Alumni stories, student accomplishments, annual events, & more!

2023-2024 ANNUAL NEWSLETTER
2023至2024年度通訊
EDITOR’S NOTE 編者按

Welcome to the UO Chinese Flagship Program 2023-2024 Annual Newsletter!

As someone who has not only been able to work for the program, but has also been a student in the program, it is an honor to help create and edit this year’s edition, and I am grateful for the lifelong lessons and friends I have formed with the program. The goal of this annual newsletter is to highlight and promote the amazing accomplishments and achievements of the program, as it has been an inspiring year filled with many program milestones. I am confident that our students, teachers, administrators and other members of our community will continue their Mandarin Chinese learning journey, and continue to create community connections that will last a lifetime. I hope you enjoy reading the annual newsletter as much I enjoyed creating it, and I am extremely thankful for all of the people in the program who contributed their time and thoughts for this edition. I also want to especially thank Kylie and Jing Laoshi for putting the final touches on the annual newsletter, and providing support, leadership, and encouragement to the program.
ADMINISTRATIVE MESSAGES

管理人寄語

在此天清日润之季，春光明媚之日，谨祝愿中文领航的老师和同学们：美好记忆，庶垂于永久；远大前程，以期于将来。As the spring sky clears and the sun shines ever brighter, we bid farewell to the Program that has been a cornerstone of our community. I extend my heartfelt best wishes to all the students and teachers who have been a part of it. Let’s keep our memories alive, holding onto our hopes for a thousand years; May you continue to pursue your dreams, with the same passion and determination.

Dr. Yugen Wang 王宇根
Department Head, EALL
Professor of Chinese Literature

In the last two decades, our program has welcomed exceptional students from Oregon and beyond, forming a family with deep bonds. Supporting and celebrating your passions, commitment, and grit, your proficiency milestones, and your personal and professional growth has been my inspiration. Do not let setbacks stop you. Each of you is the Flagship of your lifelong journey to personal fulfillment.

Dr. Zhuo Jing-Schmidt 井茁
Director
Professor, EALL

I enjoyed working with all of our students. I'm so proud of them - their hard work and great talent are truly inspiring. I hope they'll continue to find sparks of joy in their daily lives and feel empowered to pursue excellence on their learning journey.

Dr. Jean Y. Wu 吳遠鵬
Academic Director
Senior Instructor II, EALL

I am deeply privileged to have coordinated the UO Chinese Flagship Program over the past two years. Throughout this time, I have been continuously inspired by the remarkable community of students, faculty, staff, K-12 schools, parents, and institutional partners. Witnessing our students thrive and reach their fullest potential has been incredibly gratifying. I will dearly miss this program!

Kylie Yihua Post 孔益華
Assistant Director
“With NSEP’s discontinuation of the Chinese Flagship Program for 2024-2028, we still found it pertinent to maintain a Chinese learning community. We believe that learning a language is best supplemented with community immersion and cultural learning, and in the quest for Chinese fluency, we would love to foster a positive Chinese learning environment for all who share the same goals. Despite these adversaries, Banzhang wishes to continue engaging with the Chinese learning community from all levels and students who wish to immerse themselves in the culture.”

PRESIDENT
Mei Mei O’Neill  威梅梅
Major: Philosophy

VICE PRESIDENT
Mandy Zhan 詹美慶
Major: Computer Science

SECRETARY
Kamalei Doswell 靜文
Major: Chinese, Journalism

PUBLIC RELATIONS
Emily Davis 張美麗
Major: Exploring

TREASURER
Shelby Doden 戴思懷
Major: Chinese

EXECUTIVE MEMBER
Carmen Park 爱文
Major: Math, Computer Science

EXECUTIVE MEMBER
Alex Wilk 艾星河
Major: Chinese
A heartfelt thank you to all the Banzhang members of this year! Your dedication and efforts in organizing numerous successful events have greatly enriched our community. We'll always cherish the wonderful moments we've shared this year. Wishing you all the very best in your future leadership journey.
Denise Huang Gigliotti 黃樂薔  Senior Instructor II, Level 1 Chinese

Course Descriptions - Novice to Intermediate
As a teacher, my favorite part of teaching is to see the improvements of the students. I am fortunate to be teaching at the beginning level so the change from zero to some comprehension is drastic. Every week, I'm impressed by the students' progress. I want to teach them more and show them how to create and have fun with the Chinese language. Having a fun class is energizing for a teacher. That's another aspect that I really enjoy.

Fengjun Mao 茅豐珺  Senior Instructor II, Level 2 Chinese

Course Descriptions - Intermediate Skills
As a teacher, my favorite part of teaching is to see my students enjoying learning and using the Chinese language in creative ways. I'm proud of how they stay motivated, curious, and dedicated to exploring both the language and culture. It's a genuine pleasure to witness their leaps forward and remarkable progress.

Dr. Jean Wu 吳遠鵬  Flagship Academic Director, Senior Instructor II, Level 3 Chinese

Course Descriptions - Intermediate Level
As a language teacher, I enjoy working with my students. It's wonderful to see them find joy in their learning journey and feel empowered to become motivated, self-sufficient, long-term learners of the Chinese language.

Weijun Chen 陳慰君  Senior Instructor II, Level 4 Chinese

Course Descriptions - Advanced Level and Skills
As a teacher, my favorite part of teaching is seeing students' progress, hearing their thoughts (in very fluent Chinese at advanced level), and feeling their vibrant energy. I often think that teaching is not just a profession, but also a great source of faith and honor. I appreciate the joy and aspiration that each student brings to me.
Over the span of twenty years, the University of Oregon Chinese Flagship Program has had the privilege of guiding hundreds of students in their pursuit of heightened intercultural competency and language proficiency, propelling them towards success as global professionals. The myriad stories and journeys of language acquisition underscore the profound impact of the UO Chinese Flagship Program.

This edition features the stories of the following esteemed alumni:

Lauren Dickey 王洛伶
2011 Graduate

Brandon Yeh 業孝凱
2014 Graduate

Benjamin DoVale 本傑明
2015 Graduate

Alison Roden 林夢
2018 Graduate

Kieran Rooney 羅凱
2022 Graduate

Ella Gilbertson 何愛娜
2022 Graduate

Dylan Armstrong 椒男
2023 Graduate

Evelyn (Yeeun) Woo 禹一琳
Winter 2024 Graduate
Lauren graduated from the University of Oregon in 2011 summa cum laude with majors in Asian Studies and Chinese. She subsequently earned her MA from the University of London (2012) and her PhD from King's College London and the National University of Singapore (2019), where she led research work on China-Taiwan issues. Her career has spanned research organizations, federal government, and the private sector.

WHERE ARE YOU AT NOW IN YOUR CAREER?

I've had stints in academia, government, and the private sector since graduating from Flagship. I've had the opportunity to work at non-profit research organizations supporting U.S. policymakers on China issues. Most recently, I served as lead for Taiwan defense policy in the U.S. Department of Defense. I now work at the nexus of policy and business in providing insights and analysis on geopolitical risk to a private sector company.

WHAT WOULD YOU SAY TO SOMEONE WHO WANTS TO START THEIR JOURNEY FOR LEARNING CHINESE?

Chinese language learning can be hard, but with patience it is a deeply rewarding endeavor. Learning Chinese will only open doors... so do not be deterred when the studying gets tough!

HOW DID THE CHINESE FLAGSHIP HAVE A LASTING IMPACT ON YOUR PERSONAL OR CAREER GOALS?

There is no other program that equips students with professional language skills in the same way as Flagship. When coupled with the capstone experience, Flagship created opportunities that have continued to support me in my career.
After graduating in 2012, I went on to pursue a M.A. in International Relations and Economics at Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies. I spent my first year in graduate school at the Hopkins Nanjing Center, where I was a recipient of the Boren Fellowship. Since graduate school, I have worked within the field of infrastructure finance and development, representing various stakeholder perspectives including international governments, aid-agencies, financing institutions and consultancy firms. Currently, I am a Senior Consultant within the Infrastructure Procurement and Strategy practice at WSP USA, an engineering consulting firm.

HOW DID CAPSTONE SET YOU UP FOR SUCCESS IN YOUR FIELD OF INTEREST?

The Capstone program was a unique opportunity for me to live in China for a whole year, including spending 5 months in rural southwestern China where I intered for a Chinese environment NGO in Lijiang, Yunnan. This experience allowed me a chance to learn and navigate rural China as a Taiwanese American and also understand more the environmental developmental issues of that time. This experience ultimately paved the way for me to pursue studies and a career in international development and infrastructure finance.

Brandon Yeh 業孝凱
2014 Graduate

Brandon Yeh graduated cum laude from the University of Oregon in June 2014 with degrees in Chinese and Political Science. He spent his capstone year studying at Nanjing University and interning for an environmental NGO in Southwestern China. After his studies in Oregon, he returned to Nanjing in 2014-2015 to pursue a Graduate Certificate in Chinese Studies at the Hopkins Nanjing Center. In 2016, he received his M.A. from Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) with a degree in International Relations and International Economics.
Benjamin DoVale graduated cum laude from the University of Oregon in June 2015 with degrees in Chinese and Political Science, and spent his Capstone at Nanjing University and interned at the American Chamber of Commerce in Shanghai, China. He also holds an M.A. in International Economics and Finance from the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS).

Where are you at now in your career?

Since graduating from UO and Flagship, I furthered my education and field studies of China at the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) in Washington, DC. After working for several years in financial industry professional advisory services, I’ve since relocated to the San Francisco Bay Area and now work in the tech industry.

What would you say to someone who wants to start learning Chinese?

Invest the time to live and work in China, make Chinese friends, and keep an open mind.

Did Flagship have a lasting impact on your personal or career goals?

Yes it certainly did. While my career does not have an obvious intersection with China or Chinese language, the experience of living, working, and studying in a society such as China challenged my assumptions about the world and broadened/furthered my interest in economics, political systems, and international relations.

What is something at Capstone program/Flagship that you loved being a part of?

Yes it certainly did. While my career does not have an obvious intersection with China or Chinese language, the experience of living, working, and studying in a society such as China challenged my assumptions about the world and broadened/furthered my interest in economics, political systems, and international relations.

How did Capstone set you up for success in your field of interest?

My participation exposed me to folks in the American business and diplomatic community that showed a viable career path that stems from speaking Chinese at a high level.

What are you most proud of from your Capstone program/Flagship experience?

My internship at the American Chamber of Commerce in Shanghai (AmCham Shanghai) was the highlight of my Capstone experience. Namely because it exposed me to a range of members from the American business community, their challenges and opportunities in China. Through this experience my career path forward was set.
WHERE ARE YOU AT NOW IN YOUR CAREER?

I currently work at the Institute of International Education in Washington D.C. as an events manager for the KAUST Gifted Student Program—a scholarship program for Saudi students earning STEM degrees in the US. I’m also a candidate for the MA in International Education Management at the Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey (MIIS).

HOW DID CAPSTONE SET YOU UP FOR SUCCESS IN YOUR FIELD OF INTEREST?

Capstone really cemented my interest in supporting International Education. What really helped set me up for success in this field, wasn’t necessarily study abroad itself, but the challenges that come with it and the people I met. It helped me learn the not-so-easy lesson that things don’t always go as planned, and that’s okay. Also, while my current work doesn’t require Chinese language skills, I’ve found it to be a surprisingly useful skill for connecting with the Chinese diaspora, from faculty in Saudi Arabia, to the sizeable Chinese community in DC.

WHY DID YOU JOIN FLAGSHIP?

Don’t be intimidated by it. If you only see Chinese as one of the hardest languages to learn and that you must reach native fluency, you probably won’t get very far. I like to joke that it’s actually one of the easiest languages to learn if you don’t care about being literate. That might sound disheartening, but I think it’s the perspective that matters.

WHAT WOULD YOU SAY TO SOMEONE WHO WANTS TO START LEARNING CHINESE?

Alison Roden graduated from the University of Oregon in 2018 with degrees in International Studies and Chinese. She spent her Capstone year at Nanjing University as part of the Spring 2018 cohort. Alison also is currently a candidate for an M.A. in International Education Management from the Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey.
Kieran Rooney 罗凯
2022 Graduate

Kieran graduated from the University of Oregon in 2022 with degrees in Chinese and Economics. After completing his Chinese Flagship Capstone Program as a Boren Scholar at the Defense Language Institute (DLI) and Middlebury Institute of International Studies (MIIS), he started working at the US Treasury Department’s Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) in Sanctions Compliance in 2023.

WHY DID YOU JOIN FLAGSHIP?
WHY DID YOU START LEARNING CHINESE?
DID FLAGSHIP HAVE A LASTING IMPACT ON YOUR GOALS?

Without Flagship, I would not be where I am today. The UO Flagship program allowed this student from a low-middle-income single-parent household to attain advanced Chinese proficiency, study and intern abroad, and attend classes at MIIS and the DLI. The excellent professors at UO’s Chinese Flagship Department helped me achieve my dream of using Chinese to contribute to the national security initiatives of the USG. Outside of academics, UO’s Flagship program student leadership body, Bang Zhang, also provided a space to practice leadership and fiscal responsibility. At Bang Zhang, I had the privilege of serving as the Treasurer and President. Without improving my Chinese linguistic/cultural proficiency, having opportunities to practice leadership, and completing the Capstone program through Flagship, I would not have had the essential experiences to achieve my current career.

WHAT WOULD YOU SAY TO SOMEONE WHO WANTS TO START OR TO CONTINUE LEARNING CHINESE?

DO IT! It is one of the most rewarding experiences that you can have. Learning another language opens doors that you may have never even thought possible. The literature instructor at the DLI said this about learning Chinese that I will never forget: 學漢語會擴大你的視野，就可以讓你從另個角度看世界，同時仍根據自己的經驗進行批判性思考 (Learning Chinese will expand your horizons; more specifically, it will allow you to see the world from another perspective while still thinking critically based on your own experiences.) Learning Chinese is not just a skill for professional development. Chinese is a new way of looking at things, speaking with others different from yourself, and making friends from all walks of life. If you ever have the opportunity to start/continue studying Chinese, go for it and stick with it! You will not regret the experience!

Kieran with other members of Project Pengyou, a global community organization centered around building bridges between US and Chinese speaking students

Kieran with other members of the Banzhang Executive Team enjoying dinner together
**WHERE ARE YOU AT NOW IN YOUR CAREER?**

Currently I am a teaching aid for Chinese classes at The International School in Portland. This fall, I will begin my joint master’s program in management of public affairs and international trade and economic diplomacy at Middlebury Institute of International Studies in Monterey.

**WHAT IS SOMETHING FROM YOUR CAPSTONE PROGRAM THAT YOU LOVED BEING A PART OF?**

The film class through Yangming was definitely one of the more interesting and fun classes I took. I got to watch movies and expand my understanding. As for Flagship overall, I won’t ever forget my time in Shanghai—I have a number of fun stories from that period.

**DID FLAGSHIP HAVE A LASTING IMPACT ON YOUR GOALS?**

Absolutely. I have wanted to incorporate Chinese usage into any career I take on, and many of the opportunities I have been afforded since college have come through my time with Flagship. I was able to intern at a museum in Taiwan for nearly a year, and I am able to utilize a scholarship through Middlebury’s connection with Flagship.

**WHAT WOULD YOU SAY TO SOMEONE WHO WANTS TO START LEARNING CHINESE?**

Do it. It is not as hard as you think, and the reward is more than you could imagine. You get access to a whole other world.

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**Ella Gilbertson 何愛娜 2022 Graduate**

Ella is a 2022 UO Chinese Flagship graduate with a BA in Cultural Anthropology and Chinese. Ella attended the 2022 Yangming University Capstone program. In 2019, she spent the summer in Shanghai as a part of the Council on International Education Exchange (CIEE) program offered through the Chinese Flagship. She joined Flagship to continue to improve her Mandarin skills after a year abroad in Taiwan in high school. According to Ella, the UO Chinese Flagship Program has afforded many opportunities to connect with great professors and classmates at the UO, Shanghai, and Taiwan. Though through the pandemic her journey was filled with challenges, she believes that everything she has learned will be of great help in the future.
Dylan Armstrong is a Spring 2023 graduate with a BA in Chinese and Economics. He completed the overseas Capstone in Taiwan with a national certificate for professional proficiency in Mandarin and received the Freeman Internship Scholarship. Dylan has been accepted to the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies Hopkins–Nanjing Center to commence in Fall 2024.

Capstone Internship Experience

At the start of Winter Term, University of Oregon (UO) Chinese Flagship students were able to chat with UO Chinese Flagship 2023 alum Dylan Armstrong (椒男) and listen to him give a presentation about his internship experiences during his overseas Capstone Year abroad in Taiwan. During the presentation, Dylan also shared how the UO Chinese Flagship program and the internship experience has helped him navigate his future career direction and future goals.

Internship Background

From February 2023 to May 2023, Dylan interned at Keystone Intelligence Inc., a financial consulting firm based in Taipei, Taiwan. His day-to-day work included creating a monthly report and completing data analysis on changes in Taiwan’s market of insurance-linked portfolios (ILPs), in addition to working with Python and Power BI.

Where are you now in your career and how did Capstone and the Flagship program prepare you?

“I have been accepted into the Hopkins Nanjing Center and the Johns Hopkins School of International Studies to get my Masters of Arts in international relations. I feel that the Capstone program prepared me extremely well for this. Not only do I feel that the experience and growth in language proficiency I gained from Capstone make me a strong applicant, but I also feel that my Capstone research paper in "State of the Global Semiconductor Market" had significantly pushed me in the direction of international relations.”

What are you most proud of in your experience as a student in the Chinese Flagship program?

“That I had ended up achieving superior proficiency on my OPI and earning the distinction as a "Certified Global Professional." It made my time learning Chinese throughout my life and in Taiwan feel like it had finally paid off, and I felt like I had made meaningful and noticeable improvements to my Chinese proficiency.”

Thumbnail for Dylan’s “Capstone Talks” interview on Flagship YouTube channel
Evelyn (Yeeun) Woo
禹一琳
Winter 2024 Graduate

Evelyn graduated Summa Cum Laude from the University of Oregon's Robert D. Clark Honors College with double majors in Global Studies and Chinese. She was fully funded to complete the Capstone program at National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University from Fall 2022-Spring 2023. She gained valuable experience in legal research and translation through her internship at the IP Power International Patent and Trademark Office, earning the distinction of a "Language Flagship Certified Global Professional." She previously was a Conference Ambassador at the University of Oregon, helping to facilitate the logistics of 45 conferences, including the World Athletics Championships, the third-largest global sporting event.

Since graduating from Flagship, I have undertaken various opportunities for professional growth, including working as a congressional intern, research fellow, and marketing associate. In the Fall, I plan to pursue a Juris Doctor degree at the University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School to progress toward my goal of becoming an international attorney.

I loved being a part of multiple Flagship communities, including the UO Chinese Flagship Program, the UO Banzhang (Student Leadership Board), and the 2022 Taipei Capstone cohort. Through Flagship, I made lifelong memories and friends which I am extremely grateful for.

I am most proud of stepping outside my comfort zone and traveling to a foreign country alone for the first time to complete the Capstone Program. Capstone was an incredible year of growth for me, including directly enrolling in Chinese university courses, working in a Chinese law firm at the Taipei World Trade Center, hanging out with local students, and traveling across Taiwan.
We extend our heartfelt congratulations to two outstanding UO Chinese Flagship students who have successfully completed their Capstone studies this term, as well as celebrate the achievement of 11 UO Chinese Flagship students who have been admitted to the 2024-2025 Capstone Program! The 11 Capstone admission results mark a historic milestone for the University of Oregon, as we proudly secure the third position among the nation’s 13 Chinese Flagship programs.

**2022 - 2023 Capstone Students**

- Emily Rutherford 徐雲
  Major: Linguistics
  Taipei Capstone

- Meili Applegate 美麗
  Major: Chinese, Global Studies
  DLI Capstone

**2023 - 2024 Capstone Students**

- Grace Guertin 古雅
  Major: Business Administration, Chinese

- Elizabeth Haar 何麗慈
  Major: Linguistics, Chinese

- Ellie Howard 雪清
  Major: Political Science, Chinese;

- Elizabeth Hwee 許美珊
  Major: Business Administration, Chinese

- Yanling Joslin 雁玲
  Major: Global Studies, Chinese

- Sean Milligan 申文龍
  Major: Chinese, Economics

- Sarah-Joy Nguyen 莎莎
  Major: Chinese, Journalism

- Isaac Reeder 艾克
  Major: Business Administration

- Anna Romanello 羅愛誠
  Major: Chinese

- Steffan Stobaugh 宋義傑
  Major: Chinese

- Rachel Wallace 王曉陽
  Major: Chinese, Global Science
We would also like to congratulate 17 students have been accepted into a 2024 summer program. This year, our students will be attending four summer programs, and we wish all students success in their studies!

**Summer Programs**

- University of Rhode Island Program (URI)
- National Tsinghua University Program, University of Hawaii (UH)
- International Chinese Language Program National Taiwan University (ICLP)
- Mandarin Training Center at National Taiwan Normal University MTC (IU, BYU)

**2024 Summer Program Participants**

- **Simon Aguilar Auld** 泽富  
  Major: Human Physiology  
  MTC

- **Yun Rui Chenault** 云蕊  
  Major: Neuroscience  
  MTC

- **Emily Davis** 张美丽  
  Major: Exploring  
  MTC

- **Shelby Doden** 戴恩怀  
  Major: Chinese  
  MTC

- **Maddi Gray** 戈美琳  
  Major: Art, Theater Arts  
  MTC

- **Ryan Hinton** 李文远  
  Major: Economics, Pre-Global Studies  
  UH

- **Finn Jacobson** 江富民  
  Major: Pre-Global Studies, Linguistics  
  MTC

- **Greta Lips** 李青文  
  Major: Pre-Global Studies, Romance Languages  
  MTC

- **Mei-Mei O’Neill** 戚梅梅  
  Major: Political Science, Chinese  
  MTC

- **Maggie Ongbongan** 王瑾琦  
  Major: Chinese  
  MTC

- **Caitlyn Pagano** 潘纯  
  Major: Global Studies  
  URI

- **Carmen Park** 爱文  
  Major: Math, Computer Science  
  MTC

- **Kasin Schwab** 甘加倩  
  Major: Accounting  
  MTC

- **Linnea Weaver** 魏岚  
  Major: Exploring  
  MTC

- **Alex Wilk** 艾星河  
  Major: Exploring  
  MTC

- **Nex Wilson** 魏如岚  
  Major: Global Studies  
  MTC

- **Mandy Zhan** 詹美庆  
  Major: Computer Science  
  MTC
2024 Flagship Language and Community Awards

Outstanding Dedication Award
傑出努力獎:
Adam Goldman
Jackson Weinberg
Allan Zhan
Kasin Schwab
Annabel Jackson
Shelby Doden
Linnea Weaver
Tiffani Galleher
Carmen Park
Madeline Gray

Outstanding Improvement in Speaking Award
口語傑出進步獎
Alexander Wilk
Anna O’Neill
Finn Jacobson
Isabel Wilson
Makayla Meleason
Ryan Hinton
Siris Linkfield

Outstanding Improvement in Reading Award
閱讀傑出進步獎
Aydan Haydu
Daniel Boime
Marilynn Chenault
Margaret Ongbongan
Simon Aguilar Auld

Outstanding Improvement in Writing Award
寫作傑出進步獎
Caitlyn Pagano
Emily Davis
Greta Lips
Kamalei Doswell
Mandy Zhan
Scott Robinson
Taylor Jennings
Outstanding Proficiency Advancement Award
語言水平傑出進步獎

Anais Thomas  Henry Axon  Steffan Stobaugh  Jin Joslin

Linguistic Excellence Award
卓越語言獎

Anna Romanello  Elizabeth Hwee  Ellie Howard  Elizabeth Haar
Isaac Reeder  Rachel Wallace  Sean Milligan

Outstanding Achievement Award—
2024 David L. Boren Scholarship Recipient
傑出成果獎

Sarah-Joy Nguyen

Outstanding Leadership Award
傑出領導獎

Anais Thomas  Anna Romanello  Adam Goldman  Ellie Howard
Grace Guertin  Isaac Reeder  Rachel Wallace  Shelby Doden

Outstanding Community Impact Award
傑出社區影響力獎

Alexander Wilk  Anna O’Neill  Carmen Park
Emily Davis  Kamalei Doswell  Mandy Zhan
Over spring break, three pre-Capstone students were selected to attend this year’s Chinese Flagship Culture Project Student Conference at Indiana University Bloomington from March 30-31! This two day event was a peer-to-peer culture and professional development opportunity for students preparing for the overseas Capstone program. At the event, students were able to learn more about the what the workplace culture is like in Taiwan, and focus on other forms of cultural preparation. Please join us in congratulating these three ducks!

2023 UO Chinese Flagship alumnus Dylan Armstrong with the three UO Pre-Capstone participants at the CFCI conference

Pre-Capstone students, Capstone alumni, and staff members of Chinese Flagship programs at the 2024 CFCI Conference

Sarah-Joy Nguyen
Major: Chinese, Journalism: Public Relations

Anna Romanello
Major: Chinese

Rachel Wallace
Major: Chinese, Global Studies
Every year, the University of Oregon Chinese Flagship Program and its student leadership team Banzhang (班長) host many events and activities that support and foster not only language learning and intercultural understanding, but also community building for the program and beyond. These activities and events are a way to build connections among peers at all levels of proficiency and to support each other in their Mandarin Chinese language-learning journey.

FALL 2023 EVENTS

Flock Party and Ice Cream Social

Visiting Scholars’ Cultural Talks

Flagship staff and Banzhang tabling at the Flock Party

New and returning Flagship students together at the Ice Cream Welcome Party after the Welcome Orientation

Professor Liu Yue, Communication University of China, explaining the evolution of the Chinese characters

Professor Xiao Deming, Anshun University sharing a photo of Huangguoshu Waterfall located in Anshun, China

UO Chinese Visiting Scholars and UO Chinese Flagship students
WINTER 2024 EVENTS

CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATION

Flagship faculty, staff and students cheering for the Chinese New Year

A Flagship student presenting their team’s dragon drawing during the game of Telestrations

Flagship students learning how to fold dumplings

Flagship students trying their hand at the bean game

A UO Chinese Flagship tutor (left) and a Flagship student (right) singing a Mandarin Chinese song
Lantern Festival Party

UO Chinese Flagship students and guests learning how to play the game mahjong

A Lantern Festival guest making a paper lantern

Chinese Song and Poem Night

UO Chinese Flagship students dancing to the Chopstick Brothers’ song Little Apple (小蘋果)

UO Chinese Flagship student singing the Eric Chou’s song Unbreakable Love《永不失聯的愛》

UO Chinese Flagship student reciting the classic Li Bai poem Quiet Night Thought（靜夜思）

Director’s Taipei Capstone Visit

Program Director, Professor Zhuo Jing-Schmidt, visiting UO Taipei Capstone student Emily Rutherford

Chinese Flagship universities’ directors having site visit at NCCU
SPRING 2024 EVENTS

Annual Spring Retreat

UO Chinese Flagship students posing together during a hike at Benham Falls in Sunriver, OR

UO Chinese Flagship students meeting Professor Lin Hong from Central Oregon Community College (COCC)

Chinese Painting Night

UO Chinese Flagship students setting up hot pot ingredient

UO Chinese Flagship students enjoying hot pot

UO Chinese Flagship students taking Chinese painting workshop with Teresa Hsu, a local Taiwanese artist
SPRING 2024 EVENTS

2024 Spring Colloquium

UO Chinese Flagship community at the 2024 Spring Colloquium (click photo to view colloquium video slides)

UO Chinese Flagship Director giving opening remarks

The new 2024-2025 Banzhang Executive Members

UO Wushu Club during a wushu martial arts performance

UO Chinese Flagship student sharing a Capstone presentation

UO Chinese Flagship faculty and teaching assistants
Notification:

In mid-March 2024, the University of Oregon Chinese Flagship Program, along with four other Chinese Flagship programs received notification from the National Security Education Program that operational funding for the program will discontinue for the 2024-28 grant cycle.

With the generous support of UO Provost’s Office, CAS, and the Office of Financial Aid and Enrollment Management, our program will continue to support students as much as possible during the transition period.

Acknowledgements:

The University of Oregon Chinese Flagship Program is honored to present this year’s newsletter and share the achievements, accomplishments, stories, and memories of our program. Thank you to all of our wonderful students, Banzhang members, alumni, faculty, administrators and supporters who contributed their time, stories and photos submissions.

Land Acknowledgement: The University of Oregon is located on Kalapuya Ilihi, the traditional indigenous homeland of the Kalapuya people.

CONNECT WITH US:

Instagram: @uochnflagship
Facebook: 俄勒冈大学中文领航 UO Chinese Flagship
LinkedIn: University of Oregon Chinese Flagship Program
STAY IN TOUCH

@uochnflagship

flagship@uoregon.edu
cineseflagship.uoregon.edu
(541) 632-2173