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The Eighth Session of the CCS Consultants

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The ACPSS 20th Annual Conference Held at Buffalo State

Hello, Buffalo! Hello beautiful Niagara Falls! The colorful autumn of mid-October provided a lovely setting for the Association of Chinese Professors of Social Sciences (ACPSS) to gather for its 2014 International Conference and also to celebrate the twentieth anniversary of the founding of ACPSS. The conference was hosted at the SUNY-Buffalo State



ACPSS Conference at Buffalo State.

campus and was co-sponsored by the Buffalo State Center for China Studies and the University at Buffalo Confucius Institute. As always, this year's ACPSS conference again attracted over sixty scholars from the United States, China, and other regions of the world.

At the opening ceremony, Dr. Katherine Conway-Turner, President of SUNY Buffalo State, delivered a warm welcoming address to all the attendees. Dr. Yu Jiyuan, UB Confucius Institute director and Professor of Philosophy, also offered some welcoming remarks. This year's keynote speaker was Professor Ouyang Kang, former vice president and current dean of the Institute of State Governance at Huazhong University of Science and Technology and the topic he presented was "Paradox and Introspection: Cultural Conflict and Value Selection in the Process of Diversification." Following the keynote speech, all the attendees were invited to a dinner reception, where Dr. Mark Severson, Dean of Natural and Social Sciences at SUNY-Buffalo State welcomed all while introducing some ongoing exchange programs between Buffalo State and its partner institutions in China.

This year's conference theme was Challenges and Opportunities of Sustainability in China and Beyond: Environment, Health, Justice and Other Emerging Social Issues. Research papers revolving around this theme were presented and discussed by sixteen panels held over the course of two days. As in the past, the conference served as a venue for a vibrant interdisciplinary discourse and new idea sharing among scholars of China Studies in the fields of humanities and social sciences. The event was also attended by interested professors and students from the Buffalo State campus.



Dean Severson Toasts at the ACPSS Annual Conference.

At the conference site, a special art performance was organized to celebrate the twentieth anniversary of ACPSS, which included a local choir singing popular Chinese songs, a dance presentation, and a solo guzheng (traditional Chinese zither) performance. During a scheduled break in the conference, all the participants boarded a charter bus to tour the world-famous Niagara Falls, where they gazed in wonder at the cascading torrents and enjoyed the brilliant autumn foliage that surrounded the scene.

Jiaying University Faculty Summer Camp

Following last year's success, the summer camp for Jiaying University continued this summer at Buffalo State College. Two large groups of faculty from Jiaying University were on campus for three months, studying TEFL—Teaching English as a Foreign Language and other courses of interest to faculty members. Dr. Robert Summers, Director of Buffalo State International and Exchange Programs, is the organizer of this project with Jiaying University and intends to organize a similar experience again in the summer of 2015.

Shandong University of Finance and Economics Students Summer Workshop



Students from SDUFE.

From July 21 to August 12, 2014, SUNY Buffalo State hosted the 2014 Economics and Finance Summer Workshop, which is one of the academic collaboration initiatives between Buffalo State and Shandong University of Finance and Economics (SDUFE). A group of sixteen undergraduate students and two professors of SDUFE participated in the workshop. During their visit at Buffalo State, students

took one macroeconomics course taught by Professor Qian Xingwang and participated in two economics and finance seminars presented by Professor Ted Schmidt and Professor Ted Byrley. In addition to academic study on campus, students had a chance to visit the Citi Bank Buffalo Office to observe how US banks operate in a practical setting. This workshop was evaluated very highly by both students and professors who look forward to a continuation of this summer workshop in 2015.

Chinese Scholars in Research Activities

On October 30, the 15th Faculty/Staff Research and Creativity Fall Forum was held at Buffalo State. Dr. Zhang and the visiting scholars in the Center for China Studies (CCS) participated in this conference by offering five poster presentations. Dr. Zhang presented an ongoing study about a test of the reference theory. Sun Long, a visiting scholar from Shandong University, presented a study about the relationship of mental disorder, insomnia, and suicide in China. Ren Jiehui, a visiting scholar from Tsinghua University, presented a study on the rationale behind Chinese-style “homeschooling.” Zhang Yunshu, a visiting scholar from the Sixth Hospital in Hebei, presented a study on the human resource standard of psychosis treatment in rural Hebei Province, China.

Zhang Junli, a visiting scholar from Beijing Union University Teachers’ College, presented on the design and development of a web and mobile application blended system. These poster presentations attracted much attention from other participants of the forum, many of whom took the opportunity to speak with the Chinese presenters.



Professor Zhang Junli.

New Visiting Scholars from China

Two new visiting scholars have come to the Center for China Studies in fall 2014. Dr. Liu Yanlin, who teaches Chinese Literature and Feminist Thought as an associate professor in Changsha University of Science



Dr. Liu Yanlin.

and Technology, plans to study for one year at Buffalo State with Dr. Jean Gounard, Director of the International Student Affairs Office. She is interested in gender and culture studies with a focus on female writing. Her research topic is “Chinese-American Female Writers in Western Literature.”

Dr. Zhang Junli also arrived in fall of 2014 for her one-year of study at Buffalo State. She is an associate professor teaching British and American literature for English majors in Teachers’ College of Beijing Union University. She is also doing her research under the guidance of Dr. Jean Gounard. Dr. Liu Yanlin and Dr. Zhang Junli



Professor Liu Yanlin with her Buffalonian friend.

are being supported, respectively, by the China Scholarship Council (CSC) and Beijing Teachers Training Center for Higher Education (BTTTCE), both organizations of the Chinese government.

Buffalo State 3+2 Programs with Several Universities in China

Program 3+2 is an academic arrangement for certain Chinese undergraduate students to migrate to graduate programs at Buffalo State: three years of undergraduate study in a partner university in China and two years of graduate study at Buffalo State. At the end of the five-year schooling, the student will earn a Bachelor’s degree from the University in China and a Master’s degree from Buffalo State. Buffalo State has now signed the 3+2 agreements with several universities in China, including Capital Normal University (CNU), Beijing Normal University (BNU), Shandong University (SDU), East China University of Science and Technology (ECUST), Zhengzhou University of Light Industry (ZZULI), and Central University of Finance and Economics (CUFE). Currently enrolled in the 3+2 programs on campus are eight students from CNU, four from BNU, and two from ZZULI. A faculty delegation organized and led by Dr. Mark Severson, Dean of Natural and Social Sciences, will visit China again during the winter break to expand the scope of enrollments from the existing partner schools as well as initiate new ones.



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