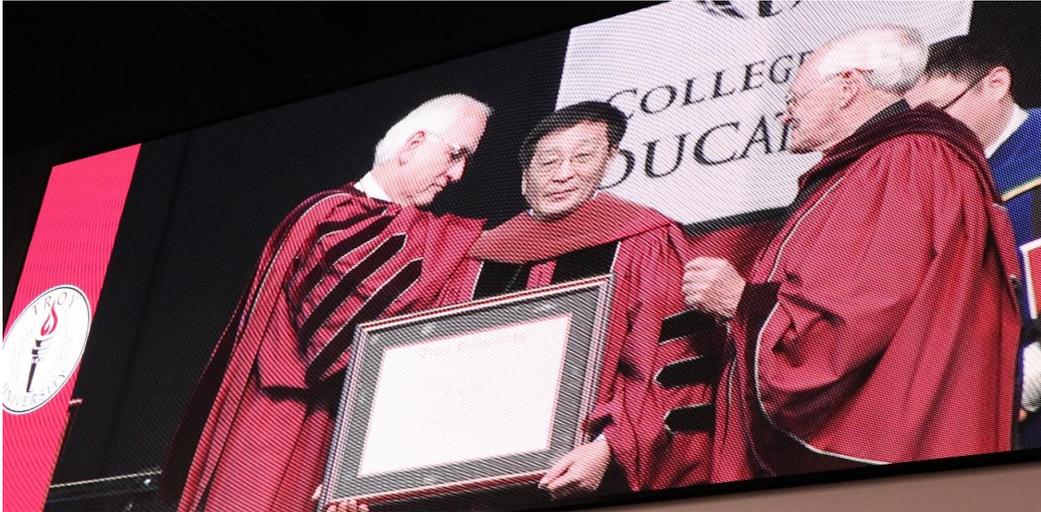


## Troy University Conferred Honorary PhD in Fine Arts on Huo Baozhu, a World Renowned Chinese Sculptor

On May 9<sup>th</sup> at the commencement ceremony of Troy University, a graduating class of more than 700 people received their degrees amid the congratulations and cheers of their family and friends. Mr. Huo Baozhu, a world renowned sculptor from Xi'an, China was awarded an Honorary PhD in Fine Arts by Dr. Hawkins, Chancellor of Troy University.



Mr. Huo Baozhu is the director of the board committee of Yuankun Sculpture Co. Ltd. The sculptures of his company are very popular in both domestic and international markets. They have been housed in White House, Portland, Oregon etc. Ever Since 2002, Mr. Huo presented Troy University “Trojan warriors”, “the statue of Li Po”, a famous Tang poet, Rodin’s replica of “the thinker”, and “terra-cotta warrior” bronze sculptures which dot the campus of Troy University, hence the everlasting friendship between Dr. Hawkins, Troy University and Mr. Huo. In view of his outstanding contribution and dedication to art achievement, Troy University decided to honor him with a PhD degree and invited him to attend the commencement ceremony.



Mr. Huo was overwhelmed by the warm welcome and great hospitality of Troy University. He was invited to attend the weekly meeting of Rotary Club with the company of Chancellor Jack Hawkins Jr. and presented the creation of Troy University's first pilot training program. He was also invited to dine at Chancellor Jack Hawkins' private home in Montgomery and official residence at Troy campus, and had dinner with the members of the board of trustees as well. When Mr. Huo put on the doctorate robe, tailor-made especially for him, he was moved to tears and remarked that he was very grateful for what Troy University had done for him and helped him accomplish an impossible dream of his life.

With the company of Mrs. Janice Hawkins, first lady of Troy University, Mr. Huo toured Janice Park, whose construction has nearly been finished, and offered numerous constructive suggestions to the design and layout of the park. Meanwhile, he promised to donate 100 terra-cotta warriors to Troy University and help establish the International Sculpture Theme Park at Troy Campus.

Mr. Huo also met the students from the School of Dance and Theatre and proposed a "Dancer Trophy" plan to award students for their academic excellence.



All the CIT staff and some of the Chinese visiting scholars at Troy University attended the welcoming and farewell banquets.

CIT helped organize the whole event and offered interpreting services and transportation for Mr. Huo during his visit.

