On October 10 to 11, 2015, the 2015 Autumn Session Professional Development Workshop (PD) on Oversea Chinese Language Teaching, launched by Confucius Institute at Troy University (CIT), kicked off.

CIT invited Mr. Qiang Chen, veteran teacher from a public school in North Carolina, STARTALK assessment expert and consultant, AP program consultant, National Board Certified language teacher; and Ms. Jiaqi Zhang, experienced teacher and Chinese Language teaching expert in Alabama, to deliver lectures at Troy University. Meanwhile, Dr. Iris Xu, Director of CIT and Dr. Rui Feng, professor of College of Education at Troy University also delivered lectures.

In the two-day’s workshop, Mr. Qiang Chen, as the keynote speaker, has shared his valuable experience gained from years of teaching. He illustrated the theme how to achieve effective classroom teaching from different respects, including teaching management, classroom management, teaching plan writing, and classroom teaching methods and learning assessment and etc. Mr. Chen also offered many informative websites with abundant and helpful Chinese language teaching resources to each teacher in the workshop.

Ms. Jiaqi Zhang, who has over 20 years’ Chinese language teaching experience, demonstrated many effective classroom activities in teaching Chinese language to children and teenagers, which are timely help to the trained teachers at primary school and middle school.

Dr. Iris Xu’s lecture, entitled “Oversea Chinese language Teaching and Teacher Training”, highlighted the differences between domestic and oversea Chinese language teaching. Dr. Rui Feng mentioned in his lecture the importance of updating personal resume in English, and offered suggestion on how to prepare a better resume, which is really beneficial to all teachers especially the new teachers of Confucius Institute.

At the end of the workshop, experts interacted with all the trained teachers helping them solve problems in their teaching practice. Teachers who have worked at CIT since last year shared their experiences with newly arrived teachers.

This workshop is really meaningful and beneficial to all CIT teachers. CIT new staff said, they will fully utilize the effective teaching methods and skills learned in this workshop, and try to always offer better learning experience to students.