

FEATURED STORY

2024 iHUB Research Program Finale: A Summer of Innovation and Inspiration!

The 2024 iHUB Summer Research Program wrapped up on August 9th, marking a perfect end to an incredible journey. Over the summer, we spanned six cities—Beijing, Shanghai, Shenzhen, Hong Kong, Oxford, and Cambridge—across ten campuses, hosting nearly 100 innovative projects.

With the support of 100+ professors and the enthusiasm of nearly 2,000 students, the iHUB experience has been nothing short of extraordinary. A huge thank you to all our GEC Teaching Faculty and iHUBers for making this possible. We can't wait to do it all again next year—**I Have You By my side!**

We've captured some of the best moments from this unforgettable journey. Enjoy the highlights on YouTube!

- [Click **HERE** to watch the best moments of 2024 iHUB Research Program - Term 1 on YouTube](#)



- [Click **HERE** to watch the best moments of 2024 iHUB Research Program - Term 2 on YouTube](#)



FEATURED STORY

ICDS 2024 Achieves Success with ASI Global's Technical Sponsorship

From August 2-4, 2024, Shanghai welcomed the 2nd International Conference on Design Science (ICDS 2024), a prominent gathering technically sponsored by ASI Global. ICDS 2024 highlighted the integration of transformative technologies such as big data, digital twins, and artificial intelligence into design science, promoting interdisciplinary collaboration and driving innovation in the field.



Organized by the School of Mechanical Engineering at Shanghai Jiao Tong University, in collaboration with the State Key Laboratory of Mechanical System and Vibration and IEEE, ICDS 2024 also benefited from the support of the SJTU-GEC Academy Center for Innovative Design for Interdisciplinary Studies, the Shanghai Society for Modern Design Theory and Methodology Research, and the Xie Youbai Design Science Research Foundation. The event attracted over 150 distinguished scholars, experts, and students from around the world, including participants from China, the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, and South Korea.



Professor Zhinan Zhang of Shanghai Jiao Tong University, who is also the **Director of the SJTU - GEC Center for Innovative Design for Interdisciplinary Studies**, chaired the conference. **Professor Lifeng Xi, Vice President of Shanghai Jiao Tong University** offered online opening remarks, reflecting on the successes of ICDS 2023 and expressing hopes that ICDS 2024 would further promote academic exchange and strengthen collaborations within the design science community.

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Professor Youbai Xie, Member of the Chinese Academy of Engineering, delivered an opening address, delving into the topics *What is Design* and *Is There Science in Design*. He outlined four core principles of design science and emphasized the importance of boosting design competitiveness in the AI era to spur new advancements.



The conference featured keynote speeches from more than ten leading professors and scholars from top global institutions, such as the University of Cambridge, Georgia Institute of Technology, City University of Hong Kong, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, and Zhejiang University, as well as experts from leading industrial design enterprises. The sessions covered a range of cutting-edge topics in design science, including product design, structural design, industrial design, and generative design. Notably, **Professor Colm Durkan, Professor of Nanoengineering and Head of the Engineering Department at the University of Cambridge, who is also a teaching faculty member at GEC Academy, gave a keynote lecture on *Designing Nanodevices*.**



FEATURED STORY

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During the conference, parallel sessions were held on topics such as *Advanced Technologies and System Design in Engineering, AI-Driven Innovations and Human Factors in Design,* and the *Youth Innovation Session*, which provided a global platform for young students to showcase their creativity and talents, aimed at inspiring interest in science and design, fostering innovation, and promoting a global perspective. The conference also celebrated the latest research in design science, awarding prizes for Best Papers and Best Orals.



ASI Global remains dedicated to leading the way in technological advancements, such as AI and design science, and their interdisciplinary applications. By sponsoring and organizing international conferences and developing forward-thinking educational programs, we strive to integrate these innovations into our educational approach, to cultivate a generation of learners who possess the global competence and adaptability essential for success in an ever-evolving world.

To stay informed about our upcoming ASI Global Technical Sponsorship Conferences, please visit the “[Join Us at ASI Global Technical Sponsorship Conferences](#)” section in the GEC Monthly Newsletter or check the website [HERE](#) for the latest updates.

GEC July Faculty Meeting Recap— Onsite Seminar on Exploring AI and Sustainability in Education

On July 18th, GEC Academy successfully hosted a series of impactful onsite seminars in Beijing, Shanghai, and Shenzhen, forming a vital part of the iHUB research program. These seminars aimed to advance the academic discourse at the intersection of AI, education, and sustainability, emphasizing the transformative potential of artificial intelligence in shaping the future of learning. Seventeen distinguished teaching faculty members and professors contributed their expertise as guest speakers, engaging with an audience of iHUB students who are poised to be the next generation of innovators in these critical fields.

As a mark of the cooperation initiative between the Digital Education Futures Initiative (DEFI) at Cambridge University and ASI Global, we were honored to have Professor Steven Watson from DEFI as a special guest speaker in the Shenzhen seminar, sharing his cutting-edge insights on the integration of AI and education. This partnership aims to foster international exchange and innovation in the fields of AI and education.

- **AI Empowering Education: Innovation and Future in Shenzhen & Beijing**



Faculty meetings in Shenzhen and Beijing

The Shenzhen seminar on **"AI Empowering Education: Innovation and Future"** was moderated by Ms. Wendy Wang, Co-founder of GEC Academy and Secretary General of ASI Global. In Beijing, Ms. Hui Xu, Co-founder and Director of the Academic Committee of GEC Academy, led the session. Both seminars brought together professors from diverse fields, such as Computer and Data Science, Mechanical and Electrical Engineering, Social Sciences, and Nutrition. **The discussions addressed three critical issues concerning the integration of AI in education: (1) the current and potential applications of AI in teaching and course preparation; (2) the impact of AI on educational equity, specifically whether it is narrowing or exacerbating resource gaps; (3) the ethical implications of AI use in student assignments.**

The seminars explored how AI is reshaping education, from innovative teaching methods to equitable resource distribution, and the potential of educational technology to tackle global issues. The use of tools like ChatGPT as learning assistants and their roles in college applications sparked extensive debate. Additionally, the application of AI in writing, filmmaking, and the creative industries was also mentioned, illustrating how technology revitalizes art and creativity. Despite the opportunities AI presents to education, the importance of critical thinking when using new technologies and the educators' role in guiding students on the proper use of AI was also emphasized.

GEC July Faculty Meeting Recap— Onsite Seminar on Exploring AI and Sustainability in Education

One of the highlights of the meeting was the presentation by [Professor Steven Watson from DEFI at Cambridge University](#). He discussed AI's profound impact on the future of education and advocated for interdisciplinary collaboration to utilize educational technology in addressing global challenges like social inclusion and climate change. Professor Watson stressed the importance of AI literacy, encompassing both technical skills and an awareness of broader societal impacts. He concluded by calling for a balanced integration of innovative AI with traditional educational practices.



Insightful Q&A sessions

• [Zero-Carbon Campus: Education Leading the Green Future in Shanghai](#)

At the seminar in Shanghai, hosted by Tracy Zhou, Associate Director of the Academic Management Team at GEC Academy, the focus was on sustainability. Guest speakers from renowned universities in fields related to Civil Engineering and Business discussed the feasibility of achieving a zero-carbon campus and the initiatives that prestigious institutions are undertaking to reach this goal. There were also lively debates on whether a bottom-up or top-down approach is more effective for implementation. Additionally, they offered unique perspectives on strategies for integrating sustainable development into the curriculum.



Faculty meeting in Shanghai

Please kindly reach out to your academic manager if you need the recording of the meeting.

Faculty Work Gallery

This month we introduced a **paper** written by **Professor Ian Eames**. 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.

Free-surface channel flow around a square cylinder



Free-surface channel flow around a square cylinder

Eames, Ian; Robinson, Tristan; (2024) Free-surface channel flow around a square cylinder. *Journal of Fluid Mechanics*, 980, Article A16. [10.1017/jfm.2023.964](https://doi.org/10.1017/jfm.2023.964)



PROF
Ian Eames



Text
Eames_free-surface-channel-flow-around-a-square-cylinder.pdf
[Download \(1MB\)](#) | [Preview](#)

Abstract

The free-surface channel flow around a square cylinder is analysed, over a wide range of blocking ratios, using three-dimensional simulations. The state of the flow is characterised in terms of the Froude number upstream and downstream of the square cylinder. The simulations confirm the presence of the subcritical and choked states, and provide new insight into the supercritical state and band-gap through an analysis of how the momentum flux varies with Froude number along the channel. The influence of the blocking ratio on the flow state and drag force is analysed and shows the significant rise of drag in the choked regime.

Prof. Ian Eames, Professor of Fluid Mechanics in Dept of Mechanical Engineering at University College London

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Eames, I., & Robinson, T. (2024). Free-surface channel flow around a square cylinder. *Journal of Fluid Mechanics*, 980, A16.

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

GEC CULTURE

Beyond iHUB Classrooms: GEC Teaching Faculty's Insightful Cultural Encounters in China!



Click [HERE](#) to watch the video on YouTube!

During the iHUB Research Program this summer, we have invited GEC Teaching Faculty and friends to step outside their academic roles and immerse themselves in experiences that transcend the classroom, exploring the heartbeat of China in its most vibrant cities – Beijing, Shanghai, and Shenzhen. We designed a series of trips that would provide our teaching faculty with a glimpse into China's past through its traditional artifacts, as well as expose them to the modern creative culture and arts that pulse through these cities. We believe that this sightseeing tour would deepen our connections with each other, through shared cultural encounters that spark dialogue and foster understanding of the diverse and intricate tapestry of Chinese life.

- **Cultural Visits**



In Beijing, our distinguished professors were granted an intimate look into China's storied history through visits to the [Capital Museum](#) and the [Chinese Archaeological Museum](#). Both are treasure troves of historical artifacts, offering a tangible and immersive connection to the ancient narratives that have shaped China's rich cultural identity.

GEC CULTURE



Shanghai's artistic legacy was on full display at the **Shanghai Museum East**, where they encountered an expansive collection that not only chronicled the evolution of Chinese art and history but also served as a visual feast, reflecting the dynamic heritage of this cosmopolitan city.



The trip took on a vibrant, contemporary edge in Shenzhen. The **Sea World Culture and Arts Center (SWCAC)** and the **OCT Loft Creative Culture Park** presented a fusion of tradition with innovation, showcasing Shenzhen's role as a crucible of China's cultural renaissance and its unwavering commitment to creativity and progress.

GEC CULTURE

• Chinese Intangible Cultural Heritage Experiences

In Beijing, professors were introduced to the art of **Kite-making**, a practice with a history dating back to the Han Dynasty. This hands-on workshop was an homage to the skill and creativity of Chinese craftsmanship.

Participants painted and crafted their kites while also learning about the unique design principles that distinguish Chinese kites from their Western counterparts.



Shanghai offered a serene experience in **Traditional Chinese Incense-Making**, an art that has long been intertwined with the pursuit of tranquility and mindfulness in Chinese culture. Professors were engaged in the calming process of creating incense, breathing in the scents that have been a part of Chinese rituals and daily life for centuries, offering a moment of respite and reflection amidst the bustling city.

In Shenzhen, professors' cultural exploration delved into **Movable Type Printing**, a hands-on journey into one of China's Four Great Inventions. The workshop provided them with a direct connection to the revolutionary innovation that democratized literacy and propelled the dissemination of knowledge, so that they could experience the tangible history of communication, from the first printed characters to the vast libraries of today.



GEC CULTURE

• Reception Dinner

In each city—Beijing, Shanghai, and Shenzhen—the reception dinners served as convivial gatherings that fostered informal connections between the GEC Team and our esteemed teaching faculty members. These dinners provided an invaluable opportunity to express our sincere gratitude to the faculty and friends who joined us in China, to teach in the iHUB Research Program. We also took this occasion to express our great appreciation about the unwavering support and dedication that our faculty have shown over the years. Beyond food and drink, we also shared our hopes, dreams, and aspirations for the future of our partnership.



As we reflect on the iHUB Research Program this summer, we stand in awe of the remarkable achievements that have marked our journey. Accomplishing more than 100 programs and serving nearly 2000 students, we would like to owe this accomplishment to the dedication and hard work of our teaching faculty and the unwavering support of the GEC Team. And we are thrilled to invite our faculty members to join us at iHUB in China, and we are thrilled by the prospect of future onsite events that will be replete with exciting trips and excursions designed to immerse you in the rich tapestry of Chinese traditional culture and modern life. .



Introducing New Faces

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



Wenyu ZHANG (Boyce)
wenyu.zhang@gecademy.cn

01 Educational background:

Ph.D. in Management, Peking University

02 What are your current duties?

I am currently working as a Product Manager at ASI Global, where I am primarily responsible for developing products related to global competency. This includes designing and developing content for Global Competence Development project curriculum systems tailored to students at different educational stages, as well as developing products for Global Competence Development project workshops.

03 What made you choose GEC Academy?

What really attracts me are two things: the work itself and the team environment. I've been studying and working in the education area since 2010, and I've always been passionate about education. Global competency is a new area for me, and I'm genuinely curious and excited to explore it. Plus, I really appreciate the positive and dynamic work environment at GEC Academy. The team is young, energetic, and full of positive energy. Working with colleagues like Wendy, Di, Xuefei, Niuniu, and Chen has shown me just how professional, dedicated, and supportive they are. I'm really happy to be part of such a cohesive team.

04 What are your specialisms and interests?

I have worked in research and consulting services related to student development, education policy, teaching and learning, and school management, which has given me a comprehensive understanding of current educational developments and issues.

Outside of work, I enjoy reading, exercising, traveling, and watching science fiction movies. Looking forward to connecting with everyone and perhaps exploring some new places together!.

Introducing New Faces

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

01 Educational background:

Master of Public Administration,
University of Washington;
Bachelor of Arts in English, China
Foreign Affairs University.

02 What are your current duties?

I'm a Faculty Outreach Specialist at GEC Academy. My daily work includes connecting professors, PhD candidates and master students for our online, onsite and 1 on 1 programs.



Ruyi GUAN (Angel)
rui.guan@gecademy.cn

03 What made you choose GEC Academy?

I am always excited about doing meaningful things with outstanding people. For me, GEC is the platform that allows me to realize that. As the leading institution within the industry, GEC has innovative ideas and excellent opportunities for personal development. People here are also very kind and energetic. I believe I can grow a lot with GEC Academy.

04 What are your specialisms and interests?

When I was young, I learned Guzheng for years and participated in several performance. I love listening to music and watching movies and TV series in my spare time. I even write reviews! I also love photography. Every time I go travelling, I will take pictures for my family and my friends. Recording their smile and the beautiful scenery is one of my happiest moments in my life.



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 **Psychology**.

Moral Reasoning and Moral Judgement in People with Autism Spectrum Disorder and Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder

The moral distinction between those with mental disorders and normal persons are important to be understood in terms of investigating causes and treatments, yet earlier studies produced inconsistent findings. The aim of this study is to provide a thorough knowledge by evaluating the methodologies and findings of previous research about moral reasoning in ADHD and ASD individuals...

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



Literature Review: The Effects of Attachment Styles and Perfectionism on Life Satisfaction

Attachment and perfectionism are two important psychological factors that can significantly influence individual satisfaction in various aspects of life, including relationships, work, and personal achievement. This essay reviews four studies that explore the connection between perfectionism—whether it's positive or negative—and attachment type and their impact on life satisfaction or marital satisfaction...

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

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



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.

We are thrilled to hear from our GEC faculty members, teaching fellows, teaching assistants (PhD holders), and scholars whose expertise aligns with conference themes and interdisciplinary intersections below. Please feel free to send your CVs, resumes, bibliographies, or personal links to the specific conference contact email for detailed information. For experts and scholars seeking technical sponsorship, who are passionate about initiating international conferences, and wish to contribute to global academic exchange, please do not hesitate to contact us at conference@gecacademy.com.

Upcoming Conferences

For April, we have one technical sponsorship conference covering the integration of data science principles into various fields, encompassing domains as diverse as healthcare, finance, environmental science, and beyond.

- August 16-18, Macau, China
- [The 2024 2nd International Symposium on Humanities and Social Sciences: Connecting Ideas, Cultures, and Communities](#)
- August 30 - September 1, Singapore
- [The 2024 International Conference on Innovations in Applied Mathematics, Physics and Astronomy](#)

Please click [HERE](#) to explore these exciting upcoming events!

WHAT PROGRAMS DOES GEC OFFER IN AUGUST 2024 SEMESTER?

In August, GEC launches a total of 82 online research programs in the areas of Finance, Computer Science, Public Health, Economics, Linguistics, Biomedical Engineering, Electronic Engineering, Marketing, Environmental Engineering and so on. This month, GEC also sets up 3 personalized programs for Beijing Institute of Technology and Guangzhou Medical University. We will continue to gather students, faculty, and staff for an unrivaled academic experience..

The tables

[GEC 2024 August Program List](#)

[GEC Personalized Programs for Universities in August](#)

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

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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