



Mayoral Delegation Visit to Suzhou, China

October 26 to 30
2013

Portland Mayoral Delegation

Ms. Dorothy Lu -SFAO
Emily Levine – Student -PSSCA
Peyton Chapman -PSSCA
Mr. Zhang Lu - SFAO
Gail Shibley – Chief of Staff
Nancy Hales –First Stop Portland
Charlie Hales - Mayor
Robert Fraser –President PSSCA
Cathy Chinn – VP PSSCA
Lynne McIntyre = Past President
Frances Li - PSSCA
Jimmy Zhu –Polytech industries
Fanny Lu = PSSCA

Delegates not appearing in the photo:

Grace Lim – Portland Artist
Jenny Dong - PSSCA
Bonnie Starkey –PSSCA
Raymond Cheung -PSSCA
Stephen Ying – FSSA
Michael Gurton - PDC



Suzhou China

- Province: Jiangsu
- Prefecture: Suzhou
- Established: 514 BC
- Total area: 1,059 sq mi
- Population: 10,549,100 (2012)

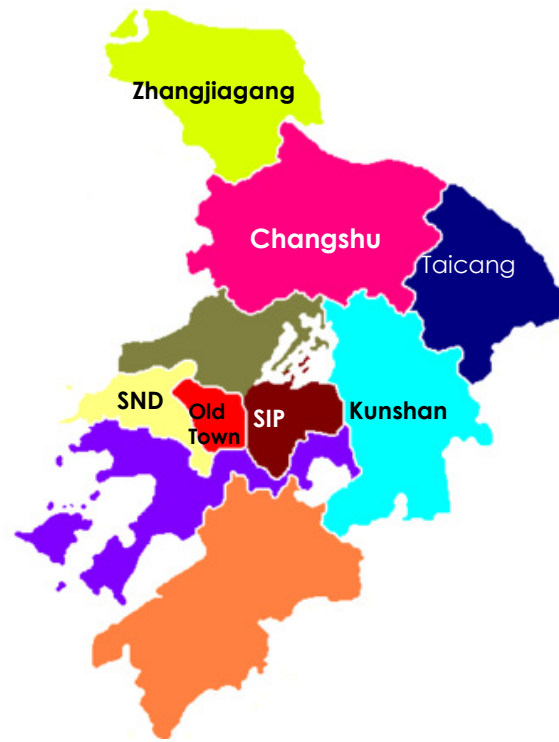


Renowned for its canals, classic gardens, opera, silks, embroidery & calligraphy art



Prefectures of Suzhou

- Suzhou is one of the most prosperous cities in China.
- Its development has a direct correlation with the growth of its satellite cities including Kunshan, Taicang, Changshu and Zhangjiagang, which together with the city of Suzhou form the Suzhou prefecture.
- The urban core of Suzhou is informally called *Old Town Suzhou* or the *Gusu District*.
- The Suzhou Industrial Park is to the east of the old town, and the Suzhou High & New Technology Development Zone is to the west.



Suzhou Industrial Park

- 4000 Foreign invested enterprises
- 84 fortune 5000 companies
- Contributes 15% of Suzhou's GDP
- 30% sustainable average annual growth



SIP Industries



- Automobile production/assembly
- Aviation and aeronautic products
- Biotechnology/pharmaceuticals
- Computer software
- Food & beverage processing
- Instrumentation & industrial equipment
- Medical equipment and supplies
- Telecommunications equipment
- Outsourcing services
- Nanotech industry

SIP, More than an industrial park !

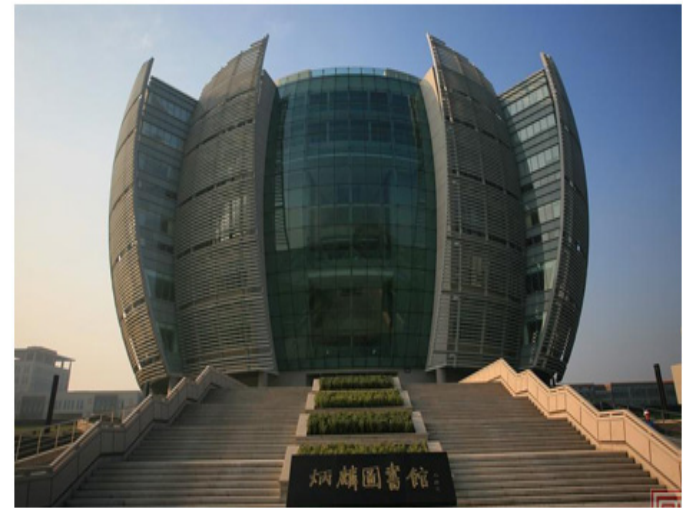
- Emphasizes “human oriented philosophy”.
- Highlights economic development & technological progress.
- Concentrated commercial facilities
- Comfortable living environment
- Ample educational, medical and recreational facilities
- Arts, cultural, entertainment centers and restaurants



The art sculpture of Harmony, an Icon at SIP

Dushu Lake Higher Education Town

- Focus is on producing educated and creative individuals.
- Home to many undergraduate as well as graduate schools, including universities from abroad.
- A key government project.
- It has a total area of 25 km², and around 400,000 people, 100,000 of whom are students.
- Goal: To offer good education, advanced technology, and a pleasant living environment.



Bingling Library of Soochow University

Suzhou New District

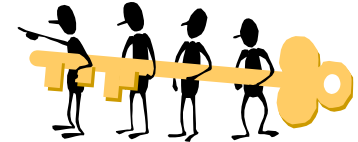


Suzhou New District

- Designated a hi-tech industrial zone
- Hosts more than 1500 foreign companies
- 40 fortune 500 companies
- US-based companies include DuPont, Mobil, Pharmacia, Eli Lilly, Warner-Lambert, Eaton, Black & Decker, Baxter, TRW, FMC, PPG, Nabisco, Chevron, Harris Corp., Xerox, Dow Chemical, Texaco, Nike, Emerson Electric, Honeywell, P&G, Delphi, Motorola R&D, Pfizer, PPG Coating, and Timken.



Portland & Suzhou Synergies



- Appreciation of preserving the past while planning and building for the future.
- The port of Taicang makes them an important port city.
- Both cities are transitioning from heavy manufacturing to low carbon high tech cities.
- Education is a top priority.
- Their culture embraces the culinary arts as well as the visual and performing arts with well-established art museums.
- They are improving, building and expanding their transportation systems.
- Air and water quality issues are very much their concerns.
- “Better City, Better Life” was the theme of the 2010 World Expo in Shanghai.

Education - Peyton Chapman

- **Education is China's #1 Priority. Economic Development is our #1.**
- Here is the case for schools as economic drivers and schools as physical and cultural examples of Portland's commitment to sustainability, creativity and internationally benchmarked urban innovation.

Examples of Current Chinese Educational Exchanges and Partnerships

- **Lincoln- Suzhou SIP/ Suzhou HS of Jiangsu Province**
- 2008 Mayor Potter and Principal Chapman visit Suzhou SIP (Public boarding school for Suzhou's top students) for MOU signing to establish formal sister-school partnership with Lincoln HS which also helps establish Lincoln's IB Mandarin program.
- February 2009, 2011, and 2013 Lincoln hosts students, teachers and principals from Suzhou. 2012, 2014 Lincoln students travel to Suzhou and stay with families in Jiangsu Province as Suzhou-SIP is a boarding school.
- Many other PPS schools such as Cleveland HS and Jackson MS host and receive students from China.

Examples of Current Chinese Educational Exchanges and Partnerships (continued)

- **PSU/ Confucius Institute**
- 2011 PSU vastly expands Confucius Institute partnership with Hanban to place many more visiting Chinese teachers in schools across Portland.
- 2013 PSU announces they will guarantee spots at the undergraduate level for students from China.

What Portland has to offer

- Teaching methods that support student inquiry, creativity and application of learning.
- A commitment to the arts and the “A” in STE(A)M.
- Nationally ranked schools and universities with already established “goodwill and friendship” and strong partnerships in China, an award winning PSSCA, and strong school rankings with well developed Mandarin programs. Relationships and ranking/ratings are very important to the Chinese.
- Developable school sites in urban locations on public transportation lines with access to internships, higher education, and the ability to create and co-locate new 21st century opportunities.

Conversations from China

- We want to learn US teaching methods that help students become leaders, more articulate and independent thinkers. We wouldn't have thought of including a student on a delegation for example."
- •"Chinese families are demanding study abroad opportunities at top schools in the UK and US and we can't currently meet this demand."
- •"More and more of our students want to go to the US for college and university."
- •"Portland excels in the areas of sustainability and creativity and we want our future leaders to see these principles modeled."

Conversations from China (continued)

- “The Chinese could build a school and let you run it if you could guarantee a certain number of slots for visiting students each year.”
- “I got my job distributing craft beers in China before the new policy. Now you can’t get a job here unless you speak Mandarin.”
- “From the Chinese perspective Principal Chapman and student Emily are the most important cultural ambassadors.”

Portland's Economic Development Opportunity

- Encourage schools as economic drivers and cultural partners bringing new ideas, resources and talent to Portland while helping others learn from our strengths.
- Imagine co-locating a nationally ranked centrally located K-12, 5-12 or 9-12 IB school with PSU's Graduate School of Teaching program, a Suzhou SIP Portland Campus and a new "International Center for Education and Innovation" with other already existing local and global partners such as Qatar Foundation International, Nike, Daimler Benz, Intel, OHSU or other sister city associations.

Portland's Economic Development Opportunity (continued)

- Imagine a Lincoln High School Industrial Park as an economic center of community supported by local businesses instead of a 1950's stand alone school. Why not an urban farm with wind turbines and solar on the roof and a first floor local art gallery like the one we toured at the Suzhou Daily News?
- Visiting students also bring thousands of dollars each trip to spend at Pioneer Place, Nike Store, Pendleton and other popular downtown retailers. Imagine the resources boarding students and visiting delegations will bring. This year QFI hosted the WISE World Innovation Summit for Education in Doha. Portland could host the next one.

Port of Taicang

- Full support of Suzhou government in developing port and infrastructure.
- Direct shipping services to Asia and the US. (Port of Los Angeles).
- Avoids congestion in Shanghai if cargo emanates from Jiangsu Province.
- Opportunity for Oregon product entry of agricultural goods?



The port of Taicang can park 50 thousand ton vessels.

Nike Distribution Center

- The 200,000 square meter facility is on target to be the first LEED accredited warehouse complex in China.
- Helping to re-define how large-scale facilities can operate more sustainably.
- Represents NIKE's Global commitment to sustainability and the environment.



Suzhou Shanghai AmCham

- The delegation had a breakfast meeting with the Suzhou Shanghai American Chamber of Commerce.
- Its mission is to serve its members and American business interest in Jiangsu and Zhejiang.
- A regional platform for Chamber members, the municipal and provincial Chinese governments, and the U.S. government to:



1. Develop business
2. Exchange information
3. Grow networks

Celebrating 25 years of Deepening Relationships

- The Portland Sustainable Hardwoods Pavilion was given as a gift in honor of the 20th Anniversary of the Portland-Suzhou relationship.
- It was exciting to see the pavilion demonstrating Portland's strong position in the sustainability/green building community.
- Portland's sister cities have the vision of creating a sister city park. Suzhou has already succeeded!



Portland Sustainable Hardwoods Pavilion

Official Meeting with Mayor Zhou Naixiang.

- Mayor Hales and the delegation members were invited to an Official Meeting with Mayor Zhou Naixiang.
- In attendance were Vice Mayor Tan Ying, Mr. Chen Xiongwei, Secretary General of Suzhou Municipal Government, Mrs. Yu Feng, Vice Director of the Suzhou Foreign Affairs Office, Mr. Liu Wenhong of the Suzhou Daily Group and Mr. Zhang Lu, Senior Advisor to the Suzhou Foreign Affairs Office.



- The Mayors discussed the strength of the 25-year relationship and identified areas where the two cities might focus additional efforts.

Luncheon with Vice Mayor Tan Ying

- Guests were escorted to a beautiful room where the centerpiece was a remarkable natural arrangement of plants and architecture resembling a garden.
- Vice Mayor Tan explained the garden symbolized the gardens styles of both cities being blended together in harmony and beauty.



The Delegation was treated to a sumptuous meal and great warmth of friendship.

Introduction of Portland's Rogue Ale

- Mayor Hales is very proud of Portland's standing as the "Microbrew Capitol of America" and wanted to promote the local microbrew industry to our good friends in Suzhou.
- Teaming up with Travel Portland, we presented each guest with a Portland bicycle chain bottle opener, highlighting Portland's love of bikes and microbrews.
- Guests were presented with a commemorative bottle of Rogue with artwork depicting an American working person backed by the American Flag.



25th Anniversary Commemorative City –to- City Gifts

- In honor of the 25th anniversary, gifts were exchanged. Mayor Tan presented Mayor Hales with a framed Suzhou scene employing the artistic stitchery of fine silk that is one of Suzhou's great art forms.
- Portland artist Mrs. Frances Maihwa Li was commissioned by the Mayor to paint four scenic Oregon Locations, each in one of Oregon's four seasons, as Portland's Official Gift to the People of Suzhou.



Suzhou Garden Development Company and the Suzhou Garden Design institute

- Portland's strong commitment to its Classical Chinese Garden grew from working with the President of the Suzhou Garden Development Company and the Director of the Suzhou Garden Design Institute, who are old Portland friends
- Mayor Hales was one of the original signers of the contract to build Lan Su Yuan along with President Zhang.



Suzhou Municipal Education Bureau

- The Suzhou Education Bureau in conjunction with Skybridge International based here in Portland is responsible for bringing to Portland each year more than 300 students and teachers for educational exchange programs.
- Portland and Suzhou currently have nine sister city school exchange programs, attracting as many as 100 to 150 middle and high school students from Suzhou each winter for a week long program with their sister schools here in Portland.



- The delegation was very proud to have Emily Levine, honor student at Lincoln High School as a participant in this visit.

Portland-Suzhou Sister Schools

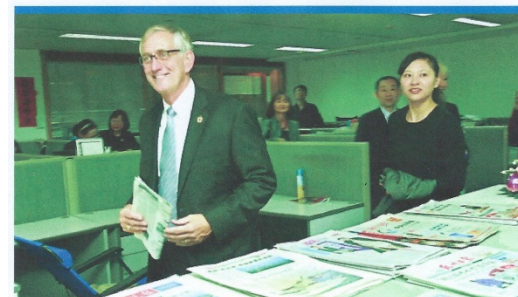
- Suzhou Jiangfan Middle School --- **French American International School (set up in 2011)**
- Suzhou Xujiang Experimental Middle School --- **West Sylvan Middle School (set up in 2011)**
- Suzhou Experimental Elementary School --- **Woodstock Elementary School (set up in 2004)**
- Lida Middle School ----- **Hosford Middle School**
- Suzhou #10 High School ----- **Jackson Middle School**
- Suzhou Xiangcheng Experimental Elementary School --- **Cascade Heights Public Charter School (set up in 2012)**
- Suzhou No. 4 Middle School --- **Franklin High School (set up in 2013)**
- Suzhou High School SIP campus--- **Lincoln High School**
- Suzhou Blue Tassel School- **Portland International School**

Suzhou Daily Group

- The delegation was hosted by Editor-in-Chief of the Suzhou Daily, Mr. Zhang Jian Xiong, who formally received Mayor Hales.
- Mr. Zhang gave us a private tour of the Daily's newsroom and its art collection.
- Suzhou Media is very interested in maintaining its long-time relationship with Portland and the Oregonian newspaper.
- Delegation activities were heavily covered by its reporters and media outlets during the visit to Suzhou.



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Portland mayor visits Suzhou Daily

SUZHOU - Charlie Hales, mayor of Portland, in the US State of Oregon, paid a cheerful visit to Suzhou Daily on October 29, 2013, the last day of his three-day trip to Suzhou. Mayor Hales toured the facility and chatted with the staff of Suzhou Daily.

Mr. Hales was joined by his wife Nancy Hales and his staff, as well as Cathy Chien and Bonnie Starkey of the Portland-Suzhou Sister City Association.

The mayor's attention was captured by a building model as he entered the lobby. The model that resembles a roll of newspaper is the blueprint for Suzhou Daily's new office building, yet to be constructed.

With Suzhou Daily's Chief Editor Mr. Zhang Jianxiong by his side, Mr. Hales looked closely at the model and inquired about the layout of the new office building as well as its supporting facilities, such as the landscaping and the nearby subway exits.

Mayor Hales told Suzhou Daily that he is very interested in transportation infrastructure and he actually took a position with HDR, Inc, an engineering firm, promoting streetcar transportation throughout the United States.

Mr. and Mrs. Hales later toured the newsroom of Suzhou Daily to meet with reporters and editors.

As the mayor stepped into the office, the entire staff stood up, eager to shake hands with the long-awaited guest. Mr. and Mrs. Hales had a brief conversation with the editor and reporter of English news.

The couple then collected some issues of Suzhou Review, an English weekly newspaper published by Suzhou Daily every Monday. Mr. Hales quickly identified some topics that interested him in the issues, including articles about subway construction.

Mr. Hales told the reporters and editors that he was glad to know that Suzhou will have its second subway line by the end of December.

Mr. Hales said he came to Suzhou for the first time in 1997 negotiating the agreement about building a Suzhou-style garden in Portland.

During the cheerful conversations, Nancy said it was her first trip to Suzhou and she enjoyed the gardens they had visited. She also revealed that she and Mr. Hales married in 2004 in Portland's Lan Su Chinese Garden, a project to which Mr. Hales had contributed.

Lan Su Chinese Garden is a Suzhou-style garden located among a full city block in the Chinatown area of Portland. Opened in September 2000, the garden is




said to be influenced by the Humble Administrator's Garden in Suzhou. The garden was designed by an architect and built by 65 artisans from Suzhou. It is a result of Sister City relations between Suzhou and Portland.

Portland has been a Sister City of Suzhou since 1988. Charlie Hales became Portland mayor in January 2013. He and his delegation of about 20 people spent three days in Suzhou on October 27-October 29 to maintain Sister City relations. On October 28, the mayor toured Tongji, a water town in Suzhou's Wujiang district.

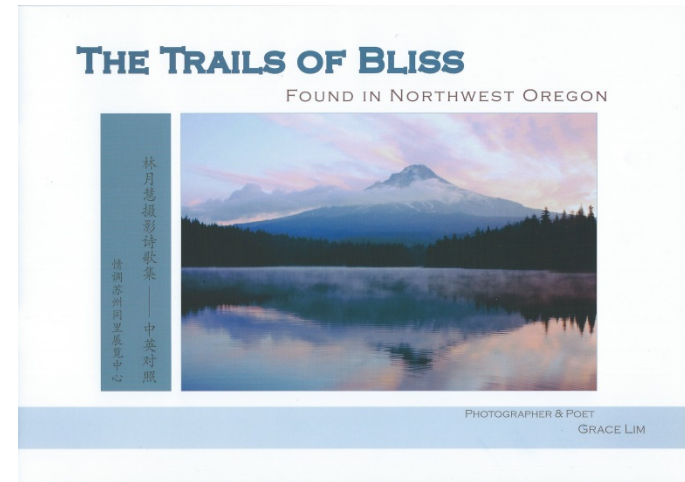
Mr. Hales, 57, is a fan of China. According to a story from the

① Charlie Hales (front) walks in the reception during his tour of Suzhou Daily last Tuesday. (Photo by Hua Xiangen / Suzhou Daily)
② Charlie and Nancy Hales observe a traditional Chinese painting in the gallery of Suzhou Daily last Tuesday. (Photo by Xia Zhiqiang / Suzhou Daily)

Fencing Students coming to Portland

- Mrs. Ying Zhang and Mr. Sam Michael plan to bring a group of young fencers to Portland this August to study at the Oregon Fencing Alliance in Portland where two-time U.S. Olympic Gold Medalist Mariel Zagunis trains.
 - Imagine: you are thinking of visiting an American city and its Mayor warmly shakes your hand in your home town and says “We’ll see you in Portland”!
- 
- PSSCA will seek home stay opportunities for the students.

Trails of Bliss Exhibition



- Portland artist and poet Grace Lim's TOB Exhibition in the lovely water town of Tongli graced a newly-opened cultural center.
- The exhibit exalted the visual and poetic impressions of the four seasons of Oregon and the Pacific Northwest and was initially exhibited in April at the Portland Center for the Performing Arts, supported by a grant from the RACC.

Suzhou Ballet Theatre



- The delegation was also treated to a performance of Romeo and Juliet performed by the Suzhou Ballet Theatre group at the Suzhou Culture and Art Center in the SIP.
- PSSCA is currently working on having the ballet troupe perform in Portland in the near future.

International Recognition

- In 2012 PSSCA was awarded the Friendship City for Communication and Cooperation with China at the China International Friendship Cities Association conference in Chengdu China.
- PSSCA and the Suzhou Foreign Affairs Office are being presented the Economic Development Award at the US-China Conference sponsored by Sister Cities International March 26 to 28, 2014 in Washington DC.



PSSCA's Strategic plan for 2014

- Short term goal = Suzhou Week in Portland
- Early August 2014
- Evening Under the Stars Gala at the Lan Su Chinese Garden
- Art exhibits & performances
- Promote a golf tour to the Suzhou Golf Club of Suzhou business professionals.



PSSCA's Strategic plan for 2014

- Long term plan = Portland week in Suzhou.
- Showcase all that Portland has to offer to the citizens of Suzhou and to further cement our cultural, educational and business exchanges and cooperation
- Golf tournament for friendly teams from both Suzhou and Portland to compete and enjoy each other's company and help establish long term relationships that can benefit both communities.
- Connect the Suzhou Young Entrepreneur Organization with Oregon Entrepreneur Network.



Expression of Appreciation

- Mayor Hales
- City Commissioners
- Regional Arts and Culture Council
- Gail Shibley
- Nancy Hales
- Portland & Oregon Business Development Governmental Agencies
- Judy Parker
- Cevero Gonzalez
- Mr. Zhang Lu & Dorathy Lu, Suzhou Foreign Affairs Office & City of Suzhou
- Lan Su Chinese Garden
- PSSCA Board Volunteers, Sponsors & Friends