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The CCS Sponsored International Conference on Chinese Philosophy

The 18th International Conference on Chinese Philosophy (ISCP), co-sponsored by the Center for China Studies of Buffalo State College, was held at University at Buffalo, July 21–24, 2013. Attended by more than 100 scholars and experts from around the world, the theme of this conference was “Chinese Philosophy and the Way of Living.”

The conference lasted four days and was organized around the following twelve themes: (1) Chinese philosophy as a learning of living; (2) Philosophical discourses and philosophical practicality; (3) Justifying a way of living: metaphysics, aesthetics, and rhetoric; (4) Practical wisdom; (5) Moral psychology; (6) Formation of self, character, and virtue; (7) Happiness, death and suicide; (8) Politics and the way of living; (9) Philosophical therapy and spiritual practice; (10) The art of living: Chinese and Greek; (11) The art of living: Chinese and Jewish; (12) Methodology of comparative study. Dr. Zhang Jie, director of the Center for China Studies, participated by organizing a panel on suicide and reasons for living. The world-renowned scholars, Dr.

David Lester of Richard Stockton College of New Jersey and Dr. Steven Stack of Wayne State University were invited to participate on the panel by Dr. Zhang.

The UB conference succeeded in exploring in detail and in depth the Chinese conception of philosophy as a learning of living. It not only deepened our understanding of the nature of Chinese philosophy, but also enriched the conception of philosophy as a way of living by a cross-cultural comparative approach.



Dr. Yu Jiyuan, Professor of Philosophy at University at Buffalo Presiding the Opening Ceremony.

Chinese visiting scholar presents “Traditional Tie-Dye Techniques” at Buffalo State

On December 14, visiting scholar Zhang Bo delivered a presentation on “Chinese Traditional Tie-Dye Techniques and Its Modern Applications” in room 160 in the new Technology Building.

More than 60 students and professors attended the event, showing great interest in the traditional handicrafts and exchanging their views about this distinctive traditional skill.



Zhang Bo at the CCS Fall 2013 Seminar.

The presentation focused on four subjects: (1) the Introduction of Chinese Traditional Tie-Dye Techniques; (2) the Process of Tie-Dye; (3) the History of Tie-Dye; (4) the Developing Situations of Tie-Dye Around the World.

During her presentation, Zhang Bo displayed more than 30 pieces of her tie-dye handicrafts and explained her methods and experiences with students in attendance from the Fashion and Textile program at Buffalo State.

As a lecturer, Zhang Bo is mainly teaching creative design courses in the Beijing Institute of Fashion Technology, which is the leading college of fashion design and production in China. Many of the research and education courses offered at BIFT focus on combining traditional techniques with current styles, transforming them into modern fashions.

This year the Center for China Studies, in association with the Fashion and Textile Technology Department and the International Programs Office, is initiating art-design exchanges between China and America. The CCS Fall 2013 Seminar thus marks the beginning of great opportunities for the further collaboration between the two countries in both teaching and research.

Eight Jiaxing University Scholars Visiting for Three Months



The Jiaxing Teachers at Niagara Falls.

Eight English teachers from Jiaxing University in China arrived on campus June 8, 2013, to begin three-months of study and research as visiting scholars at Buffalo State. During the first two months, they attended lectures given by Buffalo State faculty, staff, and guest speakers, acquiring new knowledge and skills in Teaching English as a Second Language (TESL), American culture, and new developments in TESL research. They also immersed themselves in local community life and participated in tours of the east and west coasts of the U.S. for sightseeing and experiencing the diversity of American culture. They all said they gained a great deal of experience that would help their future teaching and research.

Chinese Fashion Exhibits on Display in Technology Building

The eye-catching creations of two Chinese fashion designers were on exhibit through September 26 on the third floor of Buffalo State's new Technology Building.

In the Name of Plato is a cutting-edge collection of twelve garments that represent the similar philosophies of Plato and ancient Chinese philosophers. Designed and created by Shao Fang, head of the Fashion Department at Beijing City University, the pieces are categorized under Plato's classical elements of the physical world: air, earth, fire, water, metal, and aether (ether)

"In Chinese philosophy, the elements of the earth are linked to different colors and geometric designs," explained Lynn Boorady, associate professor and chair of the Fashion and Textile Technology Department.



Chinese Fashion Display in Technology Building.

The resulting garments include a variegated knit dress with a skirt composed of honeycomb shapes, a raspberry-colored knit dress with a wire-supported flair skirt, and a sleeveless silk dress covered in leather geometric patterns. Other pieces represent the elements cleverly, including long fringe and wavy shapes for water and a connection of 3D shapes to represent ether.

The second exhibit showcased the work of textile designer Shen Li, who served as a visiting professor at Buffalo State a decade ago. She created colorful abstract designs of felt sewn onto silk wall hangings and a draped garment.

"Students have been wowed by these designs," Boorady said. "The exhibits have served as inspiration. Shao Fang visited Buffalo State on September 11 for the exhibit's official opening, and fashion students had the opportunity to ask questions about her ideas and process.

"The students were excited to be able to ask the designer about her inspiration and process for creating the garments," said Boorady. "She told them she made thirteen garments in this series over three months, which is very impressive."

This is not the first time Buffalo State has shown the work of these designers. When Shen Li was a visiting professor at Buffalo State, she worked closely with professor Elaine Polvinen on textile design. Shao Fang's work was shown on campus a little more than a year ago. This collaboration is expected to grow with Buffalo State students going to China to exhibit their designs in 2015.

For more information about the exhibits, call (716) 878-3478 or e-mail fashion@buffalostate.edu.

Visiting Scholars Experiencing American Democracy



Visiting Scholars at the Albany Rally.



Four visiting scholars from China joined the One Voice United rally, which was sponsored by NYSUT (New York State United Teachers) on June 8 at Empire Plaza in Albany. The rally drew together thousands of parents, teachers, students, and community members to advocate for the future of public education. Rally-goers and speakers called for a moratorium on the use of standardized tests, and supporters of public education demanded fair and equitable funding of schools as well as a greater investment in public higher education, enactment of the Dream Act, and legislation to help ensure



Visiting Scholar at the Albany Rally.

a safe, secure learning environment for every student.



Visiting Scholar at the Albany Rally.

For our visiting scholars, this rally was an extraordinary experience from which they learned a lot. Such a rally is one of the most important ways to express our views and aspirations and reflects the American democratic process.

Former Visiting Scholar Successful in Community Service

Dr. Yu Wenyi, a visiting scholar to the Center for China Studies (2011–2013) from Beijing University of China, is making a contribution to Buffalo economic and cultural development. He has just established the American Culture Industries Exchange Center (ACIEC) in east Buffalo.

On January 15, 2014, the City of Buffalo approved zoning that would allow for an international cultural exchange center with a trade school, robot film studio, theater, sports center, restaurant, supermarket, and clinic as well as a dormitory (hotel) at 160 Kerns Avenue (zip 14211).

Dr. Yu Wenyi said the new center will promote new arts and advanced technology while providing a range of high quality services. It will provide more than forty job opportunities for the local community, college graduates, and professionals. Internships in the arts and tourism, and in specialized fields such as autonomous control engineering, will also be accommodated in the 84,000 sq. ft. building.

ACIEC is intended primarily for international scholars, engineers, and administrators in cultural industries and the financial field. China Television Artists Commission and ICI of Beijing University have shown interest in this asset as a training base. The center is going to open this May, offering entertainments and a variety of services to their clients and the larger community.

ACIEC can also be used as training base for Buffalo State. Fieldwork may be undertaken here in subjects such as theater, performance, music, dance, painting, props, toys/consumer products, design/fashion, architecture, Indian culture and arts, Niagara Falls and Buffalo history research, tourism and hospitality, sports, business administration, marketing, business and finance, electronic engineering, civil engineering, software programming, film production, robotic science, nutrition and culinary management, cosmetics and make-up, etc. ACIEC is intended to function as a college industry incubator base. Students and others with a feasible business proposal may qualify for subsidies from ACIEC.

Prior to his visit to Buffalo State, Mr. Yu was a senior researcher at the Institute for Culture Industries at Beijing University, where he earned a reputation as one of China's leading scholars of culture finance. He wrote a letter to President Obama on revitalizing the American economy and received an inspiring response in 2012. ACIEC will be his first social experiment that introduces arts and technology to promote community revitalization. We congratulate Dr. Yu on his success and wish him the best for his service to the Buffalo community in the years to come.

UB Confucius Institute Offers Opportunities to Buffalo State Community

Dr. Yu Jiyuan, the new director of the University at Buffalo Confucius Institute (UBCI) wishes to announce the following opportunities now available to Buffalo State students:

The UBCI provides financial aid for students, scholars and Chinese language teachers, to pursue a master's degree in Teaching Chinese to Speakers of Other Languages in Chinese universities, or to study such majors as Chinese Language and Literature, Chinese History, Chinese Philosophy, Chinese Art, etc. for one semester or one academic year. This scholarship program applies only to non-Chinese citizens. The scholarship package includes free tuition, free on-campus accommodation, a resettlement subsidy, monthly allowance, and medical insurance. The UBCI also offers a scholarship for the Study Abroad Program in summer at Capital Normal University in Beijing, and short-



Buff State Students at the Great Wall near Beijing
Buff State Students at the Great Wall near Beijing.
term study programs in China.

Interested students or faculty can reach UBCI at 716-645-7919, or ubci@buffalo.edu

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