

UHM CHINESE FLAGSHIP SNAPSHOT BULLETIN



THE LANGUAGE FLAGSHIP
Creating Global Professionals



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ORIENTATION & OUTREACH



The GA Hsin-Tzu Jen promoting Chinese Flagship Student Council and announcing recruitment openings for any interested Flagship students



Orientation attendees including the Director Prof Song Jiang, Associate Director Prof Jiang 'Julie' Li, and Flagship students giving their complete attention to the presentation



Hsin-Tzu Jen handing out courtesy goodie bags to the orientation attendees

Orientation Presentation

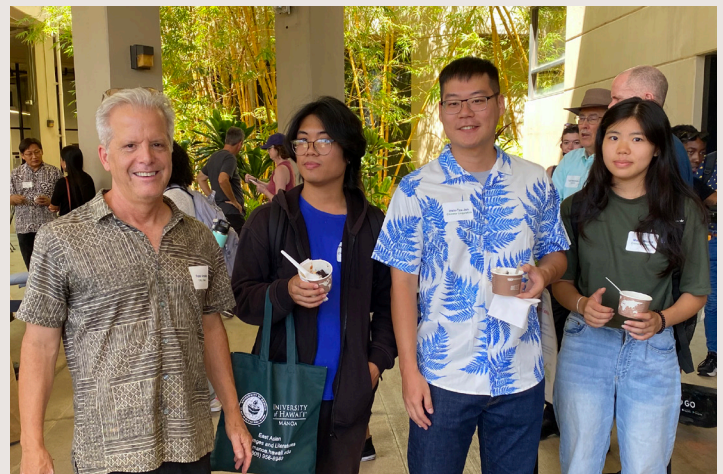
August 16, 2023

The Chinese Language Flagship Center (CLFC) held a presentation welcoming currently enrolled students and potential students on Wednesday, August 16. The event was led by the Director Prof Song Jiang, Associate Director Prof Jiang 'Julie' Li, the Coordinator Orion Young, the GA Hsin-Tzu Jen, and the Student Ambassador Molly Wolyn.

Two ROTC recruiters – Capt Spencer Jacobson from the Air Force ROTC program and Capt Grace Jenkins from the Naval ROTC program (Marines) – spoke to the participants about the possibility of combining Chinese language studies with the ROTC program, along with the funding opportunities available to those enrolled in either program. 12 students attended in total; eight in person at the Center for Language and Technology multimedia conference room, while four students logged on via Zoom. The remaining students who did not attend were sent the presentation slides. The topics covered included: Welcome, Recognition of Achievements, Activities & Deadlines for Fall 2023, Capstone Year Programs & Pre-Capstone Application Support; Tutoring Programs, Scholarship Application Workshop, Extracurricular Activities, Get Involved!, Expectations, ROTC, and Housekeeping. Snacks were shared with everyone.

The following day, two new incoming students who were unable to attend the main orientation attended a mini-

orientation on Zoom, hosted by the Coordinator and the Student Ambassador. Afterward, we attended the College of Arts, Languages & Letters Ice Cream Social where our students had the chance to chat with the Dean of our College at the Art Building's bamboo courtyard. (Orion)



Group photo of the Dean, Peter Amade, student Jen Calara, GA, Hsin-Tzu Jen, and Student Ambassador, Molly Wolyn (left to right) at the College of Arts, Languages & Letters Ice Cream Social

CLFC Visits AFROTC

August 25, 2023

The Chinese Language Flagship Center (CLFC) Coordinator Orion Young, GA Hsin-Tzu Jen, and Student Ambassador Molly Wolyn spoke at the Aerospace Studies First Lab of the Fall 2023 Semester on August 25, 2023, at the invitation of the University of Hawaii at Manoa Air Force ROTC (UHM AFROTC) commanding officer Lt Col Michael Arguello. Orion spoke about the Domestic Capstone Program at DLI Monterey

as a possible option for the AFROTC Officer Candidates, Hsin-Tzu promoted the biweekly Chinese Corner, then Molly spoke about her outreach work in classrooms and on social media as well as her upcoming office hours. Many thanks to Kara Otineru of the AFROTC for coordinating this Chinese Flagship outreach! (Orion)



Student Ambassador Molly Wolyn (left) and GA Hsin-Tzu Jen (left) engaging with the AFROTC audience about outreach opportunities with Chinese Flagship

La Salle President Meeting with CLFC Director

September 1, 2023

The CLFC Director, Prof Song Jiang, met with the La Salle College Preparatory President, Perry Martin. Prof Jiang and Mr Martin both expressed their hopes to collaborate with UHM to improve Mandarin proficiency among high school students.

La Salle College Preparatory had already spent considerable time deciding which of the 13 Chinese Flagship centers in the United States to be the most beneficial in facilitating the actualization of their campus' future prospects. After careful consideration, Mr Martin ultimately chose the Chinese Language Flagship Center on the University of Hawaii at Manoa campus with the hopes to connect this nascent program to UHM through a cooperative relationship. To this end, both La Salle and UHM are exploring the possibility of La Salle being a potential source of students for the Chinese Flagship Program at UHM.

With these possibilities in mind, Prof

Jiang began by introducing the many generous scholarships available for study abroad opportunities. He also outlined that incoming students with a Chinese proficiency can fast track their studies for up to two years, giving them additional time to explore a second major. Furthermore, he explained CLFC can offer early acceptance to students contingent upon their admission to UHM, with regard to the early admission guidelines.

In addition, the language proficiency tests particularly garnered the interest of Mr Martin on account of Pasadena's prominent ethnic Chinese population and the debut of a Chinese immersion program, the Mandarin Immersion Program, on campus. As a result, both parties are exploring the possibility of arranging a visit from the UHM CLFC staff to the La Salle College Preparatory campus. The visit would include hosting informational sessions and talking to the students and their parents.



La Salle College Preparatory President, Perry Martin

Prof Jiang and Mr Martin also discussed the possibility of hosting a UHM CLFC Experience Week for the La Salle high school students to visit UH Manoa during Summer 2024. (Orion, Max)

CLFC and KLFC Meeting with ROTC

September 5, 2023

The CLFC Director Prof Song Jiang and the Coordinator Orion Young, along with the KFLC Director Sang Yee Cheon and the Assistant Director Lydia Chung, met with the commanding officers and their staff from all three of the UHM ROTC programs, including Air Force ROTC Lt. Col. Michael Arguello, Air Force ROTC university liaison Kara Otineru, Army ROTC Lt Col Jerrod Melander, Naval ROTC Capt William Ellis, Naval ROTC Cdr Phillip Moore, and Naval ROTC Administrative & Fiscal Assistant Catherine Taylan.



Group photo at the ROTC Flagship Presentation meeting

All sides had a fruitful conversation in which ways to collaborate were discussed in depth. The ROTC programs expressed interest in exploring a possible future Project Global Officer request-for-proposal together. Everyone brainstormed on how best to cross-recruit in order to spread

the word about all the benefits of receiving a ROTC Flagship education at the University of Hawaii, including generous funding opportunities. The ROTC counterparts expressed their approval of having cadets join Flagship and their excitement to recruit more in the future. (Orion)

RECRUITMENT

Promotional Campus Lawn Signs

August 21, 2023

For the start of the Fall 2023 semester, the Center's graphic design team designed four new posters to be used as lawn signs to promote the Chinese Flagship on the University of Hawaii at Manoa (UHM) campus. The UHM College of Education's Marketing and Publication Services (MaPS) then printed the signs. With the help of the Department of the East Asian Languages and Literature's

main office, a request was submitted to the UHM Work Coordination Center (WCC) for permission to post the signs on campus. After approval from the WCC, the lawn signs were then erected in a number of different places on our campus. This is an eye-catching way to promote the Chinese Flagship and call attention to our upcoming recruitment drive this Fall 2023 semester. (Orion)



Some of the many Chinese Flagship program and study abroad promotional signs found across the UH Manoa campus (Moore Hall, Biomedical Sciences building, Hamilton Library, McCarthy Mall, Warrior Recreation Center, Campus Center)

Chinese Flagship Outreach at Chinese Courses

September 20, 2023

In September, Hsin-Tzu Jen the GA, Molly Wolyn the Student Ambassador, and Orion Young the Coordinator gave a slides presentation on outreach to all nine CHN courses from first-year through fourth-year level courses. A number of potential students either emailed the office staff and stopped by to speak with Student Ambassador Molly during office hours to learn more about joining the program.

Several potential students were among the thirty total students who attended the inaugural Chinese Table later that week. Many expressed interest in the Summer 2024 UHM in Taiwan Program. (Orion)



Student Ambassador Molly Wolyn (left) and GA Hsin-Tzu Jen (right) delivering their outreach presentation to future prospective Chinese Flagship students

ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT

Student Council Meeting

August 28, 2023

Hsin-Tzu Jen the GA led a Student Council meeting with seven of 12 student council members. Hsin-Tzu is planning an excursion to visit the historic building housing the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office (TECO) in Honolulu. The Director, Prof Song Jiang, encouraged students to brainstorm ideas including student-led activities. One idea suggested by the students was regular Chinese Table activities similar to those held during the UHM-in-Taiwan summer program, which would include dim sum. Another event where the Student Council members helped was the Open House to promote the Chinese Flagship here on campus at the end of September. (Orion)



Group photo during the Student Council meeting featuring the student members and the GA

ACTIVITIES

Chinese Corner

September 11, 2023: Tea Culture

The Chinese Corner is a biweekly event organized by the CLFC in collaboration with the Center for Chinese Studies. This event is open to all, and the purpose of this event is to offer a space for UH Chinese program students to practice speaking Chinese, and for participants to learn about a certain aspect of Chinese culture at each meeting.

The first Chinese Corner of the Fall 2023 semester started off with a huge turnout. Students from different levels of Chinese classes came together to learn about Chinese tea culture. Our teacher, Hsin-Tzu Jen Laoshi, introduced us to the different teas and the flavors that each one contained. Students then tasted the different teas and were asked to try and identify which flavor went with which tea. Those who made the most correct matches won Starbucks gift cards! (Molly)



Chinese Corner attendees immersing themselves in Hsin-Tzu Jen Laoshi's presentation on different tea flavors



Hsin-Tzu Jen Laoshi engaging in conversation with a Chinese Corner participant



Participants enthusiastically participating in the competitive tea flavor matching game

September 25, 2023: Mahjong

Our second Chinese Corner of the semester was run by Teresa. The event was equally successful, with many students coming to learn how to play Mahjong. The event was divided into two parts. The first part was dedicated to learning the rules of Mahjong. Teresa had prepared colorful handouts with detailed explanations and examples, making it easy for even the most novice players to grasp the essentials. She emphasized the importance of strategy,

calculation, and even a touch of luck, which added a layer of excitement to the game. After learning the rules of the game, the students were able to compete with their fellow participants to win various prizes! As the evening progressed, more and more students gained confidence in their Mahjong skills. We arranged four Mahjong sets around the office, allowing everybody to get a chance to try their hand at the Chinese game. (Molly, Jen)



Teresa showing a Chinese Corner participant how to play mahjong



Chinese Corner attendees practicing what they learned and playing mahjong with each other



A participant receiving their prize after winning a mahjong competition

October 9, 2023: History of Honolulu's Chinatown

For the third Chinese Corner of Fall 2023, we were honored to have Dr Cythia Ning as a guest speaker on the history of Honolulu's Chinatown. Dr Ning began her talk with a warm greeting, expressing her gratitude for the opportunity to share her research with such an engaged and diverse audience. She presented her lecture as a captivating narrative that transported everyone back in time to explore the roots, struggles, and achievements of the Chinese community in Honolulu.

insightful analysis, Dr Ning painted a vivid picture of the development of Honolulu's Chinatown. Her talk touched upon key moments in history, such as the construction of important landmarks, the role of Chinese businesses, and the cultural contributions that shaped the neighborhood.

The event concluded with a chance for attendees to mingle, share their thoughts, and enjoy more Chinese snacks. Many students left with a newfound appreciation for the history and cultural significance of Honolulu's Chinatown, and were inspired to learn more and to engage with their local community. (Jen)

She spoke about the early waves of Chinese immigrants who arrived in Hawaii to work on sugar plantations, the challenges they faced, and their enduring resilience. Through vivid storytelling, historical photographs, and



Dr Cynthia Ning begins her presentation by painting a captivating opening scene of Honolulu's Chinatown in the audience's minds



Dr Ning invites the Chinese Corner attendees to exchange their thoughts and impressions of the presentation with one another



Attendees filling their plates with all kinds of eats from the wide arrangement of mouth watering food, drinks, and desserts

Chinese Table

September 22, 2023

Towards the end of September, CLFC organized a delightful gathering at Biomedical Building Courtyard D, bringing together over 30 participants, including flagship students, graduate students, and esteemed faculty members.

The event commenced at noon with a warm welcome by Prof Song Jiang to all attendees. During the event, the attendees had the pleasure of savoring a wide variety of authentic Chinese dishes from Mini Garden Restaurant. The menu included popular Chinese delicacies such as Peking roasted duck, beef and broccoli, and char-siu fried rice. The food was well-received and appreciated by all, showcasing the culinary richness of Chinese culture.

Throughout the event, attendees engaged in lively discussions in Chinese on a range of topics. These conversations helped foster a sense of community amongst flagship students, graduate students, and faculty members. It was an excellent opportunity for students to seek academic guidance and build relationships with professors and fellow students. (Jen)



The event commences as attendees from all sorts of backgrounds chatter amongst themselves while enjoying the food



The crowd at the Chinese Table event gathering together for a commemorative group photo in the Biomedical Building Courtyard

Mid-Autumn Festival Celebration

September 29, 2023

In celebration of the festival, the Director Prof Song Jiang, Associate Director Prof Jiang 'Julie' Li, Coordinator Orion Young, GA's Hsin-Tzu Jen and Max Koenen, Student Ambassador Molly Wolyn, precapstone students Kimberly Batson and Paul Porter, as well as a number of Chinese course instructors and tutors hosted an all-day Open House where coffee and snacks were served. At the end of the day, a Mid-Autumn Festival Celebration was held, where over 30 participants enjoyed chatting in Chinese over mooncakes while making arts and crafts. (Orion)



Students conversing in Chinese over mooncakes and drinks in the courtyard



The Mid-Autumn Festival Celebration participants excitedly digging into their specially prepared mooncakes

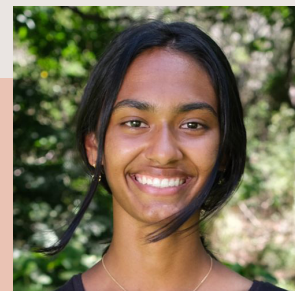
STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS

Experience Regarding Pre-Capstone Preparation

Maysa Segovia

Recently I went through the rigorous process of applying for Capstone at National Chengchi University which is located in Taipei, Taiwan. It was not as difficult as I originally thought as I was able to get around four hours of tutoring a week to prepare for my speaking and application materials. Besides tutoring with UH Manoa Flagship tutors, I would listen to Chinese news on YouTube and read different novels through a Chinese app on a daily basis. I even spend time every weekend with a fellow capstone applicant just to practice my Chinese. I was definitely nervous throughout the entire process as I won't know my results until a month later.

Nonetheless, I was able to do my best, especially after having studied abroad for a second time this past summer in the UH Manoa in Taiwan program. The program really enhanced my listening and reading skills more than I could have imagined. My biggest fear had to have been the OPI exam, yet I was able to work with a wonderful tutor who helped me through every aspect of the exam and slowly build my confidence. I am definitely grateful to the UH Manoa Chinese Flagship staff for helping me prepare for all aspects of the application. All I can do now is wait and hope for the best!



Paul Porter

The CLFC center provided many resources to help us prepare for the capstone tests. In addition to regularly scheduled tutoring, I would also go to the CLFC often in between classes to informally talk with the staff in Chinese. My approach to language learning is 学以致用, or to constantly apply what I am learning by communicating with other people, whether they are native speakers of Chinese or language learners like myself. When I show up in the office at random times, I have found the staff at CLFC is always willing to engage me in unstructured Chinese dialogue. I see this as an opportunity to both put into practice new vocabulary or grammar that I have recently learned, and also to listen to the vocabulary and grammar the staff spontaneously use.

Aside from the resources provided by UH, I also went abroad this summer to Taiwan by myself and met many of the local people there, some of whom I am still in contact with. Hanging out with them when I was in Taiwan and continuing to talk to them online now has supplemented my formal academic learning greatly. Although I have not yet received the results of the capstone application, I am optimistic about passing!



New Recruits to Chinese Flagship

Jeno Calara

My name is Jeno Calara, and I am excited to begin my Flagship journey this semester! In addition to my entrance into the Chinese Flagship Program, I am currently majoring in Accounting and minoring in Japanese. My decision to enter the Flagship Program stemmed from my interest in learning foreign languages, particularly Chinese. Chinese is the civilization basis for all the major cultures in the region. Nations from Vietnam to Korea had all used Chinese in the past. This fascinates me, and by learning Chinese, I hope to delve deeper into the antecedents of those civilizations while expanding my knowledge about the Sinophone world.



Ripley Paulino

My name is Ripley, but of course people are welcomed to call me "Rip" for short. I joined the Chinese Flagship at UH Manoa because of my previous experiences while in Beijing and Shanghai. My second reason for joining the Chinese Flagship was that there were little-to-no guaranteed opportunities outside UH Manoa in where I could find native speakers to practice with. I have also been itching to go abroad once again, and to find redemption for my shortcomings while in Shanghai – mainly, not speaking enough, and not doing it well. I wanted to be a part of this wonderful program, because it could provide these particular conditions in which to challenge myself. In fact, I expect to be challenged a lot while in this program.



Capstone Reflections

Sydney Hirayama

Sydney Hirayama joined Chinese Flagship in Spring 2021. Sydney was drawn to the Flagship Program because of the opportunities to delve into the Chinese language and embrace her culture. Growing up as a Taiwanese American, she was surrounded by both English and Chinese. As a pre-med student, Sydney has been looking forward to Capstone especially since a medically-related internship would be invaluable to her professional development.



After spending over seven months in Taiwan, I truly feel like I have gained unforgettable life experiences. Over the summer, I had a long three month break, and I had more opportunities to fully explore Taiwan. First, I went to a sunflower field in Taoyuan, which was about a three hour journey to get there. Although it was the middle of summer and close to 100 degrees, the fields were so beautiful and the trip was definitely worth it. I also got to explore Taipei as well. I went to an ice skating rink, a bathroom themed restaurant, and even a capybara cafe. More so, since Taiwan is very close to other Asian countries, I got to travel to Thailand with my mom and South Korea with some close friends.

Despite not wanting summer to end, I was also really excited for the semester to start because I could start my internship. I applied for a medical company that helps their customers have a better time sleeping. My tasks include translating English user manuals into Chinese, reception work, participating in weekly meetings and presenting on sleep related topics, and shadowing my company when they frequently visit Taida Hospital. Overall, I really enjoy my internship and I believe that I am gaining valuable practice and experience for when I want to be a doctor. I also think it is really beneficial in learning different aspects of Chinese that I do not usually learn in school. For example, speaking to clients in formal Chinese and learning cultural etiquette is a very valuable skill to have.

Overall, I am really enjoying my time in Taiwan. The connections and friendships that I have made will definitely stay with me for a lifetime. I also believe that my Chinese is improving in ways that I didn't even expect. I believe that Flagship is an outstanding and memorable program, and the experiences are those that you can only encounter once in a lifetime.



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