UW-River Falls Delegation Travels to Asia

December 2, 2015—A delegation from the University of Wisconsin-River Falls recently traveled to Asia to deepen connections and relationships with educational partners, alumni and friends of the university. Global learning and comprehensive internationalization is a part of UW-River Falls Strategic Plan that serves as a distinctive feature of UW-River Falls as it aspires to distinguish itself as a national leader in internationalization among public comprehensive, master’s level institutions.

UW-River Falls Chancellor Dean Van Galen, Foundation President and Assistant Chancellor of University Advancement Chris Mueller, and Interim Assistant Vice Chancellor and Executive Director for International Education Katrina Larsen made up the UW-River Falls delegation.

The trip offered a means to celebrate the 60th anniversary of Zhejiang International Studies University (ZISU)’s founding, to expand our collaboration and to meet with ZISU students about attending UW-River Falls. UWRF and ZISU have been partners for more than 32 years. As part of the celebration, a special alumni event was held for ZISU students, staff, and ZISU dignitaries. In addition, UWRF signed two partnership agreements, including a new 2+2 business English agreement that will provide new opportunities for ZISU students to attend UWRF as degree seeking students.

After the ZISU celebration, the UWRF delegation traveled to Taipei, Taiwan, to an alumni event hosted by UWRF Professor Emeritus Charles Kao. Kao is also the founder and chairman of the Commonwealth Publishing Company in Taipei. The Taiwan alumni group meets annually and continues to be the most active UWRF international alumni group. More than 40 alumni and friends attended the event on Nov. 29.

At the alumni reception at ZISU on Nov. 25, Chancellor Van Galen (middle row standing beneath the UWRF logo) is flanked by the current ZISU President Hong Gang on his right and the retired ZISU President Lu Linyue on his left. Other UW-River Falls guests included Assistant Chancellor of University Advancement Chris Muller (back row, third from right), Interim Assistant Vice Chancellor and Executive Director for International Education Katrina Larsen (middle row, second from right), and Continuing Education Instructor Brenda Petta and her husband, Tom. Other ZISU guests included Professor Lu Zhenjin, dean of the School of Education Science, (second row, third from the left), Tao Guoxia (May), deputy director of the Division of International Exchanges and Cooperation (first row, far right), and Xia Guojian (George), Chinese Program coordinator for the UWRF Experience China program (middle row, second from the left).

UWRF Professor Emeritus Charles Kao (seated third from left) hosted an alumni event in Taipei, Taiwan, on Nov. 29. Guests from UWRF included Chancellor Dean Van Galen (seated third from right), Assistant Chancellor of University Advancement Chris Muller (seated second from right), and Interim Assistant Vice Chancellor and Executive Director for International Education Katrina Larsen (seated first on right).