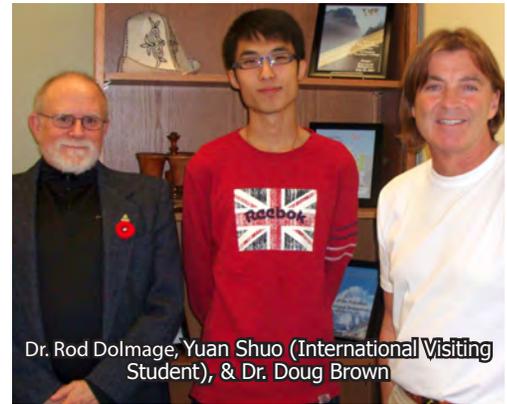


Centre for International Education and Training (CIET)

Improving the human condition through educational development, sharing the expertise and experience of the Faculty of Education and its educational partners through involvement in culturally affirming, sustainable, and international development projects



Dr. Rod Dolmage,
2009-2010 CIET Director



Dr. Rod Dolmage, Yuan Shuo (International Visiting Student), & Dr. Doug Brown



Dr. Doug Brown
2010-2011 CIET Director



Dr. Vianne Timmons, U of R President with
Dr. Kathy Nolan, CIET Grand Opening

The 2009-2010 year was one of review and change for CIET. The CIET Board and Director worked within the general auspices of the Dean's Office and the Planning and Priorities Committee (PPC) to redefine both the structure and the role of CIET within the faculty, specifically with regards to a stable and reliable source of funding. The CIET Board also suggested that the Faculty of Education create the necessary infrastructure to accommodate the successful operation of CIET (in acceptance of the foundational philosophical and instrumental tenets of the organization). In so doing, the Faculty was petitioned to allocate appropriate resources in providing administrative support/ assistance, as well as creating an appropriate and permanent space to house the centre. CIET has been partially successful here

and continues to pursue the support and autonomy required to function as a faculty centre. Another Board initiative recognized that, in terms of faculty infrastructure support, there is a long-term expectation of collaboration between attendant faculty centres/organizations. CIET is pursuing these partnerships and is happy to report that serious inroads have been made in realizing this goal. CIET continues to support and sponsor a number of projects and initiatives. Below are just a few examples in what has proven to be a year of growth for the centre.

CIET – 2009-2010 positions

CIET Board (June, 2010)–Douglas Brown (Chair), Abu Bockarie, Xia Ji, Barbara McNeil, Kathy Nolan, Mark Spooner, Warren Wessel

Ex officio: Gary Boire, Rod Dolmage, Li Liu, James McNinch

CIET Board (current)–Abu Bockarie, Alec Couros, Rod Dolmage, Cindy Hansen, Xia Ji (on leave), Barbara McNeil, Ken Montgomery, Kathy Nolan Ex officio: Douglas Brown, Livia Castellanos, George Maslany, James McNinch

CIET Projects and Programs--High Points

1. CIET, through participation in *Malawi's Technical Entrepreneurial and Vocational Education and Training (TEVET) system*, continues its support and involvement in the country of Malawi. The University of Regina and the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) signed the Contribution Agreement for this project in June 2008. Project members are involved with a number of administrative activities, including visits to Malawi in updating the project proposal and the grounding of a Project Implementation Plan (PIP). Through the tireless efforts of the Malawi team, CIET underwrites the planning, implementation, and steering/guidance activities currently reaching the halfway point in the project. The CIET director will participate in a steering committee visit scheduled for late January 2011.
2. Continued work on the President's Initiative Fund Project (facilitating attendance of Chinese high school graduates in undergraduate programs at the University of Regina) continues. This project is charged with providing support for Chinese students in making the often difficult adjustments necessary to study at the University of Regina. CIET's bridging project includes assistance in English preparation, cultural preparedness, procurement of student visas and program application (University of Regina). To this end Rod Dolmage

and Bertrand Lee (former head of the University of Regina ESL Program) visited educational institutions in Shanghai, Tianjin, Changchun, Jilin City and Beijing in November/December 2009. Rod returned to China with Ashley Yeaman (UR International) in the summer of 2010.

In total, four centres have indicated interest in creating Bridging Programs for their institutions with three memoranda of understanding struck:

- University of Regina/Centre for International Education and Training and Shanghai International Studies, University Education Group
- University of Regina/Centre for International Education and Training and Hexi District Education Bureau - Tianjin
- University of Regina/Centre for International Education and Training and Chinese Middle School graduates in Changchun, in partnership with the School of Foreign Language Education - Jilin University.

A further visit by Douglas Brown (CIET Director) is planned for the new year, 2011. With this visit, students enrolled in the Shanghai International Studies University Bridging Project will be administered English Language Proficiency examinations. Further communication with Chinese partners is both welcomed and expected.

3. CIET facilitated a visit by a small delegation from a Chinese High School in Nov. 2009.
4. CIET supported Andrea Sterzuk in her initiative to bring a scholar from Xiaomen University of Technology to the University

of Regina. Lui Jiangxu (Cherrylin) audited a number of classes both within the Faculty of Education and in the University's ESL Program.

5. In the past year CIET has successfully facilitated the admission and relocation of several Chinese Master's and PhD students.
6. CIET has again backed the initiative to provide an international internship experience in Malaysia for undergraduate students in the Faculty of Education's Middle Years Program. The project has proven successful in the past.
7. In sponsoring faculty international initiatives and projects, CIET continued its commitment to internationalization in education. For example, CIET provided both endorsement and support of Buryl Bernard in his two projects in Cambodia and Andrea Sterzuk's work in Mexico.
8. An MOU with Zaporizhzhye National Technical University has been signed (by both universities). Professor Lucy Romanenkova has contacted CIET with the intent of securing opportunities to work with Canadian colleagues on joint initiatives.
9. During the past year, CIET continued to host and support visiting scholars (both short and long term). In partial fulfillment of this obligation, space has been set aside for these individuals (by CIET) - mitigating some of the challenges of relocation. Qing Liu and Yangfen Chen are currently using this space. On September 22, 2010, Dr. Ian Robottom (Deakin University, Australia) visited the University of Regina. Dr. Robottom's visit proved instructive in outlining a number of ways the Faculty

of Education and the University of Regina could collaborate with Deakin in building strong partnerships.

10. In October, 2010 the CIET Director (Douglas Brown) participated in the Conference of the Americas on International Education (CAIE),(Calgary). The CAIE is intended to provide a space for connecting with potential partners and for incubating new opportunities and ideas across the hemisphere.

The Future Direction for CIET

In addition to maintaining our projects and partnerships with the countries of China and Malawi, CIET plans to increase its focus on North, South and Central America and the Caribbean. It is our goal to attract the attention and participation of international education professionals as well as citizens from these regions. However, while working towards partnerships and strategic alliances within the Americas it remains incumbent upon us to recognize all international opportunity as we continue to function as the conduit through which the Faculty goes international. This remains our directive not only in fielding projects, faculty exchanges and international scholarship, but in bringing the world to our student population. This may be accomplished by encouraging internships abroad, developing more globally responsible curricula, and promoting faculty mobility. In addition, it remains our task to be informed, to debate different policies and approaches and discuss emerging trends in education. We must develop an increasing focus upon capacity building, shared views, and best practices in the field of international educational issues. We must pursue the necessary resources required to adequately fund our goals as well as engage the various technologies vital in closing significant gaps in geography, culture, and language.

An Interview with student Yuan Shuo, assisted by Visiting Scholar Yangfen Chen



Yangfen Chen (Visiting Scholar), Yuan Shuo (International Visiting Student), & Dr. Doug Brown

Yuan Shuo, is currently studying at the University of Regina as a direct result of the work of CIET's Bridging Program under the direction of Dr. Rod Dolmage. Drs. Dolmage and Brown interviewed Yuan Shuo with the assistance of visiting scholar, Chen Yangfen.

Yuan Shuo comes from Tianjin, near Beijing in northern China, where he says it is cold, but not as cold as Regina. He likes the cold, and says he likes several other aspects of Regina as well. He told us he would recommend the University of Regina to his friends at home, and when asked, "why?" he responded that there are "too many reasons . . . I like Canada: I like snow, the people are friendly, I don't like big cities — Tianjin is too noisy, there are too many people. I like the quiet environment in Regina."

Yuan Shuo likes where he is living in Luther College Residence. He admitted that he doesn't like to cook and he enjoys the food at the Luther cafeteria. He appreciates the access he has to the University's athletic facilities and enjoys playing basketball in the gym with new friends he has made since arriving in September.

He also appreciates the help he has had from the staff and instructors in the ESL Centre and believes his teachers are really helping

him to improve his English. In particular, he mentioned that he is required to make presentations and to speak in class, both of which help him to improve his pronunciation.

Yuan Shuo pointed out that because he was the second student from Tianjin to come to the University of Regina through CIET's Bridging Program there was someone from his home city to help him adjust to living in a new country, city, and culture (fellow student Zhao Liang came to the U of R in June; she is also studying in the ESL Centre). One of the goals of CIET's Bridging Program has been to provide support, on a number of levels, to a growing group of international students in their preparations for, and adjustments to, entrance into the University of Regina. Yuan Shuo did not know anyone in Regina when he came, so, in his early days here, having a "colleague" from Tianjin was a great help to him. He has volunteered to "be there" for a new student who is arriving from Tianjin at the beginning of January.

When Yuan Shuo finishes studying English in the ESL Centre, he will enter a degree program in Electronic Systems Engineering at the U of R. He feels that the CIET Bridging Program has provided him with a great opportunity; he appreciates the support he has been given and would encourage other Chinese students to participate in the CIET Bridging Program and to come to the University of Regina.



Yangfen Chen (Visiting Scholar), Yuan Shuo (International Visiting Student), and Dr. Rod Dolmage