



同濟大學

TONGJI UNIVERSITY

Abstract of the Speech on the G8 University Summit

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In the midst of different types of crises, the university ought to take on more commitments. Apart from passing on knowledge, it is furthermore expected to shape up mature and integrative personality of the educated and to foster in them a reverence to the Nature and the Universe. The university must persist with scientific researches and in the meantime act cautiously in dealing with possible predicaments in ethics. In line with the Chinese tradition, the first and foremost function of education is to cultivate the moral character and spirit of the educated, with its ultimate goal to reshape man's human nature to perfection. In China, the traditional system of Shu Yuan was very much alike with that of the universities in modern times, a system that embodied the spirit of the Chinese tradition which paid attention to moral cultivation side by side with intellectual pursuit. Our universities must spread over such noble ideas as restraint, generosity and collaboration in the fulfillment of their duties closely related to human destiny. This is the common idea with regard to education shared by China and the West.