



Center for China Studies

CCS Newsletter

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I. The 10th Session of the CCS Consultation (October 2018 to October 2020)

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II. Buffalo State Students Study Abroad in China

On May 20, nineteen Fashion and Textile Technology students, along with three FTT faculty members (Lynn Boorady, Erin Habes, and David Brinson), and Jozef Bajus from Art and Design, traveled to China for a two-week visit to attend a course titled “Modernizing the Silk Road,” which introduced fashion students to China’s global role in the apparel industry, and to experience firsthand the culture, style and business of fashion in China. They flew directly from Toronto to Beijing, where, for eight days, they toured cultural sites, visited a digital printing manufacturer and cashmere factory, and installed an exhibit of tie-dyed silk pieces that were completed throughout the spring semester. For many students, the highlight of the first few days was climbing the Great Wall of China. While in Beijing, they also visited the 798 Art District, the San Li Tun Mall, an antique market, and more—it was daily excursions of wonderful new experiences!

They then took the high-speed train to Jiaxing, where they met up with friends and partners at Jiaxing University. Here, they visited a major sportswear manufacturer and another high-end cashmere factory, then traveled to Guangzhou to visit a silk museum, where they were able to see everything from the actual silkworms, to the weaving and dyeing of the yarns, to the production of the final garments. The museum had beautiful displays of both historic and contemporary garments that they were able to view and admire. The last part of our trip took place in Shanghai, where we really focused on retail by visiting the flagship GAP store and learned about the Chinese consumer. Afterwards we went to the 30,000 square foot Starbucks Reserve Roastery to experience this new concept in retailing that utilized ‘augmented reality’, watching the processes of roasting and bagging coffee while consuming delicious baked goods made onsite by Italian chefs. Our last night was spent enjoying the views on the Bund and doing some last minute shopping on Nanjing Road.

Students were required to develop reflection statements two weeks after we returned to the U.S. One particularly insightful student remarked that “once we understand that we are all humans that cry, laugh, eat, worry and die, we can begin to allow our minds to peel back the preconceived notions of other people. We begin to understand them more and even become friends.” Another student, upon remembering all her concerns before she traveled abroad for the first time noted in her reflection that “I would

recommend that experience to anyone willing to learn and be comfortable with being uncomfortable; I have grown in so many different ways in the past two weeks.” As for the faculty, it was wonderful to see the students embrace chopsticks, yell with excitement upon reaching the top of the Great Wall, and squeal with delight at the first sight of the Bund. This trip will definitely be repeated for future students. (Lynn Boorady)



III. Chinese Academic Delegations Visited Buffalo State

In Fall 2018, three delegations from Chinese higher learning institutes visited Buffalo State. A delegation from Jiangsu University of Science and Technology (JUST) visited us on September 27. This five-member delegation included: Zhang Jianqiang, Dean of the School of

Continuing Education; Yang Jianchao, Party Secretary of the School of Foreign Languages; Wang Shengguo, Training Director of the School of Continuing Education; Daniel Li, CEO of SICE; and Dong Wang, President of SICE.

A delegation from Beijing Union University, our long time collaborating school in China, visited Buffalo State October 7–10. This delegation consisted of three members: Professor Zhang Zhibin, Dean of BUU Teachers' College; Professor Zeng Meiyong, Head of the Psychology Dept.; and Professor Jiang Jiwei, Head of the Pre-School Education Dept. During their three-day stay on campus, they visited our Child Care Center and our departments of Psychology and Music. The delegation also met separately with Dr. Mark Severson, Dean of the School of Natural and Social Sciences; Dr. Wendy Patterson, Dean of the School of Education; Mr. Tony Chase, Associate Dean of Humanities; and Dr. Dwight Hennessey, Chair of the Department of Psychology to discuss issues of mutual interest.

A delegation from Zhengzhou University of Light Industry (ZZULI) visited us on October 12. The five-member delegation consisted of Mr. Zhang Zhijian, VP of ZZULI; Mr. Wu Fenglong, Associate Dean of Software College; Mr. Fan Guangjun, Associate Dean of Graduate School; Ms. Wang Ling, Associate Dean of Physics and Electronic Engineering School; Mr. Wang Peiyi, Dean of Material and Chemical Engineering School; and Mr. Liu Yingfei, Vice-Chief of the International Affairs. The delegation met with Dr. Robert Summers, Assistant Provost for International Engagement and had a pleasant and informative lunch with the 3+2 Program students from ZZULI currently studying at Buffalo State.

The major agenda of all three delegations was developing and strengthening our collaboration related to the ongoing 3+2 Program.





IV. Russian Scholar visited the Center for China Studies

Dr. Ksenia Chistopolskaya, research associate of psychology at Moscow State University, visited the Center for China Studies October 17–22. During her visit, she worked with Dr. Zhang, professor of sociology and director of the Center for China Studies, on their joint project on depression, anxiety, and stress epidemics among Chinese college students. Ksenia also met with other visiting scholars at the CCS during her visit.

V. Mid-Autumn Festival Celebration on Campus

“May we all be blessed with longevity. Though thousand of miles apart, we are still able to share the beauty of the moon together.” Scholars and Students (3+2 Program) Celebrate the Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival

The annual Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival, organized by the Center for China Studies, was held in the Classroom Building on Sept 21 and 24. Visiting Scholars and students celebrated the Mid-Autumn Festival with songs and dances,

amid a copious flow of traditional Chinese food and beverages.

“We want our international students to feel at home here at Buffalo State,” said Provost Melanie Perreault, “We hope everyone can enjoy a happy Mid-Autumn Festival.”

After enjoying the delicious food, students expressed their gratitude and shared stories of life and study.

Robert Summers, Assistant Provost for Global Engagement, expressed his delight to hear that our international students were having enjoyable experiences here and were taking the opportunity to learn about other cultures as a means of promoting their personal and professional development.

During the celebration, visiting scholars expressed their appreciation to the Center for China Studies and recounted what they saw and heard during this visit to the United States. Three teachers from Jiaxing University shared their stories about Buffalo culture. Wanquan Gao presented some observations from his cultural study, “Cultural differences between China and the United States.” In the traditional spirit of the occasion, Yukun You from Yantai University and Jinjia Ruan from China National Opera & Dance Drama Theater led the group in a beautifully performed, classical song and dance “Song of Pear Flowers.” The enthusiasm continued into the night, the celebration finally concluding with a song from Zhen Huang, visiting scholar from the Wuhan Railway Vocational College Of Technology, titled “Wishing We Last Forever.”

“How long will the full moon appear?
Wine cup in hand, I ask the sky.” (Xiao Jingya)



VI. Fantastic Labor Day Parade

A fantastic Labor Day parade took place in Buffalo on Monday, September 3, lining up at 11:00 am at the corner of Abbott Road and Stevenson Street in South Buffalo. The parade marched down Abbott and turned at Cazenovia Street winding its way along until finally reaching Cazenovia Park, where the event was followed by a big picnic lunch. Many local unions participated in the big event that was attended by hundreds of people. Among them were dozens of people from our own UUP. Also, some visiting scholars from the Buffalo State Center for China Studies excitedly marched in the parade and enjoyed the festivity of the occasion.

Wonderful performances of various sorts constituted portions of the parade. Young girls presented traditional dances and diverse forms of live music were played, while people in uniform riding on horseback trotted alongside. On both sides of the road young children waited anxiously for the candies and cookies tossed from the many colorful floats representing the various unions and service organizations.

Afterwards, all the people in the parade enjoyed a lovely picnic together. What a great time at the Labor Day parade and picnic. The participating labor organizations did a great job making this a spectacular event. (Hong Jun)



VII. Chinese Visiting Scholars Invited to Fall Kickoff UUP Welcome BBQ

Fifteen Chinese visiting scholars, who began their stay at Buffalo State this fall semester, were warmly invited to the Buffalo State Fall Kickoff UUP Welcome BBQ on Friday, September 7, in Campbell Union Social Hall.

The Chinese scholars enjoyed this opportunity to chat with UUP members who were in attendance. Indeed, for many of the visiting scholars this was the first face-to-face communication they had with Buffalo State faculty members. It was a wonderful experience for all, and everyone was greatly impressed by the excellent BBQ service, the great speeches delivered by UUP leaders and, above all, by the kindness and friendliness from everyone they talked with. (Gao Wanquan)

VIII. Visiting Scholars Enjoyed Thanksgiving in Advance

For the third year, Dr. Steve Macho and his wife Kate invited all of the visiting Chinese scholars at Buffalo State, along with the delegation from Beijing Union University, to their house on October 8 (Columbus Day) for a pre-Thanksgiving dinner.

Professor Zhang Jie, the Director of the Center for China Studies, helped to organize the occasion and was unsparing in his efforts to arrange an enjoyable and educational get-together on this special day.

Prof. Macho first led the group of scholars to Beaver Meadow Audubon Center, where they enjoyed the picturesque scenery and beautiful tranquility of Mother Nature. With the ground coated with freshly fallen leaves and the lake lying quietly under the blue sky, the Chinese scholars fully enjoyed themselves far away from their native land.

Thanks to the careful preparation beforehand by the Macho's and the Chinese scholars Wang, Ruan, Xiao, and You, everyone had a very special pre-Thanksgiving meal with traditional American food and Chinese food served together on one table. This delightfully eclectic dinner included roast turkey, smoked turkey, sausage, roast pork chops, pumpkin pies, mashed potatoes together with fried dumplings, noodles, and mooncakes—a feast for both the eyes and stomachs of the hosts and guests.

After the meal, Prof. Macho led the Chinese scholars on a pleasurable and educational tour around a dairy farm owned by one of his friends. There were hundreds of milk cows, and the skillful workers on the farm showed the scholars how the cows were fed and milked and how the milk was processed and stored before it was shipped to supermarkets. This was the first time the Chinese scholars saw such a farm and so many cows. It was truly an unforgettable experience.

Prof. Macho told one of the Chinese scholars that he had worked in China for two years and would never forget the hospitality of the Chinese people. That is why he was happy to host this kind of experience for Chinese visitors to Buffalo State. The CCS thanks the Machos for their kindness and hospitality to host our visiting scholars as well as their continuing support for the mission of the Center for China Studies. (Li Yingjie)

