2014
Annual Report
for
Confucius Institute for China’s Culture and the Economy
University at Albany
I. Introduction

The Confucius Institute for China’s Culture and the Economy at the University at Albany, State University of New York (UAlbany) was inaugurated in December 4th, 2013. It is established under the Department of East Asian Studies at UAlbany. The Executive Director is Dr. Anthony DeBlasi. The Chinese Director is Dr. Dejun Cao, who is a professor in College of International Business at Southwest University of Finance and Economics (SWUFE). The rest of the UAlbany CI staffs include an administrative assistant, Ms. Michelle Huang, and a visiting Chinese language instructor, Dr. Yansheng Cai.

The office space of the UAlbany CI includes: one Executive Director office, one Chinese Director office, one office for the visiting language instructors, one conference room, and one multi-purpose room. The office space has been recently renovated. The furniture, office supplies, and technical equipment are all in place.

1. Chinese Language Teaching

CI has one Chinese language teaching location which is a local high school, Tech Valley High School (TVHS), with 10 students, who are registered for Level 4 Chinese based on TVHS’ standard of foreign language requirement. Classes are taught for 2 hours on Mondays and Wednesdays with a total of 4 hours.

2. Chinese Language Teaching Workshop

The UAlbany CI organized a workshop on Chinese Language Teaching. The participants were including Chinese teachers from UAlbany, local high schools and Chinese school.

3. Cultural Activities

1) Inauguration Celebration

To celebrate the inauguration, the UAlbany CI organized a cultural performance including Peking Opera and Dragon Dance. On that night, Taste of China was hosted with performance including Kung Fu, Chinese Tea Ceremony, and calligraphy.
2) 2014 Chinese New Year Celebration (Year of Horse)

The UAlbany CI co-hosted the 2014 Chinese New Year Celebration with the Chinese Community Center of the Capital District of New York and UAlbany Chinese Student and Scholar Association. The show presented to about a thousand audience the traditional Chinese opera, music, dance, and Tai Chi. The participants also had the opportunity to enjoy Chinese food as well as Chinese calligraphy and paintings at the end of the show.

3) Mid-Autumn Festival Celebration Events

The UAlbany CI hosted two cultural events to celebrate the 2014 Mid-autumn Festival. The first event was co-hosted with UAlbany Chinese Student and Scholar Association with the main audience including Chinese students and scholars from UAlbany as well as other students, faculty and staff. The second one was co-hosted with the Chinese Community Center.

4) SWUFE Chinese Calligraphy and Painting Exhibition

At the beginning of May, UAlbany CI organized a Chinese Calligraphy and Painting Exhibition of the artworks from Southwest University of Finance and Economics (SWUFE) at the Shaker Junior High School. The SWUFE President Dr. Zongyi Zhang sent his congratulatory remarks. The Exhibition displayed 36 pieces of artwork including the ones by Dr. Shibai Li, the Honorary President of SWUFE and a prestigious Chinese economist.

II. Confucius Institute Day Celebration

The UAlbany CI hosted a series of events to celebrate the Confucius Institute Day from September 27 to October 4, 2014.

The biggest event of the CI Day Celebration was the Spectacular Sichuan Opera. The performers from the Sichuan Art Vocational College. We introduced the Sichuan Opera not only on the stage, but also into the classrooms in local universities and high schools. With the presentation, live demonstration of the dancing, singing and musical instruments of the Sichuan Opera, the students were presented a vivid image of Sichuan Opera.
The series of events included:

**September 27th:** The CI Day Celebration was taken place in the Main Theater at the Performing Arts Center at UAlbany. Over six hundred people attended the event.

**September 29th:** Performance at the Albany High School. Over eighty students and faculty members attended the event.

**September 30th:** The Sichuan Opera was demonstrated to twenty students at the Chinese Literature class on UAlbany campus.

**September 30th:** Over fifty students and teachers enjoyed the performance of Sichuan Opera that was taken place in the Chinese Language Corner at the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI).

**October 1:** Over one hundred and sixty students and teachers enjoyed the Sichuan Opera performance at the Tech Valley High School (TVHS) in Albany.

**October 1:** CI celebrated the Chinese National Day with the local over eighty people at the Chinese Community Center.

### III. International Conference

The UAlbany CI hosted the 2014 International Conference on Contemporary Urban China Research taken place at the Department of Sociology at UAlbany on May 9-10. Our Executive Director Dr. Anthony DeBlasi, and the Provost Dr. Susan D. Phillips attended the opening ceremony and gave remarks. In his remarks, Dr. DeBlasi introduced the mission of the UAlbany Confucius Institute. The CI Board Member, University Vice Provost for International Education, Dr. Ray Bromley also gave a key note speech at the conference. The CI Chinese Director, Dr. Dejun Cao hosted the panel discussion in the second session. Over fifty professors and doctoral students from American and Chinese universities attended the conference.