Background on potential resolution(s) on renegotiation or nonrenewal of the PSU Confucius Institute Agreement

As its website states, “The Confucius Institute at PSU (CI-PSU) promotes cultural exchange and cooperation between the U.S. and the People’s Republic of China.” Its five-year contract with PSU is scheduled to auto-renew in February 2019 unless the University gives notice otherwise by early August 2018. In recent years concerns have been raised locally, nationally and internationally, alleging that the Confucius Institutes operating on university campuses provide foreign language courses without the curricular oversight of the university, and operate in violation of the academic freedom, freedom of expression, and freedom of conscience of the instructors whom they employ. To address these concerns the Steering Committee intends to include a discussion on this topic in the June meeting of the Senate, which may lead to a vote on a resolution urging the University to include explicit protections of academic freedom and first amendment rights in its contract with the Confucius Institute as a condition of contract renewal.

In advance of the June meeting, the Steering Committee asks the members of the Senate and their constituents to investigate the topic for themselves. To that end, we provide these links to several online resources:

The websites of the CI-PSU and its parent organization, known as the Hanban:
- [https://www.pdx.edu/confucius-institute/](https://www.pdx.edu/confucius-institute/)
- [http://english.hanban.org/](http://english.hanban.org/)

The June 2014 report of the national AAUP, “On Partnerships with Foreign Governments: The Case of Confucius Institutes,” and the AAUP’s Statement on Government of Colleges and Universities:
- [https://www.aaup.org/report/confucius-institutes](https://www.aaup.org/report/confucius-institutes)

“In the Name of Confucius” (2017), a documentary film directed by Doris Liu to which we have been granted streaming access until May 30, 2018:
- [https://passionriver.wistia.com/medias/xq53h9n78j](https://passionriver.wistia.com/medias/xq53h9n78j)

Elizabeth Redden, “New Scrutiny for Confucius Institutes,” Inside Higher Ed, April 26, 2017:


- [https://www-taylorfrancis-com.proxy.lib.pdx.edu/books/9781317611097](https://www-taylorfrancis-com.proxy.lib.pdx.edu/books/9781317611097)