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By Bloomberg News

(Bloomberg) -- Mark Zuckerberg made global news when he went out on a limb and spoke his newly-
singhua University.
Behind the headlines, and taking bolder risks, was Qian Yingyi.

Dean of the School of Economics and Management, Qian orchestrated the visit and recruited the Harvard dropout as an adviser even though Facebook Inc. is blocked by the com
-picked by
former Premier Zhu Rongji to help shake up the school, Qian has boosted the proportion of classes taught in English, recruited overseas academics, teamed with other schools and added to
business.

leaders and pop-
-hour interview at the university,
which minted P
aspirations, have their own understanding of life and have their own values. I want

With more than three decades of Chinese investment and manufacturing-led growth
generation of leaders. They will help determine whether fresh minds find the new

economic drivers needed to stave off a middle-developing economies as competitiveness waned. To accomplish his goal, Qian, 58, -year U.S. academic career that spanned degrees from Columbia, Yale and Harvard and teaching stints at Stanford and Berkeley.

Innovation Key

-based

cramps the thinking needed to create breakthrough branded products such as iPhones or Facebook. One illustration: Shenzhen-based telecommunication-network provider Huawei Technologies Co. became the first Chinese company to make it onto

Chinese heritage, drew cheers from Tsinghua students when he spoke Mandarin with them in October, telling them of the importance of making tough choices.

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New Ambitions

programs have expanded since their 1991 start to 236 today, according to China Education Center Ltd., which advises foreign students seeking to study in the nation.

minds. The 26-year-old native of Chengdu city in the western province of Sichuan planned an investment-banking career before the critical-thinking classes introduced by Qian spurred new ambitions.

is studying the
Waldorf teaching system and its emphasis on creative play, critical thinking and

paramount leader Deng Xiaoping restarted college entrance exams in 1977, Qian, then back in Beijing, was among the first to take them. He started at Tsinghua in 1978 to study math.

Undergraduate success prompted encouragement from a professor to further his studies

on to Harvard in Cambridge, Massachusetts, where he completed his PhD in 1990.

Teaching jobs ensued at Stanford University in California, the University of Maryland, College Park, and the University of California, Berkeley.

International Focus

It was this international experi
1998 to 2003. Qian had advised Zhu during his years at Stanford on policies such as introducing a corporate governance structure to state-owned enterprises.
Qian gave up tenure at Berkeley to become dean
2006.

Determined to turn that around, he marched into a microeconomics class taught in Chinese by former central bank adviser Li Daokui, whom he studied with at Harvard, to ask him to switch to English after the break.

teach in English, one
-lined office at the school, which traces its roots to 1926
when the department of economics was originally established.

English Courses

Within a year, more than 50 percent of the undergraduate courses were in English, compared with fewer than 10 percent before. The number of professors with doctorates from overseas universities has increased to more than 50 percent from about 20 percent, Qian said, adding that since he joined, 83 of the 85 new faculty members have degrees from abroad.

Elite Pool

a pool of elite schools, atop of which sit Tsinghua and Peking University, both in the same northwest corner of Beijing.

Finance Minister Lou Jiwei is a Tsinghua alumnus, as is central bank governor Zhou rd. To complete the circle, Qian is

remains honorary chairman of the board, a panel that is far from passive. Fellow member Schwarzman donated \$100 million to the Schwarzman Scholars program based at Tsinghua, designed to educate the next generation of global leaders. Bloomberg Philanthropies -- which is led by Michael Bloomberg, the founder and majority owner of Bloomberg LP, the parent of Bloomberg News -- is among the program's funders.

wrote in an e- g Schwarzman Scholars is that if we give future leaders from around the world first-hand exposure to China and its people, we

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