Greetings from Chi Wang

This past year has been a uniquely trying time for U.S.-China relations. With the ongoing trade war and rising tensions in the South China Sea, mistrust between the U.S. and China has risen to an all-time high, threatening this eminently important bilateral relationship. It is the recognition of the significance and global impact of this relationship that has encouraged leaders in both countries to look past their differences over the years, find common ground, work through conflicts, and continue to engage. It is vital that our leaders enter the new year with this mindset firmly in place.

I find it very fitting that 2019 marks the 40th anniversary of China and America’s official diplomatic ties. President Nixon, President Carter, Deng Xiaoping, and all the advisers and officials involved recognized the need for official relations and increased ties. They understood that, ultimately, a working relationship was worth the monumental effort they put into it. As the Trump administration and the Chinese government work towards resolving the trade war over the next few months, it is my hope they will draw inspiration from this generation of leaders, both American and Chinese.

As politicians and pundits question the value of engagement today, it is important to remember the lessons from the past. The U.S.-China relationship has often become rocky, as is to be expected with two countries that have stark differences in ideology, governance, and values. Despite this, we were able to make it to the other side of the many tense periods we faced over the past four decades. The most important factors of that enduring relationship are a strong groundwork and mutual dedication to a harmonious existence.

This year the USCPF celebrated 23 years of programs seeking to improve understanding between the U.S. and China. Our annual delegations of senior congressional staff to China have continued to offer opportunities to promote exchange between our respective policymakers and government officials. In this difficult global political climate, we believe every bit of understanding and perspective we can foster is vital to an improved U.S.-China relationship.

Our programs to improve U.S.-China relations would be impossible without our supporters, including our dedicated Board Members, staff, and sponsors. As a non-partisan, non-profit, educational organization, the USCPF does not accept foreign or U.S. government money, so our successes are a direct result of our generous friends and sponsors.

Looking forward, 2019 is likely to be another eventful year in U.S.-China relations. As the trade war continues to develop, and military tensions in the region simmer, it is my hope that our governments will do their best to work towards a brighter future for us all. Here at USCPF we will continue to do our part fostering understanding between the U.S. and China — next year, and for many years to come.

Best wishes,

Chi Wang, PhD
President and Co-Chair
U.S.-China Policy Foundation

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Founded in 1995, the U.S.-China Policy Foundation (USCPF) is a non-partisan, non-profit organization dedicated to promoting greater understanding between American and Chinese policymakers, researchers, and government officials. USCPF seeks to provide opportunities for students, researchers, and practitioners of foreign policy to interact in more diverse and substantial ways. USCPF also conducts research on U.S.-China policies and relations in the Asia-Pacific region. The Foundation does not attempt to influence policy decisions, but instead provides information in order to increase awareness on issues in the field of U.S.-China relations.

The Foundation’s operational funds come exclusively from private donations. The organization is governed by a board of prominent officials, distinguished scholars and leading citizens. The Foundation’s central headquarters are located on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC.

As a research-oriented organization, the Foundation undertakes the following activities to fulfill its educational mission:

**COORDINATING** research efforts on topics and issues related to U.S.-China policy.

**ORGANIZING** exchanges and visits between specialists on U.S.-China relations, policymakers, and officials from both nations.

**FACILITATING** opportunities for discussion between U.S. policymakers and senior Chinese leaders in an unofficial capacity.

**EDUCATING** bright, young college graduates on U.S.-China policy and helping them pursue their professional aspirations.

**ACTING** as a focal point for an informal network of American China specialists and Chinese America specialists.

**PROVIDING** free consultative services to American scholars and policymakers on various U.S.-China policy issues.

**SUGGESTING** or furnishing experts with information on issues related to U.S.-China policy.

**PROMOTING** the development of China studies in U.S. institutions of higher education.

**MAINTAINING** a collection of scholarly work and articles for research purposes.

**HOSTING** seminars and conferences on issues related to U.S.-China relations.

For more information, please visit the U.S.-China Policy Foundation’s website: [www.us cpf.org](http://www.uscpf.org)
This year, USCPF celebrated its 23rd anniversary with a gala dinner held on Wednesday, December 5, 2018 at the Mayflower Hotel in Washington, DC. The event was held following a difficult year for U.S.-China relations, which included a continuing trade conflict as well as renewed tensions over old flashpoints such as Taiwan and the South China Sea. The gala was held just days after President Trump and Xi Jinping met following the G-20 in Argentina.

USCPF President and Co-founder, Dr. Chi Wang offered opening remarks, including a moment of silence for the late President George Herbert Walker Bush, whose funeral had been held at the Washington National Cathedral earlier that day following his passing on Friday, November 30. Professor Wang also spoke of the continued importance of mutual understanding in promoting positive U.S.-China relations. He noted the special significance this year, as it has been 40 years since Carter announced the U.S. and China would normalize relations.

Prestigious former government officials and policymakers who were unable to attend the event in-person provided letters of greeting, including former president Jimmy Carter, who was instrumental in overseeing the normalization of U.S.-China relations in 1979, Henry Kissinger, who served as Nixon’s national security advisor and help facilitate his historic opening to China, and Ambassador Terry Branstad, the current U.S. Ambassador to China.

After dinner, Ambassador Gary Locke, U.S. Ambassador to China from 2011 to 2014 and former governor of Washington, took to the podium to present the Philanthropic Excellence Award to The Starr Foundation. Ms. Florence Davis accepted the award on behalf of The Starr Foundation. Since its establishment in 1955, The Starr Foundation has pledged $315 million in grants to support programs related to China and U.S.-China relations. Ms. Davis shared a poignant story of one such grant with the dinner guests.

Ambassador Locke then presented the Global Media Leadership Award to South China Morning Post. Accepting the award on behalf of SCMP was Editor-in-Chief Tammy Tam. Ms. Tam acknowledged the 115th anniversary of the establishment of the newspaper and highlighted the importance of offering a platform for all viewpoints in reporting critical developments in U.S.-China relations.

Ambassador Locke returned to the podium to deliver remarks regarding the status of U.S.-China relations and offered a look back on the achievements made in the forty years since normalization. He also cautioned that the policy pursued by the current administration through the trade war will have no winners, and instead will ultimately hurt workers and consumers in both the U.S. and China.

Finally, Minister Li Kexin, Deputy Chief of Mission for the Embassy of the People’s Republic, finished the night by addressing the room. He summarized the current state of U.S.-China relations and the need to increase mutual understanding between the two countries. He also outlined China’s priorities and how the U.S. can factor positively into these, offering some examples of opportunities for bilateral cooperation in the future.

USCPF would like to thank our guests, speakers, honorees, and our gala co-chairs, Ambassador J. Stapleton Roy and Ambassador James Sasser. Like all our events, it would not have been possible without the generous support of our sponsors. We once again thank our sponsors for their support and their continued dedication to improving U.S.-China relations.
In 2018, the U.S.-China Policy Foundation led two successful Policymakers Trips to China. These delegations included senior congressional staff from offices of both parties in the House and Senate. For most participants, these trips were their first experiences visiting China. The delegations allowed participants to receive an introduction to China, engage in meetings with Chinese officials, and experience the diversity of China. This provided participants with a better understanding of China and U.S.-China relations that can then be used when they return to their offices in Washington.

Spring Policymakers Trip

From March 24-April 3, the U.S.-China Policy Foundation led a congressional staff delegation to Beijing, Shanghai, Suzhou, and Zhuhai.

The trip highlighted China’s transportation, infrastructure, and development projects, especially those mentioned by President Xi Jinping in his New Year speech. The trip also took place during a critical time in U.S.-China relations. The recent tariffs and developments with North Korea were both important topics discussed during the trip.

The delegation began their trip in Beijing with a meeting at the U.S. Embassy. They spoke with Ambassador Terry Branstad and various foreign service officers about the key issues facing U.S.-China relations and the major priorities for the Embassy in China. The group also met with the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Chinese People’s Institute of Foreign Affairs (CPIFA), the American Chamber of Commerce (AmCham China), and students and professors at Tsinghua University.

Next the group traveled to Shanghai. In December, Shanghai’s Yangshan Deep Water Port started trial operations for the world’s largest automated container terminal. The delegation visited the Shanghai Tower and Yangshan Deep Water Port. They also met with students and teachers at the SMIC private school and visited the Urban Planning Museum.

The delegation had the opportunity to experience China’s famed high speed trains during a day trip to Suzhou. Suzhou, with its gorgeous canals and gardens, is considered one of the most beautiful cities in China. In addition to the city’s beauty, it is known for its culture and handicrafts, especially its skilled embroidery. While in Suzhou, the group also met with local officials.

The group then went to Zhuhai. Zhuhai faces the island of Macao. In 2009, construction began on an ambitious sea-crossing project connecting Hong Kong, Zhuhai, and Macao. The bridge, which includes cable-stayed bridges, an undersea tunnel, and reclaimed islands, had not yet been opened to the public during the visit. The delegation received the privilege of being the first American group to visit and drive on the bridge. In addition to the historic bridge visit, the delegation met with local companies, visited a community center, and had dinner with the city’s Vice Mayor and other municipal officials.
August Policymakers Trip

During the August congressional recess (August 3-12), the U.S.-China Policy Foundation led a MECEA educational congressional staff delegation to Beijing, Tianjin, and Ningxia.

The delegation included 11 congressional Chiefs of Staff, Legislative Directors, and senior staff serving both Democrat and Republican offices in the House and Senate. The trip highlighted China’s agriculture, development, and minority regions. The recent trade disputes also received significant attention during discussions with officials.

The delegation began their time in China by taking one of China’s high speed trains for a day trip to Tianjin. Tianjin is a major port city in northeastern China. Previously home to Western concession zones (established by the 1858 Treaties of Tianjin), that Western influence can still be seen in the many scattered European-style buildings that remain in the city today. The city also highlights Chinese traditional culture and religion in areas such as their ancient culture street, Yangliuqing New Year’s paintings, silk embroidery, and Dabei Buddhist Monastery.

The participants then spent time in Beijing, China’s historic and modern capital and cultural and political center. The delegation met with Ambassador Terry Branstad and representatives at the U.S. Embassy, the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Chinese People’s Institute of Foreign Affairs (CPIFA), the Chinese Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, and Sinopec Star Petroleum Company.

Next the group traveled to Ningxia Province. Ningxia is an autonomous region in north-central China that is home to the Hui Muslim minority, which constitutes around one third of the province’s population. Ningxia is mostly desert, but the vast plain of the Yellow River has long been used as a source of irrigation. Historically, Ningxia used to be home to the ancient kingdom known as the Western Xia (1038-1227). It was also a stop along the ancient Silk Road.

Participants experienced Ningxia’s culture, history, agricultural industry, and rural life, visiting a wolfberry (goji) farm, a Hui minority village, and historic sites. The delegation also met with provincial officials in the capital city of Yinchuan and the Vice Mayor of the province’s smaller Zhongwei City.
USCPF President Gives Lecture at State Department

On January 22, USCPF President, Chi Wang, gave a lecture to a visiting delegation of Chinese representatives as part of the U.S. State Department’s International Visitor Leadership Program through the Institute of International Education. The delegation of 8 Chinese representatives were in the United States to gain further understanding of President Trump’s approach to North Korea.

CEAL Appreciation Dinner

On March 20, USCPF’s President, Professor Chi Wang, recognized his long relationship with The Council on East Asian Libraries (CEAL) by hosting an appreciation dinner. This year also marks the 90th anniversary of the founding of the original Chinese section at the Library of Congress in 1928. That this dinner coincided with such an important anniversary served as another reason to celebrate.

Farewell Luncheon for HKETO Commissioner Leung

On May 29, USCPF hosted a farewell luncheon for Hong Kong Economic Trade Office (HKETO) Commissioner Clement Leung. Appointed in 2014, Mr. Leung served as Hong Kong’s most senior official in the U.S. for four years.

Welcome Luncheon for HKETO Commissioner Mak

On September 5, USCPF hosted a welcome luncheon for Hong Kong Economic Trade Office (HKETO) Commissioner Eddie Mak. In July 2018, Mr. Mak assumed the post of Hong Kong Commissioner for Economic and Trade Affairs, USA.
The photos in the exhibit highlighted the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution, which took place from 1966 to 1976. A cult of personality formed around Mao Zedong and the Chinese youth were encouraged to fight against anti-revolutionaries. The Red Guards, Mao’s young revolutionary supporters, were called on to “smash the four olds” — old ideas, old culture, old customs, and old habits. A level of lawlessness descended as Mao’s followers violently targeted individuals, places, and symbols viewed as anti-revolutionary. Often acting without direction, various factions of Red Guards even turned on each other. During the Cultural Revolution, schools were closed, churches and cultural relics were destroyed, children turned against parents, and a generation of China’s youth was lost to violence.

After Mao Zedong’s death, the Cultural Revolution officially ended and Deng Xiaoping came to power, using economic reform to help bring the country back from this destruction. With Xi Jinping gaining in power and promoting his own personal leadership, something that had been avoided after the disastrous results of the Cult of Mao, it is more important than ever to remember the Cultural Revolution. After all, its aftereffects are still being felt in China today and if this tragic time is truly forgotten, what will prevent the new leadership from making the same mistakes?

Chinese Paintings by Wang Peng and Calligraphy by Wang Chi were on display. Wang Peng (1919-1998) was born in Tokyo, grew up in China, and lived in the U.S. from 1939-1948. He decided to study fine arts and oil painting at the University of Southern California before returning to China in 1948. After the Cultural Revolution made pursuing western style art impossible, he turned his focus to Chinese painting and studied under the well-known artist Wang Xuetao (1903-1982).

Wang Chi (b.1930) also came to the U.S. to pursue his studies but, unlike his brother, he ended up staying in the U.S. and pursuing a career in academia. Professor Wang began studying calligraphy at the age of six from his father, an accomplished calligrapher himself. Pu Ru (1896-1963) and Zhang Daqian (1899-1983) were frequent visitors of his father and further inspired Professor Wang. As he got older, he learned classical calligraphy by studying the stone rubbings from ancient masters. He still practices calligraphy every day.
23rd Annual Gala Dinner

Philanthropic Excellence Award
The Starr Foundation
Accepted by Ms. Florence A. Davis
President, The Starr Foundation

Global Media Leadership Award
South China Morning Post
Accepted by Ms. Tammy Tam
Editor-in-Chief, SCMP

Dinner Speaker
The Honorable Gary Locke
U.S. Ambassador to China (2011-2014)
Governor of Washington (1997-2005)

Dinner Speaker
DCM & Minister Li Kexin
Embassy of the People’s Republic of China in the U.S.

Gala Co-Chair
The Honorable J. Stapleton Roy
USCPF Board Member

Gala Co-Chair
The Honorable James Sasser
USCPF Board Member
U.S. Ambassador to China (1996-1999)
U.S. Senator from Tennessee (1977-1995)
Mr. Christopher Nixon Cox (Nixon Foundation), Mr. Eddie Mak (HKETO), and Mr. Luis Fiallo (China Telecom Americas) at the Head Table.

Amb. Herbert Horowitz and Minister & DCM Li Kexin before sitting down for dinner at the Head Table.

Dr. Chi Wang and Ms. Florence Davis

Dr. Ernestine Wang (USCPF) greets Ambassador Gary Locke.

Ms. Florence Davis gives brief remarks on behalf of The Starr Foundation.

(L to R) Ms. Tammy Tam (SCMP), DCM & Minister Li Kexin, Mr. Chungyan Chow (SCMP), and Mr. Owen Churchill (SCMP).

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(left to right) FIRST ROW: Dr. Chi Wang (USCPF), Ms. Florence Davis (The Starr Foundation), Amb. Horowitz (USCPF).
SECOND ROW: Minister & DCM Li Kexin (Embassy of the PRC), Ms. Tammy Tam (SCMP), Amb. Gary Locke, Mr. Chungyan Chow (SCMP).

Gala Dinner Photos: Sardari Group, Inc.
Obama’s Challenge to China: The Pivot to Asia
This book explores U.S.-China relations under the leadership of President Barack Obama and discusses how his decisions set the stage for a new era in U.S.-China relations. The book outlines Barack Obama’s own personal worldview and the backgrounds of the advisors that made up his China team; it details the major events in U.S.-China relations from 2009 to 2014; and addresses Sino-U.S. relations and interactions with regards to various issues: economics, military relations, climate change, human rights, and multilateral cooperation in regional and international organizations. Finally, the book ends with timely suggestions for how to improve the U.S.-China relationship and ensure a peaceful future. Published by Ashgate in July 2015.

70 Years of Witness and Memory: My Experiences in U.S.-China Diplomacy
From Dr. Chi Wang, comes the story of his childhood as a student in pre-revolutionary China, his journey to America after the 1949 Communist Revolution, and his pursuit of a new life, education, and career in our nation’s capital for the past half-century. This coming-of-age tale offers a personal and political history of China, weaving in events and prominent figures from the 1930s onward. The author presents an intimate eyewitness account of life in China before 1949, and the uncommon perspective of a Chinese emigrant in D.C. for over 60 years.

The Washington Journal of Modern China
The U.S.-China Policy Foundation released its most recent edition of The Washington Journal of Modern China (WJMC) in spring 2018. WJMC is a policy-oriented publication founded in 1992 that includes scholarly articles on modern Chinese culture, economics, history, politics, and U.S.-China relations.

90TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHINESE SECTION AT THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
“Reflections on 90 Years of Cultural Exchanges: the Library of Congress’ Chinese Section”
Chi Wang, PhD
“The Chinese Section’s History in Photos”
From the Private Collection of Chi Wang
“Remembering the 90th Anniversary of the Chinese Section”
Remarks by Dr. Jim Cheng

ARTICLES
“The United States and China: Game of Superpowers”
Ambassador Chas W. Freeman, Jr.
“Cracking the China Conundrum”
Yukon Huang, PhD
“Will China Rise?”
Jack Goldstone, PhD
Bernard Cole, PhD
“Understanding and Responding to China’s Belt and Road Initiative: Developing an American Policy Response”
Jordan Bushong, Katelyn DeNap, and Tracie Yang

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Article submissions are always welcome.
China Forum is an educational program that seeks to advance American understanding and awareness of the increasingly nuanced relationship between the U.S. and China. Filming began in 1991. USCPF interviews experts, broadcasts panel footage, and shares additional content via its China Forum program and USCPF YouTube channel.

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You can show your support for enhanced U.S.-China relations by making a contribution to USCPF. As a non-profit organization, we rely on donations and sponsorships for the ability to continue to organize programs and events. Any donation amount is appreciated. To donate, please detach and mail the form below or visit us online at uscpf.org/v3/donate/. You can also call us at 202-547-8615.

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