

The Wyoming and Tianjin Internships and Cultural Exploration (TWICE) was successfully organized on March 26, 2022. This international event was funded by Yan Zhang's creative research grant from the College of Arts and Sciences, with support by the Global Engagement Office and Modern and Classical Languages Department. This event was both online synchronously and in-person here on campus. During the event, 182 people attended the event at the Arts and Sciences auditorium, along with 200 Chinese students and faculty from Tianjin Normal University joined via Zoom.

An amazing traditional lion and dragon started this event show that Colorado Asia Cultural Heritage Center Team played. Then the audience enjoyed a virtual Chinese art exhibition and directly interacted with four Chinese artists. Lastly, a Chinese dinner was offered by Associated Students Interested in China (ASIC) in the Union Ballroom.

The TWICE event celebrated the relationship between Tianjin Normal University (TNU) and the University of Wyoming. TNU has been very generous in providing full scholarships to UW students studying at TNU in the summer. This scholarship includes registration, tuition for six upper-division credit, and on-campus accommodation. UW students spend 6-weeks in the summer studying abroad in Tianjin, which allows them to immerse themselves in Chinese language and culture. In addition to classwork and cultural classes, the program also provides directed excursion trips to Beijing and Shanghai. Students will also participate in community service projects and finish off with a 1-week internship where students will earn valuable cross-cultural work experience. UW's summer Chinese studies and internship program is an unforgettable, life-changing experience where each student will gain a new outlook on life.

Guest speakers from both universities gave kind, inspiring, insightful, valuable, and collaborative speeches, which forged a connection between Chinese students and UW students. Because of this event, the relationship between UW and TNU was significantly enhanced.

Speakers are:

UW President Edward Seidel, Provost Kevin Carman, Vice Provost Isa Helfgott, and Arts and Sciences Dean Camellia Okpodu gave short speeches. Mary Throne, State Commissioner and former Wyoming State Legislator read a welcome letter written by Governor Mark Gordon. Meanwhile, TNU President Yinghua Zhong and the Director of International Affairs also gave speeches and showed a strong willingness to develop the relationship between UW and TNU.