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## The ACPSS Will Have Its 17th Annual Conference at Buffalo State

The Association of Chinese Professors of Social Sciences (ACPSS) will have its 20th annual international conference at Buffalo State October 17–19, 2014. This will be the second time Buffalo State has hosted the annual conference of this distinguished organization. The reason that they chose us for this international event is because the academic reputation of the Center for China Studies helps attract more scholars from around the world to attend the event. Another reason is that the University at Buffalo Confucius Institute can provide a platform for attracting non-Chinese, American students and faculty to participate. Holding this conference on our campus provides an ideal opportunity for interested faculty and students to attend academic presentations of new research in the fields of China studies. The event is also a good opportunity for networking with other scholars in China-related fields.

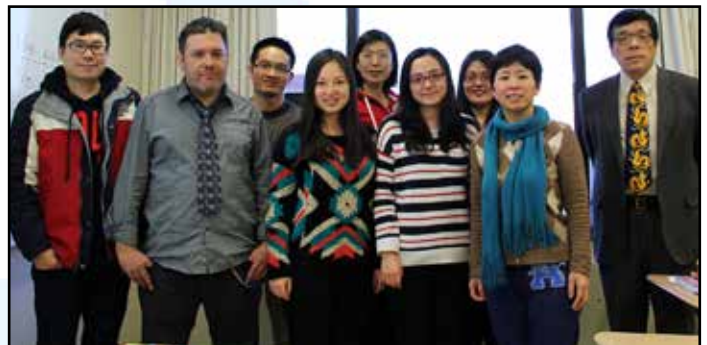
The ACPSS, founded in 1995 and registered in Texas,

is a non-government and non-profit professional organization of Chinese professors and researchers in the humanities and social sciences. The ACPSS is one of the most active interdisciplinary scholarly organizations, featuring its annual international conferences and flagship journal that regularly publishes articles in various fields of China studies. In recent years, ACPSS has gained more visibility and a broader reputation through collaboration with China/Asia studies programs in some of the top universities in the U.S. The previous annual conferences were held at Cornell University (2008), Ohio State University (2009), Harvard University (2010), Columbia University (2011), and University of Pittsburgh (2012). Last year's annual meeting was held at the University of Louisville, which is also known for its strong Asia/China studies programs.

## English Intensive Class Offered for the Visiting Scholars

*Chen Xiaoyu*

The Center for China Studies conducted an English Intensive Course for visiting scholars from China in the Spring Semester of 2014. The teacher was John Ezell, who was working on his teaching certificate in Teaching English as a Second Language, and this course was designed for him to fulfill his practice requirement. To the students, the class was an exciting



Visiting Scholars with Their ESL Teacher.

and very worthwhile part of their visit to Buffalo State. It was like a gift to which they were all lucky enough to be a part of. Early on, we learned that John is no stranger to other languages, having studied Spanish for many years, and he is now adding Chinese to his language repertoire. As a traveler, he has visited and lived in many places in the U.S., making himself very knowledgeable about the various accents and slang spoken within the country, which he also introduced to the class.

The class was divided into four parts: grammar study, common slang expressions, film appreciation, and correct pronunciation. In addition, he incorporated his own personal experiences and approaches to the process of language learning into the classroom situation. When the classes came to an end, most realized that they had gotten more out of the experience than they had originally thought possible.

## Cornell Scholar Engages Chinese Pop Culture

Barbara Miller

On Thursday, May 1, students of history and pop culture from all disciplines filled Bulger Communications Center on the SUNY Buffalo State campus for “What You Don’t Know About China,” a guest lecture by Dr. Allen Carlson of Cornell University. The subtitle of the talk, “Challenging Conventional Wisdom on a Rising Superpower,” implied Dr. Carlson’s unorthodox approach. His argument centered on the idea that even distinguished specialists in international studies fields can be unaware of important cultural trends in China among youth and in popular culture. By responding enthusiastically to the daring images and meanings in the presentation, undergraduate audience members helped illustrate the speaker’s point. Dr. Carlson showed that to reach students, instructors must consider student perspectives outside the classroom. His live demonstration in captivating students with the unexpected created an appropriate culminating event for Buffalo State’s “Year of the Teacher.” Scholars among the audience, welcomed by Dr. Barbara Miller of Buffalo State’s Spanish program, and including Dr. Zhang Jie, Director of SUNY Buffalo State’s Center for China Studies as well as Dr. Liu Xiufeng, Associate Dean of the Graduate School of Education at UB, noted the originality of the talk as one important secret to its success.

Dr. Allen Carlson is Associate Professor of Cornell’s Government Department, and during the 2014–2015 academic year will hold the Class of 1955 Visiting Professorship at Williams College. His work focuses on issues of Chinese politics and foreign policy. His *Unifying China, Integrating with the World: Securing Chinese Sovereignty in the Reform Era* was published in 2005 by Stanford University Press.

The lecture was sponsored by an interdisciplinary collaboration led by Buffalo State’s Center for China Studies and Department of Modern and Classical Languages. They included the School of Arts and Humanities, the School of Education, the School of Natural and Social Sciences (Departments of Economics and of Political Studies), and International & Exchange Programs.

## New Visiting Scholars from China

Li Han

Two new visiting scholars have come to the Center for China Studies since Spring 2014. Doctor Zhang Yunshu, who works at the Mental Health Center of Hebei Province as a psychiatrist, is doing research under the guidance of Dr. Zhang Jie. She arrived at Buffalo State in April 2014 and is going to stay here for ten months, under the sponsorship of the Health Department of Hebei Province.



Zhang Yunshu.

Another visiting scholar, Su Jianxia, majors in computer technology. As an associate professor, she is mainly teaching signals and systems analysis courses in the Beijing Institute of Fashion Technology. Sponsored by a program of Beijing Teacher Training Center of High Education, she came to Buffalo State in March 2014 and is doing research on the computer simulation study of tie-dye with the help of her mentor, Professor Lynn Boorady.



Su Jianxia.

## Tsinghua University MPH Class on Campus Again

Yun Shu

After successful training last year, from April 26 to May 2, 2014, a group of ten students from Tsinghua University of China was on campus again for academic training. They were members of Tsinghua

University Center for Public Health studying for the degree of Master's of Public Health (MPH). The daily schedule for the group consisted of lectures, field visits, and discussions. The lectures included an overview of medical education and health care systems in the U.S., environmental policy and regulation, structure of the U.S. healthcare industry, insurance, and mental disorders in the U.S. They visited Buffalo General Hospital, Roswell Park Cancer Institute, Canterbury Woods Nursing Home, as well as the Weigel Health Center for Buffalo State students. The experience was a mutually beneficial exchange between Buffalo State and one of the most prestigious universities in China. Dr. Robert Summers, Director of the International and Exchange Programs, presented a certificate to each of the ten trainees. This program is likely to become an annual event between Buffalo State Center for China Studies and Tsinghua University Center of Public Health

### China Week Was Another Great Success

*Qi Qing*

The ninth China Week, an annual event at Buffalo State since 2006, organized by the Center for China Studies, was held March 31–April 5, 2014. The main purpose of China Week is to promote a better understanding of Chinese culture and society in the U.S. Throughout the week, Chinese visiting scholars exhibited and sold some characteristic Chinese crafts, providing an interesting introduction to Chinese culture. The various exhibits attracted a large number of students, faculty, and staff who were interested in Chinese culture. They also enjoyed the opportunity



China Week at Buffalo State.

to have a nice talk with the Chinese presenters. The annual event has played a very important role in bringing Chinese culture to the Buffalo State community and providing an enjoyable opportunity for intercultural communication.

### Dr. Ding Ning Presents China Films

*Li Han*

On March 18, Dr. Ding Ning, a visiting scholar from China, delivered a presentation on “Sample Scenes of Chinese Martial Arts Films” in room 115 in Ketchum Hall. A large group of students and faculty attended the lecture and demonstrated great interest in Chinese martial arts films. During the presentation, they talked and exchanged their views about the distinctive and wonderful Kongfu in Chinese martial arts films. The presentation consisted of several classic scenes and plots, including “the Disk Intestine War,” “the Bamboo War,” “the Inn War,” “Fly over the Eaves and Run on the Walls,” “Slide over the Water,” and so on. During his presentation, Dr. Ding Ning introduced the historical background of these classical scenes and the ways Chinese directors have filmed them.



Dr. Ding and his mentor Terence McDonald at Buffalo State.

Dr. Ding earned his Ph.D. in Chinese film history from the Beijing Film Academy, which is the leading academy in the film industry in China. He is currently teaching film history at Beijing Information Science & Technology University.

The students that attended Dr. Ding’s presentation had a great time and learned much about Chinese martial arts films, which were quite different from the Western films they were seeing in the U.S. The presentation built a bridge between Chinese traditional films and Western films and stimulated much discussion about film appreciation and research.

## Dr. Zhou Qian Presented Her Research on Campus

*Sun Qiang*

Dr. Zhou Qian, a professor of mechanical engineering, director for engineering outreach, and director for the Center for Innovation through Visualization and Simulation (CIVS) at Purdue Calumet, gave a presentation at Buffalo State on May 12, 2014.

Dr. Zhou's focus as an educator, as a researcher, and as an integral part of CIVS is to solve real-world problems. In each of her roles, Prof. Zhou does just that through leading, educating, and collaborating with students, faculty, staff, and members of external organizations and industries.

In particular, projects and research carried out at CIVS have economic and intellectual impacts both locally and globally. From creating virtual tour videos for marketing companies and providing 3-D virtual submarine missions for middle school students to developing virtual roadways to determine the effects of highway traffic on the economy, Prof. Zhou believes the integration of simulation with virtual reality visualizations is the future of not only engineering but also many other disciplines.

As a longtime partner with Prof. Cohen, the interim President of Buffalo State, she is helping Buffalo State to expand its academic cooperation with Chinese universities.

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