

## Vice President Shen Wenqing Meets with NSERC Executive Vice-President



NSFC Vice President, Prof. Shen Wenqing met with Ms. Margaret McCuaig-Johnston, Executive Vice-President of the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) on August 9, 2012.

Prof. Shen extended his welcome to Ms. Margaret McCuaig-Johnston for her visit to NSFC and then gave a brief introduction on NSFC. Speaking of the tie between NSFC and NSERC, Prof. Shen said that the MoU between the two organizations was signed in as early as 1987, with intention to promote exchange activities between the two countries. He hoped the two organizations to further strengthen the communication and coordination in order to promote the substantial bilateral collaboration.

Ms. Margaret McCuaig-Johnston said her 8 visits to China during the past decades had seen China's fast development of science and technology, which was very impressive. The fast increasing joint publication of academic papers between Canadian and Chinese scientists had laid a solid foundation for future collaboration. She said NSERC differs to NSFC in that it does not allocate separate fund for international co-operation, instead, its research fund has a component of international collaboration.

Prof. Shen said that the collaboration between Canada and China took a great percentage in NSFC awarded Major International Joint Research Program. He suggested that, workshops be jointly organized in the future to further strengthen the communication and coordination between the two organizations so as to overcome the differences in funding schemes and develop a better platform of collaboration for the scientists of the two countries. His proposal got a positive response from NSERC guests.

Prof. Zou Liyao, Deputy Director-General of the Bureau of International Cooperation made a presentation on NSFC's recent development and its international cooperation.

Ms. Ren Jing from the Canadian Embassy in Beijing joined the visit. NSFC participants to the meeting also included Ms. Liu Xiuping and Mr. Wei Qin from the Bureau of International Cooperation.