

# UNIVERSITY OF OREGON CHINESE FLAGSHIP PROGRAM

## 俄勒岡大學中文領航項目



### 2022-2023 NEWSLETTER

#### IN THIS ISSUE <<<

A breakdown of the people, events and programs supported by the University of Oregon Chinese Flagship Program for the 2022-2023 academic year



THE LANGUAGE FLAGSHIP  
Creating Global Professionals



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# EDITORS' NOTE

## 編輯按



Welcome to the UO Chinese Flagship Program 2022-2023 Newsletter. It has been an incredible year for the UO Chinese Flagship Program, and it has been an honor to be a part of that as this year's media assistants. As media assistants, we have the privilege of serving the Flagship community in a unique way. From managing social media and designing posters to talking to alumni for the "Capstone Talks" series, we have done it all.

This year, we wanted to highlight the community built by Flagship students, both old and new. Our Banzhang team did an incredible job hosting events and connecting students with each other. We also had the opportunity to interview Flagship alumni on their Capstone experience and how it has affected their career paths. It has been an absolute joy to be a part of everything, and we hope you can get a glimpse of the hard work put in to making this year great for Flagship students!

Thanks for reading, and enjoy!

**–Samantha Kar and Jamie Diep,  
2022-2023 Media Assistants**





# BANZHANG EXECUTIVES

## 班長成員

*Meet this year's members of Banzhang, Flagship's student leadership team! Banzhang works to connect Flagship students outside of the classroom. This year, they established a big/little system and planned events for students, including a trip to Portland for Chinese New Year, a retreat for students to Hood River, and the Spring Colloquium!*

### **PRESIDENT:**

Mei-Li Applegate (she/her)

Hometown: Portland, OR

Year: Junior

Major: Chinese and Global Studies



Applegate joined Flagship to find a safety net while being away from home and family. She finds Banzhang to be the most rewarding part of Flagship, specifically her team and their horizontal way of leading.

### **VICE PRESIDENT:**

Isaac Reeder (he/him)

Hometown: Minnetonka, MN

Year: Sophomore

Major: Business Administration, with an Operations and Business Analytics concentration

Reeder joined Flagship to be surrounded by people who want to learn more about Chinese language, culture and studying abroad. He encourages Flagship students to come to Banzhang events to build community and make classes more fun by having familiar faces.





# BANZHANG EXECUTIVES

## 班長成員



### SECRETARY:

Anais Thomas (she/her)  
Hometown: Cameron Park, CA  
Year: Sophomore  
Major: Global Studies and Chinese

Thomas not only refers to the people she's met through Flagship as study partners, but also lifelong friends that she can always lean on. She attended Middlebury College Summer Chinese School in 2022 as a first-year Chinese student and left with third-year proficiency.

### PUBLIC RELATIONS:

Aeri Romanello (she/her)  
Hometown: Richmond, VA  
Year: Sophomore  
Major: Chinese

Romanello says Flagship has given her many opportunities to improve her Chinese, as well as interact with students who have similar interests. On top of planning and promoting events for the program in Banzhang, Romanello appreciates the friends she has made.



Thank you to all of this year's Banzhang executive members. We appreciate your hard work and cannot wait to see what you do next!

# STUDENT EVENTS

## 學生安排的秋季學期活動



Flagship students get together for an ice cream social at the beginning of the school year.



Meet the freshmen of this year's Flagship program!



Banzhang members tabling during UO's Week of Welcome Flock Party.

### Did You Know?

- »»» All are welcome to apply!  
The Flagship program accepts students regardless of prior Mandarin experiences.
- »»» Plus, you are able to study any academic major of personal interest.



# STUDENT EVENTS

## 學生安排的秋季學期活動



Flagship students watched "High School Musical: China" during our fall movie night.



Flagship students and staff engage in a friendly ping pong competition after getting lessons from the UO Table Tennis Club.

### Did You Know?

»»» There are currently around 60 students enrolled in the UO Chinese Flagship program.

»»» The Chinese Flagship Program offers three scholarships exclusively for Flagship students: the Language Flagship Scholarship, the Global Scholar Award, and the Capstone Commitment Scholarship.



Banzhang meets with representatives from the Chinese Student and Scholar Association and Huafeng Magazine.



# STUDENT EVENTS

## 學生安排的冬季學期活動



Students on the way to Portland for the Chinese New Year Cultural Fair.



Flagship students helped table at the Convention Center in Portland and gave out goodies to attendees.



Students enjoyed dim sum at HK Café for lunch before going to the fair and also met up with alumni.

# STUDENT EVENTS

## 學生安排的冬季學期活動



Flagship students learned to make paper lanterns for the Lantern Festival in the Yamada Language Center.



Flagship tutors challenge students with Chinese riddles during the Lantern Festival.



Flagship students learned and practiced their Chinese calligraphy skills.



# STUDENT EVENTS

## 學生安排的春季學期活動



*This year, Flagship students drove out to Hood River, OR, for the annual retreat. They enjoyed delicious food, incredible views, and a toured the Portland Chinatown Museum! Thank you to Banzhang for organizing an unforgettable retreat!*





# HACKATHON

## 黑客馬拉松

**By Lucien Lasocki, UO third-year Flagship student**

The Language Flagship Hackathon (March 17-18) is a rare opportunity for students from different Flagship programs across the United States to collaborate and put their minds together. This year's theme was pragmatics and intercultural competency: two skills imperative to success in the Flagship Capstone experience. About 40 students split into smaller teams from Language Flagship Programs in Arabic, Chinese, Korean, Russian, and Portuguese, who all came together in Boston, MA, at Harvard University for a two-day competition.

My teammates were from Arizona State University, University of Georgia, University of Washington, and University of Virginia, studying Arabic, Chinese, Portuguese, and Russian. Our presentation was centered around building cultural competency in Taiwan when studying abroad or interning. We devised several situations a Flagship student would encounter when in a new cultural environment, and how one can navigate difficult conversations, stereotyping, gift-giving customs, and eating customs. The other teams created projects navigating body image stereotypes, age differences and deference, greetings, and other culturally specific situations.



Left to right: Lucien Lasocki, Rachel Wallace, and Yanling Joslin participated in this year's Hackathon.

The competition was judged by various language professors and professionals and I was very fortunate to be part of the winning team! Our project will be available to try later this year through the Flagship Tech Center website. I'm very appreciative of Flagship for creating opportunities like this Hackathon and would highly encourage everyone to apply for next year's event or any other opportunities to interact with other Flagship students!

# NEW BANZHANG EXECUTIVES

## 新的班長成員

*We are excited to welcome the elected Banzhang executive members for the 2023-2024 academic year. We wish them the best for creating a wonderful experience for Flagship students and representing the program in the next year!*



### **PRESIDENT:**

Anais Thomas (she/her)  
Hometown: Cameron Park, CA  
Year for 2023-24: Junior  
Major: Global Studies and Chinese

Thomas served as Secretary this year and will be leading next year's Banzhang team.

### **VICE PRESIDENT & MEMBERSHIP ENGAGEMENT:**

Grace Guertin (she/her)  
Hometown: Hood River, OR  
Year for 2023-24: Junior  
Major: Business Administration and Chinese

The most rewarding part of Flagship for Guertin has been the connections she's made with other students. Her advice for other Flagship students is to get more involved in events hosted by Banzhang.



# NEW BANZHANG EXECUTIVES

## 新的班長成員



### TREASURER:

Ellie Howard (she/her)

Hometown: Portland, OR

Year for 2023-24: Sophomore

Major: Physics and Political Science

After attending Chinese immersion school, Howard says Flagship helps to maintain fluency easier than on your own. She finds the study abroad options through Flagship relatively financially doable.

### PUBLIC RELATIONS:

Aeri Romanello (she/her)

Hometown: Richmond, VA

Year for 2023-24: Junior

Major: Chinese

Romanello will be maintaining her current role in Public Relations next year.



### SECRETARY:

Rachel Wallace (she/her)

Hometown: Bend, OR

Year for 2023-24: Sophomore

Major: Global Studies and Chinese

Wallace says studying Chinese is a group effort and suggests interacting with all of Flagship's resource to benefit from the program. She looks forward to her language efforts paying off in interactions with native speakers abroad.





# MEET OUR ALUMNI 認識我們的校友

*Capstone is the culmination of the Flagship program. Students spend a year studying Chinese, taking classes taught in Mandarin Chinese related to their major, and completing an internship using their language skills.*

*We talked to five Flagship alumni about their experiences – hear what they had to say on the [University of Oregon Chinese Flagship Program YouTube channel](#)!*



**Jamie Diep** (they/them)

Diep is a fourth-year student at the University of Oregon and was part of the Fall 2021-2022 Capstone Cohort. They spent the year traveling and honing their language skills, and can't wait to apply those skills in their future career in journalism!



**Ewan Armstrong** (he/him)

Armstrong was part of the Fall 2021-2022 Capstone Cohort. He enjoyed his time in Taiwan and learned a lot from classes and his host family. He recommends anyone to take advantage of the opportunities Flagship has to offer and to do Capstone.

CAPSTONE TALKS  
頂石經歷訪談

# MEET OUR ALUMNI 認識我們的校友

*Students have the option to complete their Capstone year in Taipei and Monterey (US). Those interested in pursuing a career related to national security are encouraged to do Capstone in Monterey.*



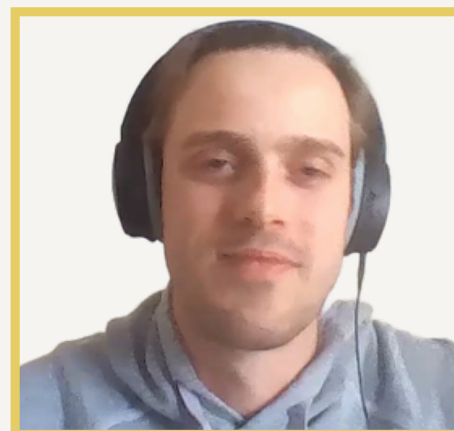
**Ella Gilbertson** (she/her)

Gilbertson completed her Capstone in 2021 and is currently an intern at the Museum of Prehistory in Taitung, Taiwan. Although she did Capstone remotely, Ella still learned a lot from the experience.



**Sophia Bird** (she/her)

Bird was part of the Spring 2022 Cohort and is currently a fourth-year student at the University of Oregon. She talked about her travel experiences in Taiwan and how Capstone plays into her future plans.



**Albert Heidecke** (he/him)

Heidecke completed his Capstone year remotely in 2020. After Capstone, he went from graduate school to multiple jobs utilizing his language skills. Flagship and Capstone played a major in his career journey, especially in communicating professionally in Chinese.

CAPSTONE TALKS  
頂石經歷訪談

# OUR STUDENTS OVERSEAS

## 台灣的留學生

*Since fall 2021, Flagship students have been able to do their Capstone year fully in person! In a short year, they worked hard on improving their Chinese while enjoying everything Taiwan has to offer. Eating delicious food, exploring the country, and meeting new friends only scratch the surface of the Capstone experience. Check out scenes from our students abroad!*

### >>> Fall 2021-2022



Students wrote auspicious sayings and prepare to fly a lantern for the Pingxi Lantern Festival.



Students explored Taitung during their holiday break.



Students ate Peking Duck (北京烤鴨) with teachers for Thanksgiving.



During winter break, students traveled throughout the country, including Kaohsiung in southern Taiwan (and threw their "O"!)



# OUR STUDENTS OVERSEAS

## 台灣的留學生

Spring + Fall 2022



Students celebrating winter holidays in Taipei!



Director Zhuo Jing-Schmidt visited Capstone students in late 2022!



Students visited one of Taiwan's many teahouses.



In addition to their normal workload, students' internships encouraged them to participate in different events.

# FLAGSHIP INSTRUCTORS

## 我們的老師

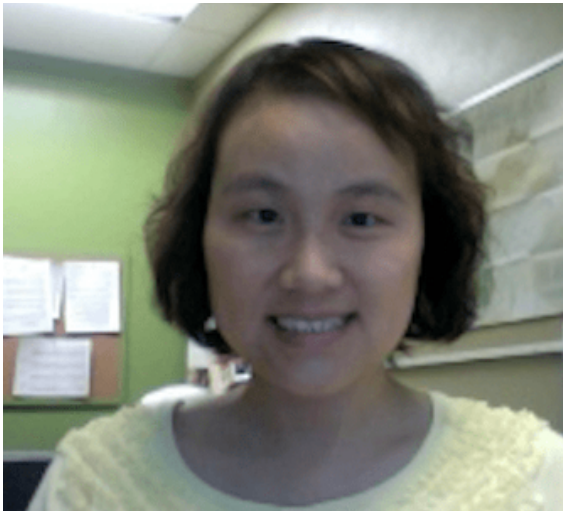
*Flagship would not be the distinguished program it is without our incredible instructors. Get to know some of the people who challenge students and push them to improve their language proficiency!*

**Denise Huang Gigliotti** (she/her)  
Senior Instructor II of Chinese,  
1st-Year Chinese Instructor

Learning a foreign language is like installing a new operating system in your brain, according to Gigliotti. It will help you see the world differently and think outside of the English box. Chinese will also help you access other Asian cultures and languages.



**Fengjun Mao** (she/her)  
Senior Instructor II of Chinese,  
2nd-Year Chinese Instructor



To succeed in Chinese classes, Mao recommends being persistent, speaking up, using sentences rather than words whenever possible, not being afraid to make mistakes, connecting with your faculty and peers, and regularly setting aside time to immerse yourself in Chinese.

### Did You Know?

Because our curriculum aligns with degree requirements, most Flagship students pursue a Chinese major or Chinese minor in addition to their main focus of study.



# FLAGSHIP INSTRUCTORS

## 我們的老師

**Dr. Jean Wu** (she/her)

Senior Instructor II of Chinese,  
3rd-Year Chinese Instructor,  
Flagship Academic Director

Dr. Wu works to create a safe space in her class for students to learn, produce language, and develop cultural competence. She also recruits, trains, and supervises Flagship tutors to ensure the success of Flagship students through individualized learning.



**Weijun Chen** (she/her)

Senior Instructor II of Chinese,  
4th-Year Chinese Instructor

Chen aims to create learning experiences that engage the student both in and out of the classroom. The most rewarding part of teaching for Chen is when her students' eyes shine brightly, or when she watches them grow and develop their language skills.



### Did You Know?

Flagship students have access to free tutoring from native Mandarin speakers. Thank you to our tutors for all of their support outside of the classroom!



# STUDY ABROAD

## 留學集錦



*Last summer, students were able to return to Taiwan for in-person study abroad programs. Students attended programs in both Taipei and Tainan. Some were even able to meet with Capstone students who were also there over the summer!*



# FROM OUR DIRECTOR: ZHUO JING-SCHMIDT

## 主任年終寄語

It is time that we reflect on and celebrate 2022-2023. In this past year, the UO Chinese Flagship Program emerged from the pandemic stronger. 22 new students have joined the program, 11 students flew to Taiwan for their first post-pandemic summer sojourn abroad, four students studied in domestic summer intensive programs, and five students embarked on the yearlong capstone program (four in Taipei and one at the Defense Language Institute, Monterey, California).

Seven students have completed capstone with national certification. Finally, a total of \$171,282 in federal scholarships from the Language Flagship and a total of \$92,882 in UO scholarships have been disbursed in support of student success.



As the 2022-23 academic year draws to an end, I want to congratulate all the Flagship students on your academic accomplishments, linguistic and cultural development, and personal growth! I thank all the staff, teachers, tutors, student leaders, and student workers for your hard work in making our program a success. I also want to thank the UO Office of Financial Aid and Enrollment Management, the Provost Office, Global Education Oregon, and the College of Arts and Sciences for your staunch institutional support for the students in the Chinese Flagship Program.

Have a great summer!

Zhuo Jing-Schmidt, UO Chinese Flagship Program Director

# FROM OUR ASSISTANT DIRECTOR: KYLIE YIHUA POST

## 副主任感言

This month marked my first full year of service as the Assistant Director of the UO Chinese Flagship Program. It's been an incredibly busy but extraordinarily fulfilling year. I have a much deeper appreciation for what it takes to run a vigorous, federally-funded program like Chinese Flagship. As program staff, we carry forward its philosophy, values, traditions, commitment, and outcomes. These can be embodied in many aspects of our daily operation: recruitment, academic advising, assessment, scholarship support, community building, partnership development, alumni networking, etc.



Though the majority of my work is somewhat behind the scenes, my favorite part of the job is spending time with Flagship students at various events such as the Chinese New Year Cultural Fair, Calligraphy Night, Spring Retreat, and Colloquium. It's wonderful to see our students learn as a community and move closer to their life and professional goals.

I would like to give my heartfelt thanks to my Flagship colleagues, student media assistants, Banzhang, tutors and other community partners for their outstanding work and support this year. It's been a successful year! I look forward to another fulfilling year ahead.

Kylie Post, UO Chinese Flagship Program Assistant Director



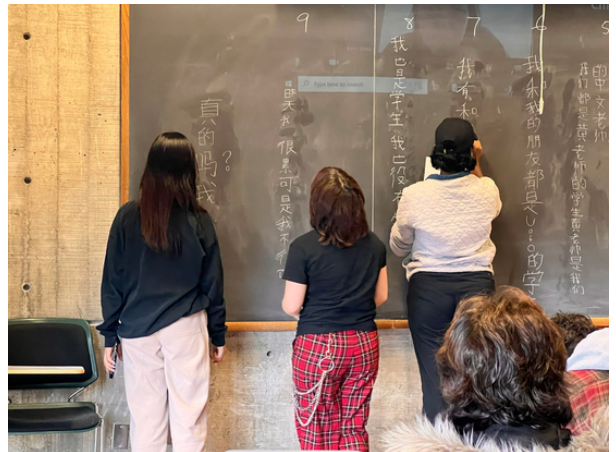
# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

## 致謝

We are grateful to present this year's University of Oregon Chinese Flagship Program newsletter to you. This year was about strengthening our community as we transitioned back to being fully in-person. We hope that this newsletter reflected the bonds created this year by all members of Flagship.

We want to give a special thank you to Kylie Post, the Assistant Director of the Flagship Program. This newsletter would not be possible without your leadership.

Thank you to Flagship students, alumni, professors, Banzhang executive members and Capstone students for contributing your time, photos, and stories! As we look back on the year, we hope it inspires you to bring about an exciting future for the University of Oregon Chinese Flagship Program.





# STAY IN TOUCH

## 聯繫我們



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