

Office of the President

Post Office Box 751 Portland, Oregon 97207-0751 503-725-4499 fax

503-725-4419 tel www.pdx.edu

January 27, 2021

Dr. YANG Wei, President Chinese International Education Foundation (CIEF), yangwei@cief.org.cn (CC: lihongyu@cief.org.cn; haopan@chinese.cn)

Prof. XIONG Sidong (PhD), President Soochow University, sdxiong@suda.edu.cn

Prof. ZHANG Xiaohong (PhD), Vice President Soochow University, xiaohong_zhang@suda.edu.cn (CC: shuaowang@suda.edu.cn; zihong@suda.edu.cn; wangyu@suda.edu.cn)

Chinese Consulate in SF: tangjun@moe.edu.cn, lirenzhu@moe.edu.cn

RE: Termination of the Agreement between Confucius Institute Headquarters of the People's Republic of China and Portland State University (PSU Contract #694208)

Dear President Yang,

Greetings from Portland where we are enjoying clear winter weather and looking forward to welcoming the Year of the Ox next month. I write today to regretfully share with you that our university will be ending its agreement with the Confucius Institute (CI) effective as of July 27, 2021. This letter serves as PSU's written notice of its intent to terminate under Article 11 of the agreement.

Our decision was indeed difficult, due to the extraordinary contribution that the CI has made to PSU and the campus community over the past fourteen years. However, the ever-increasing scrutiny on CI's by our federal government and the immense burden on PSU to respond to requests of information have made it impossible for us to continue hosting the CI at PSU.

Please know, and I mean this sincerely, that said, I want to strongly reiterate that our commitment to Soochow University as a highly valued and key strategic institutional partner remains unchanged. If anything, the legacy of collegiality, cooperation and goodwill left by Soochow University faculty and staff over the years, especially our current Co-Director Dr. Yu Wang, has left PSU even more committed to our partnership moving forward. We look forward to the exchange of faculty and students, joint research, curricular and virtual exchange and

further programming opportunities in the years to come. Dr. Wang's work has been exemplary and her stewardship in her role as the Co-Director cannot be overstated - she is indeed a very remarkable leader and we hope that she will remain involved with PSU as we deepen our relationship with Soochow.

As we move forward with the termination of the contract, I have appointed Ron Witczak, Executive Director for the Office of International Affairs to work with you and your team in the necessary deliberations and actions.

As we celebrate the Year of the Ox next month, I will take special pleasure knowing that its embodiment of hard work, dedication and loyalty reflects the work of our Soochow colleagues these past years and augurs favorably for the continuing and deepening friendship of our two institutions.

In gratitude and with appreciation,

Sincerely yours,

1 Pm

Stephen Percy President