Diversity Champion Spotlight: Dr. Jiqin Ni, Agricultural and Biological Engineering

Dr. Jiqin Ni has been a member of the Purdue community for 20 years researching agricultural air quality, bioenergy from agricultural wastes, and air and water pollution abatement in the Department of Agricultural and Biological Engineering (ABE).

ABE hosts about 25 visiting scholars per year who come from diverse backgrounds in different countries. In early 2014, Dr. Jiqin Ni proposed to provide a series of services to the visiting scholars and help them to become a more valuable part of the ABE family. He volunteered to chair the new ABE Visiting Scholars Committee that is composed of representatives of



faculty, staff, and visiting scholars. The various activities organized by the committee provide increased opportunities for the visiting scholars to become more engaged in the Department, College, and University. They have established better connections with faculty and staff; learned about research, education, and extension programs at Purdue and in ABE; and exchanged work and life experiences with each other. The committee's work contributed to building a diverse and inclusive community, and improving the climate in the College of Agriculture.