

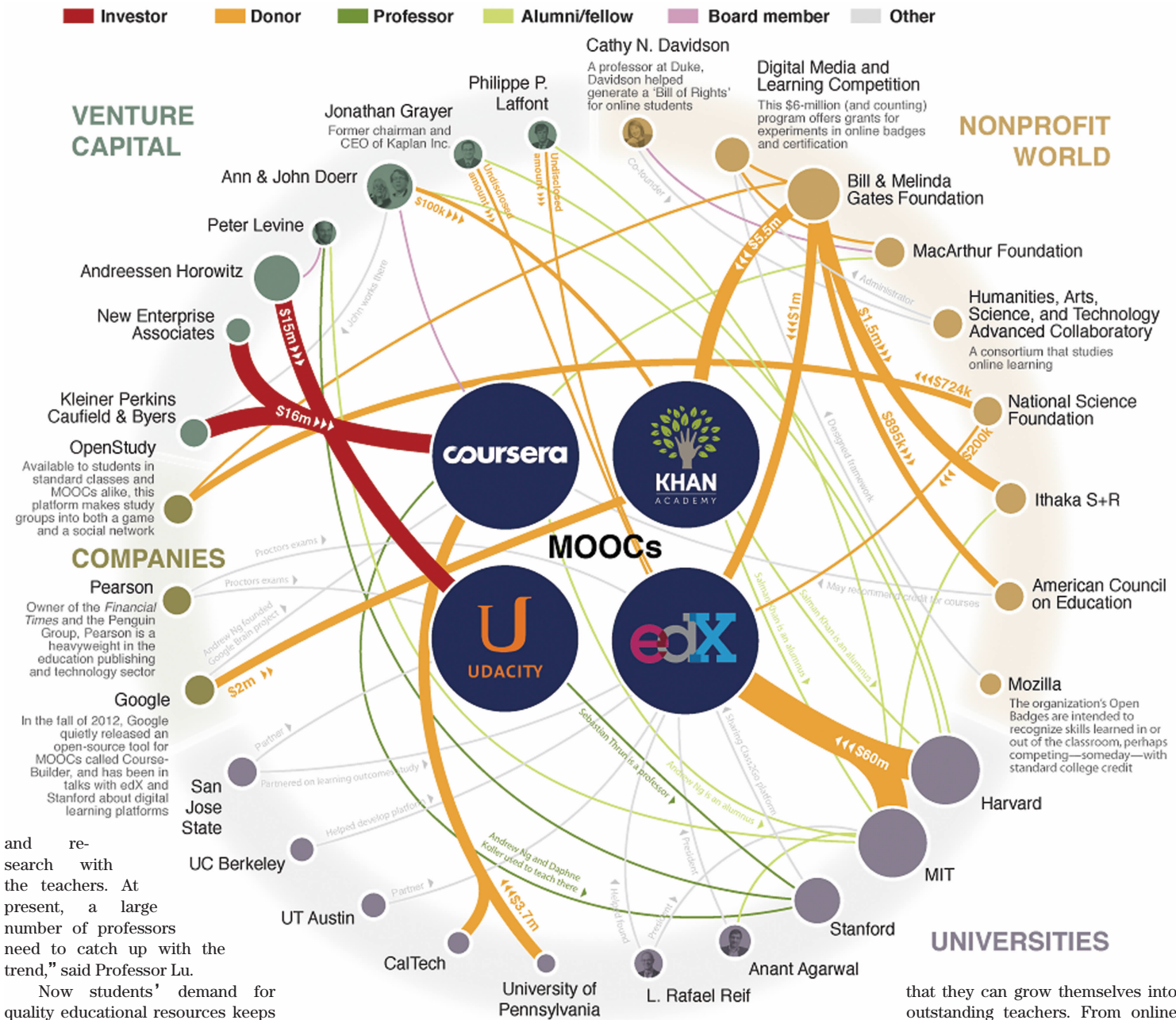
Fudan University Joins Open Online Course

By Zong He

Fudan University and Shanghai Jiao Tong University joined Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) at the same time recently. The two universities signed an agreement with Coursera platform of Stanford University and committed to upload Chinese or English courses after passing the reviews. "Online Course Life" is determined by the universities themselves. They can "extend life" if they get positive feedback or "terminate life" in advance if the feedback is negative. If more than 10,000 people enroll in the Chinese course, Coursera will provide free subtitles for the course within seven days or even provide English sound track.

MOOC is entering Asia in large scale this year. In April, Hong Kong Polytechnic University joined Coursera and offered the first course "Science, Technology & Society in China." In May, Peking University and Tsinghua University joined edX platform. The Chinese University of Hong Kong will also offer a course on the international position of Renminbi on Coursera in September. The University of Tokyo will also launch its open course "Evolution of the Universe" on Coursera in September and launch the course "Peace & Conflict" in October.

To Fudan University and Shanghai Jiao Tong University, they joined MOOC to enable students to enjoy quality educational resources and improve the entire teaching faculty. According to Lu Fang, Professor & vice President of Fudan who is responsible for teaching affairs of the university, many professors are accustomed to traditional teaching approach which is purely feeding knowledge to the students. However, "if students can learn from the internet by themselves, they will not waste their time in the classroom with the teachers. Future classroom is for students to discuss, communicate



and re-research with the teachers. At present, a large number of professors need to catch up with the trend," said Professor Lu. Now students' demand for quality educational resources keeps growing while the classroom for quality education becomes increasingly smaller. "A classroom for 30 students is too big. The best size is to have about 20 students so that they can get more discussions, which is

the right way of learning in the university," said Professor Lu. After joining Coursera, both Fudan and Jiao Tong University hope to upload quality courses for more stu-

dents to get enrolled in. "Other teachers can organize more discussions and pay more attention to students' study. They have to improve their own teaching quality as well so

that they can grow themselves into outstanding teachers. From online open course to MOOC, each evolution is guided by technology. Chinese universities don't want to miss the evolution opportunity and have made such rapid response this time," said Professor Lu.

Tongji Wins Championship of Vertical Cities Asia

By Tong Ji

As recently revealed by the 3rd Vertical Cities Asia, the delegation from Tongji University carried away the first prize for the creative design with "Close City" as the theme. ETH Zurich won the second prize while the National University of Singapore won the third prize.

As learned, Tongji University has been invited to this international competition for three years and is the only university that has been winning prizes consecutively. At the 3rd event held this year, Tongji University has won the top prize for architecture universities in Asia.

The Vertical Cities Asia was launched jointly in January 2011 by the National University of Singapore

and the World Future Foundation with the purpose to seek innovative design solutions for modern cities that are facing problems including massive population growth and life quality deterioration. The competition is held once every year for a five-year term.

The 3rd event this year attracted participation of 20 delegations from top ten universities in Asia, Europe and America, including Tsinghua University, Tongji University, the Chinese University of Hong Kong, and the University of Pennsylvania, etc.

The judge panel was composed of five worldly class experts, including Pritzker Architecture Prize winner Kazuyo Sejima, and Allison Williams.

The 3rd event, with "Everyone

Harvests," focuses on urban agricultural development. Participating delegations were requested to design a set of sustainable vertical city solutions for an area of one square kilometer in the suburbs of Hanoi, Vietnam in 2050. The solutions have to meet the living and other life requirements of a population of 100,000 people.

The design team of Tongji's "Close City" was set up in the end of 2012 and kicked off at the beginning of 2013. The team went to Vietnam for field research in the end of February, presented drawings for interim review in April, answered inquiries for their graduation thesis in June and went to Singapore in July for the final competition. The entire project took more than seven months.

Yangpu Launches Automatic Immigration Machines

By Chen Ling & Lu Xinyun

"The automatic system is very fast and convenient. You can complete the application by clicking the screen without queuing up." In the business hall of the Immigration Office of Yangpu District Public Security Bureau (on 605, Songhu Road), Ms Cao was guided by a policeman and tried the automatic immigration machine. She input the code of her permit on the machine and found her personal information on the screen. After verifying the information and selecting her destinations, she saw the machine automatically print a receipt for accepting the application. She took the receipt to make her payment and successfully completed the application for extending her personal traveling permit to Hong Kong and Macau.

On July 22, Yangpu District put

the automatic immigration machines into official operation. Citizens can automatically complete the application for extending their travelling permits to Hong Kong and Macau.

According to staff of Yangpu District Immigration Management Division, citizens can complete their application for extending their travelling permit to Hong Kong and Macau with the automatic immigration machines within one hour, which saves the trouble of filling in application forms, sticking the photos and waiting for seven working days. However, the automatic immigration machines can only handle individual application for extending their travelling permits to Hong Kong and Macao for the moment. Citizens have to follow the original procedures if they apply for permits to other countries and regions.