

**Toast at the Closing Banquet of
the 2007 AWI Workshop on Public Health**

President Xu Zhihong

May 26, 2007

Distinguished Guests,
Dear Friends,
Ladies and Gentlemen:

Good evening! It is with heartfelt pleasure that I share this joyful occasion with you. First, on behalf of Peking University, I would like to welcome all our guests tonight, some of you coming from far places to attend this workshop. Thank you for making your presence here, and I'm sure all of you enjoy fruitful results.

It is a great honor and opportunity for Peking University to host the AWI workshop on Public Health. In 2000, Beijing Medical University was merged with Peking University, which is currently known as Health Sciences Center of Peking University. Since the integration, Peking University has made great progress in public health area, and become one of the leading national institutions in medical and health research, and making every effort to pursue world-class academic excellence in some programs.

By organizing and participating in this public health workshop, we have not only experts from other Pacific Rim countries to tell their experiences, but also speakers from Peking University and other domestic institutions to introduce China's policy and practices to the world.

During the two-day session, we have been sharing experiences, exchanging ideas, discussing for solutions, building relations for future collaboration. The public health threats we are facing can be within or beyond a country's border, and universities play a special role in responding them through teaching, research, policy consultation, or a combination of all three. This workshop highlights the function a university can serve in public health area, creating a vision for university leaders to pursue.

Again, I wish to thank the APRU World Institution, and our partner institutions for your sponsorship; thank university leaders and experts for your participation; and all other people who contributed to the success of this workshop.

Now, may I propose a toast
to the successful closing of the 2007 APRU World Institute Workshop on Public Health.

to the ever strengthening of our friendship and cooperation.

to the good health of the all the friends present.

Thank you.