



6th Sino-German Sustainable Development Forum

Zhejiang University-RWTH Aachen University
40th Anniversary of Partnership

March 12, 2026



6th Sino-German Sustainable Development Forum

Theme: 40th Anniversary of ZJU-RWTH Partnership: Towards a Low-Carbon Future

Time: Thursday, March 12, 2026 (9:00-12:30, Germany)

Venue: 6th floor, Super C, RWTH Aachen University (on-site)

Language: English

Organized by: Zhejiang University, RWTH Aachen University, with support from DAAD

Registration link for the audience:

<https://forms.gle/TiExAecj6x62ttHNA>



SCHEDULE

Time:

Germany **9:00-9:40**

Opening Ceremony



Prof. Dr. Ulrich Rüdiger

Rector of RWTH Aachen University



Prof. Dr. MA Yanming

President of Zhejiang University, Member of the Chinese Academy of Sciences



Ms. Ruth Schimanowski

Head of Section Transnational Education and Cooperation Programmes in Europe, Asia and Central Asia, German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)



Mr. YU Yong

Consul-General of the People's Republic of China in Düsseldorf



Prof. Dr.-Ing. Kai-Uwe Schröder (Moderator)

Chair of the Senate and Rector's Delegate for China, RWTH Aachen University

Time:Germany **9:40-10:20****Plenary Session**

**Prof. Dr. YANG Huayong**

Dean of Faculty of Engineering of Zhejiang University, Member of the Chinese Academy of Engineering

**Prof. Dr.-Ing. Sven Klinkel**

Dean of Faculty of Civil Engineering of RWTH Aachen University, Institute of Structural Analysis and Dynamics

Time:Germany **10:30-11:00****Transition & Coffee Break**

Time:

Germany **11:00-12:30**

Parallel Academic Sessions

**Parallel Session I: Driving Intelligent Manufacturing and
Green Industrial Transformation**



Prof. Dr.-Ing. Marcus Geimer

Head of Institute Mobile Machines (Mobima), Karlsruhe Institute of Technology



Prof. Dr. XU Bing

Dean of School of Mechanical Engineering, Zhejiang University



Prof. Dr.-Ing. Katharina Schmitz (Moderator)

Director of Institute for Fluid Power Drives and Systems (ifas),
RWTH Aachen University

Parallel Session II: Shaping Smart and Sustainable Urban Systems



Prof. Dr. SHEN Guoqiang

Endowed Professor, College of Civil Engineering and Architecture, Zhejiang University



Dr. Ceren Sezer

Group Leader, Community Collaboration Laboratory for Just Transitions (CCLab), Institute for Urban Design and European Urbanism, RWTH Aachen University



Prof. Dr. CHEN Xiqun (Moderator)

Vice Dean, College of Civil Engineering and Architecture, Zhejiang University



Sven Engel

CARE – Climate-Neutral and Resource-Efficient Construction, RWTH Aachen University



Prof. Dr. Ulrich Rüdiger

Rector of RWTH Aachen University

Academic Degrees

7/2002	Habilitation at RWTH Aachen University in the group of Professor Dr. G. Güntherodt. Topic: "Spin-dependent Transport Phenomena: Materials, Magnetoresistance, and Applications"
5/1997	Doctorate at RWTH Aachen University under the supervision of Professor Dr. G. Güntherodt. Dissertation topic: "Preparation and Magneto-optic Properties of MnBi Thin Films"
1/1994	Dipl.-Phys., Physics, RWTH Aachen University

Career

Since 8/2018	Rector of RWTH Aachen University
10/2009 to 7/2018	Rector of the University of Konstanz
12/2002 to 7/2018	Professor and Chair of Experimental Physics at the University of Konstanz
7/2002	Habilitation and appointment as Privatdozent (PD) for Physics at RWTH Aachen University
5/2000	Appointment as Akademischer Rat at RWTH Aachen University
1/1999	Appointment as research associate at RWTH Aachen University in the group of Professor Dr. G. Güntherodt
12/1998	Research assistant at the RWTH Institute of Physics II at RWTH Aachen University in the group of Professor Dr. G. Güntherodt
5/1997 to 11/1998	Post-Doctoral Fellow at New York University in the group of Professor Dr. A.D. Kent. Research stints at the IBM Research Laboratory in San José in the group of Dr. S.S.P. Parkin and at the Cornell Nanofabrication Facility (CNF), Cornell University
1/1994 to 5/1997	Research assistant at the RWTH Institute of Physics II at RWTH Aachen University in the group of Professor Dr. G. Güntherodt



Prof. Dr. MA Yanming

President of Zhejiang University, Member of the Chinese Academy of Sciences

Prof. MA Yanming, physicist and member of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, currently serves as President of Zhejiang University. Prior to the current role, he was a Distinguished Au-Chin Tang Professor and served as Vice President of Jilin University.

Prof. Ma received his Ph.D. in Condensed Matter Physics from Jilin University in 2001. He worked as a postdoctoral researcher at the Steacie Institute for Molecular Sciences, National Research Council of Canada from 2002 to 2004, and at the Laboratory of Crystallography, ETH Zurich, from 2006 to 2008.

Prof. Ma specializes in high-pressure physics and computational physics. He is widely recognized for discovering the anti-Wilson transition in sodium, where the solid transforms from a metal to an insulator under high pressure. He pioneered research on hydrogen-based high-temperature superconductors under high-pressure conditions, leading to the discovery of a family of hydrogen clathrate-structured superconductors (e.g., CaH_6 and LaH_{10} , etc) with transition temperatures up to 260 K. He also developed the CALYPSO crystal structure prediction method and software, now used by over 5,200 researchers in 79 countries.

As the lead contributor, Prof. Ma has twice received the Second Prize of the State Natural Science Award, China. Internationally, he was honored with the Jamieson Award at the 18th International Conference on High Pressure Science and Technology and the Walter Kohn Prize from the International Centre for Theoretical Physics (2016). He has published more than 400 papers, some of which have appeared in top journals (e.g., *Nature*, *Physical Review Letters*, etc), with total citations exceeding 30,000, and has given over 100 invited or plenary lectures at international conferences. He has been named as a Clarivate Highly Cited Researcher for nine consecutive years (2017-2025).



Ms. Ruth Schimanowski

Head of Section Transnational Education and Cooperation Programmes in Europe, Asia and Central Asia, German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)

Since January 2026, Ruth Schimanowski has headed the section "Transnational Education Projects and Cooperation Programs with Partners in Europe, Asia, and Central Asia" at the DAAD headquarters in Bonn. Previously, she served as the Chief Representative of the DAAD Regional Offices in Beijing, Shanghai, and Guangzhou from January 2020 until the summer of 2023, spending the entire pandemic period in mainland China.

Her more than twenty-year professional career in China began as early as 1999, when she moved to China as a newly graduated physicist with a DAAD scholarship. She has worked in the cultural section of the German Embassy in Beijing, led the China Liaison Office of the Catholic aid organization Misereor for several years, and managed the business operations of the German Centre for Industry and Trade Beijing as Managing Director.

Having relocated back to Germany, she is convinced that fostering scientific talent within the international community has never been more important. Through DAAD consultancy and funding for individuals as well as universities, Ruth Schimanowski and her team continue to strengthen academic networks and exchanges in various regions – including Sino-German partnerships.



Mr. YU Yong

Consul-General of the People's Republic of China in Düsseldorf

YU Yong, male, born in June 1972 in Liu'an City, Anhui Province. Master of Social Science.

Before Mr. YU took up his post as Consul-General of the People's Republic of China in Düsseldorf in July 2025, he worked in the Africa Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China, at the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in the Republic of South Africa and in the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia.

Married, has one son.



Prof. Dr.-Ing. Kai-Uwe Schröder

Chair of the Senate and Rector's Delegate for China, RWTH Aachen University

since 2013 Professor of Structural Mechanics and Lightweight Design at RWTH Aachen University

2012 - 2013 Assistant Professor at the Institute of Constructional Lightweight Design at Johannes Kepler University Linz, Austria

2010 - 2011 Senior Researcher at the Institute of Constructional Lightweight Design at Johannes Kepler University Linz, Austria

2008 - 2009 Senior Engineer Method Development and project manager at ELAN-AUSY GmbH, Hamburg (former ELAN GmbH)

2007 PhD (summa cum laude)

2005 - 2007 R&D Engineer ELAN GmbH, Hamburg

1999 - 2005 Researcher at the Institute of Structural Analysis and Dynamics at Leibniz Universität Hannover

1999 Diploma

1993 -1999 Studies of Civil Engineering at Leibniz Universität Hannover

Membership

2006 - now Member of IASB Committee

2020 - now Rector's Delegate for the cooperation with the country China

2023 - now Chairman VDI The Association of German Engineers - Aachener District Association



Prof. Dr. YANG Huayong

Dean of Faculty of Engineering of Zhejiang University,
Member of the Chinese Academy of Engineering

Professor YANG Huayong, who obtained his Ph. D. from University of Bath in 1988, is a specialist in Fluid Power Transmission and Control. Currently he is the dean of Faculty of Engineering Zhejiang University, the director of State Key Lab of Fluid Power Components and Mechatronic Systems, and the Vice Chairman of the Chinese Society of Mechanical Engineering. Also, he is the chairman of the International Coalition of Intelligent Manufacturing. In the year of 2013, he was elected as a member of the Chinese Academy of Engineering.

Prof. YANG Huayong has carried a series of research on electro-hydraulic control, key components and systems to the development of shield tunneling machines, which produced significant economic benefit to the industrial sector. His research interests also include intelligent manufacturing and biomanufacturing. He was awarded the Joseph Bramah Medal of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers of UK in 2017, and the recipient of 2021 Robert E. Koski Medal from the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME). He has published more than 400 SCI technical papers and 4 books.



Prof. Dr.-Ing. Sven Klinkel

Dean of Faculty of Civil Engineering of RWTH Aachen University, Institute of Structural Analysis and Dynamics

Professional Career

Since 2023 Dean, faculty for civil engineering, RWTH Aachen University, Germany

2022 - 2023 Vice Dean, faculty for civil engineering, RWTH Aachen University, Germany

2016 - 2022 Vice Dean in charge of studies, faculty for civil engineering, RWTH Aachen University, Germany

Since 2012 Professor (W3) Chair of Structural Analysis and Dynamics at RWTH Aachen University, during this time a call for the Chair of Structural Analysis at KIT.

2009 – 2012 Professor (W3) Chair of Statics and Dynamics of Structures at TU Kaiserslautern, during this time a call for the Chair of Mechanics, Statics & Dynamics at TU Dortmund.

2008 Visiting professor at ETH Zürich, Institute for Mechanical Systems, Switzerland

2002 – 2008 Akademischer Oberrat (Senior lecturer) at Institute for Structural Analysis, Karlsruhe University, Germany

2001 – 2002 Research fellow at University of California, Berkeley, USA

1995 – 2001 Scientific employee at Institute for Structural Analysis, Karlsruhe University,

Education

2007 Habilitation (habil.) in the field of structural analysis at Karlsruhe University

Reviewer: Prof. Dr.-Ing. W. Wagner, Prof. Dr.-Ing. K. Schweizerhof, Prof. Dr.-Ing. J. Schröder.

2000 Doctoral thesis (Dr.-Ing.) in the field of structural analysis at Karlsruhe University

Reviewer: Prof. Dr.-Ing. W. Wagner, Prof. Dr.-Ing. F. Gruttmann.

1995 Diplom thesis in Civil Engineering at Hannover University

Awards and Distinctions

2020 Teaching Award in the “Instructor” Category, RWTH Aachen

2003 Young Researcher Fellowship Award for exemplary research in computational mechanics. Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, USA

2001/02 Scholarship of the German Research Foundation (DFG)

2000 Dissertation with distinction

Parallel Academic Sessions

Parallel Session I: Driving Intelligent Manufacturing and Green Industrial Transformation



Prof. Dr.-Ing. Katharina Schmitz

Director of Institute for Fluid Power Drives and Systems (ifas),
RWTH Aachen University

Katharina Schmitz studied mechanical and chemical engineering at RWTH Aachen University and Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh (USA) and graduated 2015 as Dr.-Ing. at RWTH Aachen University. Since 2018, she is full professor at RWTH Aachen University and director of the Institute for Fluid Power Drives and Systems (ifas). In addition, she is Vice Dean of the Faculty for Mechanical Engineering at RWTH Aachen, a position she holds since 2020. Prof. Schmitz's awards and honors include several best paper awards and 2023 IMechE Joseph Bramah Medal award.

Parallel Academic Sessions

Parallel Session I: Driving Intelligent Manufacturing and Green Industrial Transformation



Prof. Dr.-Ing. Marcus Geimer

Head of Institute Mobile Machines (Mobima), Karlsruhe Institute of Technology

Prof. Dr.-Ing. Marcus Geimer received the Diploma degree in mechanical engineering from the RWTH Aachen University, Germany, in 1990, and the Ph.D. degree from the Institute of Hydraulics and Pneumatics, today named the Institute for Fluid Power Drives and Systems, RWTH Aachen University. Since 2005, he has been a Full Professor and the Director of the Institute of Mobile Machines (Mobima), Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT), Germany. He started his industrial career in 1995 in the field of construction at the company Krupp Berco Bautechnik GmbH, Germany, where he was the Leader of the research group for hydraulic breakers. In 2000, he was with Bucher Hydraulics GmbH, Germany, where he led the construction and customer development for mobile hydraulics.

Parallel Academic Sessions

Parallel Session I: Driving Intelligent Manufacturing and Green Industrial Transformation



Prof. Dr. XU Bing

Dean of School of Mechanical Engineering, Zhejiang University

XU Bing, Professor, received his PhD degree from Zhejiang University in 2001, and now he is executive director of State Key Laboratory of Fluid Power and Mechatronic Systems, and Dean of School of Mechanical Engineering in Zhejiang University. He is also a board member of CMES, GFPS, IFToMM (China), etc. His research interests are fluid power components, electro-hydraulic control system, Fluid power mechatronics equipment, etc. He undertakes more than 60 finished and ongoing research projects which funded by government and industry partners. He was awarded more than 20 important R&D prize issued by government and industry association. He has published more than 120 Journal technical papers, and granted nearly 100 National Invention Patents.

Parallel Academic Sessions

Parallel Session II: Shaping Smart and Sustainable Urban Systems



Prof. Dr. SHEN Guoqiang

Endowed Professor, College of Civil Engineering and Architecture, Zhejiang University

Professor Shen served as a tenured full professor and department chair in Architecture, Urban Planning, and Public Administration at the University of Texas Arlington, the University of Oklahoma, and East Carolina University in USA for more than 25 years. He also held a dual professorship in Industrial and Systems Engineering and Business School at the University of Oklahoma. His research interests include Architectural Design, Urban Planning and Design, Urban Economics & Real Estate, Transportation & Logistics, Computer Modeling and Optimization. He emphasizes critical thinking and practical innovation and has published more than 100 papers in top academic journals and has served as a PI or Co-PI for funded research projects over USD\$30 million. He has personally directed and participated in more than 30 domestic and international planning and design projects, including civic, commercial, residential, cultural and has received multiple design and planning awards.

Parallel Academic Sessions

Parallel Session II: Shaping Smart and Sustainable Urban Systems



Prof. Dr. CHEN Xiqun

Vice Dean, College of Civil Engineering and Architecture,
Zhejiang University

Dr. CHEN Xiqun is Qishi Distinguished Professor & Tenured Professor of Zhejiang University, Vice Dean of College of Civil Engineering and Architecture, Director of Institute of Intelligent Transportation Systems, and Director of Research Center for Low-Altitude Infrastructure. His research interests include intelligent transportation systems, AI for transportation, transportation simulation and optimization, big data analytics, and shared mobility. He received B.E. and Ph.D. from the Department of Civil Engineering, Tsinghua University, in 2008 and 2013, respectively. During 2011-2012, he visited California PATH Program, University of California at Berkeley. Between 2013 and 2015, he worked at the University of Maryland, College Park, as Faculty Research Assistant, Research Associate, and Research Director of National Transportation Center. Currently, Prof. Chen serves as Chair of Transportation Management and Mobility Services at the World Transport Convention, Associate Editors of Transportation Research Part C and IEEE Transactions on Intelligent Vehicles. Prof. Chen has published 1 book, 3 book chapters, over 180 peer-reviewed international journal papers on Nature/Science/Cell-branded Journals, Transportation Science, Transportation Research Part A/B/C/D/E/F, Management Science, etc. His research was selected as Research Highlights by Nature, and reported by National Natural Science Foundation of China. He was ranked as one of World's Top 2% Scientists by Stanford University, and Most Cited Chinese Researchers by Elsevier.

Parallel Academic Sessions

Parallel Session II: Shaping Smart and Sustainable Urban Systems



Dr. Ceren Sezer

Group Leader, Community Collaboration Laboratory for Just Transitions (CCLab), Institute for Urban Design and European Urbanism, RWTH Aachen University

Main fields of research and education

- European M.Sc. in Transforming City Regions, Coordinator of the module: Integrated Project – II: Istanbul Studio
- Urban design and planning, Regional design
- Liveability and sustainability of public spaces
- Urban regeneration and renewal processes
- Spatial practices of immigrant communities
- Environment – behaviour studies
- Thematic group coordinator – Public Spaces and Urban Cultures – the Association of European Schools of Planning (AESOP)

Career

since 11/2019	Research Associate, Chair and Institute for Urban Design and European Urbanism, RWTH Aachen University
2019 July	Track chair – Tourism, Public Spaces and Urban Cultures / AESOP Annual Congress, Venice (Host: Università luav di Venezia).
2014 May - August	Adviser, IABR, International Architecture Biennale Rotterdam.
2010 - 2011	Adviser, Debates on Tour Program in Istanbul, Netherlands Architectuur Instituut, NAI Rotterdam.
since 08/2010	Guest researcher and lecturer, Department of Urbanism, Delft University Technology
since 2010	Founder, urban designer and planner Urban4- research and design office Amsterdam-Istanbul. (Design and advisory projects for public and private sector in Turkey and in the Netherlands).
since 2010	Co-organizer, advisor, scientific committee member of the academic workshops, and conferences of the AESOP Thematic Group in Helsinki, Vienna, Ankara, Bucharest, Istanbul, Utrecht, Glasgow, Ljubljana, Lisbon, Beirut, Nicosia and Amsterdam
2010	Co-organizer, Capacity Building Program, “Sustainable Urbanism in the Netherlands” Chinese Delegate from Beijing Municipality, China
since 2010	Co-founder and coordination team member of the AESOP Thematic group Public Spaces and Urban Cultures
2008 - 2010	Chair, AESOP Young Academics Network
2004 - 2010	Research Associate, Department of Urbanism, Delft University of Technology
2002 - 2004	Turkish Petrol Organization scholarship: Master in Urbanism, Delft University of Technology
1998 - 2002	Project Manager, Department of Architecture and Real Estate, ING Bank Headquarters, Istanbul, Turkey
1992 - 1997	Studied architecture at Istanbul Technical University

Parallel Academic Sessions

Parallel Session II: Shaping Smart and Sustainable Urban Systems



Sven Engel

CARE – Climate-Neutral and Resource-Efficient Construction,
RWTH Aachen University

Sven Engel is research associate at the Institute of Structural Concrete. His field of research is in automated manufacturing processes for reinforced concrete components, additive manufacturing of concrete and micro prestressing of concrete components.



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