

HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY

HAIDEN A. HUSKAMP, PH.D.  
Assistant Professor of  
Health Economics



180 LONGWOOD AVENUE  
BOSTON, MA 02115-5809  
TEL: (617) 432-0838  
FAX: (617) 432-2648  
E-MAIL: huskamp@hcp.med.harvard.edu

December 16, 2002

Ambassador Yang Jiechi  
Embassy of the People's Republic of China  
2300 Connecticut Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20008

Dear Ambassador Yang:

I am writing as a member of the faculty of Harvard Medical School to express our concerns about the detention in China of Dr. Jian-Li Yang, who recently received a Ph.D. from Harvard University. Dr. Yang was detained in Kunming on April 26 as he was concluding a ten-day visit to China. He has remained in custody since that time.

Dr. Yang is an accomplished scholar and a long-time United States resident. He lives in Brookline, Massachusetts with his wife and two young children, who are United States citizens. I work closely with Dr. Yang's wife, Dr. Christina Fu, in the Department of Health Care Policy at Harvard Medical School. Dr. Fu serves as researcher and statistical programmer and is a valued member of our department. In addition to his wife and children, Dr. Yang's elderly parents and two sisters live here in the United States. Dr. Yang received a Ph.D. in Political Economy and Government from Harvard University and a Ph.D. in Mathematics from the University of California at Berkeley and has undertaken important work in both fields. He is involved in ongoing research projects at Harvard, which focused on formal models of voting systems.

As you know, Harvard has enjoyed deep and long-standing ties with the People's Republic of China. Many of your citizens are graduates of Harvard. In addition, Harvard has numerous ongoing programs and exchanges with Chinese universities and your government. These relationships were strengthened with a recent visit of the President of our University, Lawrence Summers, and an extensive delegation, to China a few months ago.

It is in this spirit of cooperation that I ask your government, as a humanitarian gesture, to do everything in its power to facilitate Dr. Yang's immediate release so he can return home to his family in the U.S. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Haiden Huskamp