

Foreign job applicants welcomed

The recruitment fair held in Wuhan Future City on March 31 saw dozens of foreign applicants.

Several foreign students told *Changjiang Daily* that after these years of study in Wuhan, they have become quite optimistic about the economic potential here. They favor working for internationally oriented corporations, hoping to grow up together with those promising startups.



As of the latter half of 2017, Hubei province launched ten measures to expedite entry and exit procedures in Hubei Free Trade Zone (FTZ) and Wuhan Comprehensive Innovation and Reform Pilot Zone, aiming to attract foreign employees, overseas Chinese, as well as foreign students to engage in innovation and entrepreneurship in Hubei.

According to the entry-exit administrative department, those excellent foreign graduates whose education backgrounds meet the requirements, and who have obtained employment offers from relevant units, can apply for work-type residence permits after graduation in accordance with

regulations. Those foreign students who meet the education requirements and have intentions for innovation and entrepreneurship can be issued a two-year maximum private-affair-type residence permit for entrepreneurship; overseas university students are allowed to apply for private-affair visas at the port or within the territory so as to receive practical training in Hubei.

Wuhan Hongshi Technology Co., Ltd., a high-tech enterprise specializing in biometric recognition research, is currently in urgent need of software development and algorithm engineers. Hua Tuo from Wuhan University, who had majored in

software engineering during his undergraduate study, sent his résumé to the company. A female recruiter of the company said, "Our company holds positive attitudes towards foreign employees. If the applicant meets the requirements of the post, we will be very happy to welcome him/her to join us." An on-site recruiter of Huawei Technology Co., Ltd., said, "We set no restrictions for the nationalities of our employees." According to him, the employees of Huawei come from more than 160 countries and regions. In the Wuhan branch there are also many foreigners and their working and communication language is English."

Expatriate startups on the rise

By Sue Liu

On April 8, the World's Top 10 incubator Founders Space Wuhan and local online community Wuhan Social hosted a free Foreign Business Registration Workshop for expats wanting to develop businesses in Wuhan.

During the workshop, expats learned about the required documents and procedures that they need to be familiar with when they register a company in Wuhan or are in collaboration with Chinese business partners. Attendees were also given an outline of local government initiatives, such as the 3551 talent scheme and preferential policies that encourage entrepreneurship in the Optics

Valley area. As most of the foreign attendees were international students studying in Wuhan, they showed great interest in how to apply for work visas in China. Currently foreigners who hold either a work visa or a student visa can become registered shareholders of a newly formed company. In addition, Hubei issued a new policy last year which encourages foreign students to start new businesses in Wuhan. Foreign students who start up businesses in Wuhan after obtaining a bachelor's degree or higher in major Chinese colleges and universities can apply for a two-year residency permit for internships and that allow them to participate

in entrepreneurial activities.

June Tang, director of Nohan Consulting, has witnessed a boom in the launching of foreign businesses over the past three years. Nohan Consulting is a local firm promoting foreign investment and helping startups solve problems. Tang said foreign business in Wuhan mainly focuses on trade, education, and dining. Wuhan's strength as an educational hub in combination with comparatively low costs and reliable infrastructure for startups has increased the number of new businesses. In terms of investment in education and training, having comparatively low costs for startups makes Wuhan an ideal city to start a business.

"Book exchange" activity at high school

Wuhan High School on April 3 launched a book exchange activity during which the students donated over 500 books for sharing. Books donated covered a variety of subjects, such as *A Short History of Nearly Everything*, the novel series by the Japanese author Keigo Higashino, and some cyber novels such as *Douluo Continent*. Biographies, such as those about Steve Jobs, were students' favorites. A school official said that the school intended to encourage students to read more books, which among other things will help promote cultural sensitivity.

Special activity for "children of the stars"



April 2 is World Autism Day. Hubei Rehabilitation Center for the Disabled joined hands with Wuhan Kangaroo Park in holding a World Autism Day public welfare activity which had the theme "With you, we're not lonely." Forty-five autistic children experienced over 40 fun programs, which made the children very happy. "Owing to their social sensitivity, those autistic children seldom go to play in the amusement park like ordinary children. This special activity is a rare opportunity to help those children merge into society with the support of our teachers and their parents," said Liu Meishan, who is in charge of the rehabilitation center.