

China & W3C: How it all began (or what I remember of it...)

Ivan Herman (郝易文), W3C



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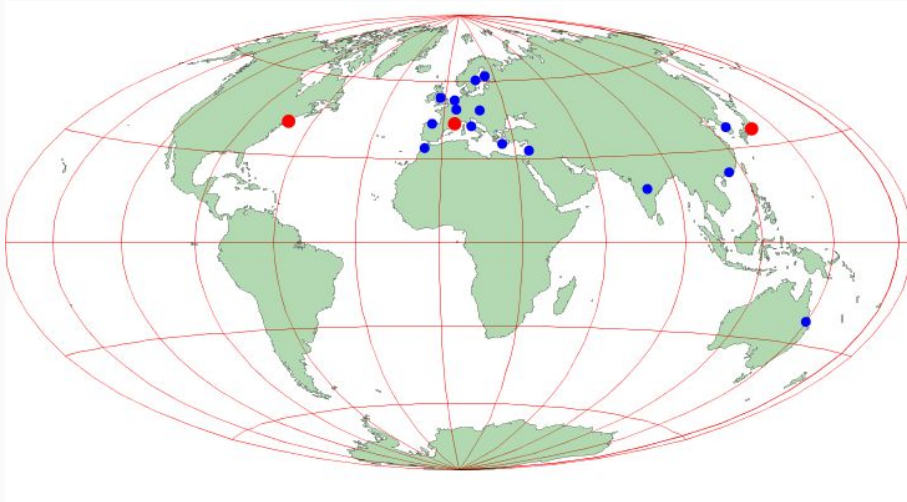




W3C Offices

There were a bunch of them in 2000's...

- Germany, Sweden, The Netherlands, Italy, Spain...
- Australia, Morocco, Israel, later India, South Korea





In 2001 “China” meant the Hong Kong office

“Hosted” at HKUST (Hong Kong University of Science and Technologies)





Remember these three persons!



Vincent Chen
(manager)



Yammie Yuen
(administrator until
2004)



Eva Tam
(administrator from 2004)



Vincent's vision (paraphrasing)

"My goal is that by the time I retire, the Hong Kong office will have disappeared in favour of an office in Mainland China, preferably in Beijing."

- I had to convince my management at W3C
- He used his contacts to locate the right persons and institutions who could host an office in Mainland China



Without them we would not be here!



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Vincent Chen
(manager)



Yammie Yuen
(administrator until 2004)



Eva Tam
(administrator from 2004)



It was not easy...

- We were around 2003/2004: China was not the China of today!
- I had to “educate” people around me 😊
- There were two failed attempts over the years...



We tried in 2003...

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... 2005



But the third contact was the right one!



怀进鹏 (Jinpeng Huai)





The grand opening in 2006 at Beihang University



The two “facilitators”...





There were also the “makers”

- E.g., the first manager of the office in Beijing:



杜宗霞 (Zongxia Du)

An-Qi took over from Zhongxia



李安琪 (An Qi Li)



Chunming co-managed the office



胡春明 (Chunming Hu)



The WWW conference was also organized by the same team in 2008

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Let us remember these names... and thank them!

- Vincent, Yammie, Eva, Jinpeng, Zhongxia, Chunming, An Qi...





Let us not forget Klaus, who took over the offices from me...

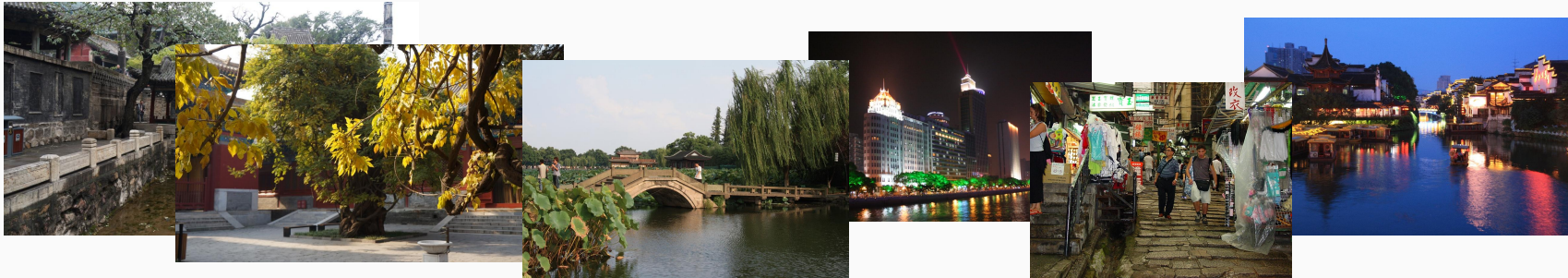
- He spent a lot of time in Beijing to help the office off the ground



Klaus Birkenbihl

Then came the next phase

- Converting the China Office into the China Host
 - But that is another story, no for me to tell...
- I am happy and grateful to have been part of this
 - I have wonderful memories of the time I spent in Hong Kong, Beijing, Taiyuan, Guangzhou, Hangzhou, Nanjing, Shenzhen,...
 - I have become richer by being a little more familiar with a different culture, different people, different language
 - *And, mainly, met lots of wonderful people!*





Thank you, 谢谢!

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