

KUOPIO



Kuopio – Shanghai Pudong
Long-term and multi-actor cooperation
Overview, 2017

Kuopio – Shanghai Pudong Long-term and multi-actor cooperation Overview, 2017

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KUOPIO-SHANGHAI COOPERATION

The beginnings of cooperation between the City of Kuopio and Shanghai

Cooperation between the City of Kuopio and Shanghai's Pudong New Area began in 2000 with an assessment of the opportunities for collaboration between their technology centres. Subsequently, the activities expanded into wide-ranging cooperation, e.g. in education, expert and student mobility, business activities and R&D.

Key agreements/initiatives:

- 2001 Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Kuopio Technology Centre Teknia and the Zhangjiang Science Park in Pudong, Shanghai, with the aim of increasing collaboration between companies, research institutes and universities in Kuopio and Pudong. In the early 2000s, Teknia signed several other science park collaboration agreements in the Shanghai area, Beijing and Hong Kong.
- 2002 The City of Kuopio and Pudong New Area signed their first MoU, making it easier for universities, science parks and companies to undertake separate development projects. The agreement was renewed in 2007. Through these agreements, Kuopio has gained most-favoured status in Shanghai. Subsequently, cultural exchange between the cities also increased strongly.
- 2003 Teknia opened an office at the Zhangjiang Science Park.
- 2006 Teknia Shanghai Ltd (TekInno Ltd) was founded to continue the work of the office in China. Chinese staff were employed at both the Shanghai and Kuopio offices. (Kuopio Innovation Ltd sold the company in late 2008.)
- 2012 The MoU between Kuopio Innovation and the Zhangjiang Science Park was renewed for five years.
- 2012 Kuopio and Pudong New Area signed a Sister City Agreement.
- 2013 Kuopio and Pudong New Area signed an MoU on Cultural Cooperation and Exchange.

Awards:

- 2014 Recognition from Pudong New Area for the cooperation between Kuopio and Shanghai: Shanghai Magnolia Silver Award 2014 to Michael Claussen, the Director of the Kuopio Music Centre.
- 2016 The City of Kuopio received the Friendship-City Exchange and Cooperation Award for the extensive cooperation carried out with Shanghai's Pudong New Area. The award is granted every two years by the China International Friendship Association and the China International Friendship-City Alliance. Kuopio was the only sister city in the Shanghai area to receive the award in 2016.

Key business needs-based China projects:

- Pharmaceutical Gateway China-Finland/Europe (Kuopio Innovation Ltd, 2008-2010)
Companies: Esior Ltd, Fennopharma Ltd, FoodFiles Ltd, Medfiles Ltd; and the Finnish Medicines Agency (Fimea).
 - MediGateway to Europe (Kuopio Innovation Ltd, 2012-2013)
Companies: Ark Therapeutics Ltd, Aurealis Ltd, Esior Ltd, Fennogate Finland Ltd,
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Fennopharma Ltd, FoodFiles Ltd, Galena Pharma Ltd, Medfiles Ltd, Medikro Ltd, Mega Elektroniikka Ltd, Reagenia Ltd, Tactical Technologies KPH Nordic Ltd.

The situation today

Cooperation between Kuopio and Pudong New Area has continued to evolve. On Kuopio's part, the cooperation and activities have increased vigorously in recent years, especially in the teaching and education field, and have remained very regular on the cultural side.

The City of Kuopio, together with the Kuopio Region Chamber of Commerce, is responding to the growing interest of companies in China's markets, relating, in particular, to the need for the region's businesses to find contacts in the Shanghai area.

Maintaining and developing cooperation between Kuopio and Pudong has required deep knowledge of the local administration and the necessary contacts and interfaces as well as personal connections. Cooperation is seen as having great potential that can be realised over a long period of time with a reliable Chinese partner familiar with the City of Kuopio and the background of its Shanghai activities. Since 2004, this key role in Shanghai has been played by Kai Zhan, who is employed by the City of Kuopio.

The cultural exchange agreement between the City of Kuopio and Pudong New Area allows each partner to present itself to the other city in alternate years through various exhibitions and events.

Key events:

- In August 2013, the Shanghai Pudong New Area sent a traditional Chinese music group from the Lujiazui district (Shanghai's financial centre) to Kuopio. The group performed in schools and gave a public concert at the Kuopio Music Centre. In conjunction with the visit, there was an exhibition showing the development of the Lujiazui area, which was opened by a representative of the Chinese Embassy.
 - In October 2014, Kuopio presented itself to the people of Shanghai in a photographic exhibition, "Kuopio – the City of Four Seasons", combined with a virtual trip, "Engagement", produced by the Cultural History Museum of Kuopio.
 - In 2015, six top artists from the Pudong New Area demonstrated their calligraphy skills to the public in an open live exhibition at the Kuopio Music Centre.
 - Kuopio Business Trip to Shanghai 2015
In October 2015, the region's businesses had the opportunity to join a delegation to Shanghai led by the Mayor of Kuopio. Eleven companies from Kuopio took up the opportunity, representing e.g. the construction and cleantech industries as well as the health and wellness sectors. All of them were provided with a tailored programme of appointments. Companies: Hydroline Ltd, Granlund Kuopio Ltd, Samesor Ltd, Virranta Ltd, Newicon Ltd, Medikro Ltd, Bone Index Ltd, Lignell & Piispanen Ltd, Partanen & Lamusuo Ltd, Carlson Ltd, Kuopio Tapetti ja Väri Ltd.
 - A cultural delegation from the Shanghai Pudong New Area visited Kuopio in September 2016.
 - 10–12 Sep 2017 A delegation from Pudong New Area visited Kuopio. In conjunction with the visit, it was agreed that cooperation between the cities would continue and deepen. In future, the sister cities will invest in culture, education and business collaboration, especially in tourism.
 - 12–27 Oct 2017 The story of a Finnish woman and Kuopio – Capital of Lakeland exhibition, Shanghai World Financial Center. The exhibition marked the fifth anniversary of the cities' sister city relationship. The glass artist/designer Ritva-Liisa Pohjalainen created an exhibition of 52 unique glass sculptures reflecting aspects of Finnishness and telling the story of
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a Finnish woman. The exhibition, which was part of the Finland 100 events in China, attracted about 4,000 visitors and also received a lot of attention in the Chinese media and social networks.

- October 2017 Kuopio Business Trip to Shanghai 2017 in conjunction with the opening of the Kuopio exhibition. The delegation had representatives from eleven Kuopio companies, mainly in the tourism industry.
- A tourism industry workshop was held on 13 October 2017 at the Shanghai World Financial Center in conjunction with the Kuopio exhibition, with participants from more than 20 Chinese tourism companies and agencies.

Kuopio-Shanghai cooperation network

Cooperation between the Kuopio region and the Shanghai area is coordinated by a regularly convening group, whose members are part of a network composed of the City of Kuopio, University of Eastern Finland (UEF), Kuopio Region Chamber of Commerce, Savonia University of Applied Sciences and the Savo Consortium for Education and Training (Savo Vocational College). The activities of the cooperation network are coordinated by the City of Kuopio.

The primary objective of the cooperation is to support the internationalization of Kuopio and the region and promote the development of business activity and collaboration between companies and other actors. For this purpose, an exceptionally close cooperation network has been formed in Kuopio.

For more details: www.businesskuopio.fi/en/networks/kuopio-shanghai-cooperation-network
For more information:

Laura Kokko

Marketing coordinator
laura.kokko@kuopio.fi
tel +358 44 718 2018

City of Kuopio

Marketing, Communications and Customer Services

Postal Address: POB 228 | 70101 Kuopio Finland
Street Address: Tulliportinkatu 31
www.kuopio.fi/en



Cooperation between Kuopio and Shanghai in Basic and General Upper Secondary Education



Collaboration between the Martti Ahtisaari School and Yan Yin Experimental Primary School

This was already the fifth year of collaboration between the Martti Ahtisaari School and Yan Yin Experimental Primary School. In 2017, the focus of our collaboration was on art and culture.

At the start of the term, from 16–19 August 2017, our school had visitors from Shanghai – 17 children and 12 adults. Together with our guests, we made shared wings for our school canteen that symbolise freedom, peace and imagination taking flight. Finnish nature really fascinates our Chinese friends. The children, indeed, got to pick bilberries, play Frisbee golf and go fishing during their visit.

In October 2017, two class teachers from our school, Birgit Palm and Merja Pehkonen, visited our sister school in Shanghai. They gave music and dance lessons to the Chinese pupils and teachers. Birgit Palm's class is also collaborating with a class at the sister school.

The person responsible for cooperation with China is Anna Salmi. If necessary, she attends the joint Shanghai meetings of the City's education department, together with the head teacher, Titta Kaukonen. We try to keep our Chinese cooperation visible in our school, e.g. by marking the Chinese New Year in art classes and on Info-TV. Let the joint work continue bringing joy and new perspectives, both for us and our Shanghai friends.

Collaboration between Länsi-Puijo School, Rajala School and No. 2 Central Primary School

Three teachers from the Länsi-Puijo and Rajala Schools visited No. 2 Central Primary School in Shanghai's Pudong New Area from 12–19 May 2017. The Kuopio teachers had an opportunity to see the class work being done there and to present some pedagogical solutions from our schools. During the visit, a WeChat group was set up for the Kuopio and Shanghai teachers. There is still lively conversation almost every week.

We had three teacher guests from Shanghai in Kuopio from 20–23 August 2017. During their visit, we began planning joint teaching possibilities for subsequent visits, e.g. a maths theme day. We also agreed to share ideas through WeChat and by post on different working methods and types of work done by pupils. At the end of the visit, we held a meeting where we discussed the question of the length of the visits. A visit of a few days does not enable the Chinese guests to engage in intensive collaboration at both the Kuopio schools, which hinders collaboration. We agreed that future visits would last about a week.

In December 2017, we sent a box of pupils' work to Shanghai, and in January 2018, we got a package from China. Inspired by the pupils' work, we can experiment with various kinds of visual art works spiced with Chinese ideas.

Chinese collaboration of Hatsala Classical School

Eight pupils from those interested in participating in an exchange programme were chosen by lot, and in March 2017 we began raising funds. In the spring, we started regular contact with the sister school using the peda.net platform, on a pupil forum related to everyday school life.

From 30 Sep–5 Oct 2017, Hatsala School had a visit from five pupils and two teachers from our sister school, Guangming Middle School. During their visit, the pupils of both schools produced work describing everyday school life. The teachers became acquainted with the school's activities – in particular, the special emphasis and home economics classes. The visiting teachers also gave lessons.

Arrangements for a reciprocal visit by eight pupils and two teachers in spring 2018 were begun in late 2017.

Collaboration between Pyörö School and Jianping West Middle School

In spring 2017, we planned as fully as possible the timetable of a visit to us from China in August. The visit by pupils and teachers from Shanghai to Pyörö was successful, even though the timing was difficult. Two boys and two girls from Shanghai started pupil visits between our schools and the plan is that next time it will be the turn of pupils from our school in 2018.

The pupils stayed with host families and attended school during the week's visit, as well as taking part in many activities, in some of them with their teachers. They also carried out joint project tasks related to fire safety with our school pupils' internationalisation group. The teachers became acquainted with our school, the Finnish education system and the city of Kuopio. The emphasis of their visit was on the English language.

Responsibility for our school's Chinese collaboration in the current school year is held by the teachers Eija Niiranen ja Merja Miettinen. Accordingly, in late 2017, they had the task of planning the trip to China in spring 2018.

Chinese collaboration of Puijonsarvi School

From 30 Sep–6 Oct 2017, two teachers and four pupils from North Luhang Middl School visited Puijonsarvi School. The pupils stayed with families. The main focus of the visit was on increasing and strengthening collaboration between the pupils, which was a great success. During the school year, the pupils also corresponded with each other.

Chinese collaboration of Lumit Upper Secondary School for Performing Arts

In April 2017, the first visit to Shanghai was made by students from the Lumit Upper Secondary School for Performing Arts in Kuopio. During the visit to Kuopio by Chinese teachers the previous autumn (2016), we set up a project, on the basis of which we planned the visit a little in advance. The aim of the visit was for Finnish and Chinese students to work together on forest-related issues. The trip was made by the teachers Jaakko Rautiainen (biology and geography) and Kaisa Björkbacka (Finnish and literature) and eight students, who stayed with Chinese families.

With the students, we did a bit of groundwork on a fairy tale by Anni Swan, studying its forest- and nature conservation-related themes. The assumption was that the Chinese would correspondingly have chosen a forest-related text, which they would present to us. When we arrived, we found out that was not the case, so the whole project regarding literature and drama fell on the shoulders of the Finns. We introduced the Chinese students to drama pedagogy and explored Swan's fairy tale through drama.

The students reacted very positively and open-mindedly to the drama methods. As a method, drama was completely new and probably differs greatly from the Chinese pedagogical approach. Since the English proficiency of the Chinese was very low and since the young people had not previously met, self-expression and letting go was an excellent way of getting to know each other and approaching abstract themes deeply.

Every day, at the same time as the drama, half the students were in a geography group in the school's computer classroom. The students were divided into eight groups of four, with one Finnish and three Chinese students to a group. Each group created an online eBook using the Joomag digital publishing platform. The subject was "Forest". The aim was to present the use and protection of the world's forests diversely. Beforehand, the Finnish students had been given the task of depicting Finnish forests and forest products. This pictorial material was utilised in the publications. On the third day, the students presented their eBooks to an audience in the lecture hall, and the best publications were awarded prizes.

The project was a great success. Together, the students had to learn to use a new computer program and find reliable information on forests both in books and on the internet. The biggest problem was the absence of the Chinese biology and geography teachers. This was partly due to poor language proficiency. The lessons were conducted by the Finnish teacher alone. Computer-related help was provided by a Chinese IT teacher.

In August 2017, we likewise had a visit from two teachers and eight students from Shanghai. The students stayed with Finnish families. Both the teachers and students attended classes in our school. A Chinese English teacher gave one lesson and a physical education teacher gave a morning assembly presentation in the Chinese way. We also planned a future visit to Shanghai in spring 2018. The additional programme of events during the visit was partly organised in collaboration with other schools in Kuopio.

Chinese collaboration of Kuopion Lyseo Upper Secondary School

During spring 2017, we prepared the autumn visit carefully because our guests were arriving soon after the start of the term in August. A delegation of 12 students and four teachers from Beicai Senior High School visited Kuopion Lyseo Upper Secondary School from 22–29 August. One of main purposes of the visit was to plan a health and wellness-themed project with the students. Our Chinese visitors had been informed of the theme and preliminary tasks in advance.

The project was done in the subjects of health education and chemistry in a week's lessons with students on the TE1 (health education) and KE1 (chemistry) courses. The Chinese students were also provided with their own English and biology lessons. Right at the beginning of the visit, there was an English lesson where our visitors were familiarized with the terminology of the project theme. In a biology demo, they performed various measurements related to physical functional capacity. In health education, we compared cultural differences between Finland and China regarding daily eating and exercise habits. In the chemistry lessons, the students learned how to determine the vitamin content of berries. The project work was exhibited in the assembly hall on the last school day of the visit. The Chinese students also attended lessons during the school day with their host students. In addition, the students attended a home economics lesson arranged by Pyörö School.

The Chinese teachers were provided with their own programme including an introduction to the Finnish Upper Secondary School, student counselling and various subjects in accordance with their interests. The recreational programme provided them with an opportunity to experience Finnish nature, music, food culture and the way of life – for example, by visiting Finnish homes.

Chinese collaboration of Neulamäki School

The teachers Päivi Torvinen and Riikka Pasanen were on a teacher exchange from 25 Oct-2 Nov 2017 at our sister school, Xingang Middle School, in Shanghai.



For more information:

Leena Auvinen

Director of Education
leena.auvinen@kuopio.fi
Tel. +358 44 718 4003

City of Kuopio

Basic Education and Youth Services
General Upper Secondary Education and Cooperation
Postal Address: POB 228 | 70101 Kuopio Finland

THE UNIVERSITY OF EASTERN FINLAND IN SHANGHAI



The University of Eastern Finland's (UEF) university collaboration in China covers not only the Shanghai area but also a large number of universities on the east coast of China, with whom research work is carried out directly between research teams, without institutional agreements. In the field of health and natural sciences alone, the UEF's partners number a total of 124 universities and research institutes (<https://www.scival.com/home>).

Largely to enable student mobility, the University has signed academic memoranda of understanding with a total of 11 Chinese universities. The UEF's most important partners in the greater Shanghai area are the Universities of Fudan and Nanjing, which are among the best in China, and the Shanghai University of Traditional Chinese Medicine in the Pudong New Area.

DIVERSE COLLABORATION

- Research collaboration, including researcher exchange
- Academic collaboration, including student, teacher and staff mobility, double degrees and joint education projects
- Sale of education services
- Business activities

Research collaboration with the above mentioned partners, e.g. in the following fields:

- Environmental Sciences (Professors Maija-Riitta Hirvonen, Jorma Jokiniemi, Kari Lehtinen)
- Forest Sciences (Professors Heli Peltola and Timo Pukkala); Biology (Prof Riitta Julkunen-Tiitto)
- Computer Science (Prof Pasi Fränti)
- Education/Special Education (Professors Eija Kärnä and Ritva Kantelinen)
- Social Sciences/Social Work (Professors Juha E. Hämäläinen and Suvianna Hakalehto)
- Neuroscience (Prof Jukka Jolkkonen)
- Public Health (Prof Jussi Kauhanen)
- Law (Prof Kati Kuliovesi)
- Medicine (Professors Veli-Matti Kosma and Arto Mannermaa)

Academic collaboration

- Joint training modules in health sciences
 - Double Degree agreement – e.g. with the Universities of Nanjing and Guangxi
 - Teacher mobility
 - Student mobility 2017
 - There were 86 Chinese degree students at the UEF, which is the fourth most of all the University's foreign degree students. In total, there were foreign degree students from 106 countries.
 - 11 exchange students came from Chinese universities; the total number of foreign exchange students coming to the UEF was 537.
 - 9 exchange students went to China; a total of 226 students from the UEF went on exchanges.
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KEY PARTNERS

Fudan University

- Every year, Fudan University competes to be among the top 3–5 universities in China.
- Fudan University has several campuses in both the Puxi and Pudong areas of Shanghai.
- The first Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Fudan University and the current parent universities of the UEF was signed in 2007. The agreement enables research and educational collaboration and researcher, teacher and student exchange.
- On 18 Oct 2016, the UEF and Fudan University established the Sino-Finnish Centre for Child Protection Research at Fudan University. The research centre promotes interdisciplinary research and training related to child wellbeing and protection. Activities at the UEF are led by Professor Juha Hämäläinen. Activities have got off to a good start.

Nordic Centre at Fudan

- Fudan University is the location of the Nordic Centre at Fudan (NCF), whose membership comprises a total of 25 Nordic universities together with Fudan University.
- NCF offers the researchers, teachers and students of its member universities a wide range of activities, such as summer courses, joint research/teaching activities, seminars and conferences. Funding is also available.
- On 24–25 Oct 2017, the Finnish NCF member universities held a Sino-Finnish Research-Days event at Fudan University. The aim of the event was to activate research collaboration between Fudan University and the Finnish NCF member universities. The themes were: Education, Youth and Children, Environmental Sciences and Public Health. The UEF was involved in all but the Environmental Sciences theme.

Nanjing University

- Like Fudan University, Nanjing University competes to be among the top 3–5 universities in China.
- Nanjing University is located in the Greater Shanghai area, a two-hour train journey from the centre of Shanghai.
- The first MoU between Nanjing University and the UEF's parent universities was signed in 2005. The agreement enables research and educational collaboration and researcher, teacher and student exchange.
- In 2009, the current UEF and Nanjing University established the Joint Sino-Finnish Environmental Research Centre (SFERC) on the Nanjing University campus. Under Professor Maija-Riitta Hirvonen, the Centre researches the health effects of air pollution.
- Since 2015, the UEF, together with Nanjing University, has been a member of the International Institute of Environmental Sciences (IIES) network, which is coordinated by Trent University, Canada. This has led to the expansion of the UEF's research activities into the field of epidemiology. A new partner is Guangzhou University, located in South China, to which the UEF has extended its air pollution monitoring.

Shanghai University of Traditional Chinese Medicine

- The campus of the Shanghai University of Traditional Chinese Medicine (SHUTCM) is located in the Pudong New Area.
 - Collaboration between Teknia Ltd and the Pudong Science Park, which was formalised in 2001, also opened the way for collaboration between the then University of Kuopio and SHUTCM. An academic MoU was signed in 2003, enabling research and educational collaboration and researcher, teacher and student exchange.
 - Collaboration in the Kuopio region expanded in 2006 with the signing of an MoU between Teknia Ltd, Savonia University of Applied Sciences, Kuopio University and SHUTCM.
 - On 18 Oct 2017, the UEF held the first alumni event for SHUTCM students in Shanghai in conjunction with the exhibition of artworks by Ritva-Liisa Pohjalainen. Twelve alumni and a few teachers participated in the event.
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THE UEF'S ACADEMIC MEMORANDUMS OF UNDERSTANDING WITH CHINESE UNIVERSITIES

At university level: Fudan University, Shanghai; Nanjing University, Nanjing; Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong; University of Nottingham Ningbo China, Ningbo.

At faculty level: Beijing Haidian Special Education School, Beijing; Northeast Forestry University, Harbin; Guangxi Academy of Sciences, Nanning; The School of Biological Sciences at the University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong; The School of Chemistry and Pharmaceutical Engineering of the Qilu University of Technology, Jinan; The Shanghai University of Traditional Medicine, Shanghai; China Medical University, Shenyang.

EDUCATION EXPORT

The UEF is a shareholder in Finland University Ltd together with the Universities of Turku and Tampere and Åbo Akademi University: www.finlanduniversity.com. The UEF sells education services through Finland University Ltd.

The Pudong Institute for Health Development (PIHD) has purchased a Training Program for hospital managers from the UEF. The fifth training package was implemented in spring 2017.

BUSINESS ACTIVITIES

Some of the University's research teams have business activities in Shanghai.

For more information:

Anitta Etula

Director of International Relations

anitta.etula@uef.fi

Tel. + 358 50 590 5012

University of Eastern Finland

POB 1627

70211 Kuopio, Finland

www.uef.fi

SAVONIA'S COOPERATION WITH SHANGHAI

1 Background to Savonia's cooperation with China

When Savonia began to offer degrees taught in English in the 1990s, we recruited a large number of Chinese students. At the peak, there were 170 Chinese students in the academic year 2008–2009.

From 2015–2017, Savonia had a project funded by the CIMO Asia Programme 2015, Education Cooperation China and India: Modern Nurse Specialists in Maternity and Child Health, which ended on 30 October 2017. The project involved two university hospitals affiliated with Fudan University and Kuopio University Hospital (KUH) from Finland. Following this project, we are continuing to engage in active cooperation.

Savonia has previously had some other university partners in China, but in recent years we have collaborated with three Shanghai-based universities in particular:

- Shanghai Polytechnic University (SSPU)
- Shanghai University of Medical and Health Sciences (SUMHS)
- Fudan University School of Nursing (training collaboration)

Collaboration with SSPU has been in the fields of technology, business, tourism and design. With SUMHS, collaboration has focused on the health sector. Training collaboration in the social and health care sector has been carried out especially with the Fudan University School's hospitals and the Ailu day care centre chain.

2 Savonia's Shanghai cooperation in 2017

In 2017, a total of 36 exchange students came to Savonia from the Shanghai area. From Savonia, in turn, 15 exchange students went to Shanghai. The exchanges were with SUMHS, SSPU and the Fudan University School of Nursing. Four of the incoming and two of the outgoing exchanges were done as Double Degrees.

Staff exchange between Savonia and Shanghai was also lively, with 13 members of staff from Savonia on exchange in the Shanghai area and five teachers from Shanghai on exchange in Kuopio. In addition, a training programme week was implemented for six teachers from SSPU. Through the Pudong Health Bureau, a two-week updating training package was organised for eleven nurses. The intention is to continue this collaboration in 2018, too.

2.1 Shanghai Polytechnic University (SSPU)

Collaboration with SSPU has become very diverse. Through the local Outstanding Overseas Teacher Program, Savonia's teachers have been developing teaching at SSPU. The School of Engineering and Technology has put together Double Degree programmes with SSPU in environmental technology and mechanical engineering. Another established form of collaboration involves SSPU annually sending groups of six teachers to become acquainted with Savonia's work-oriented teaching methods. Such collaboration has already been agreed for 2018, too.

2.2 Shanghai University of Medicine and Health Sciences (SUMHS)

A four-year agreement with SUMHS was signed in November 2015. Cooperation is mainly in the form of teacher and student exchanges in various fields. A new initiative has been discussed for joint implementation of bioanalyst education, certain parts of which would be produced by Savonia as a commercial service.

2.3 Ailu Education Group

Ailu Education Group is a private chain with 40 day care centres. Savonia is negotiating a bipartite agreement with Ailu that would involve four day care centres serving as training places. Through SUMHS, Savonia students have been on exchange at Ailu – e.g. a Bachelor of Social Services student in late 2017. A bipartite agreement between Savonia and Ailu would enable trainees to go to them directly without any longer having to go through SUMHS. Ailu also has opportunities for trainees in other fields besides social and health care. Trainees can also be employed by Ailu after graduating. An additional aim is to produce commercial education services in an area related to early childhood education management.

2.4 Fudan University's affiliated hospitals (Children's Hospital, Obstetrics & Gynecology Hospital, Zhongshan Hospital)

Savonia has a tripartite agreement with the Children's and Obstetrics & Gynecology Hospitals until 31 Dec 2018. Both sides have been pleased with the collaboration that has taken place and, accordingly, we are now also considering a joint project and the funding for it. The chief nursing officer of the women's hospital intends to reapply for development funding in China because she wants to develop modern midwifery and family-centred care. Two nursing students from Savonia are going there to train in January/February 2018. Both hospitals are planning to send some exchange nurses to Savonia/Kuopio University Hospital (KUH) in spring 2018. Savonia is negotiating with KUH on joint implementation.

Zhongshan Hospital is the newest possible partner. The former chief nursing officer of the Children's Hospital moved to an equivalent position there and is keen to collaborate with Savonia. It is the oldest and most respected of the Fudan University hospitals and is an ideal place for practical nursing training. The hospital is large, with more than 20 buildings and 10,000 visits per day. There is a hall of residence at the Faculty of Medical Sciences. Savonia sent a draft agreement in September that is with the Hospital Committee. Savonia would be the first to make an international nursing work-based agreement with this hospital.

All of the Fudan University hospitals are interested in the Master in Digital Health degree programme, since it is in English and is done entirely online. In the future, we will also explore other kinds of collaboration with the Fudan University School of Nursing.

3 Continuation of cooperation

The established and extended collaboration with Shanghai's universities will in future also provide opportunities for education export. Marketing of Savonia's English degree programmes in the Shanghai area has been increased, and, in spring 2018, entrance examinations for these degree programmes will also be held there in collaboration with SSPU.

For more information:

Virpi Laukkanen

Manager of International Relations

virpi.laukkanen@savonia.fi

Tel. +358 44 785 6018

Savonia University of Applied Sciences

POX 6 (Microkatu 1), 70201 Kuopio, Finland

www.savonia.fi



The Savo Consortium for Education is starting educational cooperation with Shanghai Pudong

The Savo Consortium for Education initiated vocational education cooperation in the Shanghai area in November 2016, when the Consortium Director signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Shanghai Pudong Foreign Affairs Services School. The agreement specified three forms of cooperation: student and expert mobility, pedagogical development and further training for teachers.

In May 2017, a four-member delegation from Savo Vocational College explored the available courses in order to start concrete collaboration and identify common vocational sectors. Our aim was to start educational collaboration in tourism. Negotiations were also held on starting student exchange in other fields. Tourism collaboration did not arouse interest; instead, business, vehicle technology and programming/animation are potential collaboration areas. The School's automobile and programming teachers were invited to visit Savo Vocational College in Kuopio in August 2017.

The Principal and Division Director were members of the delegation that travelled to Pudong in October 2017 (Kuopio Business Trip to Shanghai 2017). They visited the Shanghai Pudong Foreign Affairs Services School, becoming acquainted with the various training programmes and having discussions with both the staff and students on starting teacher and student exchange. The invitation to visit the Vocational College was renewed.

For more information:

Jaana Räsänen

Coordinator of International Relations

jaana.rasanen@sakky.fi

Tel. +358 44 785 3311

Savo Vocational College

POB 87 (Presidentinkatu 3), 70101 Kuopio, Finland

www.sakky.fi

KUOPIO REGION CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

- Through the Kuopio Region Chamber of Commerce, companies have access to the services of the German Chambers of Commerce Worldwide Network (AHK). The AHK office in Shanghai has 130 experts who help companies, e.g. to understand the Chinese business environment and legislation, so that they can operate responsibly in the market. AHK also has very wide networks of useful Chinese and Western contacts. The office also helps with recruitment in China.
- The Finnish Business Council Shanghai is part of the global FinnCham network assembled by Finland Chamber of Commerce. It enables companies to become acquainted with people who already operate in the market and hear about their experiences and good contacts in order to facilitate their own progress in the market.
- The FinnCham network consists of international chambers of commerce and trade associations and is available to all companies.

For more information:

Taina Jutila
Service Manager
taina.jutila@kuopiochamber.fi
Tel. +358 44 5222 935

Kuopio Region Chamber of Commerce
POB 1199, 70211 Kuopio, Finland
www.kuopiochamber.fi/en/

