1. Message from the Director

Jiyuan Yu, Professor
Department of Philosophy

Confucius modestly describes himself as a transmitter of ancient Chinese culture: “I transmit rather than innovate. I trust in and love the ancient ways.” (Analects 7:1) Needless to say, to take seriously Confucius’ claim that he does nothing more than handing down an ancient way of life, is as naïve as taking seriously Socrates’ claim that he knows nothing.

Nevertheless, Confucius boldly embraces his role as a custodian of traditional Chinese culture. Once, while traveling to advocate his teaching, Confucius was under siege in a place called Kuang. Instead of panicking, he said calmly: “Now that King Wen is gone, is not culture invested here in me? If Heaven intended this culture to perish, it would not have given it to those of us who live after King Wen’s death. With King Wen dead, since Heaven did not intend that this culture should perish, what can the people of Kuang do to me?” (Analects 9:5)

It is the study, understanding, and teaching of this culture transmitted by Confucius and generations of his followers, and which still plays a significant role in today’s China and the world, that UB Confucius Institute (UBCI) is dedicated to promoting at UB and throughout Western New York. It is in this sense that UB Confucius Institute will truly pay homage to its namesake.

Established in 2010, UBCI has been active and successful in establishing a number of Chinese language teaching programs in local K-12 schools, and in fostering a better understanding in WNY community of Chinese history and culture through workshops, lectures, festivals, language classes, exchanging activities, and cultural programs.
Out of my sentiment to the name of Confucius, one of the greatest philosophers I love to study, I accepted an appointment from Dean Bruce Pitman of the UB College of Arts and Sciences, as the Director of UB Confucius Institute starting in August 2013. Under his guidance and that of Vice Provost of International Education Stephen Dunnett (who is also the Chair of UBCI’s Board of Directors), my task is to move the CI to better integrate itself into the mainstream of the academic life of research and teaching at UB and to make it serve as a de facto center for China Studies on campus. During this new stage of development, UBCI, while continuing its valuable Chinese language programs in WNY schools and community service activities, will significantly increase its support for academic research and teaching in the area of China Studies at UB, and contribute its share to “Realizing UB2020: Achieving Academic Excellence.”

This newsletter outlines the opportunities the Confucius Institute can offer to or facilitate for UB faculty members, graduate students, and undergraduates. It also lists services the Institute can provide for Chinese language education and community cultural activities. In addition to the support from the UB CAS Dean’s Office and the Office for International Education, these opportunities are available thanks to the “Confucius New China Study Plan” of CI Headquarters, and the strong support from our partner university, Capital Normal University in Beijing. We are happy to disseminate this information to our colleagues at UB. If you feel that any of these services could benefit you in your research and teaching, please do not hesitate to contact us at the UBCI. Let us work together to enhance the academic status and teaching activities of UB in the field of China Studies and to better serve our students.

2. Opportunities for UB Undergraduate Students

The Master said: “Study as if you have not reached your goal— as if you were afraid of losing what you have.” （子曰: “學如不及, 猶恐失之.”）---Analects 8:17

The Institute offers or facilitates the following opportunities for UB undergraduate students.

(I). Confucius Institute scholarship program. It provides financial aid for students, scholars and Chinese language teachers worldwide to pursue a Master’s degree in Teaching Chinese to Speakers of Other Languages (MTCSOL) in Chinese universities, or to study in such majors as Chinese Language and Literature, Chinese History, Chinese Philosophy, Chinese Arts, etc. for one semester or one academic year.

This scholarship program applies only to non-Chinese citizens. The scholarship package includes free tuition, free on-campus accommodation, a resettlement subsidy, monthly...
allowance, and medical insurance.

(2). **Summer study program**
At our partner Capital Normal University, Beijing. UBCI will work with UB’s Chinese Program at the Department of Linguistics to teach Chinese Language. UB students who take credit-bearing Chinese language classes will have the opportunity to participate in this two to three weeks summer study program. Participants only pay for their airfare, passport and visa application fees, and travel insurance. Accommodations, meals, domestic travel, and fees in China are covered by Hanban/Confucius Institute Headquarters. Certain language requirements apply.

(3). **Short-term study programs in China.** The “Young Leaders Program” of the “Confucius New China Study Plan” sponsors undergraduates to study in China for a period of two weeks to six months. UBCI facilitates applications for UB undergraduates.

(4). **PhD scholarship at a Chinese university.**
Applicants should achieve an HSK (Chinese Language Proficiency Test) test score of level 5 or higher. The scholarship package includes free tuition, lodging and living stipend, in-China health insurance, and round-trip international transportation.

### 3. Opportunities for UB Graduate Students

The Master said: “To study and not think is perplexing. To think and not study is dangerous.”

(子曰: “學而不思則罔, 思而不學則殆.”)---Analects, 2:15

The Institute offers or facilitates the following opportunities for UB graduate students.

(1). **Sponsor or co-sponsor Graduate student conferences in the area of China Studies.**

(2). **Provide dissertation fellowship to support outstanding graduate students who are working on dissertations that are China-related.**

(3). **Support UB graduate students to attend international conferences and artistic activities in all areas of China Studies.**

(4). **Facilitate applications for graduates who are interested in a Sino-foreign Joint Ph.D Program.** The program is a part of the “Confucius New China Study Plan,” established by the Confucius Institute Headquarters. It sponsors Ph.D students from a foreign university to pursue one or two years of studies in a Chinese university. Students who successfully complete the
program will receive their Ph.D degree either from the foreign university or from both Chinese and foreign universities simultaneously. Applicants should have a HSK test score of level 3 or higher.

(5). Facilitate applications for the “Ph. D in China program.” This is also a part of the

“Confucius New China Study Plan.” It sponsors foreign students to pursue a Ph. D degree at a Chinese university.

(6). Facilitate applications for the “Young Leaders Program” of the “Confucius New China Study Plan.” The program sponsors senior undergraduates or M.A. students to study in China for a period of 2 weeks to 6 months. For programs 2, 5, and 6 associated with “Confucius New China Study Plan,” successful applicants will receive free tuition, lodging and living stipend, library stipend, in-China health insurance, conference fund, and round-trip international transportation.

4. Opportunities for UB Faculty Members

The Master said: “Reviewing what you have learned and exploiting something new, you are fit to be a teacher.” (子曰: “溫故而知新, 可以爲師矣.”)---Analects 2:11

The Institute offers or facilitates the following opportunities for UB faculty members:

(1). Sponsor or co-sponsor China-related academic conferences, symposia, workshops, and art production to be held in Buffalo. Successful applications will receive awards of grant to conduct the conference and so on with UBCI. The amount of award could be higher if the conference could be put under the title “Confucius Institute Symposia.” This is an annual funding opportunity. All UB faculty members are encouraged to apply. All lectures are free and open to members of the university community and the general public. UB faculty members are invited and encouraged to nominate excellent candidates.

(2). Sponsor the “Confucius Institute Distinguished Lecture Series” which brings leading scholars in all areas of China Studies from around the world to UB to share the results of their original study.

(3). Support UB faculty members to attend international conferences and artistic activities that are China-related. To apply, please submit a copy of your CV, invitation or acceptance letter from the organizer(s),
and abstract/outline of the presentation.

(4). **Support faculty members to conduct research in China** through the “Understanding China” visiting scholar program of the “Confucius New China Study Plan,” developed by the Confucius Institute Headquarters. The program sponsors faculty members to undertake research projects in China for a period of 2 weeks to 10 months. Successful applicants will be awarded lodging and living stipend, in-China health and accident insurance, conference fund, and round-trip international transportation. Faculty members who are Chinese citizens are not qualified to apply.

(5). **Support (non-Chinese citizen) scholars to publish or translate China-related academic works.** This publication funding opportunity is also through the “Confucius New China Study Plan.” To apply, please submit sample chapter(s), reference letters from two scholars in relevant areas, and publication in relevant areas, and publication contract or letter of intent from countries other than China.

5. **Chinese Language Programs**

The Master said: “My disciples, why not study the Book of Odes? The Odes can uplift you, can make you observant, can help you to get along with people, and can help you to use your anger in a proper way. Applied near at hand, you can serve your father; applied at a distance, you can serve your ruler. You can learn much about the names of birds, beasts, plants, and trees.” (子曰：‘小子何莫學夫詩？ 詩可以興，可以觀，可以群，可以怨。遠之事父，逺之事君。多識於鳥，獸，草，木之名。’) ---Analects 17: 8

Currently, UBCI provides or facilitates the following programs and opportunities:

(1). **Summer Study Program for UB students.** In collaboration with the Department of Linguistics, UB Students who are enrolled in the credit-bearing courses at UB are qualified for a two to three weeks Summer Study Program at our partner Capital Normal University in Beijing. Participants only pay for their airfare, passport and visa application fees, and travel insurance. Accommodations, meals, domestic travel, and fees in China are covered by Hanban/Confucius Institute Headquarters.

(2). **Master’s degree and New York State teacher certification program in teaching Chinese as a Foreign Language, in collaboration with the UB**
(3). **Chinese language programs in WNY schools.** UBCI helps local schools establish or expand Chinese language teaching programs and provides teachers to interested schools at minimal cost to the school or district. Qualified teachers of Chinese as a foreign language are interviewed and selected by UBC I from UB’s partner university, Capital Normal University in Beijing, and from a pool of teachers established by CI Headquarters in Beijing. In 2013-2014, UBCI has 12 teachers placed in 11 schools/districts, including Canisius High School, Buffalo Academy of the Sacred Heart, Lewiston-Porter Central Schools, Depew Union Free School District, St. Benedict School, St. Joseph’s Collegiate Institute, Silver Creek School District, Tapestry Charter School, Niagara Catholic Jr./Sr. High School, East Aurora Union Free School District, and Elmwood Franklin School. A number of additional teacher placements are pending for 2013-2014.

(4). **Experience China Summer Camp.** UBCI organizes an annual summer day camp in the Buffalo area to stimulate student interest in learning about Chinese language and culture. This is designed for K-12 students who are interested in learning the Chinese language, practicing Chinese art and handicrafts, enjoying music and games, and experiencing Chinese culture and tradition.

(5). **One-on-one tutoring.** This program provides individual tutoring services to students of all ages based on the specific needs of each student or small group of students.

(6). **Chinese Language Proficiency Test (HSK) and preparation sessions.** HSK is a standardized international Chinese language test 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 various scholarships and summer camps in China and in building a China-related career. UBCI is a designated agency to manage HSK in WNY.

(7). **Non-credit community Chinese languages classes,** designed for adult beginners (including high school students) who have an interest in Chinese language and culture or who may be planning a trip to China. The class usually meets 2 hours per week for 16 weeks. Different levels are available.

### 6. **Chinese Culture and Exchange Programs**

The Master said: “Be aroused by poetry; structure yourself with propriety, refine yourself with music.”(子曰: “興於詩, 立於禮, 成於樂.”)—*Analects* 8:8
Currently, UBCI organizes or facilitates the following programs:

(1). **“Chinese Bridge” summer camp** in China for American high school students. This is a two-week study tour in China with the goal of offering students the opportunity to experience China first-hand and promoting exchanges between the youth of China and the U.S. Participants only pay for their airfare, passport and visa application fees, and travel insurance. Accommodations, meals, domestic travel, and fees in China are covered by Hanban/Confucius Institute Headquarters.

(2). **“Chinese Bridge” studies tour** to China for school leaders. With the assistance of the Western New York Educational Service Council (WNYESC), UBCI organizes an annual study tour to China for K-12 school administrators and teachers. This week-long program helps educators start and strengthen their institution’s Chinese programs and partnerships. School and district leaders attend the educational trip to China as guests of Hanban. The itinerary includes partnership-building activities, school visits, and educational workshops.

(3). **Chinese Culture Clubs** are a joint effort between the Confucius Institute at University at Buffalo and EZ Mandarin of Western New York, in partnership with local communities and school districts. The purpose and goal is to bring Chinese culture to the communities. With varieties of visual aids and an interactive approach, we will immerse students and community members in a unique experience as they learn about Chinese Culture and Language.

(4). **Cultural orientations.** UBCI provides free cultural orientation to faculties/staff, community remembers, government official and non-governmental organizations that plan to visit China.

(5). **Festival celebrations,** including Chinese New Year Celebration, Moon Festival Celebration, etc. These events feature lively performances by artists from Beijing’s Capital Normal University, from local Chinese communities, and from students who are learning Chinese.

(6). **Performance tours in local schools** by musicians, dancers, martial arts specialists, and other performers from Beijing’s Capital Normal University. Schools with Chinese language programs are given first priorities in hosting performances.

(7). **Cultural/arts exhibitions.**
The Master said: “I am not bothered by the fact that I am unknown. I am bothered when I do not know others.”

(子曰: “不患人之不己知,患不知人也.”)

---Analects 1: 16