2015

Annual Report

for

Confucius Institute for China’s Culture and the Economy

University at Albany
1. Chinese Language Teaching

The University at Albany Confucius Institute (CI) has a Chinese teaching location – Tech Valley High School (TVHS). Over 100 students at TVHS have chosen Chinese as their foreign language. Dr. Yansheng Cai, the Chinese language instructor from UAlbany CI teaches the fourth year Chinese class. The total enrollment was 20.

The UAlbany CI has started teaching a 3-credit Advanced Chinese class at the Department of East Asian Studies (EAS) at the University at Albany. For this course, “New Practical Chinese Read” is used as the main textbook with “HSK Standard Course” and “Developing Chinese” as supporting teaching materials. There were two enrolled students and 8 sit-ins. This course has 2 three-hour classes each week.

At the meantime, the UAlbany CI hosted a non-credit Chinese Enrichment class that was open to all faculty and students who were interested in Chinese. This enrichment class taught the Chinese language through various activities such as penmanship, table tennis, Chinese idioms, as well as Chinese movies. “The Wisdom of Chinese Characters”, “Learning Chinese through Movies”, and “Great Wall Chinese” are also used as supportive teaching materials. It was two hour a week. The total enrollment of this course was 20 students.

2. Cultural Activities

The UAlbany CI co-organized the 2015 Chinese New Year Celebration Performance with the local Chinese Community Center. More than 500 audience from the New York Capital Region attended it. A few of distinguished guests included a US Congressman and a New York State Senator who delivered speeches and expressed their Happy Chinese New Year wishes to the local Chinese community and audience. The celebration included cultural performance such as Peking opera, Chinese traditional dancing and singing.

The UAlbany CI cohosted a Mid-Autumn Festival Celebration with the UAlbany Chinese Student and Scholar Association. Nearly 200 students and faculty attended. Chinese dancing, music and games were presented at this event.

UAlbany CI invited the Nanjing Normal University performance troupe to present the China Impression Performance on Oct 1st 2015. Over three hundred of audience including students, faculty, and people from the local community joined.

The UAlbany CI also co-organized the annual Chinese-Japanese-Korean Speech Contest with the Department of East Asian Studies (EAS) at UAlbany. The Contest on April 17 had nearly 100 students and faculty attended. The CI Director, Dr. DeBlasi and the EAS Chair cohosted the event. The CI Chinese Director Dr. Cao and the Chinese Instructor, Dr. Cai were served as the judges.
3. UAlbany CI’s Website

This year, the UAlbany CI launched its official website in celebration of the two years anniversary of the UAlbany CI and 2015 Confucius Institute Day.

4. Speaker Series

UAlbany CI has launched the Speaker Series of Chinese Economy and Culture on campus. On April 21st, we hosted the first talk for the business community in the New York Capital Regions: *the 10 Unspoken Rules of Doing Business in China*. More than 50 representatives from the local companies attended it.

The UAlbany CI Executive Director Dr. Anthony DeBlasi hosted it, with the CI Chinese Director, Dr. Dejun Cao as the presenter. This talk was the first presence of the UAlbany CI to the Albany local business community. The local business magazine *Albany Business Review* reported this event.

On April 23rd, the UAlbany CI Chinese Director, Dr. Dejun Cao presented the *Making of Think Tanks in China* to over 20 students and faculty on campus. Students who were not able to attend in person watched it via online streaming.

On May 5th, the UAlbany CI hosted a talk on *China’s Economic Expansion to Africa*. Shortly after, another talk on *China’s Economic Expansion to Latin America* was hosted on May 8th. UAlbany students and faculty, as well as representatives from Albany local business community attended.

On October 5th, Dr. DeBlasi and Dr. Cao attended a conference *Doing Business in China: Supporting American Entrepreneurs and Their Chinese Counterparts*, focusing on the issues of Sino-American trade and investment. It was hosted by the International Center of the Capital Region, NYS Empire State Development, and the Colonie Chamber of Commerce.