Welcome to the fifth issue of the Australia-China Centre for Tissue Engineering and Regenerative Medicine’s newsletter and our final one for the year. The purpose of this newsletter is to keep you informed of news and events happening within ACCTERM. I would like to take this opportunity to draw your attention to the ACCTERM website. It too is full of information on the program; including our collaborative partners, current projects and latest news.

It was a busy few months for the centre as we prepared for our third ACCTERM Research Forum which took place last month. Thankfully, everything went smoothly and it was agreed by all that this year’s forum was a resounding success! It was great to welcome so many researchers from QUT, Griffith University and various universities and research centres across China. The new format—which included several break-out groups and discussions—resulted in several new collaborative projects being formulated which will, no doubt, lead to more fruitful outcomes and strengthen the core activity of ACCTERM.

I extend my congratulations to Dr Yinghong Zhou, the ACCTERM coordinator, who was successful in obtaining a National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) Early Career Fellowship, for her project entitled ‘Dissecting the cell signalling cues for periodontal regeneration’.

Finally, on behalf of ACCTERM, I would like to wish you all a happy and healthy Christmas. I look forward to what 2016 will bring!

Best wishes,
Professor Yin Xiao
Collaboration between China and Australia in the field of tissue engineering was further enhanced at the third annual research forum hosted by the Australia-China Centre for Tissue Engineering and Regenerative Medicine (ACCTERM), led by the Queensland University of Technology (QUT).

This year’s Forum was held on 5\textsuperscript{th}-7\textsuperscript{th} of November at QUT Kelvin Grove Campus, Brisbane and Surfers Paradise in the city of the Gold Coast. The Forum brought together leading biomaterial, tissue engineering and regenerative medicine scientists from QUT, Griffith University, and top universities and research institutes in China to share emerging science, exchange ideas, strengthen collaborative links and develop innovative research project concepts. Key Chinese partners represented at the Forum included Wuhan University, Sun Yat-sen University, Nanjing University, Shanghai Institute of Ceramics-Chinese Academy of Sciences, Shanghai Jiao Tong University and Huazhong University of Science and Technology, each of whom are leaders in specialist research areas. QUT’s Professor and Chair in Bone and Tissue Engineering, Yin Xiao who convened the forum, said China has become one of the world's leading science producers and has a long track record of close scientific cooperation with Australia. Significant expansions of the bilateral collaborative research networks have already occurred, indicating the strength of these ventures.
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A sample of photographs from this year’s forum
International Collaborations

ACCTERM continues to strengthen its international collaborative links with the international cooperative project titled “Immunomodulation of sulphated polysaccharide to bone morphogenetic protein-2” recently being established between the East China University of Science and Technology and QUT. The project is also supported by the Shanghai Science and Technology Committee and will be led by Prof Changsheng Liu from East China University of Science and Technology and Prof Yin Xiao.

Pictured below: Prof Changsheng Liu with Prof Yin Xiao on his last visit to QUT.

2016—NHMRC Project Grants

ACCTERM congratulates Dr Mike Doran on his recent National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) success. Mike’s project ‘The Microniche: A novel in-vitro and in-vivo prostate cancer model system’ saw him secure over $500,000 in funding in the latest round of grants. Mike presented at our recent Forum and helped us facilitate discussions on possible cartilage and joint collaborative projects within the program. Well done again Mike on your grant success in this increasingly competitive field!
We extend our congratulations to Dr Yinghong Zhou, the ACCTERM coordinator, who was successful in obtaining the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) Early Career Fellowship, for her project titled ‘Dissecting the cell signalling cues for periodontal regeneration’

The regeneration of the lost periodontium in patients with periodontitis remains a challenging issue. Yinghong’s project will first demonstrate that periodontal ligament cells have the ability to differentiate into osteoblasts (bone-forming cells) and cementoblasts (tooth root cementum-forming cells), which can be enhanced by the activation of signalling cues. This will lead to the development of a novel material with cell signal enhancing properties, and present a new treatment option to repair and regenerate the three-dimensional structures of the tooth-supporting tissues.

Yinghong was also recently awarded a prestigious Carla Patterson Award. This award recognises high-ranking journal articles authored by an IHBI researcher that has the potential to significantly improve human health and make a difference to health and public good. This award is in memory of Professor Carla Patterson who dedicated her life to Public Health research at QUT.