

Global Encounter-China

Community/Campus Cultural Understanding and Opportunities Individual Written Responses to Questions Related to the Topic

Procedure used to generate this document:

Participants self-selected their group. Individuals were asked to write responses to selected questions before any group discussion. All responses are included and are typed verbatim with some explanation of acronyms or terms. There is no significance in the ordering of the comments as presented in this summary.

A. What opportunities exist for MSU in relation to your area of consideration in our current efforts and future possibilities in China?

- A more welcoming community environment will aid MSU in attracting International students
- MSU can lead the state in cross-cultural understanding
- MSU can aid Michigan businesses in preparation for doing business in China
- May connect China to Michigan for economic connections
- Enhance international student cross-cultural experiences
- Travel/tourism opportunities to expose international people to U.S. culture/way of life
- Events such as Folk Festival where international people can participate as exhibitors/etc. concerning their culture
- Expanded cultural and language programs utilize incoming Chinese students and scholars to help with promoting Chinese language and culture programs at MSU and the greater Lansing area
- Student Services – utilize existing groups to assist Chinese students and scholars with adapting to American culture and language (CVIP, VETP, VIPP) and vice versa for Americans abroad in China
- As I've been teaching Chinese in the US since 1999. I'd like to see MSU offer the language study program to its students and local residents in Michigan

- Also, the Education School and Asian Studies Center at MSU can help people at MSU to better understand Chinese culture, business practice, etc.
- I know only of informal opportunities for MSU and local community members to learn of Chinese culture namely, through personal contacts
- I suppose that there are classes in Chinese languages and cultures
- There is a summer orientation program for incoming international TAs
- Master's program in Retailing. The retail industry is the largest employer in most countries, including China. Currently there are no retailing programs in China
- Informal Chinese language courses taught for the community
- Asian Studies Center could publicize their China film series throughout the community
- Office executive training in Chinese culture and language
- Faculty should have access to intensive Chinese language
- Large undergraduate body. We should motivate leaders of student organizations, in turn motivate students and scholars to participate in creating the cultural environment
- Many undergrad/grad students aren't participating in shaping the community
- Create a MSU clearing house on Chinese culture opportunities so that anyone in Michigan can see what MSU has to offer
- Offer a certificate program in Chinese culture which MSU can sell (on-line or face-to-face) to interested parties
- Summer Chinese language camp for High School students for advanced placement MSU Credit
- Face-to-face teaching/learning, not just on-line
- International Fair
- Study Abroad
- Intercultural classes (topics?) in Communication Department classes

- Engage international students in the community and vice versa through childcare facilities and schools (e.g. teaching Chinese culture and language at preschools).

B. What challenges exist for MSU in relation to your area of consideration in our current efforts and future possibilities in China?

- Internal communication and knowledge of resources and programs (MSU)
- Willingness of community to accept International Students
- Willingness of international students to engage with the community/state/MSU
- Funding of large travel events
- Language
- Internal communications (between colleges and departments)
- Need a central database/web-based forum
- We need a leading team with sufficient information shared to the public
- Time is needed to develop knowledge and programs
- The Ministry of Education keeps a tight control on new programs
- There is too little communication between ISP and the internationally involved faculty. One example is the Confucius Center. I am on the Asian Studies Center and I found out about it at the last global encounter
- Cultural differences, misunderstanding differences in system
- Unmotivated international students. Many international students that I've seen just happen to be here, they live here with their own ethnic group. Even international students did not have an international experience
- Not enough sharing of information/resources of units on campus
- It's not just teaching the culture, it's about incorporating them into life
- Face-to face teaching/learning not just on-line

- Strained resources
- Frustrations—information sharing system, China office, etc. I want to know what is going on

C. What advice concerning this region and this area of consideration would you like to pass along to future groups following through on these ideas?

- Need cross-culture education in protocol, manners, etc.
Multiculturalism help doing business in Asia
- Henry Center brings in people from outside - could be used
- Long term implications for the area (Michigan). Person may go home and become involved in business. If they think of direct foreign investment and if they have good experience they will consider this area (Michigan)
- There are opportunities at MSU; these need to be advertised more (*more promotion from MSU relations)
- Asian Studies Center has a variety of programs that could be expanded and refined for different audiences
- To invite researchers and students from China to MSU and send our students and faculty to China
- To build a Chinese-related Info Center hosted by MSU. It'll benefit Michigan education, business and residential communities
- Take a long term view

D. Additional Comments?

- Locate resources/programs already in place and build upon these
- I'm interested in helping MSU start the student exchange program and summer camp overseas program with resource in the education administration in China
- I would have liked to have someone in the room that had info on resources currently available

This material was generated from Global Encounter-China, <<http://www.isp.msu.edu/globalencounter/china>>, held at Michigan State University on May 18, 2006. This interactive and participatory event was designed to obtain input and to elaborate in a country-specific forum on relevant themes, opportunities, issues, and opportunities affecting MSU's current and future engagement in China, Hong Kong, and Taiwan.