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Ginling College Delegation visits Tulane University's Newcomb College Institute
(New Orleans, LA)—October 20, 2011

A group of Chinese academics met with faculty, administrators, and students at Tulane this week to discuss strategies to serve their women students. Established in 1915, Ginling College of Nanjing, China, is the oldest women’s college in China. The group chose to come to Tulane because they were familiar with Newcomb as a leader in women's education in the United States. The group met with NCI’s staff to discuss their leadership programs and initiatives, as well as successful methods to prepare their students for success on the job market.

President of Ginling College Professor Huanqi Qian, a scholar of women's studies and educational ethics, led the group. Other members of the delegation included Yihong Jin, professor and Director of Ginling Women’s Development Research Center and assistant research fellow Maolan Lu. Hong Ye, associate professor of English served as interpreter during their visit.

The delegation took the opportunity to talk with students, faculty and staff. Many similarities between undergraduate women in the United States and China surfaced as a result of the visit, including the challenges that each group face. When asked by a Tulane student what the biggest challenge facing her students was, President Qian replied, “Employers may declare they don’t want women. They face more difficulty finding satisfactory jobs. And after marriage, it is difficult to balance family and career.”

Tulane sophomore Angelica Gordon valued her time with the delegation. "The visit from the Ginling group was important because it provided students and faculty with an opportunity to witness both cultural differences and similarities between China and the US, specifically in the area of gender studies. Additionally, the cultural exchange allowed me to view how other women are working towards restructuring the social conditions that affect women in their own countries and internationally.” Gordon is active on campus in her role as Executive Vice President of the African American Women’s Society student organization, a group funded by NCI.

NCI’S Executive Director Sally Kenney met with the group at length to talk about NCI’s mission, as well as how the two organizations share comparable goals for their students. “The Newcomb College Institute is carrying forward the tradition of Newcomb College by maintaining close connections with women’s colleges worldwide. We benefit enormously by a close collaboration with colleagues in similar endeavors.”

About Newcomb College Institute:
The legacy of women-focused undergraduate education continues at Tulane University through the Newcomb College Institute. Under the leadership of Executive Director Sally J. Kenney, NCI provides vibrant, intellectually rigorous programming on women's issues and supports research, teaching, and community engagement. To learn more about NCI and their contributions to Tulane and the community, visit tulane.edu/newcomb.

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