

《中国的新一代富豪——大学里的科学家们》

导读:

中国科学家们的口袋在越来越鼓。根据南华早报的一份新报告,跻身百万富翁行列的中国科学家越来越多。



Chinese President Xi Jinping has called upon the country's best and brightest to make more breakthroughs in science and technology, with billions of yuan being pumped into higher education.

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Now, it seems that an increasing amount of that money is going into scientists' pockets. According to a new report by South China Morning Post, the ranks of millionaire scientists in China are growing rapidly.

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"Chinese scientists working in the world's top research institutes are in short supply, but the demand for their return is almost infinite," Zhang Liyi, an official at the human resources department at the Ningbo Institute of Industrial Technology, told the newspaper.

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China's program of investment in higher education over the past decades is now paying dividends with some universities reaching world-class status, according to several rankings.

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A survey published in the scientific journal Nature concluded that university scientists in China made on average \$40,000 a year in 2010, while their counterparts in the U.S. made double that amount. Now, the gap is vanishing.

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"In major cities, more and more Chinese scientists are making as much as they can for the same position in the U.S.," a senior life scientist at Tsinghua University in Beijing told the SCMP.

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Chinese professors with overseas experience get an average starting salary of about \$120,000 a year, it added.

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Additionally, some university researchers can get a 700,000 yuan (\$107,000) bonus for each paper published by top academic journals.

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There's also commercial potential in the scientists' research. A professor at Wuhan Institute of Technology in Hubei reportedly earned 13 million yuan (\$2 million) from selling ceramic coating technology to a company last year.

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These top earning scientists have, however, come under fire, with critics questioning whether their heart truly lay in science – or in their paychecks.

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