



Confucius Institute at Troy

特洛伊孔子学院



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Editor: Fan Xuerong, associate professor

President's message

On behalf of Troy University, I am very pleased to announce the November 21, 2008 Gala Luncheon Ceremony celebrating the opening of the Confucius Institute at Troy (CIT). Troy is proud to be one of 44 Confucius Institutes located in the United States and the only site in Alabama. This fall has been very exciting for the College of Communication and Fine Arts (CCFA) as we welcomed Dr. Iris Xu as the new director of the Confucius Institute and began offering Introduction to Chinese Language I and II. In September, our visiting scholars and their families arrived from Hebei Normal University of Science and Technology. Li Chenghao is an instructor in Art and Design and specializes in digital design and watercolors. Fan Xuerong assists with translation duties, Chinese language classes and community outreach programs.

Within three weeks of their arrival, Dr. Xu and the scholars hosted the **Experience Asia for Kids!** project for nearly 1000 elementary school children, Troy students and Pike County residents. The project included two Asian Drum Concerts, a Chinese music and dance performance, and a cultural arts workshop where students learned calligraphy, painted Beijing Opera masks and designed flying fish kites.



Dr. Cochran with two scholars from China

In October, the Confucius Institute participated in Troy's Fall Preview Day where incoming freshman and their parents visited the university. The CIT handed out fortune cookies and gave demonstrations on how to use chopsticks. Students from the Chinese Language class joined the Confucius Institute and Chinese Student Association (CSA) to march in the 54th annual Troy University Homecoming Parade. The Chinese Dragon dance was a fan favorite! Not only did the CSA place in the dance, superfan and banner contests, but they won 1st Place in the Homecoming Coed Division. The Confucius Institute co-sponsored a tent with CCFA and hosted a picnic lunch before the Homecoming football game. Congratulations to all!

The Confucius Institute has established a strong partnership with the Troy Arts Council and the Johnson Center for the Arts. As part of their community involvement, the CIT has sponsored a Christmas tree that will be covered with ornaments designed and hand-decorated by our visiting scholars. There will also be commemorative Confucius Institute ornaments for sale to the public. Finally, with the generous assistance of Hanban, the Confucius Institute will sponsor a 70 photograph exhibition of the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games this spring at the Johnson Center for the Arts.

Our thanks to Hanban and Hebei Normal University of Science and Technology for giving Troy University the opportunity to be part of the Confucius Institute Global Experience.

Maryjo Adams Cochran, Ph.D.
Dean, Communication and Fine Arts
President, Confucius Institute at Troy

Dr. Iris Xu joins Troy staff as director of CIT in this Academic Year!

Dr. Iris Hong Xu is an expert in the areas of English and Chinese as a second language acquisition and pedagogy. She is also an expert in training language teachers and developing language education curricula.

Prior to starting at Troy on September 3, 2008, Dr. Xu spent 10 years as a foreign language program coordinator and director of language testing and research center with Edmonton Public School Board in Alberta, Canada, after working as consultant in Chinese language and second language education. Dr. Xu has 26 years teaching English and foreign language experiences. She is a Chinese language assessment expert of the Office of Chinese Language Council International (Hanban) in China. Prior to taking up directorship at CIT, she was the deputy director (Vice President) at Confucius Institute in Edmonton, one of the biggest Confucius Institutes in the world.



Dr. Xu is a 1983 graduate from Harbin Normal University (Harbin Teachers University), earning a BA degree in English Language Acquisition and Comparative Literature. She earned her master's degree in Bilingual Education from the University of Alberta in 1999. In 2004, she earned her doctorate from the same university in Second Language Acquisition (SLA) and Second Language Teacher Education. She is working on her second PhD degree in Chinese Literature and Culture with Northeast Normal University in China. Her recent achievement is an honorary doctorate and professorship conferred on her by the Communication University of China (CUC) in Beijing, the top key university in China. The CIT family is excited to have Dr. Xu as their director.

Introduction of CIT

Confucius Institute at Troy University (CIT) is one of more than 204 Confucius Institutes in 50 countries. There are currently 44 Confucius Institutes the United States dedicated to the promotion and development of Chinese language education, and cultural and business exchange with the People's Republic of China. In partnership with the educational branch of the Chinese government, CIT seeks to strengthen the bonds between the people of both nations.



Troy University is proud to house the only Confucius Institute in Alabama. CIT provides professional Chinese language training to the community, as well as training for teachers of Chinese as a foreign language, and promotes educational exchange, research, and cooperation between America and the People's Republic of China.

Introduction of Hebei Normal University of Science and Technology



Hebei Normal University of Science and Technology is located in Qinhuangdao city, Hebei Province in North China. Established in 1941, the university started the undergraduates program in 1977 and was accredited to award Master's Degrees in 2005. For over 60 years, it has anticipated the changing needs of its students while serving the greater needs of society.

Today the University is composed of campuses at Qinhuangdao, Changli, the Developing Zone and E & A College. With more than 24,000 students from 25 provinces and municipalities, the university is one of the major universities in Hebei province.

The university is composed of 21 educational departments, including the department of agronomy, the department of animal science, the department of business management and the department of Chinese language and literature. Now the university is working with Troy University to build the joint effort --- Confucius Institute at Troy (CIT) together.



New Scholars from Hebei Normal University of Science and Technology Join CIT!

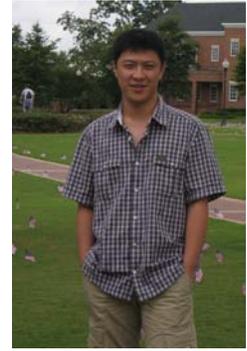
Xuerong Fan joins the CIT

Ms. Xuerong Fan is a scholar in the area of Chinese Language at CIT. She has worked in Hebei Normal University of Science and Technology for 15 years. Prior to her arrival at CIT, she was an associate professor and the director of English majors in Foreign Languages Department at Hebei Normal University of Science and Technology. Fan is a 1993 graduate of Hebei Normal University, earning a degree in English. She earned her master's degree in Applied Linguistics from Capital Normal University in Beijing. Her research and teaching interests are related to language teaching.



Chenghao Li joins the CIT

Mr. Chenghao Li is a scholar in the area of Chinese art and culture at CIT. He began at Troy on September 5, 2008 shortly after obtaining his master's degree in Fine Arts from Leeds Metropolitan University in the UK. Mr. Li is a lecturer in Fine Arts in Hebei Normal University of Science and Technology. His research and teaching interests are related to Contemporary Fine Art, comparing the similarities and differences between Oriental and Western Fine Art. He also works in digital design.



Yang Yu joins the CIT

Miss Yang Yu is a volunteer at the Confucius Institute at Troy. She has a Master of Arts degree in International Educational Management from Leeds University in the UK. Her major also includes Fine Arts education.



Experience China

Over 1,000 “Experienced China” at the Confucius Institute at Troy (CIT)

A three-day “Experience China” event was held at the Trojan center theatre from September 18th to 20th organized by the Confucius Institute at Troy (CIT). The large-scale event drew over 1,000 students and visitors interested in Chinese culture.

The first day welcomed 350 fourth and fifth graders, who enjoyed the event by watching a performance hosted by the Department of Theatre and Dance & Chinese Student Association. The performance included the dragon dance, Chinese folk tales, the Kong Fu demonstration, Chinese music and video, practicing chopsticks, making Chinese fans and other activities. The Trojan center became a sea of joy and happiness, with the help of over 100 Chinese student volunteers.



Practicing chopsticks



Chinese facial mask designed by the kid herself

On the second day, September 19th, students from Troy Elementary School were given a lecture about Chinese culture. Dr. Cochran, president of CIT, also introduced Chinese drum culture to the children,

beginning with the drum performance at Beijing Olympic Games in August this year. The drumming excited the children when they heard the pounding beat and became eager to know more about China.



Dr. Cochran is asking how many kids have ever heard of China

The third day wrapped up with a Chinese-featured gala held at Claudia Crosby theatre. 300 faculty and students attended the gala, which included Chinese dragon dance, Tai Ji Kong Fu, Chinese folk music and storytelling. And of course, drumming brought the gala to a climax.



Chinese-featured gala

Though only three days, “Experience China” greatly helped students learn more about Chinese culture from a variety of aspects and positively motivated their interest in China.



Volunteers at Troy

Calligraphy Competition

A Calligraphy competition was held on October 14 at CIT. Three students' works were chosen to represent Troy University at an exhibition which will be held in Beijing in December during the Conference for the Directors of Confucius Institutes.



Chinese Corner

The Chinese Corner made its debut on October 14 in Bibb Graves Hall. A Chinese movie, *The Forbidden Kingdom* was screened. Students were very excited by Jackie Chan and Jet Li's performances and they were eager to learn more about China.

Trojan Preview Day

The Confucius Institute at Troy welcomed prospective students to Trojan Preview Day on October 18, 2008. Dr. Cochran, dean of Communication and Fine Arts, and Dr. Xu, director of Confucius Institute at Troy were present where they met with high school students who are interested in attending Troy University.



Future Events

Tai Chi workshop

A 10-week Tai Chi Kong Fu workshop will begin at the Troy campus near the Trojan fountain area from noon to 1:00 pm. on Tuesdays and Thursdays from November 4 to December 9. The cost is \$30 for the 10 lesson package. Individual lessons are also available for \$5 each.

Tai Chi is an ancient discipline that explores, develops and integrates the body, mind and spirit. This ancient system of self-care brings vitality, health, deep relaxation, and peace of mind. All faculty members and students who are interested in Tai Chi are invited to be involved in this activity.



China trip information

This project will invite 20 students from Troy University to attend a 3-week summer camp in China in June, 2009. The summer emersion program will give students a chance to improve their Chinese language skills and to explore the rich culture of China firsthand, as well as enhance the communication between Chinese and American students.



For more information, contact Confucius Institute at Troy 334-808-6290.