

CCS Newsletter Vol. 8, No. 2 (Spring 2008)

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In This Issue

1. China Week 2008 a Great Success!

The second annual China Week at Buffalo State College was held this semester March 10–15. China Week activities and events were organized by the Center for China Studies, with the support of the Office of Equity and Campus Diversity, Research Foundation, Department of Sociology, University College, and Office of International and Exchange Programs. This year's China Week featured the Beijing 2008 Olympics with a splendid cultural and arts and crafts show held in the Student Union from Monday through Friday. There were also two seminars during the Week. At the opening seminar, Dr. Du Ruiqing, former president of Xi'an International Studies University, delivered a talk entitled "Taoism in China." The speakers for the second seminar were visiting Ph.D. students from the Central University of Finance and Economics: Mr. Yin Peng on "An Overview of the Chinese Economy," Mr. Yuan Hao on "The China Miracle: What It's and Isn't," Mr. Huang Wentao on "Fund Industry in China: Growth and Opportunities," and Ms. Wu Dongmei on "Management Information Systems in China." China Week 2008 concluded on a musical note at the Buffalo State College annual International Fiesta on Saturday, March 15, with two performances by local Chinese Americans invited by the Center for China Studies.

2. China Scholarship Council Continues to Support Ph.D. Students to Buffalo State

This year Buffalo State College will accept another group of Ph.D. students from China as part of the China Scholarship Council project initiated in 2007. Faculty mentors for the new group include Dr. Christine Lai, Dr. William Ganley, Dr. Susan Davis, and Dr. Zhang Jie. The two Ph.D. students, Mr. Li Ning and Mr. Fang Le, mentored by Dr. Zhang Jie are from Shandong University School of Public Health, and they are already on

campus. They are studying in the area of sociology, receiving intensive training in psychological autopsy methods and helping on the NIMH granted research project.

3.Center for China Studies Helping Recruit Undergraduate Students from China

During this year's Spring Break, Dr. Lee Ann Grace, Director of International and Exchange Programs, and Dr. Zhang Jie, Director of the Center for China Studies, visited several different organizations and institutions of higher learning in Beijing and Xi'an, China to explore the opportunities to recruit undergraduate students for Buffalo State College. It was a successful trip with many worthwhile results. Dr. Zhang and Dr. Grace have observed that the recruitment market for undergraduate students is fully open in China, and the number of U.S. universities recruiting in China is on the rise. Establishing sister relationships with more institutions of higher learning and accepting high school students for summer sessions at Buffalo State College are being considered as means of achieving long-term recruitment goals.

4.Faculty Research with Chinese Collaboration

Dr. Tao Tang of the Department of Geography and Planning has been collaborating with Professor Gong Huili and Professor Zhao Wenji at Capital Normal University in Beijing to initiate a research project entitled "Remote Sensing and GIS based Analysis and Modeling of Surface Air Pollution in Beijing, China." Since northern China is an area that has attracted worldwide attention and concern for atmospheric pollution and global warming research, the European Space Agency (ESA) recently joined this approach in providing the most advanced remote sensing data to enhance the ground based survey for the modeling. Dr. Tang is looking forward to participating in this collaborative research project planned for this coming summer.

Ground Lidar Testing of Particle Content in the Air in Beijing

Prediction of Airborne Particles in Beijing

5. Buffalo State Welcomes New Faculty Members with Chinese Interests

Dr. Christine Lai is a new faculty member at Buffalo State College in the Business Administration Department. She holds an MBA in International Management and a PhD in International Economic and Business Geographies from the State University of New York at Buffalo. Her teaching interests are in the areas of marketing and international business. Dr. Lai recently presented a paper at the Second Global Conference on Economic Geography in Beijing, China in June 2007 and has presented other papers with

China-related themes, such as “The Chinese Business Network: Past, Present and Future”. In an effort to increase American and Chinese cross-cultural awareness, she is currently working with the Central University of Economics and Finance to offer a two-week winter semester course in Beijing on Chinese business and culture. While this course will be offered by the Business Department, it will be designed for students from any discipline that have an interest in Chinese culture. For additional information on this course you may contact her directly at laica@buffalostate.edu.