

SDSU Office of International Programs

Faculty International Travel Grant

Final Report

Name: Dr. Nan Zhang Hampton and Dr. Caren Sax

Faculty/Rank: Professor and Professor

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College: Education

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Proposal title:

Implementing Internships and Research Experiences for SDSU Rehabilitation Counseling and Postsecondary Education graduate students in China.

Country visited: The People's Republic of China

Institutions visited:

China Disabled Person's Federation, Beijing (CDPF)
China Rehabilitation and Research Center, Beijing (CRRC)
National Assistive Technology Center for People with Disabilities, Beijing
China Rehabilitation and Research Center for Deaf Children, Beijing
China National Institute for Educational Research
Jinan Rehabilitation Center for Children with Autism
Jinan Employment Center for People with Disabilities
Jinan Assistive Technology Center for People with Disabilities
Community Based Rehabilitation Program in Lixia District, Jinan
Rehabilitation Program in Xiuhui Town Hospital, Zhangqiu County

Dates of travel: October 5 to Oct. 22, 2008 for Dr. Hampton
October 12, 2008 to Oct. 22, 2008 for Dr. Sax

Number of student participants:

One student from the Rehabilitation Counseling Program at SDSU

One hundred and six rehabilitation professionals from the China Disabled Persons' Federation attended our presentations. Some of these professionals will come to ARPE-SDSU for further training in 2009.

We projected 10-14 students from ARPE-SDSU will be enrolled in a summer 2009 study course and 1-2 ARPE-SDSU students would do a semester-long study/internship in China.

**Previous IP proposals submitted and grants awarded:
(list titles, countries and dates)**

1. International Rehabilitation Counseling Internship Program Department of Administration, Rehabilitation, and Postsecondary Education awarded to Drs. **Caren Sax** and Fred McFarlane. The visited country was Ireland and the travel dates were September 26 to October 5, 2005

2. Institutionalizing Internships, Summer Study Programs, and Research Experiences for Rehabilitation Counseling and Postsecondary Education Graduate Students in Hong Kong and China awarded to Drs. **Nan Zhang Hampton** and Fred McFarlane. The visit country was China and the travel dates were Oct. 25 to Nov. 7, 2006.

3. Summer Study Programs for Rehabilitation Counseling Students in Hong Kong and China awarded to Drs. **Nan Zhang Hampton** and Marjorie Olney. The visited Country was China and the travel dates were July 21, 2007 to August 24, 2007 for Dr. Hampton and August 8, 2007 to August 24, 2007 for Dr. Olney.

Have all required reports been submitted?

Yes.

Other funding for this activity available/applied for:

Our Chinese host – the Chinese Rehabilitation Association covered lodging, meals, and local transportations.

Proposal Abstract (75 word maximum):

This visit sought to implement activities related to ARPE-SDSU students' internship and research projects commencing during the 2008-2009 academic year. One rehabilitation counseling student went on the trip with us, met rehabilitation professionals in China and explored opportunities to conduct a study in China. By implementing the internship and research projects, we expanded learning opportunities for SDSU students, increased involvement of SDSU students and faculty in international education and research experiences.

Travel report:

I. Opening/overview of intentions/activity

ARPE has a history of expanding students learning to international arena. The Department has established long-term cooperation with counterparts in Asia, Mexico and Europe. This visit was part of our long-term cooperation with the Chinese Rehabilitation Association. We were invited by Dr. Zhao Tizun, General Secretary of the Chinese Rehabilitation Association for People with Disabilities. During the visit, we have accomplished the following activities:

- a. Gave presentations to rehabilitation professionals from 30 provinces of China at the Second National Training Workshop for Rehabilitation Professionals in Jinan, China;
- b. Met with administrators at the aforementioned institutions; and
- c. Discussed a cooperation agreement with the Chinese Rehabilitation Association that included joint research on a needs assessment and personnel training.

II. Preparation for the Trip

Dr. Hampton has a long-standing relationship with the host, due to her involvement with the Chinese Rehabilitation Association (CRA) and the China Disabled Persons' Federation (CDPF). She is the Director of a joint training and research project between ARPE-SDSU and CRA-CDPF. Under this Project, we held two short-term training workshop at SDSU for rehabilitation administrators from CRA-CDPF in November 2007 and May 2008. As the former Coordinator of the Rehabilitation Counseling Program and current Department Chair of ARPE, Dr. Sax has been involved in strategic planning and decision making in developing the joint training and research project. She met with administrators from CDPF and presented at training workshops to these administrators when they came to SDSU for a three-day training workshop in November 2007 and May 2008. Both Drs. Hampton and Sax have been working with a Chinese student in ARPE-SDSU's distance education program in Rehabilitation Counseling. Through the joint training and research project between ARPE-SDSU and CRA-CDPF, this student presented at the CRA-CDPF's First National Training Workshop held in Beijing, China in July 2007. Prior to this trip, we had communicated with our host about this trip via email and telephone. We collaboratively decided the agendas that included presentations, site visits, and meeting with administrators, faculty, and students. We also discussed our plans with Dr. Laura Hall, the International Program Coordinator at College of Education about our trip to China.

III. Activities in China

Below is a brief description about our activities in China:

Days 1-2 (10/12/08-10/13/08):

Depart SD 10/12/08, arrive Beijing 10/13/08; met at airport by Dr. Zhao who took us by taxi to Guanxi Hotel. Short rest and then dinner at 6:30 at hotel with Dr. Zhao, Mrs. Feng Yanxia (Depute General Secretary of the CRA), and Mr. Jai Ji (Staff of the CRA).

Day 3 (10/14/08):

Depart hotel to airport to fly to Jinan; Mrs. Feng and Nancy Zhu (SDSU RCP student) to meet us at airport and take to hotel; met with Dr. Zhao and several other Jinan CDPF directors for lunch (for over 2 hours); brief tour around Jinan; back to hotel for dinner with participants who have arrived for the training workshop.

Day 4 (10/15/08):

Opening ceremony for training workshop; training all day (106 participants, representing 30 provinces).

Day 5 (10/16/08):

Training all day (dinner hosted by the President of Jinan Children's Hospital).

Day 6 (10/17/18):

Site visits to CDPF Community-based Rehab Programs and to a rehabilitation center in Xiuhui Town Hospital; also stop in between site visits to springs; closing dinner with participants from training workshop. Our graduate student, Nancy Zhu, explored opportunities to conduct a study on autism with Ms Yu Yan, the Director of the Jinan Rehabilitation Center for People with Autism.

Day 7 (10/18/08):

Fly to Beijing; lunch meeting with Professor Xianguang Peng (CNIER); afternoon off for shopping and visit to Olympic Village.

Day 8 (10/19/08):

Visit the Great Wall.

Day 9 (10/20/08):

Meeting Dr. Mi Zhong Xiang, the Director of the General Office, China Rehabilitation and Research Center; meeting with the Director Xu of the National Assistive Technology Center for People with Disabilities; and tour of the CRRC and the NATC; meeting with Dr. Zhao and Mrs. Feng regarding the needs assessment research and continued collaboration in rehabilitation personnel training.

Day 10 (10/21/08):

Visit to CDPF offices to meet with Deputy Director General Tang Shu Fen (Department of Education and Employment) and Deputy Director General Cao Jigang (Department of Rehabilitation); visit to the China Rehabilitation and Research Center for Deaf Children; dinner hosted by Mr. Hu Xiangyang, Director of the Center.

Day 11 (10/22/08):

Return to San Diego

Conclusion and Recommendation

Through this visit, we have a clearer understanding of the structure and culture of CDPF and how it provides services to people with disabilities (PWD) at the national, provincial, local, and grassroots levels. We also have a clearer understanding of the status of PWD related to education, employment, and community access. There are about 82 million PWD in China (six categories including blind, deaf, physical disabilities, language disabilities, intellectual, and psychiatric). This percentage represents about 6.34% of the total population. Specific needs included the following:

- Focus of CDPF: building the skills of staff to change from passive to active advocates;
- understanding rehabilitation as a career; implement more scientific, research-based approaches in order to accommodate PWD
- Helping to shift from a medical model to a social model;
- need for medical personnel to learn more about rehabilitation;
- need for public to become more aware of issues related to people with disabilities; and
- Needs related to Wenchuan earthquake (May 2008) survivors

The trip provided our student with opportunities not only to learn the current rehabilitation situation in China but also to compare the similarities and differences in laws, policies, service systems, professional training, and consumer services between the U.S. and China. In her summary of the trip, the student wrote “It was a perfect time for me to go to China after I have been studying in this program (SDSU) for nearly one and a half year. I visited the hospital, where rehabilitation services are provided for children with autism, to get some general information that is needed for my research on autism. The networking with local rehabilitation agencies and administrators provided me with ample resources that will be very helpful when I start data collection. I would like to thank the Program for giving me this great learning opportunity.”

Responses from the workshop participants were very positive. On a 5-point scale, where 1 represents poor and 5 represents excellent, participants rated the six content areas as 4.43 (laws policies), 4.38 (rehabilitation systems), 4.32 (community-based rehabilitation), 4.72 (counseling theories), assessment (4.89), and AT (4.66) respectively. Participants commented that “We learned new knowledge about rehabilitation.” “We learned the rehabilitation principles in foreign countries which are new to us.” The “three professors’ lectures are very lively and we were able to see the outcomes of rehabilitation through pictures, video clips, and cases.” Participants expressed strong interests in learning more about rehabilitation counseling and having the similar training workshops in both China and the U.S.

The joint research project – a needs assessment of rehabilitation workers focused on (a) the awareness, knowledge, and skills of rehabilitation counseling among rehabilitation administrators, staff, and community-based rehabilitation workers and (b) the training needs of these rehabilitation professionals. A needs assessment questionnaire was developed and distributed to rehabilitation workers by CDPF in all 32 provinces. Each provincial branch of

CDPF received 10 questionnaires. By the time this report was written, we have received a total of 250 completed questionnaires. Currently, we are conducting data entry. Results of the needs assessment will be incorporated into the Ten-Year Training Plan for Rehabilitation Professionals in China (2005-2015) and will be disseminated through conference presentations and a journal article.

Ideas for collaboration:

Students at ARPE-SDSU have showed interests in participating in either an internship and/or a summer course in China. One student will do her internship in Hong Kong and Guangzhou in mainland China in Spring 2009. We will further explore the opportunity of a summer course in China with CDPF. Meanwhile, CDPF plans to send the third group of rehabilitation workers to SDSU for short term training in 2009. We have one student who lives in China who is completing the Rehabilitation Counseling degree in our distance education program. He came to San Diego to complete his internship at Access to Independence, San Diego's independent living center in fall 2008 and will complete the degree by May 2009. He may serve as an important contact as we consider various sites for collaboration.

In summary, we had a very productive visit to China. We established very good working relationships with the key individuals at CRA and CDPF and strengthened the existing operation with these organizations. Our graduate student networked with many Chinese rehabilitation administrators/professionals on this trip and explored the possibility of conducting a study on autism in Jinan. Through these activities, we have laid the foundation for institutionalized international internships, summer studies, and research experiences for ARPE-SDSU students in China. To make the cooperation successful, Dr. Hampton will coordinate the activities related to the cooperation agreement with the CRA under the leadership of Dr. Sax. We will need the continuous support and assistance from the office of International Program at SDSU.