

## **Confucius Institute Holds the 10<sup>th</sup> Alabama Chinese Teachers Association Forum**

On October 5<sup>th</sup>, the Confucius Institute held the 10<sup>th</sup> Alabama Chinese Teachers Association Forum at Bartlett Hall on the Montgomery Campus. American Alabama Chinese Teachers Association and the International Language and Culture Institute at Troy University both supported this forum. The event attracted over 50 professors and teachers from Alabama and the neighboring states.

The forum focused on the development of Chinese language teaching in the United States, Chinese language teaching and classroom management, and the development of students' craftsman skills (learning Chinese crafts). The conference consisted of a combination of cutting-edge analysis of Chinese language teaching theories, first-hand teaching experience sharing, and Chinese cultural craft-sharing. The meeting started with a welcome speech from Dr. Rui Feng, President of the Alabama Chinese Teachers Association. The first keynote speaker was Dr. Huajing Xiu Maske, Director of the Confucius Institute at Kentucky University, Executive Director of the China Project Office of Kentucky University and the professor of the College of Education. Dr. Xiu's keynote speech was themed "The Challenges and Opportunities of the 21st Century Chinese Language Teaching". Starting with the bell ringer, "Two Truths and a Lie", she shared her teaching routines with the attendees—Bell ringer, State the goal, lesson and exit slip.

With the example of teaching Chinese language and culture by using the classic American children book *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?*, Dr. Xiu has illustrated how to combine Chinese language and culture teaching with the real life of the learners. She also proposed to promote Chinese language and culture education by building up interactions between the Chinese teachers, co-workers, parents and students in the process of Chinese teaching. In addition, Dr. Xiu also stressed the development of the 4C skills required in the 21<sup>st</sup> century workplace and proposed to develop the 4C

skills of students in Chinese language and culture teaching. At last, from the perspective of comparing Chinese and Western arts, she encouraged the teachers to use VTS (Visual Thinking Strategy) to teach Chinese language and culture.

Another keynote speaker was Mr. Qiang Chen, a senior Chinese teacher from Enloe Magnet High School in North Carolina with teaching experience of 30+ years and is the winner of the Yale University Educator Award. Starting with the four most important requirements to becoming an excellent teacher, Mr. Chen shared how to design a teaching plan according to the language syllabus and how to use Student-centered thematic unit to foster student interest in learning about Chinese language and culture. He also shared his experiences in classroom management. He proposed that encouragement and inspiration are the core of education and teachers should love the students and educate them with discipline. Mr. Chen suggested the teachers make proper classroom rules together with the students and set an example to follow them.

The workshop on how to make Chinese art crafts was arranged during the intervals between the speeches. Ms. Wenjuan Cheng and Ms. Yan He, two Visiting Scholars from CIT, demonstrated how to make art crafts by using some knitting wool and a key ring. They explained the procedures carefully step by step. All the teachers were engaged in making the crafts and were very happy to learn new skills in making the Chinese crafts for their classes.

Towards the end of the forum, Dr. Rui Feng and Dr. Iris Xu awarded the certificates of “Chinese Teacher Professional Development” to all the teachers. They expressed their sincere gratitude to these teachers for their great contribution to Chinese language teaching and research.

This was the 10<sup>th</sup> Chinese Language Forum jointly organized by the Confucius Institute at Troy University and Alabama Chinese Language Teachers Association. CIT has been paying attention to Chinese language teachers’ development since its foundation, which contributed to the profound spreading and promotion of Chinese language teaching and Chinese cultural sharing in Alabama and the southeast part of

the United States.

## 特洛伊大学孔子学院成功举行 第十届阿拉巴马州中文教师协会论坛

美国当地时间 2019 年 10 月 5 日，美国阿拉巴马州中文教师协会、特洛伊大学国际语言与文化学院、特洛伊大学孔子学院在特洛伊大学蒙哥马利校区的 Bartlett Hall 联合举行第十届阿拉巴马州中文教师协会论坛。参加本次论坛的教师来自阿州及临近州，共计约 50 名教师。

本次论坛主要围绕美国汉语教学的发展趋势，汉语教学与课堂管理，培养学生的课堂动手能力（学习中华才艺）等为主题。既有汉语教学理论方面的前沿分析，也有教学实践过程中的经验分享，还有一线教师在中华才艺方面的指导。上午 8:30 分，论坛在阿拉巴马州中文教师协会会长冯睿博士欢迎词中揭开序幕。论坛的第一位主讲嘉宾为修华静博士，美国肯塔基大学孔子学院外方院长、肯塔基大学中国项目办公室执行主任、教育学院教授。修华静博士以 “The Challenges and Opportunities of the 21st Century Chinese Language Teaching” 为主题，以 “Two truths and a lie” 为切入点，详细地介绍了 “teaching routine” 中的 “Bell ringer” “state the outcome of the lesson”、“teaching”、“exit slip” 等教学过程中的成功经验，并以美国家喻户晓的《Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See》启蒙亲子读物为例，分析了如何借助本土教

材的成功案例，使汉语教学和中国文化分享活动更接地气，更入人心。修博士提出通过搭建起汉语教学过程中的教师——同事——家长——学生这四者之间的良性互动，助力汉语教育。此外，修博士还从 21 世纪职场要求的 4C 着眼，探讨汉语教学中是否能够培养学生 4C 能力，进而从中国艺术与西方艺术比较的角度引导参会的老师们学会运用 VTS(Visual Thinking Strategy)的方法进行汉语教学。

本次论坛的另一位主讲嘉宾为来自北卡罗来纳州英伦中学(Enloe High School), 具有 30 多年教龄、荣获耶鲁大学教育家奖的资深中文教师陈强老师。陈强老师以成为优秀老师的四大条件为切入点，讲授了怎样根据语言教学大纲制定教学方案，并在以学生为中心，主体单元中文课的教学中如何培养学生学习中文和中国文化的兴趣。考虑到本次协会中有不少新来的访问学者，陈老师还特别分享了他在课堂管理方面的诸多成功经验，比如，教育以鼓励为主，感化为翼，规矩为纲等。针对极少数学生课堂纪律意识不够强烈，陈老师还提出了“师生共同讨论和制定课堂纪律，经学生一致同意后，就应该共同遵守”的建议。

此次论坛还精心安排了中国文化小艺术品制作工作坊。特洛伊大学孔院两位访问学者程文娟老师和何艳老师带领大家用毛线和钥匙扣手工制作了具有中国特色的工艺品。两位老师详细地为大家讲解了制作步骤，并亲自示范，细心指导。全体教师积极参与其中，学会了在汉语课堂上非常实用的小技能。

论坛结束时,冯睿博士和徐弘院长还为参加论坛的所有老师颁发了参加此次论坛证书,并感谢他们对汉语教学与研究所做出的贡献。

此次论坛为特洛伊大学孔子学院与阿拉巴马州中文教师协会共同举办的第十次论坛,孔子学院自成立以来一直注重在当地进行汉语教师的培养和培训,使汉语教学和中国文化活动在阿拉巴马州及美国东南部得到广泛而深入的推广,孔子学院在美国东南部享有本土汉语教师培养摇篮的良好声誉。