

Shouldering responsibilities & chasing dreams

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This special issue of *Petroleum Science* celebrates not only the 60th anniversary of China University of Petroleum (CUP), but also the 60th anniversary of China's higher education and scientific research in petroleum science.

As the first petroleum university in the People's Republic of China, CUP played the major role in the development of the country's petroleum higher education from a humble start to its successes today. It has gone through its ups and downs alongside the nation's oil industry. Over the past 60 years, CUP has experienced both brilliant achievements and numerous adversities. CUP people have stayed humble in victory and faced loss with grace. Their indomitable spirit empowered passion and entrepreneurship. From the shabby bunkhouses in Daqing to the scientific and technological research centers elsewhere, CUP people pioneered on each and every oil exploration site in China. It is CUP's mission to answer to the nation and its oil industry. We cannot afford the slightest relaxation when living up to the country's expectations. From the classrooms of the Beijing Petroleum Institute to the mud houses in the East China Petroleum Institute, and further to the modern laboratories in China University of Petroleum, generations of CUP people shared the same lasting aspiration: "to offer petroleum to our motherland."

Bearing this aspiration in mind, CUP people have achieved great progress through strenuous efforts over the six decades. With increasing strengths in a widening range of disciplines, talent training, scientific research and social services, CUP today has gained high social influence and recognition and has become an important base for the cultivation of petroleum specialists and

for scientific research and academic exchanges.

We shoulder our responsibilities with keen devotion. Petroleum is an important strategic resource and the lifeblood of our national economy. The world today is going through profound changes. Competition between countries has become increasingly fierce, especially in the areas of technology, economy and talents. CUP and other petroleum universities, are duty-bound to carry out our great historic missions.

We need to embrace the outside world and the future. There are dreams to be chased and goals to be achieved. We cannot live now without petroleum and our nation relies on it to create a prosperous future. We will move proudly forward and never give up in the face of difficulties. We will carry on our missions unrelentingly.

The 60th anniversary is of historical significance. Looking back on the 60 years with great passion, we fully understand that for universities specialized in a certain industry, the following factors are crucially important: talent cultivation, broadening discipline coverage, quality improvement, faculty development, reform and innovation. Looking ahead, CUP will cherish the ambition "to offer petroleum to our motherland". We will continue to answer the nation's major strategic needs, focusing on reform, innovation, talent cultivation, scientific research and social services. We will treasure our cultural heritage while promoting innovation. Our goal is to build a world-class university featuring petroleum research.

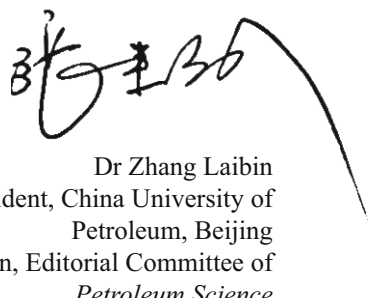
The achievements in petroleum higher education we see today are due to many contributions over the past 60 years, and excellent academic journals have undoubtedly played an important role. *Petroleum Science*, created in



1998 to put China's petroleum studies onto the international stage, aims at promoting the international influence of China's academic study in the petroleum field. The journal helps to enhance the academic level of Chinese universities and their international presence. As the only comprehensive academic journal on petroleum technology published in English in China, *Petroleum Science* marks a significant step towards the internationalization of CUP. Persistently targeted at the international arena, *Petroleum Science* has focused on improving the journal's academic quality and within a few years, has established itself as a Chinese academic icon with international influence in petroleum science disciplines.

Gathering the latest research by CUP professors showing the highest academic level, this special issue not only presents CUP's research results, but also offers a platform for exchange of ideas. It shapes the university's image and showcases the level of China's petroleum research to the world.

Mindful of the old Chinese saying, "One has to accumulate sufficient knowledge and thoroughly understand all truths before he can successfully handle affairs", we will always keep moving forward.



Dr Zhang Laibin
President, China University of
Petroleum, Beijing
Chairman, Editorial Committee of
Petroleum Science