

Is there a right balance between security and knowledge?

[Alan Ruby](#) 19 September 2020

Reading the recent claims that [1,000 United States student visas had been revoked](#) or not renewed, I was reminded of my first trip to Beijing over 30 years ago.

The aim of the visit was to facilitate the processing of student visa applications to Australia. Thousands had piled up in the Australian embassy and its courtyard.

The main concerns were the applicants' health and their capacity to pay. The first was a tuberculosis check which created a bustling covert market in chest X-rays. The second involved furnishing bank statements with healthy balances, at least on the day of printing.

Statecraft, security possibilities of espionage or intellectual property theft were at best minor interests.

The short game of economic return and cash flow elbowed out strategic and geopolitical concerns. This was the case even though Tiananmen Square had happened just a few months before.

Full article: <https://www.universityworldnews.com/post.php?story=20200914135714451>

Spooky News from ORS

Your deadline is quickly approaching to complete your 2020 Annual Security Refresher Training. April McMeans will be contacting those individuals by email with the on-line training.

Please don't wait until December 31, 2020 to complete this required training!



JUST A LITTLE *Reminder*

ORS Required Trainings:

We are quickly coming to the end of 2020. Be sure to complete all ORS Annual required trainings no later than December 31, 2020. The trainings include:

- 2020 Annual Security Refresher Training
- Insider Threat Training
- Export Control Training

Please contact ORS if aren't sure if you have completed these trainings.

Customer Required Training:

Along with completing ORS required annual trainings (Export Control, Insider Threat and 2020 Annual Security Refresher Training), customer required trainings will need to be completed as well. These trainings can be found in the Statement of Work (SOW). Once the training for the customer has been completed, send a copy of your certificate earned to april.mcmeans@uah.edu. All training certificates will be maintained in your security file.



NASA Researcher Arrested for False Statements and Wire Fraud in Relation to China's Talents Program

Texas A&M University Professor Working on U.S. Space Projects Allegedly Hid Affiliations with Chinese State Owned Academic and Commercial Institutions

A criminal complaint has been unsealed today, charging Zhengdong Cheng, 53, of College Station, Texas, for conspiracy, making false statements and wire fraud.

Texas A&M University (TAMU) Professor Zhengdong Cheng is expected to make his initial appearance before U.S. Magistrate Judge Sam Sheldon today at 10 a.m. in Houston, Texas. Authorities took him into custody Sunday, Aug. 23.

Cheng allegedly led a team conducting research for NASA. According to the criminal complaint, for several years he willfully took steps to obscure his affiliations and collaboration with a Chinese University and at least one Chinese-owned company. The terms of Cheng's grant prohibited participation, collaboration or coordination with China, any Chinese-owned company or any Chinese University, according to the charges.

Full article: <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/nasa-researcher-arrested-false-statements-and-wire-fraud-relation-china-s-talents-program>

OFFICE OF RESEARCH SECURITY STAFF

DENISE SPILLER

Security Administrator

824-6444

denise.spiller@uah.edu

JANINE WILSON

Associate Security Administrator

824-3025

janine.wilson@uah.edu

APRIL MCMEANS

Assistant Security Administrator

824-6048

april.mcmeans@uah.edu

CAITLYN SCHOENIG

Security Assistant

824-4717

caitlyn.schoenig@uah.edu

RYAN WILKINSON

Student Specialist I

824-4818

ryan.wilkinson @uah.edu