

President Bao's presentation

Ladies, Gentlemen and friends:

Good morning. I am now at Tianjin Technical College for the Deaf.

Dr. DeCaro asked me to provide a 15 minutes video tape for this very important meeting. I am very pleased to have this opportunity to talk with you briefly about our work at TCD with PEN-International.

I would like if I could to talk about three aspects of our work as a partner institute in PEN-International in China.

- a. What we have accomplished in this past year
- b. Our program's impact in China
- c. Our suggestions for the future directions in China

First of all, since the establishment of PEN-International China in June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2001, PEN-International has accomplished a great deal of work as regards deaf education in China. These achievements were mainly in the Tianjin and Beijing area.

1. Chinese faculty training – Deaf higher education is a young business. Most faculty members lack teaching and working experience with people who are deaf. In 2002, PEN-International funded two training sessions. There are altogether 13 young teachers who were trained at NTID. Faculty members are now using what they have learned in their classes. I must express our gratitude to all of the NTID experts and friends. Our faculty learned new skills and a sense of responsibility from their colleagues.
2. Goodwill ambassador's visit – PEN-International has funded student and faculty exchanges among the countries of China, Japan and the USA. In May 2002, 10 ambassadors visited TCT. Subsequently, 20 TCD and TCT students visited NTID. This greatly enhanced their friendship and understand of each other. It has promoted the development of deaf education in pacific countries and been a model program for other countries.
3. Distance education system and network construction – In September 2002, PEN-International funded the construction of the ISDN videoconferencing system at TCD. This technology has been widely used in daily instruction. In March 2003, Special Education College at Beijing Union University became another partner school of PEN-International with the opening of an ISDN lab at BUU. This project has played an important role in deaf education.
4. The development of instructional methodology and research – In Nov 2002, TUT hosted nation-wide training seminars at the university. PEN-International funded the participation for more than 20 deaf school college leaders and teachers from around the whole country. NTID experts gave lectures and participated through ISDN technology.

All in all, PEN-International has brought a lot of benefits to those students who are deaf or hard of hearing in China. I would like to on behalf of them to thank the Nippon Foundation for their generous funding. We are grateful for Dr. Jim DeCaro's effort and filled with respects for his management.

Now I would like to take the opportunity to make some suggestions. Everyone knows that China is a large country with a large deaf population. Deaf education is underdeveloped and far from satisfactory. More and more people in China are becoming familiar with PEN-International. Our work is supported and appreciated at all levels of the government. It is my hope that PEN-International will be enlarged in China, so that the deaf younger generation benefits from it. China is developing quickly. The western province development program has been listed as one of the major projects in the 10<sup>th</sup> five-year plan. PEN-International's activities in China should focus upon the western area of China. We shall always firmly support PEN-International's work in China. Thank you very much.