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Export and Security Monthly Message

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Export Controls in the News:

Business Insider: [Billionaire is Accused of Stealing Research from a Duke Lab](#)

"A Chinese billionaire who studied at Duke University allegedly stole a professor's ideas behind special invisibility technology — and then developed his own prototype back in China. . . But before he created his money-making "Future Studio" in China, Liu studied at Duke University from 2006 to 2009 under David Smith, one of the world's experts on metamaterials, or "some weird material that doesn't exist in nature," as the professor describes it. . .

Smith had been working on a prototype for an invisibility cloak, and the US military had poured millions into his research. At one point while at Duke, Liu convinced Smith to allow him to bring his old colleagues into the lab to work on projects for the professor.

When Smith was out of the lab, the Chinese researchers took photos of the lab and its contents, and also took measurements of Smith's equipment.

Much to Smith's surprise, an exact replica of his invisibility cloak prototype was built in Liu's former lab when the Chinese researchers returned home. "It sounds like theft," Smith said. "If we were a company you might think so."

*Liu claims that his time in the lab was "**fundamental research**" he brought back to China when he was finished at Duke. . ."*