

University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well

## University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well

---

Campus News Archive

Campus News, Newsletters, and Events

---

5-11-2005

### UMM students to make first of its kind trip to China

University Relations

Follow this and additional works at: [https://digitalcommons.morris.umn.edu/urel\\_news](https://digitalcommons.morris.umn.edu/urel_news)

---

#### Recommended Citation

University Relations, "UMM students to make first of its kind trip to China" (2005). *Campus News Archive*. 2113.

[https://digitalcommons.morris.umn.edu/urel\\_news/2113](https://digitalcommons.morris.umn.edu/urel_news/2113)

This News Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Campus News, Newsletters, and Events at University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well. It has been accepted for inclusion in Campus News Archive by an authorized administrator of University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well. For more information, please contact [skulann@morris.umn.edu](mailto:skulann@morris.umn.edu).

Contact

Melissa Weber, Director of Communications  
Phone: 320-589-6414, weberm@morris.umn.edu

Jenna Ray, Editor/Writer  
Phone: 320-589-6068, jrray@morris.umn.edu

**UMM students to make first of its kind trip to China**

*Summary:*

(May 11, 2005)-About 12 students from the University of Minnesota, Morris will travel to China May 29-June 13 on the first ever trip of its kind. At the invitation of George Shen, mayor of the Chinese city of Jiashan, students will help teach English and culture to Jiashan High School students.

Accompanying the students will be Jennifer Falzerano, a graduate of UMM who works in the campus Office of Admissions, and Min Zhou, who teaches German at UMM and is originally from China. This is the first group of UMM students to visit China.

"This is a pilot program which will hopefully provide a foundation for a vibrant and growing relationship between UMM and Jiashan," said Falzerano. "It will also expose UMM students to Chinese culture."

While Jiashan schools send most of their graduates abroad for a college education, explained Falzerano, U.S. students don't tend to go there. In today's world, added Falzerano, students need to understand China as part of their growth and development as future citizens.

Students were selected by application. Consideration was given to their grade point average, on-campus activities and an essay they were asked to write. Preference was given to freshmen and sophomore students.

Students who will travel to China are: Robert Goodfellow, Mound Zachary Clemens, Minneapolis Lauren Johnson Myah Hayle Christa Mims, Bear Lake Daniel Moore, Champlin Savannah Schulze, Ely Ajeng Puspitasari, Jakarta, Indonesia Natalie Kinsky, White Bear Lake Brianna Martin (graduated from Eden Prairie High school, parents live in Glenwood) Paul Carlson, Plymouth and Michelle Handlin, Burnsville.

Program, housing and food costs for the trip will be paid by the city of Jiashan. Additional expenses will be covered with assistance from the UMM Chancellor's office and students themselves.

This trip for students was an unexpected bonus following a recent trip to China taken by UMM Chancellor Sam Schuman and Falzerano, along with Dr. Hong Yang from the University of Minnesota China Center. Focus of the trip was to explore exchange options and to recruit students for UMM.

Schuman stated that they had production discussions both with two officers of the Shanghai American Consulate regarding visa issues for Chinese students seeking to come to the U.S. and with Shanghai University. While in Jiashan, they visited a private college and the area's leading high school, which is where the invitation was extended for UMM students to visit.

In Beijing, they met with the vice president of Beijing Union University and the director for international education.

They are less enthusiastic about student exchanges but eager to establish faculty exchanges, said Schuman. A general accord of cooperation was signed with Beijing Union University.

"We met (at Shanghai University) with two vice presidents and other officers of their international programs office, and they seem eager to establish student and faculty exchanges," said Schuman. "The University has a number of colleges, including a College of Liberal Arts. It currently enrolls about 25,000 undergraduates. Shanghai University would like to see from us a draft exchange agreement. They offer a considerable number of courses in English."

At Capital Normal University in Beijing, they again met with a vice president and International Programs staff. "They have a new and quite splendid facility for international students, and offer a good range of liberal arts programs and programs in Chinese language for international students," said Schuman. "They are eager to establish a student exchange, and we signed with them, too, a general accord of future cooperation. They propose sending a delegation of six to seven members, including faculty and administrators, to Morris in the relatively near future. They, too, have attractive short-term courses for international students on their campus that might make for good May term possibilities.

"Finally, we visited the private Beijing Royal School (a high school), spoke with students and the headmaster, and distributed information about attending UMM," said Schuman.

Concluded Schuman: "Mysterious and bewitching, occasionally frightening and often shockingly warm, hungry for interactions with the West yet supremely self confident and assured, China belongs in the collegiate curriculum of any student who will live her or his mature life in the 21st century."

Through personal and academic discovery, the University of Minnesota, Morris provides opportunities for students to grow intellectually, engage in community, experience environmental stewardship and celebrate diversity. A renewable and sustainable educational experience, Morris prepares graduates for careers, for advanced degrees, for lifelong learning, for work world flexibility in the future, and for global citizenship. Learn more about Morris at [morris.umn.edu](http://morris.umn.edu) or call 888-866-3382.