

# 2017 Slush to Be Held in Changyang Valley in October

By Mao Xinhui

Recently, a launch event for 2017 Slush Shanghai was held at Tongji University's College Of Design And Innovation. Initiated in Finland in 2008 as an assembly for start-ups, Slush has become the largest and most high-profile start-up event with international influence in Europe, according to reporters at the event. The 2017 Slush will be held in Changyang Valley of Shanghai's Yangpu District during Oct. 12-13. About 2,000 entrepreneurs, investors and journalists from 50 countries will attend the event.

Tongji University, with a history

of 110-year, and Finland, a 100-year-old country, have delicate connections. Next to Tongji University's College Of Design And Innovation, there is a 200-square meter "Angry Birds" Park. Without walls, the open plaza was developed in Tongji in 2012 and open to the public, as an inspiration for students developing interactive games. And Peter Vesterbacka is the founder of both Slush and Angry Birds.

From the 1st start-up assembly in Helsinki in 2008 to the largest, most high-profile start-up event in Europe nowadays, Slush has developed an exchange platform for start-ups, hi-tech talent, interna-

tional investors, executives and media. With around 100,000 entrepreneurs and investors, Slush has gradually become a world leading hi-tech event that attracts a growing number of start-ups, investors, and members of businesses and political communities. While fostering the youth's enthusiasm and entrepreneurship, it has been promoting innovative entrepreneurship around the world.

The 2017 Slush will be held in Changyang Valley of Shanghai's Yangpu District, the former site of China Textile Machinery, which dated back to 1920. Integrating Slush's Nordic style and Shanghai's local elements, the venue is designed for

immersive experience so that entrepreneurs from different countries could generate new ideas in the venue with historical marks.

Themed on "Trust the Difference", the 2017 Slush will provide a platform for quality innovative start-ups seeking and expanding financing channels. For the first time, the event this year will use AI technologies for swift and precision matching of investors and entrepreneurs or between investors or entrepreneurs.

Aspired to develop an international platform for in-depth cooperation between people across different cultural backgrounds, Slush also focuses on hot topics such as how to

remain unique and creative. According to sources, the event will consist of keynote speeches, interviews and road-shows for start-ups. The event also has start-ups exhibition area, investors and entrepreneurs "speed dating area" and big corporation exhibition area and other off-stage arrangements. People outside the venue could join this event by live stream platforms.

Slush will not only bring in a brand new event-organizing model, but also involve more people in the start-up community by working with local start-up communities and hiring university students as volunteers.

## Tongji Students Develop Jokoson "Dream Classroom"

By Tong Ji

Sponsored by Jokoson, a company founded by a Tongji alumna, the first Tongji Jokoson Dream Classroom was built in Jiaojihe Middle School of Butuo County, Sichuan's Liangshan, on Aug. 9.

The renovation from an 80-square meter warehouse into the Dream Classroom took 10 days. 10 students from Tongji University's 6 colleges, including College of Architecture and Urban Planning, College of Civil Engineering, and College Of Design And Innovation, have contributed to the renovation design. They completed pre-survey, design, construction and decoration of the classroom. Themed on "the Road to Heart", the Dream Classroom features immersive design and immersive education approaches, serving as a multi-function classroom for self-study & reading, seminars & discussions, psychological interview, video calls, fitness training, etc. for students in Jiaojihe Middle School by creating restorative environment, interactive design, and literacy education course design based on pre-survey

of users' needs.

Tongji students combined local culture and Tongji University's characteristics in early-stage design, and remotely developed rendering, working drawing, and construction plan, etc. Based on the idea of "sustainable development", they used environment-friendly, low carbon and easily-available building materials. In later-stage decoration, they applied interactive designs such as "Dream Wall" and "Dream-seekers' Door" to improve in-class interaction and installed multi-media devices so that students could talk to their faraway family members and get a glimpse of campus life in Tongji University via video calls. During the renovation period, Tongji students also guided local students to make paper artwork and building model to decorate their Dream Classroom during the class.

According to sources, Tongji University-Jokoson "Dream Classroom" is the first endeavor based on cooperation between university and local government, the strategy of alleviating poverty by education, and ideal of training talents by ac-

tual practices. The project was co-developed by Jokoson, a company incubated in Tongji Venture Valley and owned by Ms. Zhang Li, a Tongji alumna. Of the RMB 11 million donated by Ms. Zhang for Tongji-Jokoson Fund, RMB 1 million is earmarked for the development and operation of the Dream Classroom, and subsidizing university students' charity education programs in poverty-stricken areas annually, developing Dream Classrooms and social activities. On the one hand, subsidizing university students' charity education programs in poverty-stricken areas helps improve the local educational facilities for better literacy education and psychological guidance for middle school students. On the other hand, it allows Tongji students to apply what they have learned in poverty alleviation. The first batch of pilot "Dream Classrooms" are established in Jiaojihe Middle School of Butuo County, Sichuan's Liangshan, Shiqiao Middle School of Guizhou's Panxian County, and Hongshan Central Primary School of Fujian's Changting County.

## Community "Legal Advisors"

By Yang Xiaomei

Shanghai Luyou Social Administration Legal Service Center (the Center), the first non-profit social organization for comprehensive legal services on social administration in the District was established on Aug. 2. The Center has entered into strategic partnership with Shenzhen YueluTiancheng Technologies Co., Ltd., the developer of the Center's legal service robots, to bring in professional legal services organization and AI into the community.

Aspired to become the legal advisor for residents, the Center will provide proactive, quality, convenient and ongoing non-profit legal services to entities or individuals including governmental departments, community committees, property management companies and residents. The Center will play an important role in legal publicity, protecting public interests, helping those in need, facilitating and educating special groups, preventing

crimes, resolving civil disputes, etc. So far, the Center has conducted survey in 10 community committees for the feasibility of the above legal service initiative, which is a part of the endeavor to contribute to the community's law-based administration, according to sources. Meanwhile, the Center has also brought in "AI Doggie", a judicial technological product based on AI consulting and big data developed by Shenzhen YueluTiancheng Technologies, which is also the embodiment of the Center's features.

"Leveraging the AI legal advisors, the Center develops more professional, smart and innovative legal advisory models by applying big data analysis and AI deductive technologies, developing a community smart platform based on the Center's nature as a social organization for professional legal services, so that residents in each scenarios could resolve legal issues anywhere anytime by consulting robots online," said the head of the Center.

## Start-ups Services Platform Developed for Taiwan Youth

By Lu Chen

The opening ceremony of Start-up Services Platform & Practicing Base for Taiwan University Students in Shanghai was held in China (Shanghai) Public Practicing Base for Entrepreneurs on Aug. 11.

According to sources, the platform marks one of Yangpu District's initiatives to leverage its "innovative and entrepreneurial" resources and encourage the society to support young Taiwan entrepreneurs. In next steps, the District will release favorable policies, including housing policies, based on Taiwan youth's features and needs to resolve their actual obstacles when starting businesses and attract more Taiwan youth to the district and realize their value.

At the ceremony, officials from competent departments interpreted incoming favorable policies for young Taiwan entrepreneurs, including talent apartments and rental subsidies policies. According to sources, talent apartments and rental subsidies policies aim to resolve entrepreneurial and innovative talent's difficulties in housing so that they could focus on developing start-ups. Recently, Guidance for Young Taiwan Entrepreneurs Applying for Talent Apartments in Yangpu District has been developed with the supervision and support of Shanghai's Taiwan Affairs Office and Shanghai Housing & Urban-Rural Development Office, which will remove policy thresholds facing Taiwan youth when applying for talent apartments and rental subsidies.

