

APPENDIX A

SEMISTRUCTURED INTERVIEW QUESTIONS PROTOCOL

1. Brief introduction
 - a. How long you have been in the U.S.?
 - b. Any abroad experience before?
 - c. What are your university and major?
 - d. How long you have been in your current program? If graduated, how long was your graduate program?
 - e. Where are you now? (research, courses, home, job)
2. What experience has made you here? (e.g., undergraduate in China)
 - a. If transferred majors, why?
3. Are/were you satisfied with your graduate study experience? Why? (probe: What difficulties or struggles have you experienced...)
 - a. In studies-classroom, test/paper prep, student-professor interaction
 - b. In social life
 - c. In communication- language, cultural, thinking pattern(Probe: What is the biggest barrier? What you are/were concerned least...)
4. What tools, connections, and approaches you utilize in adaptation?
 - a. Who/what is most helpful to you?
5. How do you think about difference between U.S. and China's education?
6. What are differences between U.S. and China's culture?
7. What you wished your American professors or university to know more if given a chance?
8. What would be your suggestions to younger generation of CIGS in the U.S.A?
9. Any questions for me?
10. Any advice on the interview or project?

APPENDIX B

INTERVIEWEES DESCRIPTION TABLE

Table B1: Description of Interviewees

Name	Gender	Duration ^a	Education in US ^b	Current status	Types of interview ^c	Audio recorded
Cong	M	4	Master in engineering	Working as an engineer	Face to face	Yes
Li	F	2.5	Master in social sciences	PhD student in social sciences	Audio chat	Yes
Wu	F	6	Master in social sciences	PhD candidate in social sciences	Face to face	Yes
Hong	M	0.5	Doctoral program	PhD student in social sciences	Face to face	Yes
Hao	F	5.5	Master in social sciences	PhD candidate in social sciences	Video chat	Yes
Wang	F	4	Master in social sciences	PhD student in social sciences	Phone, interrupted, then audio chat	Yes
Meng	M	3	Master in science	Working as a statistician	Audio chat	Yes
Kan	M	4	Master in engineering	PhD student in engineering	Video chat	Yes
Chee	F	7	Master in social sciences	Career break; building a personal website	Video chat	Yes
Yuan ^c	M	10	PhD in science	Post doc in science	Video chat	Yes

^aDuration = years of stay in the United States; ^bEducation in US = highest degree obtained at U.S. graduate programs; ^cThe first nine participants chose to talk in Chinese and the last participant chose English for the interview.