



**OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL**

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December 18, 2020

Professor Yang Wei  
President  
Chinese International Education Foundation  
[yangwei@cief.org.cn](mailto:yangwei@cief.org.cn)

Professor Ma Jianfei  
Deputy Chief Executive  
Confucius Institute Headquarters  
[majianfei@hanban.org](mailto:majianfei@hanban.org)

Dear Professor Yang and Professor Ma,

I am writing on behalf of President Green in response to your July 14, 2020 letter indicating that Confucius Institute Headquarters has assigned its obligations under our 2018 contract related to the establishment of a Confucius Institute at the University of Idaho to the Chinese International Education Foundation. As President Green explained in his August 3, 2020, email to you, this change will require a change in our formal agreement, and he has asked me to work with you on a new agreement.

Please accept my sincere apologies for the delay in getting back to you to work on drafting this new agreement. As I'm sure you understand, the University of Idaho has been faced with a number of important and pressing matters that has required my attention, not the least of which includes helping address the myriad issues brought on by the global pandemic faced by all of us.

After a review of your proposal to assign the duties of Hanban to the CEIF, and as a result of numerous causes beyond the control of the University of Idaho, the University has determined that maintaining a Confucius Institute is no longer in the best interests of the University of Idaho. Rather, the University of Idaho is instead looking to institute a broader Asian Studies Center. Through this new center, we hope to include many of the same aspects of the Confucius Institute that will allow us to meet our common goals of promoting cross-cultural learning; the support of Chinese language education; and people-to-people exchanges.

To that end, the University of Idaho seeks to end the current contract early and close the University of Idaho Confucius Institute at the end of the current academic year (May 31, 2021). I have attached a proposed amendment to the current contract setting forth this understanding, as well as your desire to assign Hanban's obligations to CEIF.

At the same time, we hope to engage in conversations with Chinese institutions of higher education about potential partnerships in the future to meet the mutual goals set forth above through the University's planned Asian Studies Center.

If the attached contractual amendment meets with your approval, please sign and return to me at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "James E. M. Craig". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J'.

James E. M. Craig  
General Counsel

2020年12月18日

杨卫教授  
中国国际中文教育基金会理事长  
[yangwei@cief.org.cn](mailto:yangwei@cief.org.cn)

马建飞教授  
中国孔子学院总部副主任  
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尊敬的杨卫教授和马建飞教授：

我谨代表Green校长就贵方于2020年7月14日的来函进行回复，贵方来函中提及中国孔子学院总部将其在贵我双方于2018年订立的关于在爱达荷大学建立孔子学院的合同项下的义务转让给中国国际中文教育基金会。正如Green校长在2020年8月3日回贵方的电子邮件中解释的那样，上述变动需要修改双方的正式协议，他已要求我与贵方共同制定新的协议。

我为因起草这一新协议而延误回复贵方表示真诚的歉意。我相信贵方能理解，我需要关注爱达荷大学一直面临着的许多重要和紧迫问题，其中不仅包括帮助解决我们所有人都面临的新型冠状病毒肺炎所引发的无数问题。

看了贵方关于将汉办的义务转让给CEIF的提议后，由于超出爱荷华大学控制的众多原因，爱荷华大学认为，举办孔子学院已不再符合爱荷华大学的最佳利益。相反，爱荷华大学希望建立一个更广泛的亚洲研究中心。通过这个新的中心，我们希望孔子学院的许多方面能够与之相适应，以实现我们促进跨文化学习、中文教育及人文交流的共同目标。

为此，爱达荷大学想将现有合同的终止日期提前，并在本学年结束时（即2021年5月31日）关闭爱达荷大学孔子学院。我已附上了一份修订协议，写明了这一点以及贵方希望将汉办的义务转让给CEIF的诉求。

同时，我们希望通过爱达荷大学规划中的亚洲研究中心，与中国的高等教育机构就未来潜在的合作伙伴关系进行对话，以实现上述共同目标。

如果附件的修订协议符合贵方的要求，请在贵方方便的时候尽快签署并回寄给我。

敬启，

**James E. M. Craig**  
总顾问