FGCU GROUP TOURS EASTERN CHINA, JULY 2014

PROFESSOR BILL MITSCH HONORED WITH COURTESY FACULTY POSTION IN CHINA AS FGCU EVERGLADES WETLAND RESEARCH PARK DELEGATION PRESENTS LECTURES, DISCUSSES COLLABORATION, AND VISITS WETLAND RESEARCH SITES AT FOUR CHINESE UNIVERSITIES AND INSTITUTES

Professor Bill Mitsch, Ph.D., Eminent Scholar and Director of FGCU’s Everglades Wetland Research Park and the Juliet C. Sproul Chair for Southwest Florida Habitat Restoration and Management in Naples, led a tour of 4 cities in eastern China, lecturing and discussing potential collaborations at several Chinese research and education institutions over the period July 18 – 27, 2014. Professor Mitsch’s delegation included Dr. Li Zhang, Assistant Director of the Everglades Wetland Research Park and Mr. Tom Singer, member of the Everglades Wetland Research Park Advisory Committee. Mr. Singer is a former stockbroker from Los Angeles California who currently resides in Roseburg Oregon. This is the second straight year that such a summer visit to Chinese research laboratories has been coordinated through FGCU’s Everglades Wetland Research Park.

Courtesy Faculty Position
Professor Mitsch received a courtesy Adjunct Professorship from Qufu Normal University, Qufu, China, on Friday July 25, 2014. Qufu Normal University Vice President Honghai Zhang presented the professorship at a banquet attended by 10 university administrators and professors.

Qufu Normal University administrators present courtesy adjunct faculty position to Prof. William J. Mitsch of FGCU on July 25, 2014 in Qufu, China. Qufu is the hometown of the historic Chinese teacher Confucius.
Formal Seminars
The delegation gave seven formal seminars during the China trip. Professor Mitsch presented 4 invited lectures:

- July 18, 2014 “Creating and restoring wetlands: From Olentangy to Everglades” **Beijing Normal University**, Beijing, China
- July 22, 2014 “Ecological engineering of wetlands: Are we able to do so at a large scale? **Northeast Normal University**, Changchun, China
- July 24, 2014 “Creating and restoring wetlands: From Olentangy to Everglades” **Qufu Normal University**, Qufu, China
- July 26, 2014 “Wetlands and carbon” **First Institute of Oceanography, State Oceanic Administration**, Qingdao, China

Dr. Zhang presented “Ecological Engineering and Sustainability: Opportunity and Challenge in China” at the following venues:

- July 24, 2014 **Qufu Normal University**, Qufu, China
- July 26, 2014 **First Institute of Oceanography, State Oceanic Administration**, Qingdao, China

Mr. Singer presented “Stock marketing and ecosystems” at the **First Institute of Oceanography, State Oceanic Administration**, Qingdao, China on July 26, 2014.

Collaboration Discussions
Discussions were held about collaboration on wetland and related research with administrators and scientists from **Beijing Normal University** in Beijing; **Northeast Normal University** in Changchun, **Qufu Normal University** in Qufu; and **First Institute of Oceanography** in Qingdao. As a first result of those discussions, several Chinese scientist delegations are planning to visit FGCU in the coming academic years and some professors and students may come to Naples as short-term visiting scholars to collaborate on wetlands research with FGCU students, staff, and faculty. The delegation also had substantive
discussions about potential future contractual activities with the ecological planning center at **Beijing Orient Landscape Co., Ltd.** in Beijing.

Luncheon discussion between FGCU delegation and director and staff of ecological planning studies center at Beijing Orient Landscape Company, July 19, 2014