Statement of Professor Max Shen

In the light of the recent news reports on my background, I would like to make a clarification as below.

I have been working full time at UC Berkeley starting from 2004 and my appointment in Tsinghua is only honorary with approval from Berkeley. Being the honorary department chair, I only spend a few weeks every year in Tsinghua and do not participate in the daily operations of the department. I am not a member of the Chinese Communist Party and I am also not in the party committee as claimed by the reports. It was an oversight by the webmaster of the respective website.

After I read the reports I immediately contacted Tsinghua and they have rectified all information about me on their websites. I later found out the error started several years ago when I, as the department chair, was mistakenly assigned to the party committee.

I hope this clarification can clear all misunderstandings between us.

Regards,
Max Shen
Media Statement from Berkeley Engineering, UC Berkeley

The University of California, Berkeley, does not ask its faculty, staff or students to declare their political affiliations. UC Berkeley community members are accorded the same constitutional rights and responsibilities as any other member of the public, including freedom of speech and religion. The right of university employees to hold their own political beliefs and academic perspectives is a cornerstone of our society and of academia.

Questions about Prof. Shen’s political affiliation can be directed to him. Our records indicate that he has been a full-time faculty member at UC Berkeley since 2004. He did voluntarily share with us that statements saying he is a member of the Communist Party are incorrect.

Regards,
Sarah

Sarah Yang
Assistant Dean
Marketing & Communications
Berkeley Engineering
Tel: (510) 643-6803