SMU

**Headline:** SMU and Xiamen University to set up research centre for China capital markets

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**Main Article:**

**Title:**新大厦戏今年设立

中国资本市场研究中心

**Summary:**

A research centre for China's capital markets will be set up by SMU and Xiamen University.

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**Translation:**

**Title:**新加坡及厦门大学合作设立中国资本市场研究中心

**Translation:**

SMU and Xiamen University have established a research centre for China’s capital markets.

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The Singapore Management University (SMU) and China's Xiamen University will set up a new Research Centre for China's capital markets. The new centre will provide analysis and reports on China's equity markets for the benefit of the government and business community in China and Singapore.

At the signing ceremony with SMU President Professor Howard Hunter yesterday, Xiamen University President Professor Zhu Chongshi said: "Singapore is an important financial centre in Asia and China is Asia's largest and most rapidly developing financial market. The new centre will research China's financial market, Singapore's financial management experience as well as the impact of China's equity market on Asia and even on the economy of the rest of the world."

"With faculty from both universities undertaking research in this area, we would be able to produce insights for the governments and business community of both countries."

SMU Provost and Deputy President Professor Tan Chin Tiong said: "We will focus on China's equity market. There is an increasing number of China companies getting listed in Singapore. Hence we need more research in this area, for example, on how they handle their IPOs and use shares to finance their purchases. Since Singapore has become a key investment place for China companies, it is natural that we have such a collaboration with Xiamen University."

Both universities will also enlarge their undergraduate student exchange programmes, start a new summer study programme where 30 undergraduate from each side will come over to study and develop joint graduate degree programmes. SMU will also offer a new Chartered Financial Analysts Executive Programme for students in Xiamen University to qualify as CFAs. Plans are also to start an EMBA, faculty exchange and research cooperation. These will progressively be rolled out in 2007.

The CFA qualifying course is a first in China. Xiamen University President Zhu said: "It has not been 30 years since China's reforms and capitalization. China's financial market needs to become stronger and able to develop further. It needs a talent pool. Singapore is a financial hub in Asia and we can tap on Singapore's rich knowledge and resource as well as practical experience in this."

He added that Singapore is an extremely internationalized and liberal country. The three universities have successfully married the culture and intelligence of the East and West. This is the outstanding aspect of Singapore's universities and is something lacking in many other countries. He said that they had a lot to learn from it.

President Zhu outlined the strengths of Xiamen University in the areas of chemistry, life sciences, mathematics, economics, management, law, ocean sciences and environmental science. In the area of research, the university is strong in Taiwan relations, Southeast Asia, higher education, macro economics analysis and forecasting, wealth management and accounting. Over the past few years, Xiamen University had worked with NUS, NTU and SMU.

In a separate report, President Zhu explained that golf is not really an aristocratic sport but originated actually from Scottish shepherds who played the game when tending to their flock. He mentioned this in response to the recent controversy over the university's intention to build a large golf course on university premises for the benefit of students.