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Live Confucian: The Newsletter of the Confucius Institute of Pace University January 2013

Confucius Institute Pace University

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Live Confucian

The Newsletter of the Confucius Institute at Pace University



Awards Highlight Cultural Exchange By Ansel Lurio

Since the establishment of the Confucius Institute (CI) at Pace University in May of 2009, the New York Chinese Opera Society, also known as NYCOS, has played a major part in our events, classes, and other activities. Thanks to the generosity of NYCOS, the CI has been able to hold the NYCOS essay competition for the past three years, with the award ceremony held as part of their Winter Cultural Exchange Festival. This year's entries were original and thought provoking, making the competition fiercely competitive. The purpose of this yearly competition, open to all Pace students, and co-sponsored with the East Asian Studies Program at Pace University, is to spurn more in-depth research in Chinese culture and increase the interest and participation of Pace students in Chinese cultural studies. Essays can be on any topic related to Chinese art, history, and culture and are nominated by members of the Pace faculty. The essays were evaluated by a selection committee consisting of the CI director the co-directors of the East

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Dr. Joseph Morreale received an award from NYCOS President Chi Chu for his mentorship of essayist Rahul Rai

Mid-Autumn Brings Joy and Reflection By Ansel Lurio



Participants in the open house learned Chinese calligraphy

On October 5th, 2012 in the North Lecture hall at One Pace Plaza, bedecked with red paper lanterns and with moon cakes for all to share, the Pace CI, along with Duowei News, held a combination open house, film screening, and panel discussion. The event, attended by more than 80 people, was very much a celebration, as it fell near the date of three important Chinese holidays: the Mid-Autumn festival on September 30th, the 2,563rd birthday of Confucius (also known as Teacher's Day) on September 28th, and National Day on October 1st. Along with disseminating Chinese culture, the event was a chance for the Pace CI to introduce its programs for the upcoming year. Besides the Directors of the CI expounding on what we offer, there was a small exhibition on display to give people a taste of our programming. After an opening reception with the traditional sweet moon cakes, tea sandwiches, and other refreshments, host Yiling Wang gave a presentation to the community members in attendance on the meanings of the Mid-Autumn festival,

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NYCOS Competition

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Asian Studies Program, a professor from the Modern Language Department, and a representative from the Dean's Office of Dyson College of Arts and Sciences. The best essays were recommended to NYCOS for awards. In addition to being recognized, the winning students also received generous cash scholarships. This year's award ceremony was held on Friday, November 30th from 7-7:30 PM in Pace's Schimmel Center for the Arts as a prequel to the opera performances held afterwards. In addition to the friends, families, and professors of the winners, and the many Chinese opera buffs, there were a number of VIP's who attended, including Dr. Mark Allen Poisel, Associate Provost for Student Success, and Dr. Andrés Villagrà, Associate Dean and Professor, both from Pace University; Justin C. Yu, Chairman of The Chinese Chamber of Commerce of New York; Yansheng Wang, Cultural Consul from the Consulate General of the People's Republic of China in New York; Chi K. Chu, President of NYCOS, and Florence K. Yu, Chairperson of NYCOS.



The recipients and presenters of the awards came from a wide variety of backgrounds, highlighting the values of cultural exchange

Claudia Chan, an accounting major from Lubin College, in a repeat performance from last year, once again won 1st prize. With a compelling thesis, complex analysis, and substantial interdisciplinary research, her essay "The Obscurity Behind Deng Xiaoping's 'Socialism with Chinese Characteristics,'" won over the judges unanimously. The way she merged her understanding of Chinese culture and history with political science and economics and her comprehensive picture of Xiaoping's economic policies made her the clear winner. The two runners up to Chan were so close in quality this year that the judges decided to award two 2nd place prizes, and not award a 3rd place prize. The two essays that tied for 2nd place were Rahul Rai's "Closing the Gap: An Academic and Personal Approach to China's Rise to the Top," and Alyson Curtis's "Hong Kong and Bollywood: Theories of Sound in Different Cultures." Curtis, a senior at Dyson majoring in Film and Screen Studies, explored how Hong Kong and Bollywood films utilize sound effects to construct narrative and dramatize emotions in quite different ways. Her intriguing essay used myriad examples to explore in depth an often ignored aspect of Hong Kong films. Rai, an Economics major in his senior year, on the other hand, focused on government policy, making a strong argument that China will soon overtake the United States as the world's dominant economy. Using both intensive research and first hand experiences from his trips to China he proved his thesis in a remarkable and insightful way. This year also witnessed the first time a prize was awarded for "Best Inspiration." Christopher Huang, a Lubin senior majoring in accounting and a former student assistant at the CI, won the prize for his essay "China: My Past, Present, and Future." Huang, a Chinese-American, has been to China a number of times, most notably last academic year, when he went on a CI scholarship to study Chinese at Nanjing Normal University. His life-long journey of finding his cultural heritage is a compelling one and one that truly ties in with the CI's and NYCOS's goals of exploring Chinese culture.

We recognize that any time someone achieves success, in addition to their individual talents, there are family, friends, and mentors that make such successes possible. This year's essay winners were no exception to this rule. The Pace faculty members who nominated the winning essays took time out of their busy schedules to mentor the students, giving them much needed support. We wanted to recognize the professors for their contributions and so this year we gave awards to them as well. The professors who received awards for mentorship were Dr. Charles Tang (Claudia Chan), Dr. Joseph Morreale (Rahul Rai), Dr. Satish Kolluri (Alyson Curtis), and Dr. Joseph Lee (Christopher Huang). To show our appreciation for all that NYCOS has done for us, the last prizes, for artistic excellence, were given out to two of NYCOS's guest artists from China who performed in the Winter Cultural Festival, Ms. Xue Yaping and her student Ms. Jiang Yishan.

The annual NYCOS awards truly make the Winter Festival one of exchange. American students are recognized for exploring the foreign culture of China; while Chinese Opera performers are recognized for bringing their talents and the heritage of Chinese Opera to America. We hope that the recipients of the NYCOS awards this year continue to help push for greater understanding between the US and China ♦

A Test Center Grows at the Pace CI

By Dr. Min Zhu

For the 3rd time, on December 2nd, 2012, the Pace CI held the internet-based HSK (Chinese Proficiency Test) test. 11 candidates took the test, at all six levels offered, proctored by CI teachers Xiaojun Wang and Dr. Shihong Liang. Thanks to the flexibility of the online test, the examinees took the test at their own convenience, at times from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

Since Ms. Wang had helped each candidate practice with online simulation tests in advance, all of the examinees were familiar with the interface, operation, and process of the examination. All the teachers, especially Xiaojun Wang, who is in charge of organizing the test at the CI, made a huge effort to make the three tests a great success throughout the year, including being familiar with online test procedures, registration and payment procedures, test counseling, online simulations, test supervision, and communicating with the North America Chinese Online Tests Service Center,

2012 was a fruitful year in terms of constructing the CI's test center. Most importantly, Pace CI's application to be an On-line Test Center was granted, and the CI became the 1st Online Chinese Proficiency Test Center in the greater New York area. Internet-based Chinese Proficiency Tests were launched in North America in 2011. In February 2012, the United States Internet-based Chinese Proficiency Tests Promotion Conference was held at the San Francisco State University Confucius Institute. Pace CI's Chinese Director Dr. Min Zhu attended the conference, fully aware that internet-based tests have incomparable advantages over the paper-based ones. The Pace CI American Director, Dr. Weihua Niu agreed with her opinion and gave full support to CI's online test center application.

On May 20th, Pace CI held its first official HSK online tests, which attracted eight candidates, many of whom came from prestigious universities in the New York Area. Subsequently, Pace CI organized another two online tests - on October 21st and December 2nd. Dozens of candidates took the tests at all levels. The examinees were of varied nationalities, ages, and backgrounds, illustrated the fact that the HSK is becoming an international exam, and that our test center is known about by more and more Chinese learners.

The Pace CI also spent a great deal of time effectively promoting the HSK online tests. On July 23rd, the CI organized a HSK Test and Confucius Institute Scholarship Press Conference, introducing the CI's test center as well as the outstanding achievements of CI students in previous HSK tests held. In the months since, the Pace CI has advertised the

test and written several articles in Chinese newspapers such as *Qiaobao*, introducing test categories and forms, summarizing global development of the test, and emphasizing the test's significance in scholarship applications, resulting in a wide range of impact. The Pace CI also used its home page, social networking, leaflets, and brochures to attract candidates.

Building on the successes of 2012, in 2013 the Pace CI will further strengthen its test center: Expand to include the YCT and BCT (Youth and Business Chinese Tests); increase the number of test times - holding tests in March, April, September, and November; and improve examination services, such as providing a HSK intensive training course and other projects. In short, the CI aims to provide better service to candidates and to further meet their needs.

Considering the outstanding achievements made by Pace CI in 2012 on internet-based HSK promotion, the Confucius Institute Headquarters' Test Center invited the Pace CI to summarize its successes at the Seventh Confucius Institute Global Conference. Drs. Niu and Zhu delivered speeches at the conference. In addition, the Headquarters' Test Center and the

North America Chinese Online Test Service Center made the decision that, in Spring 2013, the 2nd Internet-based Chinese Proficiency Tests Promotion Conference will be held at Pace. We expect representatives from dozens of Confucius Institutes in the United States, Canada, and Mexico will attend the conference. Holding the conference at Pace is an affirmation as well as an encouragement to our work ♦



Level 5 HSK Candidate, John O'Leary, with his test results



One of the leaflets designed to attract candidates to take the HSK

Teacher Training: Inside and Out

By Dr. Min Zhu

In the first half of 2012, the Pace CI, in cooperation with the Chinese Language Teachers Association of Greater New York (CLTA-GNY), successfully hosted three highly acclaimed training lectures for local Chinese teachers. Building on this success, in December, the CI organized another two teacher training workshops.

The 1st workshop, on Chinese paper-cutting, was held on December 1st and was co-hosted by Dr. Jianguo Ji, from New York University, and Dr. Min Zhu, Chinese Director of the Pace CI. The lecturer, Wang Li, is a member of the Chinese International Art Association and the Chinese Culture Promotion Society Professional Paper-cutting Art Committee, co-published *The Most Lively and Interesting Zodiac Paper-cut Picture Book* in 2011, and has taught paper-cutting classes at the Confucius Institute in Chicago. Li began by giving a general introduction to the art of Chinese paper-cutting, followed by a demonstration. In a short period of time, he completed a delicate and complicated paper-cut without any pre-design or sketches, astonishing the audience. Finally, Li guided the teachers in creating their own paper-cuts of an exquisite pagoda rich in Chinese cultural features. This easy-to-learn paper-cut can be easily adapted to classroom learning. Lastly, there was an in-depth discussion on the theme of "Culture and Language Teaching."



The teachers pose with the pagodas they made in the paper-cutting workshop

Dr. Ji delivered a speech on the recombination of cultural connotation and language format in the process of foreign language teaching while Dr. Zhu gave a speech on how Chinese cultural art forms can be meaningfully combined with Chinese language teaching. The workshop featured a combination of practice and theory, resulting in teachers' improvement in both knowledge and skills. Many of them said that by taking part in the workshop, they not only learned a new skill, but also strengthened their "cultural consciousness" in their future Chinese teaching.

Most teacher training is done outside teachers' school districts, but for a variety of reasons, many teachers, who are strongly willing to learn, cannot get trained using this method. At the Kangmei Chinese School in Connecticut, the teachers have repeatedly expressed their desire to participate in relevant training but most training is held on weekends, during the time they teach. To better serve the development of local Chinese teaching in an innovative matter, we at the CI believe that training on the local level should be flexible in terms of time and location. Therefore, on December 2nd, Dr. Min Zhu went to the Kangmei Chinese School to hold a teacher training seminar. In ac-

cordance with the teachers' requirements, Dr. Zhu spoke on the topics of "Chinese and English Phonetics Comparison and Chinese Phonetics Teaching" and "Chinese Characters Knowledge and Teaching in America." The teachers also had an extensive discussion with Dr. Zhu about the difficulties and confusions they encounter in their teaching practice.

The workshops that the Pace CI cooperatively or independently held in 2012 (in addition to the two described above there were workshops on the topics of how to pass New York public school teaching license examinations, using the iPad to enhance Chinese teaching and enrich students' learning experiences, and international Chinese teachers' basic abilities and cross-cultural teaching consciousness) were extensive and practical in terms of content, flexible in form, and met local Chinese teachers' needs. As a beneficial exploration into the localization of international Chinese teacher training, the workshops were praised and welcomed by local Chinese teachers in the greater New York area. The seminars – professional, pragmatic, interactive, and case-based – were so popular with the teachers that they wrote to us afterwards, expressing their wishes to learn more. As one teacher put it, "I very appreciate that you inspire the effective methodology to analyze and solve a variety of problems...I will be honored to have exchange opportunities in the future."

All the Pace CI faculty and staff worked hard to make these workshops happen. In the coming year, the Pace CI will make further efforts to develop local Chinese teacher training programs. We will communicate with Hanban's teaching personnel and textbook departments to launch even more vibrant and flexible Chinese teacher training programs, contributing to the development of Chinese language teaching in America♦

Fall Classes: Tradition and Innovation By Xiaojun Wang

During the 2012 fall semester, the Confucius Institute at Pace University offered two levels of general Mandarin Chinese, two levels of oral Chinese, and a “Fifth Hour Lab” as part of the for-credit courses Chinese 101 and 102 in collaboration with the Department of Modern Languages and Cultures at Dyson College.

Mandarin Chinese Level 1 was for beginners who had no Chinese learning experience, and focused on oral and listening skills. Students learned the Mandarin phonetic system (Pinyin) and basic Chinese expressions related to greetings, names and nationalities, numbers, time and date, family, occupations, money, and shopping. Mandarin Chinese Level 2 was more focused on functional learning and was designed to meet basic requirements for daily social communication. Students got further training in listening and speaking skills learning how to express time, bargaining, ordering food, making phone calls, asking for directions, and describing the weather. Chinese culture, especially related to modern metropolitan life, was also interwoven into the course.

The intermediate and advanced oral Chinese courses were for those who wished to focus on spoken language in a small group, giving them the maximum opportunity to practice their Mandarin with native Chinese teach-

ers. Intermediate students learned new expressions and more complex sentence patterns to better express themselves in terms of campus life, regional cuisine, scenery, health problems, and traffic. Advanced students were taught some Chinese idioms, trained to distinguish phrases or expressions with similar pronunciations but different connotations, and how to support their opinions with logical and detailed arguments. With the teacher’s help, they had heated discussions on food security, Chinese virtues, the job market, and health concerns.

The “Fifth Hour Lab” course, taught by CI teachers and offered in collaboration with Pace University’s Dyson College Department of Modern Languages and Cultures, was a language lab for matriculated undergraduate students at Pace who are already taking for-credit Chinese courses. This fifth-hour, non-credit session, part of the elementary Chinese courses 101 and 102, was designed to give students additional training in communicative skills and cultural competence. Dr. Ying Wang, of the Department of Modern Languages and Cultures,

launched and coordinated this innovative “fifth hour” program. Thanks to her professional foresight and effective coordination, in addition to the efforts of the CI, this semester’s lab progressed quite well. According to a survey conducted among the Chinese 101 and 102



“Fifth Hour Lab” students get the chance of a lifetime to try on Chinese opera costumes!

students, all of the students involved gave positive comments, including that the lab was of great help to their Chinese studies. Since the lab was conducted in small groups, students had more of a chance to practice pronunciation, intonation, vocabulary, and sentence patterns and to deepen their understanding of China on both a linguistic and cultural level. “Fifth hour” students also took active part in and wrote reports on CI’s Chinese cultural events, such as the weekly Chinese Corner, Mid-autumn Festival Celebration, Winter Culture Exchange Festival, and Beijing Opera Workshop. Such intensive exposure to Chinese culture increased their interest and motivation, helped them better understand Chinese society, and encouraged them to be aware of the features of their own culture while gaining an understanding of Chinese cultures ♦

Mandarin Chinese Classes

Fall 2012

4 Week Classes

Level 2A-2C:	Mon./Wed.	11:30-1PM	Sept. 5-Nov. 26
Level 2B-3A:	Tue./Thu.	12-1:30PM	Sept. 6-Nov. 29
Level 1A-1B:	Mon./Wed.	6-7:30PM	Oct. 1-Nov. 26
	Tue./Fri.	3:30-5PM	Oct. 2-Nov. 27
Oral Chinese:	Tue./Thu.	1:00-4PM	Oct. 1-Dec. 1
Level 1A:	Saturdays	3:30-5PM	Oct. 2-Nov. 27
	Tue./Thu.	12-1:30PM	Nov. 1-29

Credit-Bearing Classes for Pace Undergraduates

101 & 102:	Mon./Wed.	1:25-2:20 PM	Sept. 10-Dec. 12
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*In Collaboration with Dyson's Modern Language Department

HSK Intensive Tutoring Classes available.

For individual learners, we offer tailored courses according to their special needs at mutually convenient times.

Learn the most common phrases

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This past semester we offered a number of continuing ed. classes as well as supplemental instruction for Pace students

Workshops Delight and Inspire

By Dr. Shihong Liang

It is known that close contact with Chinese culture at an early age can benefit kids a lot. This fall, Hamilton Heights School PS 368 in Harlem, working together with the Global Language Project's (GLP) *Speak to Succeed* after-school program, the Con-

fucius Institute organized four 1-hour cultural workshops on paper cutting, Taiji boxing, painting, and calligraphy. The workshops were responded to enthusiastically by the participants, American kids ages 8-10.



The character "Chūn," which means "spring"

GLP is an innovative educational movement that seeks to equip disadvantaged students with the skills to compete in a globalized world. Through *Speak to Succeed*, a free and comprehensive language training

program, elementary school students can achieve proficiency in a language other than English. The curriculum emphasizes traditional and experiential learning and was created by leading educational professionals from Columbia University and New York University.

In the paper-cutting workshop on November 8th, Teachers Xiaojun Wang and Dr. Shihong Liang showed how to cut paper into the character of "chūn", which means spring. "Chūn" inspires renewal and hope and is thus widely appreciated by Chinese people during the Spring Festival. The kids were then able to make their own paper cuts, only limited by their own imagination. In addition, the teachers provided samples of different paper cuts for window decoration.



The students in the paper-cutting workshop show off their wonderful creations



Under the tutelage of Lin Aiwei, the eager students learned the basics of the traditional art form of Taiji

Isn't Kung Fu panda lovely when playing Taiji boxing? American kids sure think so. For the second workshop on November 15th, American master Lin Aiwei along with Dr. Yanyu Zhou, taught the traditional Chinese martial art of Taiji, which the students thoroughly enjoyed.

In the Chinese painting workshop on December 6th, simple strokes and watercolor painting were taught. The children were delighted to learn that you could draw a rabbit or butterfly with Arabic numbers – a dramatic skill taught to them by Dr. Liang and Graduate Assistant Jinni Li.



The character "Fú," which means "good fortune"

In the last workshop, on December 20th, led by Teacher Wang and Jinni Li, the students

learned the four treasures of Chinese study: writing brush, ink, ink stone and paper – the tools to create beautiful calligraphy. After learning about these treasures, the whole class practiced writing the character of "Fú" - which means good fortune. By the end of the workshop, the kids had a better and thorough understanding of this character, and, of course, were able to write their own good fortune! The kids greatly appreciated the unique way of learning language and culture concurrently that we used in the workshops and we hope to hold similar classes for children in the future ♦

Enjoying the Beauty of Chinese Opera

By Dr. Yanyu Zhou

As one of the major annual events of the Pace CI, sponsored and co-organized by the New York Chinese Opera Society (NYCOS), the Winter Cultural Exchange Festival is always highly anticipated by people in the Greater New York area. Featuring Chinese Opera performances, the festival has been organized by NYCOS for the past six years. This year, the festival was a benefit to rebuild New York City's Downtown after Hurricane Sandy, with all the proceeds going to the Hamilton Madison House and Two Bridges Neighborhood Council.

NYCOS presented three separate famous Peking Opera excerpts for the festival this year, held at the Michael Schimmel Center for the Arts at Pace University: "Wu Song Fighting in the Inn," "At the Tomb of Li Ling," and "Match Made by a Top Scholar" on November 30th at 7:30 PM and an unabridged version of "Qin Xiang Lian" on December 2nd at 2:00 PM. These operas were performed by local professional artists in collaboration with internationally renowned Peking Opera artists from China including two famous guest artists from Beijing: Ms. Xue Yaping and Ms. Jiang Yishan, and members of NYCOS's Youth Troupe, which consists of university students. In total, more than 40 performers, musicians, and stage management professionals participated in the performances.

"Wu Song Fighting in the Inn" is a comedy in which the hero, a fugitive, comes to an inn, and the female innkeeper, not recognizing him and deeming him suspicious, fights him in his bedroom. The fight was a crowd favorite, as the acrobatics employed are truly monumental and breath-taking. "At the Tomb of Li Ling" tells the story of the tragic hero Yang Jiye, the elderly head of the patriotic Yang family, and his eventual suicide. "Match made by a Top Scholar" is a romantic comedy about the same Yang Family, the happy groom being the 6th son of Yang Jiye.



One of Wu Song's attendants, fighting with the innkeeper



A scene from "Match Made by a Top Scholar"

"Qin Xian Lian" is a very well-known story in China. The opera tells the story of scholar Chen Shimei, Princess Qin Xiao Lian's husband, during the Northern Song Dynasty. Chen had achieved the highest standing in the Imperial Examination and married the Princess, hiding the truth that he already had a wife and two children. In order to keep his position in the royal family, Chen asked his guard to kill his family, who had fled from famine and come to the capital to search for him. Unwilling to carry out the order, the guard killed himself instead. Qin eventually found out about Chen's family and went to Judge Bao to sue Chen for bigamy. Eventually, Chen was declared guilty and beheaded by Bao.

Around 1,200 people attended the two-day event including distinguished guests from the Consulate General of the People's Republic of China in New York, Pace University, and Chinatown. Audience members were impressed by the touching stories, extraordinary performances, beautiful costumes and music, and fantastic masks. With subtitles in both Chinese and English on both sides of the stage, audience members unfamiliar with Chinese Opera felt more comfortable understanding the shows and better enjoyed the

beauty of this ancient Chinese art.

As a benefit performance to rebuild the community after Hurricane Sandy, the festival was highly covered and praised by the local Chinese media. With a record number of audience members, the event was reported as the most successful one in the festival's history. By integrating Chinese art into a Western cultural venue, the event helped to contribute to a multicultural society ♦

Mid-Autumn Festival

(Continued from page 1)

its origin story, and customs of the holiday. After these introductory activities, the Director of the Confucius Institute, Dr. Weihua Niu, talked about the development of the Pace CI so far and the direction we are going in. Dr. Nira Herrmann, Dean of Dyson College, followed this chain of thought by stating that she hopes that through the Pace CI and other cultural exchanges between China and the United States, we can enhance our mutual understanding and friendship. Xiaojun Wang, one of our Chinese teachers, finished the open house portion of the afternoon with a short Mandarin Chinese lesson that left everyone entertained and educated.

The main part of the event was the screening of the film “Confucius” and the ensuing panel discussion: “Confucius, A New



The three scholars in the panel discussion: (from right to left) Dr. Ronald Frank, Dr. Ying Zhu and Dr. Joseph Tse-Hei Lee

co-directors of the Center for East Asian Studies at Pace University, Dr. Joseph Tse-Hei Lee and Dr. Ronald Frank. Dr. Lee explored the perception of Confucius by most Chinese today, which, based on his observations at Confucian temples around China, is as more of as a member of the pantheon of various religious figures, rather than as a moral compass. Dr. Frank brought his attention back to the movie and talked about how the film was successful in presenting a representation of Confucius that has been looked up to throughout the ages, despite not exactly being factually accurate (an impossibility, considering how little we know of his life).

The feast of Chinese culture we held, complete with a beautiful film, lively discussion, and active participation from the audience was both entertaining and thought-provoking and we hope just the beginning in an academic year full of stimulating events. ♦



Teacher Xiaojun Wang gave a vivid, lively, and interesting multimedia Chinese demonstration lesson

Chinese Icon?” Introducing the film was Xu Yongde, CEO of Duowei Times, whose parent company produced the film. The film itself was directed by the well-respected director Hu Mei and features the Hong Kong action star Chow Yun-fat in the title role. Viewers of the film saw a flesh and blood representation of the Chinese sage as an introspective and self-sacrificing man trying his hardest to be an ideal person.

The panel discussion featured Dr. Ying Zhu, Professor of Cinema Studies and Chair of the Media Culture Department at the City University of New York, College of Staten Island, and an expert on Chinese media. A recipient of a National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship, Dr. Ying Zhu has met the director Hu Mei a number of times in her research and has studied the re-emergence of Confucianism in certain parts of Chinese society, as an alternative to both Communism and Western Consumerism. This shift in Chinese thought is especially fascinating considering the on-going scandal of BO Xilai and other related corruption. Dr. Zhu was joined by the two



Refreshments included a delicious array of traditional mooncakes

Pace CI Fall Board Meeting

By Yanyu Zhou

On Thursday, September 20th, 2012 the Pace CI held its bi-annual board of directors meeting in the CI Conference Room. Board members and other representatives from the CI's three partners: Pace University, Nanjing Normal University (NNU), and Phoenix Publishing and Media Group (PPMG), attended the meeting, including ten people from Pace: Provost Dr. Uday Sukhatme, Dyson Dean Dr. Nira Herrmann, Associate

Dyson Deans Dr. Adelia Williams and Dr. Andrés Villagrà, Pace CI Director Dr. Weihua Niu, and leaders from the Publishing Program and Center for East Asian Studies; four people from PPMG including Vice President Wu Xiaoping; and via video conference, NNU Vice President Dr. Tian Lixin, the Chairman of the Pace CI Board of Directors, who led the meeting, along with three other NNU board members.

Starting at around 9:00 AM Dean Herrmann delivered some opening remarks to all the board members, and in particular, warmly welcomed the board members from PPMG to the NY Pace campus. With much pride, the Dean emphasized the major achievements made by the Pace CI in the past year and sincerely extended her appreciation for all the support and collaboration from the three partners. Lastly, she introduced Pace's new Provost, Dr. Uday Sukhatme, to the Board.

Representing the entire Board, Chairman Tian gave a speech from Nanjing. He was also very proud of all the accomplishments made by Pace CI in the 2011-2012 academic year under the leadership of the Board. To work more efficiently, Tian proposed to increase the number of members of the CI Board. This suggestion was highly agreed to by all the board members and will be acted upon in the future. Vice President Wu Xiaoping of PPMG commended the accomplishments of the Pace CI, and proposed to strengthen the business exchange between the Pace CI and PPMG. Mr. Wu also showed a strong interest in developing new printed and electronic Chinese language teaching materials.

As a central part of the meeting, Dr. Weihua Niu gave a presentation of the 2011-2012 Annual Report and the 2012-2014 Work Plan. In her review of the progress of the CI, Dr. Niu summarized the CI's work achievements as follows: headquarters' projects were fully executed,



The newly appointed Chairman of the Board, Pace Provost Uday Sukhatme, gave the concluding remarks

teaching projects attracted more students, featured projects were enriched and strengthened, and advanced projects made further progress. Specifically, she reported that in total, the 23 major events the CI has organized in the past year attracted an audience of more than 4,000 guests. She also mentioned the development of Chinese language teaching, teacher training, HSK on-line testing, and scholarships. In her work plan, she emphasized developing CI's signature programs such as teacher training, multimedia Chinese textbook writing, professional Chinese lan-

guage learning, and HSK tutorial classes.



Provost Sukhatme, Dr. Niu, and PPMG Deputy General Manager Wu Xiaoping have a warm conversation

Also at the meeting, the Board also selected Pace Provost Dr. Uday Sukhatme as the new Chairman of the Pace CI Board of Directors for 2012-2013 academic year. In his concluding statements, Provost Sukhatme praised the success of the Pace CI and proposed to use the CI as a platform to create more exchange programs between Pace University and Nanjing Normal University and more cooperation with PPMG as well. The meeting ended at around 11:00 AM; a very productive and successful meeting for all ♦

Vice-President of NNU visits Pace

By Ansel Lurio

On December 6th, 2012, building on the discussions at the CI Board of Directors meeting in September, a group of delegates led by Nanjing Normal Vice President Chen Guoxiang came to visit Pace University to discuss Pace CI programs as well as possible collaborations between the two universities. Dr. Uday Sukhatme, the Chairman of the Pace CI Board of Directors, Pace CI Directors Drs. Weihua Niu and Min Zhu, as well as deans and faculty members from the many different schools of Pace University attended the meeting.

The Nanjing Normal delegates first met with the Pace CI directors to discuss and review Pace CI programs. Vice President Chen was very impressed by the rich and diverse programs Pace CI has established in the course of just three years and the increasingly important role it plays in facilitating cross-cultural collaboration between Pace and China.

After first meeting the Pace CI directors and staff, the delegation met with Dyson Dean Nira Herrmann and several other Dyson faculty members to discuss possible collaborations between Nanjing Normal and Pace's Dyson School of Arts and Sciences. Dean Herrmann mentioned that Dyson, the largest school within Pace, has had a long history of collaboration with international scholars and in developing a truly global curriculum for its more than 40 undergraduate and graduate programs. She specifically introduced the faculty seminar program facilitated by the Confucius Institute, implemented in 2011 when eight full-time faculty members from Pace studied Chinese culture and language during the academic year and visited Nanjing Normal University during the summer. Upon coming back from China, the faculty developed ten new credit bearing courses university-wide. She hopes that in 2013, the program can be expanded and that faculty from both universities can participate. She also introduced other China-initiative programs within Dyson. Vice President Chen responded to Dean Herrmann by emphasizing the similarities that the two universities have in common, such as comparable disciplines, schools, and educational concepts, and that the founding of the Pace CI makes collaboration more possible than ever. He also praised the importance of having faculty exchange programs such as the faculty seminar and wished to see these programs succeed even more in the future.

Following the special meeting with the Dyson faculty, the delegates met with the provost of Pace University, Dr. Uday Sukhatme, as well as representatives from Pace's School of Education, Lubin School of Business, Seidenberg School of Computer Science and Information Systems, and Dyson. Provost Sukhatme emphasized that in the new century, it is of vital importance to cultivate students with an international vision, so students need to have some international knowledge and experience. Vice President Chen shared the Provost's opinion and mentioned that NNU was putting more and more emphasis on international communication and collaborations. Some concrete ideas that were discussed included Lubin enlarging its undergraduate programs specifically tailored for Chinese students (especially those from NNU) and an intensive Chinese immersion summer program held at NNU for NYC area Chinese teachers. Wu Yidong, Vice Director of International Affairs at NNU stressed that when the delegation returns to China, they will discuss all the programs and projects proposed at the meeting with the corresponding NNU school or department and urge them to contact and negotiate with those in charge at Pace to take further steps.

Following the meeting with the Provost, the NNU delegation had more in-depth meetings with representatives from each school to discuss specific programs. All the meetings throughout the day were constructive and fruitful. Ideas for collaboration were put forward and improved upon and both sides came to a better understanding of the other's needs. Both parties also expressed their hope that through the Confucius Institute, the two universities will form stronger a partnership, and that the year of 2013 will be marked by promises fulfilled and programs created ♦



Provost Sukhatme and NNU Vice-President Chen emphasized the similarities between their two institutions

Making Friends at Chinese Corner

By Jinni Li

Chinese Corner (CC) first debuted on April 14th, 2011 and in the year and a half since, Chinese Corner has grown in its outlook and attendance. This semester, we shifted our focus from a “partnering system” to a “cultural incentive system,” which combines cultural elements with practicing speaking Mandarin. The cultural elements range from proper tea etiquette, to paper cutting, to celebrating Confucius’ birthday, involving participants in Chinese customs. Sessions where we celebrated Chinese festivals such as the Mid-Autumn and Double-Ninth, brought out the curiosity and excitement of our participants, as they learned about the stories and legends behind these festivals and enjoyed refreshments such as moon cakes.

To promote CI’s upcoming cultural courses, we invited experts to CC to introduce topics such as Taoist immortality and the traditional Chinese holistic healing of both body and mind. These CC sessions attracted Pace faculty, students from Pace and other universities, and



Graduate Assistant Jinni Li (right) strove to make Chinese Corner both educational and entertaining



Chinese Corner participants show off the fantastic paper cut-outs they created

even the press. We also cooperated with the New York Chinese Opera Society to run two CCs about Chinese Peking Opera. Attendees learned about opera connoisseurship, were able to watch opera excerpts, and even tried on opera costumes,

During this semester, we developed a large group of devoted fans who frequently joined our gathering. Some with no prior knowledge of Mandarin even began to learn simple words. Despite their differences in age, race, social background, sexuality and disability they all come because of their common passion for Chinese culture. They might be strangers to each other at a cross road, but they have become friends at Chinese Corner. ♦

A Festival of International Culture

By Jinni Li

On November 13th, 2012, the CI co-sponsored, along with the Office of International Programs, the English Language Institute, and the Social Justice & LGBTQ Center, an International Cultural Festival at the Pace Student Union, designed to celebrate the benefits of international education and exchange worldwide. At the event we displayed our programs prominently, especially our scholarship program. Our display attracted a



number of students interested in learning Chinese and studying in China. As part of the Cultural Festival performances Lin Aiwei, an expert in Chinese martial arts, led an interactive, and highly popular, Taiji demonstration ♦

Dr. Yanyu Zhou and Jinni Li helped to publicize our programs at the festival



THE CONFUCIUS INSTITUTE AT PACE UNIVERSITY

Upcoming Events

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The Confucius Institute at Pace University is dedicated to providing Chinese language and cultural education, resources, and services to meet the needs of people from all backgrounds.

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Chinese Language Classes

January-May

Classes for all levels of Chinese begin again after Martin Luther King Day, January 21st, 2013.

Chinese New Year Celebration -Year of the Snake

February 3rd, 2013

Come join us as we ring in of year of the snake with song, dance, fortune telling, raffles, traditional foods and much, much more!

YCT (Youth Chinese Test)

March 13th, 2013

The YCT assesses young foreign students' abilities to use Chinese in their daily and academic lives. For more information visit <http://english.hanban.org>.

HSK (Chinese Proficiency Test)

March 14th, April 10th, 2013

Designed and developed to assess the Chinese language proficiency of non-native speakers we offer the most up-to-date on-line version of the test. For more information visit <http://english.hanban.org>.

Our Partners:



“Chinese Bridge” Northeast US Regional Finals

March 17th, 2013

The "Chinese Bridge" Chinese Proficiency Competition is a large-scale international contest. The competition aims to persuade students in various countries to learn Chinese and strengthen the world's understanding of Chinese language and culture. The CI and Pace University is honored for the 3rd year in a row to host the Northeast US Regional Finals of this major event. For more information about the "Chinese Bridge" Competition please visit http://english.hanban.org/node_7578.htm.

BCT (Business Chinese Test)

April 11th, 2013

Designed to assess the Chinese proficiency of non-native speakers engaged in business activities assessing the communicative ability of test takers using Chinese in a wide range of business-related and social situations. For more information visit <http://english.hanban.org>.