

Chengdu American Center for Study Abroad

Fall 2015 Newsletter

Introduction

Another semester at the Chengdu American Center for Study Abroad has passed, and our 12 students of the fall 2015 term have safely returned home for the holidays. This semester was filled with new experiences and creative endeavors, and we are proud of the students, faculty, and staff who put in the dedication and had the enthusiasm to make it happen. We look forward to celebrating the upcoming holidays (both in the US and China) and excited about the new spring 2016 cohort who will arrive late February.

Student Blogs

Every week, several students from the cohort submitted a blog, either in written or picture form, about their experiences in Chengdu and China. Written blogs are posted on g-MEO's website (<http://blog.gmeochina.com/>), pictures and comments are uploaded to g-MEO's Facebook page (www.facebook.com/gmeochina), and short snippets are put on Twitter (www.twitter.com/gmeochina). Likewise, the Center translates these blogs from time to time and posts them on WeChat (成都极妙教育 g-MEO). Scan the QR code on the right to follow us, and keep up with what is going on at the Center!

University of Denver Visit

On December 11th, Mary Xu, Program Coordinator of the Office of International Education at the University of Denver visited Chengdu. The Center arranged meetings with Jinjiang Hotel and The Ritz-Carlton to learn more about g-MEO's Hotel and Tourism Management Internship Program. Likewise, Mary had the opportunity to attend the Farewell Ceremony to meet and greet students.

Honorary Degree Awarded to Dr. David Chang

On November 14th, 2015, Hong Kong Polytechnic announced the conferral of an honorary degree to our Chairman, Dr. David Chang. The press release can be viewed here: <http://www.polyu.edu.hk/cpa/excel/en/201511/achievements/a1/index.html>.

Internships

This semester, the Center had 10 students participate in the Center's Internship Program including:

- Qingsu Vocational School: Kasim Josey, Mackenzie Perry, and Quan Graham
- Zongbei Elementary School: Al-Nisa James, Koltin Kislia, and Deanna Coleman
- Deheng Law Offices (Chengdu): Megan Crowley
- LaFarge: Shakeera Hooker
- Sichuan Equity Law Firm: Deanna Coleman, Aurora Chinchay, and Solomon Crawford

Likewise, the Professional Development and Internship course, led by Professor Andrew Bosworth, made two site visits to Maxxelli Consulting and Johnny 5 Donuts to learn about the process of expat entrepreneurs starting their businesses in China.

Academics

For the fall 2015 term, the Center offered 11 unique courses and held two academic lectures on the US Presidential Elections and Comparative Psychology. Furthermore, the Center welcomed

seven Sichuan University students to enroll in these courses. We also had the pleasure of working with four new professors from abroad including Sylvain Gauthier (Psychology), Andy Guth (Social Issues), and Robert Baumol (Criminal Justice), and Evelyn Garcia (Criminal Justice). We appreciate their hard work and efforts in helping us provide high academic quality.

Cultural Activities

Xi'an Cultural Excursion

led by Office Manager Sara Luo and Student Life Coordinator Mandy Li the fall semester students and Professor Robert Baumol experienced their first train in China and headed to Xi'an for their three-day cultural excursion, visiting the Xi'an Museum, Ming Great Wall, Giant Goose Pagoda, Hua Qing Pond and Terracotta Warriors.

Summer Study Tour Reunion

On September 26th, the Center hosted the American University-g-MEO Summer Study Tour Alumni Reunion, which also coincided with the Mid-Autumn Festival. Attendees included g-MEO Chairman Dr. David Chang, Dean Di Yaqin, Mr. Liu Dongqing, Ms. Wang Pingping from the International Educational College of the University of Electronic Science and Technology of China, as well as Director Liu Hui from the UESTC Student Department. In addition, about 40 students from UESTC, more than ten of which participated in the 2015 American University-g-MEO Summer Study Tour, and the Center's twelve fall semester students also joined in the reunion party.

Thanksgiving Potluck Dinner

Since our American students could not celebrate Thanksgiving with their families this year, the Center hosted a Potluck Dinner to not only comfort them but also give our Chinese friends a greater understanding of this popular festival that is deeply rooted in American culture, not to mention a delicious feast!

Calligraphy Night

On November 4th, our students and faculty had a chance to learn Chinese calligraphy, listening to a brief history of its development, understanding its various styles, and finally having the chance to practice the skill.

Other Notable Activities and Events

- ✓ Buddy Program
- ✓ US-China Etiquette Night
- ✓ Tibetan Quarters
- ✓ Jinli Ancient Street
- ✓ Panda Visit
- ✓ Jinsha Site Museum
- ✓ Wenshu Monastery
- ✓ Hot Pot Chef Night
- ✓ Chengdu Sister Cities Exhibition
- ✓ Elevator Pitch Activity
- ✓ Luo Dai Ancient Town
- ✓ Sichuan Opera
- ✓ Farewell Celebration
- ✓ US Presidential Elections
- ✓ Comparative Psychology Lecture