

## New institute at Krannert makes China more accessible to Indiana

CHINA IS INVESTING IN INDIANA with a new institute that provides instruction in the areas of language, education, culture, and business.

Housed in the Krannert Building, the Confucius Institute at Purdue University is a partnership

among the colleges of Liberal Arts and Engineering, the Krannert School, and Shanghai Jiaotong University. It's one of 140 Confucius Institutes worldwide sponsored by the Chinese Language Council International, which also provided \$100,000 seed funding.

One of the institute's goals is to facilitate more exchange opportunities between Purdue and China. Nearly 150 students traveled to China in 2006–07, making it the University's most popular destination for study abroad. An even greater number of students are expected to visit the country this fall and spring.

The Krannert School, which has educational and research agreements with three leading universities in China, will play an active role in the Confucius Institute. Dean Rick Cosier is a member of the center's advisory board, and management professor Greg Hundley, director of the Purdue Center for International Business Education and Research (CIBER), serves on its executive committee.

"This institute is part of Purdue's effort to offer our students a truly international education and give our faculty access to researchers and ideas from around the globe," says Cosier.



Students and teachers in the state's K-12 schools will also benefit from programs offered through Purdue's Confucius Institute, which has already facilitated bringing two guest teachers to the West Lafayette and Lafayette school corporations. The institute also will lead Chinese language teacher-training workshops in Indiana schools and organize lectures and art exhibitions.

In addition, short courses on Chinese language and culture are open to area residents, while basic conversation courses are available to members of Indiana's business community and Purdue faculty and staff. In partnership with Purdue's CIBER and Global Engineering Program, the institute will also host conferences on topics such as Chinese business language and culture and corporate needs for Chinese business instruction.

— Amy Patterson Neubert



For more information on Purdue's Confucius Institute, visit [www.purdue.edu/confucius](http://www.purdue.edu/confucius).



***Then-President Martin Jischke congratulates Wei Hong, an associate professor of Chinese and director of the Confucius Institute at Purdue, at the grand opening celebration in May. Housed in the Krannert Building, the institute is a partnership among the colleges of Liberal Arts and Engineering, the Krannert School, and Shanghai Jiaotong University.***