



Directorate of Global Engagement and Operations

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Dear Penn State Community,

On behalf of Global Operations and Learning (GOL), the unit responsible for the flag program, we sincerely apologize for any offense caused to the Chinese student body by hanging the Tibetan flag in the HUB during International Education Week. Although I was out of town when this was brought to my attention, it is my belief that this was purely accidental and unintentional. We are grateful for your understanding.

In response to the concern expressed, Global Programs held a meeting with the leaders of Chinese student groups on Friday, October 27, in order to discuss the situation. Two key initiatives have resulted from our meeting.

First, Global Programs will update and formalize our flag guidelines for use during the International Education Week procedures immediately.

Secondly, we will begin monthly meetings with Chinese student leaders for the purpose of establishing an open dialogue in any areas of potential concern in order to avert similar issues in the future.

As was evident in the meeting, the Chinese student organization leaders and Global Programs staff were able to come together and quickly discuss collective concerns in order to support all of our international students and their efforts and contributions here at Penn State University.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Campbell
Director, Global Operations and Learning