



University of Wisconsin–Madison

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## Wisconsin China Initiative to Hold Annual Board Meeting October 6-7, 2010

The Wisconsin China Initiative will hold its third board meeting on Wednesday and Thursday, October 6-7, 2010, in Madison. The program takes place Wednesday evening in the Capital Room of the Monona Terrace Hilton Hotel, and Thursday at the Pyle Center on the shores of Lake Mendota.

Board meeting highlights will include: a presentation of the Chancellor’s trip to China by Vice Provost for Globalization Gilles Bousquet and

Professor John Ohnesorge, both members of her delegation; an update on the Wisconsin China Initiative (WCI) activities over the past year; and a discussion by the board on its role in fostering an action plan for the university’s engagement with China in the coming year.

The October 7 meetings will lead into a public panel discussion followed by a reception. Program topics and meeting details are in formation and will be shared later this summer.

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## UW–Madison and China: Strengthening Ties



UW delegation at Tsinghua University, Beijing

A UW delegation led by Chancellor Biddy Martin traveled to China this spring for two weeks to establish new partnerships and initiatives with Chinese universities, and to meet with alumni and with parents of UW students. The trip included stops in Beijing, Tianjin, Hangzhou, and Shanghai.

Martin’s goals for the trip were three-fold: to enhance collaboration with Chinese universities; to bring more Chinese students to UW; and to enhance the worldwide visibility of UW.

[Read more about the trip on page 2.](#)



## UW and China Quick Facts

※ UW has been building a cooperative relationship with China since at least 1912, when President Woodrow Wilson nominated Paul Samuel Reinsch, a faculty member in the political science department, to be the first U.S. ambassador to a republican China.

※ Every semester, more than 300 students study Mandarin and Classical Chinese at UW–Madison.

※ In 2007-08, 178 students spent time studying in China.

※ More than 1,600 UW–Madison alumni currently live in China. Since 2007, the Wisconsin Alumni Association has opened chapters in Beijing, Hong Kong, and Shanghai.

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The delegation participated in a variety of activities designed to raise the university's visibility in the world's most populous nation and to promote international research collaborations.

“We want to welcome these future Badgers to UW–Madison and to meet the parents who have

made the important decision to send their child to our institution,” Martin said. “We're eager to explain the great value of a UW education and to answer questions they may have.”

The trip proved to be very successful and was covered extensively by the Chinese press.



From the left: basketball match at Wei Yu High School (Shanghai); press conference at East China Normal University (Shanghai); lab tour at Zhejiang University (Hangzhou).

## UW–Madison Welcomes Chinese Athletes This Summer

A new agreement between the University of Wisconsin–Madison and the Beijing Sport University (BSU) will bring Chinese Olympian student-athletes to study at UW for 6 months, starting this July. The first-of-its-kind collaboration was jointly announced by UW–Madison Chancellor Biddy Martin and her Beijing Sport University counterpart, Yang Hua, during a meeting in Beijing on Saturday, March 27.

Eleven accomplished Chinese student-athletes will study at UW–Madison as part of this groundbreaking partnership with BSU, the foremost sports, physical education, and exercise sciences institution in China. They will participate in the Chinese Champions Workshop which will provide the student-athletes, who are currently enrolled in graduate studies at Beijing Sport University, with a non-degree seminar to build their English, science, leadership, and coaching skills.

The athletes, who experienced success in the Olympics and other world-class competitions, come from varied sports, such as track, speed skating, swimming, table tennis, skiing, curling, and gymnastics, among others.



Chancellor Martin poses with BSU Champions class (photo by John Lucas/UW Communications)

Among them, the best known are Luo Xuejuan, a swimmer who earned a gold medal in the breast stroke, and Xing Huina, who won a gold medal in the women's 10,000-meter run, both in the 2004 Summer Olympics in Athens. In China, successful Olympic athletes are national heroes.



## CAMPUS NEWS

### UW and China Quick Facts

- ※ The largest body of international students at UW–Madison comes from China (1,237 total Chinese students).
- ※ Chinese graduate students are most prevalent in Statistics, Chemistry, Computer Science, Electrical Engineering, and Industrial Engineering.
- ※ Chinese undergraduate students are most prevalent in Business (109 over three programs), Economics, and Mathematics.
- ※ As of 2009, there were 425 scholars (faculty and researchers) from China working at UW–Madison – an increase of more than 75% from a decade ago.

## UW–Madison History Department Hires World Expert on Ming History

The UW–Madison Department of History will be welcoming a new professor in Chinese history this fall. Joseph Dennis, who received his BA from UW–Madison and his PhD from the University of Minnesota, is a former assistant professor at Davidson College and a world expert on Ming history. He is the first historian to closely analyze the writing, production, dissemination, and reception of more than half of the thousands of local histories from China written between 1368 and 1662.

In addition to being an expert on Ming history, Dennis also has a JD degree from the University of Minnesota Law School, and brings his legal experience to bear on his exploration of popular understandings and the lived experience of law during this era of Chinese history. He will join Professors Sida Liu (Sociology) and John Ohnesorge (Law) in UW–Madison's growing pool of expertise in the increasingly important field of Chinese legal studies.

Dennis is a very active scholar whose work is in high demand both in the U.S. and around the world. He has been invited to speak at numerous venues in China, Japan, and the U.S., and has published more than half a dozen scholarly articles, three of which are in Chinese. He is currently completing a book manuscript which will be submitted to Harvard University Press later this year.



Professor Joseph Dennis at West Lake, Hangzhou, July 2009

## UW–Madison and Chinese Delegation Work to Reduce Water Pollution

Earlier this year, a delegation of leaders from China's Anhui Province traveled to Wisconsin and met with UW–Madison faculty and Division of International Studies staff to discuss the possibility of establishing a partnership focused on water technology and conservation. The groups met to share lessons learned and to consider future collaboration.

Both Anhui and Wisconsin are experienced in addressing ecological challenges, particularly with respect to lakes, rivers, and groundwater in

interdependent relationship in an agricultural landscape.

After meeting with Governor Doyle, the delegation met with UW representatives with extensive expertise in water and environmental protection. UW–Madison faculty from Soil Science, Civil & Environmental Engineering and Geosciences discussed with the Anhui delegation holistic approaches to clean water. The partnership will promote continued exploration of common interests in clean water technologies and a systems approach to environmental protection.



## About WCI

Recognizing the importance of China to the economic and political future of Wisconsin and the United States, the Division of International Studies brought together an exceptional group of faculty, alumni, and leaders in business and government to form the Wisconsin China Initiative.

WCI's mission is to bolster research and teaching about China at the UW; to create new partnerships between Chinese higher education institutions and UW—Madison; and to develop plans for strategic engagement between China and the State of Wisconsin.

## UW Student Awarded \$6,000 to Study in Beijing

**B**rittany Killian received a \$6,000 scholarship from the U.S. Department of Education, International Education Program Service – Fulbright-Hays Groups Project Abroad (GPA): Advanced Chinese Language Training Programs. She used the scholarship to study abroad this past spring through International Academic Programs (IAP) at the CIEE Study Center Intensive Chinese Language program in Beijing.

The CIEE scholarship program was created with funding from the U.S. Department of Education

Fulbright-Hays Projects Abroad to provide scholarship funding to qualified CIEE program participants that intend to continue advanced studies in the Chinese language and pursue a career in academia or public affairs following their semester or year with CIEE in China or Taiwan.

According to the latest data reports, China is the third most popular destination for study abroad students across campus. International Academic Programs currently offers 11 programs in China.

## Chinese Student Shares Benefits of Studying at UW

**M**andy (Sioman) Chan grew up in Macau, China. She came to UW—Madison in 2008 to study computer engineering, and has worked in the Division of International Studies communications office for the past year. This summer, she is interning at Macau's Companhia de Electricidade as a trainee in the Information Services department, handling the intranet and working on database migration.



It has a very good educational quality that prepares me well for my career. It is a beautiful school that teaches me how to appreciate nature and how to relax myself and enjoy life. I can also fully experience American culture here.

**Are you using what you've learned at UW—Madison in your internship?**

Definitely. My internship covers many computer fields including networking, server installation, application uses, database structure, etc. The computer and engineering classes I took at UW—Madison provided me with very good and helpful background in all of these fields. Even the programming languages that I learned in class that do not apply to this job still help with logical thinking.

My supervisor has given me the opportunity to hold lectures to teach my colleagues Web design. The technical communication classes that I took at UW—Madison are very useful in both writing the reports and doing the presentations.

**Do you think you will return to China to work after your studies?**

Very possibly since the computer industry is growing rapidly there. However, wherever there is an opportunity is where I will be.

**Why did you choose to come to the U.S. to study?**

Growing up in Macau, such a multicultural place, made me always want to know more about other cultures and to meet people from different backgrounds. Especially in this era of globalization, I believe being international and knowing more about other cultures will be very helpful in my career. Coming to the U.S. gives me the opportunity to reach out to diverse people who are eager to accept different cultures. Even though I am a foreigner, I have never felt excluded here.

**Why UW—Madison?**

It is one of the best public universities in the U.S.

