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Visiting Scholar Exhibits Fashion Arts from China

Professor Li Ning, a visiting scholar from Beijing University of Technology, has been enjoying her productive stay at Buffalo State for months. As of now, she has contributed to Buffalo State community with at least two major exhibits. Professor Li gave a presentation on March



Professor Li Ning.

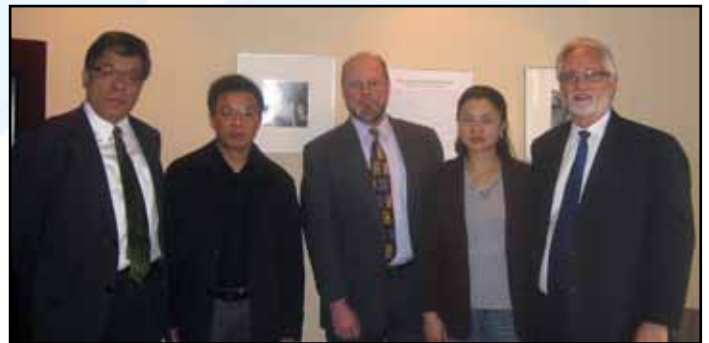


Professor Li Ning at the Runway 4.0 event.

10, 2011 on campus, bringing her collection, Inspiration by Nature, to the Buffalo State community. Also, Professor Li's fashion designs have featured in the Runway 4.0 event on Saturday, April 16, 2011. She is part of the Beijing Teacher Training program, a collaborative project between the Beijing

Teacher Training Center of Higher Education in Beijing, the Center for China Studies, International and Exchange Programs and the Research Foundation at Buffalo State.

Central South University Delegation Visits Buffalo State



Central South University Visitors Meeting with Dean Severson and Director Turkle.

A delegation of Central South University visited Buffalo and Buffalo State April 17-19, 2011. Central South University, located in Changsha, Hunan Province, is one of the key universities in China. Dr. Xiao Shuiyuan, Dean of its School of Public Health and long time collaborator of Dr. Zhang Jie in his NIMH granted projects, is one of the five members of the delegation. Mr. Ted Turkle, Director of the Research Foundation and Dr. Mark Severson, Dean of the School of Natural and Social Sciences welcomed the delegation with a luncheon on April 18, 2011. Dr. William Wieczorek, professor and director of the Center for Health and Social Research, also met with the research collaborators in his office.



Dr. Xiao Shuiyuan and Dr. Luo Dan Meeting with Dr. Bill Wieczorek, Director of the Center of Health and Social Research.

Shandong University Establishes the Center for Suicide Prevention Research



The Buffalo State Training Team at Shandong University.

To promote the scientific research on suicide, the Center for Suicide Prevention Research was established March 31, 2011 at Shandong University, one of the key universities in China. Dr. Zhang Jie, Professor of Sociology and Director of the Center for China Studies at Buffalo State was appointed as its founding director. Six topnotch international suicidologists from the US, Norway, and Denmark attended the opening ceremony and gave talks to the Chinese students and faculty on their recent research in the international symposium after the opening of the Center. A total of 19 internationally known scholars were invited to be the Center's consultants. The CSPR is the third one in China, although there are many in the US. Attended the events in China were Ted Turkle, Director of Research Foundation and Bill Wiczorek, professor and director of Buffalo State Center for Health and Social Research. A three-day comprehensive training was conducted afterwards for the interviewers for Dr. Zhang's new NIMH projects. Over 50 trainees attended the training workshops.



At the Opening Ceremony of the Center of Suicide Prevention Research.

Dr. Steve Macho Conducts Research in China

The China National Institute for Educational Research (CNIER) and Buffalo State College will conduct a collaborative research project comparing technology education in China and the United States. This research aspires to reveal strengths and opportunities for growth

among Technology & Engineering Educators in both nations. The opportunity for growth and further exchange of researchers and Technology & Engineering Educators motivates the necessity of this comparative research. We plan to begin the project in May of 2011. This will be followed by more efforts to promote technology education in China and exchange technology education researchers, college faculty, teachers and students. Dr. Steve Macho of Buffalo State Department of Technology is the key person of the project. Working with him are Dr. Liu Xiufeng, a Science Education Professor at the University of Buffalo (UB) and Ms. Wang Su, the Director of the International Education of CNIER, whose research focus is science and technology education.

Zhang Jie Receives \$1.1 Million NIMH Grant for Suicide Research

Zhang Jie, professor of sociology and director of the Center for China Studies at Buffalo State, received a three-year, \$1.1 million grant from the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) to conduct his second major study of suicide in rural China. His first study, which was funded by the NIMH for more than \$1 million, ended in 2009.

His earlier research postulated that the cause of suicide is psychological strain. To test his theory, he led a team of researchers who conducted psychological autopsies on 392 Chinese who had completed suicide. Those autopsies involved interviewing close family and friends of the victims.

Zhang found that psychological strains were significantly associated with suicide, even after accounting for the role of mental illness. Zhang suggests that the strain theory of suicide forms a challenge to Western understanding of suicide, which uses a psychiatric model that emphasizes individual mental illness.

"Strain is the result of two stressors," Zhang said. His research focuses on four kinds of strain: conflicting values; reality versus aspiration; relative deprivation; and deficient coping skills.

In each case, the strain results from a person holding two dissonant beliefs. For example, to explain conflicting values, Zhang cited the example of young women in rural China who are raised according to Confucian principles, which hold that women are inferior to men. The same young women are educated in schools that view men and women as equal. "If a woman rejects one idea or the other," said Zhang, "she does not experience strain. However, if she believes in both, strain results."

For the forthcoming study, Zhang will train young scholars from Chinese universities to conduct research in hospitals in three provinces in rural China. "Each hospital in these provinces admits about 100 people every year who have

attempted suicide,” said Zhang. Researchers will interview 800 people who have made a serious suicide attempt.

Suicide in China has drawn attention in part because China’s vast population means that even a moderate rate of suicide yields a high number of suicides—more than 250,000 a year. Also, suicide patterns differ from those in the West, with more Chinese women than men completing suicide. In most countries, the suicide completion rate is higher among men.

Zhang, who was born in Shandong, China, maintains a close connection with his native country. He founded the Center for China Studies at Buffalo State to promote collaboration between Chinese and American scholars. In 2005, he received the State University of New York Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Faculty Service, recognizing the international service he has rendered by creating many opportunities for shared scholarly research between American and Chinese scholars.

Buffalo State Celebrates China Week 2011

April 4-9, 2011, the Center for China Studies had its sixth China Week on Buffalo State campus. Besides the Chinese exhibit of arts and crafts in the Student Union throughout the Week, a seminar was conducted



China Week.

April 7 featured for current Chinese economy. The three presenters of the seminar are Dr. Zhang Jindong, a faculty member from Capital University of Economy and Business, Dr. Chi Qishui, a faculty member from Beijing Institute of Petrochemical Technology, and Mr. Zhang Shiyin, a Ph.D. candidate at Central University of Finance and Economics. Once again, the events attracted students and faculty as well.



China Week.

China Center Welcomes New Visiting Scholars

There are two new visiting scholars to the Center for China Studies for Fall 2011. Professor Zhang Xiaorui teaches design at Capital Normal University in Beijing



Professor Zhang Erli of Jilin University.

and now is doing research with Professor Jiang Lin-Xia and Professor Richard Ross. Professor Zhang Erli teaches English as a Second Language and manages the teaching program at Jilin University in Changchun is now studying with Professor Zhang Jie to finish his Ph.D. dissertation on Chinese culture and philosophy.

Visiting Scholar Gives Lecture



Professor Zhang Xiaorui of Capital Normal University with Her Two Mentors.

Professor Zhang Xiaorui from Capital Normal University in Beijing gave a lecture on May 3. The lecture was titled “Genealogy: Tracing The Roots of Contemporary Chinese Painting.”

Scholarships to Support Students’ Study Abroad in China

Every summer Buffalo State students have a chance to join the Study Abroad Program in China organized by the Linguistics Department of University at Buffalo. The Center for China Studies supports Buffalo State students who study abroad in China during each summer with a scholarship of up to \$300 each. The regulations for application and rewarding are as follows:

Eligibility: The purpose of the China Scholarship Fund is to provide financial awards to meritorious students participating in the summer program in Beijing cosponsored by Buffalo State and the University at Buffalo and to contribute to promotional activities for this program. Students must be matriculated at Buffalo State at the time of the scholarship application.

Meritorious candidates will be identified on the basis of:

- GPA of 3.0 and above (must have completed at least one semester at Buffalo State)
- Relevance of overseas study to student's academic program and career goals
- Service, activities, interests, work experience
- Essay
- Interview

Recipients of the scholarship awards will be expected to contribute to the promotion of the Beijing program for the Office of International Education. Promotion activities may include:

- Assisting with student information meetings and orientations
- Writing articles for The Record
- Participating in dorm or classroom presentations
- Staffing tables in the Student Union.

Awards: Scholarships awards will be up to \$300.00.

Application Procedure: To apply, please submit the following:

- China Scholarship Application Form
- Statement of service, activities, interests, work experience (or résumé)
- Essay
- Statement of willingness to provide service to the Office of International Education in promoting the Beijing program. Give us some idea of the contributions you might make in this effort; you need not feel limited to the list above if you have special skills you would like to offer (e.g. graphic design, broadcasting, developing Web pages).

Applications should be submitted to:

China Scholarship Committee
South Wing 410
Buffalo State College
1300 Elmwood Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14222-1095

CCS Newsletter
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