Formed by a partnership between the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC) and the Society for Academic Library, Library Society of China, the Chinese Librarians Scholarly Exchange Program (CLSEP) is an academic scholarly exchange program whose participants include Chinese librarians and scholars. Built on the past eleven years successful Chinese Librarians Scholarly Exchange Programs, CLSEP is developed to focus on the trends and challenges faced by libraries all over the world. It gathers excellent resources from American library and information science fields and presents the latest achievements of American libraries that are among the first-class libraries of the world. CLSEP librarians seek solutions for challenges faced by Chinese and American libraries through reports, case studies, academic communications and field trips. CLSEP is a perfect fit for Chinese academic library leaders and aims to cultivate their abilities, enabling them to be leaders and innovators in the management and services of Chinese libraries in the 21st century.

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign is a well-known public university. Its library is the third largest university research library in North America (behind Harvard University and Yale University) and the largest publicly supported university research library in the world, with more than 30 departmental library branches and over 11 million items in its collections. The Graduate School of Library and Information Science (GSLIS) is the number one ranked LIS program in the U.S. and the Department of Computer Science is highly ranked in the nation and world as well. The State’s multi-type library systems have a long history of accomplishments and serve as a national model. The Ivy League owns the top-class universities and libraries in the world, with great collections, mature service systems, advanced information technology and management strategies. CLSEP has been designed and developed within an excellent environment to guarantee its success.

The 2016 program will carry out various forms of activities including reports, seminars, discussions, group projects and field trips to enhance scholarly exchange and sharing. CLSEP will create a scholarly learning environment of stimulation, participation and intellectualism. Following previous successful programs and meeting the needs of Chinese librarians, the CLSEP will continue to help librarian scholars obtain a deeper understanding of library and information science in the U.S., China and the world to acquire the latest innovations and trends in library and information science.

The theme for the 2016 CLSEP is entitled "New Internet Technologies and Innovative Services." The program will cover topics on the use of new Internet technologies in academic libraries, training and development of leader competency in new Internet technologies, big data, cloud computing, research data management and curation, institutional repository development, digital interdisciplinary research services, innovative service of subject librarians, undergraduate and graduate information and data literacy, scholarly common, undergraduate innovative services, e-books and electronic resources management, space management, high density storage, innovation in network consulting service, and etc. Participants will also pay visits to exemplary libraries and learn American culture.
Participating Organizations in Different Regions (Partial List): The following organization has attended the Chinese librarians programs in Illinois (2005-2015): Peking University, Zhejiang University, Beihang University, Wuhan University, Beijing Normal University, Beijing Institute of Technology, Beijing Jiaotong University, Beijing University of Technology, University of Science and Technology of China, Beijing Institute of Fashion Technology, Beijing International Studies University, Beijing Union University, Capital Normal University, Capital Medical University, China Youth University for Political Science Library, Development Research Center of China Aviation Industry, The Medical Library of the Chinese People's Liberation Army, Yanjing Theological Seminary, Northeast Normal University, AVIC Chengdu Aircraft Design & Research Institute, University of Electronic Science and Technology of China, Sichuan University, Chengdu Sport University, Third Military Medical University, Chongqing University, Chongqing University of Posts and Telecommunications, Southwest University, Chongqing University of Science and Technology, Dalian University of Technology, Chongqing Medical University, Dalian University of Technology, Jinan University, Zhejiang University of Media and Communications, Hangzhou Public Library, Harbin Normal University, Northeast Agricultural University, Northeast Forestry University, Luoyang Institute of Electro-optical Devices Research, Luoyang Photoelectric Technology Development Center, Jiangxi Normal University, Nanjing University of Science and Technology, Nanjing University of Technology, Nanjing Agricultural University, Nanjing University of Chinese Medicine, Nanjing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics, Hohai University, Ningbo University, East China Normal University, South China Normal University, Shanghai Normal University, Hangzhou Normal University, Jiangsu Normal University, University Town Library of Shenzhen, Shihezi University, Hebei Normal University, North China Electric Power University, Suzhou University, Shanxi University, NanKai University, Tianjin College, University of Science and Technology Beijing, Zhongnan University of Economics and Law, East China University of Political science and Law, Wuhan University of Technology, Huazhong Normal University, Xiamen University, Huazhong University of Science and Technology, Shanghai University, China Women's University, Xuzhou Institute of Technology, Xuzhou College of Industrial Technology, Shanghai Maritime University, Huaiyin Normal College, Jinan University, Wenzhou Medical University, Dunhuang Academy, South East University, Guangdong Polytechnic Normal University, Jiangsu Institute of Architectural Technology, Jiangsu University, Anhui University of Technology, Anhui Normal University, Taiyuan University of Science and Technology, Harbin Engineering University, Zhongshan University, Fujian Normal University etc. More than 250 participants joined the program since 2005. The 2016 CLSEP has been designed and developed based on the past successful programs.

CLSEP receives a minimum number of 20 short term visiting scholars and lasts four weeks from June 22 to July 20, 2016. Scholar participants will reside on U of I campus in the first part of the program concentrating on research projects and scholarly exchange activities. They will then attend the International Seminar on Research Data Management conducted in other academic libraries. One of the unique features of the program is the requirement for all scholars to showcase their library’s top accomplishments and study the issues and questions raised during CLSEP. Scholar participants will evaluate issues, applying the new knowledge and ideas they have gained. During the stay, scholar participants will take part in colorful activities and do in-depth research at the well-known libraries. English language is required while CLSEP will also provide translation services for all research activities. At the end of the academic activities, scholar participants will attend a celebration ceremony and be granted a certificate by the University of Illinois. Scholar participants will engage in rich scholarly exchange and communication activities at other first-class libraries and universities, including the Library of Congress, John Hopkins University, Purdue University, Washington University in St. Louis, Columbia University, Yale University, Harvard University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Stanford University, University of California at Berkeley, and etc. in order to strengthen scholarly exchange, broaden understanding about American academic libraries, increase professional knowledge, management and leadership capabilities.

The costs of CLSEP includes 1) $150 that is a J-1 visa processing fee required by the University; 2) $4,000 to cover academic exchange activity expenses, including living expenses at U of I; 3) Flight expenses (both International and domestic) charged by third party and living expenses for the last part of the program when doing research at other universities (Chinese RMB is acceptable). Scholar participants are encouraged to get visas by April and May to facilitate the trip and ensure to arrive on time. See more information about the previous successful Chinese librarian programs at http://www.fsi.illinois.edu/content/ international%20programs/china/

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