



Center for China Studies

CCS Newsletter
Email: chinacenter@buffalostate.edu

Vol. 9, No. 2 (Spring 2009)
Website URL: <http://www.buffalostate.edu/centers/ccs/>

Director: Zhang Jie, Ph.D.
CLAS 327, Buffalo State
Assistant: Mr. Brandon Kawa

In This Issue:

- I. China Week 2009 Features Seminars
- II. Beijing Faculty Training Program at Buffalo State Begins
- III. China Center Helps Recruit Freshman Students from China
- IV. Buffalo State Re-Entry Program Attracts Chinese Students from Other SUNY Campuses
- V. Buffalo State Welcomes New Faculty Member with Chinese Interests

China Week 2009 Features Seminars



At the China Week Exhibit in the Student Union.

March 9–13 marked the third China Week at Buffalo State College. The Chinese Arts and Crafts Show in Campbell Student Union that week attracted large crowds of Buffalo State students, faculty and staff members, as well as the general public. Visiting scholars and Ph.D. students from China played a major role in organizing the exhibition.

On March 10, three students from the Department of Business (Jonathan Castillo, Quintarra Lee, and William Logan) led by



Introducing Chinese Articles to Students.

Dr. Christine Lai, assistant professor of business, offered presentations on their experiences in Beijing, China, as members of a group of fifteen students who participated in a two-week study abroad program at the Central University of Finance and Economics. The trip, organized by Dr. Lai, also included tours for many historical and cultural sites in Beijing.

A second seminar on “Harmony in Chinese Food: A Professional Perspective” was presented by Ms. Lin You-Qing, a Buffalo State sophomore from the Department of Dietetics and Nutrition. Ms. Lin delighted her audience with her knowledgeable and informative description of some of the basic culinary principles of Chinese cuisine and how these principles may be applied to creating greater harmony and balance in our diets.

Beijing Faculty Training Program at Buffalo State Begins

On February 16 and 17, International and Exchange Programs in cooperation with the Research Foundation and Center for China Studies, welcomed the following three visiting faculty as part of a collaborative initiative with the Beijing Teacher Training Center of Higher Education.

Professor Song Hongyu is a faculty member in the Fine Arts School at Capital Normal University (CNU) in Bei-

jing. She will be working with co-mentors Professor Richard Ross of the Design Department and Professor Lin Xia Jiang of the Fine Arts Department. Professor Song's research interests include primitive art, Chinese folk art, and creative techniques in Chinese painting. On April 16 she presented a lecture on "Chinese Folk Art: Painted Clay Toys" and Butler Library hosted an exhibit of her oil paintings, as well as Chinese paper cuts and photographs, from April 27 through the end of the semester.



Spring 2009 BTTCH Faculty - from left to right - Mao Yingmei, Chen Shubo, Song Hongyu.



Chinese Papercut by Song Hongyu.



Still Life by Song Hongyu.

Professor Mao Yingmei is a faculty member in the Special Education College at Beijing Union University. Her research focuses on the psychological development of children with special needs. Dr. Jill Norvilitis of the Psychology Department is her mentor. On April 21 Professor Mao presented a talk sponsored by the

Psychology Club on "Play Therapy for Autistic Children." Professor Chen Shubo is a faculty member in the English Department at CNU. Dr. Mark Fulk of Buffalo State's English Department is her mentor. Her research interest is the British writer A.S. Byatt.

Professors Song, Mao, and Chen have enthusiastically embraced their visit to Buffalo State as a valuable opportunity to observe, conduct research, and offer guest presentations in their respective fields. In addition to their academic pursuits, the professors intend to acquaint themselves with the unique landmarks and customs of Buffalo and the wider Western New York community.



Yelaixiang by Song Hongyu.



Ted Turtle and Zhang Jie at the BTTCH Agreement Signing in Beijing.

The Beijing Teacher Training Program is an extension of the collaboration agreement between CNU and Buffalo State and is funded by the Beijing Education Commission. The purpose of this program is to provide young teaching staff with an opportunity to understand the teaching and research activities in the best universities around the world. The experience is expected to broaden their perspectives and increase their innovative abilities as well as promote collaborative research. Another group of faculty is expected to visit in the coming fall semester.

China Center Helps Recruit Freshman Students from China

The Center for China Studies has played a critical role in recruiting degree-seeking undergraduate students from China. In Fall 2008 an agreement was signed between Buffalo State College and the Dongfang International Center

for Education Exchange, an agency affiliated with the China Scholarship Council in Beijing, to increase the number of students from China studying at Buffalo State. This agency will promote our academic programs throughout China and recruit students for us. Sandra Burnham, the international admissions advisor at Buffalo State, has been working closely with this agency to assist prospective students in completing the required application procedures. Nine Chinese students from Henan Province were enrolled in Spring 2009. A summer English immersion program at Buffalo State for Chinese high school students has also been proposed.



Upon the Arrival of the Nine Freshman Students.

Buffalo State Re-Entry Program Attracts Chinese Students from Other SUNY Campuses

On March 14 the Richard LeCaste Memorial Re-entry Program for Visiting Chinese Students from Sichuan Province took place at Buffalo State. This event was sponsored by Buffalo State's University College and was organized by Dr. Jean Gounard (director, international student affairs) in collaboration with the Fine Arts Department, the Department of Computer Information Systems, the Counseling Center, the Criminal Justice Department, the Office of the Dean of Students, and the Sociology Department.

Twenty-seven Sichuan students participated in the event, representing eight SUNY campuses, including Buffalo State, Jamestown Community College, Monroe Community College, SUNY Oswego, SUNY Brockport, SUNY New Paltz, University at Buffalo, and Binghamton University. Representatives of these campuses as well as people from Niagara University participated. In all, more than 60 individuals attended the event.

The program began with welcoming remarks by Dr. Scott Johnson (interim dean, Buffalo State's Univer-

sity College), Dr. Gounard, and Ms. Chantal Kross (representing Buffalo State's International Students Organization). These addresses were followed by lunch.



Figure 1 The SUNY Campuses in New York State

After lunch, there was a brainstorming session involving eight groups, comprised of students and faculty, that each addressed the question: "What challenges might you face upon your return to China?" The brainstorming session was followed by presentations by Dr. Joan McCool (director of Buffalo State's Counseling Center), Dr. Modupe Akin-Deko (senior psychologist and associate director, Buffalo State's Counseling Center), and Ms. Qin Xuhua (counselor, University at Buffalo's Counseling Services). Additional presentations focusing on the stages of culture shock and reverse culture shock were given by Dr. John Song (professor, Buffalo State's Department of Criminal Justice), Dr. Jie Zhang (professor, Buffalo State's Department of Sociology), Dr. Tenpao Lee (professor, Niagara University's Department of Economics), Dr. Virginia Grabiner (chair and associate professor, Buffalo State's Department of Sociology), and Dr. Lin Xia Jiang (professor, Buffalo State's Department of Fine Arts).

Following up on the fifteen challenges and solutions identified in brainstorming, Ms. Kong Yuanyuan a Chinese graduate research scholar from Shandong University, in China, presented in Chinese on the causes of depression. Ms. Kong, who is currently working on her doctoral degree in epidemiology, has been at Buffalo State since August 2008 and will

return to China in August 2009. Her excellent presentation covered two major causes of depression that the Sichuan students might encounter upon return to China: reverse culture shock and high expectations of them by friends and families.

These presentations were followed by a case study discussion facilitated by Dr. Ruth Guo and Dr. Stephen Gareau (both of Buffalo State's Department of Computer Information Systems). The event ended with closing remarks by Dr. Charles Kenyon (Buffalo State's associate vice president and dean of students), followed by dinner.

Buffalo State Welcomes New Faculty Member with Chinese Interests

Dr. Qian Xingwang joined the Department of Economics and Finance at Buffalo State as an assistant professor after he earned his Ph.D. degree in international economics at the University of California, Santa Cruz. Dr. Qian's research interests include international economics, particularly international finance in emerging markets (i.e. Brazil, Russia, India, and China), financial economics (foreign exchange derivatives), and applied econometrics. He has published papers in the *Review of International Economics* and the *Journal of International Money and Finance*. He teaches International Finance, Corporate Finance, and Capital Markets at both the undergraduate and graduate level.



Center for China Studies
University College
Buffalo State
State University of New York
1300 Elmwood Avenue
SOUT 420
Buffalo, New York 14222

CCS Newsletter
Newsletter Copy Editor: Michael Lazich
Newsletter Production Editor: Elaine Polvinen