

GVSU 2010 Partnership Delegation to China Program Learning Goals

The Padnos International Center is excited to launch the 2nd Annual Partnership Delegation visiting China in March 2010. This program is geared towards faculty and staff that have limited opportunities to gain an international experience and is intended to pull colleagues together from different areas across our campus. In an effort to share a bit more about what we expect participants to gain from this experience, PIC has developed the following learning goals:

- 1) To introduce faculty and staff at GVSU to Chinese culture with an emphasis of increasing participant's knowledge of historical, economic, political, academic, environmental, social and religious developments taking place in China today. Participants will examine critical issues that are impacting Chinese society such as rapid expansion of urban areas, rising demands and competition for limited resources, education reforms, economic reforms, and political issues of modern China.
- 2) To involve faculty and staff in experiences that will encourage the development of intercultural communication skills and intercultural understanding. This will be accomplished through meetings with colleagues from our partner institutions and through various excursions.
- 3) To gain an understanding of the journey involved in traveling to a foreign country, particularly as it relates to navigating new systems, managing the language barrier, adapting to new cuisine, learning about differences in lifestyles, and building an understanding of the host culture.
- 4) Develop a new network of colleagues from across the GVSU campus community and at GVSU's partner institutions.
- 5) To increase participant's knowledge of faculty, staff and student opportunities abroad.

The application for this program is available on our website at www.gvsu.edu/pic. If you have additional questions, please contact Rebecca Hambleton at 331-3898 or by email at hambletr@gvsu.edu.