Rhode Island Welcomes the Year of the Ram at Bryant University

The U.S. China-Institute and the Confucius Institute hosted the 2015 Rhode Island Chinese New Year Celebration on February 14. This event is Rhode Island’s largest Chinese New Year Celebration, and for the ninth consecutive year, it was held at Bryant. More than 400 people gathered to celebrate the start of the Year of the Ram including Madam Meifang Zhang, Deputy Consul General of the Chinese Consulate in New York City, Bryant University President Ronald K. Machtley, and his wife Kati Machtley.

Featured during the celebration were various presentations and performances by local community groups and professionals. Among these were performances by the Rhode Island Kung Fu Club, The Confucius Classroom at Medway Middle School, Dance Revelasian, and the RI STAR School. A Chinese acrobatics display by Ann Li amazed the crowd, followed by a face changing performance by magician Peng Li. Also featured in the performances were two visitors from the China University of Geosciences, Professor Yuan Yue and Professor Hu Kai. Yuan Yue performed traditional Chinese folk music, and Hu Kai, a 2008 Olympic martial arts judge, showcased Tai Chi martial arts.

The event’s several co-sponsors included Neighborhood Health Plan of Rhode Island, the Preservation Society of Newport County, and Tin Tin Bakery from Westerly, RI.

The U.S.-China Institute and Confucius Institute thanks all of those at Bryant who contributed to the event’s success: the Facilities department, the Department of Public Safety, the Bryant bookstore, Aramark, the Athletic Department, as well as volunteers from the Bryant community and from Greek Life.
Dear readers,

Ni Hao!

People are connected and ideas are exchanged almost instantly in the digital age, but nothing can replace handshakes and face-to-face interactions in international education. In this issue, we illustrate this concept with articles written by both faculty and students who have recently traveled to China for academic exchanges.

Professor and Chair of the Department of Communication Stanley Baran, Ph.D. and Professor of Marketing Keith Murray, Ph.D. reflect on their recent travels. Baran spent 14 days in Beijing and Wuhan for a lecture tour (page 7), while Murray delivered lectures for an executive development program held in Zhuhai for the Guangdong Electric Power Design Institute (page 4). Both faculty members provide detailed accounts of their firsthand experience of the Chinese land, academic community, people, and food.

For eight consecutive years, Bryant students have traveled to Beijing, Guilin, Zhuhai, and Hong Kong through the Sophomore International Experience (SIE). Two students provide their reflections about this year’s trip (page 5).

Based upon previous years’ success, we also welcomed students from the China University of Geosciences (CUG) to the Bryant – CUG Summer Exchange Program in which Bryant and Chinese students traveled in recreational vehicles to explore Yellowstone National Park and other attractions in the western United States (page 6).

Last fall, Bryant celebrated the Mid-Autumn Festival with the unique cultural theme of “Early Chinese writing on bamboo scripts.” In collaboration with the Hunan Institute of Archeology and Changsha Jiandu Museum, 100 replicas of early bamboo scripts were brought to Bryant. The exhibition illustrated early Chinese writings of the Qin and Han Dynasties and the Three Kingdoms Period to Bryant (page 3).

To connect educators from China and the United States, the U.S.-China Institute and Confucius Institute have collaborated with the Sino-American Bridge for Education and Health (SABEH). The non-profit organization based in Boston is bringing greater numbers of Chinese educators to the United States, as well as sending U.S. teachers to China. (page 8).

In the past year, the U.S.-China Institute and Bryant’s Athletics Department co-hosted Professor Yi Sheng, a visiting scholar from Shanghai University of Sports, who not only brought the popularity of badminton to Bryant, but also earned several U.S. badminton tournament championships during her visit (page 9).

To provide more personal accounts about China, we include an article written by one of our staff members who spent five years in the northern Chinese town of Baoding (page 11). Our students continue to provide excellent Global Community Hours for our faculty and staff (page 9). Authentic Asian foods were served at the Faith & Culture Festival of Foods held at Bryant’s Interfaith Center (page 11).

Finally, in appreciation of Bryant’s China programs, University President Ronald K. Machtley and his wife Kati Machtley were honored guests at the residence of Ambassador Guoxiang Sun, Consul General of the People’s Republic of China in New York City (Page 3).

I invite you to enjoy this issue of “East West Connection” and to participate in our upcoming events in the fall.

Hong Yang, Ph.D.

Vice President for International Affairs
Charles J. Smiley Chair Professor
Director of the U.S.-China Institute and the Confucius Institute
Chinese Ambassador Hosts President Machtley

Bryant University President Ronald K. Machtley and his wife Kati Machtley were honored guests at the residence of Guoxiang Sun, ambassador and consul general of the People’s Republic of China in New York City.

Ambassador Sun and his wife, Madame Min Wang, hosted lunch for the Machtleys to thank them for their leadership in promoting constructive U.S.-China relations and for the University’s Chinese initiatives, including programs of the U.S.-China Institute and Confucius Institute, the Sophomore International Experience trips to China, China Speaker Series, the Zhuhai Joint Project, and the Shu Fang Zhai Project.

President Machtley thanked the ambassador and his staff for their support in facilitating the Bryant-Zhuhai project and for their guidance to Bryant’s Chinese students and scholars. Hong Yang, Ph.D., Vice President for International Affairs and Charles J. Smiley Professor for Environmental Sciences, and David Wegrzyn, Vice President of University Advancement joined the Machtleys at the event held in November 2014.

Bryant Celebrates Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival

In celebration of the 2014 Mid-Autumn Festival, the Confucius Institute and U.S.-China Institute at Bryant University presented an exhibition of Chinese bamboo scripts from Hunan Province, China. The replicated scripts, originating in Hunan, are some of China’s earliest written records dating back to 1300 BCE. The bamboo and wooden scrolls were used as books, official records and letters, legal documents, personal letters, and even as business cards. The scripts played an important role in the evolution and stability of the Chinese civilization for more than 2,000 years. The excavated artifacts in Hunan contain the largest collection of bamboo and wooden scripts in China. This particular collection contains the most complete selections of scrolls between the pre-Qin Dynasty (before 221 BC) and Jin Dynasty (265 – 420 CE).

The replicas on display at Bryant consist of two excerpts from “The Art of War”, which were excavated from a Han dynasty tomb in 1972. The collection is now on display in the Douglas and Judith Krupp Library at Bryant University. During the Mid-Autumn Festival the bamboo and wooden scripts were presented in the Grand Hall and were viewed by Bryant faculty, staff, and students as well as residents. The exhibition was organized in partnership with Hanban, Hunan Provincial Institute of Archaeology, and Changsha Museum of Bamboo Scripts in Hunan China.
A few months ago, I had the privilege of visiting Hong Kong and Mainland China to play a supporting part in one of the U.S.–China Institute’s outreach programs there. With faculty colleagues, Hakan Saraoglu, Ph.D., Professor of Finance, Kenneth Sousa, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Information Systems and V.K. Unni, D.B.A., Distinguished Professor of Management, I conducted the equivalent of an executive training program for young Chinese nationals who have been designated for upcoming international assignments. The program was sponsored by a prominent state-owned enterprise specializing in utility plant design and construction, with supporting consulting services for existing operations and new markets abroad.

Serving with a coordinated team of Bryant faculty colleagues and support staff, our collective mission there was to advance the commercial and managerial skills of a class of prospective young executive professionals, all of whom shared a prior educational and work-place history as civil engineers. Our undertaking was to assist in advancing an understanding of and an appreciation for managing in a wider professional context, to serve soon as corporate executives in far-flung settings for their homeland-based firm. To that end, I’ll briefly note the high points of my travels and experiences there.

The first stop on my journey was Hong Kong. What a beautiful and terrific city to see! From the top of a double-decker tour bus, it was easy to view the city’s special blend of Chinese and Colonial history. This city is filled with the rich paradox of British and Chinese influences, thoroughly modern with plenty of pockets of local color and flavor such as street markets, dining districts, and housing. There exists a vital, vibrant business district, set-off by beautiful shopping malls that rival the most elegant and fashionable ones I’ve seen in Boston, New York, or Southern California. It was easy to become captivated by the energy and vitality of Hong Kong.

After close to a day-and-a-half in Hong Kong, I made my way across the Pearl River to Zhuhai, a southern port city in China. Zhuhai was a stunningly charming city, reminding me – from the parts I viewed – of a delightful, small European city with inviting boulevards, sidewalk cafes, and street-level commerce. I arrived expecting a practical, hard-scrabble city; what I found was a pleasant setting to visit and explore.

I met daily with a class of about 20 young-but-capable aspiring international managers and executives-in-the-making at Bryant’s partner school, the Beijing Institute of Technology, Zhuhai campus (BITZH). Each day, I spent about six hours covering key marketing management issues – all in English. Their English reading and speaking skills were uneven, but commendable nonetheless; for all, it was a time of practice and confidence building.

My group of students were bright, good natured individuals, prepared to learn about the ways of commerce. Many seemed especially eager to embrace the ideas and methods of Western practices, including the adoption of more client-centric ways of operating. I was impressed at their ambition to step into roles with greater scope and depth of responsibilities.

After my 10-day stay in Hong Kong and China, I was left with very favorable impressions. I was struck by the warmness, friendliness, and general kindness of the Chinese people toward me. The settings I visited were clean, attractive, and well-suited for living well. The environment was uniformly more attractive and charming than many I have seen in my travels to popular urban European or Central American destinations.

Finally, I was impressed at the ambition of the Chinese people to make their country better and more developed than it already is. Everywhere I turned, there were public works in progress, bridge-building, harbor development, building of high-rise commercial and residential spaces, land reclamation. An amazing amount of money and resources are being devoted to making China a world-class country in terms of the development of such tangible realities. There is plenty of evidence that China is clearly “on the make” on the world stage.

My trip to China was a terrific journey and gratifying visit. I am very appreciative for having been able to play a small part in the undertaking made possible and guided by Bryant’s U.S–China Institute.
SIE China: Learning, Experience and Friendship

Led by a team of experienced faculty and staff members, 24 sophomores traveled to China in January 2015 as part of Bryant’s Sophomore International Experience (SIE) program.

SIE is a three-credit academic course that includes classes in the fall and a two-week trip during the winter break. More than 320 Bryant students and 30 faculty and staff members have traveled to China since the program began in 2007.

This year, SIE China focused on business and education learning, including visiting company sites such as Lenovo’s headquarters in Beijing, Yale Beijing Center, Guangdong Electric Power Design Institute, and Modern Terminals in Hong Kong. Students received career advice from Bryant alumni in Hong Kong and attended a presentation by a Dutch business owner about doing business in China. Students also visited a high school, a middle school, and Bryant’s partner university, Beijing Institute of Technology Zhuhai.

Students participating in this year’s SIE China program met Bryant alumni who are living and working in China.

Christopher Mucci ’17

“It did not take very long after arriving at the airport in Beijing to realize that China is a nation that has begun to develop and push itself toward a promising future. Everywhere you look in Beijing, there are construction sites and companies, both foreign and domestic moving in. China has a lot to offer, from such a rich and historic city as Beijing to the rural uniqueness of Yangshuo. Looking back on my journey to China, I can say I have walked through the gates of the Forbidden City, climbed the Great Wall of China, experienced total darkness in a cave more than halfway across the world and visited the city of Hong Kong.”

Samantha Yoder ’17

“This was such an incredible experience and the best trip that I have ever taken. We were immersed in Chinese culture through cooking classes, school visits, company visits, and tours of famous landmarks. I feel that if I had gone to China on my own, there would have been no possible way to accomplish everything that we did in the two short weeks that we had.

The trip was also an amazing way to make unbreakable friendships. Before going on this trip, I did not know anyone in the group. However, after our experiences in China, I feel like I have known the people on the trip for my entire life.

Of all the places that we went, I really loved Yangshuo. I appreciated the beauty of nature that is within China, and I also enjoyed the more relaxed atmosphere of the smaller town. During this leg of the trip, our group formed stronger bonds through physical activities such as mountain biking and rock climbing because we could encourage each other and motivate everyone around us.

I learned so much during the short time that we were there, and formed friendships to last a lifetime. I am so grateful that I was given the opportunity to be a part of the trip, and would recommend the China SIE over all the others, if asked.”
With the mutual goal of meaningful cross-cultural exchange and experiential learning, Bryant University and the China University of Geosciences (CUG) at Wuhan have been collaborating since 2012 to deliver a unique summer academic program. Each year, the U.S.-China Institute and Confucius Institute welcomes a new group of students and faculty from CUG, deepening interaction between students both inside and outside of the classroom, as well as exploring various states across the U.S.

This year’s program started at Bryant with a group of 14 CUG students, professors Xing Wang and Qiang Wang, and five Bryant students who were participating in the program to build intercultural communication and learning. This program incorporated not only extensive academic components such as lectures, readings and discussions, but also cultural immersion that included traveling to various New England cities like Boston, Providence, and Newport.

Prior to leaving for the West Coast, members of Bryant faculty volunteered their time and expertise delivering lectures on various topics of biology, social sciences, geological developments, and politics in the United States. A crucial part of pre-departure preparation, the lectures provided a cultural and scientific framework for participants, allowing them to apply it further through experiential learning.

The most innovative feature of this year’s program was a 1,500-mile excursion in recreational vehicles (RVs) traveling through beautiful national parks and spectacular biological and geological sites in the Western part of the United States.

Hong Yang, Ph.D., Vice President for International Affairs and Director of the U.S.-China Institute, led a geographic excursion that began in Lake Coeur d’Alene, ID and ended in Spokane, WA. The first leg of the trip included camping in Missoula, MT and exploring the unique land formations, which dictate the region’s climate. The group then continued to Wyoming’s Yellowstone National Park and Grand Teton National Park and explored the geologically and biologically rich area. Heading west, they stopped at the Craters of the Moon National Monument and Preserve. They also stopped in Lewiston, Idaho, and Clarkston, Washington, to learn about the Lewis and Clark Expedition – the first transcontinental expedition to the Pacific coast undertaken by representatives of the United States government.

We are looking forward to another summer exchange program exploring geological phenomena. It will be offered in the summer of 2015. Bryant students are encouraged to accompany CUG students and faculty and take part in this wonderful experience!
A person can learn quite a bit about a foreign country in a two-week visit, and this is especially true when the country is China. It’s no surprise that most Americans have little knowledge about that vast and distant country, and what they think they know is usually incorrect. I believe I was better than most in the scope and accuracy of my knowledge of China, but still I was not prepared for the surprises that awaited me in my travels to Beijing and Wuhan (with a brief weekend excursion to Yichang).

What struck me most were the similarities between China and the United States. Admittedly, I spent my 14 days in very large cities, but other than the quite obvious tourist destinations – the Great Wall, Tiananmen Square, the National Museum, the Forbidden City, the Yellow Crane Tower – these cities could easily have passed for any of America’s largest metropolises. They were vibrant, loud, crowded, bustling, exciting, interesting, and alive.

I was also impressed with the vastness of not only the cities I visited but just about everything else the country had to offer. Americans know that the Great Wall is big but I learned that it is very big, especially when I was scaling its steep inclines. Tiananmen Square, itself immense, is flanked by giant buildings, contemporary and ancient. The National Museum is stunning in its size and grandeur. The countryside, too, glimpsed from the window of the high-speed train, stretched wide to the horizon. Even Wuhan’s East Lake seemed to be more of an inland sea than a lake.

Another impression that I came away with is the overwhelming kindness and generosity of the people I met. My hosts gave constant attention to my comfort, to my satisfaction with the food and to my professional needs. My tour guides and my translators could not have been more giving of their time, thoughtfulness, and expertise. Even those on the street, especially those who wanted to practice their English with me and have their photo snapped with this exotic traveler, were affectionate in a way I did not expect.

But my most important and lasting impression is of the China University of Geosciences community, its faculty and students. The students were curious, thoughtful, and smart. I was challenged on some of my lecture assertions and I was asked questions that made it clear that these young people were listening and thinking. Several students met with me about their research and thesis projects, conversations that continue today via e-mail. What’s most impressive about these interactions, though, is that the CUG students must do it in English. It is one thing for students to interact with a professor on important topics, but to do so in a non-native tongue, working to make themselves understood and persevering through the inevitable stumbles and misunderstandings, is a heartwarmingly impressive feat.

The CUG faculty, too, in addition to their warmth and kindness, were sharp, inquisitive colleagues. Whether the issue was my research or theirs, my teaching or theirs, my department’s curriculum or theirs, the conversations, again in their non-native language, were fast, fun, and valuable. I would be honored to have any one of those young scholars on my faculty.
Sino-American Bridge for Education and Health

With invaluable support from the U.S.-China Institute at Bryant University, the Sino-American Bridge for Education and Health between the United States and China forges ahead, bringing greater numbers of Chinese educators to this country as well as sending teachers from the United States to China.

During fall 2014, nine teachers and administrators from the Fujian Institute of Education participated in programs that immersed the group in American studies and culture. Over several months, the Chinese teachers were involved in workshops at Bryant that focused on effective teaching, and attended educational conferences at Columbia University and Harvard University. Through extended home-stays, they experienced typical family life in America and also attended the local schools with their hosts each day.

During breaks in their busy academic schedule, the Fujian educators took part in many sightseeing and cultural activities that brought them to various places of interest in the United States.

SABEH is preparing to send several teams of volunteer teachers to China in July to work with Chinese teachers and medical professionals. Expectations for 2015 are exceptionally high: not only will SABEH continue building on its long-standing sites in Hangzhou and Fuzhou, but it will also establish a new site in Chengdu.

International and Multicultural Students Enjoy Thanksgiving Dinner at Bryant

On Thanksgiving Day, President Ronald K. Machtley, his wife Kati Machtley and Vice President for International Affairs Hong Yang, Ph.D., hosted a Thanksgiving Day dinner for international and multicultural students who stayed on campus during the holiday. The group enjoyed a traditional Thanksgiving meal prepared in the University’s Gulski Dining Room. Similar holidays in their own country, the fall semester studies, preparation for finals, and travel plans for the winter break were some of the topics of conversation at the festive dinner table.
A very popular sport in China, Asia, and Europe, badminton has become available to the Bryant University community in the past year, thanks to collaboration between Bryant’s U.S.-China Institute and the Athletics Department.

In February 2014, Yi Sheng from Shanghai University of Sports arrived at Bryant for a one-year visiting scholarship program, co-hosted by U.S.-China Institute and the Athletics Department. Sheng teaches badminton and sport competition theories in Shanghai. Before she began teaching, she was a professional badminton player with more than 15 years of training. She was ranked second in women’s doubles in China’s National Youth Championship and won an international competition championship. During her stay at Bryant, Ms. Sheng offered free badminton lessons to more than 50 Bryant students, faculty and staff.

Sheng also helped revitalize the Bryant Badminton Club. After her arrival, the club became very active with new members and many activities. The club organized friendly games with Johnson & Wales University and hosted the Rhode Island Association of Chinese Americans Badminton Tournament in 2014, which attracted more than 50 players from Rhode Island and Massachusetts. The club hosts weekly practices that are open to all students. Interested students can contact badminton@bryant.edu for details.

Bryant’s Athletics Department also started offering intramural badminton in Fall 2014. New badminton courts were drawn in the Multipurpose Athletic Center and new equipment was acquired. To participate in intramural badminton, visit the Athletics Department at www.bryantbulldogs.com for details.

From China to Bryant: A New Sport Along with a Champion Player

Global Community Hour Explores Shanghai

The Global Community Hour is a series of interactive sessions designed so the Bryant community can explore international cultures guided by our own international students, faculty and staff. The program began with a visit to Trinidad and Tobago on October 17. Guests explored the beautiful country guided by Tanekar Alexander, Assistant Director of International Student Integration. The audience learned about the rich culture of diverse people of many ethnicities, and enjoyed authentic Caribbean food.

On February 13, the Global Community Hour series resumed for the spring semester with a trip to Shanghai, China, guided by Jiwei “Vince” Ma ’16.

“The magic of Shanghai comes from its diversity,” Ma says. “Historic and modern architecture fit perfectly around the city. People from different cultures and religions all find a place they feel they belong to. The fast-paced development changes its look every year and business opportunities can be found everywhere.

More and more people come to achieve their dreams here and even more people call this city their home.”

Yi Sheng (third from left) won a championship at the Yonex New York Open in 2014.
Visiting Scholars from CUG

Bryant University, the U.S.-China Institute, and Confucius Institute welcomed more visitors from the China University of Geosciences (CUG) in Wuhan in February 2015. Professor Yuan Yue is trained in traditional Chinese folk music and has been singing since she was 10 years old. Professor Hu Kai is a martial arts expert and has been a judge in some major international competitions including the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games. Yuan and Hu both came to Bryant to help us celebrate our Chinese New Year and both put their skills on display at the event held on February 14 at the Chace Wellness Center.

They also brought their talents to the Confucius Classrooms hosted in local K-12 schools. Hu has delivered a Martial Arts workshop at the Tower Street School Community Center in Westerly for the audiences, and Yuan taught a few pieces of Chinese folk music to students at the Medway Middle School.

A frequent exchange of visitors is a symbol of the strong relationship and cooperation between Bryant University and CUG in Wuhan.

Cultural Insight – The Voice of China

A reality television singing competition, The Voice, has become widely popular in the United States since its debut in 2011. Every Monday night, millions of viewers of all ages across the country tune in to listen to contestants from the public perform on the big stage in front of celebrities including Adam Levine, Christina Aguilera, and Pharrell Williams. What most viewers don’t know, however, is that The Voice franchise originated in Holland, and has branches in several countries including China.

Zhong Guo Hao Sheng Yin has the same basic framework as the American version of The Voice with blind auditions, a battle phase, and live performance shows. Each judge has the length of the song to select a team member. There is as much heated banter in the Chinese version as there is in the American version. Music can transcend language, and this show offers American viewers an entertaining and comprehensive window into Chinese pop culture regardless of their Chinese language abilities.

For students studying Chinese and struggling to develop a working knowledge of Chinese popular culture, The Voice of China (中国好声音) has much to offer in learning about influential artists in China’s music scene, as well as different songs and music styles which are revered in China. Iconic judges like Nan Ying, Yan Kun, Harlem Yu, and Liu Han have broken ground on new styles of music in China and give the show a diverse following, much like Levine, Aguilera and Williams.
Baoding: A Hidden Treasure

Baoding is a Chinese city that many people have never heard of. It is about 100 miles southwest of Beijing and has a population of approximately 1 million people. The city is home to some major international companies. One of these, Yingli Solar, is one of the world’s largest manufacturers of solar panels. The company has shipped and installed more than 40 million solar panels to more than 50 countries worldwide, including the United States. Baoding is also home to the Great Wall Motor Co., China’s largest manufacturer of SUVs and pick-up trucks. The Great Wall Motor Co. employs more than 60,000 people and exports its vehicles to Australia, Africa, Europe, South America, and the Middle East.

Baoding is also home to unique local culture including Baoding balls. If you have ever seen people rotating repetitively two metal balls in their palm, those are said to have originated in Baoding. In regard to the cuisine, a local treasure is the donkey burger. It consists of diced donkey meat stuffed into various styles of grilled buns.

There is no shortage of historical sites to visit in Baoding as well. Portions of the Great Wall can be found here as well as Qing Dynasty tombs where 78 royal members, including four former emperors of the Qing Dynasty are buried. One can also visit Ranzhuang and explore its underground tunnel system built in order to defend residents from Japanese invaders. More centrally located is Baoding Military Square which housed what was once China’s most important military academy. Attendees included Chiang Kai-shek, who would later become president of the Republic of China. Also found in the city are the former offices of the provincial government from the Qing Dynasty era.

Baoding is a great place for anyone with an interest in China to forget about Beijing and Shanghai for a moment and focus on someplace new. The major metropolises of China are great places, full of opportunity, but if you get away from the typical destinations, you will be surprised by what you will find in Baoding.

Faith & Culture Festival of Foods

On December 5, the Confucius Institute participated in the Faith & Culture Festival of Foods held at Bryant’s Interfaith Center. The event was hosted by faith and cultural organizations on campus including the Italian American Association, Hillel, and Bryant Christian Fellowship. Each group prepared food associated with one of the major faith or cultural festivals their group celebrates yearly and shared the meaning of these traditions with participants.

Dr. Xingyu Meng, a Confucius Institute visiting professor from China, along with two student interns represented the Confucius Institute at this festival. Traditional Chinese dumplings were served, recipes were handed out, and Dr. Meng made a presentation about the Chinese Spring festival. She explained the meaning of the Spring Festival and the history of the dumpling. Her presentation was complemented by a video that featured and displayed the process of making dumplings by hand. By sharing her personal experiences, she highlighted the important family aspect of these traditions and why they mean so much to her.
Upcoming U.S.-China Institute Events

July 6 – 31, 2015 – STARTALK Chinese Language and Culture Teacher Program
This is an intensive training program for current and future Chinese language teachers in K-12 schools. It also includes classroom teaching practice.
For the Teacher Program, please contact Kongli Liu at kliu1@bryant.edu

July 13 – 31, 2015: STARTALK Chinese Language and Culture Student Program
This program includes Chinese language classes of various proficiency levels and cultural workshops that are held in a small classroom environment.
Visit china.bryant.edu for updated information.
For the Student Program, please contact Ms. Kun Xie at kxie@bryant.edu

August 3 – 17, 2015: CUG Summer Exchange Program
This is a unique summer academic program designed to create meaningful cross-cultural exchange and experimental learning through collaboration with the China University of Geosciences (CUG) to bring groups of students and faculty to Bryant’s Smithfield campus where they are hosted by the U.S.-China Institute and Confucius Institute.

September 22, 2015: Mid-Autumn Festival
In partnership with Beijing Prince Kung’s Mansion in China to offer a lecture and exhibition on Chinese intangible culture heritage as well as a shadow puppet show.

September 26, 2015: Providence WaterFire
The U.S.-China Institute and Confucius Institute co-sponsor a WaterFire lighting in downtown Providence. Chinese culture and heritage is celebrated by guests with hands-on educational activities.

HSK Test
This is a six-level, international standardized Chinese proficiency test designed to examine students’ ability in the application of the Chinese language in their studies and personal lives.

YCT Test
This is a four-level, international standardized test of Chinese language proficiency, designed to help young students evaluate their Chinese language skills.

Registration Deadline
10 days prior to the exam date.
For more information, please contact Li Chen at lchen4@bryant.edu or visit china.bryant.edu and click on “Test Services” through the Confucius Institute tab.

China Seminar Series
Each month during the school year at Bryant, we feature a different guest speaker, each an expert in his or her respective field, who talks about different issues related to China.
For more information, visit our website at china.bryant.edu or find us on Instagram or Facebook.