



FRIENDSHIP

YALE GLOBAL ALUMNI LEADERSHIP EXCHANGE
A PROGRAM OF THE ASSOCIATION OF YALE ALUMNI
BEIJING, XI'AN, SHANGHAI, HONG KONG

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You are a dragon! In contrast to European dragons that are considered evil, Chinese dragons traditionally symbolize potent and auspicious powers, particularly control over water, rainfall, and floods. The dragon is also a symbol of strength, and good luck. In Chinese daily language, excellent and outstanding people are compared to the dragon while incapable people with no achievements are compared with other, disesteemed creatures, such as the worm. A number of Chinese proverbs and idioms feature references to the dragon, for example: "Hoping one's son will become a dragon" (望子成龍, i.e. be as a dragon). So you see....our YaleGALE volunteers are dragons!

你好¹ and Happy New Year!²

Welcome to the Yale Global Alumni Leadership Exchange to China! Whether you are joining a YaleGALE program for the first time or the fourth, we're sure you'll be captivated by the people, the places and the events awaiting you in China. We (Kathy and Mark) spent the first two weeks of December paving the way for this unprecedented adventure - unprecedented because, despite the great number of U.S. universities developing student and faculty programs with the Chinese universities, we stand alone in working to cultivate *alumni* exchanges.

We and our Chinese university partners look forward to creating relationships – and memories – that will last a lifetime. We trust that our exchange will be the beginning of serious discussions and probing inquiries about best practices in alumni relations, and how the U.S. and China can learn from each other in

¹ That is Ni hao or hello... courtesy of Google Translate (It is so cool, you should check it out.)

² The Chinese year of the rabbit begins on February 3, 2011.



building and sustaining great universities. Our respective models of higher education are vastly different, yet if our universities are to be the educators of the world's future leaders - if they are to lead our nations into closer cooperation and productivity - then we *must* learn from each other. The Chinese are eager to learn, and we are eager to be a part of their explosive growth. Did you know that China now has the world's largest population of college students?

As we write this, it is New Year's Day. You might ask why we would spend our time writing a YaleGALE newsletter on New Year's...well...believe it or not, we can't think of a better way to ring in the New Year than by taking stock of the accomplishments of YaleGALE over these past three years and pondering what the future might hold for this groundbreaking program.

We believe that we are making a difference in the growth trajectory of many of the world's leading universities. Australia National University, the University of Tokyo, Koc University and many other partners in YaleGALE exchanges have adapted our Yale alumni programming to their own particular needs. By sharing our passion and our commitment to higher education we demonstrate the difference that alumni can make. Alumni contributions - whether in time, talent or treasure – are often the difference between merely good universities and remarkably great ones. Governments cannot do it alone, as the Chinese are coming to realize.



Ni hao from the Forbidden City! Kathy beckons you to Beijing!

It is completely natural that we would be partnering with universities in China - we are building on President Levin's substantial initiatives of the last ten years. There is tremendous opportunity to make a difference right now – the Chinese system of education is growing rapidly³ and the government is focusing on developing its potential.

“China is a country with a history of valuing education and rewarding merit that is unusual among developing countries. There's a culture of educational attainment that suggests to me that China will be at the forefront not only economically, but educationally as well. The Chinese governments are investing on an unprecedented scale in their top universities, and soon, many of these universities will take their place among the world's greatest. It is in our best interest to develop partnerships with these universities, and together, we can reach goals that would be unattainable on our own.” *Richard C. Levin, New Haven Business Times, August 2006.*

Yet, China still has a long way to go to achieve its aspirations concerning access to higher education. Despite the enormous surge, China's gross enrollment rate for higher education stands at 23 percent, compared with 58 percent in Japan, 59 percent in the United Kingdom, and 82 percent in the United States. ⁴

³ Over the decade following Jiang's declaration (1998), the number of institutions of higher education in China more than doubled, from 1,022 to 2,263. Meanwhile, the number of Chinese who enroll in a university each year has quintupled -- rising from one million students in 1997 to more than 5.5 million in 2007. This expansion is without precedent, and university enrollment in China is now the largest in the world. Richard C. Levin, *Top of the Class, The Rise of Asia's Universities*, **Foreign Affairs**, May/June 2010 http://www.viet-studies.info/top_of_the_class.htm.

⁴ Richard C. Levin *Top of the Class, The Rise of Asia's Universities*, **Foreign Affairs** May/June 2010 http://www.viet-studies.info/top_of_the_class.htm



And, there is not the same culture of stewardship, or framework, for “giving back” by alumni as there is in the United States. While China has and will make great strides in strengthening its universities, the potential could be that much greater with the support of their alumni. As many of you may have read, there was quite the furor in January of 2010 when Chinese native and Yale alumnus Zhang Lei '02 MBA, MA chose to make a generous contribution to Yale rather than his undergraduate alma mater – Renmin University in China.⁵

[One] blogger, named Chen Yizhou, asked fellow Chinese Internet users not to make the donation into a “patriotic event.” “It’s just freedom of personal choice, but overall, it reflects the reality that the domestic universities lack attractiveness...The question is why Chinese universities cannot ignite students’ enthusiasm to ‘pay back.’” ***Chinese Gift to Yale Earns Big Controversy at Home, The Wall Street Journal China Real Time Report, Sue Feng, Jan. 14, 2010*** <http://blogs.wsj.com/chinarealtime/2010/01/14/chinese-gift-to-yale-earns-big-controversy-at-home/>

In meeting with some of the Chinese universities in December on our planning trip, their administrations made it clear that they definitely want that to change. And we can help. By sharing our experience in alumni relations as well as the lessons we have learned in our prior exchanges, perhaps we can inspire Chinese university alumni to support their institutions as well.

There is much work to be done before we arrive...the second annual World Alumni Leadership Conference to plan, talks and presentations to prepare, and people to meet. Before we arrive we need to have our plan of action in place...you can bet the Chinese will be ready for us!

So how do we prepare to meet and exceed their expectations? You start by reading this newsletter - and all the following newsletters that will be coming your way in the next six months. We will try to anticipate all of your questions in the newsletters⁶, so please read carefully. And enjoy!



Sights of Hong Kong

ABOUT CHINA⁷

The **People's Republic of China (PRC)**, commonly known as **China**, is the most populous state in the world with over 1.3 billion people. China is a single-party state governed by the Communist Party of China (CPC). The PRC exercises jurisdiction over 22 provinces, five autonomous regions, four directly administered municipalities (Beijing, Tianjin, Shanghai, and Chongqing), and two highly autonomous special administrative regions (SARs) – Hong Kong and Macau. Its capital city is Beijing.



At about 9.6 million square kilometers (3.7 million square miles), the PRC is the world's third- or fourth-largest country by total

⁵ More information at: <http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5g3PsfOu50738RiqAV00RadvFNPg>

⁶ This Newsletter has been sent to each primary traveler as well as the additional travelers for whom we have an email address. If you would like the additional travelers in your group to receive the Newsletters and other information directly, please send their email address(es) to kathy@edersheim.net.

⁷ Information courtesy of Wikipedia (though they don't know that.)



area (depending on the definition of what is included in that total) and the second largest by land area. Its landscape is diverse, with forest steppes and deserts (the Gobi and Taklamakan) in the dry north near Mongolia and Russia's Siberia, and subtropical forests in the wet south close to Vietnam, Laos, and Burma. The terrain in the west is rugged and at high altitude, with the Himalayas and the Tian Shan mountain ranges forming China's natural borders with India and Central Asia. In contrast, mainland China's eastern seaboard is low-lying and has a 14,500-kilometre (9,000 mi) long coastline bounded on the southeast by the South China Sea and on the east by the East China Sea beyond which lie Taiwan, Korea, and Japan.

The ancient Chinese civilization—one of the world's earliest—flourished in the fertile basin of the Yellow



A "watertown" on the outskirts of Shanghai

River, which flows through the North China Plain. For more than 6,000 years, China's political system was based on hereditary monarchies (also known as dynasties). The first of these dynasties was the Xia (approx 2000BC) but it was the later Qin Dynasty that first unified China in 221 BC. The last dynasty, the Qing, ended in 1911 with the founding of the Republic of China (ROC) by the Kuomintang (KMT) - the Chinese Nationalist Party. The first half of the 20th century was a period of disunity and civil wars that divided the country into two main political camps – the Kuomintang and the communists. Major hostilities ended in 1949, when the communists won the civil war and established the People's Republic of China in mainland China.

Since the introduction of market-based economic reforms in 1978, China has become the world's fastest growing major economy, the world's largest exporter and second largest importer of goods. China is the world's second largest economy by both nominal GDP and purchasing power parity and a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council. It is also a member of formal/informal multilateral organizations including the WTO, APEC, BRIC, Shanghai Cooperation Organisation, and G-20.

THE AYA BOARD RETREAT IN BEIJING

If seeing is believing, then this year the Chinese participants at the World Alumni Leadership Conference can witness the highest level of alumni engagement at Yale – the AYA Board of Governors in action! The 2011 AYA Board of Governors planning and leadership development retreat will be in Beijing during the four days when YaleGALE is hosting the Conference and working with Peking and Tsing Hua Universities.



Yale Alumni leaders – Past, Present and Future...

(Medical School 100th Anniversary - 1910, AYA BoG 2007, Dwight Hall Leaders 2010)



According to Michael Madison, Chairman of the Board of Governors of AYA, “The idea is to leverage the Board's commitment to leadership and service with the ambassadorial role of all alumni to bring Yale's vision of alumni relations to partner universities around the world.”

As of now, the plan is for the AYA Board members to participate in the YaleGALE program with the universities. The Board Members are invited to continue with us for the rest of the trip as well.

THE YASC⁸ PROGRAM IN XIUNING

But wait – there’s even more Yale alumni activity in China this summer. In an exciting partnership, Yale-China and the Yale Alumni Service Corps are putting together a cross cultural experience that will hopefully influence and change lives – theirs *and* ours! From July 9 through July 16, Yale alumni, family and friends will have the opportunity to volunteer in the rural town of Xiuning, China – working with Chinese school children and adults to broaden their horizons, share our culture, and open doors to a different way of life. The program will also include a variety of medical, construction, and business consulting projects. Our purpose in visiting Xiuning is to bring new ideas and opportunities to a rural community that has its own long history and deep roots. We will teach; they will learn. They will teach; we will learn - learn from the children, the teachers, the parents, the doctors, the town officials, and the many others in this fascinating corner of China.









Ni hao Yalies! Kids at Xiuning Middle School #2 extending an enthusiastic welcome to our Service Corps volunteers during our visit last month...

After the program in Xiuning, the participants will join you, the YaleGALE volunteers in Beijing, bringing together a delegation of over 200 Yalies for the World Alumni Leadership Conference. You are encouraged to join the group in Xiuning as well!

APRIL 16 TRAINING AND PREPARATION DAY

Are you prepared to share your expertise about Yale? Here is a short quiz:

-  When was the Association of Yale Alumni started... and why?
-  Where was the first Yale Club founded and why?
-  When was the first Yale College class reunion?
-  How many people attended reunions in 2010? (Bonus points for including Class and SIG (Shared Interest Group) reunions...)
-  How do you start a SIG and why would you?
-  And, the most basic question of all, why do Yale alumni give back so much to Yale and to their communities?



We (you!) need to be prepared to answer these questions and many more when we make presentations, facilitate small group discussions, meet Chinese alumni over dinner, and host the World Alumni Leadership

⁸ YASC is the Yale Alumni Service Corps



Conference. In addition to these alumni relations questions, as “ambassadors” we need to be aware of cultural sensitivities. We need to be understand what we can appropriately discuss and, even more important, what we should not discuss when we are there - we must not come across as all-knowing or condescending – as much as we have to share, the Chinese are eager to demonstrate that they have much to share as well. Remember, we are diplomats!

We are scheduling an orientation and planning retreat on Saturday, April 16 in order to discuss these issues and more - terminology⁹ and vocabulary, translation facilities, local area information, facilitation techniques, presentation techniques, and more...

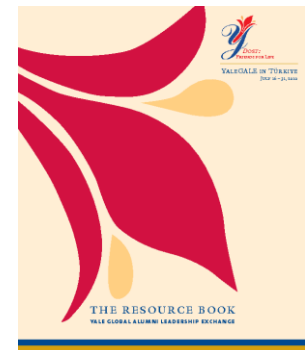
You are also welcome to join us for dinner the evening of the 16th with the participants of the Yale Alumni Service Corps program in Xiuning, who will be having their orientation and planning session on April 17.

Although certainly not mandatory, we highly encourage you to attend.¹⁰ The orientation day will be held in either New Haven or New York...stay tuned for details. Please let us know by email to kathy@edersheim.net if you think you will join us for this orientation and planning session so we can plan the spaces. Note that if you would like to be a presenter (not sure yet how many presenters we will have), it will be VERY helpful for you to be in attendance.


THE AYA RESOURCE BOOK

For our trip to China and for the World Alumni Leadership Conference, we have decided to “publish” the Resource Book in an illustrated, printed and bound edition.

You might ask, “What is the Resource Book?” As part of the Global Alumni Leadership Exchange, the delegation participants from Yale (you!) are invited to contribute to a book to be given to the Chinese universities as a reference for information on alumni relations. We are asking you to provide a written contribution that can be condensed into an abstract discussing how and why you are an alumni leader. While you don’t have to develop a formal “case study” about a specific topic, we would like to you to share your personal experiences with volunteering for Yale. These personal testimonies will be the most powerful way we can provide insight into the importance Yale has played in our lives, and how we in turn can change the lives of others through our Yale experience.



Resource Book Cover
YaleG.ALE in Turkey 2010

 Go to www.yalegale.org/resourcebook.htm to download and read the book from last year.

If you have submitted an article in the past, you are welcome to submit an additional piece or edit your existing one.

Please ask if you have any questions about a topic, or about how to write your “chapter.” In the meantime, here are a few suggestions:

First, choose from the following list of ways that alumni can reconnect or volunteer at Yale – or choose your own if we haven’t listed it:

⁹ Alumna vs alumnus vs alumni vs alumnae...let’s get it right!!

¹⁰ Your fellow travelers are most welcome as well.



Yale Corporation	Shared Interest Groups (e.g., Yale Alumni in Real Estate, Yale Daily News board)	Dwight Hall
University Council	Career Services Network	Shared Identity Groups (Black, Asian, Latino, LGBT, Native American, women)
AYA Board of Governors	Yale Capital Campaigns	Athletic Alumni Associations
Yale Clubs	Yale Alumni Fund	Singing Group Alumni Associations
Yale Classes	Alumni Schools Committee	Yale Alumni Chorus
AYA Community Fellowship	Graduate School Alumni Association	
Bulldog Programs	Professional School Alumni Associations	Any other of your choosing....!
AYA Delegate		
Yale as a Career		

Then, use the following questions to help you shape your comments:

1. What does the organization or program do, and what is its mission?
2. How was it started (if you know)?
3. How did you first get involved?
4. What is your role?
5. What motivates you to participate – why do you do it?
6. Where do you see yourself going in the program?
7. How does the program or organization make a difference for Yale?
8. How has the organization or program changed over time?
9. What is the biggest challenge the organization or program faces?
10. What are the biggest opportunities?

Feel free to write as much as you like on your topic and we will edit all the pieces for the final book format. Submissions are due by May 1st so that we have time to edit, translate, and publish. Thank you very much for your contribution to this important effort!

FLIGHT INFORMATION

As you know, we do NOT have an official or “group” flight for this trip. It is most important that you arrive in Beijing by the evening of July 18 to attend our Welcome Dinner. The YaleGALE program ends in Hong Kong with our Farewell Dinner on July 30 - you can arrange a flight home at any time on July 31 OR you can wait for more information about an extension to Tibet. We will provide information about getting to the hotel in Beijing from the airport and to the airport in Hong Kong from the hotel in a future Newsletter. Also, in a future Newsletter we will provide an opportunity for you to request to extend your stay at the hotel in Beijing if you arrive early or in Hong Kong if you stay longer.

VISA INFORMATION

 Please pay attention! If you are American¹¹ you need a visa for China.

While we want to make the process as easy for you as possible, we cannot do it for you.

¹¹ Or from many other countries...



The first thing to know: it takes only a few days to get the visa, so don't panic. The second thing: the first time you apply for a Chinese visa it is usually only good for 6 months so it is too early to deal with it now!

In the March Newsletter, we will provide the name of an agency that will help you get the visa. You can also get the visa yourself by filling out the form at



<http://www.china-embassy.org/chn/hzqz/zgqz/P020070611087242661716.pdf>

and submitting the documents to the Chinese Consulate. We promise to provide all the necessary information to you in plenty of time. In the meantime, if you are interested, you can read about it at

<http://www.china-embassy.org/eng/hzqz/zgqz/t84246.htm>.


VACCINATIONS AND MEDICAL PREPARATION

Some immunizations may be recommended for travel to China. We cannot provide medical advice, but we advise that you consult with your physician regarding immunizations. It is best to do this several weeks before the trip since some vaccinations are administered in installments, and some medications may take time to order. Note that we will not be traveling to a malaria-risk zone of China. For general information about immunizations and health issues in China, you should also visit the Center for Disease Control and Prevention website at

www.cdc.gov.

Of course, you should plan on bringing a sufficient supply of all the medications you take regularly.

FACE BOOK PHOTO

No, not that kind of . We will have our own YaleGALE in China "face book" directory of participants printed on good, old-fashioned paper. If you are new¹² to YaleGALE, please send a photo of each person in your group via email to Cherie Gargano (cherylgn.gargano@yale.edu) at AYA so that she can compile the information and produce the book. Please send the photo as soon as possible and no later than April 1 or you might end up looking like a dragon in the Face Book.

FUTURE NEWSLETTERS

What can you look forward to reading about in the Newsletters over the next few months?

-  About Beijing
-  About the World Alumni Leadership Conference

¹² Or if you want to replace your picture from last year.



- 🌸 About Xi'an, Shanghai, and Hong Kong
- 🌸 About our university partners – Peking, Tsing Hua, Fudan, New Asia (tentative list)
- 🌸 What to pack
- 🌸 Visa Information (details)
- 🌸 Hotel information for arrival in Beijing
- 🌸 Food, glorious food!
- 🌸 Learn some Mandarin

...and much, much more.

IN REVIEW...WHAT YOU NEED TO DO NOW!

Here's what you have to do now:

- 🌸 Encourage those waiting to sign up to do so now!
- 🌸 If you are interested in the Yale Alumni Service Corp portion of the trip, sign up now.
- 🌸 Put the April 16th planning and orientation day on your calendar.
- 🌸 Send a photo of each person in your group via email to Cherie Gargano (cherylgn.gargano@yale.edu)
- 🌸 Send your \$500 per person deposit if you haven't already done so.
- 🌸 Make your plane reservations NOW!

Email Kathy at kathy@edersheim.net with the following information:

1. If you are attending the April 16th retreat and how many will be attending with you.
2. If you would like to volunteer to be a presenter, group discussion leader, or facilitator.
3. If you would like to write a piece for the Resource Book and what your topic will be.
4. If anyone else should be receiving this email newsletter.

As always, feel free to get in touch with us if you have any questions or concerns – kathy@edersheim.net or mark.dollhopf@yale.edu.

再见¹³... for now

Kathy Edersheim '87

Mark Dollhopf '77

And the Yale Global Alumni Leadership Exchange Committee

Paula Armbruster '64 MA

Marv Berenblum '56

David Bodney '76

Bob Catapano-Friedman '73

Otto Chu '76

Ilona Emmerth '98

Chris Hill '99

Mehmet Kahya '73

Gordy Meyers '49

Glenn Murphy '71

Kathy Murphy '71

Ray Kimsey '73

John Scales '54

Barbara Wagner '73

¹³ Good bye