

# NEWSLETTER

ASI Global

September 15, 2024

## FEATURED STORY

### ASI Global Signs Groundbreaking Agreement for Construction Talent Development with National Department of Public Works and Infrastructure of The Republic of South Africa

On September 6th, ASI Global has officially signed an agreement with the National Department of Public Works and Infrastructure of South Africa to launch *the Construction Talent Development Program*, a strategic initiative designed to elevate the skills of professionals in South Africa's construction sector. The signing ceremony took place at the Beijing headquarter of GEC Academy, where Ms. Wendy Wang, Secretary General of ASI Global, signed on behalf of ASI Global, and Mr. Dean Macpherson, Minister of Public Works and Infrastructure, represented the South African delegation.



Focusing on four key areas, the *Construction Talent Development Program* will provide **leadership and project management training** for government officials and project managers, **hands-on skills training** for workers, and introduce **innovative construction technologies** for safer, more sustainable practices, as part of a broader effort to elevate construction standards and foster industry innovation. The training program also includes **cross-cultural exchanges** between South Africa and China, fostering knowledge sharing and collaboration in both construction and education. Through this initiative, ASI Global will share best practices from China's highly developed vocational education system with its South African counterparts, helping to cultivate a new generation of skilled construction professionals, as well as contributing to the ongoing internationalization of vocational training, injecting fresh momentum into the global development of education.

## FEATURED STORY

### ASI Global Signs Groundbreaking Agreement for Construction Talent Development with National Department of Public Works and Infrastructure of The Republic of South Africa



The cooperation between ASI Global and the National Department of Public Works and Infrastructure of South Africa reflects our vision of promoting the internationalization of vocational education. This initiative of the training program represents a key step toward empowering a new generation of construction talent while paving the way for deeper global collaboration and modernization in education and industry alike. The signing of the Construction Talent Development Program also coincided with the 2024 Forum on China-Africa Cooperation Summit; therefore, we would also like to offer our best wishes for the successful hosting and conclusion of the Summit, fostering modernization and cooperation between China and South Africa, with education playing a pivotal role in driving forward the future of both nations.



## FEATURED STORY

### Hands-On Medical Training: ASI Global's Four-Week Summer Program at Semmelweis



From July 15 to August 9, ASI Global hosted the **Semmelweis International Summer Program** at Semmelweis University in Hungary, providing 19 students with a comprehensive mix of theoretical learning and hands-on clinical training. Participants gained practical experience in clinical research by working in teams on projects focused on systematic reviews, patient registries, and clinical trials. They also took part in case studies, surgical observations, and diagnostic exercises, all under the mentorship of seasoned clinicians. This immersive program was designed to sharpen both the theoretical knowledge and practical skills of international students, equipping them for future academic and research opportunities. Following this success, we plan to kick off the 2025 Medical Training Program early next year, offering even more chances for students to further develop their clinical expertise and professional connections.



#### Gallery



Photos by the Directorate of International Relations – Semmelweis University

Please click [HERE](#) to find more details about this Semmelweis International Summer Program on Semmelweis News.

## For our next Global Top Scientists Forum on Land Economy

Upcoming Event

Join us on **September 25th, from 20:00 to 21:00, Beijing Time, via [Zoom](#) (Zoom ID: 810 8919 6116; Password: 240925)** for an engaging online open lecture by [Professor Philip Allmendinger](#), **Former Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the University of Bath and Professor of Land Economy at the University of Cambridge**. In this session, Professor Allmendinger will delve into the evolving field of land economy, highlighting its increasing importance in today's world. He will also offer valuable advice and guidance for prospective applicants to the University of Cambridge.



**Professor Phil  
Allmendinger**

Professor at Department of Land Economy, University  
of Cambridge

## Faculty Work Gallery

This month we introduced a *paper* co-written by **Dr. Oliver Scott Curry**. If you are interested in showcasing your research, grants, book releases, conference presentations, or any work you deem valuable and interesting to share, please feel free to contact us.

### Moral universals: A machine-reading analysis of 256 societies



School of Anthropology & Museum  
Ethnography

RESEARCH ARTICLE · Volume 10, Issue 6, e25940, March 30, 2024 · Open Access

Moral universals: A machine-reading analysis of 256 societies

Mark Alfano<sup>a</sup>, Marc Cheong<sup>b</sup>, Oliver Scott Curry<sup>c</sup>

#### Abstract

What is the cross-cultural prevalence of the seven moral values posited by the theory of “morality-as-cooperation”? Previous research, using laborious hand-coding of ethnographic accounts of ethics from 60 societies, found examples of most of the seven morals in most societies, and observed these morals with equal frequency across cultural regions. Here we replicate and extend this analysis by developing a new Morality-as-Cooperation Dictionary (MAC-D) and using Linguistic Inquiry and Word Count (LIWC) to machine-code ethnographic accounts of morality from an additional 196 societies (the entire Human Relations Area Files, or HRAF, corpus). Again, we find evidence of most of the seven morals in most societies, across all cultural regions. The new method allows us to detect minor variations in morals across region and subsistence strategy. And we successfully validate the new machine-coding against the previous hand-coding. In light of these findings, MAC-D emerges as a theoretically-motivated, comprehensive, and validated tool for machine-reading moral corpora. We conclude by discussing the limitations of the current study, as well as prospects for future research.



**Dr Oliver Scott Curry**, Research Director of kindness.org; Research Affiliate in School of Anthropology at University of Oxford.

#### Abstract:

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Alfano, M., Cheong, M., & **Curry, O. S.** (2024). Moral universals: A machine-reading analysis of 256 societies. *Heliyon*, 10(6).

Please click [HERE](#) to access the full text.

## Introducing New Faces

*We're pleased to welcome 2 new faces to the GEC team - Lu & Peng!*



**Lu LIU (Doris)**

doris.liu@gecademy.cn

### **01 Educational background:**

B.A. in Sociology, Changchun  
University of Technology, 2014-2018

### **02 What are your current duties?**

As an iHUB Program Coordinator, my main responsibilities include facilitating communication and collaboration between professors and students, as well as coordinating both online and onsite research programs.

### **03 What made you choose GEC Academy?**

I chose GEC Academy because, as a leader in the industry, it offers exciting opportunities for growth and innovation. I also have a background in the education sector, making this role a perfect fit for my experience and skills.

### **04 What are your specialisms and interests?**

I have a diverse array of interests and hobbies, with a particular passion for outdoor sports. I thrive on the thrill of engaging with nature and the excitement of tackling new challenges. Whether it's hiking through rugged trails, cycling across varied terrains, or participating in water sports, I relish the opportunity to adapt to different environments. Each adventure is a chance to push my limits, embrace the unexpected, and find joy in the journey.

## Introducing New Faces

*We're pleased to welcome 2 new faces to the GEC team - Lu & Peng!*

### 01 Educational background:

B.S. in Industrial Engineering, Shandong University of Science and Technology, 2014-2018

### 02 What are your current duties?

I took the position as an iHUB Program Coordinator, handling communication and collaboration with professors and students, and I coordinate both online and onsite research programs.



**Peng DONG (Dolphin)**  
peng.dong@gecademy.cn

### 03 What made you choose GEC Academy?

I was drawn to GEC Academy because of its innovative products and promising development prospects. I believe the company's educational offerings have significant potential to enhance the learning experience for students. Additionally, I have a strong passion for the education industry.

### 04 What are your specialisms and interests?

As an ISFJ personality, I find joy in listening to music, especially R&B, which helps me relax and connect with my emotions. I'm also a fan of science fiction movies, as they allow me to explore imaginative worlds and unique concepts. Additionally, I love taking city walks, which give me the chance to discover new places, enjoy the urban landscape, and unwind from daily routines.



## AMAZING WORK FROM GEC STUDENTS

Each month, GEC will introduce some of our exceptional students' work in a specific research area to our audiences. This month we selected two articles from our previous students in the field of **Education**.

### **Study on the Influencing Factors of Chinese Students Attending Private High Schools**

Based on a detailed explanation of the general employment diversion policy, this paper analyzes the factors that affect Chinese parents' choice of private high schools and vocational schools by integrating three representative cases through interview analysis, and analyzes the family and social conflicts caused by the general employment diversion policy from a multi-dimensional perspective, as well as possible solutions. Through the reference of the existing research results of the general employment diversion policy and the interview of three cases, Chinese parents with different economic conditions are more inclined to choose high school education, which leads to the competition of educational resources in private high schools, as well as family conflicts and economic burdens...



Click [HERE](#) to read the full text!

### **A Study on the Sense of Belonging of Chinese Students in the United States in the Post-epidemic Era**



Many Chinese international students happened to be stuck in negative emotions, which can be concluded as a lack of sense of belonging during these turbulent times. The lack of sense of belonging can mainly originate from three factors: socialization, academic performance, and internship application. This article will first look into the troubles caused by these three main factors and then develop targeted solutions to remit the condition and improve Chinese international students' sense of belonging in the United States...

Click [HERE](#) to read the full text!





## Join Us at ASI Global Technical Sponsorship Conferences: Open Calling for Committee Members & Speakers

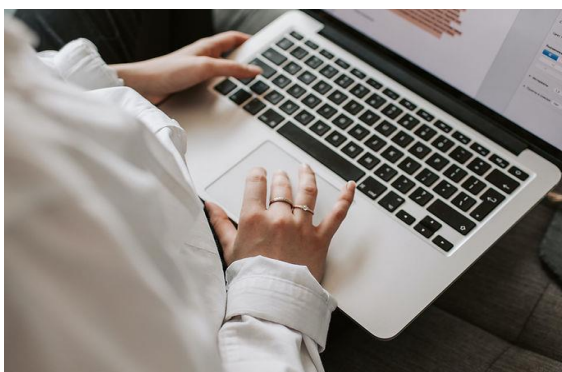
**We are thrilled to hear from our GEC faculty members, teaching fellows, teaching assistants (PhD holders), and scholars.**

Since 2023, ASI Global has taken immense pride in its role as a technical sponsor for a diverse array of international academic conferences, with a vision entailing both promoting interdisciplinary cooperation and nurturing an inclusive, collaborative educational environment that extends its benefits beyond the scientific community to society at large. **Hence, we are enthusiastic about extending invitations to more of our esteemed GEC Faculty members and Teaching Fellows, encouraging your active involvement as committee members or innovative speakers and storytellers**, who are passionate about sharing innovative ideas with the brightest minds, providing enriching insights, offering innovative experiences, and sharing real-world examples, among other valuable contributions to ASI Global technical sponsorship conferences.

### Upcoming Conferences

For September, we have 2 technical sponsorship conferences language research and communication, materials engineering, new energy and chemistry of systems, products, processes, and services in academic and industrial field, and beyond.

- September 20 - 22, Beijing, China
- [The 2024 2nd International Conference on Materials Engineering, New Energy and Chemistry \(MENECE 2024\)](#)
- September 20 - 22, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- [The 2024 International Conference on Language Research and Communication](#)



## WHAT PROGRAMS DOES GEC OFFER IN SEPTEMBER 2024 SEMESTER?

In September, GEC launches a total of 32 online research programs in the areas of Finance, Marketing, Computer Science, Electrical Engineering, Biomedical Science and so on, partners with Beijing Normal University, and Shantou University to develop students' global competence through the GEC Global Competence Development Course. This month, GEC also provides 5 personalized programs for Southwestern University of Finance and Economics, Xidian University, and Nanjing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics. We will continue to gather students, faculty, and staff for an unrivaled academic experience.

The tables

[GEC 2024 September Program List](#),  
[Universities offering GEC Global Competence Courses in September 2024](#),  
[GEC Personalized Programs for Universities in September 2024](#)

shows detailed information about the programs that GEC launches in September.

Please click [HERE](#) to find previous program/course offerings.

### Newsletter Improvement Survey

We would love to hear your thoughts or feedback on how we can improve your experience with our newsletter.

For your convenience, please click [HERE](#) to fill out the survey link.

ASI Global

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