



# BUILDING U.S.-CHINA BRIDGES

China Center Annual Report 2007-08

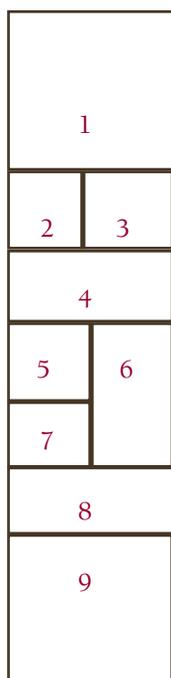
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

## Inside

From the Director.....	1
Students and Scholars .....	2
Faculty.....	3
K-12 Initiatives .....	4
Training Programs .....	5
Griffin Lecture.....	6
Community Engagement .....	7
Recruitment.....	8
To Our Chinese Friends .....	9
Bridging Relationships .....	10
Contributors.....	11
Corporate Partnership / Budget.....	12
CCAC and China Center Office Information.....	13

**Note about Chinese names:** The China Center's policy is to print 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).

## On the Cover



1. A Bridge in China
2. China Center Dragon Boat team (page 7)
3. Participants in the First Sino-US Education Forum (page 3)
4. Students in Northrop Auditorium for China Day (page 4)
5. Training program participants at their graduation reception (page 5)
6. Training program participants in a lecture (page 5)
7. Yongwei Zhang meeting with an official in China (page 1)
8. Students learning in China (page 2)
9. Stone Arch Bridge in Minneapolis

## 主任致辭 From the Director



Dr. Yongwei Zhang

As I look back on my first year as director of the China Center, I feel extremely fortunate to be able to lead such a dynamic and productive center! It has also been my greatest pleasure to meet and interact with the wealth of people in both China and the U.S. who are working on collaboration and cooperation. It makes the task of building U.S.-China bridges extremely rewarding. There have been many exciting new initiatives as well as advancements in ongoing initiatives that made the past year a tremendous success.

Last year, the China Center took on the responsibility of recruiting top Chinese undergraduate students to study at the University of Minnesota. Because of our long-standing connections with many top-ranked high schools in China, we were able to strategically focus our efforts on attracting the most qualified students. Through these efforts, a group of extremely talented Chinese students began their studies at the University of Minnesota this fall.

In May, the First Sino-US Education Forum was held at the University of Minnesota. The China Center co-organized this event, which was attended by almost 90 Chinese and Minnesota educators. It was wonderful to see the tremendous mutual exchange of information, discussion of education reform, and strong desire to collaborate.

After nearly two years of discussion, the China Center successfully concluded negotiations with the Council of Chinese Language International to establish a Confucius Institute at the University of Minnesota. The mission of Confucius Institutes world-wide is to promote the teaching of Chinese language and culture. This will be an incredible resource for the people of Minnesota.

The relationships between Chinese universities and the University of Minnesota have deepened and grown. By increasing our visits to their campuses and warmly welcoming their visits to ours, we have established numerous connections. Three new agreements between the University of Minnesota and Chinese universities were established in the last year and there are more being discussed. Our focus on these relationships is for the entire University of Minnesota, not just the Twin Cities campus. The campuses in Crookston, Duluth, and Morris have tremendous opportunities and a strong desire for collaboration with Chinese institutions, and the China Center will help to make that happen.

The Mingda Institute for Leadership Training also greatly expanded in the last year. A total of 22 delegations—comprised of more than 430 people—completed the highly regarded training that the Institute offers. Because of the high demand, we were able to hire another full-time employee to focus just on the Institute.

With the tragedy of the Sichuan earthquakes and the excitement of the Beijing Olympics, more people than ever before showed great interest in the country and the people of China. Demand for scholarships to study in China increased dramatically—twice as many applications were submitted than the previous year! The China Center is committed to providing as many opportunities for these students as possible. There has also been an increase in the number of businesses wanting to work with China. The China Center will work closely with corporate partners to provide services and promote economic connections.

The next year promises to be an even more exciting year, and I look forward to working with you as we build U.S.-China bridges together!

A stylized handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of the Chinese characters '張永偉' (Zhang Yongwei) written in a cursive script.

Dr. Yongwei Zhang

## Record Demand for China Center Scholarships



2007-08 Red Pockets Scholarship recipient Annie Rollins (center) with Wan Yau (left) and head puppeteer Wei Lao Shi in Shaanxi.

One of the most important goals of the China Center is to encourage more students to visit Mainland China, Hong Kong, and Taiwan. Through several scholarships and exchange programs, the China Center supports students who want to study and conduct research in Greater China. University students know the importance of study in China more than anyone. This year there was an overwhelming number of applications for the scholarships and exchanges offered through the China Center—more than twice as many applications were reviewed this year than any other year! The large number of exceptional students who applied made the award decisions difficult. In order to best support these students, fewer students received larger awards.

### **Chinese Government Scholarship**

Linh Nguyen

### **China Universities Exchange Program (CUEP)**

Chris Decker

### **International Reciprocal Student Exchange Program (IRSEP)**

Tylor Wagner

### **Hsiao Scholarship**

Huy-Quang Cao

Stella Collier

Sheeya Yang

### **Red Pockets Scholarship**

Brett Arenz

Jeff Chang

Stella Collier

Katrina Klett

Henry Lau

Thomas Mitchell

Annie Rollins

Michael Wong

Cassandra Wudi

Mary Yang

## China Center Hosts Two Chinese Scholars

Two visiting scholars from China were hosted by the China Center in 2007-08: Dr. Han Jingzhi and Dr. Wang Lixin. Dr. Han was a CUEP scholar from Peking University in Beijing. He came to study magnetic thin film, conducting research on magnetic materials in the Center of Micromagnetics and Information Technologies. He studied with Professor Jianping Wang in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering. Dr. Han values his experiences at the University of Minnesota and thinks it crucial to the future development of his career.

Dr. Wang was an IRSEP scholar from Nankai University in Tianjin. His goal while at the University of Minnesota was to extend his studies to include Hebrew literature and culture. While here, he worked closely with Professor Jeffrey Stackert in Classical and Near Eastern Studies. He plans to invite Professor Stackert to China to give lectures or workshops when his schedule allows.

Both scholars were actively involved in China Center programs, including the New Year event where Dr. Wang was one of two solo singers!

## **China Center Co-organizes First Sino-US Education Forum**

In the late spring, the China Center co-organized the first Sino-US Education Forum. The mission of this forum was to gather educators from China and the United States to comprehensively discuss the theme of education collaboration between their countries. This forum was unique from previous similar gatherings because the featured speakers focused on current research in the field of education rather than just current practices and language instruction. The forum took place April 27-30, 2008, at the University of Minnesota and was attended by 46 Chinese educators from 17 provinces in China and more than 40 Minnesota educators and education students from all over the state, including University of Minnesota faculty.

The attendees heard from distinguished speakers from both countries, including University of Minnesota faculty and Chinese principals of top schools. The forum also included break-out sessions where they could dialogue with each other. Topics ranged from comparing the educational systems of both countries to K-12 reform in both China and the US and how the two countries can move forward on international exchange and cooperation. After two days of exceptional speakers and dialog, Chinese participants were hosted by Minnesota principals at their schools in the greater metro area.

Forum partners were the University of Minnesota's College of Education and Human Development and the College Readiness Consortium, and the Minnesota Association of Secondary School Principals. The China Center's co-organizer was the America-China Education Foundation, a non-profit organization that supports international exchange and cooperation in education, education theory and market research, curriculum development, education reform, and dialogue.

## **Second Bilateral Forum Held at University of Minnesota**

The University of Minnesota Institute of Technology hosted the second University of Minnesota-Graduate University of the Chinese Academy of Sciences Bilateral Forum on September 20 and 21, 2007. The forum was attended by 22 faculty and leaders from various scientific and engineering fields at the Chinese Academy of Sciences and their counterparts at the University of Minnesota who met to discuss their own research and share ideas for collaborative exchange. The forum included laboratory tours and 18 technical presentations. The technical presentations were notable for the diversity of topics, ranging from electronics to cell biology, and the wide span of length scales, ranging from nanometers (for nanoparticle research) to thousands of kilometers (tsunamis, ecology, and geosciences).

## **College of Education and Human Development visits Northeast Normal University**

The China Center facilitated a connection between the University of Minnesota's College of Education and Human Development (CEHD) and Northeast Normal University (NENU) in November 2007. Professor Art Harkins is a faculty member in CEHD's Department of Educational Policy and Administration. Dr. John Moravec is the innovation and integrated technology coordinator at the University of Minnesota. Harkins and Moravec are currently working on further development of Leapfrog Institutes—schools and school systems that work ahead of the competition in teaching, research, innovation, and service. It is a project sponsored by CEHD with the aim of building positive futures for PreK-12 education with collaborating institutions worldwide. Harkins and Moravec visited NENU to meet with Dean Ma Yungpeng and several faculty members of the School of Education Science to discuss how to expand Leapfrog Institutes in China.

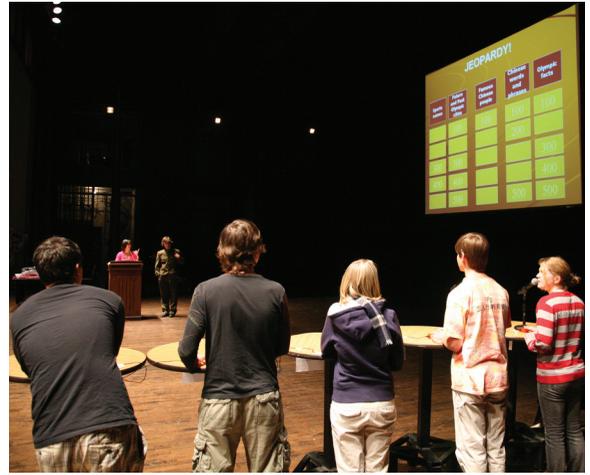
## K-12 Initiatives 攜手中小學

### China Day

The seventh annual China Day was held on April 18, 2008. More than 850 Chinese language students from nine high schools in the Twin Cities gathered at Northrop Auditorium to learn about the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games and use their Chinese language skills outside of a classroom setting.

Professors Chris Isett and Doug Hartman, from the history and sociology departments at the University of Minnesota, presented the keynote speech on the Beijing Olympics. Their backgrounds in China and the Olympic Games allowed them to speak about the effects the Olympics and China will have on each other.

Following the presentation, forty students representing all of the participating schools played a bilingual Jeopardy-style game with questions about the Beijing Olympics. After a box lunch of Chinese foods, student speakers from each school introduced their Chinese programs and received Olympics memorabilia from the China Center. The goal of the annual China Day event is to encourage Chinese language learning and promote interest in Chinese culture among high schools students in the Twin Cities.



*Students playing the bilingual Jeopardy-style game.*

### A Confucius Institute Opens at the University of Minnesota!



The University of Minnesota—through its China Center—successfully concluded its negotiations with the Council of Chinese Language International (*Hanban*) on the establishment of a Confucius Institute. After nearly two years of discussion, Dr. Yongwei Zhang, director of the China Center, worked closely with the *Hanban* to finalize the contract. Through his efforts along with generous support from the Consulate General in Chicago, the Confucius Institute at the University of Minnesota opened in September 2008. The Confucius Institute will be a University unit whose mission will be to foster the study of Chinese language and culture among non-university audiences, to support the professional development of Chinese language teachers, and to encourage K-12 cultural exchange.

*Minnesota Education Commissioner Alice Seagren, Capital Normal University Executive Vice President Gong Huili, University of Minnesota President Robert Bruininks, and Deputy Consul General Chu Maoming cut the ribbon on the resource center for the new Confucius Institute.*

## Mingda Institute Has Record Year Participation in Training Programs

Guided by the University's strategic initiative of forging an international university, the China Center's Mingda\* Institute for Leadership Training has hosted twenty-two delegations with a total of 438 mid-career Chinese professionals from government, academic, business, and non-profit sectors in 2007-08.

The Institute is committed to improving international education exchanges between the University of Minnesota and numerous Chinese universities and organizations by delivering higher education policy and administration training programs. The Institute hosted eleven higher education policy and student affairs administration delegations from the following universities and organizations:

- Zhejiang Economic & Trade Polytechnic College: vice president with 12 deans and head directors
- China University of Mining & Technology: 36 mid-level administrators and professors
- Beijing Municipal Education Commission: 19 student affairs administrators from 15 universities
- Development of School District System Research Program for Capital Normal University: 6 administrators
- Xia'men Institute of Architectural Design: 7 senior architects
- Xichang College: 10 department heads
- Beijing Higher Education Training Center: 34 professors from 28 Beijing universities
- Wuhan University: 10 student affairs administrators
- Beijing Institute of Petrochemical Technology: 20 department heads
- Southwest University of Science & Technology: President and 20 college deans and department heads
- University of Electronic Science and Technology of China: vice president and 10 department heads
- Capital Normal University: Vice president and 19 college deans and department heads

The Institute also hosted Chinese officials from Chinese central, provincial and municipal governments:

- Sichuan Ethnic Minority Public Affairs Administration and Agricultural Sustainable Development Training Program: 20 county government officials
- Advanced Human Resources Management Training Program for China State Development & Investment Corporation: 10 human resources directors
- China State Food and Drug Administration: 21 national and provincial directors
- Community Health Club and School Sports Delegation from Beijing Municipal Bureau of Sports: 5 officials
- Guangdong Province Public Health: 34 public health officials and hospital directors
- Chengdu Municipality Human Resource Development: 11 government officials

The Mingda Institute for Leadership Training also provided four training programs for approximately 160 presidents, CEOs, and senior managers from Guangdong province—the province with the largest foreign trade volume and the highest total gross domestic product in China. By bringing these Chinese business leaders to visit Minnesota-based companies and network with Minnesota business representatives, the Institute is creating opportunities for both the U.S. and Chinese business communities.

\* *Mingda* is the Chinese acronym for the University of Minnesota

## 2007 Griffin Lecture: China and the U.S. Interest in Oil



Ambassador Jeffrey Bader explored the complicated and contentious issues surrounding U.S.-China competition for energy and oil for the 2007 Bob and Kim Griffin Building U.S.-China Bridges Lecture held in September. The title of the lecture was “China and the Middle East: From revolution to stability ... to challenge?” Bader, director of the John L. Thornton China Center and a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution, presented a factual look at the realities of China’s increasing appetite for energy and what this will mean for the U.S. and global economies.

Bader stressed that “China’s policy toward the Middle East has evolved through opportunism driven by arms sales to intensive engagement based on national interest.” That national interest began to shift in the early 1990s, when China moved from being a net exporter to a net importer of crude oil. Since then, the core of China’s concerns in the Middle East has been assuring access to oil and gas, primarily from the Persian Gulf. This has led China to intensify its relationships with the countries in that region. Acquisition of oil properties has been a part of China’s strategy to assure energy security, but in the Middle East only Sudan thus far has provided much opportunity in that regard.

As the world’s two largest consumers of oil, the U.S. and China have inherent reasons for cooperation, rather than conflict, on energy issues. They have a common interest in assuring access to oil at affordable prices, stability in markets, increase in supply, and greater efficiency in use. In working toward these goals, both the U.S. and China must consider the serious risk of political conflict as a consequence of depending on certain countries for oil—especially Iran and Sudan.

An audio version of the lecture is available at: [www.chinacenter.umn.edu/news/eventsannual\\_griffin.html](http://www.chinacenter.umn.edu/news/eventsannual_griffin.html)



Bob Griffin with Jeffrey Bader

*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 Participates in Wide Variety of Community Events

Some of the China Center's most important work happens in the community. To keep strengthening connections that build U.S.-China bridges, the China Center hosts, sponsors, and participates in a wide variety of events in the Twin Cities and University community. Here are some highlights for the 2007-08 year:



*The Dragon Boat team*

in an informal show. Later in the month, Dr. Yongwei Zhang, China Center director, gave a presentation as part of the **Weisman Art Museum's Documenting China** noontime discussion series. His presentation focused on the Chinese education system and how it relates to the country's rapid growth. In November, the China Center cosponsored a **public forum on tax issues in China** for foreign-invested firms. The event was attended by local tax specialists and others interested in the recent tax reforms in China. In February, the **Year of the Rat** was celebrated with an evening of Chinese music and dance hosted by the China Center. China Center staff also participated

In July, the China Center once again participated in the **Twin Cities Dragon Festival**, including competing in the Dragon Boat races. The China Center also had a presence at the "Great Minnesota Get-Together," the **Minnesota State Fair**. Part of a day was spent at the University of Minnesota's booth meeting people from all over Minnesota and sharing information about China. In September, the China Center hosted a celebration of the **Moon Festival**. In addition to eating traditional moon cakes and fall fruits, community members were encouraged to share their talents



*Audience enjoys the New Year*



*Dr. Zhang meets with alumni in D.C.*

in Washington D.C. It was attended by Chinese Ambassador Zhou Wenzhong and Dr. Yongwei Zhang, who was able to make connections with University alumni. The China Center also participated in **Passage to China** at Southdale Center in May. It was an opportunity for several local Chinese organizations to present a variety of topics to the approximately 2,000 attendees from the community. **Two business lectures** on doing business in China were cosponsored by the China Center in May. Dr. Lynn Lin and Dr. Hong Yang, former China Center director, spoke on their personal perspectives and experience of doing business in China.

in multiple celebrations held in the Twin Cities community, including a special celebration at the **Best Buy** headquarters for all employees. In March, Dr. Yongwei Zhang was the featured speaker in the College of Continuing Education's **Headliners Lecture Series** where he spoke about the changing Chinese economy and related global consequences. Gao Hong celebrated the **35th anniversary of playing pipa** in an evening of music at Ted Mann Concert Hall cosponsored by the China Center. In May, the **University of Minnesota Alumni Association** held an event at the Chinese Embassy



*Bai (Mandy) Xue at Passage to China*

## China Center Leads Effort in Chinese Undergraduate Recruitment

Starting with the 2007-08 school year, the China Center has taken the lead role in recruiting top undergraduate students from China to attend the University of Minnesota. The University has a goal of having international students comprise 5 percent of the total undergraduate population. The goal of the China Center's effort is to increase the quality of the Chinese freshmen applicants rather than sheer quantity. The China Center works with the Office of Admissions and the Minnesota English Language Program to plan recruiting trips to several high schools with whom the China Center has a close working relationship, including the High School Attached to Northeast Normal University in Changchun, Beijing Royal School in Beijing, and the High School Attached to Hunan Normal University in Changsha.

The China Center coordinates visits to these schools in the fall to give information seminars about the University to students and parents, and administer testing to assess English proficiency. The test is comprised of a written exam and an interview, the results of which are accepted by the University Office of Admissions in lieu of TOEFL or IELTS scores. Because the testing is time-intensive, the high schools are asked to recommend only students with the top qualifications. This strategy enables a higher concentration of top-quality applications and allows the Chinese students to work directly with the admissions office, cutting out the role of an "agent." It is a long-standing myth in China that a paid agent is required in order to apply and be admitted to U.S. universities.

Results from these efforts are already being seen. The total number from Mainland China increased from 150 in fall 2007 to 850 in the fall of 2008. In fall 2007, 50 students arrived as freshmen. This number increased to 160 in the fall of 2008. Once students arrive on campus, the China Center maintains contact to facilitate their transition and keep track of their adjustment. In their frequent communications with the China Center, most parents indicated that they feel comfortable sending their children to the University of Minnesota because it has a China Center and a well-established ESL program.

## Beijing International Education Expo

China Center Assistant Director Jennifer Wu and Andy Lucas, assistant to the dean of the Graduate School, attended the 4th Beijing International Education Expo (BIEE) in July 2007. BIEE 2007 was sponsored by the Beijing Municipal Education Commission and organized by Beijing International Education Exchange. This was the fourth consecutive year that the University of Minnesota was represented at this college fair attended by more than 88,000 people. The China Center once again assisted with all the logistics for the University. Even though there are as many as 151 foreign educational institutions represented at the fair, the University of Minnesota was an extremely popular booth, with a constant stream of both parents and students requesting information.

At the fair, Wu and Lucas were interviewed by various members of the media, including [www.sohu.com](http://www.sohu.com). The University of Minnesota was chosen to be one of the seven universities to serve on a panel called "Meeting with the World Renowned Universities" to answer questions from students and media face to face. Other institutions on the panel included the University of Waterloo of Canada, Yonsei University of South Korea, Hiroshima University of Japan, Moscow State University of Russia, and the University of Nottingham of the UK. Fourteen media agencies including CCTV, Beijing People's Radio Station, and [www.sohu.com](http://www.sohu.com) attended the panel discussion along with more than 300 students and parents.

### 更新思路，拓寬渠道，開創美中合作交流的新局面

明尼苏达大学中国中心的全体工作人员在过去的一年中集思广益，奋力创新，加强了已有的合作项目，发展了新的战略伙伴。过去的一年是机遇与挑战并存的一年，也是成就和发展互映的一年。

中国中心从去年开始负责明大在中国大陆的本科招生工作。我们初期的重点集中在不同地区的优秀高中，通过明大英语中心的严格考试及现场面试，筛选优秀的高中毕业生。这一举措的实施为明大在中国的招生开创了新的局面。第一批由我们招收的中国留学生已于去年秋天开始了他们在明大的本科学习生涯。

经过明大中国中心与中国国家汉语国际推广领导小组办公室（汉办）近两年的友好协商和酝酿，明州第一所孔子学院于去年秋天在明大校园落成。孔子学院现已遍布世界各地，旨在推广中国语言和文化教育。美国有四十多个城市设有孔子学院，向背景各异的美国民众展示中国的语言和文化。明尼苏达州中小学对中文学习的需求在全美增长最快，明大孔子学院的建成无疑为明州人民提供了极好的资源。

去年五月，中国中心与美中教育基金会联手，在明大校园举办了第一次中美教育论坛。参加论坛的九十多位美中教育工作者在会上充分交流，各抒己见，倾听专家论述，畅谈教育改革，使这次论坛达到了互通信息，加强交流，相互学习，共同提高的目的。

明大与中国各大学的关系在过去一年中有了更进一步的发展，通过交流和访问，相互间的了解进一步加深，彼此更加信任。去年，明大与南昌大学、大连理工大学和东北师范大学等三所高等院校签订了合作协议；同中国人民大学就两校法学院合作事宜进行了磋商，首期明大法学院法学博士赴华暑期班合作项目已经启动；明大莫瑞斯校区同中国电子科技大学的本科联合办学项目正在筹备之中。

中国中心的培训项目在去年取得长足发展。尽管由于四川地震和北京奥运致使很多培训班取消或推迟行程，仍有22个培训团、430名中国政府的中层领导、教育工作者和企业家在明大培训学院顺利完成了培训项目，其中包括来自北京等地区高校的50多名大学校长、院系领导和教授、广东地区的近200名公司总裁和中国十三个省级食品药品监督管理局的局长和主要负责人。

在经历了四川地震的悲痛和北京奥运会的喜悦之后，越来越多的人对中国和中国人民产生了浓厚的兴趣。申请中国中心的奖学金去中国留学的人数也比前一年翻了一番。中国中心积极争取给这些学生提供更多的机会。与此同时，越来越多的企业希望与中国进行合作。中国中心将与合作伙伴保持密切联系，提供服务，促进美中两国的经贸往来。



明大負責國際項目的副校長梅瑞思與大連理工大學副校長甯桂玲博士簽署協議，正式啓動在學術研究方面的合作。

## Consul General Huang Ping

Huang Ping became the Consul General of the People's Republic of China in Chicago in July 2007. As Consul General, Huang oversees political, cultural, and educational exchange in nine states: Illinois, Iowa, Indiana, Kansas, Colorado, Michigan, Missouri, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. China Center staff welcomed him on his first visit to Minnesota in November. He met with Senior Vice President for System Academic Administration Dr. Robert Jones and with Associate Vice President and Dean for International Programs Meredith McQuaid. Consul General Huang was greatly impressed by the University's exchanges with China and pledged to do what he could to continue to support the China Center's mission to build U.S.-China bridges.



*China Center Director, Yongwei Zhang with Consul General Huang Ping*

In February, Consul General Huang hosted the China Center staff at the consulate in Chicago. At that time, China Center staff met with Huang and his colleagues to provide updates on core programming: maintaining relationships with Chinese institutions; providing leadership training for Chinese officials in education, government, and business fields; recruiting undergraduate students from China; and working with corporate partners.

## Ambassador Wang Yunxiang

Current Vice President of the Chinese People's Institute of Foreign Affairs and former Chinese Ambassador Wang Yunxiang spoke at the University of Minnesota in September at a lecture sponsored by the China Center. The lecture—presented to a standing-room-only crowd at the Carlson School of Management—was titled “Peaceful Development and China-U.S. Relations.” Ambassador Wang spoke about his beliefs that China will continue to grow and develop much as it has in the past 30 years, even as challenges such as the unevenness and nature of growth and its environmental impacts are addressed.

## Professor Chu Yun-han

Professor Chu Yun-han visited the University of Minnesota in early April to attend a conference at the Carlson School of Management. While here, the China Center visited with him and arranged meetings with University faculty involved in studying or conducting research in the field of Sinology. Dr. Chu is an alumnus of the University and the president of the Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation—an organization headquartered in Taipei, whose purpose is to promote the study of Chinese culture and society.

### *Thank you to the following individuals and organizations who generously supported the China Center in 2007-08.*

*Gifts listed were received or pledged between July 1, 2007, and June 30, 2008.*

#### **Gifts of \$10,000 to \$24,999**

Thomson Reuters

#### **Gifts of \$1,000 to \$9,999**

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Dr. Jianyuan Wang and Lili Xu

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#### **University Partners**

Academic Health Center  
Carlson School of Management  
Center for Teaching and Learning  
College of Continuing Education  
College of Education and Human  
    Development  
College of Food, Agricultural, and  
    Natural Resource Sciences  
College of Liberal Arts  
College of Pharmacy  
College of Veterinary Medicine  
Department of Byproducts and  
    Biosystems Engineering  
Department of Computer Science  
    and Engineering

East Asian Library  
Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs  
Institute of Technology  
International Student and Scholar  
    Services  
Graduate School Admission Office  
Law School  
Medical School  
Office of Admissions  
Office of Housing and Residential  
    Life  
Office of Human Resources

Office of Measurement Services  
Office of Student Conduct and  
    Academic Integrity  
Office of the Vice Provost for Student  
    Affairs  
School of Nursing  
School of Public Health  
University Counseling & Consulting  
    Services  
University Student Legal Services  
University of Minnesota Alumni  
    Association  
University of Minnesota Foundation  
University of Minnesota Medical  
    Center

# Corporate Partnership 合作夥伴

## China Center Partners on Business Colloquia

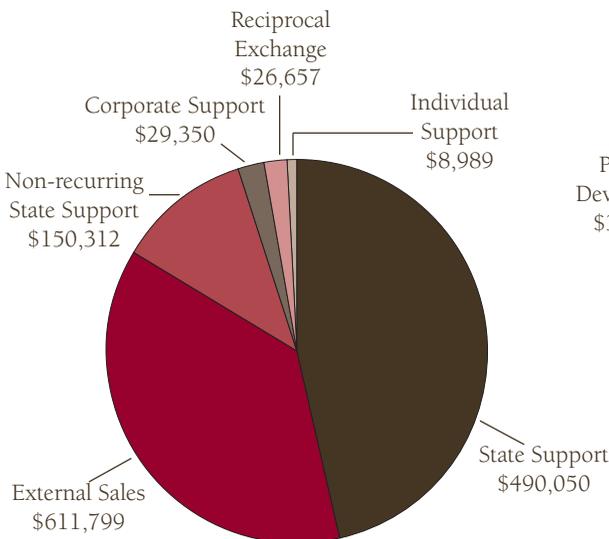
The China Center and its corporate partner, Lurie Besikof and Lapidus, sponsored two China Business Colloquia in the 2007-08 fiscal year. China Business Colloquia are half-day seminars that bring Chinese business people together with Minnesota businesses to discuss current trends in the markets and the economy of China. In the fall of 2007, the Xiangtan Group of Xiangtan, China, gave a fascinating presentation on the investment climate in China. Ms. Ruilin Li of Fredrikson and Byron also discussed the complicated and changing investment regulations in China.

In the spring, the China Center welcomed former director Dr. Hong Yang to give an overview and his experience in starting a wholly-owned company in China. Dr. Yang spoke of his own struggles to find qualified and excellent talent to work in the China business. He reported that multinational companies in China have an employment turnover rate of about 11.8 percent—two to three times the global average. In some fields, such as marketing, it can be as high as 25 percent. Dr. Yang emphasized that recruiting and retaining talented employees is one of the most difficult tasks facing businesses. Many thanks to Lurie Besikof and Lapidus for taking a leadership role in bringing these educational programs to Minnesota businesses!

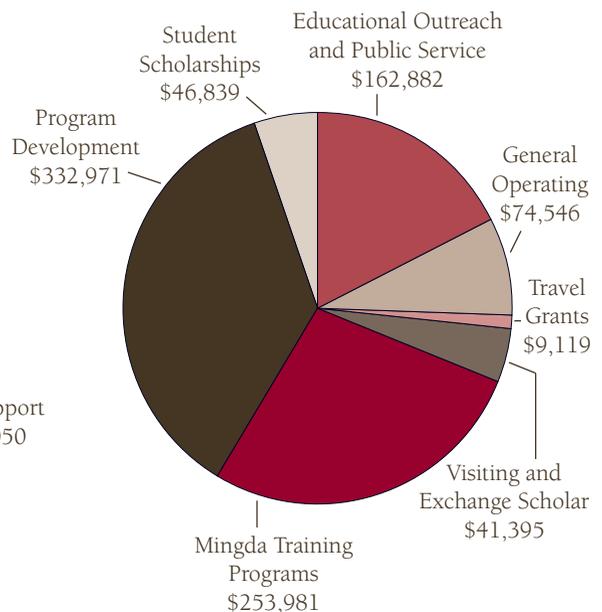
## Budget 財務狀況

July 1, 2007–June 30, 2008

Revenues: \$1,317,157



Expenditures: \$921,732



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## China Center Advisory Council Members 2007-08

### *Honorary Members*

Rod Grams  
Nils Hasselmo  
Annie Wu (Hong Kong)

### *President*

Judd Sheridan

### *Term Ending June 2008*

Bob Griffin                      Michael London  
Roger Ruan                      Ann Waltner

### *Term Ending June 2009*

Massoud Amin                  Pat Cleary  
Zigang Dong                    Hoyt Hsiao  
Randy Johnson                Tony Lorusso  
Phil Peterson                    Kaimay Terry

### *Term Ending June 2010*

Joseph Allen                    Martha Bigelow  
Paul Glewwe                    Joel Lebewitz  
Christopher Langholz        Ruilin Li  
Margaret Wong                Amy S. Xu

### *Term Ending June 2011*

Rick King

### *Former Directors*

Mei-Ling Hsu                    David Pui  
Hong Yang

## China Center Office Information

### *2007-08 Staff*

Director: Yongwei Zhang  
Assistant Director: Joan Brzezinski  
Assistant Director: Jennifer Wu  
Training Program Director: Yuedong Zhou  
Training Program Manager: Xue (Mandy) Bai  
Communications Specialist: Kate Sophia  
Administrative Assistant: Jamie Polga  
Assistant Translators: Xueqin Qian, Xiaojian Li,  
Lidan Gu  
Training Program Assistants: Po Hu, David Brooks,  
Qian Li

### *Office Hours*

8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Monday through Friday

### *Location*

The China Center is located on the east bank of the University of Minnesota—Twin Cities Campus at: 150 University International Center 331 17th Avenue South East Minneapolis, MN 55414

### *Contact*

Phone: 612-624-1002  
Fax: 612-625-0045  
E-mail: chinactr@umn.edu  
Web: www.chinacenter.umn.edu

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## About the China Center

The China Center was established in 1979 to manage the University's exchanges with China. For 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 seminars and programs on culture, politics, trade, and development to foster a greater understanding of China.

### **In memoriam**

Eugene Sit, a long-time friend and supporter of the China Center, passed away in June. He was a respected leader and strong advocate of building U.S.-China bridges. He leaves a legacy of numerous invaluable contributions to the Chinese-American community not only in Minnesota, but nation-wide. His vision, wisdom, and warm and gracious presence will be deeply missed.

