

Education Consuls of Chinese Consulate General in Houston Visited CIT

On Aug. 11, 2017, two education consuls of Chinese Consulate General in Houston, Mr. Weidong Li and Ms. Mo Chen visited Confucius Institute at Troy University (CIT). Early in the morning at 9 o'clock, the visiting group set out to Pike Road Schools in Alabama. They learned about the operation of the Confucius class in the schools and observed a Chinese Language class in Grade 4. Pike Road Schools is a comprehensive education system containing various classes from kindergarten to senior high school. When the two consuls learned that more than 1300 students are now taking Chinese course, they praised unceasingly. After that, the visiting group came to the capital of Alabama, Montgomery to visit Lamp High School, who ranks as one of the top 15 public high schools in the United States, and the Forest Avenue Primary School, who earned the title of American Blue Ribbon School. The two consuls communicated in depth with the local Chinese teachers in the two schools. In Lamp High School, they were so pleased to see the Confucius classroom move into the new building and the number of the students choosing to learn Chinese in 2017 Fall Semester accounts for 1/10 of the total enrollment. In Forest Avenue Primary School, the two consuls were happy to find that Chinese language is the children's favorite course and 390 students chose to learn it this semester.

The mission of Confucius Institute at Troy University (CIT) is to serve the State of Alabama and to promote Chinese language and culture. Apart from the headquarters on Troy campus, there are two branches on the other two campuses. After the visits to CIT headquarters on Troy campus and the branch on Montgomery campus, the two consuls got the further understanding of CIT's development and the much emphasis Troy University had put on CIT in the past 10 years. CIT impressed all the visitors with its layout planning, investment protection, large scale and advanced facilities. The two consuls are also concerned about CIT's future vision and characteristic development. They conducted deep exchanges and discussions with CIT's two directors. They encouraged CIT to insist on the strategy put forward at this year's board meeting ---- to establish the southeast division of local Chinese teacher training and the research center for Chinese teaching materials. In order to accomplish this aim, the two consuls suggested that we plan meticulously and promote passionately so that we can attain greater and better achievement.

