



INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP OF TEXAS



# Washington D. C. November 2021

INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP OF  
TEXAS



# Objectives of the Meeting in Washington DC

- Promote and inform key decision and policy makers in the federal legislative sector about ILTexas.
- Develop relationships with members of Congress in the House and to include staff members who are on key committees with oversight of language education funding and policy making.
- Advocate for changes to the World Language Advancement and Readiness Act (WLARA) to fund and develop the education for critical strategic languages for national defense purposes.
- Promote the development of a Flagship University Program for studies in Mandarin Chinese at Texas A&M University.
- Advocate additional funding for critical language education funding within the National Defense Appropriation Act.



# Nov. 15



Rep. Michael McCaul, R-Texas

## Meeting with Rep. Michael McCaul's Staff

- Rep. McCaul represents Texas' 10<sup>th</sup> Congressional District that stretches from Georgetown to Katy.
- Committee assignments for Rep. McCaul are Foreign Relations Committee and on the House Committee on Homeland Security.
- Eddie and Frank met with Zach Isakowitz in the cafeteria of the Sam Rayburn Bldg. Zach is the Legislative Director for Rep. McCaul.
- Zach is relatively new to McCaul office but well versed in the NDAA funding
- Introduced ILTexas mission and presentation.
- Received good feedback from Zach on future meetings with other key congressional leaders



Nov. 15



Sen. Rob Portman R-Ohio

## Meeting with Sen. Rob Portman's National Security Advisor

- Sen. Portman serves on the Senate Finance Committee, Foreign Relations Committee and is the ranking member on the Committee on Homeland Security.
- Col. Wayne Jones, USMC (Ret.) served with Eddie Conger. Col. Jones is now the National Security Advisor to Sen. Portman.
- Eddie and Frank met with Col. Jones in cafeteria of the Russell Senate Bldg.
- Introduced ILTexas mission and presentation.
- Col. Jones provides feedback that NDAA vote will take place that week and it was too late to get any changes.
- Also, recommended that we make the presentation to members of the Texas Congressional Delegation different than to other congressional leaders.
- Very good input in a candid setting.



Nov. 16



Meeting with: Ms. Yang, Xinyu  
Minister Counselor,  
Embassy of the P. R. China in the U.S.



Nov. 16

## **Discussion Summary:**

1. Recruiting international students from China, through Dongfang International Center for Education Exchange .
2. Martial arts summer camps in ILTexas 2022.
3. Recruiting J1 Chinese teachers with help of CLEC.
4. Making ILTexas a competition site for Chinese Bridge Proficiency Contest.
5. Creating an HSK testing site at ILTexas.
6. Chinese Government Scholarship.
7. Chinese Teachers PD.



Nov. 17



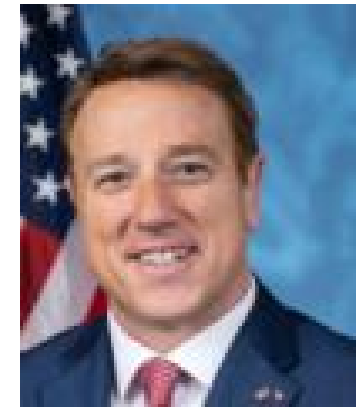
Rep. Henry Cuellar, D-TX

## Meeting with Rep. Cuellar's Defense Fellow

- Rep. Cuellar serves on the House Appropriations Committee and is the Vice Chairman of the House Appropriations Homeland Security Committee and he serves on the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee.
- He has served the Texas 28<sup>th</sup> Congressional district since 2005 which encompasses most all of Laredo and other portions of South Texas.
- In 2020 ILTexas team met with Congressman Cuellar. This time we met with his Defense Fellow, Capt. Nicole Ward, USAF in the Congressman's office.
- Capt. Ward noted that Rep. Cuellar likes for there to be a report to Congressional members on the results of the grant spending. Noticed that there was not a requirement in the passed legislation for a report from the administering agency.
- Very good meeting. Congressional members were voting on key bills throughout the day and not available to meet.



Nov. 17



Rep. Pat Fallon, R-TX

## Meeting with Rep. Pat Fallon's Senior Legislative Assistant

- Rep. Fallon serves on the House Committee on Armed Service. He is a member of the Subcommittee on Military Personnel and the Subcommittee on Cyber, Innovative Technology, and Informative Systems.
- Elected to Congress in 2020, he serves Texas's 4<sup>th</sup> Congressional district Texas' Fourth Congressional District covers 18 counties along the Red River in Northeastern Texas from the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex to Texarkana and to Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Louisiana on the Northern and Eastern borders of the state.
- Eddie and Frank met with Shaun Taylor, he handles all military issues for the congressman on the HASC. We met in the Congressman's office in the Cannon Bldg.
- Very good meeting discussing the military appropriation process and the cycle begins in February for the next NDAA and to get information on how the HASC Committee works
- Congressman Fallon was able to meet with us at the end of the meeting. He and Eddie took a picture together for the Congressman's constituent board.





Nov. 17



Rep. Joaquin Castro, D-TX

## Meeting with Rep. Joaquin Castro's Defense Fellow

- Rep. Joaquin Castro is elected to the Texas 20<sup>th</sup> Congressional District. The district is entirely in the City of San Antonio.
- He is a member of the House Committee on Foreign Relations, the Committee on Education and Labor, and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.
- Rep. Castro has been a member of the HASC and will return to that committee in 2022.
- Eddie and Frank met with Master Sergeant Louis Lusco, USAF who is the Defense Fellow for Rep. Castro.
- MSgt Lusco was very helpful in getting us the WLARA grant managed by DoDEA and getting more information on what grants were awarded last cycle.



Nov. 17



Sen. John Cornyn, R-TX

## Meeting with Senator John Cornyn's Education Director

- Sen Cornyn was elected to the U.S. Senate in 2002. Previously he was the Attorney General of Texas and Texas Supreme Court Justice.
- He is a member of the Senate Finance Committee and the ranking member of the Subcommittee on International Trade, Customs and Global Competitiveness. His other committee assignments are the Committee on the Judiciary and the select Committee on Intelligence.
- Eddie and Frank met with Aluara Ervin. She is the Legislative Assistant to Sen. Cornyn for Education, Labor, and Human Services Policy. She previously worked in Sen. Tim Scott's office.
- The ILTexas mission and presentation was given.
- A good meeting in developing a new relationship in a key Senator's office.



Nov. 17



Rep. Tony Gonzales, R-TX

## Meeting with Rep. Tony Gonzales' Legislative Assistant

- Rep. Tony Gonzales was elected to Texas' 23<sup>rd</sup> Congressional district in 2020. He retired from the Navy in 2019 as a Master Chief Petty Officer. He has 20 years of service in the Navy as a cryptologist. During his navy service he was Defense Fellow in Sen. Mark Rubio's office.
- The 23<sup>rd</sup> Congressional district stretches from northwest San Antonio to the eastern portion of El Paso County along the Southwestern boarder of Texas.
- He is a member of the House Appropriations Committee
- Eddie met with Michael Mohr-Ramirez. The military legislative assistant was in the Congressman's district office.
- The ILTexas mission and presentation was given.
- A good meeting in developing a new relationship in new Congressman's office.



Nov. 18

Meeting with: Sam Eisen Ph.D.  
Director of Programs  
Defense Language and National Security Education Office



# Nov. 19



Meeting with:

Mr. Qin, Gang

Chinese Ambassador to the United States



Qin Gang 秦刚 ✓

@AmbQinGang

China government official

Salute to Mr. Eddie Conger from [@ILTexasSchools](#) for his great enthusiasm and many years of untiring efforts to offer Chinese language learning opportunities to 21,000 Texas students.



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