## SWOSU Signs Agreements with Two Universities in China

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Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford recently signed two agreements of academic exchange with two universities in China: Beijing Normal University in Beijing and Guizhou Normal College in Guiyang. Signing the SWOSU-BNU agreement are (left) SWOSU College of Arts and Sciences Dean Dr. Radwan Al-Jarrah, who represented SWOSU at the signings in China, and BNU School of Art and Communication Dean Dr. Yichuan Wang.

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Beijing Normal University in Beijing and Guizhou Normal College in Guiyang are now partnering with SWOSU to provide opportunities for both students and faculty among the three universities.

The new agreements bring SWOSU's total partnerships with various countries to eight. Other agreements are with universities in Costa Rica, Jordan, South Korea, Mexico and Taiwan.

Dr. Radwan Al-Jarrah, dean of the SWOSU College of Arts and Sciences, arranged the latest signings with the two Chinese universities on behalf of SWOSU President Randy Beutler.

Beijing Normal University is one of the top universities in China with a student body of 4,000 undergraduate students and 4,000 graduate students. Beijing is the capitol of the People's Republic of China and has a population near 20 million people.

Guizhou Normal College has a student body of about 10,000 graduate and undergraduate students. Guizhou is located in the southwest part of China and has a population of near 500,000 people.

Al-Jarrah said the first exchange of students and faculty is expected to begin in the summer of 2011 and the agreements are for five years each. The international exchanges are part of SWOSU's strategic plan that SWOSU students will be better prepared to live in an increasingly global, diverse, and technological society.

SWOSU has locations in Weatherford and Sayre. The university has 5,100 students. For more information about the international programs, go to <u>www.swosu.edu/</u> <u>academics/index.asp</u> or contact Al-Jarrah at <u>radwan.aljarrah@swosu.edu</u> or 580.774.7152.