Activities with IAHR and Ecohydraulics:

Since 2008 Mengzhen Xu has been strongly tied with the activities of IAHR. As a PhD student she attended the IAHR-APD conference in 2008 and gave an oral presentation at the conference, which was her first experience of international conference. There, Prof. Joseph Lee, the vice president of IAHR at that time gave very valuable advice and comments on her research, greatly encouraging her pursuing an academic dream. She joined in the IAHR Tsinghua University YPN Chapter in 2009, since which she has attended all of the IAHR world congresses and the international conferences organized by the IAHR-ecohydraulics Committee, and gave more than 20 talks at the different conferences. She deeply appreciates all the IAHR activities, which strongly support her academic career, helping her rise up in the research community and giving her more opportunities in international cooperation.

Now as supervisor, she always encourages her students to be active in IAHR activities. Three of her PhD students served as chairmen for Tsinghua University YPN Chapter of IAHR. Tsinghua YPN is attracting more and more members as the members enjoy the scientific activities in the community. She served as chair for several ecohydraulic sessions at the IAHR world congresses, and organizes regular Tsinghua YPN workshops every two-week to offer the communication platform for the youth. In May 2018, she organized the Tsinghua YPN evening, invited the vice-president of IAHR, prof. James Ball and several other professors from the US, Canada, Australia as advisors for the students. In July, she led a group of Tsinghua YPN members to attend the 1st International Youth Forum on Water Engineering Management: Water - Connecting Youth to the World in Penang, Malaysia. And in August, she took another group of YPN members to visit the universities in Ecuador. In such activities, the youth enjoyed sharing their experiences and building up connections with each other. In the ISE2018 symposium, four of her students gave oral presentations of their research there. And in the ISE2020 symposium, another four of her students submitted abstracts and all were accepted. Unfortunately, the symposium has been cancelled because of the coronavirus. She has sent several Tsinghua students to study abroad in different international universities, and also has accepted international students from the US, UK, Canada, India, Mexico, and Malaysia to study in her institute.