

HBCU-China Scholarship Network

January 6, 2019

Mr. Audie Wong
Executive Director
China-United States Exchange Foundation
20/F Yardley Commercial Building
No. 3 Connaught Rd West
Sheung Wan, Hong Kong

**Re: Report of the HBCU Presidential Delegation Visit to China -
December 16-22, 2018**

Dear Mr. Wong,

The HBCU-China Network would like to thank the China-United States Exchange Foundation and partners for its continued efforts to provide opportunities for HBCU students, presidents, and our institutions, to get to know China and its rich culture and history. This letter serves as a report to summarize the key outcomes of the very productive HBCU presidential delegation visit to China December 16-22, 2018.

SUMMARY REPORT

The HBCU Presidential Delegation to China included presidents of four institutions: They were (in institutional alphabetical order):

Dr. Aminta Breaux, Bowie State University (Bowie, Maryland);
Dr. Kevin Rome, Fisk University (Nashville, Tennessee);
Dr. Lester Newman, Jarvis Christian College (Largo, Texas); and
Dr. David Wilson, Morgan State University (Baltimore, Maryland).

This was Dr. Breaux's first visit to China.

Sunday December 16, 2018

The delegation arrived at Beijing International airport on Sunday evening December 16, 2018, and was received by a representative from the China United States Exchange Foundation. After we checked into the Shangri-la Hotel, we gathered in the lobby for an informal meeting to discuss and reacquaint ourselves with the goals of the visit, which were to:

- 1) Gain feedback from institutions in China that had hosted students from HBCUs;
- 2) Keep the doors of opportunity open for students at HBCUs who are desirous of studying in China to do so;
- 3) Visit universities that had not hosted HBCU students to ascertain their interest in doing so, 4) to explore the process of possibly housing a Confucius Institute on more HBCU campuses; and
- 5) Understand the process which Chinese universities must follow in accessing government-sponsored scholarships for students at HBCUs to study on their campuses. It was a very productive discussion and we were all very clear about the expected outcomes of our visit.

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Monday December 17, 2018

We started on Monday with a briefing conducted by Ms. Yutao Luan. We then had a very productive visit to Confucius Institute Headquarters (Hanban) where we met with Dr. Jing Wei, Deputy Chief Executive and Deputy Director-General. Dr. Wei discussed with us the process that an HBCU should follow if it desires to be considered as a potential site for a Confucius Institute. Thus far, approximately four HBCU have Confucius Institutes on their campuses, and each of us expressed a desire to explore this possibility as well. Dr. Wei indicated that she would send us via email the procedures. We all left our business cards with her, and are expecting to receive the procedures soon. As soon as we receive them, we will have the appropriate person on our respective campuses responsible for International Programs to follow-up.

The delegation was then received by Mr. Xie Yuan, Vice President of the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (CPAFFC), and Mr. Zhang Heqiang, Director General of CPAFFC. The discussion took place around strategies that HBCUs should consider to engage with Chinese universities in some of the "smaller" cities where HBCUs could recruit students to attend our campuses, and with more Chinese universities in rural China where the students don't have as many opportunities to study abroad. The Chinese universities might be more eager to host, not only students from HBCUs, but perhaps be open to the idea of some collaborative degree programs as well. The delegation would like to explore these thought processes in more detail as we feel it might be very promising. We would suggest that a future HBCU presidential delegation visit might include some exposure to the campuses of such Chinese universities.

During the afternoon, we made two campus visits: Beijing University of Chemical Technology (BUCT) and Beijing Language and Culture University (BLCU). At BUCT, each of us signed a Memorandum of Collaboration that will open doors for our students to study there—beginning possibly as soon as summer 2019 (photos attached). Each of us provided to BUCT the name of the contact person on our campus who will follow-up with their contact person. We are very excited about this opportunity and will move expeditiously to identify several students to study there.

Our visit to BLCU was equally productive. We agreed to continue to dialogue with them around hosting a small group of HBCU presidents for a 3-5-day language immersion program, as well as work with BLCU to develop some "tailored" language programs for our students. Again, each HBCU pledged to follow-up with them on an individual basis.

Meeting with Mr. Audie Wong, Executive Director of China-United States Exchange Foundation

A terrific ending to our first-full day was the opportunity to meet and have dinner with Mr. Audie Wong. We are grateful that Mr. Wong flew in from Hong Kong and met with us. The dinner and dialogue were rich. The cuisine was utterly excellent and the dialogue covered a number of important topics. We discussed the formation of American higher education in order to provide Mr. Wong with the context out of which Historically Black Colleges and Universities were formed. We also talked about the impact of the scholarship on our students (over 750 of them have studied abroad in China since the initiation of the HBCU Scholarship Program.) We also thought it would be a good idea to have Mr. Wong, since he is new to the leadership of CUSEF, come to some of our campuses and discuss the relationship between CUSEF and HBCUs. We will follow-up with his office to discuss the details of such a visit or a possible mini-conference.



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Tuesday December 18, 2018

Tuesday was devoted to a day of understanding Chinese culture and history. Members of the delegation visited numerous historical places and edifices in Beijing, including The Forbidden City and the Temple of Heaven. We also enjoyed another day of authentic Chinese cuisine and some shopping at the Silk Market.

Wednesday December 19, 2019

Our day commenced with breakfast in our local hotel, and then a visit to the US Embassy. At the Embassy, our discussion unfolded around ways that HBCUs can become more attractive institutions to Chinese students seeking to study within the United States. EducationUSA made us aware of the numerous recruitment/information fairs that take place in China each year and suggested we consider sending representatives to some of these fairs. We have already begun receiving emails from EducationUSA with dates and locations of these fairs and several of us are planning to have representatives to attend some of them going forward.

We spent a portion of the afternoon touring another tradition in Beijing—the Pearl Market, and afterwards, boarded our flight to Chongqing.

Thursday December 20, 2018

Our meeting at Chongqing University (CQU) was exceptional. CQU has hosted several students from HBCUs and the students have had transformational experiences on their campus. Our delegation was received in a formal meeting by Professor Dr. Xu Wang, Vice Chairman of the University Council, as well as by Mr. Rex Gao, Deputy Director of the Office of International Affairs, and Mr. Cliff QIN, Head, Section of International Staff and Global Relations. Our campuses will follow-up with them with the goal to identify at least five students from each of our institutions to study at CQU this summer.

We then had another very successful luncheon with The Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries, hosted by Mr. Wang Guangcheng, Deputy President, and Lu Jin, Director. They expressed worry that the U.S. is making it so difficult for Chinese students to gain Visas that many of these students might start to look to Canada and Europe for universities to study, and not the U.S. We as a delegation certainly understand the negative impact on US higher education if we lose a significant number of Chinese students, and are hopeful that whatever the issues are, that they will be addressed at the level of the US State Department. We then boarded a flight for the last leg of our trip --- Shanghai.

Friday December 21, 2018 (Shanghai)

Our first visit in Shanghai was to Donghua University. We were met formally by the University President, as well as by Frances, the Director of the International Student Admissions Department. Donghua has not thus far participated in the China/HBCU Scholarship Program—but is extremely interested in doing so—again as early as 2019—should they get approval from the Ministry of Education to offer scholarships to students from HBCUs under the program. All members of the HBCU Presidential Delegation felt that Donghua would be a very good fit for our students. We were joined in the meeting with the President and Frances by an African American graduate student who had completed her undergraduate degree from Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee. She was very impressive, and conveyed to us nothing but positive comments about her experience at Donghua. We have given Frances the contact information for our campus-based representatives for follow-up. Our goal, again, is to have students from our institutions studying at Donghua.



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Finally, we concluded our university visits in China with a visit to another campus where we had not established a prior relationship—Shanghai University of International Business and Economics (SUIBE) (see photos). I have also followed up with them and indicated that the HBCU Presidents in the delegation would give them contacts on their respective campuses to initiate possible collaborations.

Summary

From the perspective of the HBCU Presidential Delegation, the goals we agreed to at the beginning of the trip were achieved. We now know the process local Chinese institutions must follow to secure the Ministry of Education's scholarships for HBCU students; we think we have opened doors of possibilities at additional Chinese universities to host HBCU students; we understand the step(s) to employ to make an application for a Confucius Institute on our campuses; and we gained considerable feedback from campuses that have hosted HBCU students.

Thanks again to CUSEF for hosting us, and for its continued efforts to provide opportunities for Historically Black Colleges and Universities. We look forward to ongoing collaboration with CUSEF and its partners, and with mutually beneficial partnerships with Chinese universities.

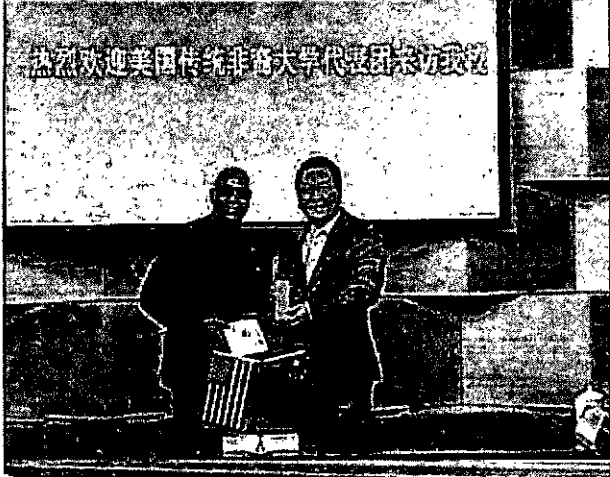
Yours Sincerely,

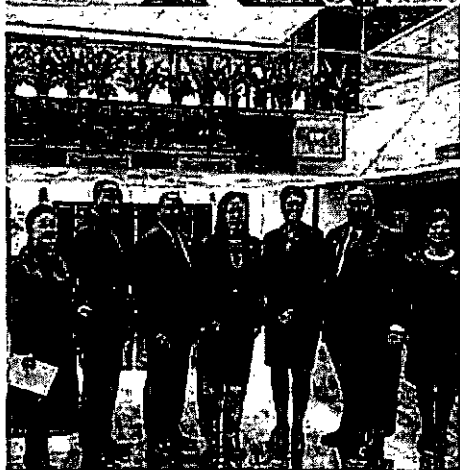


David Wilson, President, Morgan State University
Chairman, HBCU China Scholarship Network

Cc: Julia Wilson
Wilson Global Communications USA







From: HBCU-China Network <hbcu.china.network@wilsonglobalcomm.com>
Subject: 2018 HBCU Presidents Visit to China - Report Attached
Date: January 8, 2019 at 1:30:25 PM EST
To: HBCU-China Network <hbcu.china.network@wilsonglobalcomm.com>
Cc: Julia Wilson <jwilsonglobal@gmail.com>, Julia Wilson <jwilson@wilsonglobalcomm.com>

Dear HBCU-China Network Members,

Happy New Year!

We are pleased to provide the attached update of the recent successfully completed HBCU Presidential Visit to China from December 15 - 22, 2018. The attached is a summary report of the China visit from Dr. David Wilson, President of Morgan State University and Chairman of the HBCU-China Scholarship Network.

Can you please review the report, and share with your presidents and key administrators to ensure they are informed of the continued successes of the HBCU-China Network?

We look forward to an exciting and productive year of continued and increased collaboration and opportunities between HBCUs and Chinese universities for HBCU-China student exchanges.

Thank you for your ongoing participation in the HBCU-China Scholarship Network.

Best regards,

HBCU-China Network

Facebook: HBCU-China Network Twitter: @HBCUChinaNet

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Submitted By:



David Wilson, President, Morgan State University
Chairman, HBCU China Scholarship Network

Cc: Julia Wilson
Wilson Global Communications USA



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ATTACHMENT: PHOTOS

