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UA3/9/7 WKU Confucius Institute Proposal

WKU President's Office - Ransdell

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尊敬的许琳女士：

我在此郑重地向您递交西肯塔基大学的孔子学院申请书。我坚信这是西肯塔基大学进一步国际化和为肯塔基州提供急需的中文和中国文化遗产的宝贵机会。

我们希望借助孔子学院的成立和与中国大学的合作建立起两国和两校之间长期友好的联系。

希望我们的申请得到批准。

希望我们的申请成功地向您展示了我们对孔子学院使命的认同和在西肯塔基建立孔子学院的诚意和重视。

我期待着您的答复，希望后会有期。

西肯塔基大学校长 Gary A. Ransdell
中文旗舰学院、亚洲研究中心携手共建孔子学院
西肯塔基大学倾全力打造中文语言教育培训基地

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附件 支持信英文原件
壹 西肯塔基大学介绍

WKU 坐落在肯塔基中南的 Bowling Green。校园拾级而上，非常美丽，是一所以本科教育为主的综合性大学。

在校长 Gary Ransdell 的带领下，正在稳步实践其 “美国领先、世界多元” 的办学理念和宗旨。在过去的十二年里，成为肯塔基发展速度最快的学校， 在校人数已达两万人。在地理地质（熔岩和气象研究）、新闻摄影（每年名列全国前五名）、公共卫生（美国老年学会期刊所在地）、化学和农业等领域都居世界领先水平，并在这些领域与中国同行有广泛的交流和合作。

WKU 有本州第一个也是唯一一个荣誉学院（为有天赋的本科生开设的）和全国有名的辩论队。在过去的六年里，WKU 五次在国内国际演讲和辩论大赛中夺冠。另外，学生还多次获得全国性知名奖学金和奖励，只去年一年，就获得了近五十万的校外奖学金。中文旗舰工程的学生全部来自荣誉学院。

WKU 也是 Gatton 数理学院的所在地。该学院是一所私立学院，为本州最好的高中二年级以上学生提供两年制校教育，挑选严格，被美国新闻周刊誉为 “精英公立学院” (elite public)。今年有十名该数理学院的学生人读中文旗舰课程。该学院院长 Julia Roberts 博士也负责 WKU 天才儿童教育中心，已成功举办了三十多年的美国和世界天才儿童学科和主体夏令营，为开办汉语暑期夏令营等积累了丰富的经验。

WKU 的国际化力度不断加强。首先，国际办公室加大奖学金的力度，出国留学稳步增长。其次，WKU 的国际学者村即将揭幕，为国际人才交流和合作提供后勤
概要

美国西肯塔基大学（以下称 WKU）在
美国政府资助的中文项目下，校方人、财、物的全力支持下，特向中华人民共和国教育部对外汉语教学发展中心
（以下称汉办）申请建立孔子学院。

此申请代表了校方对中文教育的高度重视，反映了美国大学关于汉语教学的极大需求和旺盛需求。

在 WKU 建立孔子学院是绝对可行的，其未来的发展也是可持续的，不可限量的。

我们的优势是：

1、校方最高层致力于拓展西肯塔基大学的中文教育，使其成为当地最优秀的中文教育中心。

2、中文项目和亚洲研究中心已经落户 WKU，与孔子学院的整合必然是资源利用的最大化、最优化。

3、终身中文教育职位的设立、永久教室办公用房的划拨以及资金上的配套，使孔子学院在人、财、物等多方面得到切实可靠的长期保障。

4、至今为止，WKU 方圆四个小时车程的广阔区域内无一孔子学院，而学习中文的热情却越来越高。肯塔基州第一个从幼儿园到高中一贯制的中文项目于 2006 年在 Marion 县成立，至今，33 位老师在肯塔基十五个县的 45 个学校教授中文。孔子学院落户 WKU，可以极大地满足这一地区对中文的旺盛需求。

5、由四十多所美国高校组成的美国中文教学协会于一九八六在 WKU 成立。

6、WKU 与 Bowing Green 社区、肯塔基教育部、肯塔基世界语言协会和肯塔基中文教师协会都保持着密切的合作伙伴关系。肯塔基教育厅是与汉办最早签订理解备忘录的州机构之一，而联络人就是本校的资深教育专家王建良教授。

在西肯塔基大学投资兴建立孔子学院，是及时而有远见的。我们深信，有 WKU 校方的全力支持，有中文项目的工程和亚洲研究中心的资源优势，有校外伙伴的通力合作，我们完全有能力创办孔子学院并使其长期健康地发展下去，为推广汉语语言和文化，推动各级中文教学，促进中美经济、文化和个人之间的了解和合作起到桥梁的作用。

以下申请的详细内容，包括五个部分：

壹 WKU 介绍；
贰 WKU 中文教学现状与资源；
叁 WKU 对孔子学院的配套支持；
肆 WKU 孔子学院的使命和行动；
伍 WKU 孔子学院成功展望。
保障。第三，已开发和正在开发的国际化项目包括 Semester at Sea（海上学期）、Kentucky Institute for International Studies (KIIS)（肯塔基国际研究学院）和 Navitas。WKU 是“海上学期”老师和职员的训练基地。KIIS 是出国留学联盟，为六十四个会员大学和学院的本科生提供高性价比的留学服务，留学联盟总部就设在 WKU。Navitas 为来自 90 多个国家的两万七千名学生在澳大利亚、加拿大、英国、南非和美国的学习提供衔接课程（pathway programs）。WKU 成为 Navitas 在美国的两个基地之一，在未来 5 年内接受一千名国际学生，其中很大一部分来自亚洲，来自中国。

WKU 所在的 Bowling Green 是一座日趋国际化的旅游城市，每年一度的国际文化节把人们从四面八方带到这里，体验多元文化的气氛。中国文化、中国饮食被越来越多的人所熟悉和喜爱。

Bowling Green 有世界遗产旅游地 Mammoth Cave 国家公园，有世界闻名的生产 Four Roses 和 Marker’s Mark 酒的肯塔基波旁威士忌酒厂，还有世界唯一的 Corvette 高档赛车厂。贯穿南北的州际 65 号公路把 Bowling Green 和 Nashville 连成一线，Bowling Green 也成为很多音乐活动的承办地，从古典音乐到蓝调到西部乡村音乐，应有尽有。

便利的交通，美丽的城市，市长的国际眼光和商会的国际化运作，Bowling Green 越来越受到跨国公司的青睐。这里的 Fruit of the Loom 公司，其主要业务就在中国。
贰 WKU 的中文教学现状和资源

WKU 的中文教学起步于 1987，是由教育学院的王建良教授创办的。王教授是国际教育政策研究专家，也是一位中文和中国文化的积极倡导者和推动者。他先后多次带领美国中小学的学监、校长和教师代表团访问中国，对中美之间的了解和进一步的教育合作打下了坚实的基础。

WKU 的中文教育虽然规模还不很大，但势头很强，现有的一年级中文课每年都爆满。特别是在过去的一年里，由于校方的全力支持和投入以及和校外伙伴的通力合作，WKU 的中文教育进一步制度化，发展步伐迅速加快。

2008 年，我们荣获头期五十万美元美国联邦政府的资助，加上校方等额匹配的资金建立了肯塔基州第一个中文旗舰学院，使我们成为美国国家安全教育工程下的一部分，其后续的资金支持得到保障。WKU 将和全美其它八个中文旗舰项目资源共享，建立运用科学测试手段以输出为主的全新语言教学模式，共同领导美国中文教育进入一个崭新的阶段。

作为旗舰成员，它背后所代表的美国政府和校方的支持不仅为中文项目的长期稳定的发展提供可靠的经济上的保障，也为即将建立的孔子学院提供坚实而持久的发展基础。

2009 年七月，我们成功地招聘了一位中文语言学教授担任中文旗舰项目的教务主任，专职发展中文旗舰项目和协调开发亚洲研究项目。目前，我们有八十多为旗舰和非旗舰学生学习中文。

目前，我们提供两年的语言课程，计划在 2010 年建立起四年制的语言课程。届时，WKU 将成为肯塔基州唯一的可以提供四年中文教育的大学。
我们为学生提供留学项目，包括冬季和夏季的密集中文课程。这些留学项目是我们课程设置的有机组成部分。所有这些已经在学生中发起起强烈的了解中国的兴趣和热情，有利于推动相互沟通、了解和合作。

为加强本地区的中文语言培训文化和合作，WKU 与本地的多家教育机构比如肯塔基教育局，肯塔基世界语言协会，和肯塔基中文教师协会都保持着密切的合作伙伴关系。肯塔基中文旗舰已经和这些机构接洽，积极参与中国文化节和中国文化竞赛活动，为从幼儿园到高中的老师提供职业培训和课程支持。

孔子学院的成立，来自中国的师资和资金的支持，将强化这一服务平台，更好地将中文教育与培训做好，做实，做强。
叁 校方的支持和承诺

校长和副校长兼教务长都全力支持建立孔子学院，随时准备访问中国并对建立孔子学院做出了实质性的具体承诺，确保孔子学院的健康、可持续发展。

一、场地

签约之日，孔子学院马上就可以在学校中心地带的 Tate Page 大楼里享有自己的办公场地，包括至少两间办公室，一间接待室，和合用的教室和会议室。该大楼是教育学院所在地，是校园里最大的教学单位。2010 年 12 月，教育学院搬出后，重新装修供肯塔基国际研究学院、Navitas、中文旗舰学院、学者发展办公室和大学学院使用。届时，孔子学院将拥有 Tate Page 至少四个办公室，三个教室，一个资料室，会议室，电脑实验室和一个接待室。

二、语音实验室

孔子学院马上可以使用位于 Fine Arts 二楼的语音实验室。

三、新家具和新电脑

到 2010 年 12 月孔子学院有自己的新场地时，学校将为孔子学院和中文旗舰建中文语言实验室并为其提供新家具和电脑。这使我们能开设 HSK 考试中心，支持全校的中文学习。
四、人员配备

设两位人员共同出任孔子学院院长，Amy Eckhardt 和陈丽萍。

Amy Eckhardt 是宾州州立大学和匹兹堡大学法律系的毕业生。有十五年以上的国际规划、课程设计和学校管理经验。目前是肯塔基中文旗舰的行政主任，也是 WKU 国际教育委员会成员和学者发展办公室主任。作为学者发展办公室主任，她的主要职责是帮助学生获取国内和国际知名奖学金，推动本科生的科研。她的职责是负责协调与美国合作伙伴和校方领导层的沟通和资金的管理。

陈丽萍是中文语言学博士，毕业于若歌（Rutgers）大学（新泽西州立大学），是肯塔基中文旗舰的教务主任。她先后在若歌大学、卡内基梅隆大学和匹兹堡大学任教，有近十年的中文教学经验。陈丽萍博士主要负责中文课程的设计、教学和管理工作。在孔子学院的职责是协调与汉办和中方合作学校的沟通，监督孔子学院的课程设置和文化活动安排。

两位负责人的良好关系以及孔子学院和中文旗舰的密切合作必将会对双方带来协同效益。

2010 年秋季起，WKU 为孔子学院聘

用一名办公室秘书和一个助理主任并支付一半的工资。孔子学院匹配另一半工资。

五、图书馆

WKU 承诺购买中国学术刊物 (CAJ) 现刊，并在图书馆开辟一个阅览空间用以存放汉办捐赠的书籍和资料。

六、为汉办老师提供校内住房

WKU 为汉办老师在国际学者村提供学校补助的校内住房。

七、每年为南开大学提供两个研究生学费奖学金

奖学金获得者将由孔子学院的院长和南开大学协商选出。另外，WKU 的教育领导学博士项目每年会为南开大学学生提供两个名额。
肆  WKU 孔子学院的使命和活动

一、教育机构、公司、政府和社区的语言延伸活动

1. 与 Nashville 公立学校和社区组织合作发展文化和语言教育。合作对象包括大 Nashville 地区中文协会，Nashville 中文学校，H. G. Hill 学校，中国艺术联盟和龙舟艺术节。

2. 与 Bowling Green 市和社区组织合作发展文化和语言教育。如 Bowling Green 国际艺术节，Bowling Green 交响乐团，当地画展，以及 Bowling Green 图书馆。

3. 与公司合作发展文化和语言教育如 Bowling Green 商会，Fruit of the Loom 公司，扶轮国际俱乐部。

4. 中小学暑期项目。与继续教育部合作，为想学中文的中小学学生提供集语言学习和文化活动于一体的暑期中文主题夏令营。可以与留学办公室为中国学生举办的青年暑期夏令营一起搞，以此加强中文和中国文化的学习，培养中美年轻人之间的友谊和理解。

5. 高中大学项目。为周边的高中和大学学生开设中文课，推广中文教育，以期为中文旗帜输送高水平的语言人才。

二、中华到大学的教师培训和证书项目

1. 职业培训。与肯塔基教育部，肯塔基世界语言协会，和肯塔基中文教师协会共同提供中文语言教学，方法和测试的课程。

2. 教师证书。与教育学院和肯塔基教育部合作为中小学中文教师开设教师证书课程。

3. 中文教学硕士学位。作为长期计划，我们希望开设中文教学硕士学位课程。

三、与南开大学合作双学位课程，开展学者交流

1. 双学位项目。我们希望与南开大学创办各个层次的联合学位项目以加强两校间在人员、思想和研究方面的交流。WKU 目前有两个商业管理方面的联合学位项目，一个是与法国的大学合作，另一个是与墨西哥的大学合作。我们愿意建立类似的合作管理项目。目前，生物系正与内罗毕大学商讨建立联合博士项目。我们可以借鉴这些经验与南开大学开发联合学位课程。

2. 交换教师和学生。发展联合学位项目有助于 WKU 与南开的教师和学生的交换项目制度化，从而推动彼此友谊的建立和学术的交流。

四、为 WKU 学生提供中短期留学奖学金

出国留学对激发和保持学生学习中文
的兴趣至关重要。我们计划用孔子学院奖学金加大去中国留学的学生人数，并提高其中文流利程度。我们为学生提供四种中国留学项目，希望与南开大学在以下冬季和暑期项目中合作。

1. 冬季3个星期的语言密集训练
2. 五月份短期主题留学项目，比如中国企业，中国地理和地质。
3. 夏季十二周的中国实地考察项目

五、长期中国留学项目
这是为高年级的学生设计的。他们会直接注册中国的一家大学，与中国学生和老师一起上课并有实习机会。目的是把这些有语言能力的学生培养成国际专业人士，加强中美之间的关系。

六、建立HSK考试中心
为孔子学院和中文旗舰建立的语言实验室也可以用来举办HSK考试。计划为自己和整个地区的学生提供HSK考试服务。

七、扩大图书资源
目前有中国学术期刊的现刊，希望购买档案文献和维持现有的订阅，满足中文学生和教师的需求，这对中国的访问学者也是宝贵的资源。

八、建立双语网站整合WKU中文旗舰、孔子学院和亚洲研究
创办中英双语网站，双方互享资源、
伍 孔子学院的成功和可持续性

我们希望已经阐明了我们有创办一所充满生机活力而又有效的孔子学院的意愿和能力。两年内，我们将是肯塔基州唯一一所可以开设四年中文课程和二十五门新的语言和地方研究课程的大学，永久中文教授职位的设立就是WKU对中文项目支持的最有力说明。

我们对所阐述的申请计划充满自信，源于校方的倾力支持和对孔子学院的具体承诺（永久场地、人员、设备等）。

汉办在WKU的投资（书刊、资金、汉办老师）是一个对中文和中国有极大热情和需要的地区的投资。我们会利用汉办的投资、校方的保证和自身现有的资源通过对社区、中小学和网上学生开设中文课程在中文教育欠缺的地方推广中文教育，提高中国在本地区的知名度，也希望以此推动来自肯塔基基层的语言需求。

我们将与肯塔基教育部、肯塔基世界语言协会和肯塔基中文教师协会合作在以下两方面推动中小学的中文教学：提供职业培训和教师证书；与教师和管理人员合作使中小学课程与WKU的课程衔接起来，为所有肯塔基的学生提供更好的全方位中文学习机会。

最后，我们重申：WKU对孔子学院的短期和长期的巨大投入是保证孔子学院成功、成长、壮大的基石，对孔子学院的长期可持续发展是至关重要的，对此我们有实力，也有信心。孔子学院落户WKU，是我们的期盼，也是我们的支持者的共同愿望，下面附上来自国会议员、州机构和组织，美国第一家孔子学院以及企业对WKU建立孔子学院的支持信函。

谢谢！

西肯塔基大学
支持信列表

- 美国国会议员 Brett Guthrie
- 市长 Elaine N. Walker
- 肯塔基州教育局 Terry Holiday
- Warren 县执行法官 Michael O. Buchanon
- 商会会长 James N. Hizer, CECD
- 董事会主席 Todd Davis
- 董事会主席 James “Bud” Layne
- 基思公司总裁 Keith A. Springs
- 肯塔基州世界语言协会会长 Susann Davis
- 肯塔基州中文教师协会主席 Janna Chiang
- 马里兰大学孔子学院院长 Chuansheng Liu
陆 支持信
美国国会议员  Brett Guthrie

尊敬的许琳女士：

我写信支持WKU申请建立孔子学院。在WKU建立孔子学院将进一步加强中美在文化和商务领域的合作。孔子学院提供的语言教育会让没有中文基础的学生在未来的全球经济中发展作用，使本地和全肯塔基的学生受益。

WKU是本州发展最快的大学，在当地经济成功发展中扮演重要角色。学校致力于教育创新，在成立了Gatton数理学院和天才儿童研究中心，分别为有天赋的高中生和儿童提供校际教育和夏令营活动。WKU是本州唯一拥有荣誉学院的公立大学。该学院的建立印证了WKU为毕业生提供高水平教育而做出的努力。

由于校方的支持，WKU的中文和亚洲研究项目迅速成为学校学科建设的一个重要部分。孔子学院的建立会使中文教育扩大到大学和大学以下学生。孔子学院可以与天才儿童中心合作，办夏令营等活动，使中文教育延及到中小学的学生和老师。

另外，孔子学院也会为大学生也提供更多的语言课程和中文资源。

WKU对中文教育的热情以及对教育创新的支持，使之成为建立孔子学院最理想的地方。我希望他们的申请得到你们全面的支持。

美国国会议员  Brett Guthrie
Bowling Green 市长  Elaine N. Walker

尊敬的许琳女士：

我很高兴写信支持西肯塔基大学 (WKU) 申请孔子学院。Bowling Green 市有两家中国公司，我们目前正在致力于建立与中国的关系。孔子学院的建立对加强我们两国的关系起到至关重要的作用。

WKU 通过联邦政府资助的中文旗舰和亚洲研究项目，已经活跃在加强对中国理解的舞台上。他们的中文语言课程也为肯塔基提供了唯一的 4 年中文语言学习机会。另外他们把中文教育与其它学科相结合，为语言教学提供了一个崭新的模式。肯塔基州要与中国建立更广泛的联系，有待于孔子学院的建立。我们相信 WKU 和 Bowling Green 市是建立孔子学院的理想场所。

中国是世界强国，进一步了解中国，中国文化和中国人民刻不容缓。我们恭敬地请求中国教育部把下一个孔子学院的家乡在 WKU，帮助我们发展与其在肯塔基的联系。

市长  Elaine N. Walker
肯塔基州教育局  Terry Holiday

尊敬的许琳女士：

我写此信的目的表达肯塔基教育部门对西肯塔基大学 (WKU) 申请孔子学院的支持。

值得骄傲的是肯塔基在2005年跟中华共和国签订了两个协议：一个是肯塔基州长与江西省签订的推经济贸易协议，一个是肯塔基教育部部长和汉办的许琳女士签订的推动中文学习和建立校际合作的协议。

现在，全肯塔基州有600多个访问教师、学生也通过肯塔基虚拟学校学习中文。肯塔基的大学也开设了中文语言和研究课程，当地的老师也正在获取中文教师证书。

所有这些都得到了WKU的支持。他们帮助推广中文，为汉办和地方教师提供职业发展机会。申请政府拨款的成功使WKU与俄勒冈大学中文旗舰项目建立了良好的关系，得到了他们的很大支持。

他们一直致力于发展本州的中小学中文教学。他们越来越多地与肯塔基教育部在课程设置、提供教师培训、夏令营，在全州推广中文上进行合作。

在肯塔基没有孔子学院。其它的孔子学院也是几个小时之外。所以建立孔子学院会不仅会提高WKU满足本地区对中文需求的能力，而且会在更广的热情高却缺少服务的地区提高中文的知名度，增加肯塔基与中国在文化与学术方面交流的机会。

我相信WKU会是我们的积极的合作伙伴，热心孔子学院的使命。我恭敬地请求您考虑让WKU成为孔子学院的主办地。

肯塔基州教育局  Terry Holiday
尊敬的许琳女士：

我很高兴写信支持西肯塔基大学（WKU）申请孔子学院。目前在美国有60多家孔子学院，全球有300多家，但是在肯塔基的Bowling Green方圆几个小时内却没有一家孔子学院。

孔子学院的建立会使WKU更好地推动学生交流，为社区和企业的提供更好的语言课程和文化活动，提升教育、政府和企业在国内国际的知名度。WKU打算通过加强人际交流来促进两国在经济、教育、政府方面的了解和合作。另一个好处，也是Warren县政府感兴趣的是发展我们与中国城市之间的关系。

WKU是肯塔基发展最快的大学，对发展中文语言和中国文化给予了极大的支持。去年WKU获得了近五十万的联邦政府资助发展中文旗舰和亚洲研究项目，把中文教育与其它学科结合起来，并为教师提供职业发展和交流的机会。

孔子学院使WKU能组织夏令营，提供社区和企业延伸项目，教师培训项目，联合学位项目和出国留学项目。

另一个好处是个人层面的。我有几个家庭成员在中国生活和工作。我深感学好中文对我们学生的价值。我给我6岁的和8岁的孙子请了家庭教师，希望他们为将来的全球化经济做好准备。在WKU建孔子学院使他们和其他的孩子直接受益。

如对他们的申请给予肯定合理的考虑，本人则不胜感激。

Warren 县执行法官
Michael O. Buchanon
商会会长 James N. Hizer, CECD

尊敬的许琳女士：

Bowling Green 地区商会很高兴的支持西肯塔基大学申请孔子学院在 Bowling Green 落户。

西肯塔基大学是 Bowling Green 和肯塔基中南地区的里程碑。该大学为促进本社区的经济发展做出了积极的贡献。

Bowling Green 商会是为中南肯塔基创造最多就业机会的最强有力和最具有热情的伙伴。

我们商会的工作人员与学校领导紧密协调，以巩固和扩大招商工作。特别是那些白领的工作和高薪的工作。

在西肯塔基大学建立一所孔子学院将使大学处于美国南部研究亚洲的领先地位。此外，孔子学院的中文课程会帮助该地区的人民进一步了解中国以及中国的文化。目前，Bowling Green 有两家中国公司，并且经常访问中国客户，我们也非常欢迎更多的中国人到我们地区访问。

拟建立的孔子学院不仅能使增加西肯塔基大学的课程和扩大该校的国际影响，并且能提高肯塔基中南部的经济发展以及吸引更多的中国项目。

敬礼

商会会长
James N. Hizer, CECD
董事会主席
Todd Davis
董事会主席  James “Bud” Layne

尊敬的许琳女士：

对于您给予西肯塔基大学申请创建孔子学院的支持，我仅向您表示衷心地感谢。作为一个既在美国又在中国设有办事处的商人，对于这个项目的潜在的影响我感到非常高兴。该项目对工商界、教育界以及政府在增加国内及国际上的活动都存在着巨大的潜力。孔子学院所倡导的文化、教育及经济上的交流无疑会使中美两国的参与人员得到启迪和提高。

最后请允许我对于您对西肯塔基大学这个重要的项目的支持再次表示感谢。

此致

敬礼

董事会主席
James “Bud” Layne
基思公司总裁  Keith A. Springs

尊敬的许琳女士：

我很高兴的支持在西肯塔基大学创建孔子学院。我期待孔子学院通过学生交流，为社区和商界开始语言课程和文化活动而不断发展壮大。在众多的优势中，孔子学院将会成为中美两国克服文化和语言障碍的桥梁。我相信通过促进和加强人民之间的联系，加强经济、教育、政府和个人的纽带，无论是WKU，还是基思公司，我们的社区和国家都一定会受益非浅。

此致

敬礼

基思公司总裁  Keith A. Springs
肯塔基州世界语言协会会长

Susann Davis

尊敬的许琳女士：

肯塔基州世界语言协会对于有兴趣与中国交谈的中文教师协会共同合作，争取在肯塔基大学建立一所孔子学院表示欢迎。肯塔基州世界语言协会将支持拟建立的孔子学院并积极组织和促进大、中、小学中文教师的职业培训，并把全州的中文教师组织起来。

肯塔基州中文教师协会自2006年1月就成为肯塔基州世界语言协会的会员。自那时起，肯塔基州中文教师协会的会长就成为世界语言协会执委会的成员。作为世界语言协会成员的中文教师协会在过去四年里发展迅速，该协会的会员在参加世界语言协会年会的人数也增长迅速，在今年秋天召开的年会上有关中文教学的研讨会超过了任何其它语言的研讨会。

此时，世界语言协会对有机会与拟新建立的孔子学院成为合作伙伴而感到兴奋。因为中文教学对肯塔基州完全是崭新的，如果从一开始就把大中小学从事中文教学的人员联合起来，那么未来顺利的从中学过渡到大学学习中文将不会是困难的事，这正是创建孔子学院的目的之一。

肯塔基州世界语言协会有与其它大学合
肯塔基州中文教师协会主席

尊敬的许琳女士：

我代表肯塔基州中文语言教师协会主席的名义给您写信，对西肯塔基大学申请建立孔子学院表示支持。拟建立的孔子学院目标之一是为肯塔基州中小学中文教师提供汉语职业培训，颁发证书和资格认证以及为他们提供广泛的中国文化信息资源，为学习中文的学生广开门路。

肯塔基州对中国和中文教育有着浓厚的兴趣，而且与中国有着丰富的经济联系，除了商务合作之外，去年还在我州派出了21名中文教师，今年还派出了15名中文教师在肯塔基州任教。这些教师到肯塔基州任教是执行汉办和肯塔基州达成合作协议中的一部分。这些教师是肯塔基州中文教学不可分割的一部分，他们同时也是我们州的文化使者。

当我每年支持和欢迎这些新教师的时候，我也认识到他们的需要和面临的挑战。拟在西肯塔基大学建立的孔子学院将为全州提供师资以及非常需要的职业培训和非常有价值的信息资源。西肯塔基大学一直致力于与中小学的合作，他们又收到了联邦政府的赞助。建立肯塔基中文旗舰学院，这一切都证明西肯塔基大学是一个很好的合作伙伴。如果在肯塔基州建立孔子学院，

Janna Chiang

以我个人的意见来说西肯塔基大学是最理想的选择。

此致

敬礼

肯塔基州中文教师协会主席
Janna Chiang
尊敬的许琳女士：

我全力支持西肯塔基大学 (WKU) 建立孔子学院的申请。
首先，我相信在肯塔基特别是其中南部建立孔子学院有极大的需求。北卡、俄亥俄、密苏里、和堪萨斯都有很好的孔子学院。其次，我相信 WKU 有能力办好孔子学院。我非常欢迎他们加入孔子学院，成为孔子学院大家庭的一员。

WKU 询问过我们有关孔子学院的事宜和我们办孔子学院的经验。作为第一家孔子学院，我们很能为 WKU 提供一些建议和指导。我们为 Amy Eckhardt 和陈丽萍博士在此方面的努力和执着而感动。

她们的申请表明她们已经和社区、政府和学校做了大量的工作。这是她们的优势。他们也展示了对建立一个富有成效、创新和充满活力的孔子学院的激情和承诺。更重要的是他们有校方的鼎立支持和资源上的优势。

WKU 是语言旗舰工程的一员。他们有发展中文项目所必要的架构、支持和空间。尽管他们的项目还很年轻，但我相信他们会成功。这一点可以从我们学校
Introduction

Western Kentucky University (WKU) under the auspices of its Kentucky Chinese Flagship proposes to create and sustain a Confucius Institute (CI) using seed money from The Office of Chinese Language Council International (Hanban) and major institutional support from the University and U.S. government. Creating a CI at WKU is an entrepreneurial and timely investment in promoting Chinese language learning and culture and building regional capacity in an underserved area. Our proposal is integrated with institutional investments in Chinese language and area studies and grassroots initiatives throughout the state to offer Chinese in Kentucky. Interest in Chinese and China among businesses, government, and educational institutions has grown with the emergence of China’s economic power.

In 2006, the Kentucky World Trade Center sponsored a Trade Mission of Key Leaders trip to China and the resulting report, “Positioning Kentucky as a Leader in International Education and Business,” recommended that Kentucky trade offices established in countries outside the U.S. be re-designated as Kentucky Trade and Education Offices. Additionally, the Kentucky Department of Education was one of the first state agencies to sign a memorandum of understanding with Hanban. The first K-12 Kentucky Chinese program was established in Marion County in 2006, and three years later a total of 33 teachers are teaching Mandarin Chinese in 45 schools in 15 counties in Kentucky. Additionally, the Kentucky Virtual High Schools offer Chinese online when it is not taught in a school.

The proposed Confucius Institute at Western Kentucky University fulfills unmet need within Kentucky and beyond our state, thus making our center a regional resource for Chinese language and culture. WKU is located in south central Kentucky, one hour north of Nashville. The Nashville greater metropolitan area is the locus of great activity and demand for Chinese language and culture resources. The Greater Nashville Chinese Association (GNCA), founded in 1986, is the oldest and largest Chinese association in Nashville. Additionally, Chinese is offered in several public schools, such as the H.G. Hill School and through the Nashville Chinese Schools. There are also rich opportunities to support the cultural and arts efforts of organizations such as the Chinese Arts Alliance and the Nashville Dragon Boat Organization.

Clearly, in our region (Kentucky and the Nashville Metropolitan area in northern Tennessee), there is great demand for Chinese language and culture resources but surprisingly there is no CI within a 4.5 hour radius of Bowling Green, Kentucky, the home of WKU. Although there are 60 Confucius Institutes in the U.S., and even Confucius Institutes in the neighboring states of Ohio, Indiana, Tennessee, North Carolina and Missouri, there is no CI in Kentucky.

Establishing a CI at WKU is absolutely feasible due to tremendous support from the highest levels of leadership for making WKU a regional center of excellence in Chinese Language. This commitment has already been demonstrated through the advancement of the newly-funded Kentucky Chinese Flagship program and the development of the Asian Studies program. This dedication is also apparent in the leadership’s pledge to provide personnel, funding, and space for a WKU Confucius Institute. We are confident that we can create and sustain a regional Confucius Institute, in collaboration with WKU and external partners, who have the collective expertise and resources needed to create a Confucius Institute at
WKU, promote Chinese language and culture, support teaching of Chinese at all levels, and build bridges between our region and China to foster mutual economic, cultural, and personal understanding and cooperation.

I. Introduction to Western Kentucky University

WKU, known as one of the most beautiful campuses in the U.S., is situated at the top of a hill in the historic city of Bowling Green in south central Kentucky. A comprehensive university with a focus on undergraduate education, WKU, under the leadership of the President Gary Ransdell, has been moving steadily to realize its vision to become a leading American university with international reach. Over the past 12 years, WKU has been the fastest growing university in Kentucky with an enrollment of about 20,000 students. It is nationally recognized for its world-class programs in Geology and Geography (Karst Studies and Meteorology), Folk Studies, Photojournalism (annually ranked in the top five nationally), Public Health (home of the Gerontology Society of America journal), Chemistry, and Agriculture, and has widespread cooperation with Chinese professionals in those areas.

WKU has the first and only Honors College (for gifted and talented undergraduates) in the state and a nationally ranked Forensic team. WKU has swept the major national and international speech and debate championships for five times in six years. Our students have won many nationally competitive scholarships and awards and have been admitted into top universities and institutions for their further scholarly development. Last year alone, students received almost half a million dollars in external funding and attended institutions such as Berkeley and MIT. WKU is home to the publicly funded and highly selective Gatton Academy of Math and Science. The Academy, dubbed by Newsweek Magazine as a “Public Elite,” provides the best high school juniors in the state a two-year residential style of education. The Director of the Gatton Academy, Distinguished University Professor Dr. Julia Roberts, also runs the WKU Center for Gifted Studies, which has over 30 years of experience running academic camps for talented and gifted kids throughout the United States and the world.

WKU’s international reach has steadily grown. WKU’s Office of Internationalization has spearheaded efforts to bring the world to WKU and take our students to the world. Study abroad has increased steadily, due in part to substantial scholarships provided by WKU for study abroad. Additionally, WKU will be unveiling a new International Scholar Village located on the campus. Some highlights of further internationalization are recent partnerships with the renowned Semester at Sea, the Kentucky Institute for International Studies (KIIS), and Navitas. WKU was selected to host the KIIS, a study abroad consortium that serves 64 member institutions and provides affordable, high quality study abroad programs for undergraduates. Additionally, WKU is now the training site for the Semester at Sea voyage faculty and staff and will sponsor a two-week summer voyage beginning summer 2010. We are currently in the final stages of negotiation to become one of two U.S. sites for Navitas Pathways Program. Navitas is the world’s leading provider of pathway programs for international students to study in Australia, the UK, Canada, South Africa, and now the U.S. They have over 27,000 students from more than 90 countries represented in their programs. WKU would be receiving 1000 international students (many from Asia) in the coming five years.

Beyond the University, the city of Bowling Green, population 90,000, is an internationally oriented city. The International Festival brings crowds from around the city to learn about cultures represented in our increasingly diverse and international community. Close to Bowling Green is Mammoth Cave, a United World Heritage site with partnerships with other World Heritage sites in China, and the world famous distilleries for the production of Kentucky Bourbon such as Four Roses and Maker’s Mark. The county seat for
Warren County, Bowling Green has long enjoyed its location on the I65 corridor between Chicago and Nashville and has thus been able to support music from the classical, to blues, to country and western. The convenient location and beautiful locale of Bowling Green along with a similarly internationally oriented Mayor and Chamber of Commerce have also made it attractive to multinational corporations. Bowling Green is home to the only Corvette factory in the world to produce this highly desirable race-car. The city is also home to Fruit of the Loom, an apparel company with major operations in China.

II. Current State of Chinese Language Teaching and Resources at WKU

WKU's Chinese program was started in 1986 by Dr. Jianliang Wang in the School of Education. A leader in international education policy and a passionate advocate for Chinese language and culture, Dr. Wang has led distinguished delegations of school superintendents, principals, and teachers to China. This program, while small, has continued to flourish, with maximum capacity enrollments in beginning Chinese classes every semester. In the past year, WKU has been able to quickly advance this modest program with extraordinary commitment from our leadership and University partners as well as external partners to institutionalize the promotion and delivery of high quality Chinese language and Chinese studies at WKU and throughout our Region.

This past year alone, WKU received close to half a million dollars in US Federal Funding, matched by WKU, toward establishing a Kentucky Chinese Flagship, as part of the elite National Security Education Program’s Language Flagship program. WKU and the eight other Chinese Flagship programs throughout the US (Brigham Young University, Ohio State University, University of Mississippi, University of Oregon, Indiana University, Arizona State University, San Francisco State University, and University of Rhode Island) are leading the way to a new paradigm of outcome-based, scientifically verified models for teaching and learning Chinese. Our status as a Flagship, and the commitment that this designation represents financially on the part the U.S. government and WKU, will ensure the long-term and stable development of the Chinese program. Furthermore, this will provide a strong and constant foundation on which to base the creation of a CI. Beyond financial stability and longevity, WKU as a member of the Flagship is part of a national network and can benefit from the shared resources among all of the participating institutions in The Language Flagship.

In July 2009, we successfully hired a tenure-track professor of Chinese language and linguistics to be the academic director of the the Flagship program and to coordinate with other professors to establish an Asian Studies program and major. At present, we have a total of 80 students enrolled in both Flagship-track and non-Flagship Chinese language courses. Currently, we offer two years of Chinese language courses, and we will offer a four-year sequence of Chinese language instruction by next year. This will mean that WKU will become the only university in Kentucky to offer four years of Chinese language training. In addition, we will offer content classes in Chinese and multiple study abroad programs, including a winter immersion program and several summer study abroad options to China. The opportunity for study abroad and authentic interaction with the language and culture will be organic parts of our language curriculum. The availability of advanced language study and study abroad at WKU has already aroused interest among students to understand more about China and to help promote mutual communication, understanding and cooperation in a variety of disciplines and professional areas.

Developing faculty and institutional capacity at WKU is vital to our wider mission of meeting the
need for access to Chinese language training and
cultural opportunities in our region. To this end,
WKU has formed close partnerships with external
partners such as the Kentucky Department of
Education (KDE), the Kentucky World Languages
Association (KWLA), and the Kentucky Association
of Chinese Language Teachers (KACLIT) to
determine need, develop appropriate programming,
and deliver resources and training. The WKU
Chinese Flagship is already working with all of
these organizations to support Chinese language
festivals and contests and to offer professional
development and curricular assistance to K-12 teach­
ers, many of whom are here through a partnership
with Kentucky and Hanban. We will continue these
efforts and build on our partnerships, using the CI as
a platform to extend our cooperation and reach.

III. Proposed Plan of Action and Activities for
the WKU CI

Confucius Institute Directors
We propose to have two co-directors for WKU’s
Confucius Institute. Amy Eckhardt, a graduate of
the Pennsylvania State University and the Univer­
sity of Pittsburgh School of Law is the Administra­
tive Director of the Kentucky Chinese Flagship.
She has over 15 years of experience with interna­
tional programming, curriculum development, and
university administration. In addition to being the
Administrative Director of the Flagship, Ms. Eck­
hardt, sits on the International Education Council
for WKU and leads the Office of Scholar Devel­
opment which has responsibility for promoting
undergraduate research and helping students com­
pete for nationally and internationally competitive
scholarship. Her responsibilities will be to facilitate
communication with our partners in the U.S. and
with the executive leadership at WKU and oversee
the budget process.

Dr. Liping Chen, a graduate of Rutgers University,
is the Academic Director of the Kentucky Chinese
Flagship. Her scholarship focuses on Chinese lin­
guistics and she has close to 10 years of experience
teaching Chinese at Rutgers University, Carnegie
Mellon University, and the University of Pittsburgh.
Dr. Chen was hired to oversee and guide the aca­
demic content of the Chinese language program.
Her responsibility for the Confucius Institute will be
to facilitate communication with Hanban and with
our Chinese partner. She will also oversee the con­
tent of courses and cultural programming offered
by the CI. The good relationship between the pro­
posed Co-Directors of the CI and the close coopera­
tion between the CI and the Chinese Flagship will
result in beneficial efficiencies and synergies for
both programs.

Proposed Activities for the WKU Confucius
Institute

1) Outreach to local education institutions, busi­
nesses, government and community members.

a. Partnerships with Nashville public schools
and community organizations for cultural pro­
gramming and language education. Examples of
partners would be the Greater Nashville Chi­
inese Association (GNCA), the oldest and largest
Chinese American community organization in the
greater Nashville area, Nashville Chinese School,
the H.G. Hill School, the Chinese Arts Alliance, and
the Nashville Dragon Boat Festival.

b. Partnerships with Bowling Green municipal
and community organization for cultural pro­
gramming and language education. Examples of
partners are the International Festival of Bowling
Green, local galleries, the Bowling Green Western
Symphony Orchestra, the Bowling Green Libraries
(community language classes).

c. Partnerships with businesses to provide cul­
tural and language training. Some examples of
partners would be the Bowling Green Chamber of
Commerce, the Bowling Green Rotary Club, Fruit
of the Loom, etc.

d. K-12 Summer Programs. We will offer
Themed Summer Language Camps for K-12 U.S.
students who want to learn Chinese. These programs would combine language study with cultural activities and programming such as learning Chinese calligraphy, Chinese sports such as Kung Fu, Chinese musical instrument instruction, Chinese cooking, etc. We would partner with WKU's Division of Extended Learning and Outreach to develop, market, and run these programs. These summer camps would run concurrently with Youth Summer Camps for Chinese students that are being offered by our Study Abroad and Global Learning office. In this way we can promote learning about China and Chinese while fostering friendships and understanding between our young people.

e. College in High School Programs. We will offer Chinese language classes to high school and university students in our metropolitan area. This will promote access to Chinese language instruction and help to create a pipeline of incoming students who are motivated and able to achieve the highest levels of proficiency in Chinese.

2) Teacher Training and Certification for K-16 Chinese language educators.

a. Professional Development. We will work with the KDE world languages consultant, the KWLA, and the KACLT to provide ongoing professional development on Chinese language teaching content, methodology, and assessment.

b. Language Teacher Certification. We will work with our School of Education, which graduates the most teachers in the state, and the KDE to offer credentialing and certification for Kentucky K-12 Chinese language teachers.

c. Masters Degree in Chinese Language Teaching. Long-term we would like to develop a Masters degree in Chinese Language teaching to certify Chinese language educators at the K-16 level.

3) Cooperation on dual degrees and people to people exchanges with our Partner University.

a. Dual degree programs (BSBA, Master and PhD). We hope to articulate with our partner school to create joint degree programs at all levels. In this way we can capitalize on the exchange and facilitate the exchange of people, ideas, and research across both universities. WKU currently has two joint business degree programs, one with a French university and another with a Mexican university. We would like to use this structure to create a similar program in Business. Currently the department of biology is in the process of creating a joint PhD with the University of Nairobi on Big Game Management. This experience would enable us to develop joint graduate degree programs with our partner school.

b. Faculty exchanges and student exchanges. The development of the joint degrees will facilitate and institutionalize the exchange of students and faculty between WKU and its partner. In this way, we hope to promote personal relationships and scholarly projects.

4) Study Abroad Scholarships for WKU students. Study abroad is a vital component to inspiring and cementing student interest and competency in the Chinese Language. We plan to use CI scholarships to increase the number of students who travel to China with the goal of enhancing their final proficiency in the Chinese Language. We offer four types of study abroad experiences for our students. We hope to work with our CI partner university for the winter and summer study abroad programs.

a. Three week intensive immersion Winter Language Practicum

b. Short introductory themed study abroad during the May term, such as Entrepreneurship in China, the Geography and Geology of China, etc.

c. 12-week Summer Field Studies program in China

d. Semester or year-long study abroad in China. This option will be for our upper-level Chinese speakers. They will be able to direct enroll at a Chinese university and take classes in Chinese with Chinese professors and students. They will also
have the opportunity to pursue an internship in their discipline or profession. This will create students who will have the linguistic and cultural competence to be global professionals to help promote U.S. and Chinese relations.

5) Serving as a regional HSK test center. We will be creating a dedicated language lab to be shared by the CI and the Chinese Flagship that would be appropriate for administering the HSK proficiency tests. We plan to administer the tests to our own students and will be able to serve students in our entire region, as there is no other HSK testing center in this area.

6) Supporting the creation and dissemination of scholarly work on China. We will expand our library holdings to support student and faculty scholarship on China. We currently have subscriptions to the China Academic Journals and we would like to purchase the back issues and maintain these collections. This will also be a valuable resource for our visiting scholars from China.

7) Development of a dual language website that links the Kentucky Chinese Flagship, CI and Asian Studies at WKU. We would like to create a website in both Chinese and English. In this way we can share our resources, programming, and expertise with speakers of both languages. We also hope to promote recognition and respect for the Confucius Institute’s work and mission throughout the world.

8) Development of online language and content classes. We will work with our Division of Extended Learning and Outreach to develop and offer Chinese language and culture classes. In this way we will be able to reach a wider, more diverse audience and better meet the need for Chinese language and culture learning opportunities.

IV. Institutional Support and Commitment

Both the President and the Provost of WKU have promised the strongest support for establishing a Confucius Institute at WKU. They are prepared to travel, immediately, to China and have made tremendous, substantive commitments to the WKU CI, which will insure its immediate and continued status, visibility and resources.

1. Space for offices, classrooms, reception area, resource room, meeting room, and a computer lab. Immediately upon signing an agreement, a minimum of two dedicated offices, a reception area, and shared rooms for meetings and classes will be provided to the CI in Tate Page, a large centrally located building on the south part of campus. This building currently houses the School of Education, the largest academic unit on campus. In December 2010, the School of Education will be moving into a new building, across the street. The space that will have been vacated will be renovated and then used for other units such as the Kentucky Institute for International Studies, Navitas, the Kentucky Chinese Flagship, the Office of Scholar Development, and the University College. The CI will be given the full suite of renovated rooms with a minimum of 4 offices, 3 dedicated classrooms, a resource room, meeting rooms, a dedicated computer/media room, and a reception/work area in Tate Page.

2. Shared Language Lab. Immediately, the CI will have access to a shared language lab, located on the second floor of the Fine Arts Center building.

3. New Furniture and New Computer equipment. By December 2010, when the CI has all of its new space, the University will provide new furniture and computer equipment for the Chinese language lab to be shared with the Chinese Flagship in the CI suite. This will enable us to operate an HSK test center and support Chinese language learning on our campus.

4. Personnel. Beginning Fall 2010 WKU will provide partial support for an assistant director and an office associate. Matching Funds from the CI would be requested.

5. Library. WKU will purchase the China Academic Journals current subscription. Additionally, a visible, dedicated space/reading area in the newly
6. Provide on-campus housing for two Hanban teachers. Immediately WKU will provide on-campus, subsidized housing for visiting Hanban scholars and teachers. WKU will dedicate one two-bedroom cottage in the International Scholar Village for use by the Hanban visiting faculty.

7. Provide 2 tuition scholarships per year for graduate students of the partner university. The selection of the scholarship recipients will be overseen by the CI directors in consultation with the Chinese partner school. Additionally, two spots in each annual class of WKU's education leadership Ph.D. program can be held for students from our partner school.

8. Visa support from our Office of International Student and Scholar Services for visiting Hanban teachers.

V. The Future Prospects for Success and Sustainability for the Confucius Institute at WKU

We hope that we have presented to you a convincing demonstration of our capacity and willingness to create a vibrant, dynamic and effective Confucius Institute. In two years we will be the only university in Kentucky that can offer four years of Chinese, with over 25 new Chinese language and Chinese area studies classes. The creation and support of a tenure-track position in Chinese is a powerful demonstration to WKU's long-term support of our Chinese programs.

We are confident in our plans as outlined in this proposal because of the support from our university leadership (President and Provost), and the institutional commitments made for the CI (permanent space, new facilities like furniture and computers, and new personnel). Hanban's investment in WKU (books, funding, and visiting Hanban teachers) will be an investment in a region of the U.S. with demonstrated need and interest in Chinese and China. We will leverage the resources from Hanban with University commitments and our existing capacity and resources to promote Chinese in underrepresented areas and improve the visibility of China in our region by offering a variety of Chinese classes for the community, for business, for K-12, and for online learners. In this way we hope to support grassroots language initiatives in Kentucky. We will support and enhance K-12 Chinese language instruction by partnering with the Kentucky Department of Education, the Kentucky World Languages Association, and the Kentucky Association of Chinese Language Teachers in two ways: providing professional development and certification for teachers and cooperating with educators and administrator to articulate the K-12 curriculum with WKU's curriculum. In this way we can create better and more language learning for all students in Kentucky.

WKU's status as a Chinese Flagship signifies support and ongoing resources from the U.S. federal government to support Chinese language programs at WKU. The combination of the CI with the Chinese Flagship will further ensure stability and guarantee national visibility for our Center, Hanban, and our partner university. In this way, we can strengthen the ties between government, business and people of the U.S. and China through outreach, education, and exchange.

In closing, WKU reiterates its full support of establishing the Chinese Flagship Program as evidenced by its extraordinary contributions to the CI in the short and long term. With strong collaborations and robust financial support for the CI guarantees of commitment for continued support after the first year, we will be able to sustain a successful CI. We have documented the need and support for a Confucius Institute at WKU with letters from our President, three state agencies and organizations, the oldest existing Confucius Institute, and representatives from business and government. Letters of support are listed below.

WKU
Original Copies of Letters in Application

1. Dr. Gary Ransdell, President, Western Kentucky University

Language Associations
2. Janna Chang, President, Kentucky Association of Chinese Language Teachers
3. Susann Davis, President, Kentucky World Language Association

Government
4. Honorable M. Elaine Walker, Mayor, City of Bowling Green
5. Honorable Michael O. Buchanon, Judge Executive, Warren County
6. Honorable Brett Guthrie, Member of Congress, House of Representatives, Congress of the United States
7. Terry Holliday, Commissioner of Education, Education and Workforce Cabinet, Kentucky Department of Education

Business
8. Keith Springs, President, Heath/Zenith
9. Bud Layne, Chairman of the Board, SpanTech, LLC
10. James N. Hizer, President and CEO and Todd Davis, Chairman of the Board of Directors, Bowling Green Area Chamber of Commerce.

11. Dr. Liu Chuansheng, Director, Confucius Institute at University of Maryland (sent under separate cover)