



UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO CONFUCIUS INSTITUTE



农历丙申猴年

2016

What's ahead for 2016?

The University at Buffalo Confucius Institute (UBCI) has three major functions: (a) as an educational resource center to help Western NY K-12 schools and UB develop Chinese language programs, (b) as a community cultural center to foster a better understanding of Chinese cultural traditions and contemporary China, and (c) as a de facto center for China Studies at UB to develop and support academic research and artistic production on campus. Please read on to find out what we have planned for 2016 in each of these three areas.

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 - Chinese Views of the Global Order: Urban Planning in the Era of Sino-Soviet Cooperation*
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- C10. Program of Visiting Professors
- C11. The Chinese and U.S. Economies Intertwined: A roundtable addressing global and local implications
- C12. Music of Modern China

A. Chinese Language Teaching Programs

A1. Developing Chinese Language Programs in Western NY Schools

One of the main tasks for UBCI is to establish and expand Chinese language teaching programs in local schools. Qualified teachers are selected by UBCI staff and by the host schools from a pool of candidates pre-approved by CI Headquarters in Beijing. UBCI helps to select teachers, prepare their visa materials, train, and supervise them during their stay. In 2016, UBCI will have 17 teachers placed in the following 13 schools/districts, including two professors at UB.

1. Akron Central School District
 2. Buffalo Academy of the Sacred Heart
 3. East Aurora High School
 4. Lewiston-Porter Central Schools
 5. St. Benedict School
 6. St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute
 7. Niagara Catholic Jr./Sr. High School
 8. Elmwood Franklin School
 9. Tonawanda City School District
 10. Nardin Academy
 11. Orchard Park School District
 12. St. Francis High School
 13. UB Department of Linguistics
 14. UB Graduate School of Education
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A2. Setting up more Confucius Classrooms.

UBCI has established Confucius Classrooms at Lewiston Porter School and City Honors School. We aim at establishing additional Confucius Classrooms in local schools in 2016. UBCI prepares application materials, selects partner schools, and facilitates communication with Hanban.

A3. Teaching credit-bearing Chinese courses at UB.

The collaboration will continue in 2016 with the Department of Linguistics to provide a visiting professor to teach Chinese language and culture classes and train teaching assistants in the program. UBCI will also provide resources and suggestions to enrich Chinese language instruction at UB. UBCI's Chinese Club closely collaborates with the activities of the Chinese language program.

A4. UB Summer Study Abroad Program at Capital Normal University

This program is in collaboration with the UB Study Abroad in China Program. Students will enroll in intensive Chinese language classes, participate in cultural tours, and exchange ideas with teachers and students from China. In 2016 UBCI will obtain scholarship opportunities from Hanban.

A5. Chinese Language Teaching Symposium

UBCI will conduct a 2-day Chinese language teacher training symposium in early fall 2016. The primary goal of the symposium will be to provide intellectually-stimulating presentations and discussion about (1) theories of second language acquisition as they relate to Chinese; (2) practical ideas for teaching Chinese to elementary and secondary students; and (3) the American language classroom in comparison with China. Scholars in the field of language pedagogy will present their research and share their insights. Local superintendents, principals and Chinese teachers will serve as trainers.

A6. Hanban Chinese teacher professional development workshops

Each semester, UBCI organizes one teaching seminar exclusively for UBCI guest teachers from China, which is a venue for Hanban teachers to report, share and reflect upon their teaching experiences. Hanban teachers are invited to write a reflection paper, and we will publish a volume when sufficient papers are collected.

A7. Community Classes for Adults

UBCI's Community classes in beginning, intermediate, and business Chinese are designed for adult learners who have an interest in China and want to learn to speak Chinese for personal enrichment, business, or travel. High school students are also welcome to enroll. In fall 2016, UBCI will add an advanced language course to the program.

A8. One-on-One Tutoring

UBCI will continue to offer one-on-one Chinese language tutoring. These sessions are designed around the language level and goals of individual students, and could include, for example, beginning Chinese, advanced reading or conversation classes, calligraphy, HSK preparation, etc.

A9. Chinese Language Proficiency Test

HSK is a standardized international Chinese language test designed to measure the ability of non-native Chinese speakers to communicate in Chinese in daily life, academic and work settings. It is valuable in applying for scholarships and summer camps in China and in building a China-related career.

A10. Youth Chinese Test

The YCT test was launched to encourage young foreign students to improve their Chinese language proficiency and build language learners' self-confidence. In 2016, UBCI will administer 3 YCT tests, two in the spring and one in the fall. Teachers are encouraged to have their students register as a group.

A11. UBCI Award for Excellent Student in Chinese Language Learning

This program, established in 2014, recognizes outstanding students in UBCI and local K-12 Chinese language programs who have demonstrated excellence in learning Chinese language and can serve as models for other students.

A12. Master of Education Degree Program in Teaching Chinese as a Second Language and New York State Chinese Language Teacher Certification

This important program, in collaboration with UB's Graduate School of Education, was launched successfully in fall 2015. Beginning in spring semester 2016, UBCI will provide a faculty member from Capital Normal University, Bo Yang, as a visiting professor to teach core courses and advise students in the program.

A13. UBCI online teaching resources

In January 2016, UBCI launched a new and improved website (www.confuciusinstitute.buffalo.edu). The website has been reorganized to include a portal for online teaching resources, which will help Chinese language, social studies, art, music, and other K-12 teachers enrich their classroom teaching about China.

B. Community Cultural Activities

B1. Chinese New Year Celebration

UBCI will cosponsor the 6th annual celebration of Chinese New Year on February 7, 2016, in partnership with the Western NY Chinese Club. The performances offer an excellent opportunity for accomplished Chinese language students in our area to demonstrate what they have learned to a large Western New York audience. The celebration is an occasion for Chinese and non-Chinese in Western New York to join together in celebration of the New Year with wonderful Chinese music and dance and a major demonstration and promotion of Chinese culture.

B1.1. Chinese New Year Activities in Schools

UBCI provides financial support and logistical assistance to schools with Hanban teachers for Chinese New Year activities. These include food festivals, performances, games, concerts and other cultural presentations.

B2. Confucius Institute Day and Moon Festival Celebration

UBCI plans to celebrate Confucius Institute Day and the Moon Festival with (1) a tent party to teach and demonstrate Chinese language learning and display Chinese culture with various exhibitions and (2) a major performance at UB by a touring group from China.

B3. Temple Fair

Working with the UB Chinese Students and Scholars Association (CSSA), UBCI will sponsor the 5th annual Lantern Festival Temple Fair in February 2015. Stations will feature Chinese traditional arts, games, and foods. Participants will enjoy promotional videos on China, its cities historic sites.

B4. Chinese Bridge Study Tour for American Educators

Giving school administrators and master teachers the opportunity to travel to China is among the best ways to build support for existing Chinese language programs or encourage them to launch new programs. In 2016, UBCI will organize a 10-day Chinese Bridge trip for local superintendents, principals, department chairs, and teacher mentors.

The study tour will include visits to Chinese schools and meetings with teachers and school administrators, along with excursions to major sites in Beijing, Tianjin, and one other city. Proposed dates are October 8-18, 2016.

B5. Chinese Bridge Student Summer Camp in China

CI Headquarters organizes and sponsors an annual Chinese Bridge for American high school students. Students travel to Beijing and then to a provincial capital for 7 days of cultural activities, sightseeing, and language learning. UBCI coordinates applications from local students, helps successful applicants apply for Chinese visas, and conducts orientations.

B6. Chinese Bridge Speech Contest

On March 19, the Chinese Bridge High School Speech Contest will take place at UMass-Boston. The university student competition will take place at Pace University in New York City on March 30. Competitors will be selected based on sample speeches submitted by email in January. Schools can select up to two students to apply. UBCI will pay for airfare and 2 nights of hotel accommodations for Buffalo-area high school students or UB students who are selected as finalists.

B7. Cultural Orientations

UBCI provides free cultural orientation to faculties/staff, community groups, government officials, and non-governmental organizations that plan to visit China or are hosting Chinese delegations locally.

B8. Chinese Culture Club

UBCI organizes and sponsors a Chinese Culture Club to enhance learning about Chinese culture at UB and in the local community. The club arranges informal presentations/discussions about China on varying topics, including traditional arts, medicine, sports, philosophy, education, cuisine, tea culture, popular culture, etc. Monthly presentations are free and open to the public. The Chinese Culture Club also organizes weekly tai chi classes at UB and is planning a Chinese culture reading group.

B9. San Xun Hanban Performance Tour

UBCI will host a Hanban Performance Tour conducted by a premiere university performance troupe from China.

B10. Buffalo Niagara Dragon Boat Festival

With its origins in Southern China, dragon boating today is one of the fastest growing team water sport. The Buffalo Niagara Dragon Boat festival is also growing in popularity, with more than 40 teams and 1,000 rowers participating last year. By organizing a team for the 2016 festival, UBCI will give our students, families, and other supporters a chance to participate in this increasingly popular traditional Chinese sport.

C. Academic Study Programs at UB

C1. Promoting Confucius China Study Plan

The Confucius Institute Headquarters has developed the “Confucius China Study Plan” with the aim of promoting deep understanding of Chinese culture. This plan is consistent with UBCI’s goal of supporting all faculty members and students who work on China-related projects at UB. In 2016, UBCI will promote and facilitate applications from UB students and faculty to the following programs of the “Confucius China Study Plan.”

- (1)The Understanding China visiting scholar program, which sponsors faculty members to undertake research projects in China for a period of 2 weeks to 10 months.
- (2)Publication funding to publish or translate China-related academic works.
- (3)The Sino-foreign Research Ph.D. Fellowship, which sponsors Ph.D. students from a foreign university to pursue one or two years of study in a Chinese university.
- (4)The Ph.D. in China Fellowship, which provides a full scholarship for foreign students to pursue a Ph.D. at a Chinese university.
- (5)The Young Leaders Program, which sponsors undergraduate seniors or M.A. students to study in China for a period of 2 weeks to 6 months.
- (6)The International Conference Grant Program.

C2. Promoting Confucius Institute Scholarships

The Confucius Institute Scholarship program sponsors foreign students, scholars and Chinese-language teachers to study for a Bachelor's Degree or Master's Degree in Teaching Chinese to Speakers of Other Languages or study in such majors as Chinese Language and Literature, Chinese History and Chinese Philosophy in designated universities of China. Scholarship recipients are exempt from tuition and other fees, receive a monthly allowance and comprehensive insurance.

C3. Academic Symposia and Conferences

As one part of implementing the "Confucius China Study Plan," UBCI has issued a public call for proposals for China-related academic conferences, symposia, workshops and art production at UB. In 2016, UBCI will support the following major international conferences:

Cross-cultural Discourse Through the Making of Contemporary Art

September 2016

This academic symposium and art exhibition will present the research and creative works that result from the academic exchange between the Department of Art, University at Buffalo and the Painting and Art History Departments, Tsinghua University. This symposium and exhibition will focus on the complex interpretations of ancient and contemporary Chinese culture from both Chinese and North American perspectives. The accompanying exhibition will be curated by the participating faculty and graduate students at UB.

Chinese Views of the Global Order: Urban Planning in the Era of Sino-Soviet Cooperation

April 2016

This symposium at UB is part of the scholarly initiative "Building an Interdisciplinary Approach to Study Chinese Views of the Global Order," funded by the SUNY Arts and Humanities Network of Excellence. Participants will explore how visions of the emerging socialist world were developed and disseminated, with a particular focus on urban planning. The changes in Chinese cities mirrored the construction of industrial cities in the Soviet Union several decades earlier, and thousands of Russian experts came to China to share their conceptions of socialist material culture and social organization.

Recovering China's Landscapes: Renewing Confucian Values of Harmony and Balance in Nature through Architecture and Design

This symposium (Fall 2016) will examine the possibilities for China's landscape and ecological recovery. World-renowned practitioners and scholars will discuss their work through the lens of renewed relationships between nature and culture, and examine new models operating at the intersection of urban design, planning and ecological systems. The symposium will enhance scholarship in diversity in design as well as in China studies at UB by disseminating research findings across multiple disciplines.

C4. The 2015 UBCI Distinguished Lecture Series

This series presents leading scholars in the field of China Studies who can speak to a broad audience. All UB faculty members are invited to nominate excellent candidates so that the series can cover every aspect and major topic in Chinese culture. The series, organized by UBCI itself, is designed to significantly enhance UBCI's academic dimension and to promote China studies at UB. Spring 2016 speakers include:

[What's ahead in 2016?](#)

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March 8, Jinmei Yuan, Professor of philosophy, Creighton University

Title: "Chinese Philosophy as A Way of Living"

March 22, Bryan Van Norden, Professor of Philosophy, Vassar College

Title: "Like Loving a Lovely Sight, Smiles and Metaphors in Chinese Philosophy"

March 29, George Crane, Professor, Williams College

Topic: "The Limits of Confucianism in America"

April 12, T. Collins Campbell, Jacob Gould Schurman Professor, Nutritional Biochemistry, Cornell University

Topic: "Chinese Food and Cancer Prevention"

Four more distinguished lectures will be arranged in Fall, 2016.

C5. Dance Residency Program

HT Chen and Dancers, one of the leading Asian-American dance companies in the United States, will conduct a community residency at Nichols School, Buffalo the week of March 7-11, 2016. The residency centers around the expression of Chinese traditional and contemporary culture through dance and related arts. Chen and Dancers will present a concert featuring excerpts from their current touring production, "South of Gold Mountain" – a dance-theater exploration of the Chinese immigrants who ventured to the United States and landed in the American South in the 18th and early 19th centuries. The concert will also feature their contemporary work that incorporates Tai-ch'i and martial arts. This piece includes the participation of 8 to 16 dancers/martial artists recruited from the local community who will rehearse and perform with the company. The residency will also feature workshops and assemblies in local schools.

C6. Program to support China-concentrated credit courses in UB

To promote UB's China Studies and encourage more faculty members to offer China-concentrated courses, UBCI will launch in 2016 a program to support the development of these courses. Each UB faculty member and instructor who is offering a new or substantially new course that concentrates on China is eligible to apply for funding.

C7. International Education Week: Sponsorship of Chinese events

International Education Week is an annual celebration of international students and cultures at UB.

In 2016, UBCI will be a sponsor of International Education Week and help organize China-related events throughout the week.

C8. Confucius Reading Area

We will continue to contribute books and database collections to the "Confucius Reading Area" in Lockwood Library, which UBCI established in 2014 in partnership with UB Libraries.

UB faculty members are invited to suggest materials they would like to have in our library.

C9: “UB-China Academic Relationship” A Symposium in Honor of Dr. Stephen Dunnett

The University at Buffalo, the largest and most comprehensive research university center in the State University of New York System, has maintained good academic and scholarly relations with China since 1980, when it was the first U.S. university to sign a cooperative education agreement with a Chinese institution of higher education. In 1980 it established an English Language Training Center on the campus of Capital Normal University to prepare the first wave of Chinese graduate students to study in the United States. In 1983, it established the first joint MBA program with Dalian University of Technology. UB enrolls more than 1,700 students from China and now maintains academic and scholarly exchange agreements with 5 Chinese universities. UB has many successful and influential Chinese alumni in China and in the U.S. China’s former Minister of Education, Dr. Zhou Ji, earned his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees at UB, and the founder of Baidu, Li Yanhong, was also educated here.

In 2016, UBCI will organize a symposium around the work of Stephen C. Dunnett, UB Vice Provost for International Education and one of the most respected international education administrators in the U.S. In addition to celebrating the impact that Professor Dunnett has had on UB, the symposium will examine the reasons for his success. We expect this symposium, along with a previous symposium in 2015, will inspire a new generation of leaders in China studies and international education at UB.

UBCI will award Professor Dunnett our highest honor, the “UBCI Confucius Educator Award.”

C10. Program of Visiting Professors

As one part of implementing the “Confucius China Study Plan,” the Confucius Institute encourages UB departments to apply to host visiting professors to teach China-related credit courses. Visiting faculty may come from UB’s Confucius Institute partner, Capital Normal University, or other Chinese universities.

C11. The Chinese and U.S. Economies Intertwined: A roundtable addressing global and local implications

UBCI will organize a roundtable on the Chinese economy in 2016 and its impact on the US economy. The leading discussants will be Bill Gisel, CEO of Rich Products, John Scannell, CEO of MOOG, and John Thomas, Dean emeritus of the UB School of Management.

C12. Music of Modern China

With growing interest in Chinese music at UB and in Buffalo, the Department of Music is expanding its curriculum to include a three-credit course on Chinese music. The course will explore the development of Chinese music from the Qing Dynasty to the present. UBCI will provide funding to bring guest speakers and musicians to UB to supplement course lectures and materials. All guest lectures and performances will be open to the public.

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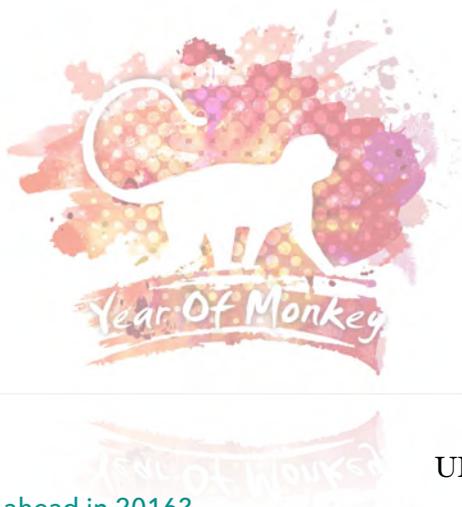
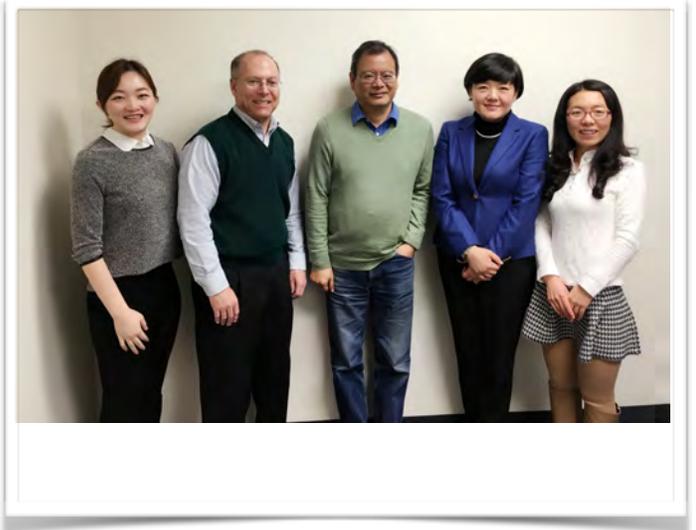
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