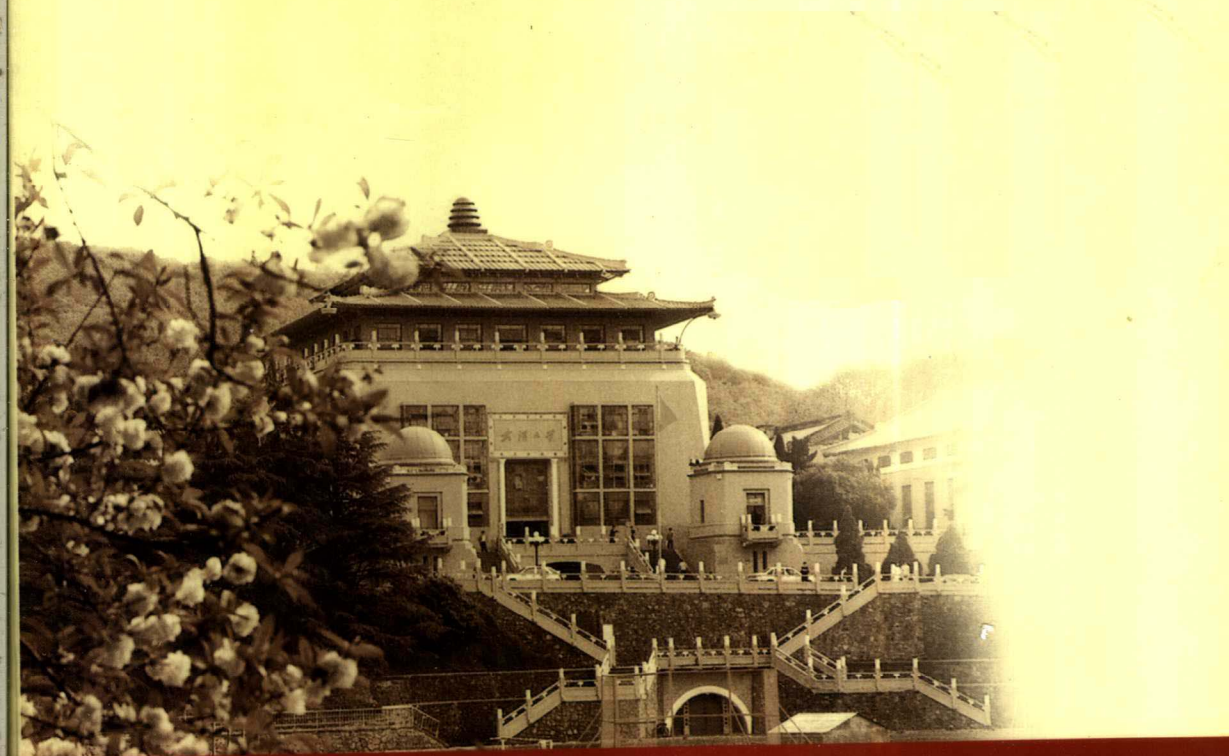




1893-2003  
热烈庆祝武汉大学建校110周年  
Wuhan University Press



武汉大学110周年校庆

# 校长论坛文集

武汉大学社会科学部 组编



Wuhan University Press  
武汉大学出版社



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# 在武汉大学 110 周年校庆大会上的讲话

(2003 年 11 月 29 日)

(代 序)

武汉大学校长 刘经南

尊敬的各位领导、各位来宾、各位校友，

老师们、同学们、朋友们，

女士们、先生们：

今天，我们隆重集会，庆祝武汉大学建校 110 周年。这是 2000 年 8 月 2 日新的武汉大学组建后，学校举行的第一次重大的庆典活动，也是面向 21 世纪，以“聚焦校友，弘扬学术”为宗旨，广结海内外朋友，谋求跨越式发展的一次重要庆祝活动，因此，具有特殊重要的意义。全国政协张思卿副主席、教育部、湖北省委和省政府、武汉市委和市政府的领导以及社会各界领导、海内外同仁、嘉宾和校友专程来到珞珈山，参加我们的校庆活动，体现了党和政府以及社会各界对武汉大学



的关心和支持,让我们以最热烈的掌声欢迎他们,感谢他们!今天是武汉大学的盛大节日,我代表学校党委和行政,向全体师生员工和广大校友表示节日的问候!向所有为武汉大学的繁荣昌盛贡献了智慧和精力的老领导、老教师、老同志表示崇高的敬意!向所有为武汉大学的建设和发展倾注了大量心血的各级领导,向一直关注、理解、支持和帮助武汉大学发展的海内外同仁、社会各界朋友以及广大校友表示衷心的感谢!

武汉大学的发展跨越3个世纪,她走过的110年,正是中国从积贫积弱的落后状态努力向繁荣富强的现代文明社会演进的110年。在这110年里,武汉大学随同时代步伐一起进步,她的发展始终与民族的命运紧密相联。张之洞1893年创办的湖北自强学堂是武汉大学的最早前身,是在清朝末年救亡图存的历史大背景下应运而生的,她以兴学图强为指导思想,以培养经世致用人才为首要目的,打破了以传经论道为宗旨的教育传统。后续的湖北方言学堂、国立武昌高师、国立武昌大学、国立武昌中山大学与之一脉相承,适应了当时的社会需求,顺应了历史发展的潮流,不断改变着办学模式和理念。1928年组建的国立武汉大学,适应国民政府建立后图谋大发展的历史需要,在短短几年时间内,就从一所普通高校发展成为“民国五大名校”之一,被认为是中国高等教育史上的一个奇迹。新中国成立后,尤其是改革开放以来,武汉大学的办学规模空前发展,综合实力和办学水平得到迅速提高。在1953年的全国院系调整中,武汉大学顺应国家急需培养高级专门人才的需要,由一所实力雄厚的综合性大学调整为一所以文理学科为主的综合性大学,一些学科和学院从武汉大学调整出去,充实组建了国内多所高校,促进了一批新学校的诞生和发展。世纪之交,武汉大学顺应学科向综合、交叉发展的趋势,贯彻全国高等学校管理体制改革的精 神,与武汉水利电力大学、武汉测绘科技大学、湖

北医科大学合并,组建成新的武汉大学。

参与合并的四所高校都是重点大学,都各有特色和优势。原武汉水利电力大学成立于1954年,是我国水利电力行业专业最齐全、综合实力最强的国家重点大学;原武汉测绘科技大学成立于1956年,是世界上测绘学科门类最齐全的国家重点大学;原湖北医科大学成立于1943年,是湖北省惟一创建于新中国成立前并得到延续发展的医学重点大学。四校合并后,武汉大学的办学理念得到融会升华,学科门类更加齐全,办学特色更加鲜明,综合实力明显增强,文理交叉,理工结合,增强了学科的活力和生命力,增强了学校策划和承担重大科研项目的能力和实力,基础理论与高新技术应用研究紧密结合,科研成果转化的步伐进一步加快,人文科学和社会科学互相渗透促进,服务社会、影响社会的能力进一步加强,学校的发展空间也更加广阔。

新的武汉大学组建成立后,发展顺利,学校在融合中改革,在改革中发展。在合并三年多的时间里,完成了机构和学科的整合,明确了发展目标,制定了学校发展规划、学科发展规划和校园总体规划,实现了实质性融合,开创了良好的工作局面,取得了一系列可喜的成绩和标志性成果。目前,学校已实现由整合资源、聚集实力到加快发展的转变,进入到全面、快速提高综合实力的跨越发展时期。

总结历史,我们认为,顺应历史潮流,不断开拓创新,构筑了武汉大学历史发展的灵魂,是武汉大学能够从一所举步维艰的学堂发展成一所能对经济社会协调发展产生重大影响的国家重点建设的综合性大学,并始终保持旺盛生命力的根本原因。不断创新教育理念和人才培养方式,使之与时代同步是武汉大学的优良传统。自强学堂开创了中国实行分科教育的先河;20世纪80年代初以来,武汉大学在率先推行学分制改革的基础上,先后推出了一系列教学制度的改革;进入新世纪以后,学校又开始倡导并推行“创新、创造、创业”的教育理念,

通才和专才教育协调结合的教育模式。所有这些探索,都是武大人顺应历史潮流,敢为天下先,勇于改革创新的表现。

高水平学者的卓越贡献和领导者的远见卓识构筑了武汉大学精彩纷呈、光彩夺目的发展的晶核。李四光先生等一批先贤以学者的严谨、教育家的谋略、艺术家的浪漫为我们选定了珞珈山这块宝地,正是他们筑巢引凤,珞珈山下才会大师云集,成为各种学派、各种思想的聚集地。新中国成立后,以李达校长为代表的一大批领导和学者的谋划和奋斗,构建了武汉大学人文社科今日繁荣的平台和自然科学持续发展的基础。同样,以张瑞瑾、夏坚白、朱裕璧等为代表的一代宗师,奠定了今日水电、测绘、医学科学蓬勃发展的地位。改革开放后,改革的思路,开放的理念,跨越式发展的蓝图,优良的学术环境,培育和引来了一大批优秀的学者,而高度重视发挥高水平学者的作用是武汉大学办学的优良传统。一批大师级学者对武汉大学的发展起到了至关重要、举足轻重的作用。正是因为这些大师和优秀学者的努力,才铸就了武汉大学昔日的辉煌和今天的风流。

兴国安邦的理想和自强弘毅的精神构筑了武汉大学胸怀远大、气贯长虹的创业精神。适应时代需要,追求卓越贡献是历代武大人的心愿。在新的世纪,为适应国家全面建设小康社会的需要,学校适时提出:抓住 21 世纪前 20 年的战略发展机遇期,以服务求支持,以贡献求发展,争取到 2010 年左右,成为以综合性、研究型、国际化为基本特征,拥有雄厚综合办学实力,国内外知名的高水平大学,为国家经济建设和社会发展贡献一批重大科研成果,培养一大批高级专门人才,使武汉大学成为国家及湖北(武汉)地区培养高级专门人才和解决国民经济建设及社会发展重大理论与实际问题的重要基地,成为我国中部地区最具影响力的学术、科技、文化和教育中心。争取到 21 世纪中叶,跻身世界公认的一流大学行列。

“大学之道，在明明德，在新民，在止于至善。”武汉大学虽然历经沧桑，但她始终激情昂扬，与时俱进，科教兴国的信念不变，人才强校的理想不变，建设世界一流大学的宿愿不变。不平凡的办学经历和丰富的办学实践为历代武大人积累了宝贵的精神财富，那就是：自强弘毅，求是拓新。这就是武大精神的凝结。这种精神曾经激励一代又一代的武大人，以民族振兴、社会进步为己任，培育人才，弘扬学术，报效国家，舍己奉献。今天，我们武大的师生员工将继续弘扬这种精神，以提高学校服务社会、影响社会的能力为目的，不断增强以人文和科学精神高度统一为背景的凝聚力，以多源财政为后盾的经济实力，以人才、团队、基地为依托的学科创新和科技创新能力，以国际化为特征的学术竞争力，努力实现学校的跨越式发展。

“千里之行，始于足下。”武大人将一步步地踏踏实实改善学校的软、硬件环境，将一环一环地兢兢业业改革学校的运行管理机制。我们不仅要拥有世界一流的校园环境，我们还将建设一群又一群世界一流的现代化教学大楼，培育一批又一批世界一流的学术大师和优秀团队，添置一件又一件的高精科研设备和图书资料，创造一批又一批世界一流的人文社科和自然科学技术成果，产生一轮又一轮有国内外影响的办学经验。我们深信，这些都不只是我们的愿望，而是我们的承诺，也是不久的现实。

各位老师，各位同学，各位校友，让我们万众一心，众志成城，在邓小平理论和“三个代表”重要思想的指导下，发挥我们的优势，贡献我们的聪明才智，为早日把武汉大学建设成世界一流大学，为推动教育科技事业的繁荣，为国家经济建设和社会的协调发展，为中华民族的伟大复兴而努力奋斗！



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# Relations Between the Development of Communications Techniques and of Universities

Professor Jean MAUBLANT, Vice-President for International Relations  
University of Clermont-Ferrand 1, France

**Abstract.** This presentation is supposed to recall the history of the universities in parallel with the development of the communication techniques. As the introduction of vegetal paper, it soon became a new medium, the development of which fulfilled the increased demand of the university then. The revolution in communication resulting from mechanical printing and paper fabrication caused and amplified the social changes. Similarly, in the contemporary world, the apparition of internet, electronic exchanges and storage of information have the potential effect at the societal level.

And universities have really entered this world with the advent of internet and play a central, accelerating role in the search for new ideas and the academic dissemination.

Key Word: university communication, communication techniques.

The object of this presentation is a tentative overview of the history of the universities in parallel with the history of the communications techniques. We expect it could enable us to better understand the present era.

It is a fact that, in Europe, the development of the first University was closely paralleled by the appearance of the first paper mills, i.e., in the XIIth century, and primarily in Italy. These two events could have been independent, but we can also imagine that they were somehow related to each other.

The background of this technical revolution is the introduction of vegetal paper as an industry. We know the major role played by the Chinese in this discovery. Their technique spread through Europe starting from the south, probably through exchanges along the Silk Road. There was a well-known center in Fabriano, Italy, but it was also brought in through Spain and it settled durably in France, Germany and Holland. Another crucial factor seems to have been the occurrence of favorable climate conditions in Europe during the XII and XIIIth centuries, which lead to development of new cereals such as CHANVRE and LIN, which are key factors for the fabrication of paper. A nearly endless source of matter was then made available while the former parchemins from sheep were rather scarce.

Paper was a new, revolutionary medium, clearly less expensive than parchemin or velin, but also much less solid. A piece of paper can be easily teared off while a parchemin is much more resistant. In fact several exam-

ples are known of official decreets forbidding the use of paper for registering any public act. But that did not change the progress of history and paper has remained the only support medium for public transmission of information until very recently.

Now can the making of paper have any relationship with the development of European University?

First, it seems difficult to imagine what could a large scale University be without books and draft papers.

Second, it is possible that identical reasons led to the use of paper and to the creation of University, and these reasons could be the favorable economic conditions of that period of history in Europe. While the crops were better, the increase in the general and individual wealth allowed a larger number of people to devote themselves entirely to intellectual activities.

Third, once University and paper have been present, they have mutually reinforced their existence. Very rapidly, the University became high consumers of paper and they have generated the emergence of their own attached, although private, paper-making companies. Several of these have survived for centuries. They were enjoying a special statute which was transmitted as a right to their heirs siblings DESCENDANTS. The need for large quantities of paper was obvious and the young University had already demonstrated their ability to improve the actual situation by inventing a new, more rapid way of making copies of books in parchemins; in fact this has created a certain degree of competition with the more traditional and slow work of the monks.

At the end of the XVIth century, the revolutionary printing technique invented by Gutenberg and others was slowly becoming routine in several

places in Europe. Historians tend to believe that the strong need for books has pushed the researchers to find significant improvements in the printing process in terms of speed and, of course, of cost. Printing was becoming faster, better and less expensive.

The number of books, but also of flyers and posters that could be PLACARDE everywhere, was increasing very quickly. Is it then a surprise if this time of history has seen the rapid emergence of new ideas ? The two major changes are probably the beginning of the so-called Renaissance and the Reformation. What is striking with these two events is that Renaissance, with a sudden increased interest in the Greek and Roman cultures, was a clear return to the pre-Christian era, while Reformation, with its new way of reading and interpreting the Bible, was an opening toward a new direction in thinking the society and in dealing with the surrounding world. The question of whether these two events are related would take us out of the present talk, but I hope we can agree that both have been precursors of major societal changes during the following centuries.

Unfortunately, hypotheses in History cannot be tested like in experimental sciences, and it is very difficult to get a definite conviction about a CAUSE-EFFECT relationship, and never a definite proof. But we can try to imagine what would have likely happened if paper production and printing has not appeared during the late Middle Ages. Very likely the interest for the Greek and Roman authors would have stayed as it was before, a matter for scholars but maybe with no great diffusion in art, in particular in architecture and painting. For the Reformation, maybe it would have just been one among the many other new interpretations or variants of the Christian religion that had repeatedly erupted for more than a thousand years. Again,



this is only a hypothesis that is not demonstrable neither falsifiable. But the point I want to raise is that at least we can observe that the revolution in communication resulting from mechanical printing and paper fabrication has COINCIDED with a revolution in the ideas and eventually in the lifestyle of the European civilization, a revolution that has amplified two originally low level movements.

If we could continue along History by trying to parallel the changes in communication means and societal changes, we could stop at a two other stages, which are the emerging of the national languages, and of the scientific publications.

Because it was becoming easier to write and publish, it became possible for authors not familiar with the Latine language to publish their own ideas in a another, more local language. Not only many more authors could express themselves, but each author had also at least the potential to diffuse a much larger number of his publications. Among the defending authors of this new approach, we can quote Leibnitz, born in 1646 and dead in 1716, who wrote: "Through loss of interest for their mother-tongue, ERUDITS have only dealt with useless matters, writing only to fill the RAYONS and the nation has been kept away from knowledge. Like a well-polished mirror, VERNACULAIRE language increases mind sharpness and provides the intellect with a transparent clarity."

Another consequence is the development of scientific publications. At the beginning, what we now call scientists and researchers, who were mostly at that time "honnête homme," were testing their new ideas or discoveries by sending a letter to one or a few friends. In fact, at the end of the XVIIth century, the majority of the Parisians intellectuals were mak-

ing prints of their letters, in some case at several hundreds of samples. Besides the limited cost of this printing, it was easy to send and, sometimes a major advantage, it was not covered by censorship because only the publication of books had to be approved by the king. (CF INTERNET) Officially, the first scientific journal, called the Philosophical Transactions, was created in England by Oldenburg on the 6th of March 1665, and we know the success of this formula, with the introduction of a peer-review process, and the wide diffusion of the DEVISE of the British Royal Society: "Nulli in verba" (nothing in the verb), AVENEMENT official establishment of experimental sciences, and possibly the true beginning of modern sciences.

Is there any lesson we can learn from this brief and probably biased overview ? Is any comparison possible between the evolution of printing and the apparition of internet, electronic exchanges and storage of information of the present era ? What can be the role of University in this setting ?

First of all, is the electronic writing a real evolution or it is just something new that happens to us and that we unduly consider as important ? The end of the XXth century has seen the development of fast, low cost printing of paper; numerous books have been published, advertising has developed exponentially, photocopying has become available in all kind of offices and to nearly everyone. The consumption of paper has continued to grow at an impressive rate. In parallel, computers have left the research laboratory to slowly become commercial before moving to any single office, and are now on their way to enter any family home. The most fantastic use of a computer is certainly the development of internet. I am still amazed to-

day to see how fast, in less than a second, a search engine is able to identify and locate all the sites in the world containing a couple of selected words. Not only this tool is great for writing, preparing slides, making statistics and plotting curves, processing images, but it has also rather suddenly replaced most of the mail and gave to us access to millions of strangers, but also of colleagues and friends, plus to nearly endless information about nearly everything. But more is coming, electronic writing and storage is not only for fun, for easier life, for faster communication; it is also creating new needs and developing new products that could not exist without signal or image processing. For instance, in medicine, images from a X-ray scanner, from magnetic resonance imaging, from emission computed tomography, from ultrasound and Döppler would not exist at all without computers. The patient file is now becoming virtual and stored on magnetic disks. The same is becoming true of much of the administrative data. Our own family videos and photographs are also now becoming numeric.

Besides its role in administration, medicine, research and family activities, could numerical revolution influence more profoundly our society and what could be the role of the University?

The thesis proposed here is that if we parallel what happened in the former centuries between communication means and societal changes, numerical communications should increase the risk of diffusion, and hence of possible acceptance, of retrograde as well as advanced ideas. In this context, Universities, which are at the crossroad of research and teaching, of searching for new ideas and for academic dissemination, play a central, accelerating role.

Although we know clouds are moving in the sky, it is usually difficult