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U.S. DIALS BACK PROBE OF CHINESE SCIENTISTS ON VISA FRAUD CHARGES

Jane Lee | Reuters | July 23, 2021

A U.S. Justice Department program aimed at protecting American technology from China dropped five prosecutions of Chinese scientists after a draft of an internal FBI analysis questioned a main premise for the investigations, according to court documents. The "China Initiative" had been criticized by civil liberties advocates as racially biased, and judges in several court proceedings had expressed skepticism about the FBI's tactics in interrogating the scientists. On Thursday and Friday, the U.S. government filed motions in federal courts to dismiss charges in five cases of Chinese researchers arrested on visa fraud charges last year. All pleaded not guilty to falsifying visa applications to conceal military ties as well as other charges. The motions to dismiss the cases coincides with the new Biden administration's Deputy Secretary of State Wendy Sherman visiting China on Sunday and Monday. All five arrests occurred about a year ago when U.S.-China relations were at a nadir and now the world's two largest economies are seeking to navigate a troubled relationship.

Read the full article [here](#).

BID FOR MORE CHINESE WOMEN SCIENTISTS ON THE WORLD STAGE

Mimi Leung and Yojana Sharma | University World News | July 23, 2021

A new central government policy to close the gender gap in the science and technology sector has been unveiled by China's Ministry of Science and Technology and the All-China Women's Federation to increase the number of women in science, technology, engineering and mathematics or STEM in its bid to become a world science and technology power. It is seeking to promote greater visibility for China's women scientists on the world stage. The announcement said China would "strive to create a group of top female scientific and technological talents with world influence, and make new and greater contributions to building a world scientific and technological power". Female researchers will be given priority in talent recruitment and research funding grants "provided they are just as good as their male counterparts", according to a recent policy statement issued by the Ministry of Science and Technology and 12 other ministries and organisations on 17 June, but released publicly this week. They include the ministries of education, industry and information technology, human resources, and health, as well as the Chinese Academy of Sciences, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, and the National Natural Science Foundation of China, the country's main research funding body.

Read the full article [here](#).



EIGHT FOREIGN UNIVERSITIES CONSIDERING A BRANCH CAMPUS

Yojana Sharma | University World News | July 20, 2021

At least eight universities from the United States, United Kingdom, Australia and Canada are seriously considering India as a destination for establishing an international branch campus; however, the global COVID-19 pandemic has postponed many plans for others, a survey of top universities has found. The eight unnamed universities said they would 'definitely consider' establishing a branch campus in India, according to a just-released survey report by the Unit for International Cooperation of the government-funded National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration (NIEPA) in New Delhi, which conducted an international online survey between December 2020 and February this year. Some 43 institutions from 11 countries responded, including many that are already operating international branch campuses elsewhere in the world. Of those 'definitely considering' setting up a branch campus in India, five were from the US, and one each from the UK, Australia and Canada.

Read the full article [here](#).

FOUR CHINESE NATIONALS WORKING WITH THE MINISTRY OF STATE SECURITY CHARGED WITH GLOBAL COMPUTER INTRUSION CAMPAIGN TARGETING INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS INFORMATION, INCLUDING INFECTIOUS DISEASE RESEARCH

U.S. Department of Justice | July 19, 2021

A federal grand jury in San Diego, California, returned an indictment in May charging four nationals and residents of the People's Republic of China with a campaign to hack into the computer systems of dozens of victim companies, universities and government entities in the United States and abroad between 2011 and 2018. The indictment, which was unsealed on Friday, alleges that much of the conspiracy's theft was focused on information that was of significant economic benefit to China's companies and commercial sectors, including information that would allow the circumvention of lengthy and resource-intensive research and development processes. The defendants and their Hainan State Security Department (HSSD) conspirators sought to obfuscate the Chinese government's role in such theft by establishing a front company, Hainan Xiandun Technology Development Co., Ltd. (海南仙盾) (Hainan Xiandun), since disbanded, to operate out of Haikou, Hainan Province.

Read the full article [here](#).

CONGRESS TAKES AIM AT CHINA'S RECRUITMENT OF TALENT IN US

Daniel Flatley and Janet Lorin | Stars and Stripes | July 19, 2021

Congress is aiming to hobble China's ability to recruit scientists and academics in the U.S. as part of broader moves in Washington to confront the Asian nation's growing clout. A recently passed House bill to bolster American research and development would bar scientists and academics from participating in U.S.-funded research projects if they are also receiving support from Beijing. "For years, Congress, federal research agencies, the national security agencies and universities have been working to root out malign foreign talent recruitment," Iowa Republican Representative Randy Feenstra, who introduced the measure, said during a committee hearing on the legislation. "The time has come to simply prohibit them from receiving U.S. taxpayer dollars." Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesman Zhao Lijian avoided a question on the bill during a regular press briefing Monday in Beijing, saying he was unaware of the matter.

Read the full article [here](#).



HOW CAN I ASSESS RISKS IN PARTNERSHIPS?

Government of Canada

Domestic and international partnerships are an essential component of Canada's open and collaborative academic research, guided by the principles of academic freedom and institutional autonomy. The majority of research partnerships have transparent intentions that provide mutual benefits to all research partners. However, some activities by foreign governments, militaries and other actors pose real risks to Canada's national security and the integrity of its research ecosystem. To address these risks, researchers, research institutions, federal granting agencies, and the Government of Canada have a shared responsibility to identify and mitigate any potential national security risks related to research partnerships. To ensure the Canadian research ecosystem is as open as possible and as secure as necessary, the Government of Canada is introducing the National Security Guidelines for Research Partnerships. The purpose of the guidelines is to integrate national security considerations into the development, evaluation, and funding of research partnerships.

Read the full article [here](#).

CANADIAN GOVERNMENT TO PURSUE PROTECTING CITIZENS' RESEARCH AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Regine Villanueva | IT in Canada

Canadian researchers are deemed to be part of providing usable solutions to a lot of the greatest challenges faced by the generations today. Through collaboration between domestic and international partnerships, a lot of globally-ready research work have been continually produced. With this in mind, the Canadian government is also in the works to increase the protection for research made by Canadians as well as strengthen intellectual property against foreign interference, espionage and theft. François-Philippe Champagne, Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry, Bill Blair, Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness, and Patty Hajdu, Minister of Health, launched the new National Security Guidelines for Research Partnerships, created in partnership with the Government of Canada–Universities Working Group. These new rules will include clauses on national security and be utilized in development, evaluation and funding of research work.

Read the full article [here](#).

BIDEN'S PLAN FOR CHINESE TECH COMPANIES? IT COULD LOOK A LOT LIKE TRUMP'S.

Emily Birnbaum | Protocol | January 27, 2021

If Tencent, Alibaba, ByteDance and Huawei thought they were going to have an easier go of it once Donald Trump left the White House, they may be in for a rude awakening. President Joe Biden's team has resisted offering specifics about how it plans to approach China's tech giants after four years of hawkish, and oftentimes chaotic, relations under Trump; White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki says the new administration is currently conducting an interagency review as it seeks to develop a holistic China policy. But experts expect President Biden's China strategy to look like a more polished and multilateral version of Trump's as his team pushes forward a slew of policies aimed at curtailing the power and influence of Chinese tech companies in the U.S. "Biden is most likely, on the technology front, going to keep things the way the Trump administration has made them," said Abishur Prakash, a geopolitics expert at the Center for Innovating the Future. "Whether it's regarding Alipay, whether it's regarding TikTok, whether it's regarding Chinese STEM students — across the board holistically, there's not a lot of space for change."

Read the full article [here](#).



THE COMPLEX CHALLENGE OF FOREIGN INTERFERENCE IN RESEARCH ADMINISTRATION AND COMPLIANCE

Tammy F. Chu | Research Management Review | 2020

Recently, foreign interference has emerged as an important compliance issue for U.S. research institutions, due to efforts by foreign governments to misappropriate intellectual property and research. Consequently, federal funding agencies are now requiring research institutions to ensure compliance with foreign component regulations and to implement protections against foreign interference. This paper offers an analysis of foreign interference cases and recommendations from national committees and leading academic institutions, summarizing the geopolitical context, compliance risks, risk management strategies, and future challenges in this area. The key risks identified were the diversion of IP and research and non-disclosure of foreign sponsorship.

Read the full article [here](#).

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA RELEASES NATIONAL SECURITY GUIDELINES FOR RESEARCH PARTNERSHIPS

Government of Canada | July 12, 2021

On July 12, 2021, the Honourable François-Philippe Champagne, Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry; the Honourable Bill Blair, Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness; and the Honourable Patty Hajdu, Minister of Health issued a news release to introduce the National Security Guidelines for Research Partnerships. Fostering Canada's open and collaborative academic research environment, including international collaborations, partnerships, and networks, is essential for Canada in its ability to fully contribute to and benefit from world-leading research, as well as its potential social and economic impacts. While the vast majority of research partnerships have transparent intentions that provide mutual benefits to all research partners, some activities by foreign governments, militaries and other actors—such as foreign interference and espionage—pose risks to Canada's national security and the integrity of its research ecosystem.

Read the full article [here](#).

SAFEGUARDING YOUR RESEARCH

Government of Canada

The Government of Canada has published a Web site, "Safeguarding Your Research," that provides information on how to safeguard research and innovation. Canadian research and innovation are the product of collaborations and partnerships between governments, businesses, and academics - both domestically and internationally - across a wide range of subjects. The Government of Canada recognizes that open and collaborative research is indispensable to pushing the boundaries of science and addressing complex economic and societal challenges. Canada recognizes the importance of Open Science as a driver for greater innovation and inclusion in research and development.

Read the full Web site [here](#).

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