Global Insight China
Year-End Report

Prepared By:

Phillip Voight
Global Insight China Steering Committee

12 September 2009
-Introduction-

Pursuant to a request by the IDPC, this report is a summary of the first year of the four-year Gustavus Global Insight pilot project that was approved by the faculty. The report should not be viewed as an assessment per se, but rather a collection of data sets that might prove useful in creating a more formal assessment plan at a later date. The primary purpose of the report is to document the events that were associated with the “Year of China,” particularly those that were funded, designed or coordinated by the Gustavus Global Insight China Steering Committee. The summary contains five parts:

I. A listing of Gustavus Global Insight China events along with attendance data, if available. The listing may be incomplete, as many events were hosted without the involvement of the Global Insight China Steering Committee.

II. The Surveymonkey instrument that was used to gather faculty, student and staff reactions to year one of the pilot program.

III. Survey results.

IV. Narrative data from the survey.

V. A collection of news items concerning Gustavus Global Insight: China.
I: Gustavus Global Insight China Themed Events

A: Courses.

HIS 274: Modern China  
Fall 2008  
Dr. David Obermiller  
25 students enrolled

B: Fine Arts Events.

Chinese Piano Concert  
November 8, 2008 7:30 pm  
Sponsored by: Music Department  
110 in attendance

Orchid Ensemble Concert  
November 15, 2008 8:00 pm  
Sponsored by: Gustavus Artist Series  
109 in attendance

Ying Quartet Concert  
March 14, 2009 8:00 pm  
Sponsored by: Gustavus Artist Series  
123 in attendance

Exhibit  
Digital Photography from China  
Priscilla Briggs  
Hillstrom Museum  
February 16- April 19, 2009

The Other Shore  
Directed by Amy Seham  
Sponsored by: Department of Theater and Dance  
February 19-22, 2009  
781 in attendance
*East Meets West*
Symphony Concert
Sponsored by: Music Department
May 2, 2009 7:00 pm

**C. Steering Committee Events.**

China Teach-In
September 11, 2009 1:00 – 4:00 pm
Sponsored by: Gustavus Global Insight
175 in attendance

**D. Reading in Common Events.**

Lecture by John Pomfret
September 15, 2008 7:00 pm
350 in attendance

Class Visit by John Pomfret:
HIS 274 Dr. David Obermiller
S/A 247 Dr. Elizabeth Jenner

Dinner with John Pomfret
September 17, 2008
17 in attendance

*Teachers Talking on Chinese Lessons*
September 15, 2008 11:30 – 12:30 pm
Sponsored by: Kendall Center
16 in attendance

*Teachers Talking on China and Higher Education*
October 28, 2008 11:30 and 12:30 pm
Sponsored by: Kendall Center
38 in attendance
E. Lectures.

Lecture by Dr. David Vickner,
President of the Japan International Christian University
October 28, 2008 7:00 pm
Sponsored by: Chaplain’s Office
80 in attendance

Book Signing and Reading by Wang Ping
Professor, Macalester College
Sponsored by: English Department
November 6, 2008 7:00 pm
45 in attendance

Lecture by Dr. Joseph Allen
Chair, Department of Asian Languages and Literatures,
University of Minnesota
November 12, 2008 7:00 pm
Sponsored by: Gustavus Faculty Lecture Series, Gustavus Global Insight Visiting Scholar China Lecture Series,
Gustavus Diversity Center and 12 other Departments and Programs
86 in attendance at lecture, 8 at pre-lecture coffee,
9 at pre-lecture dinner and meeting

Lecture by Dr. Jason McGrath
Department of Asian Languages and Literatures
University of Minnesota
January 7, 2009 7:00 pm
Sponsored by: Gustavus Faculty Lecture Series, Gustavus Global Insight Visiting Scholar China Lecture Series,
Gustavus Diversity Center and 12 other Departments and Programs
45 in attendance at lecture

Lecture by Dr. Liping Wang
Department of History, University of Minnesota
April 15, 2009 7:00 pm
Sponsored by: Gustavus Faculty Lecture Series, Gustavus Global Insight Visiting Scholar China Lecture Series,
Gustavus Diversity Center and 12 other Departments and Programs
25 in attendance
Transfiguration Talks by Dr. Ted Zimmerman
Lutheran Theological Seminary, Hong Kong
February 19-24, 2009
Sponsored by: Chaplain’s Office

Lecture by Dr. Hua Zhu
Clinical Instructor at Northwestern College of Natural Health
April 29, 2009 7:00 pm
Sponsored by: Departments of Nursing, Biology, Health and Exercise Science

Lecture by Andrew Nathan
Department of Political Science, Columbia University
April 29, 2009
Sponsored by: Mayday Committee

F. China Film Series.

Yellow Earth
Directed by Chen Kai Ge
January 14, 2009 7:00 pm
14 in attendance

Moving the Mountain
Directed by Michael Apted
Discussion by Richard Leitch following the Film
January 21, 2009 7:00 pm
45 in attendance

House of Flying Daggers
January 28, 2009 7:00 pm
15 in attendance

The Tank Man
April 28, 2009 7:00 pm
Sponsored by: Mayday Committee
G. Community Events.

St. Peter Reads selected *Chinese Lessons* as the common reading book for the year. Related events were hosted at:
The Rock Bend Folk Festival, River Rock and Waldos

A Panel Discussion entitled, "*Babies and Toddlers From Abroad*,” was held at the St. Peter community Center
September 22, 2008 7:00 pm

Beginning Asian Brush Painting course
St. Peter Arts Center
November 15, 2008 9:30 am – 3:30 pm

II. Global Insight China Survey Instrument:

The following survey was disseminated during the spring semester of 2009 to collect information from faculty, students, administrators and staff concerning the Gustavus Global Insight program.
# 1. Global Insight China Events

The Global Insight Steering Committee is in the process of gathering information concerning the first year of the four-year pilot project that was approved by the faculty. As part of our data-gathering process, we ask that you complete the following brief survey.

## 1. Please tell us which events you have attended:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>I attended none of these events</th>
<th>I attended at least one event</th>
<th>I attended between two and four events</th>
<th>I attended five or more events</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The teach-in</td>
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<td>The Visiting Scholar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lecture Series (Wang Ping, Liping Wang, Joseph Allen, Jason McGrath)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other China-themed lectures (Transfiguration Talks, Dr. Vickner's lecture)</td>
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<td>China-themed class visits or panel discussions -- such as Experiences of International Adoptions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Theatrical, musical or artistic performances or shows (Hillstrom Museum, The Other Shore, The Orchid Ensemble Concert, The Yand Quartet)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Book discussions, including lectures by authors or discussions of the common reading Community events (St. Peter Co-op, River Rock, St. Peter Art Center, Waldo's)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Film events</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
2. Default Section

1. I am a:
   - [ ] Student
   - [ ] Faculty Member
   - [ ] Staff Member
   - [ ] Administrator

2. Thinking about the teach-in, and formal lecture series would you say that:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Was excessive</th>
<th>Was about right</th>
<th>Was insufficient</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The number of events</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>The political, historical, social or economic themes covered</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>The range of cultural topics addressed</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Additional Comments:

3. Thinking about the film series and artistic events (theatrical performances, musical performances, art exhibitions) would you say that:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Was excessive</th>
<th>Was just about right</th>
<th>Was insufficient</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The number of events</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The range of political, historical, social or economic themes covered</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The range of cultural, artistic or aesthetic topics explored</td>
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<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Additional Comments:
4. Thinking about the themed courses and common-readings or book events associated with Global Insight China, would you say that the:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of events</th>
<th>Was excessive</th>
<th>Was just about right</th>
<th>Was insufficient</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The range of political, historical, social or economic themes covered</td>
<td>□</td>
<td>□</td>
<td>□</td>
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<tr>
<td>The range of cultural topics addressed</td>
<td>□</td>
<td>□</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Additional Comments:

5. Please identify any course components, guest lecturers, readings, films, field trips, artistic or cultural events that you integrated into the courses that you taught, or that you facilitated on behalf of the campus community.

6. How would you evaluate the overall success of the first year of the Global Insight Pilot Program?

- I feel that the program was highly successful
- I feel that the program was moderately successful
- I do not have a strong impression of the program's success or failure
- I feel that the program was moderately unsuccessful
- I feel that the program was highly unsuccessful

Additional Comments:
7. Do you feel that the Global Insight China events were:

<table>
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>No opinion</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Well-integrated into</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>the college's overall</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>academic goals</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Well publicized for</td>
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<tr>
<td>internal audiences</td>
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<td>Well publicized for</td>
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<tr>
<td>external audiences</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Well planned and</td>
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<tr>
<td>implemented</td>
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<tr>
<td>Representative of a</td>
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<tr>
<td>wide variety of</td>
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<tr>
<td>disciplinary interests</td>
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Additional Comments:

8. Finally, are there any additional suggestions that you have for the Global Insight Steering Committee?
III. Survey Results:
# Global Insight Impact Assessment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I am a:</th>
<th>Response Percent</th>
<th>Response Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Student</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty Member</td>
<td>75.0%</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff Member</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrator</td>
<td>20.0%</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **answered question**: 20
- **skipped question**: 3
Do you feel that the Global Insights China events were:

- Well-planned and implemented
- Well-organized for external audiences
- Implemented and well-planned
- Internal audiences for well-organized academic goals
- The college's overall well-integrated into disciplinary interests wide variety of events were?

Options:
- Disagree
- No opinion
- Agree
Thinking about the film series and artistic events (theatrical performances, musical performances, art exhibitions) would you say that:

- The range of cultural, artistic, or aesthetic topics explored was insufficient?
- The range of cultural, artistic, or aesthetic topics explored was just about right?
- The number of events was excessive?
- The number of events was just about right?
How would you evaluate the overall success of the first year of the Global Insight Pilot Program?

- I feel that the program was highly successful
- I feel that the program was moderately successful
- I do not have a strong impression of the program's success or failure
- I feel that the program was moderately unsuccessful
- I feel that the program was highly unsuccessful

Legend:
IV. Narrative Responses to Survey Questions:

Question Two Narrative: (Teach-in)

1. I won't rate this because I did not attend most of them, but not because there were too many. It was my own problem of being too busy at work. I would have liked to attend more.  
   Tue, Jun 9, 2009 11:55 AM

2. One thing I love about our teach-ins is how much local expertise I discover.  
   Tue, May 19, 2009 1:46 PM

We tilted our events towards culture/arts/social sciences and would have benefited from other perspectives such as scientific innovation, science education, or environmental issues in China. The overall program would have been improved if it included the perspectives of a scholar who specializes in the study of places—in other words, a geographer. Plus, a geographer could connect issues such as environmental degradation in China to the country's economic and physical geography, thereby integrating social science and natural science perspectives.  
   Fri, May 15, 2009 9:09 AM

3. Advertising was poor. Usually did not know about an event until it was over.  
   Thu, May 14, 2009 1:25 PM

4. did not attend any  
   Thu, May 14, 2009 10:13 AM

5. I can't answer the other questions.  
   Thu, May 14, 2009 10:07 AM

Question Three Narrative: (Film series and artistic performances)

1. I won't rate this because I did not attend most of them, but not because there were too many. It was my own problem of being too busy at work. I would have liked to attend more.  
   Tue, Jun 9, 2009 11:55 AM
2. I like the numbers, but I sometimes thing we have too many choices, so if there were fewer I wouldn't be unhappy.

3. I think the offerings were good in quality and number -- I just had too many conflicts in my schedule! I hope to attend more things next year.

Advertising again should be much, much greater than normal campus events.

4. Maybe a flyer at the beginning of the semester with all related events to the Global insight to each person.

Question Five Narrative: (Identify any course components, guest lecturers, readings, films, etc. that you contributed or facilitated)

1. hosted Chinese international student visitors last Fourth of July

2. None were appropriate for the courses I taught.

I discussed the reading in common with my FTS students and required that they drop in at the teach-in. In the library we had a book display featuring books on China and a display of maps from the map collection as well as a webpage for information on China.

3. I facilitated the common reading book discussion in town with St. Peter residents and John Pomfret. That was really neat. He was great.

The material I was teaching this year didn't really lend itself to talking much about China, but when I talked about how the cell makes proteins, nucleic acids, and oligosaccharides, I compared it to the assembly-line process used to make the Chinese terra cotta soldiers (giving more historical context than I currently remember).

4. unit on China

5. I already include material on China into two courses and I expanded that material slightly this year.
7. I taught a first-time J Term course entitled "Exploring China Through Film".

8. My argumentation course debated US foreign policy toward China all semester. I added a Chinese documentary to my Reality Media class.

9. I teach in the natural science division and we discussed China's environmental issues (pro and con) and overpopulation.

10. The Other Shore

Question Six Narrative: (Please evaluate the overall success of year one of the Gustavus Global Insight Program)

1. I don't feel I can rate this because I did not attend enough of them.

My class subjects do not fit China, and I did not feel it was important to make some trivial connection or include a unit that really didn't pertain to my course but just existed so that I could say I included China. I did encourage my FTS students to attend and we did discuss why the Global Insight program was created, so hopefully this pays off in their future participation. I think Global Insight foci are a very good idea and some future Global Insight foci WILL fit my course topics, in which case I will incorporate as best I can. I am still ambivalent about turning over so many campus events to one topic - and should the Reading in Common program simply become a satellite of Global Insight? Seems like a lot of good potential books could be ignored if that happens.

3. The competition for time and attention here is always stiff.
I think the offerings were great, and the events I attended were well attended by students, but I don't know about the program overall. I do think it should definitely continue.

More ppl attending is always good - but there is always something going on at any given time that competes

I really liked the idea of it, but was not able to participate as fully as I liked, and didn't feel as informed about events and / or their connections to this series as I would have liked. Therefore, while I hope this is continued and I'm a great supporter, I do not have a sense of how successful or unsuccessful it was.

Perhaps a bit too much emphasis on the formal lecture series.

I'm totally committed to the idea, and daunted by what that commitment means in real terms in my life.

Launch the next year's theme in the months of April-August at appropriate occasions each year ahead of time now that we're underway. If we wait until August/September to turn to the next topic, people will have made plans already that they don't want to change. It's okay to be thinking ahead to the next thing while still celebrating the last theme like MAYDAY!

Just don't ever bring back that terrible speaker from Chatham College - nice person, but her presentation was horrible and actually turned me off to Global Insight for awhile.
I'm looking forward to the Year of Mexico. I hope we'll also be able to consider Mexican culture and experiences in the US. I'm not sure if that's part of the program's intent, but I wouldn't have minded learning more about the Chinese experience in America.

I would also love it if someone would explain NAFTA to me. (???????)

4. Teach the language. The program is relatively hollow without that most important component.

I believe the committee needs to define its objectives before these questions can be appropriately answered. These events for the most part just melted into the overall campus offerings...if it is to be a focus, the intentionality of it needs more oversight, planning, and sharing of goals, +++ with faculty, students, and other programs administrators.

6. I think this a really cool program. I wasn't able to attend as many of the events as I would have liked to but I'm glad they were a part of campus life this year.

7. I think having more Chinese students on campus was among the most valuable parts of this year's focus on China. Their interpretations were vital to a richer understanding of the themes brought up in the plays, speakers, etc. In class discussion, their contributions were incredibly valuable.

Keep the faith, I guess. This feels so right. But it is ENORMOUSLY labor intensive for all concerned, if you want to do it right. I feel frankly overwhelmed and like a failure on the classroom side. I am hoping to be a bit more on top of the Mexican topic, but then again, I'm sure I'm wrong. My discipline is so European that it's shocking to me how ill equipped I am to do what I'm supposed to do to meet the goals of this program.

9. Events did not always feel supported as part of the global insight--we do events, but don't feel as part of the overall process
VI. Selected News Stories Related to Gustavus Global Insight:
Gustavus Global Insight

Gustavus Adolphus College is pleased to introduce Gustavus Global Insight, a campus-wide program in which Gustavus students, faculty and staff will focus on one country, region or global issue during the academic year. This community project will involve invited speakers, fine arts events, special presentations, service learning opportunities, and of course, class time dedicated to discussions of the focus topic.

In 2008-2009, Gustavus Global Insight will take up the theme of China. Throughout the College, students will acquire new knowledge of this vast, 3.7 million square-mile country, and gain new perspectives on its 1.3 billion inhabitants and their pursuits. Offerings will delve into China's history, culture, economy, environment, government, current trends, future outlook and more.

Here is a sampling of China programming already scheduled. Watch this page for updates as the planning continues.

- Long Life Chinese Noodles at the Co-op (September 4, 2008, 6-7:30 p.m.)
- St. Peter Reads will be at the Rock Bend Folk Festival: look for our tent (September 6-7, 2008)
- Gustavus Faculty Teach-In (September 11, 2008)
- Book discussion with author John Pomfret, River Rock Coffee (September 15, 2008, 10-11 a.m.)
- Lecture by John Pomfret, Author and Journalist with the Washington Post (September 15, 2008)
- Book discussion of Chinese Lessons, Waldo's Coffee Company (September 16, 2008, 10:30-11:30 a.m.)
- Reading in Common Book: Chinese Lessons: Five Classmates and the Story of the New China, by John Pomfret
- Babies and Toddlers from Abroad: Experiences of International Adoptions - by a panel of local adoptive families - Community Center, room 217 (September 22, 2008, 7-9 p.m.)
- Michael Meyer, author of Last Days in Old Beijing, book signing and classroom visits (Thursday, October 2, 2008)
- Lecture by Dr. David Vikner, President of Japan International Christian University Foundation (Fall 2008)
- History 274: Modern China (Fall 2008 course)
- Taiwan's Position in East Asian History and Culture, lecture by Dr. Joseph Allen, Professor and Chair of Department of Asian Languages and Literature, University of Minnesota (Wednesday, November 12, 2008, 7-8:30 p.m.)
- Concert: Orchid Ensemble (November 15, 2008)
- Beginning Asian brush painting with Dee Teller at the Arts Center of St. Peter (November 15, 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. & November 16, 1-4 p.m.)
- China on Film: From the Dawn of Revolution to Today lecture by Dr. Jason McGrath, Assistant Professor, Department of Asian Languages and Literature, University of Minnesota (Wednesday, January 7, 2009, 7-8:30 p.m.)
- China Film Series (January 2009)
- Music 127: Music in China (January 2009 travel course)
- Gustavus Theater Production: The Other Shore By Gao Xingjian, winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature in 2000 (Spring 2009)
- Concert: Ying Quartet (March 14, 2009)
- Women in China: Rural Violence, Urban Labor, and the Promises of Communism lecture by Dr. Liping Wang (Wang Liping), Associate Professor, Department of History, University of Minnesota (March 2009)
- Exhibit in Hillstrom Museum: Digital Photography from China by Priscilla Briggs (February 16 to April 19, 2009)
- Transfiguration Talks in Gustavus Chapel: Dr. Ted Zimmerman '69, Lutheran Theological Seminary, Hong Kong (February 2009)

Future Topics

The tentative schedule for the first four Gustavus Global Insight topics is:

● China (2008–2009)
● Mexico (2009–2010)
● Food/Nutrition (2010–2011)
● Circumpolar Year (Scandinavia, Northern Canada, Greenland, Russia) (2011–2012)

For more information, contact Phil Voight (pvoight@gustavus.edu), Chair of Gustavus Global Insight steering committee.