Located in the historical and picturesque city of Hangzhou, Zhejiang University is perfectly positioned to be an innovative, comprehensive research university with world-class standing. Throughout its 117-year history, Zhejiang University has maintained a commitment towards cultivating talent, with the primary goals of pursuing excellence, advancing science and technology, developing society and promoting culture. This spirit is manifested in the university motto “Seeking the Truth and Pioneering New Trails”. Zhejiang University is a comprehensive research university with national and international reach. Research at Zhejiang University spans 12 academic disciplines, including philosophy, economics, law, education, literature, history, art, science, engineering, agriculture, medicine and management. In 2013, the research fund at Zhejiang University totalled 3 billion RMB. Moreover, 116 research projects have each secured a grant of more than 10 million RMB.

**Q: What are Zhejiang University’s key strengths?**

Zhejiang University covers the most diverse areas of study of all universities in China and is ranked number 159 in academic influence by the Essential Science Indicator (ESI) ranking of September 2014. With 17 areas of study ranked in the top 1% in the ESI, Zhejiang University is the most rapidly improving university in China. Upside potential of zhejiang university is not only because of the China’s rapid economic development, but also because the Zhejiang province is a highly innovative and economically dynamic region with an annual GDP of 3.75 trillion RMB (612 billion USD).

Hangzhou, the capital of Zhejiang Province, is a cultural and scenic city, described by the Italian explorer Marco Polo as “the most beautiful and most attractive town”. Alibaba, a world-renowned Chinese enterprise is headquartered in Hangzhou. These geographic advantages also contribute to the growing potential of Zhejiang University.

**Q: What qualities does Zhejiang University look for when hiring researchers?**

Each year, well-known scholars from academic institutions around the world choose Zhejiang University as a home where they can express their strong academic creativity. We hope that the most competent young scholars from a range of research fields will join Zhejiang University, leading their research teams to produce internationally competitive academic achievements, and using their charm and ability to influence and train young students.

**Q: What do you consider to be the main challenges for Zhejiang University to become a world-class university?**

I studied and worked in the UK for 18 years, prior to which I had gained 20 years of research experience in China. These experiences were important for my personal growth as well as my academic and administrative capacity; they also allow me to view different academic and educational institutions objectively. I believe the key to building a world-class university is to gather a team of international faculty. But by “international” I do not mean that the focus has to be on the actual nationalities of the faculty members; instead it refers to an open mind and the ability to communicate with the world.

“Hangzhou, the capital of Zhejiang Province, is a cultural and scenic city, described by the Italian explorer Marco Polo as “the most beautiful and most attractive town”.

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**Professor Yonghua Song**, Executive Vice-President, Zhejiang University, Hangzhou, China

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Why did you choose Zhejiang University?

"Zhejiang University acts as a bridge to the exciting and fast-growing Chinese market. It allows researchers to harvest real-life problems and provides abundant opportunities for applying research outcomes to real systems. Besides providing opportunities to work with the best students in China, Zhejiang also has an excellent research environment that nurtures world-class research."

Professor Wenyuan Xu, College of Electrical Engineering

"For a young researcher, China is a fascinating country to begin an independent career. The creativity and pace of modernization will impress everyone who visits, and having a position here gives you the opportunity to focus on what really matters: research and the education of a new generation of scientists. Zhejiang University is one of the top universities in China and provides starting faculty with excellent working conditions.

The Department of Chemistry supports its young professors wherever it can, gives them much freedom and welcomes interdisciplinary collaboration. I am happy to have brilliant and helpful colleagues as well as smart, hard-working students."

Research Professor Simon Duttwyler, Department of Chemistry

"As a former PhD student at Zhejiang University, I have always valued its strong support network, so after doing two postdoc programmes here, when the opportunity came for me to stay and teach, I took it without hesitation. I am proud to be on the faculty of the College of Agriculture and Biotechnology and I feel like I can never repay my alma mater for transforming me from a young boy into the quality teacher that I am today."

Lecturer Imran Haider Shamsi (Ying Lan), Department of Agronomy

"I decided to return to China in 2009 after working abroad for 15 years as I believe that China is the best place to find sustainable development solutions to address our planet’s limited resources. Indeed, the Yangtze River Delta, where Zhejiang University is located, is an area that has prospered continuously for thousands of years without major environmental decay. In particular, I enjoy the freedom to pursue my area of interest as a researcher and the open-minded atmosphere at Zhejiang University."

Professor Xiaogang Peng, Department of Chemistry

"Although I officially joined Zhejiang University in 2011, I have been collaborating with researchers at Zhejiang University since 2002. I have found it to be a place with great academic freedom, and I believe that's the reason why Zhejiang University is one of the best universities in China. In addition, I am grateful to be able to work in the beautiful city of Hangzhou, where I grew up. Zhejiang University is also strong in engineering, which provides a fantastic platform for physical science research and interdisciplinary collaboration — activities that are of particular importance to me."

Professor Fuchun Zhang, Department of Physics

"Zhejiang University’s location in the economically dynamic region of the Yangtze River Delta provided much opportunity for translational research and a large patient base for biomedical research."

Professor Lanjuan Li, Director of the State Key Laboratory for Infectious Diseases Diagnosis and Treatment

As a national university, Zhejiang University is building itself into an innovative and comprehensive research institution of world class standing. Zhejiang University adheres to the spirit of seeking the truth and pioneering new trails, dedicating itself to creating and disseminating knowledge, inheriting and advancing civilization, serving and leading society, and promoting national prosperity, social development and human progress.