

## **Oranim Hosts Delegation from Ghuizhou, China**

*In the 21<sup>st</sup> century, developing relationships with China, the world's rising power, is crucial. This fall, a delegation of leaders in education from China visited Oranim College and signed cooperative agreements.*



On November 2, 2015, Oranim College hosted its first ever delegation from China. The delegation included high ranking university and government officials and secondary school principals, all from the Ghizhou region of China. The delegation was facilitated by Guy Almog, Israel CEO of Israeli-China Global Connections.

### **Cooperative Agreements**

Li Jianjun, President of Guizhou Normal University, and Xiang Shuwen, Vice President of Guizhou University, each signed general cooperative agreements with Oranim College on behalf of their universities. The two universities have a combined population of over 80,000 students. Partnerships with each of the universities will include research collaborations and student and faculty exchanges.

### **Beginning Collaborations**

The visit began with a meeting with Prof. Ya'arah Bar-On, President of Oranim College, and deans of the college, in which the agreements were signed. The guests from China presented Prof. Bar-On with a colorful hanging handmade by artists in the Guizhou region. The hanging now adorns the office of the president, adding a touch of China to Oranim.

The delegation then met with the International School team. The International School staff each introduced themselves and described the projects they are working on, and the guests from Guizhou

introduced themselves and the institutions they represent. Last, the delegation enjoyed a tour of the lovely Oranim campus, as well as a panoramic view of the area from the roof of the library.

The Chinese guests were especially impressed by the wide variety of subjects studied and the level of excellence achieved in what they see as a "very small" college. The university presidents felt that their students could benefit from studying with Oranim lecturers and would also enjoy living in the college dormitories with Israeli students. As a first step, Oranim International School is working on developing a program in early childhood education for Chinese students.

We hope that this visit will be the beginning of a productive collaboration with Chinese universities, as Oranim continues to expand its connections throughout the world.