

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA  
2017-2018  
**China Center Annual Report**  
— *Building U.S.-China Bridges Since 1979* —





*First University delegation to China, 1979*

Next year marks the 40th anniversary of the China Center. We look forward to celebrating with you in 2019!

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*Note about Chinese names: The China Center's policy is to list an individual's name according to the custom of the place where they live (e.g., family name first for a person who lives in China).*

## From the Executive Director 主任致辞

Dear Friends,

I'm proud to share with you this look back at all that we've accomplished together to build bridges with China over the past academic year. This is a challenging time in U.S.-China relations at the national level, and the work of the China Center has likely never been more important.

We must continue to build and strengthen relationships with our partners, exchange people and ideas, and explore and share our cultures. The China Center has been doing exactly that for almost 40 years, and we look forward to the important role we can play in promoting understanding and cooperation moving forward.

I want to share a few highlights from the past year that we accomplished together with our generous donors and our campus and community partners:

- We were excited to fund our first Chinese visiting fellow through the Sping Lin and Ying-Ngoh T. Lin China Center Visiting Scholars Initiative. The opportunity for Dr. Yihong Xie to work with the Center for Animal Health and Food Safety has opened the door to an ongoing partnership that will improve food safety in China, Minnesota, and beyond.
- In support of the University's goal to empower students for global success, we are proud to offer a variety of funding and exchange opportunities to study in Greater China. It is gratifying to see the growing interest in Chinese language and culture displayed by this generation of students.
- We fostered an understanding of Chinese culture through a variety of events for the local community, including our annual Griffin Lecture, hosting the CHINA Town Hall webcast, and supporting the launch of a new Chinese garden at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum.

The University of Minnesota is extraordinarily proud of our 100-year history of engagement with China, including the 40th anniversary of the China Center that we will celebrate in 2019. With this rich tradition and strong partners, the China Center will continue to build U.S.-China bridges now and into the future. Thank you for your support!

Sincerely,



Joan Brzezinski  
Executive Director





**The China Center serves as an information hub, catalyst, collaborator, and internal consultant to facilitate key China initiatives driven by University of Minnesota colleges and departments systemwide.**

## **Deans Visit China to Strengthen Academic Ties**

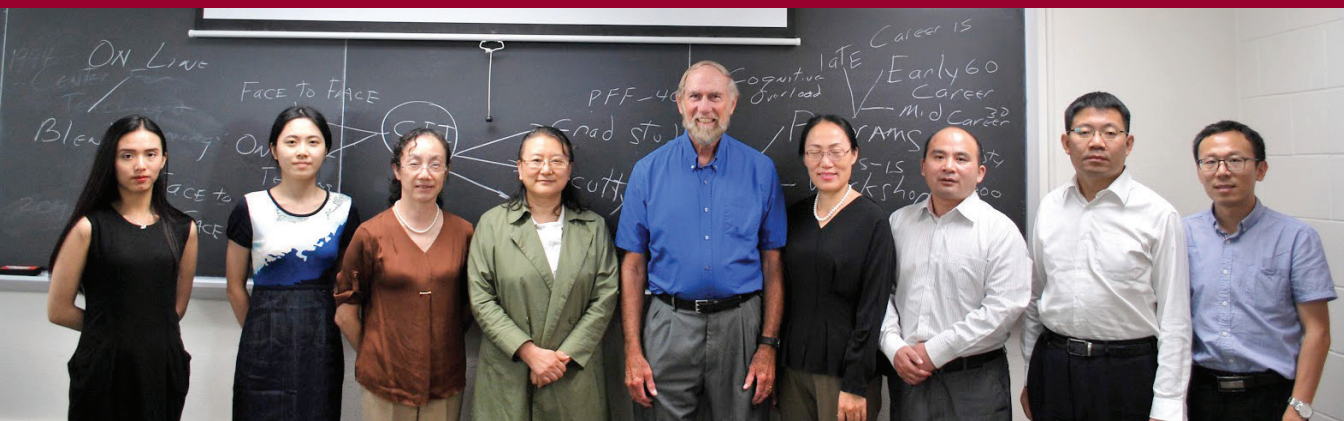
In March 2018, the China Center and the UMN China Office supported a delegation of Twin Cities deans from the College of Liberal Arts, Humphrey School of Public Affairs, and the College of Biological Sciences on a successful eight-day trip to China to strengthen existing partnerships and explore new opportunities. The delegation was led by Meredith McQuaid, associate vice president and dean of international programs.

The delegation traveled to Shanghai, Zhejiang, Chengdu, and Beijing to meet with 10 partner institutions: Peking University, Tsinghua University, Renmin University, Fudan University, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, Zhejiang University, Sichuan University, the Beijing Film Academy, the Central Academy of Fine Arts, and the Chinese Academy of Sciences. All of the institutions have existing ties to the University of Minnesota, either through student exchanges or research collaborations.

Through meetings with fellow deans at these institutions, the delegation was able to assess the areas of academic and research expertise for a number of programs. The trip solidified the existing friendships between the University and its Chinese partners and explored possible new areas for collaboration and exchange. The deans also enjoyed meeting with passionate UMN alumni in Beijing and Shanghai.

## **Lions Eye Bank Signs Agreement**

The China Center provided advice and support to the Lions Gift of Sight, a program of the UMN Medical School's Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Neurosciences, as it entered into an agreement for cooperation and exchange with Jinan Second People's Hospital in Shandong, China. The leadership of both parties signed the agreement in September 2018 with the goal to promote the exchange of faculty members and students, and to lay groundwork for future joint research activities and collaborations.



## UMN Hosts Chinese Association of Higher Education

In September 2017, nine representatives from the Chinese Association of Higher Education (CAHE) visited the Twin Cities campus. The delegates participated in small-group discussions with Dr. Mistilina Sato, College of Education and Human Development, and Dr. Al Beitz, director of the Center for Educational Innovation, to learn and share experience in curriculum innovation, advanced technology in higher education, teacher training, evaluation, and other relevant topics. The delegates also learned about the role of the China Center and enjoyed a tour of campus.

The CAHE delegation included Deputy Secretary General Ms. Ye Zhihong, and her distinguished colleagues Ms. Gao Xiaojie, Mr. Liu Haohan, and Ms. Shi Yue. Joining the delegation were Professor Li Liguo, Renmin University; Ms. Ding Yan, Fudan University; Ms. Gao Jie, Shanghai Jiao Tong University; Ms. Hao Li, Southwest Jiao Tong University; and Mr. Chen Zhen, Chinese Higher Education Press.

## Tus-Holdings Corporation Explores Partnership

The China Center assisted the College of Science and Engineering in hosting a delegation from the Tus-Holdings Corporation in September 2017. Tus-Holdings plans, constructs, and operates science parks, business incubation centers, technology properties, and technology towns. Its flagship, Beijing TusPark, is currently the largest single university science park in the world. Led by Vice President Ms. An Hongping, the delegation was exploring the possibility of a collaborative partnership with the University of Minnesota.

During their two-day visit, the delegation met with Associate Vice President Meredith McQuaid, Dean Samuel Mukasa, Associate Dean Mos Kaveh, and CSE faculty members including professors Arthur Erdman, Tianhong Cui, David Pui, Terry Simon, and Stephen Campbell. The delegation also visited the Earl E. Bakken Medical Devices Center, the Office of Technology Commercialization, the Minnesota Nano Center, and the Department of Mechanical Engineering.

Through the generous support of donors, the China Center provides scholarships to University of Minnesota students to study in Greater China or enhance their academic experience.

## Study Abroad Scholarships Open Doors to China



*Matthew Her received a China Center Scholarship to support his participation in the “Hmong Language and Culture Immersion in China” program.*

“I am fascinated by the similarities between how Hmong-Americans and Hmong-Chinese live their lives. Visiting the villages gave me the opportunity to relive the childhood lives of my parents when they lived in Laos. It was such a humbling and genuine experience. The locals were kind and generous to welcome us into their villages. They held performances and prepared feasts for us. We all enjoyed being in each other’s company. The experience was like meeting a long-lost relative. Although both groups spoke Hmong, there was a difference in accent and some words, but that didn’t matter because we still had a lot of fun.”



*Sophia Vedvik received a China Center Scholarship to support her participation in the CET Shanghai Summer program.*

“My proudest accomplishment was during a midterm oral exam for my Chinese class. Mid-program, I felt like other students had a much easier time speaking and understanding what the teacher said, while I struggled to make a sentence and had to have the teacher repeat some sentences. After I finished speaking in my oral exam, my teacher told me that she had seen a lot of improvement in my skills from when I first started the class. After this exam, I had more speaking confidence and took every opportunity I could to speak during class or to other native speakers outside of the classroom.

Wherever I end up in the future, I just hope that I will be able to utilize my Chinese language skills. Whether this is getting a job in which I can speak Chinese, living and working in China, or just keeping in contact with my Chinese friends, I am going to make sure that I continue speaking Chinese for the rest of my life.”

## Academic Scholarships

*Thao Truong received the Hsiao Shaw-Lundquist Fellowship to support his participation in the 2018 Asia-Pacific-Euro Summer School on Smart Structures Technology, held in China.*

“Attending the 2018 Asia-Pacific-Euro Summer School on Smart Structures Technology deepened my understanding on many aspects of the research field. The school provided the chance to meet talented people in the field of structural control and monitoring from all over the world and to get to know the beautiful and modern China. This fruitful experience was made possible because of the generous support from the Hsiao Shaw-Lundquist Fellowship.”



## 2017–18 Exchange Participants

### Chinese University Exchange Program (Peking University)

Daniel Huset

### Chinese Government Scholarship

Brady Houle

David Reid Johnson

## 2017–18 Scholarship Recipients

### China Center Scholarship

Jonas Courneya	Jackson Lefebvre
Van Duong	Emma Lenz
Matthew Her	Christopher Pang
Brady Houle	David Reid Johnson
Henry Hughes	Sophia Vedvik
Mikayla Krech	James Wolsky
Ryan Kruchten	

### Hsiao Scholarship

Tommy Millunchick  
Jacqueline Nowak

### Min (Amy) Xu and Michael Schumann Scholarship

Matthew Bluhm

### Hsiao Shaw-Lundquist Fellowship

Riley Brown  
Teng Man  
Thao Truong

**The China Center plays a critical role in strengthening connections between corporate and government partners in Minnesota and Greater China.**

## **Consul General Hong Lei Visits Campus**

The China Center was pleased to host a visit by Consul General Hong Lei of the Consulate General of the People's Republic of China in Chicago on Feb. 13, 2018. While at the University of Minnesota, Consul General Hong spoke to a group of more than 100 Chinese students and scholars, during which he wished everyone a Happy Chinese New Year and discussed the long history of exchange between China and the University.

Consul General Hong Lei congratulated the University of Minnesota on enhancing the spirit of friendship and cooperation between the two nations. The Consul General emphasized that China and the United States should continue on a path of respect and cooperation, and expressed his hopes that students and scholars will continue to actively promote mutual understanding and friendship between the two countries through education and exchange.

A brief question-and-answer session followed the remarks, during which students asked about the future of the U.S.-China relationship and the role of Chinese students studying in the United States.

Consul General Hong Lei was accompanied by officials from the Educational and Cultural Offices of the Chinese Consulate General in Chicago. Haiyan Wang, assistant director of the China Center, gave welcome remarks to the delegation, and Chu Yinxiao, from the Chinese Students and Scholars Association, discussed the organization's work to facilitate cross-cultural understanding and to serve the Chinese community at the University.







## **Celebrating 35 Years of Friendship Between Shaanxi and Minnesota**

A special delegation from Shaanxi Province visited Minnesota on Sept. 17, 2017, to recognize 35 years of friendship, cooperation, and exchange between the sister states of Shaanxi and Minnesota. The event also honored the Shaanxi provincial government's recent gift of magnificent Qinling mountain rocks for the University of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum's new Chinese Garden.

The delegation included Shaanxi provincial government officials and musicians from the Shaanxi Folk Music Orchestra. An official state welcome was hosted by the China Center, Global Minnesota, and the Minnesota Trade Office. The keynote speaker for the event was Liu Jun, Deputy Consul General from the Consulate General of the People's Republic of China in Chicago.

## **XCMG Research Institute Seeks Collaboration**

Dr. Zong Xuemei, dean of the XCMG Research Institute in China, visited the University of Minnesota in July 2018. XCMG Group is a Chinese multinational heavy machinery manufacturing company. Dr. Zong is in charge of research and development for the group's ergonomics and manufacturing technology divisions. During her visit, Dr. Zong had meaningful discussions with faculty in Computer Science and Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, the Center for Design in Health, and the Earl Bakken Medical Device Center about their work in the fields of virtual and augmented reality, motion planning, autonomous and semi-autonomous robotics, ergonomics, and human factors. The group also explored future opportunities for collaboration.

The China Center fosters an understanding of Chinese culture through a variety of events for the local community, from bringing leading experts to campus for discussions on pressing U.S.-China issues, to co-sponsoring community events.

## 2017 CHINA Town Hall Features Susan Rice

The University of Minnesota China Center, along with Global Minnesota, served as local hosts for the 2017 CHINA Town Hall on Oct. 24, 2017. More than 70 guests gathered for a reception, followed by a webcast presentation with the Honorable Susan Rice, former national security advisor and U.S. ambassador to the United Nations. The webcast was moderated by Stephen A. Orlins, president of the National Committee on U.S.-China Relations.

After the webcast, local speaker Erin Ennis, senior vice president at the U.S.-China Business Council, presented the lecture, “Five Things You Should Know about U.S.-China Trade.” The lecture discussed how economic ties between the U.S. and China are maintained, as well as the current and projected trends for doing business between the two nations.

CHINA Town Hall: Local Connections, National Reflections was the 11th annual event organized by the National Committee on U.S.-China Relations. It is a national day of programming in more than 80 communities, including a live webcast and local programs addressing topics of interest to each community.

Thank you to local sponsors at the gold level, Mall of America and Fredrikson & Byron PA, and the maroon level, Schwing America Inc. and Ecolab.



## 2018 Griffin Lecture: “China in the New Era: What Lies Ahead?”

The China Center welcomed Haiyan Wang, managing partner of the China India Institute, to deliver the keynote at the 17th Annual Bob and Kim Griffin Building U.S.-China Bridges Lecture on Mar. 7, 2018. Ms. Wang presented on the topic, “China in the New Era: What Lies Ahead? Mega Shifts in China and Strategic Implications.”

In her timely and insightful lecture, Ms. Wang tied together China’s rise to an economic superpower and goals for the future with present challenges to creating balanced and sustainable economic growth. Ms. Wang also discussed China’s global investments, including the Belt and Road Initiative, as well as the involvement of U.S. businesses in China. Ms. Wang concluded her lecture by explaining the trends of globalism and isolationism: “Isolationism is like locking yourself into a dark room. You may feel very safe from snow, from rain, from wind; however, you are also locking yourself away from the sunshine.”

A lively question-and-answer session followed Ms. Wang’s presentation, which was moderated by Tom Hanson, diplomat in residence at the University of Minnesota-Duluth. The discussion included how China might respond to tariff actions from the United States, how U.S. firms can preserve their intellectual property and autonomy when doing business in China, and the role of alliances and networks in preserving harmony in the world order.

*The Griffin Lecture Series is endowed through a generous gift from Bob and Kim Griffin. The Griffins are committed to promoting mutual respect between U.S. and Chinese cultures and are passionate about connecting people with China.*



## Lecture: “China’s Ambition and Opportunities in the 21st Century”

The China Center hosted a lecture by Dr. Zhang Qingmin, professor and chair of the Department of Diplomacy at the School of International Studies at Peking University on Apr. 25, 2018. Dr. Zhang spoke on the topic, “China’s Ambition and Opportunities in the 21st Century.” Twenty-five members of the public attended the lecture.

Dr. Zhang began by discussing how China seeks to enhance its global leadership and described China’s foreign policy goals. Next, Dr. Zhang discussed opportunities for China, including the country’s high economic growth rate. Dr. Zhang also elaborated upon U.S.-China relations and implications for China’s future. A question-and-answer session followed, during which audience members asked questions about China’s economic development and environmental challenges.



## Arboretum Opens New Chinese Garden

The Minnesota Landscape Arboretum’s new Chinese Garden opened to the public on Sept. 18, 2017. The event featured a ribbon cutting and toast, followed by a concert by musicians from the Shaanxi Provincial Folk Music Orchestra. The China Center sponsored a dinner after the event, generously hosted by Kaimay and Joseph Terry at their home.

The Arboretum’s Chinese Garden was made possible by a joint effort of the Chinese-American community in Minnesota, many generous supporters, the University of Minnesota, and the government of Shaanxi Province. The Chinese Garden will be a place that will welcome, inform, and inspire visitors of the goodwill that exists between the sister states of Shaanxi and Minnesota and will showcase plants native to China.





## Welcoming the Year of the Dog

On Feb. 22, 2018, China Center Advisory Council members, China Center staff, and other supporters and donors gathered for a Chinese New Year celebration. Jim Harkness, vice chair of the China Center Advisory Council, and Joan Brzezinski, executive director of the China Center, welcomed guests and wished them, “Happy Year of the Dog!”

Brzezinski also announced the first recipient of the Sping Lin and Ying-Ngoh T. Lin China Center Visiting Scholars Initiative. Assistant Professor Alex Primus represented the College of Veterinary Medicine as the first award recipient. (Read more about the scholar’s visit on p. 13.)

## 2017–18 Sponsorships

The China Center provided nearly \$2,000 to support activities hosted by community and non-profit organizations to celebrate community and enhance the understanding of China.

CAAPAM Annual Professional Conference

CAAM Mid-Autumn Festival performance

MCCSC/CAAPAM Chinese New Year Event

USCPFA Chinese New Year Banquet

Sponsorship of showings of film, “Mainland,” at Minneapolis-St. Paul International Film Festival

## We’ve Got (Team) Spirit!



The China Center took the Team Spirit Award at Global Minnesota’s 2017 WorldQuest International Trivia competition. Dressed in festive attire representing five of China’s ethnic minority groups, the China Center team cheered loudly and made quite the impression on the judges.

In 2017-18 Global Minnesota celebrated a “Year of China,” and questions about China were featured among the challenging trivia questions.

University of Minnesota faculty benefit greatly from collaboration with Chinese research partners and hosting Chinese visiting scholars. The China Center supports these efforts by connecting scholars with community resources, organizing events, and fostering individual collaborations through institutional engagement. During 2017-18, 165 Chinese research scholars from across China came to the University of Minnesota to work across our many colleges and departments.

## China Center Hosts Networking Events for Chinese Scholars

Fifty Chinese visiting scholars gathered at the University International Center for the fall networking lunch event on Sep. 27, 2018. Guest speaker Ralph Beta from the U.S.-China People's Friendship Association spoke about the history of friendship between China and the local Minnesota communities. The China Center hosts these events for scholars each semester to provide opportunities to learn about an aspect of the University or the local community, and the chance to network with each other.





## First Sping Lin Visiting Scholar Opens Door to Ongoing Partnership

This summer, the University of Minnesota welcomed its first-ever Sping Lin Visiting Scholar. Dr. Xie Yihong traveled from the Guangxi region in China to the Twin Cities to study food safety with Dr. Andres Perez's group in the University's Center for Animal Health and Food Safety (CAHFS). As the current deputy head and associate chief physician in the Division of Food Safety Monitoring and Risk Assessment of the Guangxi Centers for Disease Control, Dr. Xie's interests focus on risk assessment as applied to fish health.

During her time on campus, Dr. Xie conducted lab work and analyzed large data sets. She joined Dr. Perez's research group to assess risks associated with a bacteria present in seafood that may cause food poisoning. The end goal of their work is to improve health standards by controlling risk through better education, research, and the creation of safer practices to monitor risk at different points along the seafood processing chain. Finding the collaboration mutually beneficial, Dr. Xie and Dr. Perez have plans to publish multiple papers on their findings.

Dr. Xie's visit was funded in part by the Sping Lin and Ying-Ngoh T. Lin China Center Visiting Scholars Initiative, created by alumnus Dr. Sping Lin, to bring visiting scholars to the University to help strengthen academic exchange and research and extend the impact of mutual collaborations with China to the greater campus and community. Dr. Perez noted the importance of the award: "Without this initial funding from the China Center, we wouldn't have been able to make this connection. It's truly because of this funding that this and future projects are possible."

In addition to her work with Dr. Perez's team, Dr. Xie also enjoyed hiking, living in the city, and jogging along the Mississippi. "I would like to express my appreciation for this opportunity," said Dr. Xie. "It's a great honor, and a beautiful place to study." She hopes, along with Dr. Perez, that the partnership created this summer will continue for a long time to come.

The Mingda Institute for Leadership Training provides high-quality training and development programs for professionals from China. To date, the Institute has provided training for more than 3,000 Chinese education administrators, faculty, government officials, business leaders, and college students.

## 2017–18 Training Programs

Global Transit Innovations: Transportation and Urban Planning

Harbin Institute of Technology: Education Philosophy and Pedagogy

Beijing University of Technology: Teacher's Competence in Engineering Education and Innovation Development

Shenzhen Urban Transport Planning Center: Advancement and Research of Urban and Transportation Planning and Design

Xiamen City University: Educator Specialization Development and Teaching Methodology Improvement

First People's Hospital of Lanzhou: Advanced Hospital Management Exchange

Chinese University Students Summer Training Program: Urban Planning and Transportation Management

Hubei University: General Education Program for Students







## Mingda Institute Expands Its Reach to New Parts of China

The China Center's Mingda Institute for Leadership Training welcomed ten leadership team members from the First People's Hospital of Lanzhou for an Advanced Hospital Management Training Program in July 2018. This visit marked many "firsts" for the Mingda Institute. Not only it was the first hospital management training group, it was also the first from Gansu Province.

The Mingda Institute has a long history of working with groups from Beijing, Harbin, and southern provinces. Exploring opportunities with partners in the Western part of China was the result of a strategic plan to expand service to parts of the country that are in need of more advanced training opportunities. This first medical group from Gansu province opens doors to long-term partnerships with other organizations in Lanzhou, and the Mingda Institute is excited to welcome more medical training groups from Gansu Province in the future.

The delegation's program was designed in collaboration with the Mingda Institute and Dr. Jean Abraham, Wegmiller Professor of Healthcare Administration and the director of the Master of Healthcare Administration program. The comprehensive curriculum included lectures and site visits, including two lectures from Dr. Abraham on healthcare in the U.S. and the payment system in American hospitals.

During their stay, participants visited the University of Minnesota Health Clinics and Surgery Center, the Minnesota Department of Health, and Hennepin County Medical Center's Richfield Clinic. One of the highlights of the program was a meeting with Dr. Mark Rosenberg, vice dean for education and academic affairs at the Medical School, which included a visit to the Academic Health Center's Simulation Center. The delegation also discussed possible areas for future cooperation. The Mingda Institute is proud to support the University's research mission by fostering meaningful exchanges with China.

The University of Minnesota's China Office was established in Beijing in 2009 as the institution's first office abroad. The China Office is a critical resource to further develop educational, cultural, and social collaborations among China, the University of Minnesota, and the State of Minnesota. The China Office had another busy and successful year supporting educational exchange between China and the University of Minnesota.

## Support to Students and Parents

The China Office serves as a valuable resource for students and their parents, from orientation to graduation and beyond. In 2017-18, the China Office again hosted pre-departure orientation sessions for new students in Beijing and Shanghai. The sessions are hosted in partnership with International Student and Scholar Services and the Office of Student Affairs.



## Professional Opportunities for UMN Students in China

The China Office co-hosted a variety of career fairs, providing opportunities for students and recent graduates to network and make connections with employers. In 2018, they sponsored the American Universities China Association (AUCA) annual career fairs in Shanghai, Shenzhen, and Beijing, and participated in the AUCA Finance and Business Career Fair in Shanghai. In addition, the office maintains and builds relationships with major employers and promotes job and internship opportunities.



## Deepening Connections with Alumni

More than 10,000 alumni from China have graduated from the University of Minnesota since the first students enrolled in 1914. The China Office plays a major role in connecting these proud alumni with the University, providing networking opportunities, and supporting alumni chapters across China. In December 2017, the China Office helped organize a reception with UMN President Eric Kaler, attended by Chinese alumni, partners, and friends in Beijing.



## Donors

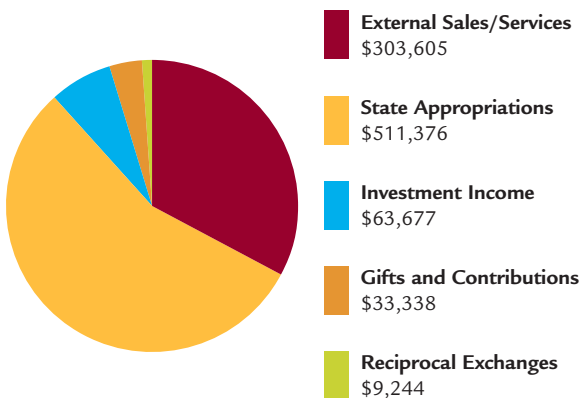
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 Hon. Gail Chang Bohr and  
 Dr. P. Richard Bohr  
 Mr. Bin Chen  
 Chang Chen  
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*This list includes gifts made between 7/1/17 and 6/30/18.*

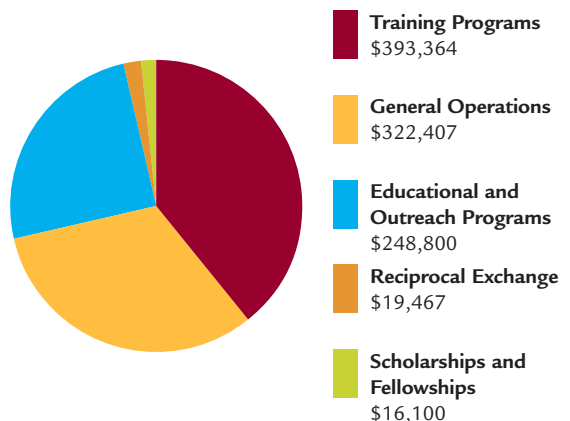
### 2017-18 Revenue

**Total: \$921,240**



### 2017-18 Expenditures

**Total: \$1,000,138**



## Campus Partners

Academic Health Center  
Carlson School of Management  
Center for Design in Health  
Center for Transportation Studies  
College of Education and Human  
Development  
Center for Applied Research and Educational  
Improvement  
Center for Educational Innovation  
College of Food, Agricultural, and Natural  
Resource Sciences  
College of Liberal Arts  
College of Design  
Controller's Office  
College of Science and Engineering  
Department of Aerospace Engineering  
Mechanics  
Department of Civil, Environmental, and  
Geo-engineering  
Department of Computer Science and  
Engineering  
Department of Ophthalmology and Visual  
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Internationalizing the Curriculum and  
Campus  
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Medical Device Center  
Medical School  
Minnesota Principals Academy  
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Provost  
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Office of Technology Commercialization  
Office of Human Resources  
Office of Institutional Research  
Office of Information Technology  
Office of Measurement Services  
Office of the President Eric W. Kaler  
Office of the Vice President for Research  
School of Public Health  
St. Anthony Falls Laboratory  
Student Counseling Services  
Technology Leadership Institute  
The Cooperative Learning Institute  
University of Minnesota, Duluth  
University of Minnesota Foundation

## Education and Community Partners

3M  
Breck School  
Carleton College  
Edgerton Elementary School  
Hamline University  
Highland Park Elementary School  
Highland Park Middle School  
Highland Park Senior High School  
Jieming Mandarin Immersion Academy  
Minnesota Institute of Arts  
Minnetonka Public Schools

Mounds View High School  
North High School  
Office of Special Education, Intermediate  
School District 917  
St. Anthony Middle School  
St. Catherine University  
St. Olaf College  
University of St. Thomas  
XCMG  
Yinghua Academy

## 2017-18 China Center Staff

Executive Director: Joan Brzezinski  
Assistant Director: Haiyan Wang  
Training Program Director: Rusty McLagan  
Training Program Manager: Zhengyang Gao  
Training Program Specialist: Qiuxia Welch  
Program Director: Emily Hanson  
Project and Program Specialist: Madeline Christensen  
Executive Office Administrative Specialist:  
Rachel Baumhover  
China Office Director: Wanling Qu  
China Office Assistant: Lin Chen

## Welcome New Staff

### Qiuxia Welch, Training Program Specialist

A native of Chengdu, China, Qiuxia has been an active member of the Minnesota Chinese community for more than 20 years. She started working with the CAAM Chinese Dance Theater while pursuing her bachelor's degree at Augsburg University. After receiving her master's degree from the University of Minnesota, Qiuxia helped to start a Chinese language program with the Eden Prairie Public School district. She also served as executive director of Minnesota-based Red Thread Charities, which helps build therapy training programs in Chinese orphanages.

### Madeline Christensen, Program and Project Specialist

Madeline earned her bachelor's degree from Tufts University, where she began studying Mandarin Chinese. Her first trip to China was a study abroad program in Yunnan province, where she returned to teach at a rural elementary school for two years through the Teach For China Fellowship. She then spent a year offering education consulting in Chengdu. Madeline also spent two summers working at a program for underprivileged youth in Hong Kong and has contributed to several international nonprofits.

## 2017-18 China Center Advisory Council

The China Center Advisory Council (CCAC) advises the executive director of the China Center, builds bridges between the China Center and faculty and academic units within the University, and strengthens connections between the University and the community.

### Chair

Dr. Li Li Ji

### Members

Ms. Pearl Bergad  
Dr. Tianhong Cui  
Mr. Ed Dieter  
Dr. Alex Fok  
Dr. Kim Gillette  
Dr. Eric Gong  
Dr. Sherry Gray  
Ms. Jill Griffiths  
Mr. Jim Harkness  
Dr. Michael Houston  
Mr. Hoyt Hsiao  
Dr. Ruilin Li  
Dr. Frank Liu  
Dr. Yang Liu  
Mr. Ed Lord  
Dr. Zhuangyi Liu  
Dr. S. Massoud Amin  
Mr. Bill Murray  
Prof. Thomas Rose  
Dr. Roger Ruan  
Ms. Kaimay Y. Terry  
Dr. Roz Tsai  
Dr. Ann Waltner  
Mr. Chang Wang  
Ms. Margaret M. Wong

亲爱的朋友们：

时至年终，我很高兴与大家分享中国中心在过去的一年里取得的一些成绩。2017-2018学年度，中国中心全体同仁继续为搭建中美桥梁协力向前。值此美中关系充满挑战之际，中国中心所做的种种努力愈加显得不可或缺。

我们当一如既往，建立并加强我们与合作伙伴的关系，促进人与人、思想与思想的交流，探索及共享我们的文化。中国中心致力于此已近四十个春秋；瞩目将来，我们也期待着为促进美中之间的理解与合作发挥重要作用。

在过去的一年里，我们在慷慨的捐助者和校内外各位合作伙伴的帮助下，取得了一些成就。在此我愿与大家分享我们的喜悦：

- 我们很高兴资助了第一位林世平访问学者。今年夏天，谢艺红博士从广西来到双子城，与明尼苏达大学动物健康与食品中心一同进行研究。谢博士的到来为广西疾病预防控制中心和明尼苏达大学的长期后续合作打开了大门，这一合作将致力于改善中国、明尼苏达和世界其他地区的食品安全。
- 明尼苏达大学以赋予学生全球成功为目标，而中国中心引以为豪的一项工作正是为明大学生提供多种多样的资助和交流机会，使之得以在大中华地区学习。当我们看到这一代学生对中国语言和文化所展现出的越来越深的兴趣时，我们的内心也深感欣慰。
- 为促进对中国文化的理解，我们举办了一系列社区文化活动。这其中包括我们的年度格里芬美中友谊桥讲座、众论中国活动等。我们也协力促成了明大植物园内中国花园的落成。

明尼苏达大学为与中国长逾百年的关系而深感自豪，这其中也离不开我们中国中心近四十年的努力。2019年，我们将庆祝中国中心成立四十周年。有着这样悠久的传统，以及强有力的合作伙伴，我们无论是此刻还是将来，都必将继续致力于搭建美中友谊的桥梁。谢谢你们的支持厚爱！



琼·布热津斯基女士  
中国中心主任



中國中心

CHINA CENTER

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

The China Center was established in 1979 to manage the University of Minnesota's exchanges with the People's Republic of China. For almost four decades, the China Center has reflected the firm and long-standing commitment of the University to international research, teaching, and outreach.

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