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President Jiang Chao of Dalian Medical University Visited Buffalo State

By Angelo Conorozzo

Dr. Jiang Chao, President of Dalian Medical University, visited Buffalo State for three weeks from July 12 to August 5, 2001. President Jiang's visit enabled faculty of Buffalo State to learn more about opportunities for faculty partnerships with Dalian Medical University. Several projects are already underway and new projects have been proposed to President Jiang.

As part of President Jiang's visit, Angelo Conorozzo, a Center for China Studies consultant

and Director of CDHS's College Relations Group, met with him to discuss partnership opportunities in human service projects with faculty of Dalian Medical University. Several opportunities were explored which will be further developed during future visit to Dalian by Buffalo State delegations. President Jiang's visit to Buffalo State was one more important step toward the growing spirit of cooperation between Buffalo State and Dalian Medical University.



Above: Dr. Jiang Chao and Dr. Muriel Howard

During his visit, President Muriel Howard, Provost Gary Marotta, and the CCS consultants met and hosted welcoming luncheon and banquets respectively.

Dalian Public Health Bureau Delegation Visited Buffalo State

By Zhou Li

A public health delegation of four medical doctors from Dalian, China headed by Dr. Xu Lixin, Director of Dalian Public Health Bureau visited Buffalo State from July 30 to August 2, 2001. During their three-day visit in Buffalo,



President Muriel Howard met the delegation in her house with a dinner. Dr. William Wieczorek, Director of the Center for Health and Social Research, and Dr. Zhang Jie, Director of the Center for China Studies entertained the delegation with various activities including visits to Buffalo State and UB campuses and the Niagara Falls, and meetings for further research cooperation. This visit strengthened the friendship between Buffalo State and the people in Dalian.

Meeting Our New Visiting Scholars

By Paulette Wydro

This semester Buffalo State is host to four visiting scholars from China who will be studying and working with us on various projects for six months. Dr. Wang Xiaoyan (HC 215, ext. 4329), now stationed at the Great Lakes Center, arrived end of July from the Capital Normal University in Beijing. She is working on projects dealing with the Chinese environments. Dr. Zhou Li (HB 310, ext. 6328), from Dalian Medical University, arrived end of July and is assisting Dr. Zhang Jie on his NIMH granted project. Professor Yuan Guang (UH 512, ext. 4738), an artist from the Capital Normal University in Beijing, who arrived in mid September, is working in the Fine Arts Department, exchanging his oil painting techniques with Buffalo State artists. Mr. Tang Liucheng (HC 234, ext. 5529), a researcher from the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC),

arrived from Beijing in early October. He is studying and working with some faculty at the Department of History and Social Studies Education.



On October 18, 2001 during Bengal Pause, the Sociology Department hosted a get-together luncheon to become acquainted with and welcome the four visiting scholars. The scholars are looking forward to engaging the Buffalo State community and are interested in collaborating with others on research and other interests. If you are interested in anything they are doing, please do not hesitate to get in touch with them, either by calling them directly, or contacting the Center for China Studies, located in HB 310, telephone number 878-6328.

DMU-BSC Institute of Behavioral Medicine

By William Wieczorek

In July 1999, Drs. Wieczorek and Zhang of Buffalo State visited Dalian Medical University (DMU) in China and negotiated an agreement to conduct collaborative research with Dr. Jiang Chao, President of DMU. The Institute of Behavioral Medicine (IOBM), housed at DMU, was founded to provide institutional support for joint research projects to examine behavioral health issues in China. Behavioral health research examines the role of behaviors and related topics such as alcohol use, smoking, mental health, driving, and injuries. These issues are major causes of morbidity and mortality, and are becoming major public health and social issues in China especially as it undergoes tremendous economic and cultural changes. Dr. Wieczorek and Dr.

Jiang are co-directors of the IOBM and Dr. Zhang and Dr. Jia (from DMU) are associate directors. Mr. Richard Simmons is an associate director for international development. During the Buffalo State delegation visit to China in April 2001, President Howard signed an agreement to officially name the joint project the Dalian Medical University-Buffalo State College Institute of Behavioral Medicine.

Although quite young, the Institute has a highly successful track record of supporting joint research. The NIMH-funded study "Development of Suicide Research in China" led by Dr. Zhang utilized the IOBM to recruit and interview 330 respondents for highly detailed interviews of family and friends of suicide victims and matched general population controls. Other Buffalo State faculty plan to use the Institute to support pilot research on aggressive driving in China. Dr. Wieczorek is currently develop a grant proposal to expand his research on drinking-drivers to China while Dr. Zhang is writing a proposal to expand the suicide research project. Faculty and staff at Buffalo State who may be interested in utilizing the Institute to develop a research project should contact Dr. Wieczorek (878-6137) or Dr. Zhang (878-6425).

The Cross-Cultural Exhibit of Textile Designs to Open in Beijing

By Elaine Polvinen



above: a scarf design by Shen Li and below a scarf design by Elaine Polvinen



During the Buffalo State Delegation's visit to China in the Summer of 2000, A collaboration was initiated (with a wealth of assistance and encouragement from Dr. Zhang Jie) by myself and Professor Shen Li (Capital Normal University, China) to work together on a cross continent digital design project.

Professor Shen Li from Beijing, China who is an accomplished fine artist, had previously completed comprehensive historical research of traditional garments and decorative embellishment of the cultural minorities in China. She had developed an extensive slide collection from this research as well as acquiring actual samples of some of the traditional garments. During the Buffalo State delegation's visit to Capital Normal University, Professor Shen Li shared her slide research collection with me. From this initial meeting a joint professional collaboration was initiated based on common professional interests and educational backgrounds.



Professor Shen Li from Capital Normal University with one of her fabric designs.

Professor Shen Li selected a variety of traditional Chinese designs from her research which were sent via e-mail and CD-ROM (ground mail). These were then used as joint resources by both of us to inspire new aesthetic interpretations for this collaborative project.

During the development period I set up a private design development web page so collaborative design development could also take place visually in addition to e-mail. Continual assistance was provided by Dr. Zhang Jie Director of the Center

for China Studies at Buffalo State College. A long distance collaborative design development process took place over the course of the last sixteen months which resulted in the creation of digitally designed fabric posters, scarves, wide-scale fabric yardage and a digital gallery . From this cross cultural collaboration, two original art collections were developed: east and west interpretations. Professor Shen Li and I each developed our collection of designs derived from historical Chinese decorative work. Each of us created twenty-four to thirty-six pieces for this upcoming exhibit. <<http://facstaff.buffalostate.edu/polvinem/china/>>

I developed my designs using a combination of an engineered representational graphic technique and a deconstructed abstract style. Professor Shen Li has developed a series of designs using a free flowing non-representational technique.

Adobe Illustrator and Photoshop were used for all design development. My scarves and posters are printed on Jacquard specially treated silk habotai fabric using acid dyes and an Epson printer. Professor Li Shen's digital designs and all of the wide-scale fabric yardage are printed (in China) on to fabric using a heat transfer method.

This exhibition will open at Capital Normal University in Beijing, China, January 4th, 2002.

Reaching Out to the Local Business Community

By Jean Gounard

For almost a year now, the Office of International Student Affairs and the Center for China Studies have worked diligently to identify businesses in the Western New York area interested in establishing ties with China. So far, more than sixty businesses have been located and a letter has gone out to them, with a copy of the Center's recent newsletter, inviting them to contact us to develop collaborative programs in China. This small step taken by the Center will undoubtedly have far-reaching positive results in the not so distant future.

New Scholar Added to China Studies on Campus

By Zhang Jie

The Center for China Studies wishes to extend its warmest congratulations to Dr. Michael



C. Lazich on his appointment as assistant professor in the Department of History and Social Studies Education. Dr. Lazich earned his Ph.D. in the field of East Asian history from the State University of New York at Buffalo. His primary field of research has been Sino-American cultural and political relations in nine-

teenth-century China. His recently published book, *E. C. Bridgman (1801-1861): America's First Missionary to China*, is a critical evaluation of the role of E. C. Bridgman as a pioneering scholar and cultural intermediary. In 1992, Dr. Lazich lived in Beijing, China where he spent a semester conducting research and teaching classes at Capital Normal University. He has traveled widely in both China and Vietnam. In addition to offering Buffalo State College students a variety of new courses in the field of Asian history, Dr. Lazich eagerly looks forward to contributing his knowledge and experience to the continued success of the Center for China Studies.

Donations Invited

By Lee Ann Grace

The Center for China Studies has established an account with the Buffalo State College Foundation to receive donations that will provide scholarships to students from our three exchange universities in China who wish to study at Buffalo State. As you may know, without financial support from the host institution it is nearly impossible for Chinese students to secure visas to come to the United States. Thus, an end-of-the-year contribution will assist in assuring

the inward flow of exchangees from China. If you would like to contribute to the scholarship fund, please make your check payable to the Buffalo State College Foundation, write "Center for China Studies" in the note section of the check, and forward it to Cleveland Hall 319.

The CCS Fall 2001 Seminar

By Viktoriya Magid

As originally planned, the CCS conducts a seminar each semester. This time, Dr. Wang Xiaoyan will present "The 2008 Beijing Olympics: Environmental Issues." It is going to be 12:15pm-1:30pm, Thursday, November 15, 2001, in Classroom Building A209. Refreshments will be provided.

Visitors from off campus can obtain parking permissions by emailing to ChinaCenter@bscmail.buffalostate.edu or calling the Center at 878-6328, at least two days before the event. Dr. Wang graduated from Peking University in 1994 with a Ph.D. degree in environmental geochemistry. Since then she has been teaching at the Capital Normal University in Beijing and now is a visiting scholar at Buffalo State.

Lecture Presented:

Chinese Contemporary Fine Arts

by Elaine Polvinen

The CCS Fall 2001 Seminar included a presentation on November 8th, titled: "Chinese Contemporary Fine Art," presented by Professor Yuan Guang from the Department of Fine Arts at Capital Normal University, Beijing, China. The seminar was sponsored by the Center for China Studies and the Department of Fine Arts. Professor Yuan was introduced by Professor Peter Sowiski, (Fine Art Department Chair), to a very large overflowing crowd. Professor Jiang Lin Xia from the Fine Arts faculty translated for Pro-

fessor Yuan. He began the seminar by explaining to the crowd that before he came to America, he prepared two large slide collections for this visit to Buffalo State College, one was on Traditional Chinese art and the other on Contemporary Chinese Art.



The slide presentation started with several traditional examples to provide an understanding of the evolution from traditional to contemporary art. Traditional Chinese art has three main categories: flowers, birds and people. There is no still life. What we in the west call landscape painting in Chinese art is called mountains and water. It was very important that all paintings had to be signed. Without a signature it was not complete.

The very first slide was a 1000-year-old painting. He explained how lines are very important and are widely used in traditional Chinese art to describe the parts and form of an object. Chinese art does not pay much attention to lights and darks and different value gradations. Each section in a traditional painting stands as an independent piece and is created in multi-point perspective.

The fine arts period from 1949 to 1960 was a good period when many changes took place and Chinese art flourished. Many Chinese artists traveled to Europe and brought new ideas back to China. Then the great Cultural Revolution took place from 1965 to 1975. Around 1978 when the higher educational system was re-established Chinese art started to revive. He explained that many Chinese artists do not like to have their work described as Chinese art, only as an ink or brush painting.

In professor Yuan's own work, he likes to mix traditional elements with contemporary elements. His spaces are depicted in overlapping layers and he has an interest in the interaction between 2D and 3D. He stated that he looks for a balance and relationships between moving and still things.

Faculty from his department at Capital Normal University in Beijing work in both traditional, contemporary and a mixture of both. He went on to display an abundance of contemporary Chinese art slides in a variety of styles from photography, performance art, photo-realistic, abstract, expressionism, to political pop and poster art.



The seminar lasted two hours and was followed by an opening reception of the Fine Art Faculty show in Upton Gallery. Professor Yuan has a painting of the mountains of China in the show. The show will be on view November 5 - November 30.

Newsletter by Elaine Polvinen, MFA

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