Week 5 – February 21

I. Academic
   a. Overview of Food System Changes in China
      Guest speakers: Drs. Frank Fuller and Fengxia Dong, Center for Agricultural and Rural Development

II. What’s up in China? News reports from students.

III. Case Study Groups:
   a. Overview of the two case study sites (power point)
   b. Finalize Groups
   c. Divide into groups
   d. Continue work on case study questions
      i. Why are you interested in this study?
      ii. What do you want to get out of the study?

IV. Cultural
   a. A few Chinese words: Difei Shen
      i. Chinese language website: http://www.csulb.edu/~txie/online.htm
   b. Cross-cultural differences scenario and discussion (group 2)—postpone to next week

V. Safety tips
   a. Handout: Personal Safety--Road Safety
   b. Review website for student study abroad handbook:
      http://www.studyabroad.iastate.edu/Students/S_Handbook/personalsafety/personal01.html

VI. Preparation
   a. Housekeeping
      i. Course website: http://www.econ.iastate.edu/classes/econ496/jolly/index.htm
      ii. Course registration: Student list submitted to registrar’s office; please check AccessPlus to make sure you are registered.
      iii. Travel Updates
         a. Airline tickets: The Ag Study Abroad office has made a deposit on airline tickets for those with no travel deviations. Those deviating—departing or returning from a city other than Des Moines or extended travel beyond the dates of the program (May 15–June 9)—need to finalize plans no later than March 2 and share those plans with the Ag Study Abroad Office.
         b. Passports: Bring passports to group leaders or to Ag Study Abroad Office, 111 Curtiss Hall, no later than Monday, April 2. Passports will be sent to Chinese Consulate in Chicago to obtain visas. You cannot enter China without a passport and visa!
      iv. Immunizations
         a. Visit your regular doctor or student health travel clinic to obtain information about recommended immunizations.
         b. Please review these websites:
            http://www.cdc.gov/travel/eastasia.htm
            http://www.travel.state.gov/travel/abroad.html

VI. Questions?
VII. Reminders –

c. Weekly Warming-Up Activities - Research current events in P.R. China. Each week, each member of one group should be prepared to give a brief (1-2 minute) oral overview regarding one news article you found interesting.
   Suggested sources:

b. Spring/Summer semester activities - To increase your knowledge of China and enhance your experience, we recommend that you read one book of your choice that focuses on China (fiction, nonfiction, biography, history, etc.) during the course of the program. If time permits during our weekly meetings in China, each student may give a 5-8 minute review of his/her book and discuss the similarities and differences between book and observations during the trip. Check the course website for book suggestions.

VIII. Next meeting: Wednesday, February 28, 6:00-8:30 p.m., 202 Science II

a. PBS presentation on Resource and Environmental Problems and Policies in China followed by group discussion

b. Group 2 discussion on intercultural communication scenario (describe scenario and discuss possible reasons for misunderstandings portrayed in the scenario).

c. Safety issues related to travel in China—Personal Safety

Case Study Assignments for remainder of the semester

February 28: Background paper on case study topic (5 – 8 pages)
   • Literature review – what do secondary data sources tell us about this issue?
   • Key research questions from the review
   • References and other resources that can be used

March 1: Present the main components of your case study research design
   • Questions – reflecting your background analysis and your own interests
   • Propositions, if any
   • Unit(s) of analysis
   • Design, single case, multiple case

March 7: Case study preparation (in or outside class)
   • Draft protocol – how are you going to get the job done? Who is going to do what?
   • Refine questions and other design consideration
   • What do you need help with? From whom?

March 14: Spring break—no class

March 24: Case study preparation (in or outside class); group reports on progress (verbal)

March 31: Case study preparation (in or outside class); group reports on progress (verbal)

April 6: Presentation of team proposals (written outlines and verbal)

April 13: Review and revised proposals (in or outside class)

April 20: Final proposal presentations (written outlines and verbal)

April 27: Group dinner at New China restaurant in Boone (no cost for students)