

**WHAT:** Rally in Support of Xiyue Wang, Princeton Graduate Student Unjustly Imprisoned in Iran

**SPEAKERS:** Hua Qu, wife, and other Family and Friends of Xiyue Wang  
Assemblyman Andrew Zwicker  
Mayor of Princeton Township Liz Lempert  
Federal Representatives

**WHEN:** Friday, May 11, 2018, 7 p.m.

**WHERE:** North Lawn in front of Frist Campus Center, Princeton University

Xiyue Wang is a Princeton Ph.D. candidate who has been imprisoned in Iran for almost two years, since August 2016. The event is organized by graduate students and members of the Princeton University community.

Xiyue Wang is a Princeton Ph.D. student in the History Department. He attended a Farsi language program in Iran from January to March 2016, and returned to Tehran on May 1, 2016 to continue his language studies and to conduct research for his dissertation on 19th century Eurasia. In August 2016, he was arrested on false charges of espionage. In April, 2017, he was sentenced to ten years imprisonment in a proceeding that lacked basic due process and other legal protections. This decision was upheld on August 2017. On November 26, Iran hardliner TV station IRIB2 released a video of Wang, alleging that he had “infiltrated” Iran under the false cover of academic research.

Last week, the United States House of Representatives passed the “Iran Human Rights and Hostage-Taking Accountability Act”, which will be voted upon soon by the United States Senate. This bill is based on two Congressional Resolutions approved by the Congress in 2017 that mention Xiyue.

Xiyue is an innocent student who has tragically become a victim of the deteriorating relationship between the US and Iran. There appears to be little progress on diplomatic fronts to secure his release and return to the US. Before May 12<sup>th</sup> when President Trump will announce his decision on the nuclear deal between the US and Iran, Princeton students and the university community have organized this event to support their friend and colleague, and to articulate their hopes to leaders in the US and worldwide that Xiyue Wang be released and returned to his country and family.

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For more information:

- Princeton University’s list of answers to commonly asked questions on the Xiyue Wang case (<https://www.princeton.edu/node/91351>)
- Princeton University interview with Hua Qu about her husband’s upbringing, scholarly work and their family (<https://www.princeton.edu/news/2017/07/28/wife-princeton-graduate-student-imprisoned-iran-discusses-his-confinement-their>).