Confucius Institute at WMU Monthly Report
September 2018

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The Second and Third CI Fall Teachers and Staff Meeting

The second and third Fall CI teacher’s meeting hosted by CI Director was held on September 7, and 21 at the second floor conference room of Ellsworth Hall. Dr. Ying Zeng, Dr. Wenfang Sun, Ms. Mei Lin, and teachers and volunteer teachers from Kalamazoo area attended the meeting. The meeting focused on the teaching situations of each school, basic situation of each class with the numbers of teaching materials needs, CI Fall cultural activities progress, internet promotion, CI cultural classes and enrollment, the preparation of Chinese Painting and Calligraphy contests, and the preparation of the China Festival and Global Confucius Institute Day.

The Chinese Director Visited Three Schools

In order to improve the teaching quality, Dr. Wenfang Sun visited and provided supervision for teachers at Loy Norrix high school, Kazoo Central high school, and Kazoo School on September 6th, 17th, and 18th. Dr. Sun provided guidance and feedbacks about class management, teaching methods, the arrangement of teaching contents and in-class exercise.

CI Co-sponsored Two Academic Lectures

With CI’s co-sponsorship, two lectures “Power and Beauty in China’s Last Dynasty: A New Approach” and “Jade as Painting” hosted by Timothy Light Center for Chinese Studies in Richmond Center and Bernhard Center on September 9 and 10. Dr. yang Liu’s Lectures were very well received. A total of about 70 people attended the lectures.
CI Teachers from Kalamazoo Area Participated KCA’s Picnic

In order to build a closer connection between the teachers and students in Kalamazoo Chinese Academy, CI Teachers participated the picnic at Texas Drive Park hosted by Kalamazoo Chinese Academy. Teachers and students joined in a variety of activities including basketball, rope skipping, running and other games. During lunch time, teachers and students shared the delicious homemade food.

CI Director Attended CI US Center events in Washington D.C.

Dr. Ying Zeng attended 2018 External Communications Workshop and 2018 Confucius Institute National Honors Gala hosted by CI US Center on September 15th and 16th in Washington D.C.

CI Director Attended National Day Reception in Chicago

Dr. Ying Zeng was invited to the National Day reception hosted by the Consulate-General of the People’s Republic of China in Chicago on September 20. Dr. Zeng conveyed the greetings
and invitation from Dr. Montgomery to the Interim Consul General Jun Liu and Counsellor Yinghui Chen.

**Fall 2018 Cultural Classes Started**

CI 2018 fall semester culture classes started on Monday, September 24. The courses of this semester include Preliminary Chinese, Intermediate Chinese, Tai Chi, Chinese Tea Art and Crafts, Chinese Calligraphy, and Chinese Ink Painting. Each class enrolled 3 to 10 students. Students of every classes showed great interests in Chinese language and culture.

**CI Director Visited the Kazoo School**

Dr. Ying Zeng visited the Kazoo School on September 24. During the meeting, Dr. Zeng and the new Principal Sonita Newbury-Schau discussed the plan for academic year 2018-19.

**CI Co-sponsored the 4th Asian Forum**

CI co-sponsored the 2018 Asian Forum hosted by HIGE at Fetzer Center on September 28. Dr. Zeng organized and attended the forum. WMU’s Provost and VP Academic Affairs Dr. Jennifer Bott gave welcome remarks. Over 30 scholars from China and 7 states of America gave presentations on different disciplinary. The focuses of the presentations included Economy, education and finance; Communicating Colonia Discourse in Asia, Development of Physical Education and Sports in Modern China; Language and Arts; Society and History.
CI Co-sponsored the Reception for Dr. Timothy Light’s Eightieth Birthday

CI co-sponsored the reception for Dr. Timothy Light’s 80th birthday at Fetzer Center in the evening of September 28. Dr. Ying Zeng and Dr. Wei-Chao Huang, the Director of Timothy Light Center for Chinese Studies organized the event. Representatives from various universities gave expressed their best wished to Dr. Light. CI teacher representatives performed Chinese dance and played musical instrument Erhu at the event.

CI Co-sponsored the Fifth China Festival and Celebrated the Global Confucius Institute Day

CI co-sponsored the fifth China Festival hosted by HIGE, and celebrated the Global Confucius Institute Day at WMU Student Recreation Center on September 29. Dr. Ying Zeng organized and hosted the events. Over 700 Participants included Dr. Sun, all CI teachers and staffs, community members from Southwest Michigan, and University administrators, professors, and students. With the help of WMU Chinese Students Association, the CI teachers and volunteers displayed Chinese Knot, Chinese Calligraphy, Chinese Paper Cutting, and other hands on activities. CI also organized “Chinese culture journey” activity to celebrate the Global Confucius Institute Day. CI volunteer teachers, university students, and local community members performed Chinese dance, Chinese songs, Cheongsam show, instruments of Erhu Guzheng, and Saxophone, Dragon dance, Chinese Yo-yo, and Taiko show. Many people were also attracted by Ping Pang tournament finals and Chinese foods. The local television station WWMT did an interview at the event.