Radiant Shanghai!

Today is an excellent day in radiant Shanghai. The highlight was a meeting with Wang Hong, party secretary of the Baoshan District, one of Asia’s leading cruise ports. Baoshan is a trendy, design-conscious, emerging arts district that also serves as a major cruise port. Wang, an outgoing leader, is a talented survivor having served as president of the Shanghai University of Engineering Science and mayor of the Shanghai Municipal People’s Government Baoshan District.

In addition to her duties as party secretary, she is concurrently director general of the Shanghai International Cruise Business Institute. The author of 40 research papers, Wang is one of the most knowledgeable specialists on the emerging cruise industry in China.
On the heels of this meeting, Dean Mike Hampton organized a meeting with alumni from the School of Hotel & Tourism Management. What a rewarding gathering it was listening to former students share their life’s hopes and aspirations and their reflections on their FIU college experience in Tianjin.

The wide-ranging conversation moved from life in Shanghai to the organization of our alumni association and the need to develop a local chapter in Shanghai.

We were especially impressed with Wendy Li, now working with Hilton. Ms. Li was particularly interested in building a Shanghai alumni network. I “volunteered” her to take charge and to work with FIU’s Shu Fang to build a chapter in Shanghai.

It has been a quick trip! Out tomorrow and back to Miami following a Worlds Ahead visit to a country and cities of consequence.