



Center for China Studies

CCS Newsletter

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Collaboration with the Chinese Ministry of Civil Affairs Planned

A signing ceremony to finalize an agreement between the Research Institute of the Chinese Ministry of Civil Affairs and the Social Work Department at Buffalo State College is planned to occur in Beijing in January 2005.

This collaboration resulted from the visit to China this past spring of Dr. Christopher B. Aviles, associate professor of social work, and

J. Patrick Dexter, chair of the Buffalo State's Social Work Department.

Both professors have been invited to participate in a multi-year grant through which Buffalo State social work faculty will visit China to study the delivery of social welfare services, while Chinese scholars from CMCA's Policy Research Institute will come to Buffalo to study the structure of such services in the United States. Both long-term and short-term visiting Chinese scholars will do research on theoretical models of social welfare delivery, as well as visit public, private and non-profit agencies in Western New York that serve the poor, the elderly, children, the homeless, the hungry and the mentally ill. Those coming for longer periods will also take courses at Buffalo State.



Principals in Social Work Collaboration: (from left to right) Dr. Aviles, Dr. Zhang, Mr. Liu Gengguang (Deputy Director of the CMCA Research Institute), Mr. Dexter and Mr. Turkle.

The Buffalo State College Research Foundation, the Career Development Center, the Center for the Development of Human Services and the college as a whole will contribute to this effort.

UB Students Teach English at Shandong University

The Center for China Studies arranged for two University at Buffalo students, Mr. Paul Hebert and Mr. Daniel Grover, to teach English at Shandong University in Jinan, China from May to July. The teaching experience benefited both the Chinese students and the American teachers, who enjoyed their stay and are ready to go back soon. The China Center previously



English Teachers at Party in Shandong: Mr. Grover (second from left) and Mr. Hebert (third from left).

arranged for Buffalo State students to teach English in Dalian, China. For more information about teaching opportunities in China, please refer to previous issues of the newsletter at <http://www.buffalostate.edu/centers/ccs/htm/news.htm>.

Sixth Buffalo State Faculty Delegation Visits China

From May 23 through June 2, a group of Buffalo State faculty visited our sister universities in China, marking the sixth such trip organized by the Center for China Studies. The group this time included two off-campus scholars, Dr. Gene Grabiner, professor of social science at Erie Community College, and publisher Mr. William Hein.

Dr. Grabiner lectured on "Minority Admissions in American Higher Education" at Xi'an Interna-

tional Studies University, discussing the concept of affirmative action and recent developments in such policies in the United States. He explained how these changes have resulted in the admission of fewer minority students. A lively question and answer period followed, in a nearly-full hall despite the lecture's being given on a Friday afternoon with only three days notice. It was clear that the students were not only interested in learning English but also curious about all aspects of American life.



Faculty Visitors on the Great Wall.

Another trip is being planned for Buffalo State faculty and staff next spring or early summer. Interested individuals should contact the Center at 878-6425 or by emailing chinacenter@buffalostate.edu.

Dr. Paterson and Mr. Dexter Lecture at Capital Normal

Dr. Wendy Paterson spent two weeks in May in China as the guest of Capital Normal University. During the first week she toured the ancient city of Xi'an and the many historical sites in Beijing. She also visited two exemplary elementary schools, where she observed some state-of-the-art teaching and enthusiastic students. Following this excellent week of learning **about** China,

Dr. Paterson brought her learning to China. She taught two courses, *Teaching American Children to Read* and *Teaching American Teachers*, to a class of 70 English teacher candidates at CNU. The students were eager to learn the research-based techniques for teaching that have been successful in American schools. Dr. Paterson remarked that their knowledge of English was superb, and she enjoyed every minute of teaching. To help her students “see” American schools as they are, she took a professionally prepared CD funded by the Partners in Technology grant directed by Buffalo State’s Center for Excellence in Urban and Rural Education. Chinese teachers were delighted by their “virtual classroom” observations of mentor teacher Jill Kinney and her kindergarten class at Hoover Elementary School in the Kenmore-Tonawanda School District. The end result of Dr. Paterson’s visit will be to establish a plan for future collaborations that will bring graduate students to Buffalo State, send Buffalo State faculty to teach additional courses at Capital Normal, and establish joint research efforts between the Department of Elementary Education and Reading and faculty in CNU’s School of Education.

On May 19 Mr. Patrick Dexter, chair and associate professor of social work, was a guest speaker at the 2nd Annual China-United States Conference on Social Work and Social Welfare, sponsored by CNU’s Social Work Department. Mr. Dexter spoke on accreditation standards for social work education in the United States and the early history of social work in Buffalo.

International Collaborative East/West Design Project Concludes

The multi-year East/West Design Inspirations Exhibit project ended this year with three final products. The first was the presentation of a joint manuscript by Elaine Polvinen, Shen Li and Yimeei Wang at the Textile Institute’s 83rd Annual World Conference in Shanghai, China May 23-27.



Visitors at the Art Center in Taipei, Taiwan.

The second was the last of three exhibitions related to the project June 29 to July 18 at the Art Center of Hsinchuang City in Taipei, Taiwan. This final exhibition attracted the attention of media outlets such as Harper’s Bazaar [Asia], China Post, Cosmopolitan [Asia], China Times, Marie Claire, Vogue [Asia] and Culture. The exhibition gallery in Taiwan can be viewed online by going to <http://www.cadtextiledesign.com>, scrolling to the bottom and clicking on the Opening in Taiwan link.

The third product is a manuscript titled International Collaborative Digital Decorative Design Project, which details the entire project and is currently awaiting publication in The Journal of Cloth and Culture by Berg Publications.

This international multi-year educational project was an enriching experience for all concerned and would not have been possible were it not for the initial incentive and facilitation by the Center for China Studies, the Research Foundation and Buffalo State College, which initially sponsored and supported travel to China.

Buffalo State Geography Students Study in China

The three-week China Field Experience Course, led by Drs. Stephen Vermette and Tao Tang, offered a unique opportunity not only to study the landscape and culture of China but also to integrate American and Chinese students

while traveling and studying together across the country. During this time the American students were required to maintain a field book and complete a research project.

The first week was spent in Beijing, where the



Geography Students on the Great Wall.

American students visited cultural highlights such as the Great Wall, the Forbidden City, the Temple of Heaven, Tiananmen Square and the Summer Palace and worked on pre-approved research projects. The Chinese students assisted the American students with their research, providing unparalleled access to the city and an opportunity for one-on-one cultural interaction.

The remaining two weeks involved travel across the country to Xi'an, Chengdu, Kunming and Dali. The 60 hours of train travel provided extensive opportunity to view the countryside. Stops included the walled city of Xi'an, the Terracotta Army Museum, a panda preserve, a Taoist temple and the Stone Forest National Park, among others. Dali and Kunming offered opportunities to learn about the Bai and Yi minority nationalities.

The interaction between American and Chinese students was hampered by the language barrier, but informal connections and shared experiences were achieved. The sites and cultural interactions experienced will remain with the American students for a lifetime!

Drs. Vermette and Tang wish to express their appreciation to the faculty and students of Capital Normal University for hosting the Buffalo State students and faculty while in China, and to Lee Ann Grace and Buffalo State's International Education Office for providing additional support.

Scholars from Capital Normal Arrive for Bilingual Training



Capital Normal Summer Scholars in Buffalo: Prof. Liu Junli (far left) and Prof. Hu Puzhong (far right).

During the summer Buffalo State hosted two visiting scholars from Capital Normal University. Ms. Liu Junli, professor of English, and Mr. Hu Puzhong, professor of film and television, attended courses, established further collaborative relations with Buffalo State faculty members in their disciplines, and enjoyed the cool weather in Buffalo.



Capital Normal Fall Scholar in Buffalo: Dr. Wang Feng (far left).

Ms. Wang Feng, professor of mathematics, arrived at the beginning of the fall semester, marking the sixth session of the program to train Chinese professors to teach their courses in English, which started in fall 2001 and thus far has hosted 11 Capital Normal faculty.

CCS Director Participates in National Day Celebration in Beijing



Dr. Zhang at the State Banquet of China in Beijing.

Invited by the Chinese People's Political Consultation Conference as a state guest of honor, Dr. Zhang Jie, professor of sociology and director of the Center for China Studies, participated in the 55th anniversary celebration of the People's Republic of China in Beijing on October 1.

Buffalo Area Senior Citizens Visit China

Nine senior citizens from the Greater Buffalo area toured China September 24 to October 3. The trip, the first for members of the community at large, was organized by the Center for China Studies as a result of the enthusiastic response to a presentation on the Chinese New Year by Dr. Zhang Jie and Ms. Lu Xuehong at the Amherst Senior Center. Those interested in the second trip of this type, projected for spring 2005, should contact the Center for China Studies.



Buffalo Senior Citizens Before Leaving for China.

Center for China Studies Announces Consultants

The following is the updated list of consultants to the Center for China Studies. We welcome Ms. Zuckerman-Aviles and Dr. Aviles to the group.

Aviles, Christopher B. (2004) - Associate Professor, Social Work avilesb@buffalostate.edu

Conorozzo, Angelo (2000) - Associate Director, Center for Development of Human Services conoroaa@buffalostate.edu

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Grace, Lee Ann (2002) - Director, International Education gracela@buffalostate.edu

Lazich, Michael C. (2002) - Assistant Professor, History and Social Studies lazichmc@buffalostate.edu

Norvilitis, Jill (2000) - Assistant Professor, Psychology norviljm@buffalostate.edu

Polvinen, Elaine (2000) - Associate Professor, Technology polvinem@buffalostate.edu

Turkle, Edgar (Ted) (2000) - Director, Research Foundation turkleeh@buffalostate.edu

Wieczorek, William (2000) - Director and Research Professor, Center for Health and Social Research wieczowf@buffalostate.edu

Zuckerman-Aviles, Stephanie (2004) - Director, Career Development Center zuckersb@buffalostate.edu

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