

Vice-Chancellor

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UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

[REDACTED]
Consul General
Consulate General of the People's Republic of China
Manchester
Via email:- [REDACTED]

13 August 2020

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your letter acknowledging receipt of the letter from Northern universities seeking your support in securing approval for charter flights to Manchester for our Chinese students. I am sure that your steadfast and ongoing support is greatly appreciated by all of the universities involved, including Leeds. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank you and your team for all the efforts made to ensure that our Covid-19 wellbeing, health and safety messages were effectively and consistently communicated to our Chinese students. Your support in this has helped the whole university community a great deal at this very challenging time.

I am very proud of the achievements we have made in partnership with colleagues in Chinese universities by working collaboratively as peers. The SWJTU-Leeds Joint School in Chengdu is an excellent example of our firm commitment to collaboration, and shows how dedicated academics have brought together the very best of two great higher education systems to create a high quality learning experience for our students. Of course, we also value the contributions made by our Chinese staff and students who enrich the academic and cultural life of the University and the City of Leeds. I am sure that the success of these partnerships would not have been possible without the strong support provided by the whole Consulate General team, and I thank you and your colleagues for your unfailing support.

As a leading UK university, our aim is to extend our international reach and global reputation through the quality of our world-changing education and research, and to deliver positive cultural, economic and societal benefits. We work hard to achieve these outcomes and the academic excellence which underpins them by adhering to our values of professionalism, inclusiveness, equality, integrity and community. I certainly share your belief that we will continue to develop our relationships with leading Chinese institutions and that, through continued cooperation, we will carry out world-leading research and education to address pressing global challenges such as climate change, health inequalities and food security.

Finally, I would like to wish you, your family and our colleagues at the Chinese Consulate in Manchester good health, happiness and fulfilment, now and in the future. I will be retiring from the University at the end of August and I am sure that my successor, Professor Simone Buitendijk, who joins us from Imperial College, and my trusted colleagues in Leeds will maintain our tradition of excellent working relationships with the Consulate.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

Alan Langlands
Vice-Chancellor