



CONFUCIUS INSTITUTE

Dr. Courtney A. Hogarth – Jamaica Director

SEMESTER I

September 2018

September 2018 saw the resumption of activities at the Confucius Institute. As of this date the members of staff were:

- Dr. Courtney A. Hogarth, Jamaican Director
- Ms. Keneisha Sappleton, Senior Secretary
- Mrs. Guo Zhouya, Mandarin Lecturer
- Ms. Wu Runxia, Part-time Chinese Instructor
- Ms. Clair Dunn, Office Attendant

Regular classes resumed in the Department of Modern Languages & Literatures, 1st – 3rd year. A total of 181 students were registered in the credit course.

Evening/community classes for Mandarin learners also resumed at the Confucius Institute with a total of 10 students.

Discussions and meetings started early with incoming Principal, Professor Dale Webber who displayed vested interest in the work of the Confucius Institute.

Mandarin Lecturer, Ms. Guo Zhouya, celebrated the Mid-Autumn Festival with the UWI Chinese Club members.

December 2018

Dr. Courtney Hogarth, Jamaican Director, departed Kingston for the global Annual Hanban Conference. This year's conference was held in Chendgu City, Sichuan Province from December 4–5.

During the conference in Chengdu, Dr. Hogarth met with representatives from the partner university, Taiyuan University of Technology (TYUT). He was informed that Dr. Feng Lei, who has worked closely in the past with the Confucius Institute, would be sent to Jamaica as the new Chinese Director. Dr. Feng's application material was to be submitted shortly after the meeting.

Shortly after the conference ended an invitation from the partner university was extended to the Mona Principal for a visit to China.

The HSK Examinations were administered to five (5) students on December 22, 2019 at varying levels.

SEMESTER II

January 2019

The **Survey of Chinese Culture** course, as part of the Minor in Chinese was offered this semester. A total of nine (9) students sat the course. They all demonstrated interest in subject matter and achieved satisfactory results.

February 2019

On February 16, Dr. Li Kailin arrived in Jamaica from TYUT. Dr. Li comes in the capacity of Lecturer, initially for a period of two years. He will teach in both credit and non-credit courses in the Department of Modern Languages & Literatures.

April 2019

On April 4, 2019, the Confucius Institute participated in the Annual Modern Languages Day. Both Calvin Wong, and Confucius Alumnus, Duncan Reid, made valuable contributions in the way of presentations at this event.

June 2019

Dr. Courtney A. Hogarth departed Jamaica for China to undertake research at the Dunhuang Grottoes, as well as prepare for the arrival of Professor Webber in early-mid July.

July 2019

On July 13, 2019, Dr. Courtney A. Hogarth and Dr. Feng Lei, the Chinese Director appointed to the Confucius Institute at Mona, welcomed Professor Webber to Taiyuan City at the Wu Su Airport. Professor Webber was responding to an invitation

extended in December 2018 for a visit to the campus of TYUT. While in Taiyuan, Professor Webber engaged in the following activities:

- Meeting with the Chair of the Council of Taiyuan University of Technology, Mr. Wu Yucheng. In this meeting Prof. Webber and Dr. Hogarth were both welcomed to the institution. Among the matters mentioned were the 10th anniversary of the CI at Mona, the Second Caribbean Confucius Institutes Regional Meeting to be hosted by Mona in mid-October, future staff and student exchanges, as well as continued collaboration on the operation of the Confucius Institute.
- A guided tour of an important exhibition displaying the history of TYUT since its founding in 1902. This lasted for approximately an hour and showed the changes and developments of said university over the years. Interestingly, the University of the West Indies is being gradually written into the history of TYUT, commencing in 2009 when the Confucius Institute was established on the Mona Campus of the UWI.
- A working meeting with the President of TYUT, Huang Qingxue. In this meeting were several representatives from TYUT. There were several matters under discussion relating to the Confucius Institute, the new Confucius Institute building at Mona, teacher, student and academic exchanges.
- A brief ceremony to confer on Prof. Webber the title of Honorary Professor to the TYUT; and on Dr. Hogarth the title of Visiting Professor, TYUT College of Art. They were both presented official documents by President Huang Qingxue.
- A tour of the new campus of TYUT was carried out.

In Beijing, Professor Webber met with Professor of Chinese Medicine, Dr. Zheng Huaiyu. We explored the possibilities of Prof. Zheng coming to the Mona Campus to lecture and hold workshops in Traditional Chinese Medicine.

Professor Webber later travelled to Peking University where we met with Prof. Zhao Yang, head of the College of Chinese as a Second Language. Through this meeting with Professor Zhao, Professor Webber came to better understand how Chinese universities are funded, structured and how research is organized and carried out.

Professor Zhao also arranged a tour of the campus of Peking University.