

Conference Background

As education reforms in K-12 and higher education are becoming intensified in Western countries, especially in the US, there has been a growing interest in Chinese education due to Chinese students' outstanding academic performances, particularly in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM). However, the research literature on Chinese education remains limited and outdated, and few Chinese education scholars publish in English. Since Chinese education theories and practices are rooted in Confucianism, a systematic examination of its influence on Chinese education and its relevance to education in the US and other Western countries is both important and timely. The International Conference on Confucianism and Education is dedicated to this purpose. The conference will advance our knowledge and understanding of Confucian thoughts on education, inform efforts to improve education in the US, and promote cross-culture understanding between China and the Western world.

Conference Theme and Topics

The central theme of the conference is "Confucianism and Education." Topics to be addressed include (but not limited to):

- a. Confucianism and functions of education
- b. Confucianism and learning objectives
- c. Confucianism and pedagogy
- d. Confucianism and educational leadership and administration, and teacher education
- e. Confucianism and educational assessment and evaluation
- f. Confucianism and education in other Asian countries and regions (e.g., Hong Kong, Japan, South Korea, and Taiwan)

Conference Organizer

Graduate School of Education (GSE), University at Buffalo, State University of New York

Conference Sponsors

Principal Sponsor: University at Buffalo Confucius Institute (UBCI) Additional sponsors will be acknowledged as they become available

Participants of the Conference

The participants will be primarily faculty, researchers, and graduate students in global and comparative education, and Chinese philosophy and culture. The conference will also be of interest to US education policy-makers, school administrators, teachers, and parents.

Dates and Location of the Conference

The conference will take place from Friday evening through Sunday noon, Oct. 17-19, 2014, at the Ramada Hotel and Conference Center in Amherst, New York, USA (<u>www.ramadahotelamherst.com</u>).

Registration Fees:

\$100 per participant to cover conference materials, opening reception, lunch, and morning/afternoon coffee breaks.

Invited Speakers

Fangping Cheng, Renmin University, P. R. China

Dr. Cheng is professor and doctoral student advisor in the School of Education, Renmin University. He was a high school teacher, a private school principal, and director of a research institute on private education and science popularization. He held academic research positions (equivalent to assistant professor, associate professor and full-professor) at the China National Institute for Education Research for 30 years. He holds many public and social positions including the education committee vice-chairman of Chinese National Association for Promoting Democracy, and vice-president of ShiShaHai (Beijing) Academy of Classical Learning. His publications include "Confucianism in SuiTang Five Generations", "Education History of LiaoJinYuan", and "Chinese Classics of Learning".

Vincent Shen, University of Toronto, Canada

Dr. Shen is Professor and Lee Chair in Chinese Thought and Culture, Department of Philosophy and Department of East Asian Studies, University of Toronto. His research interests include Confucianism, Daoism, Phenomenology, Comparative Philosophy, and cultural impacts of science and technology. His recent publications include Contrast, Strangification and Dialogue (2002), Idea of University and Spirit of Strangification (2004), An Anthology of Vincent Shen (2005), Essays on Intercultural Philosophy and Religion (2012). He is also the editor of many books, including the recently published Inter-culturality and Philosophic Discourse (2013) and Dao Companion to Classical Confucian Philosophy (2014).

Conference Publication

An edited book on Confucianism and Education will be published. The conference organizing committee will invite a certain number of presenters to write chapters for the book based on their conference presentations, and will explore various venues to select a reputable scholarly press as the publisher, which will be announced after an agreement is reached. A website will be created to disseminate full-length papers with authors' permission.

Conference Organizing Committee

Dr. Xiufeng Liu, Professor and Associate Dean for Interdisciplinary Research, Graduate School of Education, University at Buffalo (Chair)

Dr. Qiaomei (Maggie) Lu, Associate Director, University at Buffalo Confucius Institute

Dr. Wen Ma, Associate Professor of Education, Le Moyne College

Dr. X. Christine Wang, Associate Professor, Graduate School of Education, University at Buffalo

Dr. Jiyuan Yu, Professor, Department of Philosophy; Director, University at Buffalo Confucius Institute

Proposal Submission

Proposal Format: Only individual paper proposals (i.e., single papers with one author or multiple authors) will be accepted for review. Each individual may submit only one proposal. Authors of accepted proposals will write full papers to be grouped by themes into concurrent sessions. Each individual proposal should include the following elements: (a) Title; (b) Confucian thoughts; (c) Educational Implication; (d) Significance or relevance to current Chinese and/or Western Education. All proposals should be 300-500 words. All proposals must be submitted electronically through the Online Submission System at http://gse.buffalo.edu/confucius.

Dates:

Conference online registration open: Sept. 1, 2014 Full conference paper due: Sept. 15, 2014 Conference: Oct. $17^{th} - 19^{th}$, 2014



