

March 31, 2015

Dr. Bruce Murphy
University President

Dr. Todd Keller
Interim VP Academic Affairs

Dr. John Doucet
Dean, College of Arts and Sciences

Dear Dr. Murphy, Dr. Keller, and Dr. Doucet,

In April 2014 I attended a meeting at the Xavier University Confucius Institute hosted by Dr. Norman C. Francis, president of Xavier University, and Dr. Yu Jiang, the CI director. The meeting was intended to spread word of the services available to other University of Louisiana System schools through the Xavier CI, and thus promote the statewide initiative within the national 100,000 Strong Foundation, which seeks to develop a workforce with language and cultural capabilities through educational exchange with China. Since that meeting, Louisiana has been recognized as a 100k Strong state. It is not too late for us to become part of this development.

Interaction with the Xavier CI would be very beneficial to Nicholls. At the basic level this interaction could offer us a free native-language instructor for Mandarin classes worked into our curriculum, as we see fit, free cultural performances on our campus and reduced costs for students interested in study-abroad trips to China.

I also have ideas for further developing this relationship and its potential benefits. These ideas are wide ranging. One such idea is simple; the Business School could expand its study abroad opportunities by combining efforts with Xavier, a possibility that Dr. En Mao has already expressed interest in and would like to discuss further. Other ideas are more ambitious. For example, I have spoken to the CEO of a Westwego-based seafood distributor who would be interested in providing study abroad funding to students in exchange for an internship once they return. Increasingly, companies in South Louisiana are doing business with China and require employees with language and culture competence.

Please contact me to discuss these ideas further. This is an opportunity that Nicholls State University should not pass up.

Sincerely,



Dr. Rya Butterfield
Assistant Professor, Department of Mass Communication (MACO)
Adjunct Professor, Department of Government and Social Sciences

Department of Mass Communication

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July 9, 2019

TO: Ms. Jean Donegan
Interim Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences

FROM: Dr. Rya Butterfield
Assistant Professor, MACO

RE: Things to do to prepare for HUMA 221, Fall 2019

1) Make a MOU

Yu Jiang of the Confucius Institute wants us to sign an MOU between Xavier and Nicholls before the summer is over. It should stipulate the terms of the collaboration, including financial terms.

Our commitments:

- a. \$1,500 per year to support the instructor's commute, etc.
- b. Provide the instructor with sufficient access to a computer/laptop, Internet, and printer. (Yu, from the CI, had said: "Since his/her time would be shared by the two institutions, during his or her teaching days at your school, the faculty should have a sufficient office space dedicated to him or her during the teaching week days." The two institutions he's referring to are us and the other school the instructor will be teaching at.)

Instructor information for contract: Dr. Tao Yang, the Chinese/Associate Director and a Chinese literature specialist at Xavier University's Confucius Institute

2) **Urgent: Advertise to business community**

Liz McCurry, Director of Continuing Education, has been too busy with summer camps to attend to this. As far as I know she has not yet seen to the creation of the press release or anything else. We are running out of time. We currently have only 4 students registered.

Liz and I agreed on the price and everything else. She has this information recorded. Now this information needs to get into the business community. At this point in time, I do not think it will be effective to simply post announcements electronically. Does

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anyone ever speak on Nicholls' behalf at Chamber of Commerce meetings or anything else?

Liz and I also spoke about figuring out what to do with the funds collected by non-matriculated students. We still need to decide where to put the money. The general idea is to collect the funds and put them toward the \$1,500 we are responsible for each year.

3) Get the instructor setup with ID/email/parking pass/etc...

I would like to make sure we take care of this ahead of time so the instructor can begin the semester with as little difficulty as possible.

Can we cover the cost of the parking pass for the instructor since he will not have a paycheck for it to come from? Or do you want the instructor to pay for it out of the annual \$1,500?


Dr. Rya Butterfield
Assistant Professor, MACO


Approved by Dr. James Stewart
Department Head, MACO

Approved by Ms. Jean Donegan
Interim Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences

Approved by Dr. Sue Westbrook
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Approved by Dr. Jay Clune
President