



EAST WEST CONNECTION

DIVISION OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS AT BRYANT UNIVERSITY

FALL 2019

International Experiences @ Bryant



Bryant Zhuhai celebrated its historic first commencement on June 8.



Bryant University President Ronald K. Machtley awarded Bryant Zhuhai's first graduating Class of 2019, 130 students with a Bryant Bachelor of Science in Business degree with a major in Accounting.



Bryant students visited the Asakusa district of Tokyo, a popular sightseeing destination, during their Sophomore International Experience in Japan.



Bryant students traveled to Bryce Canyon National Park in Utah as part of this year's Spring Break Cultural Exchange program.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Global Vision Realized With Historic First Commencement At Bryant Zhuhai	3	Major Events in Photos	8-9
Exploring Foreign Service Careers.....	5	Student Perspective – SIE China.....	11

Bryant University

DIVISION OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Letter from the Vice President

Dear Readers,



As global perspective is one of Bryant's strategic pillars, the Division of International Affairs makes great efforts to ensure that our students develop

an appreciation of the interconnectedness of cultures and economies, so they are fully prepared to make a difference in an age of unlimited global opportunities. That translates into two efforts: To send our students out into the world and to bring the world to the Bryant campus. This issue of our Newsletter illustrate some of the recent activities related to these endeavors.

The inaugural Commencement at Bryant Zhuhai marks an important milestone for Bryant's internationalization, realizing a global vision that was formulated almost a decade ago. Page 3 details the historic event held in Zhuhai on June 8th, 2019. This joint program brings Bryant to the forefront of international collaboration with a permanent presence overseas that brings both students and prestige to the Smithfield campus.

One of Bryant's signature international programs is to provide ample opportunities for our undergraduate and graduate students to travel abroad. You will read an undergraduate student's reflections on her Sophomore International Experience (SIE) to China and some graduate students' accounts of their recent travel to Germany with the Global Immersion Experience (GIE).

As we continue to expand on-campus services to our international students, a series of new programs, ranging from career opportunities to a forum on international legal issues, to support for international transfer students, are being offered on campus. Page 6 reports on how some of these recent activities can benefit international students.

As one of the time-honored international programs on campus, Global Community Hour continues to bring students, faculty, and staff to new places around the globe. Page 10 tells stories of four recent virtual travels, highlighting the people and cultures.

Of course, internationalization, diversity, global perspectives are about people. Bryant's diverse international faculty plays a key role in the University's internationalization and ultimately provides global perspectives in the

classroom. Page 6 features one of the excellent examples: Professor A. Can Inci, whose global background and experience broadens his teaching and research. Bryant constantly welcomes new international visiting scholars into our community and we introduce this semester's new visitors to our campus on Page 6.

Finally, on May 22nd, Bryant University's 34th Annual World Trade Day – Global Trends: Opportunities and Strategies honored the legacy of Chafee Center Director, **Raymond Fogarty '79**, who passed away unexpectedly in September 2018 (Page 12). He founded World Trade Day at Bryant more than three decades ago and was deeply involved in Bryant's international programs.

Hong Yang, Ph.D.
Vice President for International Affairs
Charles J. Smiley Chair Professor

Global Vision Realized With Historic First Commencement At Bryant Zhuhai

On June 8, 2019 in Zhuhai, China, Bryant University President **Ronald K. Machtley** awarded Bryant Zhuhai's first graduating Class of 2019, 130 students, with a Bryant Bachelor of Science in Business degree with a major in Accounting. Peking University President **Hao Ping, Ph.D.**, was awarded a Bryant honorary degree. President Machtley and Beijing University of Technology Board of Trustees Chairman **Taoguang "TG" Wang '16H, Ph.D.**, addressed the graduates and distinguished guests. **Louis Page**, a Bryant University Trustee founding Academic Dean at Bryant Zhuhai **David Lux, Ph.D.**, and Bryant University Vice President for International Affairs **Hong Yang, Ph.D.** attended the commencement.

The milestone commencement is the culmination of more than a decade of strategic efforts by Bryant University and

field, RI, campus and Bryant Zhuhai, located in Guangdong Province. This fall, 35 students will transfer as juniors to Bryant University in Smithfield to complete their degree requirements in the U.S.A.

Bryant Zhuhai was approved by the Chinese Ministry of Education in March 2015 and welcomed its first class of Chinese students in September 2015. The students of Bryant Zhuhai's first class were selected from among the top 20 percent of all Chinese students taking the Chinese college entrance exam (Gaokao). The academic program for American and Chinese students is taught in English and mirrors Bryant's nationally recognized curriculum vigor and quality of faculty. Bryant Zhuhai graduates are prepared with the global perspective that is essential for success in today's international business environment.

make a commitment to not only continue but expand these exchange programs. Bryant Zhuhai is a model of how an inter-institutional education can be achieved."

China has long been a cornerstone of Bryant University's international strategy, and since 2005, Bryant has advanced innovative education initiatives between China and the United States. Bryant is the first American university to establish a presence in Zhuhai, the first university to form a partnership with a private institution in China, and offers the only U.S.-China joint four-year undergraduate business degree program in China.

"It is an honor to be a part of Bryant's global community of scholars. I am impressed by the commitment, hard work, and accomplishments of our graduates," said Bryant Zhuhai Academic Dean **Daniel Borgia, Ph.D.**

Wang expressed his appreciation for the collaboration and believes that the joint program has integrated the Chinese traditions of dedication, focus, and hard work with American academic freedom, equality, and collaboration and provides students with a broader international perspective and brighter career.

About 70 percent of the new graduates have already been accepted to graduate schools around the world, with 19 enrolled in the Master of Professional Accountancy (MPAc) program at Bryant's Smithfield campus. Others have secured employment with prominent companies and organizations in China and Hong Kong such as Ernst & Young, KPMG, Bank of China, and China Agriculture Bank. They join a powerful global network of more than 50,000 accomplished Bryant alumni around the world who are making a difference in their organizations and their communities.



Bryant University President Ronald K. Machtley (center left) stands with Taoguang Wang, Ph.D. '16H, Chair of the Board of Trustees at Beijing University of Zhuhai (center right) and other dignitaries during Bryant Zhuhai's historic first commencement ceremony.

its president to establish a four-year school in Zhuhai, China. Yang was instrumental in making this effort a reality. It is only one of four U.S. universities with a four-year degree given in China. Bryant University has built an educational bridge for American and Chinese students between Bryant's Smith-

"U.S.-China relations have been, and will continue to be, the most important bilateral relationship in the future – a future where we must find win-win resolutions rather than zero sum solutions," said Machtley. "Just as Bryant is educating students in both the U.S. and China, both countries must

Sophomores take first SIE Japan trip

Through Bryant's signature Sophomore International Experience (SIE), 19 students explored Japanese business and culture, expanding their global perspective and gaining important insights into the workings of an increasingly inter-connected world. A trip to Japan, the first visit in SIE history, brought their studies to life.

"This was not just a course, or just a trip, it was truly a profound international experience," says **Associate Professor of Economics Aziz Berdiev, Ph.D.**, who helped teach the SIE course and led the students to Japan.

A three-credit course, SIE caps a semester of intensive introduction to another country with a two-week international trip led by faculty and staff, during which students immerse themselves in the cul-

ture and learn how businesses operate globally. Students often describe their trip as a defining moment of their college career.

"It's more than learning about Japanese business and culture," says **Kaoru Paganelli, Assistant Director, Office of International Students and Scholars**. "It offers an opportunity for students to develop cultural competence while thinking critically to understand a very different culture."

For this year's SIE Japan participants, the experience began long before the students touched down in Tokyo. The months-long preparation process provided students with a primer on a broad range of topics from culture to politics to language to economics. "We want our students to truly immerse

themselves," explains Berdiev, who has previously led SIE trips to Malaysia, London, Argentina, and Chile. "And to do that, they need to be prepared."

Over the course of the 11 days, the troupe visited a wide range of sites of cultural, historical and political importance. Trips to traditional locations such as the Meiji Shrine, Himeji Castle, and the Tenryuji Temple were complemented with expeditions to places such as the Odaiba district, home to Fuji Television Studios and the National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation.

"One of the things that made this trip so unique was the amount of thought that went into the planning," says **Matthew Mays '21**, who notes the research the students did helped them better understand their journey.



Led by Crystal Jiang, Associate Professor of Management, Aziz Berdiev, Associate Professor of Economics and Kaoru Paganelli, Assistant Director Office of International Students and Scholars, Bryant students spent 11 days in Japan for the Sophomore International Experience.

International Student Profile –Ying Wang



Ying Wang '19

A transfer student from Bryant Zhuhai discovers a campus that now feels like home.

Since Bryant Zhuhai opened in 2015, nearly 100 students have transferred from China to Smithfield. In May, **Ying Wang '19** was among the first group of Bryant Zhuhai students who have studied for two years on each campus to graduate from Bryant.

"I wake up every day and think how amazing it is that I get the chance to do things that I would have no opportunity to do in traditional Chinese schools, like

taking courses in design thinking," said Wang. Experiences that enhanced her teamwork and communication skills "were very valuable," the Accounting and Economics major noted.

As a Bryant Zhuhai sophomore, Wang traveled to Smithfield through the Sophomore International Experience program. It was her first trip to the United States, and she fell in love with the Bryant community. "It was so beautiful and you could feel the atmosphere of being in a home," she says.

Her transition as a transfer student to Bryant was smooth thanks to University

resources such as the Academic Center for Excellence (ACE) and the U.S.-China Institute.

"The peer tutors at ACE are willing to provide any help and any advice they can to support international students when they first come to campus," she said. "The U.S.-China Institute also makes sure to celebrate our own festivals and events on campus, which really makes it feel like home."

Wang will stay at Bryant to study toward her Master of Professional Accountancy.



Exploring Foreign Service Careers

Philip Beekman, U.S. Department of State Diplomat-in-Residence for New England, talked with students who are interested in Foreign Service careers.

A member of the United States Foreign Service for 14 years, Beekman has served in public diplomacy, political, and consular positions. In Washington D.C., he served as a senior watch operator at the State Department's Operations Center and a special assistant for the Under Secretary for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs. His visit was hosted by Bryant University's Amica Center for Career Education



Philip Beekman, Diplomat-in-Residence for New England

"The event was everything I could have ever hoped for," said Global Studies major **Jennifer Mitchell '21**. "I learned about the personality traits and goals you need to have to thrive in the Foreign Service." She was excited to learn that young foreign service officers can be dispatched almost anywhere in the world when they first start their careers and was enthusiastic about the possibilities of working internationally.

Faculty Spotlight on Global Perspective: Professor A.Can Inci

Finance Professor **A. Can Inci, Ph.D.** exemplifies the global perspectives Bryant faculty bring to their teaching and research. Born and raised in Turkey, in addition to Turkish he speaks fluent English and German and can converse in Spanish and French. He has visited more than 40 countries across the globe and has traveled to all 50 states.

Professor Inci earned an undergraduate degree in Electrical and Electronics Engineering from Bogazici University in Istanbul. After a fellowship from the British Council, he received a master's degree in Control Systems from the Imperial College at the University of London. A full scholarship from Ohio State University allowed him to pursue an MBA, followed by a Ph.D. in Finance from the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor. Over the course of his teaching career, Dr. Inci has developed and taught courses at both the undergraduate and graduate levels during his ten years at the University including International Finance, Innovations in Contemporary Finance, and Foundations of Financial Theory.



A. Can Inci, Ph.D.

Students taking his classes Dr. Inci says, “can expect to broaden their horizons and gain experience with many relevant high-tech financial and international models.” He advises incoming students to “anticipate to study a lot, absorb as much useful information as possible in this ever-changing world, and use their time wisely and productively.”

Dr. Inci also has wide ranging experience as a higher education consultant with extensive knowledge about the AACSB (Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business) accreditation process for business schools in the U.S. He has worked with numerous quality assurance agencies including the NECHE (New England Commission of Higher Education) and EQUIS (European Foundation for Management Development Quality Improvement System). He has also published widely on financial topics and has been honored with numerous awards and grants during his career.

Support for International Students Continues to Expand

As Bryant's international student population grows, the services and programs offered to this diverse group of students is expanding and evolving to meet increasing demands. During the spring semester, a number of programs geared toward student success and creating greater awareness among the Bryant community were held.

What Every International Student Should Know About U.S. Employment – This informative program, organized by the Office of International Students and Scholars, featured speaker **Dan Beaudry**, former head of cam-

pus recruiting at Monster.com. Beaudry shared insight into his proven job search strategy and provided advice to help international students successfully find U.S. employment, and obtain a H-1B sponsorship.

International Career Fairs – Two career fairs focused on Africa and Europe were held in the Boston area for interested Bryant students.

More than 20 companies participated in the career fair of the African Business Conference held at Harvard Business School. Students had the opportunity to network with

representatives of the companies, many of which were offering full-time internship opportunities.

Bryant students also attended the European Career Fair held at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the largest of its kind in the United States with more than 90 participating organizations and employers ranging from multinational corporations to nonprofit organizations.

“Bryant University offers international employers entry-level talent that is exceptionally well prepared for international



Bryant students participated in the Africa Business Conference held at Harvard Business School in February.

opportunities,” says Executive Director of the Amica Center for Career Services **Kevin Gaw, Ph.D.** “Bryant students are also equipped with language skills and intercultural experiences that differentiate them as in-demand candidates. The European and African Career Fairs are a perfect way for domestic and international Bryant students to access and explore international career opportunities.”

Bryant Zhuhai Student Experience – International transfer students from Bryant Zhuhai shared their experiences with the Bryant Smithfield community. **Wenzhi “Vincent”**

Deng '19, talked about being a member of Bryant's football team. **Ying Wang '19** and **Xinyi Wang '20** discussed the challenges that they faced inside and outside of the classroom.

“It is important for the Bryant community to hear these students' experiences because we learn firsthand from the students how the programs and services we provide actually meet their needs and help them academically and culturally,” said Associate Director of the U.S.-China Institute **Kongli Liu, M.Ed.** “Their experience is also part of the larger experience of our international student

population. The more we hear from students, the better job we can do to make Bryant a welcoming and nurturing global learning environment for all students, domestic and international.”

Major Events in Pictures



Mingyang Zhang '22 of Bryant Zhuhai helps campers practice target language during the Chinese Summer Camp.



Language learners at the Chinese Summer Camp show off their work after a calligraphy workshop led by Confucius Institute visiting scholar Ping Wang.



Students from the China University of Geosciences pose in the Rotunda with Harshwardhan Vijan '21 during the SIE USA summer program.



Bryant students view the building that was once known as Hiroshima Prefecture's Industrial Promotion Hall. Now it is better known as the A-Dome and part of the Peace Memorial Park. It stands just as it stood after an atomic bomb detonated in the sky not far away on August 6, 1945.



Julia Kelner '21 and Matthew Mays '21 have fun with students during their visit to an elementary school during SIE Japan.



Students visited the Forbes House Museum in Milton, MA as part of their experience in the Chinese Summer Camp held at Bryant in July.



Jennifer Mitchell '21 at the United Nations Association - USA Global Leadership Summit in Washington D.C. in June.



Bryant Zhuhai students meet Tupper for the first time on a campus tour during this summer's SIE USA program.



Bryant Zhuhai Academic Dean Daniel Borgia, Ph.D. presents a graduate with her academic award at the commencement ceremony in June.



Jennifer Mitchell '21 and Miguelina Feris '20 at the United Nations Association - USA Global Leadership Summit in Washington D.C.



Hong Yang, Ph.D., Vice President for International Affairs and Charles J. Smiley Chair Professor, sees a global vision realized as he greets the first graduating class of Bryant Zhuhai.



Bryant Zhuhai students who spent six weeks on our Smithfield campus taking a summer course visited Liberty Mutual in Boston on July 9.

Global Community Hour

Bryant's Time Honored International Program

Bryant international students showcased their native countries for the Bryant community during four different Global Community Hours on campus this spring. The Global Community Hour is a program designed to give community members insight into countries, cultures, and cuisines that they may not be familiar thus expanding their global awareness.

Global Community Hour attendees accompanied their student guides to the Ivory Coast, Venezuela, Taiwan, and Morocco.

March 1, 2019 – Fatima Bamba '19, took community members to her home country of the Ivory Coast (Cote d'Ivoire). Bamba provided an overview of a nation unfamiliar to many and highlighted the country's vibrant musical scene.

March 27, 2019 – Jorge Karduss '20, gave guests his perspective of the current political crisis that Venezuela is facing. He also spoke passionately about the tough economic situation that has left many families in dire straits.

April 18, 2019 – Mick Liu '19, gave those in attendance a tour of Taiwan's natural beauty, lively night markets, and delectable street food culture.

May 1, 2019 – Yousra Mazih '19 MBA shared the heritage and culture of Morocco and served authentic Moroccan cuisine.



Yousra Mazih '19 MBA presented on her home country of Morocco during a Global Community Hour event in May 2019.

Student Perspective – SIE China

By Meghan Sengstacken '21



Meghan Sengstacken '21 (center) with Bryant Smithfield and Bryant Zhuhai classmates in Zhuhai, China.

My Sophomore International Experience (SIE) in China was amazing. I am thankful that I was given the opportunity to travel with bright, caring, and adventurous individuals from Bryant. We traveled to so many unique cities and I stepped out of my comfort zone.

Beijing was our first stop. We started our trip by visiting the Forbidden City, where I was taken aback by the Imperial Garden. Up to that point, I had only seen pictures, so I was shocked when I saw it in person. We also visited the Lenovo headquarters, where we saw a 3D liver and were introduced to new artificial intelligence devices.

In Zhuhai, our second stop, we met with Bryant Zhuhai students. Ava, one of my Bryant Zhuhai counterparts, and I had been in contact for a couple of weeks prior to the

trip. When we first met each other, it was as if we'd known each other for years. Zhuhai was one of my favorite places because I made friends with a group of people who are now like family to me. Spending time with the Chinese students made me realize how different our college experiences are.

The activities in our third city, Yangshuo, incorporated team building skills and were the most fun. We had the chance to go rock climbing, take a cooking class, go cave exploring, and paint Chinese fans.

Our next stop, Shanghai, reminded me of a much larger New York City. There, we visited the Yu Garden, saw the Bund waterfront area, went on a night cruise along the Yangtze River, and had a chance to shop in the Old Town.

This trip provided fun excursions for us and we were learning the entire time we were there. I noticed by the end of the trip that Chinese culture is very work focused. I observed that children grow up a little faster there since they are given more responsibilities at a younger age than we do in the United States.

My perspective and outlook about Chinese culture and way of life has completely changed. Prior to the trip, I was nervous that I wasn't going to be able to adjust to my surroundings. To my surprise, I was proven incorrect and I adjusted just fine. I am so grateful to have had this opportunity and now I can use the problem solving and work ethic skills that I have observed to impact my everyday life.

World Trade Day Discusses U.S. – China Relations And Honors Late Founder

Bryant University's 34th Annual World Trade Day – Global Trends: Opportunities and Strategies on May 22 drew more than 500 business leaders. World Trade Day is one of the region's largest international business conferences.

During her keynote address, **Amy Celico**, Principal at Albright Stonebridge Group, a global business strategy firm based in Washington D.C., spoke about the rising tensions between the U.S. and China and shared informed insights about the views held in both Washington and Beijing.

"Tensions are high, they're rising and there is no end in sight," she told the crowd before laying out what factors she sees as driving the actions of the two countries.



Amy Celico of the Albright Stonebridge Group spoke about the current U.S. – China trade friction at this year's World Trade Day.

Presented by the University's John H. Chafee Center for International Business, World Trade Day 2019 addressed some of the pressing issues impacting local companies, with a focus on sharing best practices, highlighting opportunities, and exploring options. The day featured more than 40 speakers and include topics such as emerging markets, specific country highlights, trade policy

updates, managing global supply chains, strategies for importers, cyber security, and more.

World Trade Day 2019 also honored the legacy of Chafee Center Director **Raymond Fogarty '79**, who passed away unexpectedly in September 2018. Fogarty founded World Trade Day in 1985, recognizing the need for an event that would bring together business, academic, and government leaders to share strategies and opportunities for growth. This year, **John Hazen White, Jr.**, president of TACO, Inc., presented a posthumous Lifetime Achievement Award to Fogarty in honor of his outstanding contributions promoting international trade and collaboration.

For MBA students, study trip to Germany offered exclusive look at innovation at Audi

Bryant MBA students experienced "unprecedented" access to some of the world's top companies during their transformational Global Immersion Experience (GIE) trip to Germany in January.

"This trip has taught me how crucial it is for companies to be agile and innovative in order to succeed and maintain their success in today's competitive environment," said **Rachita Wadhwa '19MBA**.

"The fact that every single participant had to sign a full confidentiality agreement is a testament to how deep we were allowed into Audi's business."

GIE is a three-credit course that introduces students to the economic opportunities and challenges of doing business in a globalized world. It also includes a 10-day international trip. A required group project with businesses in the trip's destination country

builds on core constructs of the students' first semester of academic study.

One of those businesses was Audi. At the company's headquarters in Ingolstadt, Bryant MBA students were treated to an exclusive customized tour. "This was an unprecedented once-in-a-lifetime opportunity," said Assistant Professor of Management **Dirk Primus, Ph.D.**



Bryant MBA students' Global Immersion Experience included "an unprecedented once-in-a-lifetime opportunity" to meet with Audi officials at the company's headquarters in Ingolstadt, Germany.

Students walked among 45,000 Audi employees to learn first-hand what it means to create "competitive advantage via technology." They saw highly advanced testing rigs and simulators for Audi's proprietary technology, and sat in prototypes that will be released to market in 2020 and later. Some students enjoyed a test drive with a professional Audi driver. The remarkable tour was made possible by Ronny Mueller, an executive in Audi's product technology department.

In addition to Audi, students also learned about the intricacies of pen fabrication at Faber Castel, and the process of manufacturing airplanes at Lufthansa.

"Students saw first-hand the serious German work ethic, innovation and intense focus," said Professor of Management **John Visich, Ph.D.**, who traveled with the students as faculty instructor for the course.

Bryant Leadership Featured at Annual AIEA Conference



Hong Yang, Ph.D., Vice President for International Affairs, presented on Bryant Zhuhai during the Association of International Education Administrators Annual Conference.

Hong Yang, Ph.D., Vice President for International Affairs, and Director of Bryant's U.S.–China Institute and Confucius Institute, presented four workshops during the Association of International Education Administrators (AIEA) annual conference in San Francisco. The theme of this year's conference, held in January, was: "What's next? Possibilities and Probabilities in the Future of International Higher Education."

There were more than 100 sessions and roundtable discussions that provided opportunities for international education leaders to engage in peer-learning about relevant and key issues for the field.

Spotlight on AIEA Opportunities: The Presidential Fellows and Senior Advisers Programs – As chair of the Senior Advisers Program, Yang introduced both programs and discussed opportunities for future participation.

Navigating the Controversy around Confucius Institutes in US Higher Education – Yang shared his experience and perspectives about how to interpret the current issues surrounding Confucius Institutes and discussed the institute's important role in Bryant's global strategy.

From Faculty to SIO: Bridging the Gaps in Knowledge, Skill, and Understanding – Yang chaired the session that helped attendees better understand the expectations, management requirements, and necessary skills that will help them navigate the transition to a career as a successful senior international officer.

7-Minute Motivators: Innovations in Global Partnership Building – Yang introduced attendees to Bryant University and Bryant Zhuhai.

As an AIEA Presidential Fellow, Yang currently serves as a member of AIEA's Leadership Development Committee, in which he is involved in establishing the "Standards of Professional Practice for International Educators" worldwide. He also co-chairs the AIEA's Senior Advisors Program that Provides mentorship opportunities by creating cohorts of new international administrators with experienced senior advisors.

Providence Celebrates Asian Pacific Heritage Month



Bryant University's Vice President for International Affairs, Dr. Hong Yang (center right) at Providence City Hall with Providence Mayor Jorge Elorza (center left) and distinguished members of the Rhode Island Asian Pacific community during the celebration in May.

Providence, RI Mayor Jorge Elorza announced that the city will officially celebrate Asian Pacific Heritage Month each May. The mayor was joined by Vice President for International Affairs **Hong Yang, Ph.D.**, and other community partners in honoring the contributions and legacies of

the Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders to their local communities. Yang highlighted the contributions of these communities saying, "From arts to gourmet food, from music to sports, and from science to technology, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders of all ages, inspired by their

traditions, heritage, and identity, have enriched American history, and will undoubtedly shape its future."

Yang emphasized the important role that Bryant and the City of Providence have played in strengthening the bonds that tie these communities together. He discussed the University's commitment to China and thanked Mayor Elorza for his leadership in establishing a sister city relationship between Providence and Zhuhai, China.

"I came to America more than 30 years ago as a student," Yang said. "Now, as a proud resident of this great city of Providence, I feel that more than ever before, from the grassroots to ivory towers, America should embrace and celebrate its diversity, which in my view, makes us, Americans, strong and great."

Zhuhai Academic Center for Excellence Introduces All-English Campaign



Bryant Zhuhai students and staff participated in training sessions to promote the work of the Academic Center for Excellence at Bryant Zhuhai.

Bryant Zhuhai's Academic Center for Excellence (ACE) conducted a training session for Bryant Zhuhai students and staff that focused on communication skills and professionalism in the workplace. The Zhuhai ACE tutors offer one-on-one tutoring, academic support and learning labs in Accounting, Finance, Economics, Math and English.

Bryant Zhuhai Dean Daniel Borgia, Ph.D., began the recent training session by previewing Bryant Zhuhai's *All English All the Time* campaign and noted that ACE employees are role models for other students, encouraging them to take a leadership role in the campaign by modeling the new policy.

Attendees then discussed ways to make students feel more comfortable seeking

tutoring and how they can better communicate directly with faculty and staff about the services available at ACE. The workshop also included brainstorming and role-play activities where they imagined interactions with faculty, staff, and students coming to ACE for academic support.

Visiting Scholars Join Bryant Community



Xiuli Lyu

Xiuli Lyu joined the Confucius Institute as a visiting scholar in 2018. She previously taught at the China University of Geosciences (CUG), Bryant's strategic partner in Wuhan, for 15 years. She has taught Chinese as a second language to international students for the last seven years.

At Bryant, Ms. Lyu supports Confucius Institute programs and events including the Chinese language summer camp and cultural activities, as well as working with local schools in our affiliated K-12 Confucius Classrooms. Her research interests include the evolution of Chinese calligraphy and cross-cultural communications.

Mengxiao "Michelle" Wu returned to Bryant University after completing a six-month visit as a short-term visiting graduate student from the Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden, Chinese Academy of Sciences, in Yunnan, China. She will continue to work with Qin Leng, Ph.D., Professor of Biology at the Laboratory of Terrestrial Environments at Bryant University, on a National Science Foundation funded project to examine historical CO2 changes and its impact on the terrestrial environment.



Mengxiao Wu



Junyan Qi

Professor **Junyan Qi, Ph.D.**, Deputy Dean of the College of Economics at Tianjin University of Finance and Economics and Deputy Dean of Tianjin Academy Free Trade Zone in China began a short-term visit to Bryant University in July. Her research interests include financial development, international trade and the establishment of foreign-trade zones. Prof. Qi earned her Ph.D. in World Economics from the Institute for International Economics at Nankai University. During her seven-month visit, she will conduct research on world economics in collaboration with Bryant faculty and other scholars in the region.



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Upcoming Events

Cultural Celebrations

Mid-Autumn Festival & Lunar New Year

Each year at Bryant, the U.S. – China Institute and Confucius Institute organize on-campus events for the community around these two cultural celebrations held in September and February respectively. Each year the celebrations focus around different traditions aimed at enriching the campus community through multiculturalism and diversity. Both events are free and open to all.

International Education Week

International Education Week in November promotes and celebrates international education and multiculturalism. Highlights during this week include keynote speakers, panel discussions, and programs geared toward increasing awareness and facilitating dialogue. The goal of IEW at Bryant is to heighten campus awareness of social and global issues and to promote mutual understanding and international cooperation.

Spring Break Cultural Exchange

Submit an application to take part in the annual Spring Break trip to the western U.S. in March sponsored by the Division of International Affairs. Visit some of America's most beautiful national parks and meet new friends. Space is limited so apply early. For questions, please contact Colleen Balk at cbalk@bryant.edu.

Global Community Hour

One of Bryant's signature educational activities to help build cultural awareness will take you to new countries around the globe each semester. Hosted by international students and scholars, Global Community Hour includes a presentation about the focus

country's culture and is followed by a small sampling of local cuisine. Seats are limited. For more information, contact the Office of International Students and Scholars at oiss@bryant.edu.

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 Ms. Ping Wang at pwang2@bryant.edu or visit china.bryant.edu and click on "Test Services" through the Confucius Institute tab.

Stay tuned to the Bryant events calendar for further details on all Division of International Affairs events.

The Division of International Affairs supports the university mission to meet its global strategies. The division provides support to international students and scholars for their cultural immersion, academic success, social networking, and career preparation throughout their educational experience at Bryant.

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