LETTER FROM THE DEAN

ENGAGEMENT. COLLABORATION. PROVOCATION.

USC’s American Academy in China (AAC) makes connections across countries, cultures, and disciplines. Established under the auspices of the university’s School of Architecture, the AAC spearheads a global agenda that aims to break down boundaries and bring together the best people and ideas from around the world. This year we brought an acclaimed art historian to Los Angeles to lecture on Han dynasty tombs and an American architecture critic to Shanghai to talk about green urbanism. We took students to a small village in Jiangxi Province to address the critical issues facing rural China and gathered together research on the topic in an exhibition in Shenzhen. We shook thing up at a symposium in Shenzhen, providing a platform to a diverse range of voices on bridging the gap between China’s cities and countryside.

Connecting academia and practice, the AAC is a unique institution fostering explorations that deepen our understanding of China’s past, present, and possible futures. It engages architects, planners, artists, filmmakers, writers, anthropologists, and entrepreneurs in an on-going exploration of culture and the built environment.

Just as the American Academy in Rome sought to understand the legacy of the West when it was established at the end of the 19th century, the AAC aims to make sense of China’s emergence as a cultural power in the 21st century.

Qingyun Ma, AIA

Founder, USC American Academy in China
Dean, Della & Harry MacDonald Chair, USC School of Architecture
LETTER FROM THE DEAN

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FUTURE FUNDING
When I took over as AAC director in January 2016, I brought with me a different set of experiences from my predecessors. Neither an academic nor an architect, I was an architectural journalist who had covered China for many years and appreciated its rapidly growing role on the world scene. I had written about an emerging generation of talented Chinese architects and a wave of foreign firms working in Asia. I was excited about the energy and speed of change happening over there and the expanding ripples of influence it was having on the rest of the world. And I saw the AAC as an ideal platform for bringing all these forces together.

Building on its previous accomplishments, the AAC this year has expanded its reach and raised its profile—both in China and the U.S. We named the first AAC research fellow—architect and critic Michael Sorkin—furthering our mission as an institution that engages scholarship and practice across many different disciplines. For his fellowship, Sorkin is preparing a book entitled Made For China, which examines the challenges and opportunities facing foreign architects working in China. He gave a lively talk in Shanghai this summer, hosted by the AAC and Haworth, and another at USC this fall. In the spring, the AAC brought acclaimed art historian He Xilin to Los Angeles to speak on campus on the topic “Finding Eternity: Chinese Tombs from the Han Dynasty.” Creating a dialogue on both sides of the Pacific is one of the AAC’s goals.

Collaborating with SPAMALL and Jade Valley Winery, two enterprises run by Qingyun Ma, the AAC held an open, online competition to design “Napavilions,” prefabricated wood structures that will be built at Jade Valley outside of Xi’an. Designers from around the world entered the competition and seven were selected as winners.

As it has done since its inception in 2007, the AAC worked with USC’s study abroad program to conduct courses in China during the summer. The two courses offered this year—a two-week field studies seminar on mega-cities and a six-week design research studio on the relationship between China’s cities and countryside—helped shape the minds of students interested in what is happening in the world’s largest country.
At the end of July, the AAC mounted a major exhibition, *Rural-Urban Re-inventions: Bridging the Gap Between China’s Cities and Countryside*, in Shenzhen. The exhibition, which presented work by 19 universities and research-oriented practices, addressed one of the critical issues facing China today. In conjunction with the exhibition, the AAC organized a symposium on the same topic, generating an energetic conversation that spanned the disciplines of architecture, design, planning, art, and anthropology.

To help us guide the future of the AAC, we established a Board of Advisors made of leading voices in a range of fields—from architecture to filmmaking, from planning to fashion. As the academy moves into its second decade, it will continue to broaden its reach beyond Los Angeles and major cities in China. As a platform for research and engagement, it will collaborate with universities, schools of architecture, professional organizations, businesses, government agencies, and communities of artists around the world. Our main goal is make a positive impact on the people who are shaping the future of China.

Clifford Pearson

*Director, USC American Academy in China*

*Lecturer, USC School of Architecture*
In April, the AAC announced that architect and critic Michael Sorkin would be the academy’s first research fellow, beginning his work in the summer and culminating with the publication of a book in 2017. The fellowship, which will be granted on an annual basis, furthers the AAC’s mission as an institution engaging scholars, practitioners, teachers, and students across many different fields—from architecture and planning to film, music, business, and government.

During his AAC fellowship, Sorkin is investigating the notion of “Made For China,” compiling a critical analysis of his own design projects and those by other architects in China. His research includes “a careful reflection on the interaction we’ve had with clients, users, regulators, educators, professionals, and officials in the course of trying to create buildings, places, and propositions that embody both local values and our own,” explained Sorkin. By looking at his work and others, he hopes to probe the nature of an “urbanism with Chinese characteristics.”

Sorkin is Principal of the Michael Sorkin Studio, a global design practice working at all scales with a special interest in the city and green architecture. He is President and Founder of Terreform, a nonprofit institute dedicated to research into the forms and practices of just and sustainable urbanism. He is Distinguished Professor of Architecture and Director of the Graduate Program in Urban Design at City College of New York. His firm is currently working on building and planning projects in China and other parts of the world. Sorkin is the architecture critic for The Nation and a contributing editor at Architectural Record. He is the author or editor of 20 books, including Variations on a Theme Park, Exquisite Corpse, Local Code, Starting From Zero, and Twenty Minutes in Manhattan. He is a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, winner of the National Design Award as “Design Mind,” and a current Guggenheim Fellow.

As part of his fellowship, Sorkin gave a talk in Shanghai in July and another at USC in Los Angeles in October.
为中国制造
MADE FOR CHINA
On April 20, acclaimed art historian He Xilin gave a lecture at USC entitled, “Finding Eternity: Chinese Tombs from the Han Dynasty.” Dr. He, who is a professor of art history at China’s Central Academy of Fine Arts, talked about tombs created from 206 B.C. to 220 A.D., after the short-lived reign of China’s first emperor Qin Shihuangdi. Much of what we now consider to be “Chinese” began in the Han Dynasty and more than 90 percent of today’s population is Han Chinese.

Although he teaches in Beijing, Dr. He comes from Xi’an, the city that was the capital of the Han Dynasty. Originally called Chang’an, it is the location of most of the known Han tombs. While the tombs of the Han emperors were looted hundreds of years ago and have not been opened in modern times, Dr. He has explored tombs of affluent people who were not part of the Han royal family. In his lecture, Dr. He showed images of the artwork found in these burial chambers and the elaborately decorated coffins-within-coffins used to protect the corpses of the dead and house them in the afterlife.

Dr. He earned his doctorate and bachelor’s degree from China’s Central Academy of Fine Arts, where he teaches today. He has won numerous academic honors for teaching and scholarship and has published extensively on the topic of tomb murals and Han Dynasty art. He has written many books, including the Complete Series of Chinese Tombs Murals, From Han to Southern and Northern Dynasties, published in 2011 and the History of Chinese Ancient Tomb Murals published in 2009.
In conjunction with the online platform @ALL, the AAC ran an open competition for the design of prefabricated wood structures to be built at Jade Valley Winery outside of Xi’an in western China. Called “Napavilions,” these small constructions will be built in the vineyards, offering guests and workers ideal places to take naps or enjoy the views. A jury comprised of Dean Qingyun Ma, AAC director Clifford Pearson, USC professor Gary Paige, and AAC research fellow Michael Sorkin selected seven winners.

The top three entries come from practices in very different places and take strikingly different approaches to the challenge of designing a small building that can be prefabricated and assembled quickly on-site. “Woodokan” by Hajime Yoshida Architecture in Osaka, Japan, is a horizontal cylinder wrapped in metal on the outside and wood on the inside. “SkySleeper,” by the British/Romanian firm Estudio ESSE, is an A-frame structure that places the sleeping platform at the apex to maximize views and breezes. “POD.NA (Portable Operational Deployable Napping Area),” which was designed by four undergraduate architecture students at USC, suspends a basket-like napping vessel from a multi-legged wood frame.

The four other winners are: “Mooring Pavilion” by a group of architects and engineers in Tianjin, China; “Pillow” by Ida&Billy Architects in Hong Kong; “Pinocchio’s Whale” by Architect Andrea Falcon (aaf) in Bologna, Italy; and “Unlimited Expandable Pavilion” by Farhad Arbab, Fariba Arbab, and Mercedes Vazirian from Mashhad, Iran.

“The goal of the Napavilion competition is to challenge designers to find solutions that have clear ideas behind them and can accommodate an uncertain site, since they may be built in other locations after Jade Valley,” said Dean Ma. For more than a decade, Dean Ma has been treating Jade Valley as an on-going experiment in the integration of Culture, Agriculture, and Nature, what he calls C.A.N. It has garnered much attention locally and internationally as an emerging force in agri-tourism and cultural tourism. According to Dean Ma, he aims to “define and redefine the landscape, combining nature with the man-made, while using architecture in a minimal, strategic way.”
For napping, it's better to cover human body but also better to feel beautiful nature. Therefore to face with nature and connect with nature, the main volume is cylinder that is string shape.

VIEWING VOLUME
This is for the viewing mountain and sky, and also it's for taking sun light from the top. We can enter the volume, it's for only nature.

INDIVIDUAL VOLUME
This is for a personal space. The height is almost 1500mm. The size is comfortable for napping.

SHRINKING VOLUME
This volume is cone, so the diameter became smaller from 3000mm to 1000mm. This means public space changes to individual small space. And it also opens to the environment.

3 VOLUMES
These three volumes became one like branched tree. Big open space becomes gradually individual space, so we can choose how to nap.

CONCEPT
When I was a child, I napped in the Clay pipe. This was small space but comfortable space for individual. In Japanese anime 'DORAEMON', its hero Nobita sometimes sleep in clay pipe. Maybe he asks for his own space. In beautiful nature, we want to feel comfortable wind, sunlight, smell and views. And we want to be covered with good feeling texture for nap. Therefore I propose cylinder shape pavilion and use wood texture to inside. The shape welcomes to people and nature, and changes to semi-closed space for individual. This wood clay pipe 'WOODOKAN' gives us very comfortable nap space in nature.

Sky-sleeper
Escape and nature make for the best naps. Our aim was to create a place for the pavilion user to escape to their own unique place within nature. One way to create an escape is to build a boundary, but we felt this would weaken the connection with nature. Instead we have raised the nap space into the sky to create a private escape up above the ground. Skyscrapers typically represent ideas of financial excess and statements of greed and ego. The SkySleeper represents something a lot more important; the nap.

The inhabitant's journey to the tranquil sleeping space takes from the ground to the sky before enjoying the peace and quiet of their nap time. The steeply pitched roof provides shelter while the curtains at either opening allow the light levels and breeze to be controlled. The nap space itself is simple and minimal, offering no distraction from nature or the nap.

Our design uses simple prefabricated components in an easy to assemble, structurally efficient manner. Straight, regular timber elements are joined using standard steel brackets, nuts and bolts to create the structure's triangles. The modular nature of the design means costs are kept to a minimum and the construction is kept simple. The SkySleeper's design is simple and bold, providing the most tranquil setting for a nap. The architecture of the pavilion will no doubt leave its inhabitants with lasting memories of the most relaxing experience and the sweetest dreams.
The AAC named a Board of Advisors to help guide the academy and identify critical issues to be addressed. Representing a range of perspectives, the board members include architects, urban designers, a filmmaker, and a fashion designer and entrepreneur.

John Ruble
Partner
Moore Ruble Yudell Architects & Planners

Tim Johnson
Partner
NBBJ

Sally Wu
President
Act 1 Fashions

Calvin Tsao
Partner
Tsao & McKown Architects

Anna Chi
Writer, Director, Filmmaker

Richard Marshall
International Strategy Director and Principal
Perkins+Will

Sean Chiao
President
AECOM Asia Pacific

Grant Marani
Partner
Robert A.M. Stern Architects
As it has done for the past 10 years, the AAC worked with USC’s Study Abroad Program to bring students to China for a high-intensity summer semester. Led by USC professor Gary Paige, the program featured a two-week field studies course on mega-cities and a six-week design studio examining the relationship between China’s cities and villages.

The field studies seminar took students to Beijing, Shanghai, and Hong Kong—prime examples of China’s fast-growing, rapidly changing urban environments. There they toured key buildings such as Steven Holl’s Linked Hybrid and Morphosis’s headquarters for Giant Interactive Group and explored both old and new patterns of metropolitan development. They also visited a host of innovative firms, including Studio Pei-Zhu, FAKE Design (Ai Weiwei), Open Architecture (Li Hu and Wenjun Huang), MAD Architects (Ma Yansong), Steven Holl Architects, Atelier Feichang Jianzhu (Yung Ho Chang), Turenscape (Kongjian Yu), Atelier Deshaus (Liu Yichun and Chen Yifeng), and ESKYIU (Marisa Yiu and Eric Schudlenfrei).

The design studio focused on the flip sides of China’s transformation over the past 25 years—booming cities and declining villages. Based mostly in the Shenzhen offices of AVIC Legend, which sponsored the studio, the students ventured to Jiangxi Province to document a small village near Lushan (Mount Lu) and propose designs for turning it into an agri-resort. They also traveled to Yangliuping, a village outside of Xi’an, to tackle a second project. Sponsored by the Shaanxi Culture Industry Investment Holdings (Group), this effort led to a series of strategies to attract tourists and also serve the needs of local residents.

The students’ work was included in the AAC exhibition Rural-Urban Re-inventions: Bridging the Gap Between China’s Cities and Countryside mounted in Shenzhen and discussed at the AAC symposium on the same subject.
PROJECT LUSHAN

OIL WORKSHOP
油坊
RICE WINE WORKSHOP
米酒坊
KITCHEN
厨房
CANTEEN
食堂
FAMILY CENTER
员工之家
FABRICATION WORKSHOP
夏布坊
BAMBOO WEAVING WORKSHOP
竹编坊
TEA WORKSHOP
茶坊
EXPERIENCE CENTER
体验中心
DRESSING ROOM
更衣室
STORAGE
体验中心-农具储藏室
CONFERENCE ROOM
会议室
RECEPTION
接待处
PLAN OF PROGRAM IN 1F
场地房屋功能图一层
HARD SYSTEM
硬质铺地
SOFT SYSTEM
软质铺地
SUBSTRUCTION SYSTEM
拆除建筑
PROJECT LUSHAN

PROPOSED FARMLAND
EXISTING BUILDINGS
HARD SURFACE
GARDEN

FARMLAND1
FARMLAND2
RURAL-URBAN RE-INVENTIONS: BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN CHINA’S CITIES AND COUNTRYSIDE
The AAC presented an exhibition in Shenzhen that examined one of the critical issues facing China today—the changing relationship between the country’s expanding cities and declining villages. Entitled *Rural-Urban Re-inventions: Bridging the Gap Between China’s Cities and Countryside*, the show brought together work done by a broad range of architects, academics, businesspeople, and thinkers from around the world.

The exhibition opened on July 29 at the Shenzhen Public Art Center and presented the work of academic and professional organizations from Asia, the United States, and Europe. These were: the University of Southern California School of Architecture; the University of Southern California Sol Price School of Public Policy; the University of Pennsylvania; Harvard Graduate School of Design; the University of California, Berkeley; Rice University; Syracuse University; the University of Hong Kong; the University of Saint Joseph, Macau; Peking University; the Architectural Association; ETH, Zurich; l'Ecole Nationale Superieure d'Architecture de Saint-Etienne; Stefan Al; BASE Beijing (Robert Mangurian/Mary-Ann Ray); DnA (Xu Tiantian); Thomas Daniell; Urbanus; and Michael Sorkin Studio. It also showed the winning designs for Napavilions to be built at Jade Valley Winery outside of Xi’an.

AAC director Clifford Pearson and USC professor Gary Paige curated the exhibition and Paige designed it. Support for it was provided by Robert A.M. Stern Architects, KPF, NBBJ, and AVIC Legend.
Architects, educators, and thinkers discussed a range of strategies for dealing with China’s expanding cities and declining villages at an AAC symposium on July 30 in Shenzhen. Entitled *Rural-Urban Re-inventions: Bridging the Gap Between China’s Cities and Countryside*, the event looked at projects in places such as rural Zhejiang Province, post-industrial Shenzhen, and super-dense Hong Kong. Although the speakers presented a variety of tactics and expressions, they shared a willingness to challenge accepted approaches to planning and development.

The participants were:

- Stefan Al, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia
- Ole Bouman, Design Society, Shenzhen
- Aric Chen, M+ Museum, Hong Kong
- Thomas Daniell, University of Saint Joseph, Macau
- Jianxiang He, O-Office Architects, Guangzhou
- Ying Jiang, O-Office Architects, Guangzhou
- Doreen Liu, NODE Architecture & Urbanism, Shenzhen
- Mary Ann O’Donnell, anthropologist, Shenzhen
- Gary Paige, USC, Los Angeles
- Clifford Pearson, AAC, Los Angeles
- Eric Schuldenfrei, ESKYIU, Hong Kong
- Marisa Yiu, ESKYIU, Hong Kong
- Tiantian Xu, DnA Design and Architecture, Beijing
2007

- AAC founded by Dean Qingyun Ma
- Hainan Summer Graduate Design Studio and Hainan Delta Investigation and Inquiry Program
- Eco Power Module City
- City of Exploration and Regeneration: Shenzhen-Hong Kong Biennale

2008

- Momentary Urbanism Design Workshop, 798, Beijing
- Is Another City Possible? 798, Beijing, AAC Forum Series
- Transformative Architecture, 798, Beijing, AAC Forum Series
- What is Next, Lijiang, AAC Forum Series
- Historic Lijiang Research Workshop, Lijiang, AAC Asia Studies Abroad Program
- Project Engagement: Creative Industry of Tian Zi Fang, Design Workshop, Shanghai, AAC Asia Studies Abroad Program
- Urban Collision, Shanghai, AAC Forum Series
- LASH 1: Los Angeles vs. Shanghai: Who Is the Cultural Capital of the Pacific Rim? Shanghai, AAC Forum Series
- 1865, Nanjing Graduate Design Studio, AAC Graduate Studio Offering

2009

- LASH 2: Translative Sub-urbanism of Los Angeles and Shanghai, USC, Los Angeles, AAC Forum Series
- GSD China, Shanghai, AAC Travel Seminar
- Emergent Urbanism: 2008, Beijing Olympic Park, Design Workshop, AAC Graduate Studies Abroad Program
- Emergent Urbanism: Street Ecologies of Shanghai, Design Workshop, Shanghai, AAC Graduate Studies Abroad Program

2010

- Emergent Urbanism: Urban Spectacle and Speculation, Design Workshop
- AAC Graduate Studies Abroad Program, Shanghai
- Creative Nature, Qingpu Tea House, Shanghai, AAC Exhibition Series
- The New Chinese Landscape, Qingpu Library, Shanghai, AAC Forum Series
- Swarm Intelligence, Austria Pavilion, Expo 2010, Shanghai, AAC Forum Series
- Swarm Intelligence, HKU Gallery, Shanghai, AAC Exhibition Series

2011

- DigitalFUTURE Conference, CAUP, Shanghai, AAC Forum Series
- Computational Workshop, CAUP, Shanghai, AAC Graduate Studies Abroad Program
- Fabrication Workshop, CAUP, Shanghai, AAC Graduate Studies Abroad Program
- DigitalFUTURE Exhibition, CAUP Exhibition Space, Shanghai, AAC Exhibition Series
2012

• Super Tall Buildings Conference, CAUP, Shanghai, AAC Forum Series
• Computational Workshop, CAUP, Shanghai, AAC Graduate Studies Abroad Program
• Fabrication Workshop, CAUP, Shanghai, AAC Graduate Studies Abroad Program
• MoCA Mock-Ups Exhibition, MoCA, Shanghai, AAC Exhibition Series

2013

• Computational Workshop, CAUP, Shanghai, AAC Graduate Studies Abroad Program
• Fabrication Workshop, CAUP, Shanghai, AAC Graduate Studies Abroad Program
• Interactive Shanghai Forum, CAUP, Shanghai, AAC Forum Series
• Interactive Shanghai Exhibition, CAUP, Shanghai, AAC Exhibition Series

2014

• Future Underground Design Workshop, Beijing
• USC China Lab Design Studio, Beijing, Shanghai, Nanjing, AAC Graduate Studies Abroad Program
• China in Flux: Mapping the Middle Zone, exhibition, Beijing, AAC Exhibition Series
• China in Flux: Mapping the Middle Zone, symposium, Beijing, AAC Forum Series

2015

• Field Studies Workshop, Beijing, Xi'an, Shenzhen, AAC Graduate Studies Abroad Program

2016

• Clifford Pearson named AAC Director
• AAC Board of Advisors established
• Michael Sorkin named inaugural AAC Research Fellow
• Finding Eternity: Chinese Tombs from the Han Dynasty, lecture by He Xilin, USC, Los Angeles, AAC Lecture Series
• Napavilion Design Competition, online around the world
• Mega-Cities Field Studies Workshop, Beijing, Shanghai, Hong Kong, AAC Graduate Studies Abroad Program
• Project Lushan: Design Research Studio, Shenzhen, Lushan, AAC Graduate Study Abroad Program
• Project Yangliuping: Design Research Studio, Shenzhen, Zhaojin, AAC Graduate Studies Abroad Program
• Made For China, Haworth, Shanghai, lecture by Michael Sorkin, AAC Lecture Series
• Rural-Urban Re-inventions: Bridging the Gap Between China's Cities and Countryside Exhibition, Shenzhen Public Art Center, Shenzhen, AAC Exhibition Series
• Rural-Urban Re-inventions: Bridging the Gap Between China's Cities and Countryside Symposium, AVIC Legend Tea House, AAC Forum Series
• Made For China, USC, Los Angeles, lecture by Michael Sorkin, AAC Lecture Series
To date, nearly 60 institutions worldwide have participated with the AAC in different scholastic engagements, forums, exhibitions, and workshops in China. Following institutions are included:

Architectural Association School of Architecture
B.A.S.E. Beijing
Bartlett School of Architecture
Beijing University of Civil Engineering and Architecture (BUCEA)
Beijing Forestry University
Beijing Jiaotong University
Central Academy of Fine Arts (CAFA)
Chinese University of Hong Kong
CITA: Center for Information Technology and Architecture
Columbia University GSAPP
Cuikai Studio
Dessau Institute of Architecture
DnA (Design and Architecture)
Ecole Nationale Supérieure d’Architecture de Saint-Étienne
Ecole Nationale Supérieure d’Architecture Paris-Malaquais
ETH Zurich Urban-Think Tank
Feng Chia University, Taiwan
Harvard University Graduate School of Design
Hehai University of Technology
Hong Kong University
INHA University, Korea
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Michael Sorkin Studio
Dept. of Urban Studies and Planning Peking University
Princeton University
Rural Urban Framework, University of Hong Kong
Sichuan University
Southern California Institute of Architecture
Seoul National University
Stefan Al
Nanjing Southeastern University
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Royal Melbourne Institute of Architecture
Shandong Jian Zhi University
Shenzhen Public Art Center
South China University of Technology
St. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje, Republic of Macedonia
Syracuse University
Tianjin University
Tongji University
Tsinghua University
TU Delft
Universidad Torcuato Di Tella, Argentina
University of Brighton
University of California at Berkeley – College of Environmental Design
University of Edinburgh
University of Illinois at Urbana – Champaign
University of Michigan – Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning
University of Pennsylvania
University of Southern California Price School of Public Policy / SLAB
University of Southern California School of Architecture
University of St. Joseph Macau
University of Stuttgart – Institute for Computational Design
University of Tennessee – Knoxville
University of Toronto
Urbanus
Woodbury University
Yale University
The AAC depends on the generous support of architects, developers, organizations, and individuals interested in design, the built environment, the arts, and culture. These benefactors provide not just financial resources, but help in furthering the academy’s mission as a cultural bridge between the United States and China.

Since its founding in 2007, the AAC has received support from:

Ms. Wei Liu
Mr. Jianhua Tu
AVIC Legend
Mr. Qiuguang Wu
Hsieh Family Foundation
Shaanxi Culture Industry Investment Holdings (Group) Co. Ltd.
S.S.S. Development, Inc.
Robert A.M. Stern Architects, LLP
Kohn Pedersen Fox
NBBJ
AECOM Asia
Mr. Aiyou Jin
Gamaliel LLC
As it moves into its second decade, the AAC is pushing forward with ambitious plans to expand its reach both in the United States and China. It is developing programs such as lectures, symposia, exhibitions, and competitions in Los Angeles, Beijing, Shanghai, Hong Kong, and Xi’an. It is supporting academic exchanges between China and America, and exploring opportunities in the rest of Asia and Europe. It is working with research fellow Michael Sorkin on publishing a book that will cap off his fellowship and will name a fellow to follow him.

Our goal is to create a powerful network of people and programs in Asia and the West that will spur innovation and provoke discussion across disciplines and cultures. We will need the help of generous benefactors and dedicated advisors and are looking forward to working with them to make an impact on the places where we live, work, learn, and play.
The USC American Academy in China (AAC) is an international program of the School of Architecture at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles. Programs of AAC are enabled and enriched by support through private philanthropy—individual, corporate and foundation gifts. Gifts to the University of Southern California in support of AAC provide funding for faculty, research, symposia, workshops, and exhibitions along with scholarships and traveling fellowships for students studying in China.

As a private non-profit 501.c3 institution, USC is able to accept gifts from any country and in any currency. A gift may be composed of cash, appreciated U.S. securities, real estate, trusts, bequests or a combination of devices that best suits the donor. What is more, cash and gifts of appreciated assets may provide considerable tax advantages to the donor.

To learn more about making a gift to support the USC American Academy in China, you may contact:

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