

The 9th Chinese Language Teachers Association Forum was held on Troy University Montgomery Campus

On Apr. 14th, 2018, the 9th Chinese Language Teachers Association Forum (AL-CLTA) was held in the Bartlett Hall on Troy University Montgomery Campus. This forum was hosted by Alabama Chinese Language Teachers Association (AL-CLTA) and the Center for International Languages and Cultures at Troy University (CILC), in collaboration with Confucius Institute at Troy University (CITU). More than forty teachers from Alabama and the states nearby attended this forum to exchange ideas, share experience and establish friendship.

Dr. Rui Feng, the chair of the AL-CLTA, presided over the forum. The distinguished Chinese teacher, Mr. Qiang Chen from Enloe Magnet High School in North Carolina delivered a speech entitled “How to Become a Chinese Teacher.” He presented his Chinese syllabus, teaching plans, class designs and effective implementations. All the teachers had a lively case study from the videos about how to teach Chinese language and how to employ various teaching methods. Dr. Rui Feng made an introduction of Mr. Yuen Ren Chao about the contributions he made to linguistics and his understandings about language learning. Dr. Feng also analyzed language learning strategies and rules.

Dr. Iris Hong Xu introduced CITU and AL-CLTA to the attendees. She took a retrospect of the 10-year development of Chinese language teaching in Alabama and analyzed ten focal differences between “teaching Chinese overseas” and “teaching Chinese as a foreign language”. She also shared her understandings about teaching Chinese language and training local Chinese language teachers in America.

CITU visiting scholar, Dr. Rui Zhang made a lecture on how to establish and manage WeChat public account to promote Chinese language teaching and share information with the peers. She also introduced types and usage of Chinese punctuations. Associate professor, Ms. Lin Cao shared her wonderful methods about how to teach adult beginners in overseas Chinese language education. CITU visiting scholar, Ms. Wenjuan Cheng presented the art work of making roses with colorful paper, which could enrich the diversity of Chinese culture promotion. CITU visiting scholar, Ms. Zheng Zhou demonstrated the traditional tea art and introduced the related knowledge as well.

The 9th AL-CLTA forum focused on the following topics: How to apply for a teacher license in Alabama; The recent development and research of Chinese language; The development and future of Chinese language teaching in the US; The past, the present and the strategies of Chinese international transmission; Chinese teaching and management; and How to make an efficient use of overseas Chinese teaching materials. Mr. Qiang Chen resolved the bewilderments Chinese language teachers frequently encountered. Last, but not the least, Dr. Iris Hong Xu and Dr. Rui Feng presented each attendee a certificate and expressed their sincere thanks for the teachers’ great contributions to Chinese language teaching and research.

