


UA Confucius Institute Opening



On Monday, Nov. 17, 2008 The University of Akron celebrated the opening of its Confucius Institute. Part of an international network of Confucius Institutes, it is supported by the Chinese Ministry of Education and is dedicated to “enhancing the understanding of the Chinese language and culture” worldwide. The Confucius Institute will promote the expansion of Chinese language instruction through a range of educational and outreach activities to students, teachers, businesses and community members. It is a cooperative project of The University of Akron, the National Office of Teaching Chinese as a Foreign Language, Chinese Ministry of Education and Henan University in China. 



1. UA President Dr. Luis Proenza; Xiaoyong Ma, director of International Affairs for Henan University; Xinjian Zi, director, Education Department, Henan University
2. Aihe Guan, president, Henan University
3. Ming-Yen Lee (front) and David Badagnani, performers with the Cleveland Chinese Musical Ensemble
4. Dancers with the Verb Ballets perform a Chinese Fan and Tai Chi dance.
5. Akron Mayor Donald Plusquellic speaks with members of the Chinese delegation.
6. Philip Kaufmann, chair, UA Board of Trustees (left) and William Russell, associate director, Workforce Development, Ohio Board of Regents