

PART X**Other Work****10.1 NSFC-Guangdong Joint Fund**

According to the guide to programs of the Joint Fund of Natural Science by NSFC and Guangdong Provincial Government (NSFC-Guangdong Joint Fund), NSFC supported 35 research directions in 5 areas, namely, agriculture, population and health, environment and resources, new materials and manufacturing, and electronic information. 300 applications were received, among which 201 were for Key Program projects and 99 for General Program projects, involving researchers from 104 institutions in 20 provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions. After peer review by correspondence and panel evaluation, 38 projects of NSFC- Guangdong Joint Fund were approved in 2007, with a total funding of 49.80 million yuan. Among them, 32 were Key Program projects with a funding of 48 million yuan and 6 were General Program projects with a funding of 1.8 million yuan.

10.2 Evaluation of State and Ministerial Key Labs in Information Sciences

In 2007, the Ministry of Science and Technology entrusted NSFC to evaluate 30 state and ministerial key labs in information sciences. The on-site evaluation was conducted from March 5 to 21 by 5 evaluation groups, and 50 evaluation experts were invited. The evaluation experts made overall reviews on the research level and contributions, research team and fostering of talents, the openness and academic exchanges, and the operation and management of these labs from 2002 to 2006. While giving full credit to the achievements, they also pointed out the shortcomings of the labs, and set higher standard for their future development.

The second round of evaluation panel meetings for information sciences were held in Nanjing from May 9 to 12, and 19 experts participated in the evaluations on the labs that ranked the first 30% and the last 20% in the on-site evaluation.

After on-site evaluation and the second round evaluation, concluding results of the evaluation and ranking results were formed. In June, the Ministry of Science and Technology announced the results of evaluation on state and ministerial key labs in information sciences, named 5 excellent labs (including 1 without evaluation) and 24 good labs.

10.3 Seven sessions of Shuangqing Forum successfully held



Shuangqing Forum is an academic workshop organized by NSFC to promote innovative culture and good environment for innovation. Based on science funding work, the Forum focuses on deep level scientific issues of frontier research or the demand of national strategic development, issues of major interdisciplinary and integrated basic science, and major policy and management issues in the development and improvement of science funding systems. The name Shuangqing Forum is from the street address of NSFC, and also has the meaning of “science and democracy” (shuang in Chinese means double), and “going to the root and clear from the source” (the meaning of qing in Chinese). This implies that, through advocating scientific spirit, promoting democratic working style, and gathering the wisdom of experts and scholars, the Forum can provide a basis for decision making in science funding and management policy.

Shuangqing Forum is an important part of NSFC’s innovative culture. It upholds the principle of letting a hundred flowers bloom and a hundred schools of thought contend”, strive to create a good environment of seriously seeking truth and equal discussion, actively promote constructive academic reviews, and ensure full exchange and impact of thoughts. Shuangqing Forum is one of NSFC’s important measures for relying on experts to conduct in-depth strategic studies. Every forum will produce meeting minutes, and academic and strategic research report, so as to summarize the wisdoms of these experts, clarify scientific problems, refine strategic plans, and provide bases for decision making in formulating science funding policy and strategy. Shuangqing Forum is a platform for promoting the cooperation and interdisciplinary research between scientists. In general, the topics of Shuangqing Forum are interdisciplinary, and experts from different fields and disciplines can use this platform to exchange academic ideas and thoughts, so as to provide good conditions for promoting interdisciplinary research.

In 2007, 7 sessions of the Shuangqing Forum were held along the line of implementing the National Eleventh-Five Year Plan for Scientific Development and NSFC’s Eleventh-Five Year Plan for Development. The topics are “Physics related to magnetic confined nuclear fusion” (19th session), “Frontier and key problems in e-commerce” (20th session), “Software process and management” (21st session), “Studies on synchronized radiation and polymer structures” (22nd session), “epigenetics”(23rd session), “Frontiers of nano manufacture”(24th session), and “Strategies and measures for NSFC’s international cooperation in the global research environment” (25th session). About a hundred institutes, universities and units and 485 people attended the Forum, among whom, 21 are Members of the two academies, and 15 are overseas experts.