

CEIBS EMBA New Horizons Forum Series

Global Innovation at a Crossroads: The China Perspective

March 27, 2026 (Friday)

CEIBS Shanghai Campus

About the Event

As 2026 unfolds, the global innovation landscape is being fundamentally redefined. Technological breakthroughs are accelerating, yet the dividends of this growth are diminishing. Spaces for collaboration are narrowing while the scope of competition is expanding. The reshaping of the global order, the shift from old to new growth drivers, and the evolution of development paradigms are converging in unprecedented ways. The ability to sustain innovation has become a defining strategic challenge for enterprises.

China is currently navigating a critical transition from “scale-driven” to “innovation-led” development. While hard-tech entrepreneurship is on the rise, tightening financing conditions, underdeveloped industrial ecosystems, and increasingly complex global pathways mean that many enterprises are struggling to turn technology into viable products and generate profits. Entrepreneurs urgently need to move beyond trial and error at a tactical level and return to a deeper understanding of the essence of innovation and the mechanisms that sustain it.

This event will bring together distinguished voices from academia and industry, including the 2025 Nobel Laureate in Economic Sciences Prof. Joel Mokyr, CEIBS Vice President Prof. Zhu Tian, CEIBS Professor of Economics Lan Xiaohuan, and Vitalbridge Capital Founding Partner Zhang Jinjian. Blending Nobel-level insights, cutting-edge academic research, and real-world industry perspectives, the event will provide entrepreneurs with a valuable opportunity to recalibrate their approaches to sustainable innovation in a rapidly changing world.

Agenda

Chairperson: Prof. Huang Sheng

Professor of Finance

Associate Dean

Director of EMBA Programme

Director of CEIBS Research Centre for Corporate and Capital Markets, CEIBS

13:30-14:00	Registration
14:00-14:05	<p>Welcome Address</p> <p>Prof. Wang Hong President, Professor of Management, Hengdian Group Chair in Management, CEIBS</p>
14:05-15:10	<p>Keynote Speech: The Past and Future of Innovation: Can Progress be Sustained?</p> <p>Prof. Joel Mokyr 2025 Nobel Laureate in Economic Sciences Professor of Economics and History, Northwestern University</p>
15:10-15:50	<p>Roundtable: Global Innovation Outlook</p> <p>Moderator: Prof. Zhu Tian Vice President and Co-Dean, Interim Dean, Professor of Economics, Santander Chair in Economics, CEIBS</p> <p>Prof. Joel Mokyr</p>
15:50-16:50	<p>Keynote Speech</p> <p>Prof. Lan Xiaohuan Professor of Economics, CEIBS</p>
16:50-17:30	<p>Roundtable</p> <p>Moderator: Prof. Lan Xiaohuan</p> <p>Mr. Zhang Jinjian Founding Partner, Vitalbridge Capital Early Investor in AI unicorn MiniMax, Leading AI Investor and Thinker in China</p>
17:30	End of the Forum