



## Congress of the United States House of Representatives

September 24, 2020

Dr. Andrew Hugine, Jr.  
President  
Alabama A&M University  
P.O. Box 4900  
Normal, AL 35762-4900

Dr. Jack Hawkins, Jr.  
Chancellor  
Troy University  
600 University Ave,  
Troy, AL 36082

President Hugine and Chancellor Hawkins:

I write to express my concern with Alabama A&M University and Troy University's partnership with the Chinese Communist Party via the Confucius Institutes on your campuses. Confucius Institutes hurt the integrity of our higher education system, threaten national security, and unnecessarily risk taxpayer funded research at your schools. I encourage you to join dozens of other patriotic institutions across America and end your relationship with the Chinese Communist Party by closing Confucius Institutes at your universities.

With this letter I ask that you answer the following questions to assist with my work in Congress to combat China's political influence in the United States, including the issue of whether Confucius Institutes should be allowed to continue. Please respond to the following questions by October 17, 2020.

- 1) Since beginning your relationship with the Hanban, how much money has your university received from China?
  - a. During that same time period, what is the total estimated value of in-kind contributions made to your university from China?
- 2) Since beginning your relationship with the Hanban, how many students have participated in classes taught by the Confucius Institute?
- 3) Since beginning your relationship with the Hanban, has the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) or any other U.S. government agency briefed university leadership about the security implications of accommodating a Confucius Institute?

- a. Tibet?
  - b. Taiwan?
  - c. “Political Education” camps in Xinjiang?
  - d. Falun Gong?
  - e. The 1989 Tiananmen Square Massacre?
- 5) Human Rights Watch has stated that Confucius Institutes are, “fundamentally incompatible with a robust commitment to academic freedom.”<sup>[1]</sup>
- a. Does your faculty exercise sole authority to alter the curriculum taught by your Confucius Institute?
  - b. Has any person from the Chinese Ministry of Education, Hanban, or Confucius Institute ever requested that your university alter its curriculum to decrease discussion of topics deemed sensitive by the Chinese government?
  - c. Has anyone at your university ever requested permission from the Hanban or any other Chinese agency before hosting a speaker or event on campus?
- 6) What is the interviewing, vetting, and hiring processes implemented by your university when selecting a new Confucius Institute instructor?
- a. Have any of your Confucius Institute instructors received training from the Chinese Ministry of Education?
- 7) What types of international trips between China and Alabama have been coordinated through the relationship established by the Confucius Institute?

When you provide answers to these questions, please also provide a copy of the syllabus and all learning material used by your Confucius Institute, or any course offered in relations to the Confucius Institute. I respectfully and strongly urge you to consider the risk that comes with partnering with Confucius Institutes— and the Chinese Communist Party— and, upon consideration, end the relationship.

Sincerely,



Congressman Mo Brooks (AL-05)

CC: Governor Kay Ivey, Lieutenant Governor Will Ainsworth, Senate Pro Tem Del Marsh, Speaker of the House Mac McCutcheon

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<sup>[1]</sup> Resisting Chinese Government Efforts to Undermine Academic Freedom Abroad | A Code of Conduct for Colleges, Universities, and Academic Institutions Worldwide  
[https://www.hrw.org/sites/default/files/media\\_2020/09/190321\\_china\\_academic\\_freedom\\_coc.pdf](https://www.hrw.org/sites/default/files/media_2020/09/190321_china_academic_freedom_coc.pdf)