

## 元智大學學生國際學術交流參訪活動報告

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Xiamen University (XMU) is located in Xiamen City, Amoy, Fujian Province. At 31st March 2013 XMU had over 40,000 students, including 20,314 undergraduates; 17,312 postgraduates; 2,956 doctoral students and 2,700 overseas students. The University was founded in 1921 by Mr Tan Kah Kee, the well-known patriotic overseas Chinese leader honored by Chairman Mao Zedong as the “Standard of the Overseas Chinese and Glory of the Nation”. It was the first university in the modern history of education in China founded by an overseas Chinese person. XMU comprises three campuses covering over 600 hectares in area and currently has built area of 2,600,000 m<sup>2</sup>, circa five times larger than Newcastle. The three campuses are: Siming Campus, Zhangzhou Campus, and Xiang’an Campus. We just went to Siming Campus in this visit.



XMU is supposed to be the most picturesque University in China if not the world and following the brief visit it was hard not to disagree with its beautiful boulevards, numerous lakes and fantastic green spaces and Hokkien-western Architectural style. The Siming Campus is to be the home of the Architecture and Urban Planning degree programme. Founded in 1921 it is the first and main campus of XMU.

The Qunxian Complex is a five-building 2,600 m<sup>2</sup> complex built in the typical Jiageng architectural style which is regarded as the centre, the beginning of the University. It is located to the east of the main Qunxian Gate with the main Qunxian Building in the centre of the row of the four subordinate buildings (Nangying, Tong'an, Jimei and Yingxue). The Nangying Building is well known as the famous historic building of Fujian as the first branch of the Communist Party of China was set up there.



The meeting was followed by a visit to the main library building which has a floor area of 21,000 m<sup>2</sup> which in itself is impressive and houses over 2.5 million books and papers. Although the internal spaces in the library were probably desperate for some investment it was believed that this was an extremely functional space that offered everything that would be required for the students. The University holds an excellent Special Collections with some very old and rare books some of which there are only one copy in the world.