

*Not all bridges are built of
concrete and steel.*

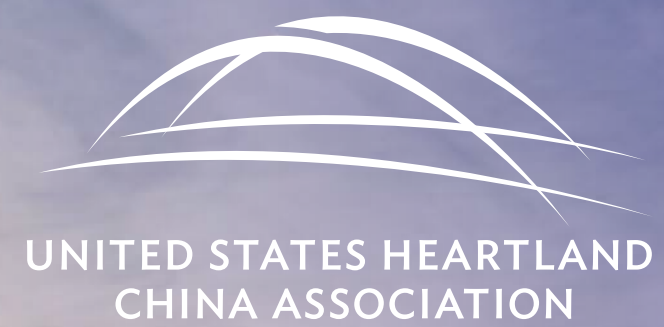
*Equally important bridges are
built on friendship, cultural
communion and commercial
cooperation.*

*Where these bridges exist,
communities flourish.*

USHCA Annual Report Fiscal Year 2021

July 2021 – June 2022





USHCA ANNUAL REPORT

Fiscal Year 2021 (July 2021-June 2022)

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LEADERSHIP REMARKS

As we reflect on our fiscal year that spanned July 2021-June 2022, the world seemed dramatically different following Russia's invasion of Ukraine. As the prospect for a peaceful and stable world darkened, views on China in the United States turned even more negative. Voices advocating for finding common ground between the U.S. and China, like that of ours, became even more scarce. Meanwhile, domestic consequences of deteriorating U.S.-China relations came into sharper focus. Anti-Asian hate and violence exploded across the country. Enrollment of Chinese students, the largest population of international students in the U.S., dropped significantly at many universities in our region. Even global businesses that had benefitted tremendously from working with China had to reassess their strategy in this prolonged period of uncertainty.

It is in this challenging context that we doubled down on our efforts to promote bilateral understanding and collaboration where shared interests still exist.

-Hon. BOB HOLDEN,
Chairman & President,
U.S. Heartland China Association,
Former Governor of Missouri

With support from major foundations and our Heartland community, we expanded our board, our team, our network, and our member base. By staying close to our community and focusing on what matters to them we launched many innovative programs. Our program portfolio expanded to accommodate a wide range of topics around culture, education, and business.

As the U.S. came out of the grip of the worst phase of the pandemic, our team started bringing programing to communities throughout our region. From small delegations to special events, these in-person exchanges received overwhelming local support and created incredible goodwill.

These same local engagements also showed us a new window to view U.S.-China relations from the ground up and at the people-to-people level. What we learned is that the people of American Heartland do care about better U.S.-China relations, and it is from the Heartland region where new bridges of understanding between our two peoples and countries can be built.

Our work has just begun. Please join us.

-MIN FAN,
Executive Director,
U.S. Heartland China Association



OVERVIEW

OUR MISSION

United States Heartland China Association (USHCA) is a 501(c)3 bipartisan grassroots nonprofit organization committed to building bridges and promoting opportunities between the peoples of the American Heartland region and China.

Our mission is to foster and support a positive, productive, and mutually beneficial relationship between the peoples of the United States and China by creating more channels of collaboration and opportunities for economic growth in all segments of the American Heartland Region.

Our programs focus on trust-building efforts to connect educational and community interests; business leaders; and local government officials with like-minded institutions between the American Heartland Region and China.

ORGANIZATIONAL HISTORY

The predecessor of our organization, Midwest U.S. China Association,

was founded by late Senator Adlai E. Stevenson III (1930-2021) in 2003 with his close friends. Bob Holden, the 53rd Governor of Missouri and former Chairman of the Midwest Governors Association was invited by Senator Adlai Stevenson to join the organization after finishing his term as the Governor of Missouri. The association originally worked with 12 Midwestern states. In 2018, it expanded to serve the 20 states from the Great Lakes to the Gulf of Mexico and changed its name to the United States Heartland China Association. In 2020, it further expanded to include the state of Colorado. Even though the American Heartland region is our focus, we work with communities throughout the United States where our programs and connections can create value for all parties.

OUR REGION

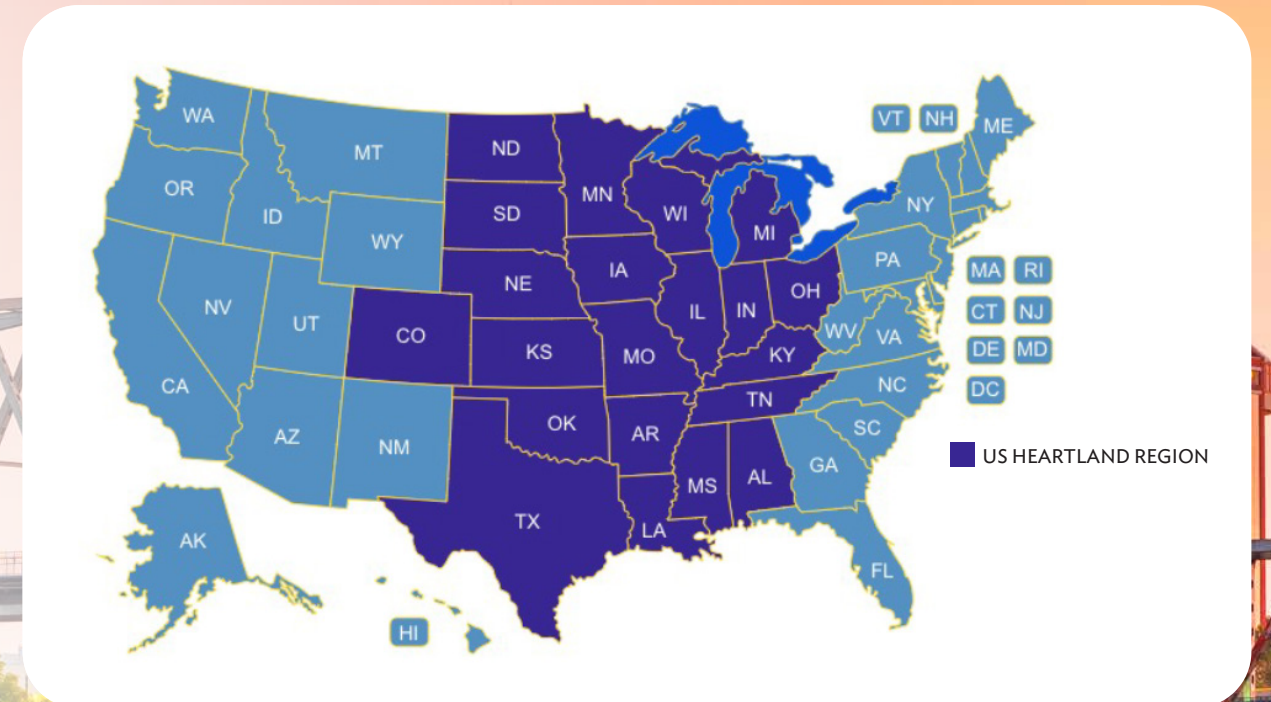
Political Influence: The U.S. Heartland is the birthplace of many prominent governmental leaders. Four of the last five immediate past United States presidents came from the Heartland

region. In the past 100 years, 14 Senate Majority Leaders, 11 Senate Minority leaders and 26 House Majority and Minority Leaders of the U.S. House and Senate as well as more than 30 cabinet members are from our region.

Economic Power: 430 Fortune 1000 companies are headquartered in 84 of the cities within the Heartland region. Our mayors lead 37 of the 100 largest cities in the United States. The Heartland Region is a key part of the U.S. economy that continues to lead the world in both size and creativity.

OUR PLATFORM

Our unique grass-roots platform, away from the national-level politics, brings together the private and public sectors, business leaders, government representatives, and NGOs from the U.S. and China to engage in dialogue and interactions thanks to a unique set of past involvements and a legacy of promoting friendship between the people of our two nations in the Heartland.





OUR COMMUNITY

The American Heartland region, from the Great Lakes down to the Gulf of Mexico, wields significant influence on American politics, economy, and education. But in recent decades many communities in this region have suffered from talent drain, population loss, and lack of economic opportunity. While some communities have benefitted significantly from exchanges with China, many others are left out due to a lack of access, resources, and opportunities to engage with China. As a response to this lack of resources and understanding, especially in communities that are left behind, our nonprofit has emerged locally to fill the gap. Being a grassroots organization, USHCA is rooted in our community and attuned to its needs. We believe that exchanges with China should not be a luxury and we seek to bring benefits of a healthy U.S.-China relationship to our Heartland Community in a tangible way.

OUR PEOPLE

Ever since its founding, USHCA has been a grassroots organization driven by passionate “bridge builders” from the Heartland who have devoted their personal resources and network to address the China-related needs of their local Heartland Communities.

In addition to our members, our team is supported by an extensive leadership network composed of our board, strategic advisors, and partners. This leadership network covers the Heartland Region, with a large number being individuals who have spent extensive time in China. Their deep experiences spanning politics, business, culture, and education uniquely position USHCA to forge productive relationships between the Heartland and China.

EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP TEAM

BOB HOLDEN, Chairman & President
MIN FAN, Executive Director

STAFF

JASON CONLEY, Program Associate

KATHERINE NEWTON-HENRY,
Program Associate

BOARD MEMBERS

BOB HOLDEN, CHAIRMAN
Former Governor, Missouri
(2001-2005)

SARAH BURKEMPER, TREASURER
Advisor, Syntegra Private
Wealth Group

LIZA MARK
Shanghai Office Chief Representative
&. Administrative Partner, Haynes and
Boone, LLP

MICHAEL FROY
Partner, Dentons

TOM OSTRANDER
Board Member and Audit Committee
Chair, Scorpio Bulkers (Monaco)

YAWEI LIU
Senior Advisor on China,
the Carter Center

JIM SCHULTZ
Founder and Managing Partner,
Open Prairie

DAVID FIRESTEIN
President &. CEO at The
George H.W. Bush Foundation
for U.S. China Relations
MAYOR JAMES BRAINARD
Mayor of Carmel, Indiana

DANIEL B. WRIGHT
President &. CEO at
GreenPoint Group

LINDA “QIAONI” JING
President &. CEO, Genective

SUSAN THORNTON
Retired Senior U.S. Diplomat,
Senior Fellow and Visiting Lecturer
in Law at the Yale Law School Paul
Tsai China Center

SCOTT TACKETT
Vice President of Global Access,
Value & Economics at Intuitive

STRATEGIC ADVISORS

CRAIG ALLEN
President, US-China
Business Council

GOVERNOR MATT BLUNT
Former Governor of Missouri
(2005-209)

BLAINE BROWNELL
Former President, Ball State
University

STEVE GRAND
Founder, Steve Grand
Media and Messaging

GOVERNOR BRAD HENRY
Former Governor of Oklahoma (2003-
2011)

JEFF MOSELY
Former Chief Executive Officer, Texas
Association of Business

GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE
Former Governor, Mississippi
(2000-2004)

AMOS SMITH
President, Walton International
(Nashville, TN)

AMBASSADOR KENNETH QUINN
The World Prize Foundation, President
Emeritus; Former Ambassador to
Cambodia (1995-1999)

SUIZHENG ZHAO
Professor and Director, Center for
China-U.S. Cooperation at Josef
Korbel School of International Studies

JIM SUTTER
CEO of U.S. Soybean Export Council

ED SCHAFER
Former Governor of North Dakota

GALAL WALKER, PRESIDENT
Director, National East Asian
Languages Resource Center

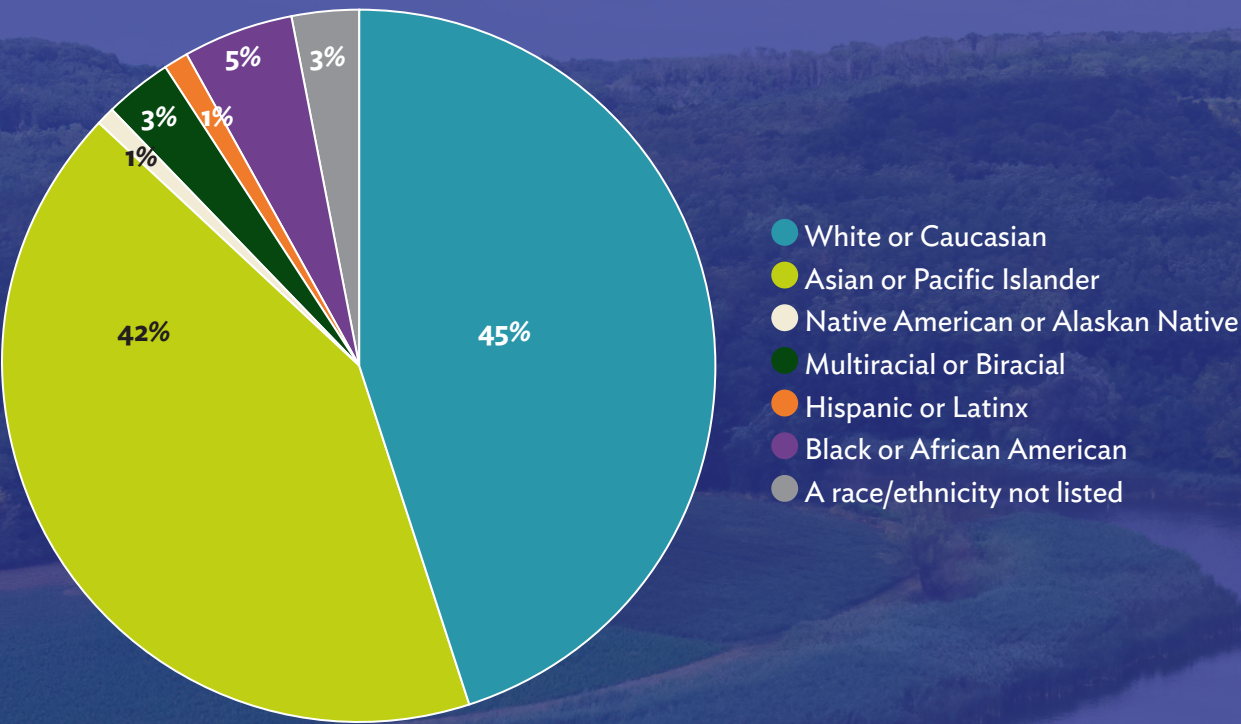
ALAN WONG
Former Executive Director, China-
United States Exchange Foundation

JAMES XUE
Director, China Affairs at
Melamed &. Associates



2021-2022 Fiscal Year
Event Registrants Composition*

*Data provided by registrants of USHCA events



PROGRAMS

In this fiscal year, we delivered a wide range of programs and events including high-level dialogues, on-campus activities, small delegations, special reports, and webinars. Through innovative programs online and in-person, we touched many communities in the Heartland region. As a result, our audience has grown from around 900 at the beginning of 2020 to nearly 10,000 diverse members by the summer of 2022.

Our Virtual Programing broadened its offering from *The Way Forward* webinar series to include author series, joint events, and many others. We also released reports that provided new and pragmatic insights in the US-China Relations space.

Even though traveling is still too difficult for taking any delegations to China, we were able to organize and support numerous delegations to the Heartland.

As you glance through the recap of our programs, you will notice the diversity of our audience and variety of our programs. It reflects the different interests and needs of different segments of our community. We take great pride in our ability to connect with such diverse constituents by responding to bottom-up inquires and focusing on local community engagement.

- Agriculture Programs
- Virtual Programming
- Reports
- Delegations
- Special Events
- Student Programs



AGRICULTURE PROGRAMS

Our agricultural program became widely recognized as the most significant platform for bilateral exchanges around agriculture. The highly successful hybrid 2022 U.S.-China High-Level Agriculture Dialogue, which we co-organized, brought together U.S. Ambassador to China Nicholas Burns, Chinese Ambassador to the U.S. QIN Gang, and top Agriculture business leaders from around the world to Des Moines, Iowa.

U.S.-China Agriculture Deep Dive: Rural Development

November 1-2, 2021

As a follow-up to the 2021 U.S.-China Agriculture Roundtable, we convened leading scholars and practitioners from China and the United States for a virtual deep dive exploration of rural development.

In total, 16 presenters explored four key topics:

- Rural Revitalization and Development Strategies
- Evolution of Urban-Rural Relations
- Education of a Modern Agricultural Workforce and Agricultural Production Transformation
- New Agriculture Industry Models to Increase the Share of Benefits for Farmers in the Agriculture Industry

Presentations covered a variety of issues, including the development of China's "digital villages," the importance of U.S. land-grant universities, innovative solutions for rural wastewater treatment, carbon peaking and neutralization alongside rural economic development, and opportunities for U.S.-China collaboration in Africa.



2022 U.S.-China Agriculture Roundtable



March 21-April 7, 2022

This annual event leverages the strong commitment that leaders of both the U.S. and China have for finding areas of cooperation around agriculture to focus on the essential role that climate-smart agriculture can play in accomplishing the climate goals set forth by national leaders.

This virtual 4-part U.S.-China Agriculture Roundtable took place during National Agriculture Week to honor Drs. Norman Borlaug, Yuan Longping, and George Washington Carver for their extraordinary contributions to the field of agriculture and the improvement of food security in our world. Despite the significant issues that encumber the bilateral relationship, we were pleased that there was broad bipartisan support for, and participation in, 2022's U.S.-China Agriculture Roundtable.



Agriculture SME Showcase March 24, 2022

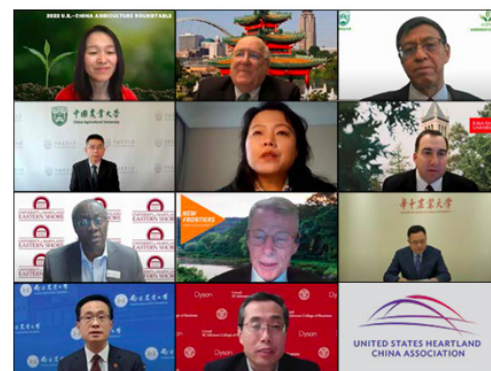
New to this year's U.S.-China Agriculture Roundtable, this virtual showcase was created to help small medium agriculture enterprises from both countries. 10 companies were selected from each country for the showcase and all gained visibility, connections, and business leads.



Agriculture Education Dialogue March 31, 2022

2022's Agriculture Education dialogue focused on Food System Transformation & Climate Change. Leaders from top agriculture education institutions from both the U.S. and China shared their perspectives and insights.

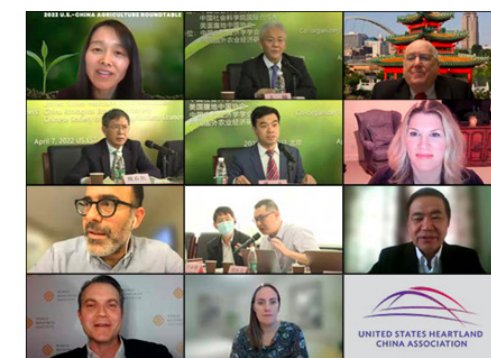
AG EDUCATION DIALOGUE



Think Tank Dialogue April 7, 2022

The Think Tank dialogue focused on Rural Prosperity & Climate Change. In this session, leading experts from both the U.S. and China shared their insights and exchanged views.

THINK TANK DIALOGUE



2022 U.S.-China High Level Agricultural Dialogue

April 21, 2022 (Des Moines, Iowa)



Building on two successful virtual U.S.-China Agriculture Roundtables in 2021 and 2022, we collaborated with the China Agricultural Association for International Exchange (CAAIE), the U.S. Embassy in Beijing, and Chinese Embassy in Washington D.C. to organize the 2022 U.S.-China High-Level Agricultural Dialogue on April 21, 2022 in Des Moines, Iowa.

This event featured the U.S. Ambassador to China Nick Burns, participating live via Zoom from Beijing, and the Chinese Ambassador to the U.S. Qin Gang, who attended in person. They were joined by Old Friends of Chinese President Xi Jinping, such as former Ambassador to China and the longest serving Governor of the U.S., former Governor of Iowa, Terry Branstad, and USHCA strategic advisor, former U.S. Ambassador to Cambodia, Kenneth Quinn, as well as many new friends who are working to promote better U.S.-China relations through agriculture. Close to 200 agribusiness executives, community leaders, students, and diplomats attend this in-person event at the World Food Prize Hall of Laureate in Des Moines Iowa.



VIRTUAL PROGRAMMING

BUSINESS PROGRAMS

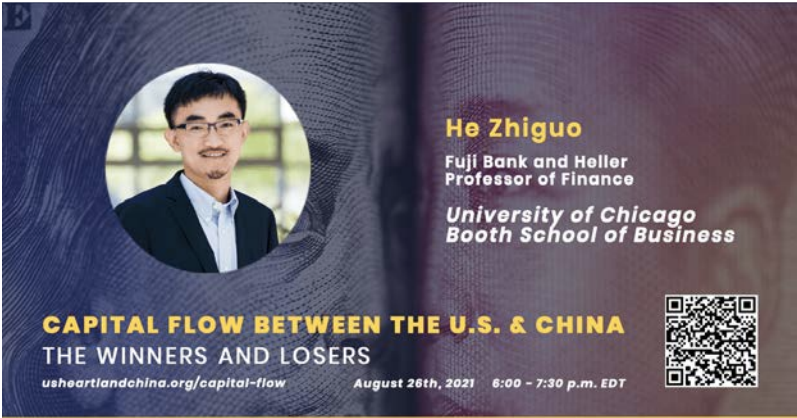
Essential Ingredients of Business Success in and with China July 22, 2021

What are the basics of being successful with business in China today? USHCA was honored to invite three experts who have spent their careers working with China for this special business event. Building on a previous “basics” session, each guest further developed more advanced insights into how to be successful doing business in and with China.



Capital Flow Between the U.S. & China: The Winners and Losers August 26, 2021

China and the U.S. have been deeply engaged with each other in many dimensions over the past two decades, but the recent de-integration between these two countries poses a real threat to the global economy. This talk focused on the financial side of decoupling, covering both the macro and micro aspects, including potential disruptions caused by decoupling.



CULTURAL PROGRAMS

Author Events

Return of McCarthyism? November 3, 2021

History never repeats itself, but it rhymes. At this time of political divide in America and tension between the U.S. and China, many symbols of the Cold War era are coming to haunt us today. From the Justice Department’s much criticized China Initiative to the re-emergence of McCarthyism in America, there are alarming signs that, if we are not careful, our country may once again go down a troubling path, especially for Chinese Americans who are stuck in the middle. What lessons can we learn from the past that can help us prevent a repeat of policies and rise of demagogues that will lead our country down a path of ruin? The U.S. Heartland China Association and United Chinese Americans invited two award-winning American authors to share their thoughts on this important topic.



Powerful, Different, Equal: Overcoming the Misconceptions and Differences Between China and the U.S. April 14, 2022

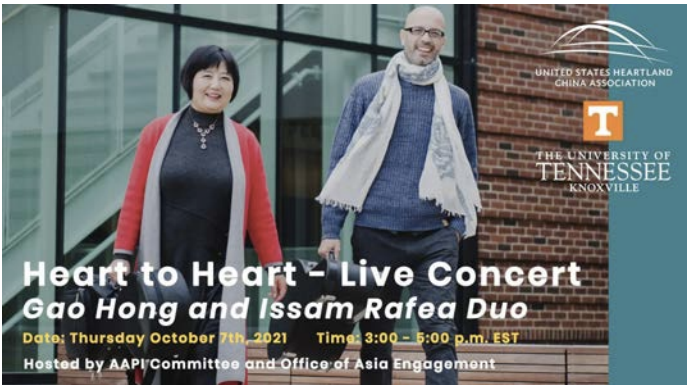
U.S.-China expert Peter B. Walker discussed his book “Powerful, Different, Equal: Overcoming the Misconceptions and Differences Between China and the U.S.” Mr. Walker speaks often on U.S.-China relations and has visited China over 80 times, meeting with business leaders, regulators, experts, and everyday people. This event also featured special panelist David O’Brien, who shares an impressive career of global leadership and business. David is the Vice President for Development and External Affairs at the Peterson Institute for International Economics.



Heart to Heart - Live Concert with Gao Hong and Issam Rafea Duo October 7, 2021

University of Knoxville Student Union Ballroom (live-stream available)

USHCA helped to bring a live-streamed concert to the campus of UT Knoxville, in which students enjoyed duets on Chinese and Arabic lutes, improvised by virtuosos Gao Hong on the pipa, and Issam Rafea on the oud. The duo won two gold medals from the Global Music Awards for their “From Our World to Yours” album in 2020.





EDUCATION PROGRAMS

From Community Colleges to a 4-Year Degree: A Path with Benefits December 10, 2021

This event explored the immediate and long-term benefits of a community-college education, and how this path can provide a better opportunity to be accepted into a higher-ranked college or university. The webinar featured 3 excellent U.S. community colleges and the transfer officials from some of the 4-year universities they are partnered with. The event was conducted in Chinese Mandarin.



Missouri Girls and Boys State Conference June 15th, 2022

U.S. Heartland China Association (USHCA) leaders and guests spoke with future leaders in the International Affairs Class at Missouri Girls and Boys State. The class, led by instructor Sydney Montague, a participant of the Missouri Girls State's Delegation to China organized by USHCA a few years back, covered a variety of topics including the importance of being a globally aware citizen, the road ahead with the U.S. and China, promoting studying abroad, and current business and economic exchange and trends.



You're Hired: A Virtual Discussion on Seeking Jobs February 24, 2022

The struggle of securing employment during a pandemic is hard – especially for foreign-born job applicants. Moreover, finding a helpful guide to navigate that process is even harder.

Author Betsy H. Cohen discussed her first book “Welcome to the U.S.A.-You're Hired!: A Guide for Foreign-Born People Seeking Jobs.” Betsy has mentored and advised international students, international executives, and many foreign-born people for their job searches and career advancement. The event also featured special panelist and USHCA board member, Qiaoni “Linda” Jing, a former international student from China herself who is now the CEO of Genective, a global AgTech company headquartered in the U.S.





THE WAY FORWARD SERIES

HAINAN: CHINA’S HAWAII AND WORLD’S LARGEST FREE TRADE ZONE
September 16, 2021

In collaborations with Arizona State University, we brought a diverse set of experts together to provide an introductory overview of Hainan province, its vision for a green and sustainable future, and business opportunities related to Free Trade Port and Free Trade Zone promotional incentives.



Global Pandemic Response: What’s Next?
February 9, 2022

The pandemic has challenged healthcare systems around the world. Global responses to the pandemic have been varied that it may feel like we are living through a giant experiment everywhere, despite a shared understanding of the science.



Now in its third year, what have we learned? What choices do we have? How do we balance the social and economic dimensions with managing the health and health system impacts? This event gathered experts from different countries to share lessons learned under different healthcare systems to shed light on the potential best path forward.





REPORTS

Finding Firmer Ground: The Role of Agricultural Cooperation in US-China Relations October 14, 2021

This report, produced in collaboration with the Carter Center's Finding Firmer Ground report series, reflects on the need for the U.S. and China to collaborate broadly in agriculture and to identify channels through which the two countries can rebuild their relationship. This report concludes that more U.S.-China cooperation in agriculture is needed to achieve goals that are of strategic importance for both countries.

The inspiration for this report is the inaugural U.S.-China Agriculture Roundtable that our nonprofit launched in the spring of 2021. During this event, diplomats, high-level government officials, CEOs of top agricultural companies, and leading researchers from the United States and China discussed both the present and future of U.S.-China agricultural collaboration.

U.S.-China Agriculture Deep Dive: Rural Development - recap report November 2021

This recap report of the U.S.-China Deep Dive on Rural Development examined, at an executive level, the discussion the 16 leading scholars held on the exchanges between Chinese and American scholars that discussed rural development. The recap asserts that discussions like the Deep Dive are important for promoting mutual understanding between scholars, for informing public discourse, and for promoting rural prosperity and development.



Organized by

United States Heartland China Association (USHCA)

Rural Development Institute (RDI)
Chinese Academy of Social Sciences

Bureau of International Cooperation (BIC)
Chinese Academy of Social Sciences

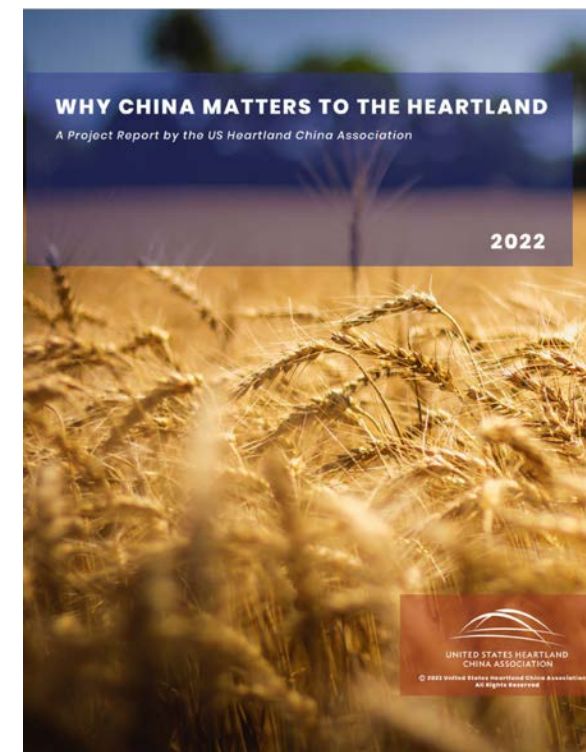
Why China Matters for the Heartland

January 25, 2022

At this special launch event with speakers representing the business, education, and culture organizations that work with China, USHCA released our exclusive report documenting the ties each Heartland state has with China.

This inaugural “Why China Matters to the Heartland” report includes a state-by-state report (PDF) and corresponding interactive website covering all the states we serve. It examines the benefits of the U.S.-China relationship at the state level and provides an easy-to-access resource for business leaders, state and local politicians, higher education professionals, and anyone else who wants to understand key data around the Heartland's cultural, educational, and business ties to China.

Attendees of the launch event came from across the country and learned from state and local leaders on how each Heartland state benefited from its relationship with China economically, educationally, and culturally. They also learned the importance of creating and sustaining global opportunities working with China.

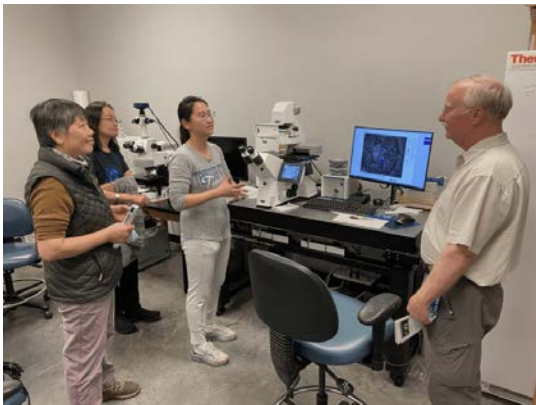


<https://usheartlandchina.org/projects-events/wcm-home/>

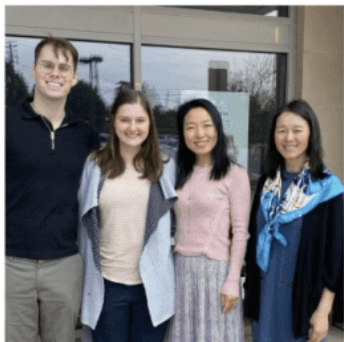




DELEGATIONS



Agricultural Education Exchange – Extension Services delegation April 18-22, 2022
Two years after the pandemic shut down our in-person programming, conditions have finally improved enough to allow our small team to resume domestic travel. We were able to organize our first domestic delegation from April 18th-22nd to promote agricultural education exchanges between the U.S. and China. Our small delegation was composed of Professor Xiaopeng Pang of Renmin University (China) and Dr. Lou Swanson, former Vice President of Extension services of Colorado State University, and USHCA Executive Director Min Fan and Program Associate Jason Conley. They were welcomed by both Tuskegee University and Tennessee State University and visited rural extension service centers and a rural education farm that is part of the University of Tennessee-Knoxville extension program.



Heartland Community Engagement in St. Louis
May 24, 2022
Missouri is the home state of our Chairman former Governor of Missouri Bob Holden, who opened Missouri’s first trade office in China in 2004. It is also where many of our Heartland partners are headquartered, such as the U.S. Soybean Export Council, Mississippi River Cities and Towns Initiative, the American Legion Boys and Girls State, as well as Lincoln University, which is one of our first 1890 HBCU partners. We were also able to connect with partners at the World Trade Center of St. Louis, the World Affairs Council of St. Louis, Nanjing-St Louis sister cities committee, and the American Soybean Association during this visit. These engagements laid the foundation for the much-celebrated first visit by Chinese Ambassador QIN Gang later in September.



SPECIAL JOINT EVENTS

Shrinking Cities in the U.S. and China: Challenges and Responses

July 27, 2021

Economic transformation in both the U.S. and China has created winners and losers in each respective society. While some regions are thriving, others have struggled. In this joint event organized by Lieberthal-Rogel Center for Chinese Studies (LRCCS), USHCA, and Taubman, we invited the leading experts to explore the lessons learned from the post-industrial shrinking cities in both the U.S. and China and how both countries are learning to help the communities that are left behind in the face of technology and global changes. This webinar was also in part to celebrate LRCCS' 60th anniversary.



Far East Deep South – Film Screening and Discussion

August 25, 2021

USHCA partnered with SupChina and the Black China Caucus to discuss with the creators of the documentary film, Far East Deep South, about some of the lessons we can learn from the film and how we can use these lessons today. Many people know of the discrimination that minority groups in America have suffered but few have seen how this discrimination has impacted the relationship between the Afro-Chinese community. Far East Deep South explores the unknown history of Chinese immigrants that landed in America's deep south and how they and their Black neighbors were able to look beyond cultural differences to create a community. This virtual program was so well received that it resulted in an in-person program at University of Kentucky, which led to the Far East Deep South film tour to 5 southern cities in October of 2022.



International Connections- Deep Dive on China

Session 1: China's Foreign Policy

April 28, 2022

The U.S. and China share very different historical backgrounds in terms of challenges, growth, and philosophy, including very different geographical perspectives that have played a large part in each country's trajectory. For this event, USHCA partnered with the World Affairs Council of St. Louis to explore how these issues impact current foreign policy and contemporary issues between the U.S. and China.

This event featured special panelists Governor Bob Holden, Chairman & CEO of the U.S. Heartland China Association, USHCA Strategic Advisor Ambassador Kenneth Quinn, former Ambassador to Cambodia, and Board Member Ms. Susan Thornton a retired senior U.S. diplomat with almost three decades of experience with the U.S. State Department in Eurasia and East Asia. She is currently a Senior Fellow and Visiting Lecturer in Law at the Yale Law School Paul Tsai China Center.

International Connections-Deep Dive on China

Session 2: New Reality of Doing Business in and with China

May 12, 2022

As the world's largest economic superpowers, the U.S. and China often have very different perspectives when it comes to doing business both at home and abroad. However, the two countries are consistently the other's largest trading partner and have historically always shared a significant business relationship. This May, the USHCA partnered with the World Affairs Council of St. Louis for a part 2 of their International Connections Series to explore the New Reality of Doing Business in and with China.

U.S.-China Competition & the Implication for Chinese Americans

June 28, 2022

USHCA was a proud partner for the Chinese American convention in D.C. organized by United Chinese Americans (UCA). At this panel during the 3rd Chinese American Convention in D.C., Executive Director Min Fan moderated a discussion featuring Craig Allen (President, USCBC), Judge Julie M. Tang (Ret.) (Co-founder of Pivot to Peace), Trita Parsi (Executive Vice President at the Quincy Institute for Responsible Statecraft), and Jonathan Lowet (Deputy Vice President, Programs at The National Committee on U.S.-China Relations).





PPE for the Heartland: City of New Orleans

September 2021

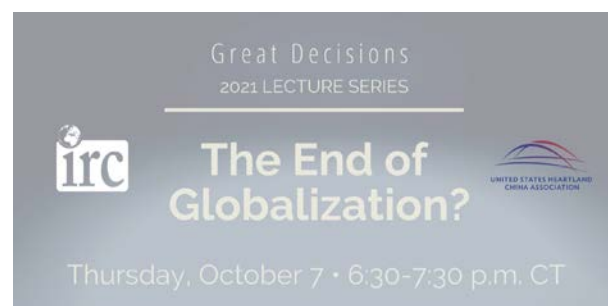
During the toughest phase of the pandemic in 2020, USHCA had secured over \$1M in donated PPEs for Heartland communities in need. Even though the pandemic was under better control in September of 2021 and PPEs were no longer in short supply, the City of New Orleans depleted all its PPE reserves in a few days due to the hurricane. USHCA responded to their urgent need by securing 70,000 masks from BYD through our partner, Guardians of the Angeles Charitable Foundation.



The End of Globalization?

October 7, 2021

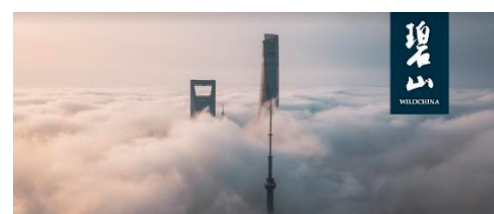
In this joint event with the International Relations Council in Kansas City, experts discussed the trends and forecasts for the future of globalization and debated the question: “is globalization really at an end, or is it in need of a refresh?” David Dollar, noted economist and senior fellow in the John L. Thornton China Center at the Brookings Institution, offered his insights in this virtual discussion jointly presented by the U.S. Heartland China Association and the International Relations Council.



Traveling to China During Covid-19

January 4, 2022

Since China closed its borders in March 2020, travel into the country has been limited to Chinese citizens or holders of specific visas, with scarce flight options and extensive quarantines adding even further limitations. In fall of 2021, Mei Zhang and Min Fan traveled from the U.S. to China, one holding a Chinese passport and one a U.S. passport with a humanitarian visa. In this webinar, they come together to share their experiences and shed light on the multitude of steps and processes required when traveling to China during Covid-19.



WHAT IT'S LIKE...
Traveling to China During Covid-19
1.4.22 6:00pm Pacific Time / 9:00pm Eastern Time
1.5.22 10:00am China Time

 US Heartland China Association
Executive Director
Min Fan

 WildChina
Founder
Mei Zhang

Since China closed its borders in March of 2020, travel into the country has been exclusive to Chinese citizens or holders of specific visas, with scarce flight options and extensive quarantines adding even further limitations. In fall of 2021, Mei Zhang and Min Fan traveled from the US to China, one holding a Chinese passport and one a US passport with a specially-issued humanitarian visa. They've come together to share their experiences and shed light on the multitude of steps and processes required to enter China right now.

In partnership with:
 UNITED STATES HEARTLAND CHINA ASSOCIATION

The Zoom event is free to join.
Register at
wildchina.com/china-travel-2022

 RSVP Now

STUDENT PROGRAMS

Third Space Story Circles

Third Space Story Circles are events where college students and young professionals from the U.S. and China come together to share their thoughts and experiences across language and cultural lines. All college students and young professionals interested in cultivating intercultural competence and forging international friendships are welcome to attend. These story-sharing sessions are rooted in a UNESCO approach to intercultural and linguistic skill-building.

From our first story circle in May of 2021 to the most recent meeting in August of 2022, we've welcomed over 500 students throughout over 20 story circles in order to bring opportunity for connection and growth amongst diverse audiences.



Internship Program

As a grassroots non-profit, we are powered by young talents from across the country who are passionate about making our world a better place through promoting cultural understanding and a healthy U.S.-China relationship. We are always seeking motivated, skilled, and talented interns to support our research, outreach, communications, and many other activities. Our interns gain valuable exposure, connections, and hands-on experiences that help them advance further in the fields of international relations, foreign affairs, trade & business, education, communications, and many more. Each summer we bring onboard a cohort of interns from both the U.S. and China with diverse backgrounds. Many of our past interns have moved on to advanced degree programs, state department positions, and corporate careers. Our current staff members were both former interns.



PARTNERS

As we grew in our visibility and reach in the Heartland region, more and more partners reached out to us for collaborations. Here are organizations with whom we have collaborated:

- America China Society of Indiana
- American Chamber of Commerce in Shanghai
- The American Legion Auxiliary
- Missouri Girls State & The American Legion Boys State of Missouri
- American Soybean Association
- Archer-Daniels-Midland
- Association of Overseas Chinese Engineers
- China Center for Agricultural Policy
- China Certification and Inspection Group
- China General Chamber of Commerce – USA
- China Oil and Foodstuffs Corporation
- Chinese Academy of Social Sciences
- Chinese General Chamber of Commerce - Chicago
- Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries
- Deere & Company
- Dentons
- The Ford Foundation
- Genective
- George H.W. Bush Foundation for U.S.-China Relations
- Global Minnesota
- Global School Access
- ^a Greater Cleveland Chinese Chamber of Commerce
- GreenPoint Group
- Guardians of the Angeles
- Hainan Provincial Bureau of Economic Development
- Heartland Forward

- Institute of Current World Affairs
- International Relations Council - Kansas City
- JobsOhio
- LingoAce
- Michigan China Forum
- Mississippi River Cities and Towns Initiative
- National Governors Association
- National Pork Board
- North Dakota Trade Office
- PandaCares
- RPM China
- State International Development Organization (SIDO)
- SupChina
- Syngenta Group
- TN China Network
- The Brookings Institute
- The Carter Center
- The National Committee on United States-China Relations
- The U.S. China Business Council
- The United States Conference of Mayors
- The University of Tennessee Knoxville, Office of Asia Engagement
- U.S. Dairy Export Council
- U.S. Global Leadership Coalition
- UnTour Food Tours
- United Chinese Americans
- United Soybean Board
- U.S. Soybean Export Council
- U.S. Farmers and Ranchers in Action
- Wanxiang Corporation
- Washington State China Relations Council
- WildChina
- Women in Agribusiness
- Woodrow Wilson Center
- World Food Prize
- World Affairs Council of St. Louis

UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES

- Arizona State University
- Borlaug Institute for International Agriculture

- Boston College
- China Agricultural University
- Chinese Academy of Social Sciences
- Colorado State University
- City University of New York
- Des Moines Area Community College
- Eastern Michigan University
- Iowa State University
- Lone Star College
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- Nanjing Agricultural University
- New York University
- Oklahoma State University
- Peking Union Medical College
- Peking University
- Purdue University
- San Mateo College
- Sanya University
- Schwarzman College at Tsinghua University
- St. Cloud State University
- Texas A&M University
- The Ohio State University
- Tuskegee University
- University of California - Davis
- University of California - LA
- University of California - Berkeley
- University of Chicago
- University of Denver
- University of Hong Kong
- University of Houston
- University of Illinois
- University of Madison - Wisconsin
- University of Massachusetts
- University of Michigan, (Lieberthal-Rogel Center for Chinese Studies)
- University of Missouri
- University of Pittsburgh Medical Center
- University of Southern California
- University of Tennessee, Knoxville
- Washington University
- Zhejiang University

RECOGNITIONS

As USHCA’s programming has become increasingly more well-known, our nonprofit has been mentioned in both domestic and international media channels. From large, international news outlets such as the Diplomat, World Grain, NPR, and Forbes, to Chinese media outlets such as China Daily, Xinhua, CGTN America, and China Daily.

In our Heartland Region, we have been featured on many news stations from the Des Moines Register and Iowa Agribusiness Radio Network. In addition to these media mentions, USHCA and our programming has been directly mentioned by both the U.S. Ambassador to China, Nicholas Burns, and the Chinese Ambassador to the U.S., Qin Gang on their social channels.



WORLD-GR



WORLD-GRAIN.com CGTN

Des Moines Register

THE DIPLOMAT



HEADLINES:

FORBES > ASIA

China’s U.S. Ambassador Talks Pew Poll, Trade, Air Travel: Exclusive Interview

Russell Flannery Forbes Staff

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May 5, 2022, 04:07pm EDT

Chinese Ambassador Qin Gang: Looking back on a journey to the Heartland and to my heart

I leave the Heartland with my heart filled with friendship and cooperation, and more importantly, filled with confidence in the future of China-US relations.

Qin Gang Guest columnist

Published 1:39 p.m. CT April 29, 2022

CHINA POWER | DIPLOMACY | EAST ASIA

China-US Subnational Exchanges Under the Biden Administration

Under Biden, Beijing appears to have kept its focus on maintaining and further developing subnational relationships.

By Elora Yan

January 04, 2022

China looks to restore normal trade ties with US

ANI 24 April, 2022 03:30 am IST

Chinese ambassador calls for strengthening China-US agricultural ties

By YIFAN XU in Washington | chinadaily.com.cn | Updated: 2022-04-24 09:06

China-U.S. economic, trade relations win-win in nature: Chinese ambassador to U.S.

Source: Xinhua Editor: huaxia 2022-04-23 16:10:31

Home > 5 Ag Stories > Branstad talks the importance of friendship in relations to China

Branstad talks the importance of friendship in relations to China

By Riley Smith - April 22, 2022 4:43 pm

North America 12:01, 22-Apr-2022

U.S-China High Level Agricultural Dialog takes place in Iowa

CGTN

AGRICULTURE

Chinese ambassador visits Story County farm, drives tractor, amid heightened U.S., China tensions

Danielle Gehr

Ames Tribune

Published 3:26 p.m. CT April 22, 2022 | Updated 5:20 p.m. CT April 22, 2022

Chinese Ambassador visits Muscatine, exchanges lauded

RECOGNITION BY OUR PARTNERS

CGCC - USA Chicago recognized USHCA as their “Outstanding Partner of the Year 2021” during their annual gala.



FINANCIAL REPORTS

USHCA Balance Sheet		(As of June 30, 2022)	
Assets			
	Checking/Savings	\$355,414.00	
Total Assets			\$355,414.00
Liabilities & Equity			
	Payroll Liabilities	\$7,319.00	
Total Liabilities			\$7,319.00
Equity			
	Temp., Restricted Net Assets	\$125,000.00	
	Unrestricted Net Assets	\$208,767.00	
	Net Income	\$14,327.00	
Total Equity			\$348,094.00
Total Liabilities & Equity			\$355,414.00

USHCA FY 2021 Profit & Loss Statement			
(July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022)			
Income	Direct Public Support	\$24,727	
	Grants	\$225,000	
	Membership Dues	\$70,765	
	Program Sponsorship	\$64,600	
	Total Income		\$385,092
Expense	Payroll Expense	\$234,875	
	Events	\$53,992	
	Operations	\$41,054	
	Contract Services	\$23,760	
	Travel	\$17,084	
	Total Expense		\$370,765
Net Income			\$14,327



SUPPORTERS

We would like to express our great appreciation to our board, whose guidance and suggestions have been instrumental to the success of our mission. Their willingness to give their time so generously is very much appreciated, as well as their continued support of our team. We would not have the great impact that we do without their expertise.

We would also like to extend our thanks to the following foundations, donors, community members, supporters, and partners for providing our team with encouragement, endorsement, and contributions so that we can advance our important work.

- Ford Foundation
- Henry Luce Foundation

INDIVIDUALS

Phillip Ashley
Jim Brainard
Blaine Brownell
David and Cecilia Chang
David Charmatz
Nimrod Chapel
Dashiell Chien
Steve Chu
Andrew Green
Yiwei Guo
Bob & Lori Holden
Ye Hong
Linda “Qiaoni” Jing
Greg Johnston
Gary Kellman
Yawei Liu
Fanfu Li
Liza Mark
Juzhen Mao
Ed Monser
Scott McWilliams, Jr
Tom Ostrander

Hongzhi Qian
Corey Radman
Jim Schultz
Shelby Stevens
Eric Spirtas
Lawrence Taylor
KaiMay Terry
Susan Thornton
Scott Tackett
Dan Wright
John Wright
James Xue
Huazhen Yang
Dr. Li Yu

ORGANIZATIONS

China Certification & Inspection Group Chicago Inc.
GreenPoint
Guardians of Angeles Charitable Foundation
Iowa Corn Growers Association
LingoAce
Open Prairie
Slade Shipping
Tyson Foods
US Soybean Export Council
US Grains Council
Stein Seeds



THE WAY FORWARD:

This has been an incredible year for our organization. Our impact and our organization grew significantly despite the continued deterioration in U.S.-China bilateral relations. Our efforts have put Heartland at the table as an important voice in the debate around the future of U.S.-China relations. We were able to accomplish in the Heartland what would have been impossible elsewhere in the country at the present time: positive exchanges between our two countries.

What made all these possible, what motivates us each day, is the people of the Heartland. Even at the most challenging times, we remained optimistic because we were constantly encouraged and inspired by the people of the Heartland. They remind us that “we have had a relationship with China for over 100 years!”. They tell us while zooming in from a harvesting combine that “We’ve got to work together, or we are toast.” They confide in us that “I’ve only been out of the country when I was deployed, and I’d love to see China with my own eyes someday.”

The road ahead will not be easy and our work in the Heartland will be challenging. But we are confident that, with the trust and support of the Heartland community around us, we will be able to continue building new bridges of understanding between our two peoples and countries.