



## THE LANGUAGE FLAGSHIP

*Creating Global Professionals*

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### **URI CHINESE LANGUAGE FLAGSHIP PARTNER PROGRAM**

#### **ABSTRACT**

As a Chinese Language Flagship Partner, the University of Rhode Island will collaborate with all Chinese Flagship Centers and partners, with emphasis on advanced Chinese language studies for students of engineering, science, and business.

URI will:

- Complement the current models with the development and dissemination of advanced Chinese language learning course modules for students in these disciplines, to be offered on-site in Rhode Island, at existing Flagship Centers, through distance-learning, and/or in cooperation with universities in China, and to be part of a national repository of such information for all Flagship Centers
- Develop a summer, residential Chinese immersion program in Rhode Island similar to its German Summer School of the Atlantic, now in its 28<sup>th</sup> year
- Develop a national student exchange mechanism enabling Flagship Scholars to spend exchange semesters or years at collaborating Flagship institutions, thereby maximizing course offerings to students
- Develop professional internship opportunities for American students of engineering, science, and business at company locations in China, from which qualified students from Rhode Island and other Flagship programs may benefit
- Extend the Flagship model to all students in the URI International Engineering Program, i.e., to those learning German, French, and Spanish as well as those learning Chinese
- Develop and disseminate marketing strategies to promote highly advanced language study among students in the engineering education community nationwide
- Refine and share strategies for student recruitment and retention, based largely on URI's existing success in internationalizing engineering education

The project will be led by Dr. John Grandin, Director of the URI International Engineering Program, a professor of German, together with his colleague in Chinese, Dr. Wen Xiong. The project seeks to build a Chinese Flagship Center at URI, taking advantage of URI's expertise in recruiting engineering students to higher level language learning, and at the same time extending the Flagship model to its existing programs in French, German, and Spanish. All of this work will be done in close cooperation with existing Flagship Centers, with Professor Carl Falsgraf as primary mentor. Results will be shared for the benefit of all Flagship Centers.

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