OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVES STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS

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Name of Program: USG Asia Council Study Abroad in China

Name of Program Director(s): Dr. Baogang Guo, Dalton State College; Dr. Douglas Reynolds, GSU campus rep, while in China he is the on-site assistant director because he speaks and reads Chinese

Location(s) of Program: China: Beijing, Zhengzhou, Xi'an, and Shanghai

Dates of Program: May 8 – June 5, 2015

Program Description: This program is based in major advanced urban centers of China (see list above) that are safe and healthy, with excellent transportation systems. Travel between cities is by high speed train and bus, none of it strenuous. Food consumed is at clean restaurants and at Zhengzhou University's expansive cafeterias (May 13-June 2) serving 50,000 students, with a large selection of good food. Day trips from the university are by chartered modern tourist buses that accommodate up to 50 people, on safe highways. The temperatures are close to ideal in May and June, neither too hot nor too cold. In Beijing the group visits the Great Wall where individuals split up and go at their own pace. One visit to historic Yunlin Gorge is on well-maintained paths interspersed with comfortable bus rides, not strenuous. This program of forty students and six or seven USG faculty is a "study" program that has little time for activities outside of our 28-day itinerary. In ten years of this program, there have been no major medical emergencies, and the few minor illnesses have been attended to successfully at nearby clinics and hospitals staffed by doctors with modern training. Because crime is low, China is also amazingly safe (safer than Atlanta, for example). Dr. Guo was born and raised in Zhengzhou, with BA and MA degrees from Zhengzhou University. This hometown boy has excellent contacts and connections in the event of an emergency.