

# GRC 2014 Summit Convenes in Beijing

Jointly hosted by the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), the National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC) and the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC), the 2014 Annual Global Meeting of the Global Research Council (GRC) was held in Beijing from May 26<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup>, 2014. LI Keqiang, Premier of China's State Council attended the meeting and made an important speech. More than 110 delegates from over 70 science funding agencies and research organizations in more than 40 countries attended the event.

Established in 2012, GRC is an important international organization dedicated to promoting the sharing of scientific information, the improvement of research quality and research collaboration. During the past two years, two successful Annual Global Meetings of GRC were held in the United States and Germany respectively and released statements of principles on scientific merit review and research integrity as well as an action plan towards open access. GRC has become a major platform for international communication and discussion on science and technology, a



H. E. LI Keqiang (middle), Premier of China's State Council poses with Prof. BAI Chunli (first left), president of CAS, Dr. Peter Strohschneider, President of the German Research Foundation, Janet Walden (third left), Chief Operating Officer of the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada, WAN Gang (third right), Chinese Minister of Science and Technology, Dr. France A. Córdova (second right), Director of the National Science Foundation of USA and Prof. YANG Wei (first right), President of the National Natural Science Foundation of China, at the opening of GRC Beijing Meeting.

strong bond for international cooperation and an important bridge of friendship.

The 2014 Beijing Global Summit is the third Annual Global Meeting of GRC and also the first meeting held in a developing country. Intense discussions were held during the meeting over two topics: “Open Access for Publications” and “Shaping the Future: Supporting the Next Generation of Researchers”.

“Open Access for Publications” is a continuation of the topic of 2013 Annual Global Meeting. The meeting endorsed an *Action Plan towards Open Access for Publications*, encouraged and called for open access to all results from publicly funded researches and pledged to take measures to promote and support the publication of publicly funded research outputs on open access journals and the deposit of publications in open access repositories. The 2014 Annual Global Meeting of GRC evaluated the implementation of the *Action Plan towards Open Access for Publications* in different countries and proposed recommendations on follow-up actions. Before the 2014 Annual Global Meeting, CAS and NSFC issued the *Chinese Academy of Sciences Policy Statement on Open Access to Articles from Publicly Funded Scientific Research Projects* and the *National Natural Science Foundation of China Policy Statement on Open Access to Research Publications from Its Funded Projects* respectively. It was to respond to the call for open access of GRC, demonstrate China’s support to and concrete actions toward the sharing of research outputs worldwide, further raise Chinese research organizations’ awareness of the significance and necessity of open access, and promote the progress of open access to scientific knowledge in China.

Talented researcher is the most critical factor in scientific innovation. Training of young scientists concerns the future of science and requires joint efforts of the global scientific community. All the GRC stakeholders should take into consideration which type of techniques and trainings should be developed in the coming decades, how to drive and carry out research pertaining to social responsibility, and how scientific research could make its contributions and accordingly fulfill its transformation in response to



H. E. LI Keqiang (middle), Premier of China’s State Council at the opening of GRC 2014 summit.

the changing social, cultural political, economic, and environmental settings across the globe.

China has implemented a series of talent training programs. Both CAS and NSFC have accumulated a wealth of experience in talent training. The 2014 Annual Global Meeting thoroughly discussed the training of young scientists with the aim of facilitating exchanges of experience, mutual learning and improvement of supporting mechanism. As an important outcome of the meeting, GRC released the *Statement of Principles and Actions for Shaping the Future: Supporting the Next Generation of Researchers*. It is widely acknowledged among participating organizations that the cultivation of young talents shapes the future of science and technology. On this issue, GRC is committed to improving the attraction of scientific research to young talents, exploring their potentials and providing career development opportunities and high-quality research environments for young talents.

The GRC Beijing Meeting was chaired by BAI Chunli, President of CAS, YANG Wei, President of NSFC, and Janet Walden, Chief Operating Officer of NSERC. BAI Chunli was elected as Chair of the GRC Governing Board during the meeting.