University of Minnesota

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China Center Annual Report
A Year of Exciting Changes

Last year was once again an exhilarating year for the China Center! In October, the University’s Beijing office was officially opened and the China Center welcomed Dr. Lili Dong as assistant director. In November, we celebrated the China Center’s 30th anniversary with the community and in February, we celebrated the Chinese New Year at the ninth annual Bob and Kim Griffin Building U.S.-China Bridges Lecture presented by former Ambassador Burton Levin. At this time we are taking on exciting and challenging tasks so that we can continue to grow and advance our mission in the face of the economic downturn. With a history of nearly a decade of delivering world-class training to China’s leaders, the Mingda Institute for Leadership Training is revamping its management and programming to strengthen it and increase its role in promoting the University’s partnership with academic, business, and government organizations in China.

A new program this year brought two Chinese university administrators to the China Center for internships. The visitors were able to learn how the China Center builds relationships between Minnesota and China and the China Center was able to forge a meaningful relationship with representatives from two universities in China who are willing to serve as liaisons in future collaboration initiatives.

The China Center has also continued to stay involved with the international outreach at several colleges. The College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resources Science; the Medical School; the College of Nursing; the School of Public Health; the Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs; the Law School; the Carlson School of Management; the College of Continuing Education; the College of Liberal Arts; the College of Education and Human Development; and the University of Minnesota coordinate campuses are all working with the China Center in their efforts to develop new programs with China.

We are determined to continue the work of building bridges between Minnesota and Greater China and appreciate the steadfastness and passion of our supporters. I hope you enjoy reading in more detail about our activities of the past year and I look forward to seeing you in the next!
China From the Student Perspective

Encouraging students to visit Mainland China, Hong Kong, Macau, and Taiwan is one of the most important goals of the China Center. Through several scholarship and exchange programs, the China Center supports students who want to study and conduct research in Greater China. For more stories and pictures like the one below, visit www.chinacenter.umn.edu/scholarships.

Max Robinson (Hisao Scholarship and Red Pockets Scholarship)

“Traveling to China was hands down the most awesome and inspiring thing I have ever done. I never believed I would make it to China in my lifetime, but I was given the opportunity thanks to a special entrepreneurial study abroad program in the Carlson School of Management and financial help from the China Center. The second I touched down in China, I knew I was in for a treat because I got stuck in security all by myself, and had to figure out how to communicate using body language. I was helped by very friendly people and I could sense the genuine care that these people had for me. My first week in China, I was able to explore the exciting metropolis that is Shanghai. I learned how different the food was from our American ‘Chinese’ food and I learned how different the Chinese ‘American’ food is from our own. It was amazing to be totally immersed in a culture that I’ve never seen before. I picked up a few words in Chinese, such as ‘hello,’ ‘thank you,’ and ‘I’m from America.’ The second week, I was able to witness the absolute majesty of Shanghai and Suzhou—two amazingly beautiful cities. I spent as much time as I could being around Chinese people and admiring the architecture. I was able to meet some English speaking Chinese students at a Chinese University who were extremely friendly and we became friends via email and the internet. Now that I mention it, I don’t believe I met a single unfriendly person in China and I felt absolutely safe the entire time I was there. I absolutely want to spend more than two weeks in China next time I go back.”

2009-10 Scholarship Recipients and Exchange Program Participants

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<th>Chinese Government Scholarship</th>
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<th>Hisao Scholarship</th>
<th>International Reciprocal Student Exchange Program (IRSEP)</th>
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<td>Kathy Huynh</td>
<td>Jasmine Wu</td>
<td>Annie Rollins</td>
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<td>China Universities Exchange Program (CUEP)</td>
<td>Megan Knoch</td>
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<td>Jasmine Wu</td>
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China Center Hosts Two Chinese Scholars

The China Center hosted two visiting scholars in 2009-10: Dr. Yan Aimin and Dr. Tian Yonghong. Dr. Yan was an International Reciprocal Student Exchange Program (IRSEP) scholar from Nankai University where he is a professor in the history department. His research is focused on ancient Chinese history with an emphasis on the Han Dynasty (206 BCE-220 CE). He has produced many publications and is an expert in the area of social history, family history, and classic literature in ancient Chinese society. While at the University of Minnesota, Dr. Yan continued his research on the Han Dynasty in collaboration with faculty at the University who specialize in Chinese history.

Dr. Tian was a China Universities Exchange Program scholar from Peiking University in Beijing where he is a faculty member in the School of Electronic Engineering and Computer Science. His research interests focus on machine learning, data mining, and multimedia analysis, retrieval and protection. Working on campus with faculty members from the Department of Computer Science and Engineering provided Dr. Tian with many opportunities to conduct collaborative research.

New Job Shadow Program Strengthens Bridges with Chinese Universities

A new program within the China Center started in 2009-10: Administrators from Chinese universities spend three to six months at the University of Minnesota to learn about the unique role of the China Center in building bridges between the U.S. and China. While here, they participate in China Center activities and staff meetings and accompany the director on meetings with partners in the business, University, and local communities.

In 2009-10, two administrators participated in this program: Ms. Lin Yuan and Dr. Zhang Xuiping. Ms. Lin is the deputy section chief for international development within the International Office of Renmin University of China. She was with the China Center from October 2009 to January 2010. Dr. Zhang is the deputy dean of the School of Management at Minzi University (formerly Central University for Nationalities). She was with the China Center from November to July 2010.

Twenty-five Students Participate in Winter Camp Program

The China Center hosted a group of 25 students from Beijing Royal School for a week-long winter camp program January 25-31, 2010. The main goal of the program is to provide the students an opportunity to experience U.S. culture as well as college and high school life in the U.S.

The group visited the University of Minnesota’s Twin Cities and Duluth campuses, and met with undergraduate admission officers to learn more about the University and the state of Minnesota. They attended information sessions hosted by University departments in order to interact with professors and students. The group attended an information session hosted by the Minnesota English Language Programs (MELP) and participated in a customized English workshop. The students also spent a half day at a local high school, visited Target headquarters in downtown Minneapolis, attended an NBA game, and participated in the St. Paul Winter Carnival.
China Center Sponsors Conference Co-chaired by Two University Faculty

The China Center sponsored a conference held June 4-5, 2010 on the University of Minnesota Twin Cities campus titled "Ethics and Politics of Research with Immigrant Populations." Two University of Minnesota professors from the College of Education and Human Development co-chaired this interdisciplinary conference. Bic Ngo, Ph.D. is an assistant professor in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction and Martha Bigelow, Ph.D. is an associate professor in the same department. Dr. Bigelow is also a member of the China Center Advisory Council.

The conference aimed at addressing the question: What are the epistemological and ethical considerations in research with immigrant populations? Featured speakers included: Dina Birman (University of Illinois at Chicago), Jorge A. Bustamante (University of Notre Dame), Nancy H. Hornberger (University of Pennsylvania), and Awad Ibrahim (University of Ottawa).

UMD Professor Builds Bridges with China Center Support

Associate Professor Robert Cormier, Ph.D. of the University of Minnesota—Duluth Medical School travelled to China in May 2010. During his trip, Dr. Cormier gave research seminars on his colon cancer research at the China Capital Medical University in Beijing and the Huashan Hospital in Shanghai. He was also able to meet with a group of Ph.D. students studying cancer biology at the Chinese Academy of Sciences in Beijing. Additionally, Dr. Cormier was able to have meetings with professors in his field. These meetings resulted in invitations for future similar exchanges of academic information and research collaboration.

2009-10 China Center Sponsorship of Faculty

In addition to the faculty listed above, the China Center supported the following University of Minnesota faculty in their China-related activities.

- Professor Rebecca Shockley, Ph.D. of the School of Music. Dr. Shockley visited and gave lecture at the China Conservatory of Music and the Shanghai Conservatory of Music.
- Professor and Chair of the Art Department Clarence Morgan visited an exhibition at the Beijing Film Academy.
- John Kersey and John Lake, professors in the School of Medicine visited and gave a lecture at Chongqing Medical University.

Mingda Institute for Leadership Training Programming Highlights

The Mingda Institute for Leadership Training had another successful year by hosting 249 mid-career Chinese professionals from academic, government, and business sectors in 2009–10. Here are a few highlights:

- In December 2009, a delegation of 21 university presidents, vice presidents and government officials from well-known Chinese universities and National Academy of Education Administration completed a higher education policy administration and innovation training program. The program enabled university administrators to exchange their perspectives on higher education in the two cultures and develop an understanding of administration, research, student affairs, and staff management of an American public research university.

- In January 2010, 22 government officials from Beijing Municipal Government attended a two-week training program on social services in the U.S. The participants were directors in different departments of the Beijing Municipal Government, including urban planning, city administration, and the legal affairs society as well as deputy commissioners of local counties. The group attended lectures provided by faculty and experts from the Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, the School of Social Work, and the Law School. They also visited local organizations such as Arc Greater Twin Cities, St. Stephen's Human Services, the Ramsey County Care Center, and Hennepin County Human Services and Public Health.

Other training delegations hosted by Mingda Institute for Leadership Training July 1, 2009–June 30, 2010:

- 19 provosts from Beijing universities (through the Beijing Municipal Commission of Education): Beijing universities provost training program
- 20 department heads, deans, and senior administrators from South China University of Technology: Higher education administration policy training program
- 12 department heads, deans, and senior administrators from China Nanchang University: Higher education policy and administration training program
- 19 government officials from Chongqing Municipal Bureau of Human Resources and Social Security: Human resources and personnel management training program
- 24 university administrators from Beijing: Higher education administration and human resources training program
- 59 business leaders from Sun Yat-sen University: Executive MBA training program
- 18 government officials from Chongqing Agriculture Commission: Agricultural information and modernization training program
- 24 young professors from Beijing (through the Beijing Municipal Government): Bilingual teaching training program
- 11 professors from Beijing (through the Beijing Department of Education): U.S. university research training

* Mingda is the Chinese acronym for the University of Minnesota.
2009-10 Griffin Lecture: The U.S. and China: A Relationship Marred by Misperceptions

An estimated 300 people were in attendance for the ninth annual Bob and Kim Griffin Building U.S.-China Bridges Lecture presented by Burton Levin—former ambassador to Burma and consul general in Hong Kong. The lecture, held in conjunction with the Chinese New Year celebration, was titled The U.S. and China: A Relationship Marred by Misperceptions and was based on Levin’s first-hand experiences as a diplomat.

Levin touched on how misperceptions in the U.S.-China relationship have produced dramatic swings in the way the two nations have viewed and dealt with each other. Friendship has alternated with hostility, sometimes resulting in disastrous consequences for both the Chinese and American peoples.

An illustrative example of this was the return of Hong Kong to Chinese control. Prior to 1997, there was rampant speculation in the U.S. that communist China would completely ruin Hong Kong. This misperception of China’s intention for Hong Kong was completely off-base. “The last thing [the Chinese] want to do is to take this cosmopolitan, commercial center and turn it into a garbage dump. They would lose prestige. They would lose prestige in the eyes of their own people and internationally it would be very damaging to the Chinese.” Not only did the Chinese not turn it into a garbage dump, Levin noted that there has been little-to-no change in Hong Kong since 1997.

An audio version of the complete lecture is available at: www.chinacenter.umn.edu/griffin.

Bob and Kim Griffin donated $500,000 to the China Center to create an endowment fund to establish the Bob and Kim Griffin Building U.S.-China Bridges Lecture. The Griffin’s gift reflects their commitment to promoting mutual respect between the two cultures and their passion to connect people with China.

China Center Active in Community Events

The China Center recognizes the importance of strong ties to the local community in its ability to build U.S.-China bridges. To maintain these ties, the China Center sponsors and its staff participates in a wide variety of community events in the Twin Cities. Here are some of the highlights for the 2009-10 year:

In July 2009, the China Center continued the tradition of participating in the Twin Cities Dragon Festival. The “Paddling Pandas” participated in the Dragon Boat races and China Center staff and volunteers gave balloons to visitors to the China Center booth.

• The Chinese American Academic & Professional Association in Minnesota Annual Academic Conference for American Chinese was held in September 2009 and sponsored by the China Center.

• In November 2009, the China Center co-sponsored a rare performance of Peking and Kunqu Opera presented by the Confucius Institute at the University of Minnesota.

• A Chinese New Year celebration took place in February 2010. The China Center celebrated the New Year with the ninth annual Bob and Kim Griffin Building U.S.-China Bridges Lecture (see opposite page). The event was open to the public and was attended by an estimated 300 people.

• In addition to its own celebration, the China Center sponsored or co-sponsored several community celebrations of the Chinese New Year in January and February: The annual performance of the Minghua Chorus, the annual performance of the Chinese American Association of Minnesota Dance Theater, the annual performance of the Minneapolis Dance Theater, and the Chinese American Association of Minnesota’s presentation of Carnival China Style.

• In May 2010, the China Center participated in the second Passage to China at the Mall of America. China Center staff and volunteers helped visitors learn which animal they are in the Chinese zodiac and then gave them a souvenir with the character of that animal written in calligraphy.

Children and their parents learn about the Chinese zodiac at Passage to China.

A cross-section of the community at the New Year event

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The University of Minnesota’s Beijing Office has now been open for a full year with the China Center overseeing its administration. The office serves as an operating base for the University of Minnesota in China focusing primarily on student recruitment and alumni relations. Additionally, the office assists University of Minnesota faculty and staff with their travels to Beijing.

The summer 2009 months served as the initial set-up for the office. Beijing Office Coordinator Qu Wanling made the necessary arrangements to bring the office into a full-functioning mode. The grand opening ceremony for the office was held in October. The ceremony was attended by University leaders and Chinese alumni, educational officials from China, and other distinguished guests. Since then, the office has:

- Directly assisted more than 30 visiting University of Minnesota faculty and administrators with their visits and business functions in China
- Supported 15 programs across the University with activities such as student recruiting, developing internships in China, and building educational exchanges
- Helped four University students with academic or doctoral research projects in China
- Held meetings with four Minnesota-based corporate programs regarding their business priorities in China
- Hosted an event with a Minnesota political leader
- Hosted, consulted, and interviewed more than 90 prospective students
- Facilitated connections with more than 50 Chinese University of Minnesota alumni
- Established or maintained 26 University-China relationships
- Found summer residency opportunities in Beijing for two University of Minnesota Master of Healthcare Administration students and coordinated the residency through its successful completion
- Hosted two pre-departure orientation sessions for Carlson School of Management and Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs

To Our Chinese Friends 年終回顧

過去的一年對中國中心來說，又是令人振奮的一年！十一月，明尼蘇達大學北京辦事處正式成立，中國中心新任副主任高莉博士到任。一十一月，我們與社會各界一起隆重慶祝了中國中心三十周年紀念日。二月，前美國駐港總領事、前美國駐華大使Buttern Levis作為演講嘉賓為中國中心第九屆Bob and Kim Griffin年度講座作了題為《被誤解所影響的中美關係》講座，吸引了大批明大師生及社區民眾。隨後，我們還和各界人士共同慶祝了中國農曆新年。

去年十月，明大高級副校長羅伯特·瓊斯教授訪華期間，與中國農業大學、北京市政府以及華東師範大學做了正式訪問，會見了這些院校和部門的相關領導人，並對那些討論了與明大發展學術及科研交流等方面的課題。中國農業大學黨委書記龔秀文、北京市教育委員會副主任劉利民及華東師範大學校長俞立中分別代表各自的院校和部門對瓊斯教授的到訪表示歡迎。隨同慶祝活動的還有有關國情事務的助理副校長羅瑞恩、明大中國中心主任張永維以及明大北京辦事處負責人侯婉玲。

中國中心的明大培訓班已成立近十年，為中國各級領導人提供了一系列的培訓項目。我們正在積極的改革項目和管理模式，以提高培訓質量，為推動明大與中國學術、企業和政府機構的合作發揮更大的作用。

中國中心新開設的兩個短期項目為兩位來自中國大學的管理人員提供了美國大學運作與管理的機會。中央民族大學管理學院副院長張秀華教授和中國人民大學國際交流處國際拓展科科長林純分別通過此項目了解中國中心如何建立明大蘇聯大學內地組織、政府機構與中國之間的聯系，以及中國大學的管理模式。他們的來訪也為中國中心與他們所在大學的專家合作起著重要的橋樑作用。

中國中心同時繼續為明大所有學院的國際化發展起著重要的紐帶和促進作用。明大農業、食品及自然资源學院、醫學院、護理學院、公共衛生學院、漢弗萊公共事務學院、法學院、卡爾森管理學院、繼續教育學院、人文科學院、教育與人類發展學院，以及明大蘇聯大學各個分校區都在明大中國中心共同努力開發中國的新的合作項目。

在當前經濟的低迷時期，我們承擔著人類發展和充滿挑戰的使命。我們將繼續致力於推動明大多領域和在礦業領域之間的友好關係。在此我們向所有支持我們和他們的熱情付出。
For these and many more reasons, he will be remembered for his passion for teaching as a director of the U.S.-China People Friendship Association Minnesota Chapter. He was a great asset to the Chinese community. He joined the faculty of the University of Minnesota along with his wife, Joyce—was a steadfast supporter of the China Center and a C.C. (Chih Chun) Hsiao (no relation to Fred) passed away in August 2009. He—will be missed by all who knew him.

Student support might take the form of a scholarship to help more students access a learning abroad experience in Greater China. Or student support might be for programming to integrate students coming from China into not only the campus community but also the Twin Cities or greater Minnesota community. Perhaps building bridges right here on the University of Minnesota campus is the most important bridge of all.

Diane Young
Senior Regional Development Director
Office of International Programs, Pacific Northwest, and New Mexico

The China center lost two long-time and steadfast supporters this past year: Fred Hsiao and C.C. Hsiao. Fred’s relationship with the University started in 1947 when he arrived to begin his Ph.D. studies. He remained connected to his alma mater until he passed away in June 2010. He and his wife Jennie provided financial support to inter-collegiate athletics, the College of Science and Engineering (formerly Institute of Technology), and to the China Center with their endowed scholarship fund for students wishing to study in China. Because of their commitment, Fred and Jennie were inducted into the Trustee Society of the Presidents Club—the University’s premier donor society—in October 2010. Fred and Jennie’s generosity to the University continues as the Confucius Institute was included in his estate planning.

Fred will also be remembered for his successful construction business, his leadership and participation in the community, and his enduring friendship with countless people. He will be missed by all who knew him.

C.C. (Chih Chun) Hsiao (no relation to Fred) passed away in August 2009. He—along with his wife, Joyce—was a steadfast supporter of the China Center and a great asset to the Chinese community. He joined the faculty of the University of Minnesota in 1955 as a professor in the Department of Aerospace Engineering and Mechanics. He taught there until retiring in 1990 when he became Professor Emeritus. Along with first China Center director Mes-ling Hsu, C.C. was a member of the University’s first delegation to China after the normalization of relations in 1979. He also founded the Minnesota China Friendship Garden Society and served as a director of the U.S.-China People Friendship Association Minnesota Chapter.

For these and many more reasons, he will be remembered for his passion for teaching and his strong commitment to bridging relationships between the U.S. and China.
New Consul General in Chicago

In May 2010, Consul General Yang Guoqiang arrived in Chicago. He was most recently the vice chairman of the Shanghai Municipal Commission of Commerce and he replaces Huang Ping who was promoted to oversee PRC consulates world-wide. China Center Director Yongwei Zhang attended Consul General Yang’s welcome party on behalf of the University.

The Consulate General of the People’s Republic of China in Chicago works closely with the China Center on several issues, but particularly in helping the China Center promote University of Minnesota students studying in China including the designation of a full academic-year scholarship to a Chinese university for a University of Minnesota student.

Budget 財務狀況

July 1, 2009–June 30, 2010

Revenues: $1,340,526

- External Sales $580,896
- Corporate Support $11,110
- Individual Support $10,833
- State Support $432,542
- Total Reserves $292,145

Expenditures: $953,593

- General Operations $18,018
- Educational Outreach and Public Service $12,303
- Mingda Training Programs $446,364
- Visiting and Exchange Scholar $19,930
- Student Scholarships & Travel Grants $10,750
- Program Development $12,103

About the China Center

The China Center was established in 1979 to manage the University’s exchanges with China. For more than three decades, the China Center has reflected the firm and long-standing commitment of the University to international research, teaching, and outreach. The China Center facilitates student study in China and faculty research and collaborative projects; trains China’s future leaders; and supports the activities of Chinese alumni. The China Center also organizes and sponsors programming on culture, politics, trade, and development to foster a greater understanding of China.