



Center for China Studies

CCS Newsletter

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In This Issue:

- I. Buffalo State Hosts Seventeen SUNY China 150 Students
- II. China Scholars Visit Buffalo State for the 2008-2009 Academic Year
- III. School of Arts and Humanities Exchanges with Capital Normal University
- IV. Chinese Students Study at Buffalo State
- V. Center for China Studies Sponsors Fall 2008 Seminar
- VI. Buffalo State Hosts Exhibition and Lecture on China's Sacred Sites
- VII. Buffalo State Welcomes New Faculty Members with Chinese Interests
- VIII. Center for China Studies Consultants Named

Buffalo State Hosts Seventeen SUNY China 150 Students



President Howard Meeting with the 17 Sichuan Students.

In May 2008 China suffered a devastating earthquake in the heavily populated region around the city of Chengdu in Sichuan Province, causing an enormous loss of life and destroying many schools, homes, and businesses. In an effort to aid the victims of this natural disaster and to promote friendship between China and the U.S., the State University of New York has agreed to welcome 150 Chi-

nese undergraduate students from Sichuan Province to study at twenty-two campuses of the SUNY system free of charge for one academic year. According to Governor Paterson, the goal is to "provide these students with valuable leadership training to prepare them to return to China to assist with rebuilding efforts in the aftermath of the earthquake." This program was officially endorsed and warmly praised by Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao, who thanked the U.S. government and SUNY for providing this opportunity to students whose educational programs might otherwise have been cut short by this great tragedy.

Buffalo State College is contributing to the success of the SUNY China 150 program by accepting seventeen of these students. They come from several Chinese colleges and universities located in those regions most severely affected by the earthquake. Many of the students suffered the loss of their homes or family members and are deeply appreciative of this opportunity to continue their education at Buffalo State. The group consists of five males and twelve females, all either sophomores or juniors. They are majoring in a variety of programs, including English, chemistry, public affairs administration, biology, pre-law, and international finance. Each student has been appointed a faculty or staff mentor who will facilitate their transition to Buffalo State and provide assistance and encouragement as they proceed with their studies. When they complete their year at Buffalo State, they will return home to finish their academic programs and contribute to the recovery of their respective communities. The Center for China Studies, International and Exchange Programs, and International Student Affairs are all contributing in various ways to make the students' stay a productive and worthwhile experience. The Center for China Studies warmly welcomes these students to campus and wishes them the utmost happiness and success during the upcoming academic year.

Thanks to the generosity of Father Pat Zengierski and the Newman Center parishioners, most of the Sichuan students'

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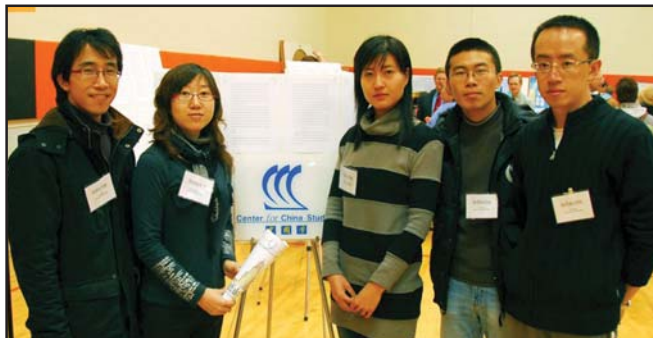
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Page 1

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remaining winter clothing needs have been met. Dr. Ruth Guo and Dr. Stephen Gareau escorted the students to the Newman Center to meet with Father Pat and his secretary. At this point, most of the students have good coats, sweaters, scarves, and hats. Three students are without boots (sizes 6, 7, and 8). The Center for China Studies extends thanks to all of the clothing donors, including those from Buffalo State!

China Scholars Visit Buffalo State for the 2008-2009 Academic Year



Visiting PhD Students at the Research Forum.

Fall 2008 witnesses the second year that the Center for China Studies is hosting visiting Ph.D. students sponsored by China Scholarship Council. Li Ning, Fang Le, and Kong Yuanyuan are from Shandong University School of Public Health. They are mentored by Dr. Zhang Jie and are working on his project on Chinese suicide, funded by the National Institute of Mental Health. Ma Jun and Yin Chanjuan are from the Central University of Finance and Economics in Beijing and are being mentored by Dr. William Ganley and Dr. Susan Davis, respectively, in the Economics Department. Li Chencheng is a M.A. student of sociology from Central University of Finance and Economics, also sponsored by the China Scholarship Council. His mentor is Dr. Michael Cretacci of the Criminal Justice Department.

School of Arts and Humanities Exchanges with Capital Normal University

A music faculty trio from Capital Normal University, Beijing, presented a concert featuring traditional Chinese instruments and piano on October 27 at the Performing Arts Center in Rockwell Hall. This event is part of the ongoing exchange program between Capital Normal University and Buffalo State's School of Arts and Humanities as part of the Music Department's internationalization initiative. Zhou Shibin, vice dean and professor in the College of Music

of Capital Normal, plays the xun (pronounced shoon), a traditional Chinese wind instrument, usually ceramic. Two other CNU professors, pianist Sun Xiaoxue and Wang Shaohui, who plays a stringed instrument called pipa, joined Professor Zhou in the concert featuring seven compositions representing both contemporary and ancient Chinese music.

In addition to their public performance at Buffalo State, the musicians from Capital Normal performed and presented a series of lectures on campus and in the community.

Earlier in October, a delegation of six people from Buffalo State visited Capital Normal University before traveling to Shanghai. Sponsored by Buffalo State's School of Arts and Humanities and the SUNY Research Foundation at Buffalo State, the trip was to expand Buffalo State's collaboration with Capital Normal and to initiate a new partnership with the Art Design & Media College of East China University of Science and Technology in Shanghai. Benjamin Christy, dean of the School of Arts and Humanities and a clarinetist, performed and presented master classes, along with faculty members Bryan Boyce, assistant professor of music and a pianist, and Janet Reed, associate professor of theater and a dancer and choreographer. The Buffalo State group – which included Carol Townsend, chair and associate professor of design; Lin Xia Jiang, chair and professor of fine arts; and Ted Turkle, director of the Research Foundation — also participated in numerous administrative meetings and made presentations to faculty and students.



Dean Christy and Colleagues at Capital Normal University.

"Janet worked with six Chinese dancers, choreographing a piece that Ben and I played," said Boyce. "It was 'The Concerto for Clarinet,' by Aaron Copland, and the dancing was really stunning." Boyce also presented a solo recital of contemporary American music for piano written especially for him.

Chinese Students Study at Buffalo State

The number of Chinese students is on the rise as a consequence the CCS's efforts to recruit undergraduate and graduate students in China. For Fall 2008, there have been four undergraduate and two graduate students directly recruited from China by the CCS. More students are expected from China in the next few years.



New Students from China.

Center for China Studies Sponsors Fall 2008 Seminar

The Center for China Studies fall 2008 seminar will be held Thursday, November 13, 12:15–1:30 p.m., in Classroom Building B188. This seminar will include two presentations by visiting Chinese scholars Ma Jun and Yin Chanjuan from the Central University of Finance and Economics in Beijing. The presentation by Ma Jun is titled "China's Foreign Investment (FDI) and Economic Growth." Yin Chanjuan will present "Three Perspectives of the Chinese Economy." These two scholars are currently working under Dr. William Ganley and Dr. Susan Davis, respectively, in the Economics Department. The fall seminar is co-sponsored by the Center for China Studies and University College. Refreshments will be provided.

Buffalo State Hosts Exhibition and Lecture on China's Sacred Sites

Beverly Foit-Albert, R.A., Ph.D., a local architect and professor emeritus at the University at Buffalo School of Architecture and Planning, will present an illustrated lecture and photographic exhibition based on her award-winning book *China's Sacred Sites* on January 29, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. in Buffalo State's Enters Theater in Upton Hall.

While an exchange scholar with Beijing's Municipal System of Higher Education for Historic Preservation, Foit-Albert collaborated with Nan Shunxun of Beijing to photograph and study important historical landmarks throughout China. The photographs by John Valentino capture forty-two of China's sacred architectural sites reflecting the landscape, mountainscape, architecture, and culture in fourteen provinces of mainland China. Drawing on the philosophical ideals of Buddhism, Confucianism, and Taoism, the sacred sites use mountainscape feng shui to meld architectural elements with the vital earth energy dwelling in mountains, rivers, and wind to create harmonious places of spirit. Major sites include Shibaozai, the twelve story "Stone Treasure Fortress," aloof from the world at Mount Douchuan, and the Grand Buddha at Mount Leshan. In addition, the photographs include pavilions, pagodas, palaces, bridges, mountain paths, and rock engravings that reflect the many ways that man-made structures were merged into the infinite, and the realm of man into the chain of the universe. The book has won numerous awards including the 2008 Nautilus Book of the Year Gold Medal and two 2007 Gold Medal Awards as Book of the Year from ForeWord Magazine.

The annotated photographs will be displayed in the Upton Gallery January 26–29. This presentation is sponsored by the Office of Equity and Campus Diversity and is being coordinated by Richard Ross, associate professor of design, Lin Xia Jiang, chair of fine arts, and Zhang Jie, professor of sociology and director of the Center for China Studies. A reception sponsored by the Buffalo State College Research Foundation will follow the January 29 lecture.

Buffalo State Welcomes New Faculty Members with Chinese Interests

Feng Jiu earned her M.S degree in information technology from Rochester Institute of Technology and joined the SUNY Information Technology Exchange Center in 2004. She works as a lead programmer/analyst to provide Oracle database administration (DBA) support for Banner systems for multiple SUNY campuses. She also provided SQL Server DBA support for SUNY Learning Network Angel online learning system.

Dr. Guo Xiaoping (Ruth) earned her Ph.D. in technology studies from the University of British Columbia. Dr. Guo has taught courses in teacher education programs at the University of Ottawa and the University of British Columbia. She also has

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Page 3

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over ten years of experience teaching at Chinese universities. Dr. Guo's research interests include integrating technology into curriculum, digital divide, constructivist pedagogy, video ethnography, multiliteracies, information and communication technology (ICT) literacy, and ICT assessment. She has published research papers and book chapters in these areas.

Dr. Huang Chenchen recently joined the Hospitality and Tourism Department as an assistant professor after graduating from the University of Florida with a Ph.D. in tourism. He is a recipient of the World Leisure Scholarship awarded by the World Leisure Congress. His research interests include tourism planning, tourism marketing, and sustainable tourism development in both developed and developing countries. Dr. Huang teaches courses on a variety of subjects in the field of hospitality and tourism, including tourism management, hotel management, and cultural tourism.

Center for China Studies Consultants Named

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3. Gareau, Stephen (2008) – Assistant Professor, Computer Information Systems gareause@buffalostate.edu
4. Grabiner, Virginia (2000) - Chair and Associate Professor, Sociology grabinve@buffalostate.edu
5. Gounard, Jean (2002) - Director, International Students Affairs gounarjf@buffalostate.edu
6. Grace, Lee Ann (2002) - Assistant Dean, International and Exchange Programs gracela@buffalostate.edu
7. Lai, Christine (2008) – Assistant Professor, Business laica@buffalostate.edu
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