PROPOSAL TO CLOSE BEIJING NORMAL UNIVERSITY EXCHANGE AND OPEN NEW STUDY ABROAD AT SOUTHWEST UNIVERSITY FOR NATIONALITIES (SWUN) IN CHENGDU, IN COLLABORATION WITH UNIVERSITY STUDIES ABROAD CONSORTIUM (USAC)

RATIONALE:

In 2012 UW-Eau Claire established an exchange agreement with Beijing Normal University (BNU). In 2013-14 we began the first exchange of students. UWEC sent 2 students in exchange there this year; the experience did not meet UWEC standards or expectations in terms of quality of student services or academic advising.

Problems encountered include the following:

- Disorganized application process resulting in students’ having to submit application materials repeatedly
- Inaccurate information provided to UWEC CIE staff and students regarding class start dates, arrival dates, and related essential information
- Outdated course information on BNU website
- Inadequate responses from BNU staff when clarifications were sought
- UWEC students enrolled in courses at the inappropriate level, etc.

These issues represent a very problematic program delivery. UWEC has just hired our first tenure-track assistant professor of Chinese language and culture, enrollments are strong, and we anticipate strong growth in student interest in a Chinese study abroad experience. We need to be able to provide high quality programming in China to accommodate that interest.

The University Studies Abroad Consortium (USAC) has consistently provided high quality and affordable study abroad programs for UWEC students for several years. In China, USAC offers a program in Chengdu, and another in Shanghai. We are only proposing the Chengdu program as it focuses on Chinese language, culture and Asian studies courses. The Shanghai program focuses on a business curriculum, and would therefore compete with UWEC’s existing business studies exchange partner at Hong Kong Polytechnic University.

USAC has proven to be an excellent partner for UWEC students abroad – they currently deliver our programs in France and in Ghana. The level of support that USAC provides is exceptional. USAC has a resident director on site to assist students with issues that may arise, whether academic, cultural, or residential. A comparison of the services and costs offered is given below.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th><strong>Beijing Normal University (BNU)</strong></th>
<th><strong>USAC-Chengdu Location</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Host Institution</strong></td>
<td>Beijing Normal University</td>
<td>Southwest University for Nationalities (SWUN)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Resident Director</strong></td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Academics</strong></td>
<td>Students take courses in English-taught credit program at BNU. Language courses are taught in Chinese. Courses taught by BNU faculty.</td>
<td>Students take courses at the USAC Center that are taught by SWUN faculty, hired by USAC. Language courses are taught in Chinese, all others in English.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GPA Requirement</strong></td>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Housing</strong></td>
<td>International student residence hall</td>
<td>Residence halls or apartments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Meals</strong></td>
<td>Students buy own food</td>
<td>Students buy own food</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Airport Pick Up Service</strong></td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Volunteer Opportunities</strong></td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes. Also offers unpaid internships</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Field Trips-Included in Program Fee** | Activities provided by international student organization. Visits have been to Great Wall and Tiananmen Square. | Field trips vary every semester, usually 5 per semester, but recent examples include:  
  • Chengdu city tour  
  • Panda research institute  
  • Sanxingdui Museum  
  • DongLa Grand Canyon  
  • Yellow Dragon Town  
  • Jinsha Museum  
  • Luodai Ancient Town  
  • Leshan & Emei Shan |
| **Optional Group Flight**            | No                                  | Yes                        |
| **Total cost of program**            | $10,997                             | Summer: $7,398  
  Semester: $11,930 |

**ENROLLMENT LIMITS:**
USAC maximum enrollment per semester is 40 students. At the time of this proposal, USAC has adequate capacity to accommodate the interest level of UWEC students.

**ACADEMIC LOGISTICS:**
**How are grades reported?**
USAC will report the courses on USAC grade reports.

**What language is used on the above document? If not English, what resources are required for an English translation?**
The USAC grade reports will be issued in English.
What credit system is used and how does it translate into U.S. credits?
Most courses are offered for 3 U.S. credits. Students on semester long programs are required to take between 12-18 credits; most take 15 credits. Summer students take up to 6 credits.

There are a few optional 1 credit field studies courses available. If they are taken for credit, then added academic requirements (readings, research, written assignments, reports, etc.) are completed.

How is course level determined?
Course levels are the same as UW-Eau Claire 100 level to 400 level. Typically 100-200 level courses are considered lower level and 300-400 are considered upper level.

What grade scale is used and what is the conversion to UWEC grades?
USAC uses an A-F letter grade scale as does UW-Eau Claire.

CURRICULUM:
Semester students enroll in 12-18 credits. All semester students not taking an intensive language track are required to take Elementary Chinese I. Summer students enroll in up to 6 credits and those not taking intensive Chinese language are required to take Introduction to Chinese Language for 1 credit.

All courses are taught by faculty from SWUN, hired to teach by USAC. All coursework is created in the United States. Course work is transcripted on USAC grade reports.

For a list of course offerings and course descriptions: [http://usac.unr.edu/study-abroad-programs/china/chengdu/courses/2014/fall](http://usac.unr.edu/study-abroad-programs/china/chengdu/courses/2014/fall). Syllabi are available from USAC.

Chinese Language Studies
Intensive language courses grouped into tracks as well as elective language courses. The track courses are taught back to back within one semester. Language courses are kept to a maximum of 15 students each. Students selecting a language track are required to enroll in the courses listed in the appropriate language track and may select elective courses and/or courses from Chinese Studies.

**Track I** (11 credits)—Prerequisite: none
- Elementary Chinese I (FLL, 100-level, 4 credits)
- Elementary Chinese II (FLL, 100-level, 4 credits)
- Intermediate Chinese I (FLL, 200-level, 3 credits)

**Track II** (9 credits)—prerequisite: two semesters of college Chinese
- Intermediate Chinese I (FLL, 200-level, 3 credits)
- Intermediate Chinese II (FLL, 200-level, 3 credits)
- Advanced Chinese I (FLL, 300-level, 3 credits)

**Track III** (9 credits)—prerequisite: three semesters of college Chinese
Intermediate Chinese II (FLL, 200-level, 3 credits)
Advanced Chinese I (FLL, 300-level, 3 credits)
Advanced Chinese II (FLL, 300-level, 3 credits)

Track IV (9 credits)—prerequisite: five semesters of college Chinese
Advanced Chinese II (FLL, 300-level, 3 credits)
Advanced Chinese III (FLL, 400-level, 3 credits)
Advanced Chinese IV (FLL, 400-level, 3 credits)

Language Elective taught in Chinese:
Chinese Conversation (FLL, 200-level, 2 credits) Track II and above.
HSK Examination Preparation (1 credit)

Additional Advanced Options for Advanced Students:
Available as courses or independent study
Advanced Chinese V
Advanced Chinese VI
Advanced Chinese VII
Advanced Chinese VIII
Advanced Chinese IX
Advanced Chinese X

Chinese Studies (all students take elementary Chinese)
Taught in English.

Fall Semester
Ancient Chinese History (HIST, 400-level, 3 credits)
Chinese Calligraphy (ART, 200-level, 2 credits)
Chinese Economy (ECON, 400/600-level, 3 credits)
Classic Chinese Literature in Translation (FLL, 200-level, 3 credits)
International Marketing (MKT/BUS, 400-level, 3 credits)
Internship (up to 3 credits) This course has a refundable fee.
Sichuan Cuisine (NUTR, 400-level, 1 credit, taught in English and Chinese but appropriate for all) This course has an additional fee for materials.
Tai Chi (PEX, 100-level, 1 credit)
Tibetan Culture and Society (FLL/SOC/ANTH, 400-level, 3 credits)
Xi'an Field Study (FLL, 200-level, 1 credit) This course has an additional fee.

Spring Semester
Art in China (ART, 300-level, 3 credits)
Buddhism and Culture (FLL/SOC/ANTH, 200-level, 3 credits)
Chinese Calligraphy (ART, 200-level, 2 credits)
Government and Politics in China (PSC, 400/600-level, 3 credits)
Modern Chinese History (HIST, 400-level, 3 credits)
Internship (up to 3 credits) This course has a refundable fee.
Modern Chinese Culture and Society (FLL/SOC/ANTH, 200-level, 3 credits)
Sichuan Cuisine (NUTR, 400-level, 1 credit, taught in English and Chinese but appropriate for all) This course has an additional fee for materials.
Tai Chi (PEX, 100-level, 1 credit)

Internship Options

Students have the option to participate in an internship and earn up to 3 credits. Per the USAC website, information about the internships:

USAC internships are rich resources for your academic and professional development particularly in your study abroad setting. USAC internships are considered courses and count as part of your credit load. They can be time-consuming, but are very worthwhile. Students are placed in an environment with high exposure to culture and language. Interns earn credits but no financial compensation. The schedule and the number of work hours will be determined by the schedule of USAC courses.

Internship opportunities fall into broad categories. Possible internship placements include: international programs, Sichuan Environmental Protection Bureau, Geologic Research Institute, Chinese Academy of Science and Technology, Wolters Kluwer Health, Chengdu Daily Newspaper, Continental Hotel, and Teaching English as a Second Language in local schools. Placement is not guaranteed by USAC, rather it will be determined by your application and supporting materials and an interview on site with the internship sponsor on site.

Eligibility—enrollment in the Chengdu program, a minimum GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale, and junior standing at the time of the internship. A refundable fee of $100 is charged and returned upon successful completion of the internship.

Field Study Options

Per the USAC website:

USAC helps you explore the historical, cultural, and natural features of the region with carefully planned tours. If taken for one credit, added academic requirements (readings, research, written assignments, reports etc.) deepen your experience. This turns a tour into a Field Study which counts as part of your credit load. The optional Xi’an Field Study can be taken as a Field Study course;

ACCOMMODATIONS:
Students have the option to choose residence halls or apartments. Residence halls are the more affordable option and is the option on the cost estimate. Per the USAC website:

Residence Halls: The university's new international students' dorm features single rooms with a private bathroom, air conditioner and TV. Each floor has a shared
kitchen, refrigerator, and washing machine. Conveniently located on campus, the rooms are in the same building as the USAC office and classrooms.

Apartments: Students can also choose to stay in an apartment in nearby Chinese neighborhoods. The furnished apartments are of varying age, size, and character but are all a chance to live with a small group of roommates in neighborhoods with locals and other students. There are three student cafeterias on campus and students often eat at nearby restaurants. Chengdu is famous for its food, with many affordable choices near campus.

CALENDAR:
The fall term runs from late August until mid-December. The spring term runs from early January until early May. Summer I term runs from late May until late June.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:
The GPA requirement for this program is a 2.5, which is accepted by USAC.

FOREIGN CULTURE REQUIREMENT:
Under the current foreign culture requirement as documented in the 2013-2014 UWEC Undergraduate Catalogue on page 37, a semester abroad at on the USAC-China program would allow eligible students to fulfill their foreign culture requirement under the following option:

(b) earning credit (and maintaining good academic standing) in either a full semester of study abroad or approved internship abroad, or incrementally through a combination of short term study abroad and courses designated as fulfilling the foreign culture requirement. The incremental value of a short term study abroad program is available in the Center for International Education, Schofield 3.
### Costs You Will Pay Directly to UWEC:

**In Dollars**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program Fee (tuition/fees)</td>
<td>$4,880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CIE Admin fees</td>
<td>$630</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CISI Insurance</td>
<td>$170</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL ESTIMATED COST YOU PAY DIRECTLY TO UWEC**: $5,680

### Total Additional Costs to Expect:

**In CNY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accommodations, residence hall</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing Deposit</td>
<td>$300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utilities</td>
<td>$1,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Transportation</td>
<td>$250</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meals</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books</td>
<td>$600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Passport/Photos</td>
<td>$170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multiple Entry Student Visa</td>
<td>$140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal Expenses</td>
<td>$877</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estimated Round-Trip Airfare (MSP to Chengdu)</td>
<td>$2,300</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL ADDITIONAL COSTS TO EXPECT:** $6,250

**TOTAL ESTIMATED PROGRAM COST:** $11,930

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**Important Notes for All Students**

- Please note that these costs are estimated for the term above and are intended to be used for planning purposes. Costs can fluctuate as a result of changes in exchange rates, tuition or airfare increases & varying personal lifestyles. If planning for a future academic year, please add 7%.

- Personal expenses address basic necessities and light to moderate social expenses only.

- Optional personal travel is not included in this estimate. Please plan additional funds for optional travel you hope to do.

- Minnesota residents add reciprocity; residents of other states add non-resident tuition fees.

**Important Notes for Student with Financial Aid**

- The following variable costs may be included in your financial aid budget depending upon your personal circumstances. Please meet with Melissa Vogler in Financial Aid to discuss your budget. Variable costs may include: vaccinations, visa travel, or variable course fees.

- If you receive financial aid, only the costs you pay to UWEC will be automatically paid from your aid. If you receive more aid than what you need to pay to UWEC, you will receive a refund. You are responsible for paying all other costs directly to the vendor(s) involved.

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Updated 4/25/14 JMK
University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire
Center for International Education

ESTIMATED STUDY ABROAD BUDGET
USAC Chengdu, China, Summer 2014
6 credits, 5 weeks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Costs You Will Pay Directly to UWEC:</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>CIE Program Fee includes:</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Fee: (tuition/fees &amp; housing)</td>
<td>$ 2,880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CIE Admin fees</td>
<td>$ 630</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CISI Insurance</td>
<td>$ 34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL ESTIMATED COST YOU PAY DIRECTLY TO UWEC</strong>:</td>
<td>$ 3,544</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Additional Costs to Expect:</th>
<th>In CNY</th>
<th>In Dollars</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Housing Deposit (refundable)</td>
<td>$ 300</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utilities</td>
<td>$ 124</td>
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<tr>
<td>Local Transportation</td>
<td>$ 47</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meals</td>
<td>$ 233</td>
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<tr>
<td>Books</td>
<td>$ 93</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Passport/Photos</td>
<td>$ 170</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multiple Entry Student Visa</td>
<td>$ 140</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal Expenses</td>
<td>$ 311</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estimated Round-Trip Airfare</td>
<td>$ 2,300</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSP to Chengdu</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL ADDITIONAL COSTS TO EXPECT:</strong></td>
<td>$ 3,718</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL ESTIMATED PROGRAM COST:**

$ 7,262

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Updated 4/25/14 JMK