On Dec. 28th, the 10th Congress of the Li’ao Overseas Chinese Association was held at Wenzhou-Kean University (WKU). At the meeting, the All-China Federation of Returned Overseas Chinese conferred upon WKU the designation China International Culture Communication Base.

The Li’ao Overseas Chinese Association signed a strategic cooperation agreement with WKU’s College of Overseas Chinese. Mr. Wang Yundi, the Overseas Chinese leader from France, also donated one million RMB to the WKU Education Foundation. The event was attended by Mr. Frank Wang, Chairman of the WKU Board of Directors and Mr. Wang Chengyun, Chairman of WKU Foundation. The Secretary General of the Foundation also attended this event.

There are many advantages for WKU in being located in the hometown of overseas Chinese. WKU always works closely with various overseas associations, both in China and abroad, and jointly contributes to the development of the regional

Student Debaters’ Active Fall Semester

During the last weeks of November and first week of December, the WKU English Debating Society organized and held a qualifying competition to select the team which will represent Wenzhou-Kean University at the prestigious FLTRP Cup regional competition in Nanjing this coming Spring. Hundreds of universities will be there competing along with our own team. Sixteen teams of WKU debaters competed in a round robin tournament through four rounds of competition, and then the top

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In 2016, WKU received overseas delegations from Europe, United States, South Africa and the overseas Chinese leadership of the World Wenzhouese Conference, discussing cultural exchanges and investment opportunities, as well as how to support and develop Wenzhou's educational needs. Last summer, the University organized the Overseas Chinese youth “China Roots Trip” Summer Camp. Some 40 teenagers of the Italy Overseas Chinese group participated in this camp, experiencing their Chinese culture and heritage. Their sense of cultural identity has been greatly enhanced through this activity. In 2016, WKU was approved by All-China Federation of Returned Overseas as the “China International Culture Communication Base”.

At the December meeting, Mr. Wang Chengyun, Mr. Wang Chengyun, on behalf of the WKU College of Overseas Chinese, signed a strategic partnership aimed at exploring new model of universities cooperating with overseas associations. The College of Overseas Chinese will offer training and student internships for the overseas Chinese community, while the Association will help WKU raise funds to support building WKU's facilities, so as to achieve the goal of cooperative development.

Mr. Wang Yundi, the newly elected Chairman of Li’ao Overseas Chinese Association and the Overseas Chinese leader from France, generously donated one million RMB to WKU to support the building and development of WKU Overseas Chinese College.
Assistant Professor Randy Clark learned recently that his entry “BYG” made it into the Graphis (Letterhead 8) design journal. Graphis is considered by many, one of the top peer reviewed graphic design competitions internationally and is highly respected.

While preparing to come to China, Professor Clark took on a freelance job with a restaurant chain, Backyard Grill. Having been published before in Graphis, Randy felt he had a fair chance of getting into the journal once again. You can see his work by following this link:

http://www.graphis.com/entry/761f472b-3dc0-4e60-823c-b7072ae3c0e6/

As Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Henke observed: “The ability to spontaneously engage in English-language conversation in professional and social contexts is one of the most valuable transferable skills our students can gain in the years they attend WKU. The debating clubs and their coaches and mentors are the vanguard of that learning effort, and I appreciate their work and leadership roles in this regard, and take pride with them in the students’ successes.”

cont’d from p.1, Student Debaters’ Active Fall Semester

four teams from the round robin competed in the Grand Final. The team selected to represent WKU at the regional competition was Team LV, Louie and Vivian (Qian Luyin and Wei Wanting), two talented freshmen.

This competition would not have been possible without the dedicated, after hours labor of Lin Long, of Academic Affairs, and Jin Sujie of the English Learning Center. The Debating Society owes them a great deal of gratitude. In addition, a number of faculty volunteered their time as judges, including Professors Marquardt, Toomey, Duff, Miceli, Quarles, McCoskey, and Prince, along with distinguished special guest judge Xia Xue, who was a member of last year’s FLTRP Cup team which won a place in the National Finals Tournament. Vicky Gao and Carol Chen also used their experience in debating to serve as judges.

Only a week after the campus Grand Final, two teams of WKU debaters, Team LV and a team consisting of Han Xiaobin (Hartmut) and Jiang Xinyi (Demi) traveled to Shanghai to compete in the Shanghai University of Finance and Economics Winter Novice Cup. They competed in several rounds against teams from all over Shanghai and other nearby cities. Professor Prince accompanied them and served as a judge for several rounds at the competition, and one of our WKU alumni, Ni Jiaqi, volunteered to act as a timekeeper as well.

Both of the two WKU teams gained valuable experience, scoring their first points in interscholastic competition. WKU is now invited to attend several more competitions this Spring, in addition to the FLTRP Cup, all of which will help them gain valuable experience and learn to “think quickly, speak clearly, and rule the world!”

The long and arduous preparations for the actual competition...
Cultural Trips While Abroad
by Joanna Kristine Ninal, republished from Cougar's Byte (Feb. 10, 2017)

Studying abroad can give anyone a mix feeling of excitement and panic. Sometimes, students wonder what else would they be able to do abroad. Will they be able to see more than what meets the eye? Will they do more than stay on campus? These thoughts are common when considering studying abroad.

When studying abroad in Wenzhou, China, students are given the opportunity to travel anywhere within Wenzhou. Just as how international students at Kean University in Union, NJ, are able to travel to New York or other nearby states, American students in Wenzhou can also travel around on their own.

While at Wenzhou-Kean University, there are trips available for students to experience a good amount of the Chinese culture.

Yaruby L. Petit-Frere, director of the Center for International Studies (CIS), guarantees that students studying abroad get to experience three cultural trips. The trips change every year depending on the class. Some common trips students take are to the Great Wall of China, Shanghai and the Nanxi River. These trips take place during the weekend, and can take as long as one overnight to three nights for a trip. For example, the overnight trips are short trips to places near the Wenzhou campus, but a trip to Beijing, China would take three nights. The trips decided to be taken all depend on the budget permitted to the students studying abroad.

The campus life in Wenzhou-Kean University is comparable to the Union campus. There are many student organizations as there are here and the students there are just as full-fledged as the ones here.

Students can also venture off campus to travel by themselves. It is important to note that students are required to inform someone at Residential Student Services (RSS) where they will head. Since students will be studying abroad in Wenzhou, they will be dorming and must follow RSS rules and regulations.

Before heading to Wenzhou-Kean University, students who apply and are eligible for studying abroad must attend the workshops that prepare them to go abroad. There are four to five mandatory workshops, covering topics such as the language, the studying abroad work load and essential things like orientation.

Each student who is going abroad will be assigned a mentor, someone who takes them on activities. This person will be the student's peer resource and (soon-to-be) best friend.

“Last semester, all the students were telling me how much they were in love with their mentors. They found them very helpful and fun to be around,” says Director Yaruby.

The application to study abroad in Wenzhou during the fall semester 2017 is due on Monday, March 6, 2017. Students are highly encouraged to apply for the scholarships provided by CIS, as it beneficial for covering flight, housing and cultural activities. Those who apply will be checked to see if they are eligible for studying abroad in Wenzhou, China.

KangNai, established in 1980, is a leather manufacturer specializing in the manufacturing of high-grade men’s and ladies leather shoes. The purpose of the visit was to provide the students with the opportunity to see and hear first-hand, from a “real world” company, the accounting and production concepts they were taught in their cost accounting class.

During the visit the students were introduced to the “world of KangNai.” They were informed of KangNai’s history to include how they got started, their struggle as a shoe manufacturer in Wenzhou, and their success as a prominent Chinese exporter of shoes to various countries including the USA and Japan.

Two Research Programs sponsored by Wenzhou Municipal Science and Technology Bureau

Wenzhou Municipal Science and Technology Bureau recently released announced its annual science and technology plan. Two WKU faculty obtained sponsorship.

“Wen-Rui Tang River Revitalization Assessment Project – Trophic System Modeling” by Dr. Toby Michelena received 150,000 RMB from the 2016 Water Pollution Control and Treatment Program. “The Design of a Personalized and Configurable Intelligent Tutoring System for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder using Eye Tracking based Behavioral Data for User Modeling” by Dr. Tiffany Tang received 50,000 RMB from the Nonprofit Science and Technology Program.

These are two more successful examples of WKU faculty obtaining government funds since Dr. Meng Yu’s first received support from the Zhejiang Provincial Natural Science Foundation of China.

In recent years WKU has focused on strengthening academic affairs management and promoting faculty and students to engage in research and innovation activities for social benefits and economic development. Starting in 2015 WKU organized its SpF research program (Students partnering with Faculty) annually. Every accepted program is awarded an internal grant with the amount ranging cont.’d on p.6
from 10,000 to 30,000 RMB. In addition, every year the university organizes a Student Research Day, a Global Lecture Series and research seminars to inspire the faculty and students’ research.

Many achievements have been made through these programs and activities. For example, Dr. Tiffany Tang’s research program, sponsored by the Wenzhou government, was also included in the first SPF. Dr. Tang and Dr. Pinata Winoto along with their students were invited many times to attend international conferences to present their research achievements on Computer System for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder with 7 academic papers published. A team of two freshmen supervised by Dr. Pinata Winoto won the third prize in the annual Microsoft Imagine Cup 2016 (World Citizenship Category) in China.

Mid-Winter Festival Celebration at Chashan

On December 18th, Associate Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences, David Purnell, was invited by Director Pan of the Gaojiao Boyuan Community Committee to take part in the Mid-Winter Festival celebration held in Chashan.

During the outdoors event, Dr. Purnell enjoyed the honor of serving 汤圆 (glutinous rice balls) to fellow residents.

WKU faculty can soon expect to have expanded service opportunities at the new Community Center there in Chashan.
ESL Instructor Resource Center Collaborates with Wenzhou University

The new ESL Instructor Resource Center officially opened on Wednesday, November 23, 2016. An additional accomplishment was achieved on December 1, 2016, when the center shared its electronic library of over 700 monographs, reference texts, literary texts, research articles, and instructional materials with the Wenzhou University English Language and Literature Department.

Zhang Ci, Lecturer of English Language and Literature, visited the center to receive the electronic library. Miss Zhang was very pleased with our contribution, and she related the pleasure and gratitude of her department head as well. 

As Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Dr. Henke, noted: “The sharing of our resources is a significant and tangible step in the direction of greater collaboration with our partner institution Wenzhou University.”

L-r: Zhang Ci, Lecturer of English Language and Literature, Wenzhou University, Dr. Ted Slautterback, Director of English Languages, and Yang Jial (Aileen), WKU English major and ESL Instructor Resource Center staff member.

“He who asks is a fool for five minutes, but he who does not ask remains a fool forever.”
Chinese proverb

Faculty Update

Wenzhou-Kean University is a Chinese-American jointly established higher education institution with independent legal person status and limited liabilities. The 500-acre campus is located in Wenzhou, in the Zhejiang Province of the People's Republic of China. It went into full operation in 2014.

**Second Student Research Day**

*April 19, 2017*

Your research should aim to have a tangible outcome that you can present during the Research Day.

It can result for example in a conference-style panel, a PowerPoint presentation, a creative or multi-media product, a performance or a poster.

Contact your professor to consider a research project for Student Research Day.