

## The 3<sup>rd</sup> TCI Chinese Gourmet Festival Successfully Held

The 3<sup>rd</sup> TCI Chinese Gourmet Festival were successfully held in Brisbane and Ipswich of Australia. Tourism Confucius Institute (TCI) at Griffith University and the First Class Corporation jointly sponsored this Chinese Gourmet Festival, which includes three parts: Exquisite Chinese Cuisine Banquet, Chinese Culinary Arts Show and Chinese Cuisine Tasting.



In the evening of 11<sup>th</sup> May, the opening ceremony of the Gourmet Festival and the Exquisite Chinese Cuisine Banquet were held in Brisbane. Ms Zhou Li — the Acting Consul General of Consulate General of the People’s Republic of China in Brisbane, Mr Graham Quirk — the Mayor of Brisbane City, Mr Paul Pisasale — the Mayor of Ipswich city, Ms Stacy Faraway — the representative of Professor Sarah Todd, the Vice President (Global) of Griffith University, and other people from all parts of society in Queensland, totally more than 200 people, attended the banquet.

Ms Zhou Li made a speech and wished that this gourmet festival could provide a chance for Brisbane citizen to closely experience Chinese food culture, taste Chinese cuisine, and promote their interest in Chinese culture. Ms Stacy Faraway expressed that the festival enhanced the Australian people’s understanding to Chinese culture and Chinese cuisine.

Mr Zhiping Zou and other three well-known Chinese cuisine masters from Hubei University of Economics cooked ten courses of dishes with excellent color, aroma, and flavor, including Kung Pao King Prawns, Deep Fried Coral Trout Fillet, and Braised Turnip in Chicken Essent etc. which gained great complements from the guests. While tasting the Chinese delicacy, guests appreciate the marvellous Chinese music of Guzheng, Pipa, Erhu and Bamboo Flute, and Beijing Opera performance.

At the banquet, the mayor of Brisbane and his counterpart from Ipswich made a speech respectively and they performed the well-known Chinese chorus “The Moon Speaks for My Heart”, to the warm applause of the audience. The chorus was followed by an “auction” of a cuisine book authored by Mr Zhiping Zou and the proceeds raised from the auction will be donated to Griffith University.



The Mayor of Brisbane and the Mayor of Ipswich auction off the book authored by the Chinese cuisine master Mr Zhiping Zou

On 13<sup>th</sup> May, the four masters were invited to demonstrate their superb craftsmanship at Ipswich Cultural Festival in the presence of the mayor of the city. The performance of fruit carving, dough blowing, and cucumber slicing won the plaudits of the visitors.

On the following day, the First Class Corporation showcased Chinese foods, which gave the locals a full taste of the Chinese flavours.

The gourmet festival also put on an exhibition of photos featuring the scenic spots and the snacks of Beijing.