters

5:30-7:00 PM – MOU Signing Ceremony & Reception

A formal signing and celebratory reception with our national and international partners

**Global
Partnerships Week
Arts & Letters**



SACRAMENTO
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COLLEGE OF ARTS & LETTERS

I. Short Biography of the visitors from Beijing Normal – Hong Kong Baptist University (BNBU), Zhuhai, China



Professor CHEN Zhi

President, Chair Professor of BNBU, and Fellow of HKAH

Prof. CHEN is an internationally renowned scholar and researcher in Chinese Studies. His diversified interests in Chinese Studies include classical studies and early Chinese culture and history, historical writings, traditional Chinese poetry, excavated documents: bronze inscriptions and bamboo and silk writings, and intellectual history of the Ming and Qing dynasties. He is the founding Editor-in-Chief of several prestigious academic journals and book series, both Chinese and English, and was appointed as local convenor of Chinese Language and Literature in the Panel of Humanities of RAE 2009-14. Prof. Chen published extensively in US., Europe, the UK, Japan, and Greater China Regions in top-tier venues.

In addition to his remarkable scholarship, Prof. CHEN is an experienced university administrator. Apart from being the Head of the Department of Chinese at HKBU between 2010 and 2013, Prof. CHEN was Acting Dean of the Faculty of Arts between 2015 and 2017. He was the founding Director of Mr. Simon Suen and Mrs. Mary Suen Sino-Human Institute between 2011 and 2014. Between 2012 and 2014, Prof. CHEN was appointed Founding Acting Director of Jao Tsung-I Academy of Sinology and became the Director from 2014 to present. From 2018, Prof. CHEN served as the Board Director of Wuhan College.

Prof. CHEN joined Beijing Normal-Hong Kong Baptist University in 2018 as the Vice President (Academic) and was promoted to Provost in 2020. From 2022 to 2024, Prof. CHEN held the position of President at Hong Kong Chu Hai College. Presently, Prof. CHEN serves as President of Beijing Normal-Hong Kong Baptist University.



Dr. Darren Zhiquan WENG

Director, International Development Office of BNBU

Dr. Darren Weng is the Director of International Development Office (IDO) at BNBU and he has concurrent appointment as an Associate Professor of Economics at the university. Since joining BNBU in 2014, he has held numerous administrative appointments as Program Director of Applied Economics programme (2020-22), the Assistant Dean (2020-24) and the Associate Dean (2024-25) in the Faculty of Business and Management at BNBU.

Dr. Darren Weng received his PhD and MA degree in economics from the Ohio State University, after completing his undergraduate studies at Lakehead University in Canada and Fudan University in China. Prior to joining BNBU, Dr. Weng worked as an Associate Professor of Economics and PhD supervisor at the Southwestern University of Finance and Economics in Chengdu, China, a lecturer at the Ohio State University, and a marketing analytics researcher at the Center for Advanced Consumer Insights co-sponsored by Nationwide Insurance and the Fisher College of Business at the Ohio State University.

Dr. Weng's research interests span the areas of industrial economics, behavioral economics and the Chinese public policies. His research projects have attracted financial support from the National Science Foundation of China and the Chinese Ministry of Education.

II. Introduction of BNBU

Beijing Normal-Hong Kong Baptist University (BNBU) is a pioneering liberal arts university located in Zhuhai, China, established in 2005 through a partnership between Beijing Normal University and Hong Kong Baptist University. As the first full-scale higher education collaboration between mainland China and Hong Kong, BNBU combines an international English-medium curriculum with a strong emphasis on interdisciplinary learning, global perspectives, and Chinese cultural education. The university offers undergraduate, postgraduate, and research programmes across fields such as business, science, humanities, artificial intelligence, and creative arts, attracting more than 11,000 students and faculty from around the world. Known for its international outlook and strong graduate outcomes with more than 80% of its graduates pursuing advanced degrees overseas, BNBU aims to cultivate globally minded graduates equipped with both professional expertise and a broad liberal arts foundation.

In a groundbreaking full-scale collaboration in higher education between the Chinese mainland and Hong Kong, Beijing Normal-Hong Kong Baptist University (BNBU) was established in 2005. Situated in Zhuhai City within the thriving Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, BNBU stands as the first modern university in the Chinese mainland to champion a liberal arts education. BNBU is committed to enriching the higher education landscape and fostering students who possess professional acumen, whole-person development, a deep understanding of China and a global outlook.

Liberal Arts Education

BNBU has pioneered a unique model for liberal arts education in China. Its student-centred approach encourages robust student-teacher interaction and promotes a balance between arts and sciences, nurturing interdisciplinary and holistically-developed individuals.

With English as the medium of instruction, BNBU's curriculum aligns with international standards, fostering high-calibre academic performance. BNBU offers a comprehensive range of programmes from bachelor's degrees to post-doctoral studies.

Diversity and Development

BNBU possesses a diverse student body from around the globe. BNBU comprises seven faculties and schools (the Faculty of Business and Management, the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, the Faculty of Science and Technology, the School of Culture and Creativity, the School of Artificial Intelligence and Liberal Arts, the School of General Education and the Graduate School), providing education to more than 10,000 students across approximately 30 undergraduate programmes in 13 departments, as well as research and taught postgraduate programmes. BNBU undergraduates receive Hong Kong Baptist University (HKBU) Bachelor's Degrees and BNBU Graduation Certificates, while postgraduates earn HKBU degrees.

Over 80% of BNBU graduates have pursued postgraduate studies in recent years, with the majority gaining admission to the QS world's top 100 universities. The remaining graduates are highly sought after by Fortune 500 companies, government agencies, and non-profit organisations, with some featuring in the Forbes 30 under 30 list.

International Faculty and Innovative Research

BNBU's faculty is a multicultural group of lecturers and professors from around 40 countries and regions. Faculty members across all departments have international experience, with nearly 90% holding doctoral degrees. Many faculty members hail from world-renowned universities such as Stanford, Harvard, Oxford, Cambridge, Peking and Hong Kong, providing students with high-quality academic resources and advanced teaching methods.

BNBU serves as a nexus for industry, academia and research collaboration, promoting the practical application of research findings. By integrating resources in the Greater Bay Area and beyond, BNBU drives forward-looking scientific research with provincial key laboratories and funding support from all levels.

Global Perspective Grounded in Chinese Culture

BNBU's diverse student and staff body fosters an internationalised campus environment. BNBU has partnered with nearly a hundred prestigious universities and educational institutions around the globe, offering students opportunities for global exposure through summer courses, exchange programmes and more. The university has established its Boston Center and London Center to facilitate academic exchange and cooperation.

BNBU also offers courses and activities designed to deepen students' understanding of China's politics, economy, society and culture. Through courses on traditional Chinese arts and culture, such as Guqin, Shedao, Yayue and ceramics, students can immerse themselves in China's rich cultural heritage.

From Greater Bay Area to World

Strategically located in Zhuhai, one of China's most liveable cities, BNBU is an integral part of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area. Zhuhai, one of the first places where modern Chinese culture met Western influences, is conveniently adjacent to Macao and Hong Kong, connected by the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge.

BNBU actively collaborates with local government, agencies and institutions, contributing to the development of various sectors. BNBU professors lend their expertise to external institutions in fields such as environmental protection, eldercare, culture and creativity, and artificial intelligence, providing valuable insights and advice.

III. Key Figures and Statistics

- One of the first Sino-Foreign Joint Universities approved by the Chinese Ministry of Education in 2005
- First innovative university in the Chinese mainland dedicated to liberal arts education
- English as the medium of instructions in all courses
- More than 9000 undergraduate students and about 1500 graduate students
- 6 faculties and schools providing 32 undergraduate degree programmes
- Faculty and students from more than 40 countries and regions
- 100% of lecturers and professors have overseas study or work experience, with nearly 90% holding doctoral degrees
- 80+ global partner institutions
- Above 84% graduate pursue further study abroad, more than 80% of whom study at QS world top 100 universities
- More than 60 student interest clubs on campus



Delegation Visit

PARIS 1 PANTHÉON-SORBONNE UNIVERSITY

20th & 22nd May 2026

Location:
CSUS, Sacramento CA

PURPOSE OF THE VISIT

- Participation in the Partner Week of CSUS
- Exchange of views on prospective educational and research initiatives

UNIVERSITY REPRESENTATIVES

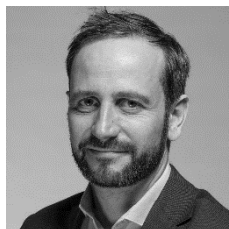


Dr. Annie Soriot

Director of International Relations

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Annie Soriot is Director of International Relations at Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne University. Prior to joining the university, she was Deputy Director of Programs at the Global Development Network, a public international organisation located in New Delhi (Headquarters) and Washington. She has worked on global research capacity building programs for the Least Developed Countries and on various research projects, such as Natural wealth accounting (Madagascar, Mauritius, Morocco) and Financial inclusion in Latin American countries. She was also the director of the 'Annual Global Development Conference', which brings together researchers, corporate leaders, and political figures to discuss critical development issues (Structural Transformation in Africa, Agriculture for Sustainable Growth). Back in France, she was Director of international affairs at University of Rennes. Previously, she was the Academic Director of Economics and Social Sciences Department at the *École des Ponts ParisTech*, a French graduate engineering school. She holds a PhD in Economics and has taught at several universities including Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, Paris Saclay and University of Liege. She was bestowed Knight of the Order of Academic Palms in 2011.



Pr. Rémi Bazillier

Vice President of the Board of Governors for International Relations

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Rémi Bazillier is a professor of economics at Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne University and researcher at the *Centre d'économie de la Sorbonne* (CES). Since May 2025, he has been Vice President of the Board of Governors for International Relations. He is also Director of the Master's programme in Development Economics. As a specialist in development economics, his research focuses on labour regulations in developing countries and the local impact of artisanal and industrial mining in Africa. His work has been published in numerous international journals, including the *European Economic Review*, the *Journal of Development Economics*, the *Journal of Comparative Economics*, and *World Development*. Previously, he was deputy director of the

Sorbonne School of Economics, in charge of international relations (2019-2025). He was notably head of the international degrees of the Sorbonne School of Economics, especially at Cairo University. Involved in the European alliance Una Europa, he has coordinated the setting up of the Una Europa joint bachelor in Sustainability (BASUS) and the undergraduate programme of Economics – International Track at the Sorbonne School of Economics.

ABOUT PARIS 1 PANTHÉON-SORBONNE



Building on an 800-year heritage, Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne University is today the largest French university in humanities and social sciences. Its motto is: *Omnibus sapientia, unicuique excellentia* - knowledge for all, excellence for everyone.

Since 1971, its teaching and research activities have been organised around three main disciplinary areas: arts and humanities, law and political science, and economics and management. Located in the heart of the Latin Quarter and across some 20 locations throughout Paris and the Île-de-France region, the university has over 45,000 students, more than 20% of whom are international students (representing 146 nationalities). Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne has 10 academic departments and 4 institutes, including many international courses and degrees, as well as English-taught modules. More than 1,500 teachers-researchers and 1,200 administrative and library staff members enable tens of thousands of students to graduate each year.

Research at Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne University is renowned on both national and international levels. It is carried out through 37 research units, 24 of which are under joint supervision with the French National Centre for Scientific Research and/or the National Research Institute for Sustainable Development, as well as 10 doctoral schools. Each year, the university is home to over 2,100 PhD students and more than 300 theses and accreditations to supervise research (HDR) are defended. Since its creation in 2017, the Panthéon-Sorbonne Foundation has played a pivotal role in developing and fostering innovative projects in higher education and research, in partnership with key players in the economic sector. This includes the promotion and support of research through the development of Chairs on current and innovative topics.

The internationalisation of teaching and research at Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne is growing thanks to the university's active participation in numerous international networks and programmes and its strong links with many institutions overseas. This gives both faculty members and students the opportunity

to interact with a vast network of international partners, especially within the framework of the Una Europa alliance of European universities, of which it is a founding member and partner, along with 10 other leading higher education and research institutions.

KEY FIGURES (2024-2025)

International

9,300+ international students
320+ partners in **73** countries
900+ outgoing exchange students
720 incoming exchange students
60+ international programmes
130+ visiting professors

Research

10 doctoral schools
300+ PhD theses and HDR each year
37 research units
2,100+ PhD students
1,500+ teachers-researchers
1,200 administrative staff members



 [See more](#)

