2019
Calendar Year Report
for
Confucius Institute for China’s Culture and Economy
University at Albany
Overview

The year of 2019 is another productive year for UAlbany CI. CI has made big strides in teaching, cultural and academic programs, and has gained tremendous recognition from the community.

CI offered about 20 different language and cultural classes to 387 credit and non-credit students, and organized 2 pedagogical training workshops for local Chinese teachers, with a total of 80 participants. Culturally, CI organized 18 cultural events, including 4 major performance events, reaching about 7000 audiences. Cultural activities are more diverse, from performance to book exhibit, from arts to traditional Chinese music, which attracted a wider range of people and received numerous positive feedbacks. With both teaching and cultural events, CI has built up a unique Tai Chi and Chinese music program. Academically, CI’s Speaker Series invited 9 distinguished China scholars from different disciplines to campus to present their research, which benefited about 700 UAlbany faculty and students. CI also established a China Research Small Grant Program, and helped one faculty to receive $7950 for his research.

CI has also significantly strengthened its services and engagement with the community. Strong partnerships have been developed with several local public libraries, K-12 schools including Tech Valley High School, Albany High School, Chinese School, Edmond J. O’Neal Middle School of Excellence, and Albany Montessori Magnet School, and community organizations such as Chinese Community Center (CCC). The Chines School of the CCC at Capital District awarded Director Youqin Huang the “Outstanding Service Award” for CI’s contribution in community service.

CI has experienced some personnel changes in 2019. The former Chinese Director Dr. Jianlin Shuai returned to China in July, and two volunteers, Ms. Meng Liu and Ms. Yuanyuan Zhou ended their terms in May. Two new volunteers were planning to come to UAlbany, but one withdrew due to medical reasons, and another was rejected for visa. Instead a third volunteer, Ms. Lingjia Zhuang joined UAlbany in September. The Board of Advisors also had some changes. Dr. Jeanette Altarriba, Interim Dean of College of Arts and Sciences joined the Board, replacing former Dean Elga Wulfert; and Prof. David Dai from School of Education replaces Paul Miesing form School of Business.

The budget for 2019 was approved at the end of October, with $178,420. Due to carryover from the last year, the actual amount received from Hanban was $60,793.

The following is a list of events and activities CI has organized during the year 2019 (Unless noted otherwise, events are held at UAlbany uptown campus).

**Academic:**

- **Speaker Series**

  Nine distinguished scholars from a wide range of disciplines (sociology, geography, economics, urban planning, psychology, and education) were invited to UAlbany to
present their research on various aspects of China. One of them, Yu Xie, is a Bert G. Kerstetter ’66 University Professor of Sociology from Princeton University, who is a Fellow of American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Academia Sinica and the National Academy of Sciences. Another is a Chair Professor, a Fellow of the Academy of the Social Sciences (UK) Dr. George Lin from the University of Hong Kong. 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 attracted about 40 - 90 people, with a total of 639 participants this year.

### 2019 Speaker Series

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date/Location</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
<th>Affiliation</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday, Feb. 15th, 12:00 pm, Standish Room, Science Library</td>
<td>Prof. Yu Xie, Bert G. Kerstetter ’66 University</td>
<td>Department of Sociology, Princeton University</td>
<td>Trends in Social Closure in Post-Revolution China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, March 15th, 12:00 pm, Standish Room</td>
<td>Prof. Ching Kwan Lee</td>
<td>Department of Sociology University of California, Los Angeles</td>
<td>The Specter of Global China: Politics, Labor and Foreign Investment in Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, April 8th, 12:00 pm, Standish Room</td>
<td>Prof. Shenjing He</td>
<td>Department of Urban Planning and Design The University of Hong Kong</td>
<td>Property Rights with Price Tags: Understanding China's Informal Housing Market</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, April 30th 12:00 pm, HU 354</td>
<td>Lihong Shi</td>
<td>Founder of Wild China Film, Producer, Director</td>
<td>A Personal Account of Environmental Activism in China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, Sept. 6th, 12:00 pm, Campus Center Board Room</td>
<td>Prof. Zhiqiang Liu</td>
<td>Department of Economics University at Buffalo, SUNY</td>
<td>Children’s Education and Parental Health: Evidence from China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, Oct. 11th, 12:00 pm, Humanities Building 354</td>
<td>Chair Professor George C.S. Lin</td>
<td>Department of Geography, University of Hong Kong</td>
<td>Advancing Chinese Urbanism Inside Out: State, Society and Space in the (Re)Making of China’s Urban Landscape</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, Oct. 27th, 1:00 pm, Shaker Junior High School M110</td>
<td>Dr. Yanqing Sun</td>
<td>School of Education, UAlbany</td>
<td>Family Education and Children’s Development</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Conferences/workshops**

1. May 04, 2019: a one-day workshop on “*Chinese Course Design and Classroom Management*”. Dr. Yongping Zhu, Associate Professor and Chairperson of the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures at the University of Notre Dame and Mr. Qiang Chen, a national board-certified language teacher and a Chinese instructor at Enloe Magnet High School, Raleigh, North Carolina conducted a very interesting and interactive pedagogical training to over 40 Chinese language teachers at the Massry Center for Business-BB 010.


**China Research Small Grant Program**

To encourage China research, CI sent out a call for proposal to the whole campus in January, and received 19 proposals from both faculty and graduate students in 10 different departments. A review committee of 8 faculty members reviewed all proposals using a similar assessment approach to UAlbany Faculty Research Award Program (FRAP). Top three proposals were selected and submitted to Hanban in the annual budget (two by faculty and one by graduate student). Only one proposal by Associate Professor Ray Koslowski (Political Science) titled “The UN Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration and its Implementation: The Case of China” received full funding of $7950.

**Cultural Events:**

CI organized 18 cultural events of various kinds, covering a variety of topics, among which four were large cultural performances.

**Major performances:**

1. Feb. 2nd: 2019 *Chinese New Year Fair* was held at UAlbany Campus Center Ballroom. Congressman Paul Tonko, and Dean of International Education and Vice Provost of
Global Strategy Dr. Harvey Charles attended this event, together with over 1000 people from both on and off campus.

2. Mar. 9th: CI organized *Chinese Silk Concert* at Cohoes Music Hall, which attracted more than 600 people.

3. Sep. 21st: CI organized “Elegant China: UAlbany CI Mid-Autumn Poetry Concert”, with professional performers from China and local performers, which attracted nearly 500 people. Senior Vice President Dr. Bill Hedberg, Dean of International Education and Vice Provost of Global Strategy Dr. Harvey Charles, and Interim Dean of College of Arts and Science Dr. Jeanette Altarriba attended this event. We have received numerous positive feedbacks from audiences.

4. Nov. 2nd: CI organized *CI Voice Concert* at PAC, UAlbany. CI held open audition on Oct 5th, with 54 singers from both UAlbany and the community. With four judges’ recommendations, 18 singers advanced into the final competition. This concert featured these finalists as well as two local bands and dance groups, which attracted over four hundred people.

**Smaller cultural events:**

5. Feb. 23rd: CI participated Albany Academy Cultural Festival.


7. Apr. 13th: CI organized *Chinese Video Competition* at UAlbany Lecture Center and about 70 people attended the award ceremony.

8. Apr. 26th: CI worked with EAS and co-organized the *Chinese/Korean/Japanese Speech Contest.*

9. May 4th: two CI students (one high school student and one college student) participated in the *2019 Chinese Bridge Eastern American District,* and received prizes.


11. June 1st: CI participated the *25th Kid’s Arts Festival* at Schenectady County City Hall.

12. June 14th: CI organized *Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon* at UAlbany.

13. Sep. 14th: CI participated the *2nd Albany Book Festival* organized by New York State Writers Institute at UAlbany Campus Center, exhibited many Chinese books.


15. Oct. 13th: CI gave a presentation on *Chinese Traditional Music* at East Greenbush Community Library.

16. Oct 20th: CI participated *the Festival of Nations* in Albany Convention Center, showcasing Chinese culture through calligraphy, zodiac bookmarks, and traditional Chinese games, which attracted hundreds of people stopping by our table.
17. Nov. 3rd: CI co-organized the *CI Chinese Storytelling Contest* at the Chinese Community Center, which had more than 50 participants and 200 audiences.

18. Nov. 14th: CI participated in the Multicultural Night by Montessori Magnet School at Albany, providing cultural experience such as Peking opera, calligraphy and Chinese zodiac handcraft to students.

**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. *HSK 4* in East Asian Studies at UAlbany (Credit)
2. *Chinese 2* at Tech Valley High School in Albany (Credit)
3. *Chinese Language and Culture Series* class at UAlbany (Non-credit)
4. *Pinyin* class at Albany Chinese School (non-credit)
5. *Learning Chinese by Songs* at Albany Chinese School (non-credit)
6. *Hulusi Class* at Albany Chinese School (non-credit)
7. *Chinese Vocal Class* at Albany Chinese School (non-credit)
8. *Tai-chi and Martial Arts* class at UAlbany (non-credit)
9. *Yongchun Quan* class at Chinese Martial Arts Academy (non-credit)
10. *Children’s Chorus* at UAlbany (non-credit)
11. *Private tutoring* for EAS students and community members
12. CI teachers serve as TA at Edmund J. O'Neal Middle School Excellence, Albany High School, and Tech Valley High School

**Other Events**

1. March 12th: A *Board Meeting* was held with both UAlbany Board Member and SWUFE Board members through Skype. The main purpose of this meeting was to discuss the end of the term for Dr. Jianlin Shuai, and the selection of a new Chinese Director.

2. Mar. 27th: The Consulate General of the People's Republic of China in New York *Mr. Ping Huang visited UAlbany* and had a meeting with Dr. Elga Wulfert, Dean of Arts and Sciences, and Dr. Harvey Charles, Dean of International Education and Vice Provost of Global Strategy, and CI staff.
3. May 4th: CI helped 2 students to participate in the 18th Chinese Bridge Chinese Proficiency Competition for Foreign College Students at Consulate General of the PRC in New York City, and got prizes.

4. CI helped 3 UAlbany students to attend the Discover SUWFE Summer Camp in China, which is free for UAlbany students.

5. CI staff has attended various trainings and conferences related to the development of CI.

6. CI website site is being revamped.

7. Director Youqin Huang and Dr. Carrie Wojenski, Associate Vice Provost for Global Academic Programs will attend the Annual CI Conference held in Changsha during Dec. 9-10.