

## NEWS OF THE FIELD

### The American Society of Shufa Calligraphy Education Bi-Annual Conference in Beijing

The American Society of Shufa Calligraphy Education (ASSCE, formerly CEG) held its 7th bi-annual International Conference on Hanzi Calligraphy Education at Yulong International Hotel in Beijing, June 28-30, 2010. Hosted by the Calligraphy Culture Research Institute of Capital Normal University (首都师范大学书法文化研究院), the Conference was a resounding success. Keynote speech by Professor Xu Jialu emphasized the importance of calligraphy in manifesting the core values of Chinese culture and he advocated global development of calligraphy education. In addition to panel presentation of scholarly papers, there was art-work exhibition and on-site calligraphy writing. Participants also enjoyed the culture heritage fieldtrip to Capital Normal University Museum of Calligraphy Culture, and the Fangshan Stone-Carvings of Buddhist Scriptures. A Chinese news article on the Conference may be found at [http://www.cedy.cn/2010-07/01/content\\_483775.htm](http://www.cedy.cn/2010-07/01/content_483775.htm) or <http://www.cnusf.com/?action-viewnews-itemid-262>



*(Reported by Madeline Chu on behalf of ASSCE)*

### CLTA-VA Inaugural Meeting

The CLTA-VA had a very successful inaugural meeting last October. It outnumbered other foreign language groups as it emerged to be the largest group of foreign language teachers at the FLAVA (Foreign Language Association of Virginia) luncheon meeting. Following the annual meeting was the CLTA-VA 2010 Spring Chinese Pedagogy Workshop that was held at George Mason University (GMU) on Saturday, May 8th, 2010. We were truly thankful for generous support from the Confucius Institute at George Mason University and the East Asia Center and Asia Institute of the University of Virginia. Special thanks should also go to Dr. Karl Zhang and Dr. Li Fu, whose multiple roles associated with the CLTA-VA, GMU, and the CI at Mason, facilitated many different tasks for the one-day professional activity.

Three excellent interactive presentations were extremely well-received during the one-day workshop. They were presented by Dr. Haiyan Fu from Northside College Preparatory High School in Chicago, Illinois, Dr. Phyllis Zhang from George Washington University in Washington DC, and Dr. Fenglan Guo, Resident Director at the Confucius Institute at George Mason University, and Ms. Lei Wang from Beijing Language and Culture University.

The CLTA-VA second annual meeting will take place in conjunction with FLAVA at the Holiday Inn Koger Conference Center in Richmond on Friday-Saturday, October 8th-9th. The conference offers an exceptional registration package with high quality sessions at a surprisingly low rate. The package includes, but is not limited to, a keynote speech, two featured workshops, a wide spectrum of professional sessions on teaching and learning of six foreign languages, and dinner reception on Friday and continental breakfast on Saturday. It is a deal that is too good to be true. The CLTA-Va second annual meeting has expanded and enriched sessions on Chinese language teaching and learning in addition to a