

## PLANNED ACTIVITIES OF THE CONFUCIUS INSTITUTE OF VALPARAISO UNIVERSITY



The Institute will facilitate exchange-cultural, business, educational, arts, and government-between NW Indiana and Zhejiang province (and the city of Hangzhou). The Institute will also partner with the CI in Chicago to sponsor joint programs within the greater Chicago area.

Off campus, the Confucius Institute will:

- Work with local school districts to offer Chinese classes in regional elementary, middle, and high schools and, more importantly, and to develop a Chinese teaching curriculum and staff, with some teachers coming from China.
- Collaborate with the Chicago Confucius Institute to take advantage of the different affiliations and perspectives each CI brings (university academic vs. Chicago Public Schools) to their communities (e.g., an event sponsored by CI in Chicago may be co-sponsored by CI Valparaiso University for a second performance in NW Indiana; or the two CI's could jointly sponsor trips to China, etc.).
- Offer courses on "survival" level Chinese language to professionals and travelers.
- Give workshops for the community on Chinese policies and culture for various interest groups, including parents, business professionals (e.g., doing business in China), local government officials, etc.
- Host speakers from the Chinese consulate and/or experts on Chinese culture and business to campus for presentations and ceremonies.
- Build a Chinese collection within our library as a resource to both the campus community and the community at large.
- Offer classes and organizing events around the Chinese traditions and arts, including calligraphy, Chinese painting, Chinese landscaping courses, film, music, cultural exhibitions, traditional Chinese medicine, guest speakers, etc.
- Sponsor various US groups to visit China, especially those not currently associated with VU such as medical professionals, small business owners, farmers, and retirees.

- Help establish various school-to-school exchanges between Porter County schools and Zhejiang province schools.
- Identify long-distance (online) teaching and learning opportunities that will benefit audiences in both the US and China.

On campus , the Institute will raise awareness and increase participation in Chinese related initiatives, including:

- Preparing students for teaching English and English-language internships in China.
- Preparing education majors for teaching Chinese in K-12 schools in the US.
- Strengthening credit and non-credit courses related to Chinese language, culture, business, economy, and politics.
- Subsidizing study tours of China for scholars/students interested in undertaking graduate coursework in Chinese Studies.
- Bringing artists and scholars to VU for study and performance.
- Sponsoring competitive sports events between the VU Crusaders and teams in Zhejiang province.

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