

greet us as we climbed onto an outdoor stage. After a rather extensive ceremony, we all went to talk to a class about America. I was amazed by the courtesy and curiosity that I found even here – I found that when I walked into the classroom I got applause even before I started talking.

The kids asked me all sorts of questions; they coaxed me into singing “Mo Li Hua”, a traditional Chinese song, for them; they cheered each time they learned a new part of “Row, Row, Row Your Boat”; they told me I bore a striking resemblance to Michael Jackson. I’m afraid I must disagree.

One student asked me if I would give him a hug. I at once agreed, and the class cheered. Then another asked me what I thought of China.

It took me a moment, but I summoned up some Chinese. “*Wo ai Zhongguo*” – I love China, I said.

This time I didn’t get a strange glance or a shake of the head – only another cheer and another round of applause. I didn’t think I deserved it, though – if anything, it’s China that needs a thundering bout of applause. ■

## Round One of the Public Intellectuals Program Ends; Round Two to Begin



*PIP Fellows, joined by National Committee President Steve Orlins, Vice President Jan Berris (center right), senior scholar escort Ezra Vogel (center left) and Program Officer Anna Bautista (front row, left), meet with Vice Foreign Minister Zhang Yesui (center).*

The final event in the Public Intellectuals Program (PIP) was a trip to mainland China and Taiwan in December 2007. A multi-year opportunity for young American China scholars and specialists to expand their knowledge beyond their own areas of expertise and to develop the potential to apply this experience to inform policy and public opinion, PIP has been enormously successful. The National Committee is pleased to announce that a second round of the program will begin in the fall of 2008.

Launched in 2005 through the generous support of the Henry Luce Foundation and the Starr Foundation, both of which have renewed their support, PIP identifies outstanding members of the next generation of American China scholars, enriches their understanding of policy-making processes in both the United States and China, helps them

establish useful relationships with their academic colleagues and with policy practitioners, and nurtures their ability to engage in public policy debates. PIP is implemented through a series of interlocking activities, including Washington policy seminars, study tours of China, participation in National Committee delegations as scholar escorts and public education initiatives.

The December study tour of China was notable for the camaraderie among the participating Fellows; the positive impression they made on interlocutors, through their insightful questions and uniformly strong Chinese language ability (all programs were conducted entirely in Chinese); and a varied program in mainland China and Taiwan. Some of the most interesting meetings on the mainland were those with the Zhang Yesui, vice minister of foreign

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affairs responsible for North American affairs; Nirupama Rao, the Indian ambassador to China; He Liliang, the wife of Huang Hua, China's former foreign Minister and first ambassador to the United Nations; the Heifer project (including visits to very rural areas to meet farmers involved in this outstanding NGO); the creative Zhongshan Institute for Civil Society; and the discussion with U.S. Counsel General Guangzhou Bob Goldberg. On Taiwan, an array of interesting discussions were conducted, including the thoughtful musings on politics, values, and academics in the public sphere by former Foreign Minister and academic, Tian Hong-mau.

The Public Intellectuals Program has generated substantial benefit – to Fellows, the National Committee, and many with whom the group has met. This has largely been due to the high caliber of participants; the generous contribution of time and expertise of those involved in the various program activities; the intellectual

commitment of our advisory committee; and the financial and moral support of our funders.

Participation in the program has given Fellows unparalleled opportunities to speak with policy-makers in Washington and Beijing. In the Washington seminars, current and former senior policy-makers not only shared their perspectives on the dynamics of U.S.-China relations, but also encouraged Fellows' comments. One example was the September 2005 meeting with then-Deputy Secretary of State Robert Zoellick, who noted that he welcomed "views from campus." In China, our Fellows not only met with senior government officials, but were able to gain a nuanced understanding of factors influencing policy-making through briefings on public opinion polling, NGOs and other issues.

Many Fellows found that the program lays a strong foundation for them to engage in policy discussions beyond their own institutions, through public education efforts, policy specialist seminars or the media. Evan Medeiros, who took a leave of

absence from the RAND Corporation to serve as the political advisor to the Strategic Economic Dialogue, is an example of a Fellow who has made this transition to policy formulation.

Others, who are more interested in public education than policy-making also gained much from PIP. As part of their public education requirement, Fellows have shared their expertise and recruited other specialists to speak to a wide range of audiences. These have included K-12 teachers, Bar Association members, union leaders, Members of Congress and business executives, as well as academic communities. Fellow David Pietz, Assistant Professor of History at Washington State University, underscored the importance of the program's support for public education: "The resources available to stage this type of programming were invaluable. There is a profound need to promote this type of outreach in perhaps every corner of the land, but here in the trenches, away from the resources in large urban centers, the need may be particularly acute."

## 2005–2007 PIP Fellows

### **Dr. Allen Carlson**

Assistant Professor of Government,  
Cornell University

### **Dr. Mark Frazier**

Conoco Phillips Professor of Chinese  
Politics and Associate Professor of  
International and Area Studies,  
University of Oklahoma

### **Dr. Mary Gallagher**

Assistant Professor of Political Science,  
University of Michigan

### **Dr. Ann Huss**

Center for East Asian Studies,  
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

### **Dr. Jan Kiely**

American Co-Director,  
Hopkins-Nanjing Center for Chinese  
and American Studies

### **Dr. Helen McCabe**

Assistant Professor of Education  
& Affiliated Faculty of Asian  
Languages and Cultures,  
Hobart and William Smith Colleges

### **Dr. Evan S. Medeiros**

Political Scientist,  
The RAND Corporation

### **Dr. James Millward**

Associate Professor of History,  
Georgetown University

### **Ms. Allison Moore**

China Resident Representative,  
Asia Law Initiative,  
American Bar Association

### **Dr. Jonathan S. Noble**

Advisor, Asia Initiatives,  
Office of the Provost,  
University of Notre Dame

### **Dr. David Pietz**

Assistant Professor of History and  
Director of Asia Program,  
Washington State University

### **Dr. Phillip C. Saunders**

Senior Research Fellow,  
Institute for National Strategic Studies,  
National Defense University

### **Dr. Kristin Stapleton**

Associate Professor and Director of  
Asian Studies, University at Buffalo

### **Dr. Edward Steinfeld**

Associate Professor of Political Science,  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

### **Dr. Kellee Tsai**

Professor of Political Science,  
Johns Hopkins University

### **Dr. Joseph Tucker**

Infectious Diseases Fellow,  
Massachusetts General Hospital

The Public Intellectuals Program also adds to the richness of the National Committee's network by affording access and interaction with a new generation of scholars. Fellows have contributed to our programs as scholar-escorts, spoken at National Committee programs or briefed program participants, and contributed valuable ideas for our program itineraries or proposals. Fellows will be asked in the future to serve as National Committee directors, thereby sustaining the type of institutional leadership and guidance that earlier generations of public intellectuals have so generously contributed to the organization.

The National Committee is delighted that a second Public Intellectuals Program will extend its unique benefits to another class of China specialists. We are also very pleased that a component of the renewed grant for round two of PIP includes funds for round one fellows to conduct important public education activities. ■

**Dr. Wang Hongying**

Associate Professor of Political Science, Maxwell School of Public Policy, Syracuse University

**Dr. Susan H. Whiting**

Associate Professor of Political Science & Adjunct Associate Professor of International Studies, University of Washington

**Dr. Wu Weiping**

Associate Professor of Urban Studies, Geography, and Planning, Virginia Commonwealth University

**Dr. Yang Hong**

Associate Professor of Environmental Studies, and Director of U.S.-China Institute, Bryant University

# Policy Leaders Orientation Program

*In the 1990s, the National Committee conducted several "Consular Orientation Programs," designed to give young Chinese diplomats posted to the United States the opportunity to learn more about American history, politics and contemporary society through a two-week study program. Support from the Starr Foundation has enabled us to resume and expand this offering, now called the Policy Leaders Orientation Program.*

The 2007 Policy Leaders Orientation Program provided two groups of young Chinese officials with an in-depth experience of American culture and society, while giving the National Committee an opportunity to meet and interact in an informal setting with these promising individuals. The program for U.S.-based Chinese diplomats was held from January 28 through February 10; a group of Beijing-based government officials visited the United States from September 30 to October 13.

While the diplomats living in the United States are fluent in English, their opportunities to interact with Americans are generally limited to their professional spheres. As a result, they were all eager to learn more through the briefings, site visits and informal discussions in Williamsburg, Washington, D.C., Gettysburg, Philadelphia and New York.

Not surprisingly, the Chinese made an immediate connection with their American counterparts at the Foreign Service Institute, and were clearly impressed with the facilities available for consular training. They also were surprised to learn that two-

year intensive language study programs are considered "career enhancers" for American diplomats, rather than something that would slow down or impede their career trajectory. Fortuitously, the Washington portion of the schedule overlapped with a meeting of the National Committee's Public Intellectuals Program (PIP). At a joint breakfast for the two groups, the Chinese were impressed with the language skills and wide-ranging research interests of the PIP Fellows, and they expressed a desire for more opportunities to exchange views with American China specialists.

Other Washington programming included a talk on U.S. policy toward Iraq and implications for relations in Asia, given by member (and PIP Fellow) Phil Saunders of the National Defense University, and a roundtable luncheon at Georgetown University hosted by the Institute for the Study of Diplomacy and the Mortara Center for International Studies (arranged by National Committee members Cas Yost and Carol Lancaster).

The Washington homestays provided a rare firsthand experience of daily life inside American homes. Several visitors found this opportunity to be the most beneficial part of the program. One Los Angeles-based diplomat said that despite having been in the United States for a year, she found it difficult to find points of entry into American society. Another, who works at China's Mission to the United Nations, was thrilled when her hostess took her to a reception attended by former U.S. Ambassador to the UN, Bill Richardson. Her hostess, a veteran of Washington political receptions, moved Liu Jia

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