



Introducing a Visiting Scholar

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*I*t seems I am the first “eastern states” visiting scholar from China to study behaviorology through the programs of TIBI. I was able to afford my travel to and from the USA, but I would have been unable to afford room and board, or the usual tuition. With the Institute helping with these expenses, I am able to be here to study.

As an associate professor of English at Yantai University in Shandong Province, I am interested in factors that relate to language, especially language teaching and translation. Along with many of my colleagues, I find—even after more than ten years of English teaching—that the knowledge and skills we acquired in the past from psycholinguistic theories are not easily applicable in the classroom. As an alternative I have come to study behaviorology because I believe that Skinner’s verbal behavior analysis may be able to help in these areas.

As a parent, I am also interested in factors that relate to successful child rearing. Due to the extent of the “little emperor” syndrome in China, much can be done with the help of behaviorological science. Again, this provides good reason to come and study behaviorology.

If behaviorological science does contribute solutions to problems in education and child rearing, then there indeed exists a big potential for research and application in the Chinese context. I want to learn more about this discipline to help make contributions, and to help discover the extent of its contributions, in China. And I deeply appreciate the opportunity to do so. ☺