

COLLOQUIUM BY WANG JINGYU

UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES ABROAD & FOREIGN LANGUAGE

TIME: 5:00-6:00 PM, THURSDAY, 12 APRIL 2018

VENUE: ACADEMIC BUILDING 1079

Undergraduate Studies Abroad & Foreign Language

Speaker: Wang Jingyu, Director of the Chengdu American Center for Study Abroad (G-MEO)

* The event is also a faculty recruitment seminar for Language and Culture Center.

ABSTRACT:

Data collected by the Institute of International Education shows that enrollment by US students in traditional study abroad programs has been decreasing for the last few years. After peaking in the 2011/12 academic year, the number of students attending programs in China in the Fall or Spring semester has dropped. However, enrollment in Summer programs, as well as short-term programs, has remained stable. This study focuses on language barriers, enrollment, and internship opportunities afforded to students in study abroad programs in China. We conducted this by interviewing our current students to understand what their experience is with the Mandarin language barrier, how it is a limiting factor for their experience in China, and how opportunities may be presented which will offer a more fulfilling experience. It also looks at the role of internships in their experience and how language use at their internships presents challenges and affects their perceived future career benefits. Ultimately it recommends the piloting of a co-op internship model (multiple terms spent in the same internship as part of a degree requirement) in an intern abroad program in China to test its efficacy in promoting internships in China, overcoming the language barrier by pursuing high level Chinese language

proficiency in Chinese programs, and eventually creating programs with more long-term participants.

BIO:

Ms. Jingyu Wang earned an MA degree in Applied Linguistics at Beijing Normal University, China. She previously worked as a lecturer in Chinese at Princeton University in US, and head lecturer at Princeton in Beijing Program. In 2009, she published *A Kaleidoscope of China-An Advanced Reader of Modern Chinese* by Princeton University Press. Prior to joining G-MEO, Ms. Wang was an East Asian Studies Research Associate and worked for Undergraduate International Studies & Foreign Language (UISFL) project at University of Notre Dame, USA. She helped with curriculum development, innovations in language learning and assessment, co-curricular programming, internship abroad as well as K-12 outreach programming. Ms. Wang is concurrently Director of the Chengdu American Center for Study Abroad (G-MEO), and recently was announced as the Co-Director by the G-MEO & China Open University Post-Baccalaureate Certificate Program to Teachers of Chinese to Speakers of Other Languages (TCSOL). In 2016, Ms. Wang was awarded as a Top 10 Best Chinese Youth Overseas Returnee in Chengdu China by Chinese Youth Overseas Returnees Association (Chengdu). In January 2018, Ms. Wang was nominated for and elected to a position on the Board of Governors for the American Chamber of Commerce in Southwest China. She is also the founder of the G-MEO China Alumni Association (GCAA) and is serving as its President.

This event is open to all. For any queries email yg73@duke.edu or call 3665 7149.

Hope to see you all.

Yijun