

## **The 7<sup>th</sup> SECLA was Held in Xavier University of Louisiana**

On November 11-12<sup>th</sup>, 2017, the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Southeast Chinese Language Association (7<sup>th</sup> SECLA) was held at the Confucius Institute in Xavier University of Louisiana. Four staff from the Confucius Institute at Troy University (CIT) attended the meeting on Nov. 11<sup>th</sup>. CIT Director, Dr. Iris Hong Xu attended the meeting on Nov. 12<sup>th</sup>, which was a SECLA forum especially for CI directors. Dr. Xu delivered a speech with the title “CIT’s Development Plan for the Next Ten Years”.

On Nov. 11<sup>th</sup>, Dr. Susan Spillman ---- an expert in second language acquisition from Xavier University of Louisiana, Prof. Guo Fuliang ---- Dean of College of International Exchange and Education from Hebei University (the co-sponsor of CI at Xavier University of Louisiana), Prof. Qiang Chen, senior Chinese teacher in America were invited as keynote speakers to deliver important speeches in the main hall. More than 20 Confucius Institutes and Chinese language teaching institutions participated in the meeting. In the session panels, 16 CI directors and Chinese language instructors demonstrated their own research projects in aspect of second language acquisition theories and Chinese language education practices. Ms. Wei Yu from Confucius Institute at Troy University delivered her presentation in the session panel. She introduced how CIT assisted various schools to teach Chinese Language in Alabama.

She especially introduced about CIT's successful experiences in assisting Confucius Classroom of Pike Road Schools to experience Chinese cultures with various Theme Day activities.

Ms. Long Jie, Education Consul from Consulate-General of People's Republic of China in Houston was invited to attend the dinner on Nov. 11<sup>th</sup>. She delivered a speech on behalf of Consul General Li Qiangmin. She reviewed the fruits of Chinese language and culture promotion in the past and predicted the trend for the future. At the same time, she praised highly the contributions made by Confucius Institutes in Southeast America.

The 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Southeast Chinese Language Association will be held at Confucius Institute of North Carolina University in 2018.

