2018
Calendar Year Report
for
Confucius Institute for China’s Culture and Economy
University at Albany
Overview

The year of 2018 is a productive year for UAlbany CI. CI has made big strides in teaching, cultural and academic programs, and has gain tremendous recognition from the community.

CI offered language and cultural classes to about 100 credit and non-credit students, co-organized annual Chinese/Japanese/Korean Language Speaking Contest with EAS. CI also organized 2 pedagogical training workshops for the local Chinese teachers, with a total of 105 participants. Culturally, CI organized 13 events of various kinds, covering a variety of topics, among which two were large cultural performances, and the total number of participants reaches about 5000. Cultural activities are more diverse, from performance to book exhibit, from arts to traditional Chinese medicine and Buddhism, which attracted a wider range of people and received numerous positive feedbacks. Academically, CI’s Speaker Series invited 10 distinguished China scholars from different disciplines to campus to present their research, which greatly benefits UAlbany faculty and students. In addition, an international symposium on housing was organized at SWUFE, which has greatly increased UAlbany’s visibility in China and among China scholars.

The year of 2018 is the key year to renew the collaborative agreement for UAlbany CI. With CI’s hard work with its board members, the International Exchange and Cooperation Institutes from both UAlbany and SWUFE, the three-party renewal agreement has been signed between Hanban, UAlbany and RF in the summer, which is followed by the signing of the two-party agreement between UAlbany and SWUFE. On August 26, 2018 Professor Zhuo Zhi, the SWUFE President, and his delegation, visited UAlbany and signed the Agreement with UAlbany to continue collaboration through CI, which marks the recognition of CI’s 5 years’ achievements and great expectation towards CI’s future.

CI has also significantly strengthened its services and engagement with the community. Strong partnerships have been developed with several local public libraries, several k-12 schools, Chinese Community Center, Chinese School, and Clarkson University (MA program in Teaching). CI also helped to establish 3 educational collaboration programs between UAlbany and SWUFE.

CI has experience personnel changes in 2018. The Assistant to the Director Ling Li was let go in August due to her poor performance, and a new Assistant Emily Jie Wang was hired in September, 2018. A new professional webmaster Ming Zhang was hired due to the graduation of the previous webmaster Kailing Li who was a UAlbany student.

The following is a list of events and activities CI has organized during the year 2018 (Unless noted otherwise, events are held at UAlbany uptown campus).
Academic:

- **Speaker Series**

Ten scholars from a wide range of disciplines were invited to UAlbany to present their research on various aspects of China. With the high quality of these research presentations, CI’s Speaker Series has gained much recognition from both faculty and students on campus, and members from the community. For each talk, we have attracted 40 - 80 people. In particular, in the Fall semester, we moved the seminar time from 3:00 pm to 12:00 pm on Friday, which has made it much easier for faculty and students to attend, and thus have attracted a much larger audience.

### 2018 Spring Speaker Series

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<tr>
<th>Date/Location</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
<th>Affiliation</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 8&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; 3:30 pm LC 03C</td>
<td>Maria Repnikova</td>
<td>Department of Communication, Georgia State University</td>
<td>Media Politics in China</td>
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<td>Feb. 16&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; 11:30 am AS 121</td>
<td>Meredith DeBoom</td>
<td>Department of Geography, University of Colorado - Boulder</td>
<td>Extracting South-South Solidarity: Chinese Investment, Resource Nationalism, and the Politics of Mining in Namibia</td>
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<td>March 27&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; 3:30 pm AS B14</td>
<td>Ronald Knapp</td>
<td>Department of Geography, SUNY New Paltz</td>
<td>Chinese Houses: The Architectural Heritage of a Nation</td>
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<td>April 18&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; 3:30 pm Massry Center for Business BB B012</td>
<td>Daniel Shen</td>
<td>School of Business, SUNY New Paltz</td>
<td>Aging Services in China: Opportunities and Challenges</td>
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<td>May 4&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;, 2:00 pm</td>
<td>Xiulian Ma</td>
<td>Stanford University</td>
<td>Changing Housing Welfare Policy in Post-reform China</td>
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<td>May 4&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;, 3:30 pm Massry Center for Business BB 141</td>
<td>Wei Zhen</td>
<td>School of Visual Arts (New York) Beijing Normal University</td>
<td>When Ink Meets Oil: A Comparison between Chinese and Western Traditional Painting</td>
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### 2018 Fall Speaker Series

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<tr>
<td>Sept. 13, 1:15 pm</td>
<td>Dedong Wei</td>
<td>Dept. of Philosophy, Columbia University/ Renmin University</td>
<td>Chinese Buddhism: From Ancient to Present and Beyond</td>
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<td>Lecture Center 22</td>
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<td>Sept. 28, 12:00 pm</td>
<td>Kam Wing Chan</td>
<td>Dept. of Geography University of Washington, Seattle</td>
<td>Urbanization and Children of Migrants in China</td>
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<td>Standish Room (Science Library)</td>
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<td>Oct. 5, 12:00 pm</td>
<td>Debora Davis</td>
<td>Department of Sociology, Yale University</td>
<td>Uneven Urbanization in China: Causes and Consequences</td>
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<tr>
<td>Standish Room (Science Library)</td>
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<td>Nov. 9, 12:00 pm</td>
<td>William Clark</td>
<td>Dept. of Geography, University of California, Los Angels</td>
<td>Millennials Here and Millennials There: Housing Market Access in the US and China</td>
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<td>Massry Center for Business - BB B010</td>
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- **Conferences/workshops**

1. March 24, 2018: One-day workshop on *Teaching Chinese through Song and Culture*. Prof. Zuyan Chan and Prof. Hong Zhang from Department of Asian and Asian American Studies at Binghamton University (SUNY) conducted a very interesting and interactive pedagogical training to over 50 Chinese language teachers in the Capital District. This workshop received a lot of prize from school teachers.

2. July 5-6, 2018: Director Youqin Huang organized a symposium “*A Decent Home for All: International Symposium on Housing in China*” in Chengdu, working with China Household Finance Survey and Research Center at SWUFE. With about 40 scholars from U.S., U.K., Switzerland, Australia, Hong Kong, and China, this symposium discussed various issues related to homeownership in China such as access, affordability and inequality. Two Special Issues in the journal of *Cities* and *Journal of Housing and Built Environment* are in process.

3. Sep. 8, 2018: one day workshop titled “*How to be a leader in Chinese Language Education*”, with Prof Lening Liu of Department of East Asian language and cultures at Columbia University and Prof Chongming Ding of Department of Chinese Language and culture at Beijing Normal University. Two Professors discussed with 60 teachers how to design and lead the class, how to evaluate teaching results and how to teach Chinese grammar.
Cultural Events:

CI organized 13 cultural events of various kinds, covering a variety of topics, among which two were large cultural performances. In September and October, CI launched 2018 Chinese Cultural Festival for the first time, with a series of cultural events.

1. Feb. 10th: 2018 Spring Festival Gala Chinese New Year Celebration at UAlbany ballroom. Congressman Paul Tonko, Assemblyman John McDonald, and Dean of International Education and Vice Provost of Global Strategy Harvey Charles attended this event, together with over 600 people from both on and off campus.


3. Jun 2nd: CI participated the 24th Kid’s Arts Festival of New York State at Schenectady County City Hall.

4. July 21st: Chinese Traditional Medicine Talk at Clifton Park Public Library

5. Aug 19th: Buddhism and Chinese Culture Talk at Chinese Community Center building

6. Sep 8th: Chinese Paper-cutting Workshop at Clifton Park Public Library

7. Children’s Picture Books from China Exhibit
   - Sep. 12th: Exhibit at Montessori Magnet School in Albany, together with arts and crafts activities.
   - Sep. 23rd: Book exhibition and Mid-autumn Festival Celebration at Albany Chinese School, with a panel of experts in education, psychology, art and literature. Invited speakers include painter Lianjie Zheng, Dr. Yanqing Sun, Dr. David Dai and Dr. Chingyen Mayer, who discussed the relationship between the reading and history, arts and education with the students and parents. After the talk, CI provided moon cakes to over 400 people. Some guests were from William K Stanford Town Library.
   - Sep. 29th: CI participated Albany Book Festival at UAlbany campus center, showcasing Chinese children’s picture books.

8. Oct. 2nd: CI organized a Film Screening: Guangzhou Dream Factory, which is about Africans’ experience in China as they chase their Chinese dreams. A panel of experts, including UAlbany professors Zai Liang (Sociology), Kate Coddington (Geography & Planning), Marcel Kitissou (Adjunct Lecturer Africana Studies), and film Director Christiane Badgley and Producer, UAlbany alumni Erica Marcus, who shared their perspectives on this issue and answered questions from the audiences.

9. Oct. 10th: CI participated UAlbany Fall Fair in the ballroom.

10. Oct 19th: CI organized a Mongolian Music and Dance Performance at Troy Saving Bank Music Hall. This event is part of CI 5th Anniversary Ceremony and attracted hundreds of people. The horse-head fiddle, throat-singing and long song gave audiences a unique and amazing experience. We have received numerous positive feedbacks from audiences.

12. Nov 8th: CI sponsored and participated the *Multi-cultural Night* at Montessori Magnet School in Albany, featuring Chinese music, arts and crafts, and Chinese food.

13. Nov 14th: CI represented China at UAlbany International Fair at the Lecture Center Concourse.

**Teaching:**

CI offers Chinese language and culture classes both on and off campus, serving a wide range of students. CI also offers private tutoring to both EAS students and community members.

1. *Advanced Chinese* (AP class) in Tech Valley High School in Albany.
2. *HSK 4* (Credit) in East Asian Studies at UAlbany
3. *Chinese Language and Culture Series* class at UAlbany (Non-credit)
4. *Learn Chinese through Song* at Albany Chinese School
5. Oct. 9th: Students from Leland and Gray Union Middle and High School (Vermont) visited CI and UAlbany library, and sang the Chinese songs with our music teacher Ms Ao Feng.
6. *Tai-chi and Martial Arts* class at UAlbany (non-credit)
7. Private tutoring for EAS students and community members

**Other Events**

1. Mar 9th: The first CI Advisory Committee Meeting was held at UAlbany. We discussed with advisory members the CI classes and events, how to create a platform to pull together China-related expertise and resources in the capital district to better promote Chinese culture and China studies.
2. Aug. 27th: SWUFE President Dr. Zhi Zhuo, Director of International Exchange and Cooperation Dr Ting Liang, and the Associate Dean of Business School Dr Shilei Yang visited UAlbany Business School and CI to promote further deepened collaborations between two partner universities.
3. Sep 7th: Director Youqin Huang was invited to talk about Confucius Institution and its programs at The Roundtable of the Northeast Public Radio/WAMC.
4. Sept. 17th: Kick off meeting in Chengdu for collaborations themed on “The New Silk Road – Fostering East-West Relations” between UAlbany, SWUFE, and University Ss. Cyril and Methodius-Skopje-UKIM, Macedonia. Dr. Harvey Charles represented UAlbany and attended this meeting.
5. CI staff has attended various trainings and conferences related to the development of CI.