

This time, we went really far

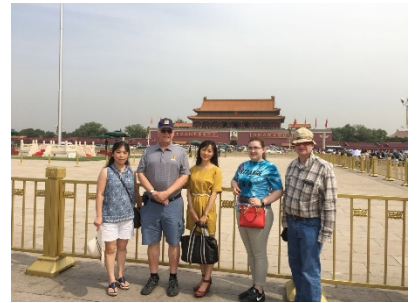
By Lingli Ni



We went really far this time!
Not to the ocean,
Not to the moon,
But to the opposite side of our earth!

We went to the Great Wall,
Overlooking mountains from the fort!
It was built for war,
Now it is just very tall wall.
Used to be three thousand miles,
It is still long enough to explore.
After you climbed the steps,
You'll see the greatness and even more!
Glued by sand mixed with egg white and sticky rice,
Huge stones are still in place!

We went to a big old palace,
With golden roofs and marble steps.
Surrounded by very tall walls in red,
Huge courtyard has not a single flower bed.
Who would want to live there?
Except ancient emperors and empresses.
It is still called the Forbidden City,
Though ordinary people go visit day by day.



West Lake is such a beauty,
With trees and boats, pavilions and bridges.
Two causeways are surrounding it,
Three pools are mirroring the moon.
Pebble paved walkways and bamboo covered shades,
Pink lotus poking out of green pads;
Weeping willows swing in the sunset breeze,
Telling all the legendary love stories!
We were impressed by the music and dance!
Performed on the lake at night,
Highlighted by state of the art colorful lights.



Boat riding along the canal is fun,
More comfortable than walking in the sun!
Imagine the days before roads and railway,
Canal is considered luxury free way.
With houses, restaurants and stores on the sides,
red lanterns twinkling at nights.

We traveled from north to south in two weeks,
Thanks to high speed train, subway, and taxis.
Our destination was Wuxi health school,
For two years we have been planning for visiting friends.
Wuxi is not just a city with a beautiful big lake,
It is a place that Vol State would relate!
We hosted their faculty and students,
Now they are returning the favor,
We've never seen before!
The warm feeling is so dear to us,
Just like the one in Gallatin campus!
Our friendship will renew in August,
For sure we have heated it up this summer!



We went to eat with friends in China,
In three cities and with lots of varieties!
We eat in restaurants with Mr. Cui and Ms. Li,
With Wuxi Health school students and faculty!
We chatted in Ms. Yang's home,
After enjoyed her husband's cooking in their dining room.
Never realized watermelon juice is so delicious,
And Mango can be part of snacks and drinks.
Not to mention drinking tea,
It is everywhere and we even attended a tea ceremony!



We went really far this time,
Not to the North Pole,
Not to the Antarctic,
But to the ancient cities in the Far East!
If you can jump high enough,
In twelve hours you will land there!
A pacific tunnel would be terrific,
That high speed train can cross without traffic!
No matter wherever people are,
Hearts of friends are never far!