Confucius Institute at WMU Monthly Report  
November 2018

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The Chinese Director Visited to Gagie School

Dr. Wenfang Sun visited the Gagie School on November 1st.

CI November Teachers and Staff Meetings

CI teachers and staff meetings hosted by CI Director were held on November 2nd and 16th at Ellsworth Hall conference room. Dr. Zeng, Dr. Sun, Ms. Lin, and all CI teachers and volunteer teachers attended the meetings. Meeting agenda included ordering teaching materials, food safety regulations, the 11th Annual Conference of Chinese Language Association of Michigan, prizes for the Chinese calligraphy and painting contests, CI 10th anniversary celebration events, Chinese New Year Gala planning, 2019 summer camp planning, and HIGE Forum.

CI November Operation Meeting

CI operation meeting was held on November 9th. Dr. Zeng, Dr. Sun, and Ms. Mei Lin attended the meeting. The meeting discussed about the 2019 activity planning, 2019 budget proposal, 2018 activity report, and 2018 expenditure report.

CI Held HSK Test

CI held HSK Test at WMU main campus on November 10th. Two students took level six and level one tests in the morning and afternoon.
CI Participated in WMU International Education Week with Chinese Movie Workshop

CI hosted Chinese Movie Workshops during the 2018 WMU International Education Week on November 13th, 14th, and 15th. There were about 35 participants, who enjoyed Chinese culture, history and a fascinating martial art display from the three Chinese movies: “Red Cliff 1”, “Red Cliff 2”, and “The Piano in a Factory.” After screening the movies, CI teachers and participants had discussion sessions.

Chinese Director Attended the ACTFL Annual Convention

Dr. Wenfang Sun attended the ACTFL Annual Convention and World Languages Expo at New Orleans from November 14th to 18th. During the conference, Dr. Sun exchanged ideas with other Chinese teachers, discussed the prospects and concepts of Chinese teaching, and shared their experiences in promoting Chinese culture.

CI Director held a Chinese Food Culture Workshop

Dr. Ying Zeng hosted a Chinese Food Culture workshop for this year’s students of Global Ambassadors on November 15th. Dr. Zeng explained the types of Chinese food, the development of Chinese food culture, and demonstrated the cooking of a popular Chinese dish.

CI Director and Teachers Attended the 2018 CLAM Conference

Dr. Ying Zeng and 10 CI teachers attended the 11th Chinese Language Association of Michigan Conferences at Wayne State University on November 17th. Dr. Zeng led the session “Teaching Chinese in K-12 Schools: Finding the right Pedagogy and Contents.” CI volunteer teachers Qin Hua, Yalin Tan, and Li Sun respectively presented papers on “Teaching Chinese Characters before Pinyin in Chinese Immersion Program,” “The Feasibility of Teaching Method of Typing in Chinese Teaching: From a Positive and Negative Perspective,” and “The Development of Community Chinese Schools.” They were all well received.
CI Teachers Visited Northern Hills High School to Introduce Traditional Chinese Music

CI teachers Hua Zhang, Linyuan Gan, Hua Qin visited the Northern Hills High School in Grand Rapid on November 19th. The three teachers introduced traditional Chinese music to students of grades 5-10 of the Forest Hills Public School District. Five sessions were held for the students of different classes and ages. The three teachers introduced traditional Chinese music and music instruments. They also performed traditional Chinese instruments Erhu, Guzheng, Hulusi, and Chinese Flute. The lectures were well received.
The New Chinese Director Dr. Yi Wu and CI Teacher Shenlan Yu Arrived in Kalamazoo

The new Chinese Director Dr. Yi Wu and CI teacher Shenlan Yu arrived in Kalamazoo on November 26th. Dr. Ying Zeng welcomed them. The next day, Dr. Zeng and other CI office staff held a welcome luncheon for the new Director and his family at the Hunan Gardens.

CI Directors Visited Kalamazoo Public School District

On November 27th Associate provost Dr. Paulo Zagalo-Melo, Dr. Ying Zeng, Dr. Yi Wu, and Ms. Mei Lin met with KPS Superintendent Dr. Michael Rice, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning Services Ms. Cindy Green, Director of Curriculum Dr. Terina Harvey, Director of Secondary Education Johnny Edwards in KPS administration building. The following issues were discussed: 1. Start Chinese language learning at the middle school level; 2. Fund raising for students who need financial assistance for the summer camp in China; 3. Educators’ summer camp (spring camp) in China; 4. Application for Confucius classrooms, and etc.

CI Directors and Teachers Attended HIGE Forum

Dr. Ying Zeng, Dr. Yi Wu, Ms. Mei Lin, Ms. Shenlan Yu, and volunteer teachers in Kalamazoo area attended HIGE Forum at Schneider Hall on November 27th.