



BUFFALO STATE
The State University of New York



中國學

Center for China Studies

CCS Newsletter

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Vol. 25, No. 1 (Fall 2024)

Website URL: <http://ccs.buffalostate.edu>

CCS Newsletter

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I. CCIEE VISITS BUFFALO STATE IN FALL 2024

China Center for International Educational Exchange (CCIEE) is a non-profit NGO based in Beijing which aims to promote students and scholars exchange between China and the rest of the world. On November 19, 2024, Mr. Zhang Jing, Director of CCIEE and Ms. Wang Yan, Program Director, visited Buffalo State University. They met with Ms. Tricia Herritt, Buffalo State Director for International Student and Scholar Services, and Stephanie Wehrin, staff assistant of the Buffalo State Global Engagement. Their meeting resulted in four initiatives:

- 1) Sending a minimum of ten Buffalo State students to China in the summer of 2025 for a three-week cultural program;
- 2) Sending a small delegation of Buffalo State faculty and staff to China for an academic and professional exchange tour, in the next few years;
- 3) Bringing a minimum of ten Chinese students to Buffalo State each year to study in an undergraduate program; and
- 4) Sending Buffalo State study abroad students to China in the area of fashion, dietetics, education, and business economics. Details of the various programs will be worked out and agreement will be signed soon afterwards.



CCIEE visitors meeting with Global Engagement Officials

II. THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY FOR VISITING SCHOLARS

October 27, 2024 – In celebration of the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday, Chinese visiting scholars were warmly invited to a memorable gathering at the home of Professor Macho, Buffalo State University. This special invitation not only provided these scholars with an opportunity to experience a traditional American holiday but also deepened the bond of academic and cultural exchange between China and the U.S.

Professor Macho and his wife prepared a sumptuous traditional Thanksgiving feast, complete with turkey and an array of classic American side dishes. The Chinese scholars contributed by making dumplings, a symbol of unity in Chinese culture, bringing a unique blend of Eastern and Western flavors to the table. Everyone felt the warmth of family, and the scholars expressed heartfelt gratitude to Professor Macho and his wife. It was more than just a moment of thanksgiving—it was a celebration of friendship and academic exchange across diverse cultures.

In addition to the Chinese visiting scholars, faculty members from Buffalo State also attended the gathering, including Professor Zhang Jie from the Department of Sociology and his wife and several other scholars. For those far from home, this holiday gathering provided a sense of comfort and connection while allowing them to gain a



Thanksgiving Dinner at Dr. Macho's

deeper understanding of American family culture and the meaning of Thanksgiving.

This Thanksgiving celebration showcased Buffalo State University's inclusive spirit and its commitment to welcoming global scholars, contributing positively to cultural exchange between China and the U.S. in the future. These scholars will carry this warmth and inspiration as they continue their academic journeys, becoming a bridge of friendship between the two countries.

(By Ling Ying)

III. REFLECTIONS OF A VISITING SCHOLAR ON BUFFALO AND THE CAMPUS

A Record of My Study Abroad in the United States

Qianwei Huang (School of Public Health, Guangxi Medical University, Nanning (530021), Guangxi Province, China)

Before I returned to my home country after completing my six-month study abroad program, the question I was asked most frequently was: What was the biggest gain of the past six months? I thought for a long time, and the process of writing this article also gave me an opportunity to seek the answer to the question.

When I first arrived in the United States, many things were not familiar to me, including the language, diet, and climate. There was no one to talk to or depend on, and the feeling of loneliness and frustration made me especially long for companionship and miss my hometown. I didn't know how to persevere for the next six months. Fortunately, my family, friends, and kind people I met here have given me a lot of encouragement and support. They took me rock climbing, hiking, walking, and to church, allowing me to experience American culture and life while also helping me stick with it.

After experiencing the warmest season in Buffalo - summer, I finally welcomed the start of school and the rich array of activities on campus. I also got to know more friends from different countries and races, who genuinely and warmly interacted with me. Meanwhile, the school's library resources are abundant, providing me with a good learning environment. Chatting with local students, I feel their passion for their own majors and enthusiasm for life. Communicating with teachers of the same or different majors, I not only have thought-provoking exchanges but also feel their respect for students.

Looking back on the past six months of study abroad, I have experienced growth and transformation. Academically, I not only improved my professional skills, but also learned how to collaborate and innovate effectively in an international environment. Personally, I became more independent and open-minded, learning to find common ground amidst differences and achieving a comprehensive improvement in my overall personal growth. This experience taught me that true learning is not limited to the classroom, but rather lies in how to engage with the world and find one's place in the midst of cultural collisions.

Standing at the airport on the way home, I was filled with gratitude and reluctance. My study tour in the United States was a valuable treasure in my life, not only did it open the door to a vast world for me, but it also laid a solid foundation for my future academic path. I firmly believe that this experience will stay with me for the rest of my life and serve as a constant source of motivation. I am incredibly grateful to everyone I met for their help and concern.

What have been the biggest lessons learned in the past six months? Briefly, accepting one's limitations and believing in one's growth potential. Don't be afraid, just be brave.

(by Huang Qianwei)

IV. CHINA WEEK 2025 SCHEDULED

China Week 2025 is scheduled for March 10-14, 2025. The cultural exhibits will be in the Student Union upper-level lobby from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm each day during the week. Students, faculty, staff, and community individuals are welcome to participate.



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