



PEN-International Year Five Report 1 March 2005 to 28 February 2006

Making a Difference in Deaf Education Worldwide

Message from the Director

Dear Friends:

PEN-International has now concluded its first five years and continues to work with vigor to achieve its mission of improving postsecondary education for deaf men and women around the world. This report will provide the reader with an overview of the impressive array of outcomes accomplished in year five of our program. These outcomes are the result of the dedication and exceptional work of the multinational team that “is” PEN-International.

Warmest regards,

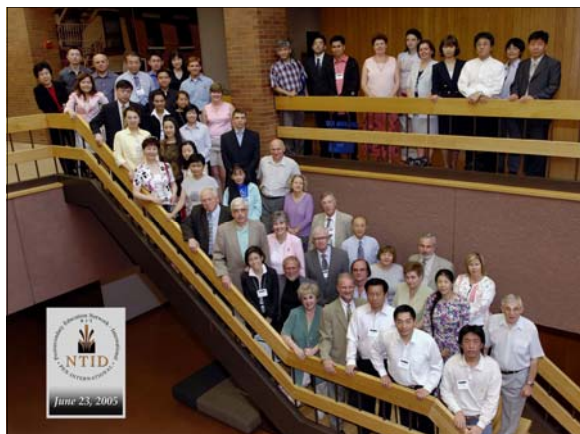
James J. DeCaro, Ph.D.
Professor and Director, PEN-International

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Introduction

The Postsecondary Education Network-International (PEN-International), a multinational partnership of colleges and universities worldwide, was created in 2001. Funded by grants from The Nippon Foundation of Japan to the National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID) at Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT), PEN-International exists to improve and expand postsecondary education for deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals around the world by sharing educational technology and conducting faculty development and training, particularly in developing countries.



PEN Partners at the 2005 Instructional Technology Symposium at NTID, June 2005

PEN's vision is to develop an international network to enhance and maintain local capability and global networking at each participating institution. As institutions' individualized programs progress, through faculty development and curriculum improvement, they develop the capability to export what they have learned to other postsecondary institutions that serve deaf and hard-of-hearing students. NTID serves as the facilitator for this international network. The other participant institutions are nodes on the international network, fostering an educational ripple effect throughout their home countries.

Currently, the network includes 12 partner and affiliate institutions from Japan, China, Russia, the Philippines, the Czech Republic, and Thailand.

In year five, four new institutions were added: Zhongzhou University (ZU) in China; and the Institute for Social Rehabilitation at Novosibirsk State Technical University (NSTU), Vladimir State University Center for the Deaf (VSU), and the Academy of Management-TISBI in Kazan (Kazan), all in Russia.

The other partner universities that make up the network include: National Tsukuba University of Technology (N-TUT), formally Tsukuba College of Technology (TCT), Japan; Tianjin University of Technology (TUT), Beijing Union University (BUU), Changchun University (CU), all in China; Bauman Moscow State Technical University (BMSTU), Russia; De La Salle-College of St. Benilde (CSB), Philippines; Charles University, Czech Republic; and Ratchasuda College of Mahidol University, Thailand. These institutions have shown their commitment to PEN-International's mission by achieving their own program goals and conducting the work of PEN-International throughout their home countries.

Faculty professional development and training is one of the strategies used by PEN-International to improve and expand postsecondary education for deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals worldwide.

Nearly 275 representatives from PEN partner and affiliate institutions participated in at least one PEN-International training workshop in project year five. A participant rate that has been fairly consistent over the last three years. In addition,

Partner and Affiliate Institutions

- National Tsukuba University of Technology (N-TUT), Japan
- Tianjin University of Technology (TUT), China
- Beijing Union University (BUU), China
- Changchun University (CU), China
- Zhongzhou University (ZU), China
- Bauman Moscow State Technical University (BMSTU), Russia
- Novosibirsk State Technical University (NSTU), Russia
- Vladimir State University Center for the Deaf (VSU), Russia
- Academy of Management-TISBI in Kazan, Russia
- De La Salle-College of St. Benilde (CSB), Philippines
- Charles University, Czech Republic
- Ratchasuda College of Mahidol University, Thailand

tion, PEN-International trains approximately 1,000 educators a year worldwide, through deafness-related conferences, that are not affiliated with PEN partner institutions.

As a result of participation in PEN-International training workshops, partner institutions reported impacting almost 1,500 of their students through the implementation of ideas, skills, and technologies learned.

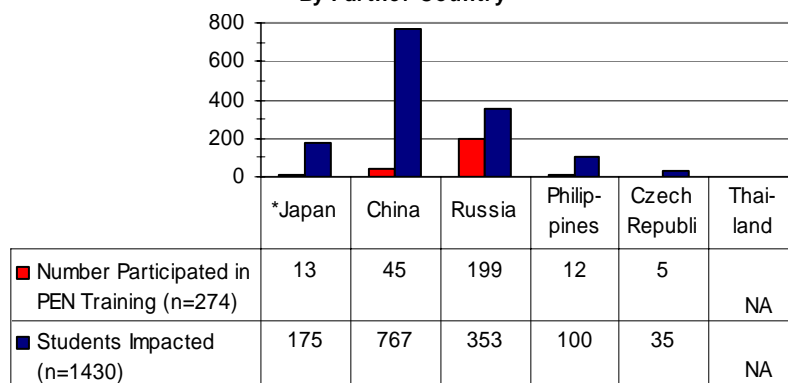
As confirmation that each of the partner institutions is conducting the work of PEN by becoming exporters of information, all (100%) of the partners said they conducted at least one workshop and/or training seminar with faculty in their home country in year five as a result of skills learned through PEN-International training initiatives.

More than 50 workshops were conducted in total by PEN partners in year five, averaging between 3-4 training seminars per institution. Bauman Moscow State Technical University conducted a total of 22 seminars. Many of these workshops involved specialists working with deaf and hard-of-hearing children in special groups, classes, schools and audiology rooms in 20 different cities across Russia.

Partner institutions reported training 932 individuals through their own training initiatives. This finding increases the total number of educators of the deaf and hard-of-hearing worldwide being trained by PEN-International and partner institutions in year five to 2,200.

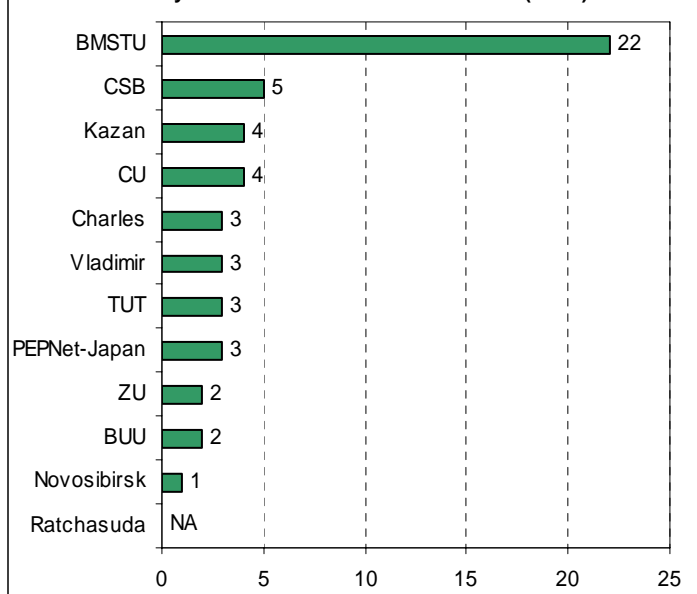
The partnership between PEN-International and selected institutions has proved to be an added benefit for some as it has contributed to, or served as a catalyst for, receiving monies from other sources. Eight partner institutions reported receiving money from sources other than PEN-International to fund their program and

Number of PEN Partner Representatives that Participated in at Least One PEN Training Workshop in Year 5 Versus Number of Students Impacted by Training in Year 5 By Partner Country

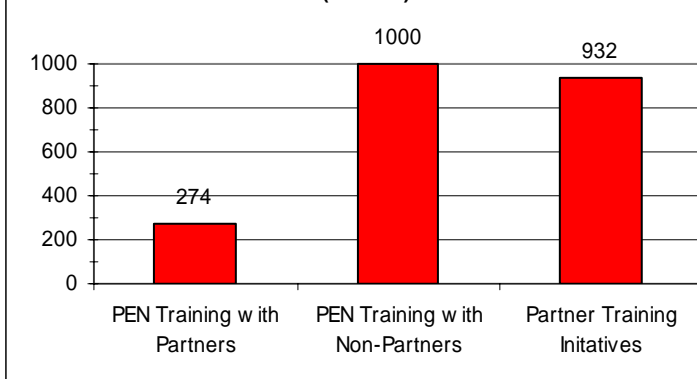


** Numbers reflect PEPNet-Japan only.*

Number of Training Seminars Conducted by Partner Institutions in Year 5 (n=52)



Total Number of Educators of the Deaf Trained in Year 5 (n=2206)



improve the postsecondary education of deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals in their country in year five. The amount of money received ranged from \$7,800 up to \$124,000, totaling over \$560,000.

(Note: These impact numbers were compiled based on information supplied from 10 out of the 12 partner institutions. Two of the institutions were not able to supply the requested information. Although PEPNet-Japan is not a partner institution, it was created through the efforts of representatives from National Tsukuba University of Technology and their subsequent training initiatives have been included where appropriate.)

The 2005 Instructional Technology Symposium was PEN-International's major training event of the year. Nearly 250 educators from 18 countries were in attendance. The program consisted of 2 plenary addresses, 44 formal concurrent presentations, 24 poster sessions, and 8 commercial exhibits. While many of the 40 different workshops implemented by PEN and its partners in year five were for the Symposium, other workshops were developed to address specific partner needs. These workshops were much more in-depth, requiring to be conducted over one to two week time frame.

PEN-International also expands postsecondary education for deaf students through the construction of state-of-the-art multimedia laboratories at partner institutions. In year five, the laboratories were used extensively, averaging 50 hours per week, a finding consistent with year four. Various structural changes and improvements were also made to PEN multimedia laboratories in the form of new equipment and software purchases and installations.

PEN-International's expansion efforts were substantial in year five. In addition to the four new partner institutions, National Tsukuba University of Technology spearheaded efforts to form PEPNet-Japan, a postsecondary education network in Japan. Collaboration efforts also emerged within three new countries/regions: Korea, Hong Kong, and Vietnam.

In year five, the cross-cultural exchange program, a critical component of PEN-International, consisted of reciprocal weeklong visits between student haiku and tanka contest winners from National Tsukuba University of Technology and NTID. In addition, PEN-International sponsored a student art exhibit that displayed selected works of art from each of the partner and affiliate institutions. The success of the exhibit inspired PEN-International to create a student art calendar that was distributed to friends of PEN-International as a holiday greeting.

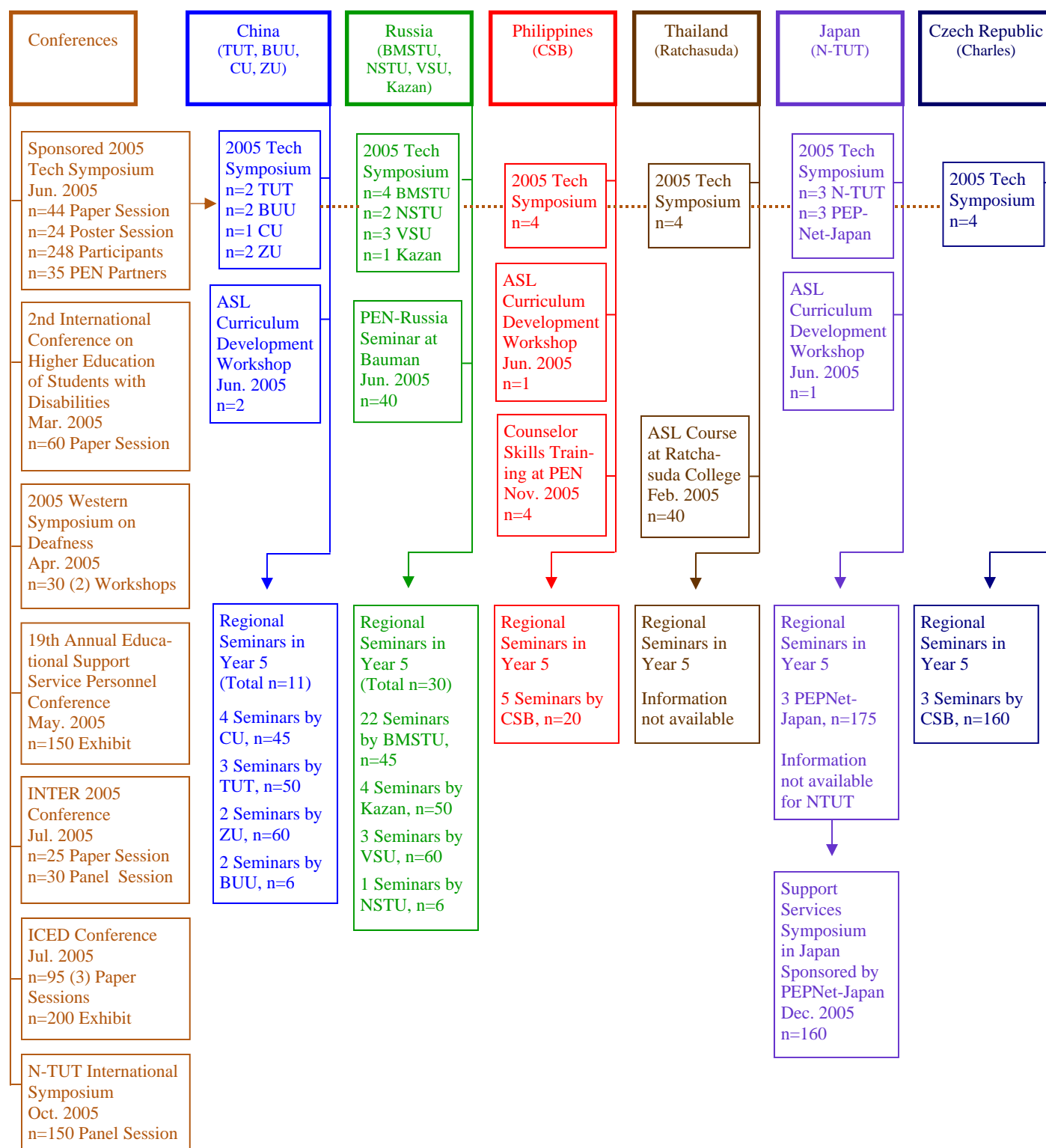
Numerous delegation visits made to NTID and to current and prospective partner sites were sponsored by PEN-International in year five for the purpose of future collaboration and planning of events. Videoconference technology is often used to arranged these visits with partner institutions. In year five, videoconference technology was also used to facilitate PEN-International operations, train and educate students and faculty, and further partner relations.

In order to share educational technology throughout the world, the widespread dissemination of network and program information remains a primary goal of PEN-International. PEN utilizes various communication strategies to achieve this goal including maintaining a Web site that includes viable resources for educating the deaf and hard of hearing, worldwide news media, and participation in deafness-related conferences and events. In year five, the PEN-International Web site continued to attract a substantial amount of interest, reaching over one million hits by over 25,000 visitors from 40 different countries. PEN-International appeared in over 30 articles from nearly as many different publications, showing a steady increase in appearances in international publications over the last two years. In year five, PEN-International participated in seven different deafness-related conferences and events; a participation rate consistent with year four. The chart on page 5 includes all training initiatives by PEN and its partner institutions in year five.

The following report describes PEN-International's year five accomplishments in brief.

PEN-International Year Five Training Initiatives

(n=number of participants at event)



Faculty Professional Development and Training

Conducting faculty development and training is one of the main strategies used by PEN-International to improve and expand postsecondary education for deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals around the world. PEN-International works with highly motivated educators from colleges and universities worldwide in an effort to provide the latest in instructional technology for students who are deaf and hard of hearing.

One of PEN-International's major outcomes from year five was the 2005 Instructional Technology Symposium. A total of 43 members from PEN-International partner and affiliate institutions were in attendance.

Other training workshops implemented in year five were developed to meet specific partner needs. These workshops were much more in-depth, and often needed to be conducted over a one to two week period of time. In year five, PEN-International and partner institutions trained 2,200 educators worldwide.

To ensure that PEN-International is providing high quality and applied training programs, all PEN workshops/seminars are evaluated using proven methods to accurately assess program effectiveness. Evaluation data is presented throughout this report.

Year five faculty professional development and training outcomes are outlined below.

2005 Instructional Technology Symposium



**Plenary Speaker, Judith E. Heumann,
Advisor, Disability and Development,
The World Bank**



**Plenary Speaker, Markku Jokinen,
President, World Federation of the Deaf**

The planning and execution of the 2005 Technology Symposium entitled "Instructional Technology and Education of the Deaf: Supporting Learners, K-College" was PEN-International's major training event of project year five. Chaired by PEN-International Coordinator E. William Clymer, the Symposium was held on the campus of Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) in Rochester, New York, 27 June through 2 July 2005. A total of 248 educators from 18 countries were in attendance, 46 of which represented PEN partner institutions. The primary goal of the Symposium was to provide a forum, for educators supporting deaf and hard-of-hearing students, to disseminate information relative to current and future innovations and developments in the use of educational media and technology within the teaching and learning process. The program consisted of 2 plenary addresses, 44 formal concurrent presentations, 24 poster sessions, 8 commercial exhibits as well as various networking opportunities. In addition, 10 post-symposium workshops were offered to provide a hands-on opportunity for participants to develop skills in the application of instructional technologies.

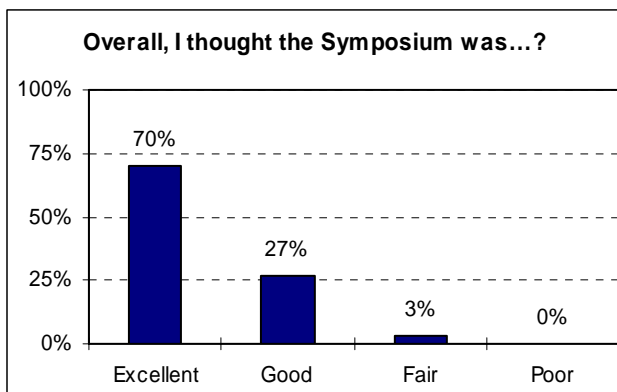
Judith E. Heumann, Advisor, Disability and Development at The World Bank opened the Symposium as the first plenary speaker. Ms. Heumann spoke to Symposium participants about the technological advances benefiting individuals with disabilities. Markku Jokinen, President of the World Federation of the Deaf, addressed participants as the concluding plenary speaker. Mr. Jokinen's speech focused on the current impact of instructional technology and how to position yourself appropriately for the future.

Evaluation data shows that the Symposium was extremely successful. Almost all (97%) participants rated the overall Symposium either excellent (70%) or good (27%). Networking with colleagues from different nations played a very important role in the success of the Symposium. Many participants mentioned variety of people from different countries when asked what they liked most about their overall Symposium experience. Many other participants felt the whole Symposium was very well organized and enjoyable, the selection of topics ideal, and the introduction to practical technological information that can be implemented immediately to be invaluable.

The highest rated formal concurrent presentations included:

- “Technology Integration in the K-12 Classroom”
- “BSL Tuition in the Hands of Deaf People - a BSL Academy”
- “Creating a Book-on-Demand: Publishing a Workshop Planner’s Guide for Promoting Classroom Access”
- “Technology in the ASL/English Bilingual Classroom”
- “Achieving Goals! Career Stories of Individuals Who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing”
- “I Can SEE What You HEAR!”

This significant event in deaf education was co-hosted by NTID, The Nippon Foundation of Japan, and PEN-International. For more information, visit <http://www.pen.ntid.rit.edu/techsym>.



“The overall impact of this Symposium for one is the encouragement it has given me in trying out technology in delivering instruction. I am not a tech-savvy person and I consider myself to be a techno-phobe and this Symposium has got me thinking that learning new technology may be not as difficult as I think it is and the rewards in my classroom may well be worth it.”

Session Participant

“The practical suggestions and technologies presented here were outstanding because of the fact they were practical!”

Session Participant



**Mari Liles, Texas School for the Deaf,
Presents Concurrent Session
“Technology Integration in the
K-12 Classroom”**



**Zhong Zhanguo, Changchun University,
Presents Poster Session
“Doing the Math with
PEN-International”**



**Exhibitor Caption Mic,
Demonstrates Product to
Symposium Participant**

“An opportunity to meet different people and exposure to different approaches adopted.”

Session Participant



PEN-International Workshop Development

PEN-International's library of workshops related to deafness, instructional technology and teaching/learning, for use by faculty in partner countries continued to grow significantly in year five.

The majority of training seminars were developed for, and presented at, the 2005 Instructional Technology Symposium. These presentations were typically one hour in length and covered topic areas relating to one of the following four strands: using technology to support learning, online and distance education, in-service/pre-service strategies, and assessing the impact of technology in the teaching/learning process. The post-symposium workshops provided participants with a hands-on opportunity to develop skills in these areas as well. The post-symposium workshops were longer in length, and were offered either as half- or full-day training sessions.

Other professional development workshops developed in year five were much more in-depth and designed to address specific areas of need identified by PEN-International and partner institutions. These in-depth training sessions, generally consisted of a series of workshops being conducted over a one to two week period, related to interpreter training, sign language instruction, automation technology, and counselor skills.

In project year five, there were nearly 40 different workshops/seminars implemented by PEN-International and its partner institutions. The following chart outlines these workshops/seminars and corresponding information including developers, presenters, locations, dates, and approximate number of participants.

<u>Workshop Title/Presenter/Location/Date</u>	<u># Participants</u>
1. American Sign Language for Ratchasuda College (Two week course) Developed and presented by Rico Peterson and Patrick Graybill of NTID at Ratchasuda College, Mahidol University, Thailand, February 2005	40
2. Development of Sign Language Materials (Full day seminar) Developed and presented by Rico Peterson and NTID faculty and staff at RIT/NTID, June 2005	8
3. Automation Technology for Korea Employment Promotion Agency for the Disabled (One week course) Developed and presented by NTID faculty, staff, and alumni at RIT/NTID, November 2005	6
4. Student Development Theory and Counselor Skills for School of Deaf Education and Applied Studies at the College of St. Benilde (One week course) Developed and presented by NTID faculty, staff, and alumni at RIT/NTID, November 2005	4
5. PEN-International: A University Collaborative to Foster Accessible Postsecondary Deaf Education Developed and presented by James J. DeCaro and E. William Clymer at the Instructional Technology & Education of the Deaf International Symposium at RIT/NTID, June 2005, and by PEN Partners at the Sixth Tsukuba College of Technology International Symposium, Japan, October 2005	30 150
6. Postsecondary Education for the Deaf in Korea Developed and presented by Hyung Shik Kim at the Instructional Technology & Education of the Deaf International Symposium at RIT/NTID, June 2005	30
7. Speech-to-Text Services Network: A New Professional Organization Developed and presented by Denise Kavin at the Western Symposium on Deafness, San Diego, California, April 2005, and at the Instructional Technology & Education of the Deaf International Symposium at RIT/NTID, June 2005	15 30
8. A Multimedia Instructional Design Model for Planning and Delivering Professional Development for Teachers of Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Students in the Czech Republic Developed and presented by Gerald Berent at the Instructional Technology & Education of the Deaf International Symposium at RIT/NTID, June 2005	30

<u>Workshop Title/Presenter/Location/Date (continued)</u>	<u># Participants</u>
9. Integrating Technology Successfully Developed and presented by Nancy Castle at the Instructional Technology & Education of the Deaf International Symposium at RIT/NTID, June 2005	30
10. Logistics and Methods for Education of Deaf Students at BMSTU Developed and presented by Maxim Levashov at the Instructional Technology & Education of the Deaf International Symposium at RIT/NTID, June 2005	30
11. Postsecondary Education for Deaf Students at Tianjin University of Technology Developed and presented by Guodong Bao at the Instructional Technology & Education of the Deaf International Symposium at RIT/NTID, June 2005	30
12. Beijing Union University Program for Postsecondary Deaf Students Developed and presented by Xu Jiacheng at the Instructional Technology & Education of the Deaf International Symposium at RIT/NTID, June 2005	30
13. The Use of Instructional Technology at Tsukuba College of Technology Developed and presented by Tsutomu Araki at the Instructional Technology & Education of the Deaf International Symposium at RIT/NTID, June 2005	30
14. Integrating Technology in the Classroom: The DLS-College of St. Benilde Experience Developed and presented by Ninfa Viernes at the Instructional Technology & Education of the Deaf International Symposium at RIT/NTID, June 2005	30
15. Changchun University: Doing the Math with PEN-International Developed and presented by Zhong Zhanguo at the Instructional Technology & Education of the Deaf International Symposium at RIT/NTID, June 2005	30
16. Blending Technology and Sign Language at Ratchasuda College of Mahidol University, Thailand Developed and presented by Jitprapa Sri-oon at the Instructional Technology & Education of the Deaf International Symposium at RIT/NTID, June 2005	30
17. Charles University Information and Advisory Centre Developed and presented by Hana Urychová at the Instructional Technology & Education of the Deaf International Symposium at RIT/NTID, June 2005	30
18. The Language Resource Centre Project: Helping Deaf, Hard-of-Hearing and Blind Students at Charles University Developed and presented by Daniela Janáková at the Instructional Technology & Education of the Deaf International Symposium at RIT/NTID, June 2005	30
19. The Nippon Foundation Asian SignBank Developed and presented by Gladys Wai Lan Tang at the Instructional Technology & Education of the Deaf International Symposium at RIT/NTID, June 2005	30
20. Instructional Technology at National Technical Institute for the Deaf Developed and presented by E. William Clymer at the INTER 2005 Conference, Herstmonceaux Castle, England, July 2005	30
21. Acrobat 7 – Forms, Commenting, and Annotations (Half day workshop) Developed and presented by Ken Hoffmann at the Instructional Technology & Education of the Deaf International Symposium at RIT/NTID, June 2005	12
22. Electronic Portfolios (Half day workshop) Developed and presented by Kathy Dollinger-Meyer and Kurt Stoskopf at the Instructional Technology & Education of the Deaf International Symposium at RIT/NTID, June 2005	12
23. Use of Free Online Tutorials and Electronic Classroom Resources (Half day workshop) Developed and presented by Gail Rothman-Marshall and Jonathan Millis at the Instructional Technology & Education of the Deaf International Symposium at RIT/NTID, June 2005	12

<u>Workshop Title/Presenter/Location/Date (continued)</u>	<u># Participants</u>
24. Outsmarting the Technology: The Secrets Behind the SMART Board (Half day workshop) Developed and presented by Denise Stappenbeck at the Instructional Technology & Education of the Deaf International Symposium at RIT/NTID, June 2005	12
25. SnagIt (Half day workshop) Developed and presented by James Mallory at the Instructional Technology & Education of the Deaf International Symposium at RIT/NTID, June 2005	12
26. Emerging Technologies and Assistive Communication (Half day workshop) Developed and presented by Peter A. Lalley, Catherine Beaton, and Jon Schull at the Instructional Technology & Education of the Deaf International Symposium at RIT/NTID, June 2005	12
27. Digital Video Basics for PC Users (Full day workshop) Developed and presented by Hope Williams at the Instructional Technology & Education of the Deaf International Symposium at RIT/NTID, June 2005	12
28. Digital Imaging Basics Photoshop Elements 3.0 (Full day workshop) Developed and presented by Tony Toscano at the Instructional Technology & Education of the Deaf International Symposium at RIT/NTID, June 2005	12
29. Introduction to Video Editing (Post-Production) for Mac Users (Full day workshop) Developed and presented by Stacy Bick at the Instructional Technology & Education of the Deaf International Symposium at RIT/NTID, June 2005	12
30. PowerPoint 2003 (Full day workshop) Developed and presented by Karen Beiter at the Instructional Technology & Education of the Deaf International Symposium at RIT/NTID, June 2005	12
31. Higher Education for Deaf Students in the Philippines Today Developed and presented by Theresa Christine Benitez-dela Torre and Leonides D. Sulse at the Second International Conference on Higher Education of Students with Disabilities at Waseda University Conference, Philippines, March 2005	60
32. PEN-International: Fostering World-Wide Postsecondary Career Education for Men and Women Who Are Deaf Developed and presented by Denise Kavin at the Western Symposium on Deafness, San Diego, California, April 2005	15
33. PEN-Russia Seminar Developed and presented by Nikolay I. Bulaev, James J. DeCaro, and Alexander Stanevsky at Bauman Moscow State Technical University, Russia, June 2005	40
34. PEN-International: A University Collaborative to Foster Accessible Postsecondary Deaf Education Developed and presented by James J. DeCaro and PEN Partners at the ICED Conference, Maastricht, Netherlands, July 2005	25
35. 2005 NTID Instructional Technology Symposium Developed and presented by E. William Clymer at the ICED Conference, Maastricht, Netherlands, July 2005	25
36. Postsecondary Education in China: Trends and Future Direction Developed and presented by Patricia A. Mudgett-DeCaro at the ICED Conference, Maastricht, Netherlands, July 2005	45
37. Instructional Technology at NTID: Equal Access to International Education for the Hearing-Impaired Developed and presented by E. William Clymer at the INTER 2005 Conference, Herstmonceaux Castle, England, July 2005	30
38. Programs to Support RIT's Mainstreamed Deaf Students Developed and presented by James J. DeCaro and T. Alan Hurwitz at the PEPNet-Japan Conference and Partner Tours, Japan, October 2005	140 40 75
Total	1318

ASL Curriculum Development Workshop at Technology Symposium



PEN Partners Participate in One Day Seminar on ASL Curriculum Development



PEN-International Coordinator, E. William Clymer Leads Discussion at Seminar on ASL Curriculum Development

Prior to the 2005 Instructional Technology Symposium, a one day seminar titled, “Development of Sign Language Materials” was conducted with PEN partners and affiliates from Japan, China, the Philippines, Hong Kong, and Vietnam. A total of eight participants were in attendance.

Developed by Rico Peterson, Chairperson, ASL & Interpreter Education Department at NTID/RIT, this workshop was designed to provide an overview of the processes that can be used to create curricular materials and products related to sign language instruction and reference. There was an emphasis on the intended use and technical aspects of such development. Key individuals from NTID joined Rico Peterson in presenting this information. Stacy Bick, Alan Cutcliffe, Cea Dorn, Sam Holcomb, Jason Pitoniak, Geoffrey Poor, Jorge Samper, and Richard Smith, all of whom have extensive experience in the design and production of sign language materials, provided participants with both theoretical approaches and practical production ideas for designing, producing and disseminating print and non-print sign language materials.

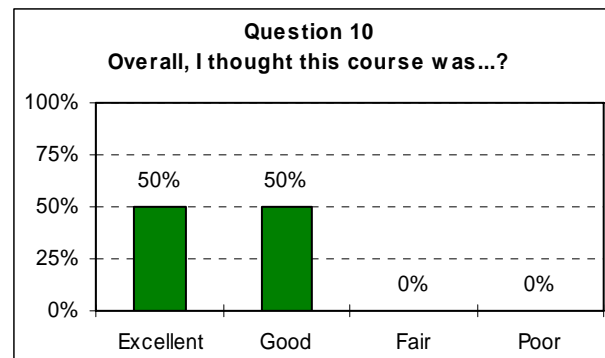
The workshop was rated very favorably. All (100%) of the participants felt the overall workshop was either excellent (50%) or good (50%). Several participants said they felt the presentation and demonstrations were clear, and the different presenting styles advantageous. In addition, participants appreciated the many experts sharing their works and experiences, and the opportunity to interact with NTID staff.

*“It’s been a wonderful experience.
The presenters are highly efficient and helpful.”*

Workshop Participant

“I found most helpful the opportunity to see materials developed by NTID for comparison with our own materials and the opportunity to ask about alternatives to what we are doing.”

Workshop Participant





PEN-International Annual Business Meeting



PEN-International Director, James J. DeCaro Welcomes PEN Partners to the Fourth Annual PEN-International Business Meeting

The fourth annual PEN-International Business Meeting was conducted on 24 June 2005 in conjunction with the 2005 Instructional Technology and Education of the Deaf Symposium at RIT/NTID in Rochester, New York.

PEN-International Director, James J. DeCaro welcomed four new members to PEN-International: Zhongzhou University of China; and the Institute of Social Rehabilitation at Novosibirsk State Technical University, Vladimir State University Center for the Deaf, and the Academy of Management-TISBI in Kazan, all in Russia.

Each partner country presented a summary report and PowerPoint presentation regarding their activities and outcomes for project year four.

Lastly, plans for revising and improving the PEN-International Web site were discussed. The PEN-International Web site remains a universal portal for the PEN-International project. It was vital to ensure that the needs of all partner universities are being met.



PEN-International Self-Study

The PEN-International Self-Study was included in the array of training and business activities planned for PEN partners during the week of the 2005 Instructional Technology and Education of the Deaf Symposium, 23 June through 30 June 2005.

Representatives from Russia, China, the Philippines, Japan, the Czech Republic, and Thailand discussed their experiences, including successes and challenges, with PEN-International during the first five years of the program.

The report, PEN-International Self Study: Shaping the Future of PEN-International, identified similarities and differences among the partner countries as well as provided guidance on where to focus future efforts. The emerging themes included: faculty development; international exchanges; employment and career development; student, young deaf professional and administrator training; mainstream education; use of technology; and interpreting related issues. The full report, including specific recommendations, can be found at http://www.pen.ntid.rit.edu/pdf/techsym_2005/penselfstudy05.pdf.



Patricia A. Mudgett-DeCaro Leads Group Discussion with PEN Partners

PEN Conducts American Sign Language Course at Ratchasuda College



Rico Peterson and Patrick Graybill of NTID Conduct Two Week ASL Course at Ratchasuda College

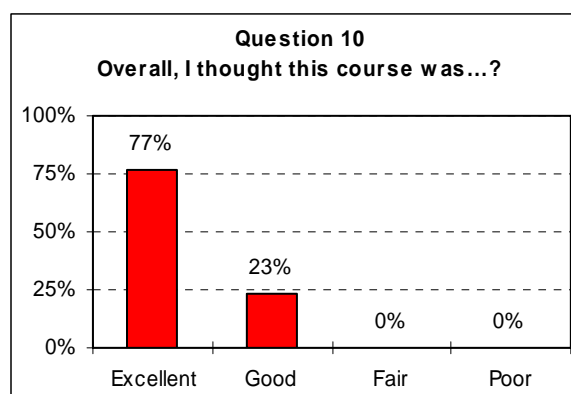


Rico Peterson, NTID faculty member and ASLIE chair, in conjunction with Patrick Graybill, a retired professor from the Department of Cultural and Creative Studies at NTID, developed a two weeklong American Sign Language (ASL) Course for graduate students and faculty and staff members at Ratchasuda College, Mahidol University, Thailand.

The course, conducted 21 February through 4 March 2005, focused on the development of basic ASL vocabulary, ASL linguistic structure, conversational fluency, and cultural protocols related to communication. In addition, participants gained a better understanding of deaf culture overall, including the value of ASL, by learning how various perspectives including cultural, linguistic, educational, medical, social, and political relate to each other and impact the deaf and their language.

A total of 40 individuals, including 30 students in the Graduate Diploma Programme in Interpreting and 10 teachers/interpreters of the deaf, participated in the program. The presenters, Peterson and Graybill, provided participants with course text and materials, and related resources including an American Sign Language CD developed by W. Newell of NTID.

The course was rated extremely favorable. Over three-quarters (77%) of the participants rated the overall experience as excellent, and the remaining 23% rated it as good. An overwhelming 81% of participants said they liked the instructors' teaching styles, methods, and techniques best. Seventy-one percent (71%) mentioned specific characteristics about the instructors. These respondents described the instructors as being friendly, generous, and always ready to teach, which created a very warm and inviting classroom atmosphere. Learning sign language skills, particularly facial expressions (32%), and participating in classroom activities (29%) were also mentioned by several participants as valuable experiences.



"Teaching method (clear, systematic, and understandable). Practical sessions."

Workshop Participant

"Professors are very generous. They teach us well. We are happy to sit in this class."

Workshop Participant

"Use of facial expression naturally and self-confidence will make teachers of the deaf and interpreters have good image."

Workshop Participant



Philippines Delegation Receives Weeklong Training at NTID

From 28 October through 5 November 2005, a four person delegation from the School of Deaf Education and Applied Studies at the College of St. Benilde, Manila, Philippines visited NTID to participate in a specialized weeklong training session on student development theory and counselor skills specific to postsecondary students who are deaf and hard of hearing.

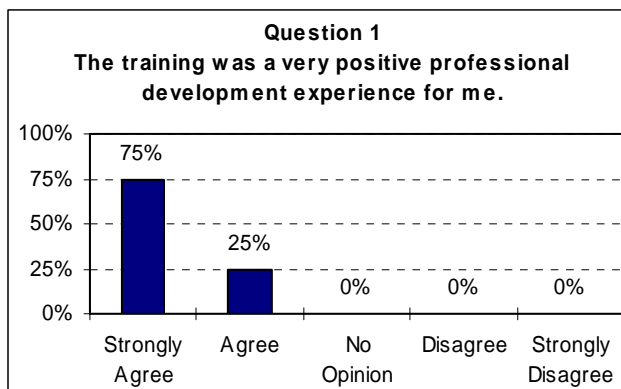
The one week visit included over 10 intensive counselor skills training sessions and panel discussions that pertained to academics, career planning, and personal development/mental health. The agenda also included lab and campus tours, and observing a NTID seminar class in session.

The training proved very beneficial. Three out of the four participants strongly agreed (75%) that the training was a very positive professional development experience, and that the information learned can be used to teach/work with deaf students in their own program.

Follow-up training was held at their site, De La Salle-College of St. Benilde in the Philippines, in March 2006.



Philippines Delegation Participates in Student Development Theory and Counselor Skills Training at NTID



"The presentations made a good impact on me such that I am driven to help and improve on certain gray areas of deaf education in our school."

Workshop Participant

"I learned a lot of information not only related to my program but also about services that other offices in my school offer. It gave us a very comprehensive perspective on how support services are provided (and some on academic)."

Workshop Participant

"Thank you so much for the materials and information kits provided. We'll make sure to have our deaf students benefit from these."

Workshop Participant



Korean Delegation Receives Weeklong Training at NTID



Korean Delegation Participates in Automation Technology Training at NTID

A seven person delegation (six members of the Korea Promotion Employment Agency for the Disabled and one member of Korea Telecom or KTF) visited NTID from 28 October through 5 November 2005 for a specialized weeklong training session on automation technology and serving students who are deaf. A collaboration agreement was reached with PEN-International in July 2005.

During the weeklong visit, the delegation attended more than 10 different training sessions conducted by NTID faculty and staff members and toured various labs and observed classrooms in session. Specific presentation topics included counseling services, automation technology, course design, math and physics, meeting industry needs, C-Print, assistive listening devices, classroom communication, and job search and cooperative education.

The delegation is in the process of developing an action plan for the Korea Promotion Employment Agency for the Disabled. This action plan will undoubtedly include follow-up training, by PEN-International, in Korea in the coming project year.



Symposium on Support Services Held in Japan

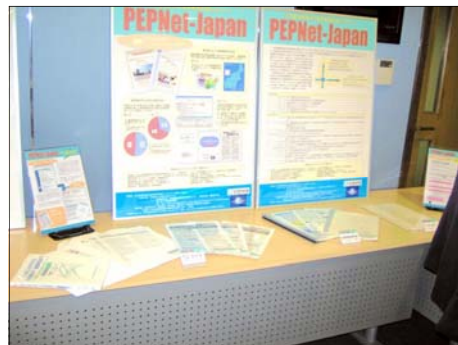
A total of 160 educators from higher educational institutions with deaf students from across Japan gathered on 16 December 2005 to attend a symposium relating to support services for the deaf.

This one day Symposium included a total of six different presentations and one poster session. The presentation topics included notetaking services, how deaf students feel in your classroom, remote interpreting and captioning service systems, captioning via voice recognition, real-time synchronized captioning with movies and Power-Point presentations, and applying support services for deaf and hard-of-hearing students in higher education.

PEPNet-Japan organized the Symposium in conjunction with the National Institute of Multimedia Education, the National Tsukuba University of Technology, and Japan Student Services Organization. This Symposium was the biggest Symposium on postsecondary education for deaf and hard-of-hearing students in Japan's history.



Educators of the Deaf Participate in Support Services Seminar



PEPNet-Japan Poster Session

Lab Utilization and Expansion

Instructional technology is critical for educating students who are deaf. For this reason, PEN-International constructed state-of-the-art high technology multimedia laboratories at partner institutions. Faculty members use them as “smart classrooms” for professional development and training, to develop curriculum, and for videoconferences. Students not only attend classes in these laboratories that dramatically helps with the teaching/learning process, but they also use the technology to help them study and complete homework assignments. Open lab time allows students to access the World Wide Web and send email correspondence, which are also important and necessary in today’s society.

The number of computers at the PEN multimedia laboratories range between 20 and 70. The labs are being used extensively at almost all of the partner sites, averaging over 50 hours per week. The following table outlines the average number of hours per week that each of the laboratories were in use for course and non-course work in year five.

<u>Multimedia Laboratory Use at Partner Institutions</u>		
	<u>Course Use</u> <u>(Hours per Week in Use)</u>	<u>Non-Course Use</u> <u>(Hours per Week in Use)</u>
National Tsukuba University of Technology	30	27
Tianjin University of Technology	40	2
Bauman Moscow State Technical University	45	0
De La Salle-College of St. Benilde	35	32
Beijing Union University	36	5
Changchun University	12	8

In addition, many structural changes and improvements were made to PEN multimedia laboratories in year five. These changes/improvements included new equipment purchases and upgrades, software purchases and installations as well as the inclusion of various high technology systems. Bauman Moscow State Technical University reported adding new wireless features and a special high tech mobile unit for mainstreamed deaf students. Changchun University made significant high technology improvements within the last year including increased Web access, videoconference technology, and a newly equipped integrated design lab.

PEN-International is not only committed to providing deaf students at partner institutions with the latest in technological advancements, but also continuously seeks out opportunities to expand its network and encourages the lead institutions in partner countries to assist in this effort.

In year five, representatives from the National Tsukuba University of Technology lead the effort to form PEP-Net-Japan, a postsecondary education network in Japan. In Russia, three universities joined PEN-International through the expansion efforts of Bauman Moscow State Technical University to form PEN-Russia. Zhongzhou University was also added to the PEN-China network in year five, increasing the number of partner universities in that country to four. In addition, collaboration agreements were reached in Korea, Hong Kong, and Vietnam. In the coming year, PEN-International will assist in establishing a network in Korea to promote quality postsecondary education and career opportunities for Koreans who are deaf. PEN-International will also provide consultation and training to institutions in Hong Kong and Vietnam regarding the development of sign language materials.

PEN-International expansion efforts are outlined below.



Creation of PEPNet-Japan



**President Ohnuma of N-TUT,
Delivers Welcoming Remarks at Conference**



**T. Alan Hurwitz, RIT Vice President
Delivers Welcoming Remarks at Conference**



Third PEPNet-Japan Business Meeting

During project year five, National Tsukuba University of Technology (N-TUT), Japan, spearheaded efforts to create PEPNet-Japan, a Postsecondary Education Program Network, within their home country.

During the course of the year, several business meetings were conducted to explore different business models, evaluate support services for deaf students in postsecondary education, provide progress reports, and submit short and long term business plans for the development and implementation of PEPNet-Japan.

In October 2005, PEN-International Director DeCaro, RIT Vice President Hurwitz, and PEN-International Coordinator Clymer traveled to Japan and met with various PEPNet-Japan partner institutions and participated in PEPNet-Japan's third conference and business meeting of the year.

The tour of PEPNet-Japan partner institutions included the Center for Disabled Students at Hiroshima University, Doshisha University's Center for Disabled Students, and Nihon Fukushi University and its Center for Disabled Students. The PEN delegation also visited the Consortium of Universities in Kyoto. This Consortium is comprised of colleges and universities in Kyoto that have come together to disseminate research results, exchange information and create an innovative system of lifelong learning. A partnership between this Consortium and PEPNet-Japan is under consideration.

During this visit to Japan, a presentation regarding the programs available to support Rochester Institute of Technology's mainstreamed deaf students was made to students, faculty members, administrators, and members of the community at several different venues. Approximately 40 individuals attended this presentation at the Center for Disabled Students at Hiroshima University. The presentation at the Nihon Fukushi University was conducted via videoconference to a remote site on campus attended by an assembly of 75 individuals. This presentation was also given at the PEPNet-Japan business meeting which was attended by more than 140 participants.

Another significant accomplishment of the year was the implementation of PEPNet-Japan's first symposium on postsecondary education for deaf and hard-of-hearing students. As mentioned earlier, the 160 participants made this event the biggest symposium on postsecondary education for deaf and hard-of-hearing students in Japan's history.



PEPNet-Japan Holds Pre-Notetaker Session



PEPNet-Japan Partner Institutions Hold the First Business Meeting of the Year

PEPNet-Japan held its first business meeting of 2006 on the 28 and 29 of January. The meeting was attended by representatives from 13 PEPNet-Japan partner institutions from across the country. Representatives from the National Tsukuba University of Technology, The Nippon Foundation of Japan, and an observer from Kanazawa University were also in attendance.

In addition to regular project updates and plans for 2006, the meeting entailed a pre-notetaker session in which the notetaker training programs at each partner institution were discussed. Three presenters from PEPNet-Japan partner institutions shared specific information about their training programs including training curricula and how they recruit and train notetakers. Meeting participants were able to consider differing approaches for developing their notetaker training curriculum and materials.

A midterm report was presented by Ms. Kyoko Seto of Doho College, Nagoya, regarding the PEPNet-Japan notetaker training program and materials development project; one of the three major projects adopted by PEPNet-Japan in its introductory year.

All of PEPNet-Japan's partner institutions agreed to cooperate as they develop and improve their respective notetaker training programs.



Pre-Notetaker Training Session Conducted at PEPNet-Japan Business Meeting in January 2006



Expansion Efforts within Russia to Form PEN-Russia

In May 2005, a delegation from Bauman Moscow State Technical University and PEN-International visited three schools in Russia (Novosibirsk State Technical University, Vladimir State University Center for the Deaf, and Academy of Management-TISBI in Kazan) to discuss their interest in joining with Bauman to form PEN-Russia.

The delegation first visited Novosibirsk State Technical University and met with officials of the university as well as the Vice Governor of the city. At Vladimir State University Center for the Deaf, the delegation met with university officials, the mayor of the city, representatives of the regional government, and the regional representative of the All Russia Federation of the Deaf. The visit to the Academy of Management-TISBI in Kazan included officials of the academy, the Kazan Education Minister, the Kazan Social Welfare Minister, and the Vice Major of Kazan proper.

After attending various seminars, presentations, meeting formally and informally with deaf students, and observing classrooms at each of the three institutions, it was determined that all three would be excellent partners in the PEN-Russia program. As a result, memorandums of understanding were signed with these three institutions, marking the beginning of PEN-Russia.



**Delegation from Bauman and PEN-
International Visit Novosibirsk State
Technical University to Form PEN-Russia**



**Delegation from Bauman and PEN-International
Visit the Vladimir State University
Center for the Deaf to Form PEN-Russia**



**Memorandum of Understanding Ceremony
Between PEN-International and the
Academy of Management-TISBI in Kazan**

Zhongzhou University Joins PEN-China

In March 2005, PEN-International Director, James J. DeCaro, and Coordinator, E. William Clymer, traveled to Zhongzhou, the capital city of Henan Province, China, to visit the Zhongzhou University Special Education Institute. The purpose of the visit was to sign a memorandum of understanding admitting Zhongzhou University into PEN-China.

In addition to the formal signing ceremony, the five day visit included an exchange between James J. DeCaro, E. William Clymer, Director Bao of Tianjin University, and more than 200 students, faculty, and administrators. The PEN delegation also toured the college's facilities, visited a prestigious ceramics factory, and were entertained by deaf students from the university who offered a unique perspective on Chinese and deaf culture.

The university serves 195 students who are deaf or hard-of-hearing.



Signing Ceremony Between Zhongzhou University and PEN-International

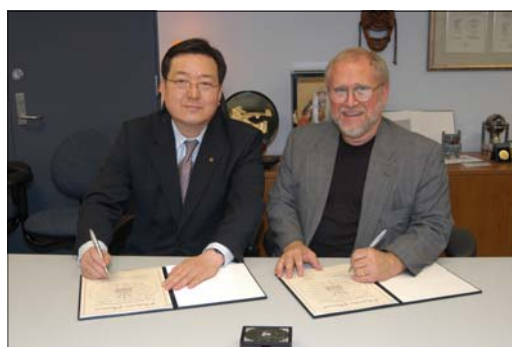
Agreement Signed with Korea

A delegation from Korea Employment Promotion Agency for the Disabled (KEPAD) visited PEN-International in July 2005. The delegation had the opportunity to learn about the operational organization of NTID, tour the facilities and discuss opportunities for collaboration between KEPAD and PEN-International.

At the conclusion of the visit, PEN-International Director, James J. DeCaro and KEPAD President, Eun Soo Park, signed a declaration of agreement which outlines an intent to establish a network in Korea that promotes quality postsecondary education, and employment and career opportunities for Koreans who are deaf.



Delegation from Korea Visit PEN-International



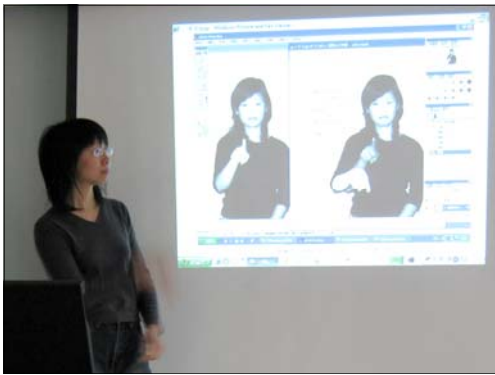
Declaration of Agreement Signed Between KEPAD and PEN-International



PEN Assists with Sign Language Materials in Hong Kong and Vietnam



**PEN Delegation Visits
The Chinese University of Hong Kong**



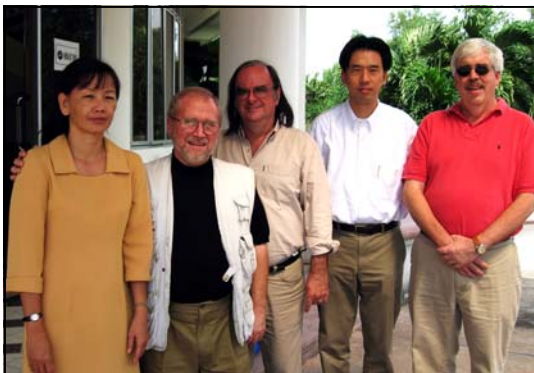
On 5 and 6 December 2005, PEN-International Director, James J. DeCaro, and PEN-International Coordinator, E. William Clymer visited the Department of Linguistics and Modern Languages at The Chinese University of Hong Kong. The PEN delegation's visit to the University was hosted by Professor and Chairperson, TANG Wai Lan, Gladys.

The visit to the university included several presentations by department staff regarding their work in documenting local signs, and issues related to the production and duplication of sign language reference materials. Dr. DeCaro also conducted a presentation on the work of PEN-International.

PEN-International and The Chinese University of Hong Kong reached an agreement to collaborate in the coming year. PEN-International will provide consultation on advanced image manipulation in Photoshop and other Adobe products for the purpose of creating the highest quality depictions of signs for print and non-print reproduction.

A visit was also made to Dong Nai Provincial Teacher's College in Vietnam on 7 through 11 December 2005 for a similar purpose. Director James J. DeCaro, Coordinator Clymer, and Mr. Y. Ishii of The Nippon Foundation of Japan visited the deafness program at Dong Nai Provincial Teacher's College to discuss possible collaboration with PEN-International regarding the development of Vietnamese sign language training resources, initiating an interpreter training program in Vietnam, and the inclusion of computer skills within the deaf curriculum. The PEN-International delegation was hosted by Dr. James Woodward and Nyugen Thi Hoa, professors of the institution.

By the conclusion of the visit, an agreement was reached that PEN-International will provide extensive training to deaf students of the college in March 2006 specific to the creation of Vietnamese sign language materials. PEN-International will also provide additional resources needed to support the goals of establishing an interpreter training program and incorporating computer training into the school's curriculum.



PEN Delegation Visits Dong Nai Provincial Teacher's College, Vietnam

Cross-Cultural Exchanges

Cross-cultural exchanges is an important component of the PEN-International program. PEN-International supports both real and virtual student exchanges between participating universities. This cross-culture exchange program strengthens each participant's cultural and personal identity and helps students develop an understanding of the diverse cultures that affect our world.

In project year five, TCT haiku and tanka winners traveled to NTID as part of the Ambassadors of Goodwill program, and in a reciprocal visit, NTID haiku and tanka winners traveled to TCT. PEN-International also supported a haiku poetry demonstration for the public, and sponsored a student art exhibit that featured art work created by deaf students from each of the partner and affiliate institutions.

The cultural exchanges supported by PEN-International in project year five are described below.

TCT Haiku and Tanka Winners Visit NTID



**TCT Haiku and Tanka Winners
Visit NTID**

A delegation of five students from Tsukuba College of Technology (TCT), Japan, who won the 2005 Robert F. Panara Haiku Contest visited NTID in March 2005 for a weeklong visit.

The students, accompanied by four faculty and staff members from TCT, participated in classes at NTID, shadowed NTID students for a day, and engaged in social and cultural events with their NTID colleagues. In addition, the five contest winners from TCT performed their perspective poems at a farewell reception.

Almost all of the visitors (8 out of 9) described the overall Ambassadors of Goodwill experience as excellent.

"I will encourage other students to apply to this program to have good experiences."

Student Delegate

NTID Haiku and Tanka Winners Visit TCT

In a reciprocal visit, five students from NTID who won the 2005 Robert F. Panara Haiku Contest visited Tsukuba College of Technology (TCT) in May 2005.

Five faculty and staff members from NTID accompanied the students during their one week visit. The visiting students participated in classes at TCT, visited museums and sites of historical significance to haiku and tanka, and engaged in social and cultural events with their TCT colleagues. In addition, each of the five NTID contest winners performed their respective poems for students, faculty, and administrators at the College.



**NTID Haiku and Tanka Winners
Visit TCT**

Haiku Poetry Demonstration in Rochester, NY



NTID Haiku and Tanka Winners Perform at Barnes and Noble Bookstore, Pittsford, NY

On 8 May 2005, five students from NTID conducted a haiku poetry demonstration at Barnes and Noble bookstore in Pittsford, New York. The event was sponsored by PEN-International and open to the public.

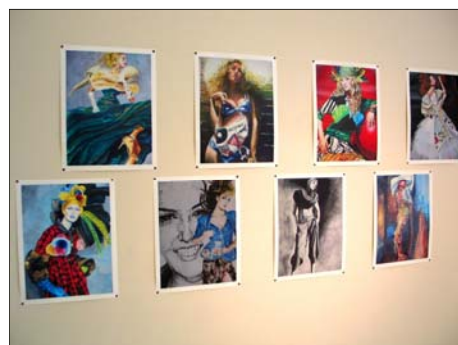
These five NTID students were winners of the 2005 haiku and tanka competition between NTID and Tsukuba College of Technology (TCT) in Japan, one of PEN-International's partner institutions. The contest was named for Dr. Robert F. Panara, a renowned deaf poet, actor and educator, who personally attended this 8 May event. Professor Jerome Cushman of NTID, and Professors Miyoko Hosoya and Midori Matsufuji of TCT were the faculty leaders of the competition.

Student Art Exhibition and PEN-International Calendar

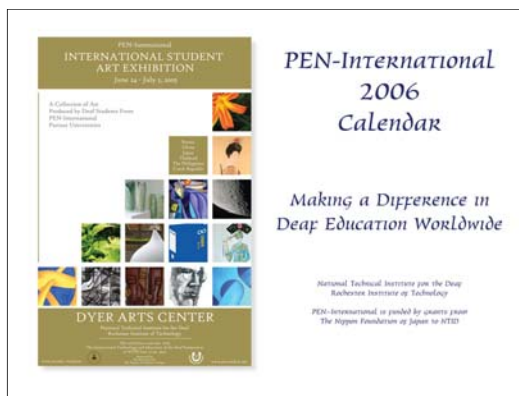
PEN-International sponsored a student art exhibit in the NTID Dyer Arts Center that coincided with the Instructional Technology Symposium that was held in Rochester, New York, June 2005.

Each PEN-International partner and affiliate institution was invited to select art that was produced by deaf students in their program. The art selected was of many visual media formats including fine art, commercial art, digital imaging, photography, graphic design, fashion, ceramics, and sculpture. Some selected art also included technical visual media such as computer-assisted design, drawing and other engineering/architectural renderings.

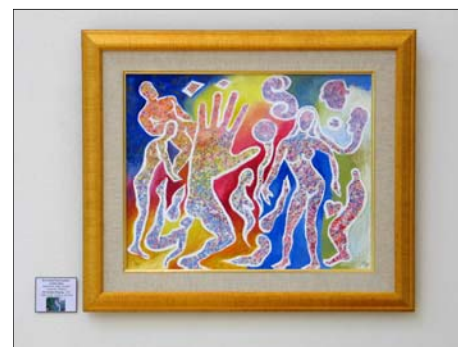
The exhibition was so well received that a calendar was developed of selected works by students from each partner country. The calendar was distributed to friends of PEN-International as a holiday greeting to mark the end of the first five years of the program and to celebrate the next five years of operation.



Samples of the Student Art Exhibit Held During the 2005 Instructional Technology Symposium, NTID Dyer Arts Center



PEN-International 2006 Calendar Featuring Student Art Work From Partner Institutions



Videoconference Technology



Drs. DeCaro and Hurwitz Conduct Presentation Via Videoconference to Remote Site at Nihon Fukushi University

Videoconference technology is an extremely effective method of communication used by PEN-International headquarters and its partner institutions.

PEN-International headquarters continued to utilize videoconference technology regularly in project year five for the purpose of conducting PEN business. A total of 10 videoconferences were conducted between PEN-International headquarters and various PEN stakeholders including The Nippon Foundation of Japan, National Tsukuba University of Technology, De La Salle-College of St. Benilde, and Tianjin University of Technology. The topic areas of these meetings included project management related issues, providing network updates, planning professional development and training initiatives, and arranging delegation visits.

In project year five, Zhongzhou University joined PEN-China, and in October 2005, a delegation from PEN-International visited the university for the purpose of formally opening the PEN-China Videoconferencing Center at Zhongzhou University. During their visit, the delegation participated in the official renaming of the Zhongzhou University's college for students who are deaf to the "College of Art and Design for the Deaf." The Deputy Mayor of Zhengzhou, the President of Zhongzhou University, the Party General Secretary of Zhongzhou University, and the President of Changchun University were all able to participate in the ceremonies through the use of videoconference technology.



Zhongzhou University Renaming Ceremony Conducted Via Videoconference



TCT Students and Deaf Students in the Tohoku Area Participate in Videoconference

In April 2005, deaf students in the Tohoku area of Japan met with students from Tsukuba College of Technology (TCT) via videoconference. The purpose of the videoconference was to share personal experiences within their universities and colleges, discuss issues related to student services in postsecondary education, and introduce these students to the formation of PEPNet-Japan. Participating students were also shown a presentation about a remote interpreting system developed at TCT.

Videoconference technology was also utilized during a presentation at Nihon Fukushi University and its Center for Disabled Students, one of PEPNet-Japan's partner institutions. Drs. DeCaro and Hurwitz presented a paper to an assembly of 75 students, faculty, and administrators who were located at another site within the university.

Videoconference technology allows PEN-International to train and educate students and faculty, further partner relations, and increase collaborative opportunities.

Dissemination of Network and Program Information

PEN-International recognizes the need to share technological information with educators of the deaf, reaching beyond current PEN-International partners, for the purpose of improving the quality of education as well as employment opportunities for all deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals around the world. For this reason, widespread dissemination of technological information is a primary goal of the PEN-International program. PEN-International utilizes various strategies that are designed to communicate available instructional resources, publicize the goals and activities of the network, and train educators of the deaf. These specific strategies include a comprehensive and continuously updated Web site, publication of articles in a multitude of worldwide publications, and participation in numerous deaf and hard of hearing related conferences and events.

The various strategies used to disseminate PEN-International information are outlined below.



PEN-International Web Site (<http://www.pen.ntid.rit.edu>)



The PEN-International Web site was developed for the purpose of serving as the universal portal for the PEN-International program. In project year five, the site continued to serve its purpose. The PEN-International Web site received 1,049,579 hits by 25,136 visitors from 40 different countries. These figures are almost identical to those reported in project year four.

In addition to containing program information, the PEN-International Web site captures the latest in network activities, including descriptions of all professional development training workshops. These descriptions also include links related to available resources such as PowerPoint slide shows and captioned video streaming. These resources can be accessed by anyone throughout the world.

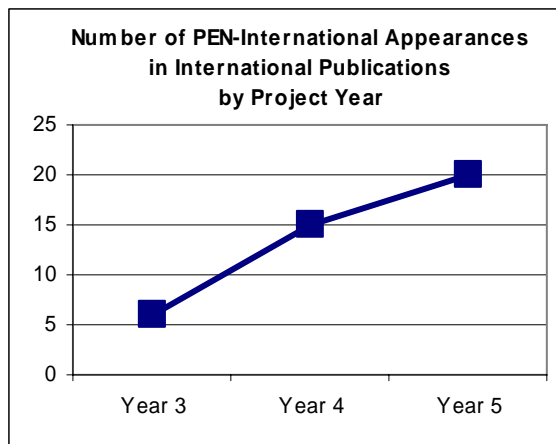
News and events from the first four years of PEN-International operations are also archived on the Web site for easy retrieval.

By May 2006, PEN-International's redesigned Web site will be fully functional. The new site promises to be as comprehensive as ever, but in a more user-friendly, state-of-the-art format.



In project year five, there were over 30 articles published about PEN-International in nearly 30 different publications. Twenty of these publications are publications which PEN-International appeared for the very first time.

The overall number of articles published about PEN-International in year five increased by five articles when compared to year four. Although PEN-International appeared in both national and international publications, the increase occurred mainly within international news media. PEN-International appearances in international publications has shown a steady increase over the last two years.



PEN-International appeared in various magazines, newspapers, and online news services. The articles about PEN-International focused on new partner and affiliate institutions, training initiatives, sponsored events including the haiku competition, delegation visits, and the announcement of The Nippon Foundation of Japan's continued support of the PEN-International program.



PEN-International in the News

National

- *Coaching Management*
- *Convention of American Instructors for the Deaf MATH SIG*
- *Deaf Professional Network*
- *Deaf Today*
- *Focus NTID*, Rochester, NY
- *MyAdobe Media and Technical System*
- *NTID Research Bulletin*, Rochester, NY
- *Red Lights*
- *RIT Diversity Trailblazers: Leading the Way*, Rochester, NY
- *RIT The University Magazine*, Rochester, NY
- *RIT/NTID Parent News*, Rochester, NY

International

- *Chinese Journal of Special Education*, China
- *Dahe Daily*, China
- *Eastern China Today*, China
- *He'nan Province News*, China
- *Innovation Trend in China*, China
- *TCT Education of Disabilities*, China
- *The College of Special Education of Zhongzhou University*, China
- *The Zhengzhou Times*, China
- *Xinhua Net*, China
- *Zhengzhou Daily*, China
- *Zhongyan News Net*, China
- *Jomo Shinbun*, Japan
- *Haidan*, Japan
- *KEPAD Newsletter*, Korea
- *De La Salle-College of St. Benilde*, Philippines
- *Evening Novosibirsk*, Russia
- *VOICE*, Russia
- *World Federation of the Deaf News*

In addition, PEN-International was featured on TV news in China. The formal signing ceremony of Zhongzhou University was covered extensively by the local, regional and national media.

PEN-International Director DeCaro Speaks with the Media about Zhongzhou University's Admittance into PEN-International

2nd International Conference on Higher Education of Students with Disabilities



Dean Benitez-de la Torre and Professor Sulse Present at the 2nd International Conference on Higher Education of Students with Disabilities

On 27 March 2005, a paper entitled “Higher Education for Deaf Students in the Philippines Today” was presented at the 2nd International Conference on Higher Education of Students with Disabilities at Waseda University Conference.

The paper was co-presented by Theresa Christine Benitez-de la Torre, Dean of De La Salle-College of St. Benilde, and Professor Leonides D. Sulse, who provided the perspective of a deaf member of the faculty of the college. The paper focused on the partnership between De La Salle-College of St. Benilde, the Filipino deaf community, and PEN-International, and their efforts in advancing higher education for the deaf in the Philippines. A total of 60 conference participants attended the paper presentation.

Participation at the conference was made possible through the collaboration of PEN-International and the Japanese Federation of the Deaf.

PEN Participates in the Western Symposium on Deafness

Dr. Denise Kavın, Senior Project Associate, represented PEN-International at the 2005 Western Symposium on Deafness “Partners United for Empowerment, Education, and Employment of People who are Deaf, Hard of Hearing, Late Deafened and Deaf-Blind,” in San Diego, California, on 20 through 23 April 2005.

Dr. Kavın conducted two 75-minute workshops titled “PEN-International: Fostering World-Wide Postsecondary Career Education for Men and Women Who are Deaf” and “Speech-to-Text Services Network: A New Professional Organization.” The second workshop was co-presented with Dr. Marcia Kolvitz, Director of the Postsecondary Education Consortium at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville. A total of 30 participants attended the two workshops.



Denise Kavın Presents at the Western Symposium on Deafness

The Western Symposium on Deafness is a regional conference that focuses on postsecondary education and deafness, and attracts more than 300 people from all over the United States.

19th Annual Educational Support Service Personnel Conference



**PEN-International Exhibits at the
19th Annual Educational Support Service
Personnel Conference**

On 6 and 7 May 2005, Dr. Denise Kavim represented PEN-International at the 19th Annual Educational Support Service Personnel Conference in Rochester, New York. PEN was an exhibitor at the conference in which 150 educators of the deaf from across New York State attended.

This conference is designed especially for educational providers who work with deaf and hard-of-hearing students in K-12 and postsecondary educational settings within the State of New York. RIT Vice President, Dr. T. Alan Hurwitz was one of the keynote speakers at the conference.

PEN Participates in Seminar at Bauman

In June 2005, PEN-International Director DeCaro and RIT Vice President Hurwitz traveled to Bauman Moscow State Technical University, Russia, and had the opportunity to meet and discuss the formation of PEN-Russia with Mr. Nikolay I. Bulaev, Chair of the Science and Education Committee of the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation.

The PEN delegation conducted a seminar entitled “PEN-Russia” that focused on postsecondary education of students who are deaf. A total of 40 educators participated in the seminar that was held in the PEN-International Multimedia Laboratory at Bauman.

In addition, the PEN delegation, which included Director Stanevsky and Rector Nella Pruss of TISBI, met with the Minister of Education, Mr. Viktor Bolotov. Mr. Bolotov indicated his willingness to inform appropriate agencies in the Russian Federation about PEN-International and its charge.



**PEN Delegation Meets with Government
Officials in Moscow**



**Mr. Bulaev and PEN Delegation Conduct
Seminar at PEN Multimedia Lab at Bauman**

Speech Technologies: Captioning, Transcription & Beyond



**PEN-International Coordinator Clymer
Attends One Day Seminar
on Speech Technologies**

Professor E. William Clymer, Coordinator of PEN-International, attended a special one day conference on the state of speech recognition technology and accessibility applications on 3 June 2005.

Participation proved beneficial as the program was comprised of leading scientists who presented on a variety of speech recognition related challenges and innovations; all topics relevant to PEN-International and its partner institutions.

This seminar was hosted by IBM TJ Watson Research Center Yorktown Heights, NY.

PEN Delegation Visits Herstmonceaux Castle, England

A PEN-International delegation visited Herstmonceaux Castle, The International Study Centre, Queen's University in East Sussex, England, on 21 through 24 July 2005. The purpose of the visit was twofold: to prepare for a Summer Institute, and participate in the INTER 2005 Conference.

PEN-International will be hosting a Summer Leadership Institute in August 2006 at Herstmonceaux Castle, a first-of-its-kind international student leadership training experience for deaf college students of selected partner institutions. During this visit, the PEN delegation met with officials to plan the events of the weeklong program.

On 24 July 2005, PEN-International Coordinator, E. William Clymer, presented at the INTER 2005 Conference. The paper presentation titled "Instructional Technology at NTID" was attended by 25 conference participants. In addition, the PEN delegation was part of a RIT panel on "Equal Access to International Education for the Hearing-Impaired." Approximately 30 individuals participated in this panel discussion.



**Herstmonceaux Castle, England
Site of PEN Delegation Visit**



**PEN Delegation Discuss Plans to Host
Summer Leadership Institute**

20th International Congress on the Education of the Deaf (ICED) Conference



PEN-International Partner Universities from U.S., Japan, China, Russia, and the Philippines Attend ICED Conference

Members of PEN-International partner universities from the United States, Japan, China, Russia, and the Philippines traveled to Maastricht, Netherlands to attend the 20th International Congress on the Education of the Deaf (ICED) conference on 17 through 20 July 2005. PEN-International was well represented in the conference program. PEN was an exhibitor and conducted three separate presentations.

The first presentation titled “PEN-International: A University Collaborative to Foster Accessible Postsecondary Deaf Education” included representatives from the United States, Japan, China, Russia, and the Philippines. Each of the partner countries reported on the successes and failures of their collaborative partnership with PEN-International. A total of 25 participants attended this panel discussion.



PEN Partners Participate in Panel Discussion at ICED Conference

PEN-International Coordinator, E. William Clymer, presented a paper presentation on the “2005 Instructional Technology and Education of the Deaf Symposium.” This presentation provided participants with the background and goals of the Symposium as well as resources that are available on the World Wide Web. A total of 25 participants attended this presentation.

The third paper presentation titled “Postsecondary Deaf Education in China: Trends and Future Directions” presented the results of a qualitative research study by PEN-International in the Peoples Republic of China. The purpose of the study was to document postsecondary education for people who are deaf in China and to offer recommendations for needed improvements. The intention of the study is to provide data that could be utilized by the appropriate authorities in the development of the 11th Five Year Plan for Education. A total of 45 participants attended this presentation.



James J. DeCaro and Patricia A. Mudgett-DeCaro Discuss PEN Program with Conference Participant

In addition, PEN-International displayed an exhibit at the conference in an effort to further disseminate program information. The exhibit was visited by hundreds of conference participants, resulting in enhanced networking between colleagues from around the world.

PEN Participates in N-TUT Celebration and International Symposium



PEN Delegates Participate in Ceremonies to Celebrate TCT Becoming a National University

On 13 October 2005, Drs. Hurwitz and DeCaro and Professor Clymer participated in two significant events in Tsukuba, Japan: a celebration of Tsukuba College of Technology (TCT) being elevated to national university status and being renamed National Tsukuba University of Technology (N-TUT); and the N-TUT International Symposium 2005.

Dr. Hurwitz participated in the official ceremonies to celebrate TCT becoming a national university. More than 200 representatives from government, business industry, education and the deaf community were in attendance.



N-TUT International Symposium 2005

Immediately following the ceremonies, the N-TUT International Symposium 2005 commenced. Dr. DeCaro was one of four plenary speakers. The four plenary sessions were followed by a panel discussion by these four presenters. In addition, Dr. DeCaro presented a paper about the work of PEN in the Asia-Pacific Basin. A total of 150 conference participants were in attendance.

PEN-Russia Business Meeting and Bauman 175th Anniversary Celebration

PEN-International Director DeCaro and Professor Maria Shustorovich traveled to Moscow on 21 through 26 November 2005 to attend a series of business meetings and participate in the celebration of the 175th Anniversary of Bauman Moscow State Technical University.

On 22 November 2005, a business meeting was conducted at the PEN Multimedia Laboratory at Bauman and a total of 40 participants were in attendance. Each PEN-Russia partner presented its plans for the upcoming year, and Director DeCaro presented an overview of PEN-International's plans for project year 6. Further, representatives of colleges and schools for the deaf and businesses presented their programs and services for consideration for future collaboration.



PEN-Russia Partners Attend Business Meeting at PEN Multimedia Lab at Bauman



PEN Director DeCaro Presents Rector I. Fedorov with Proclamation Celebrating Bauman's 175th Anniversary

DeCaro and Shustorovich participated in the celebration of Bauman's 175th Anniversary on 25 November 2005. As part of the celebration, Rector I. Fedorov was presented with a proclamation from RIT President A. Simone congratulating Bauman on this milestone.

Delegation Visits



**Delegation from Hungary Visited
PEN Offices, February 2006**

Delegation visits to PEN-International and NTID, and by PEN-International representatives to current and prospective partner and organization sites is necessary to increase visibility of the program and ultimately expand and improve postsecondary education and increase opportunities for deaf and hard-of-hearing people around the world. Almost all of the expansion and improvement opportunities for the deaf that originate through PEN-International eventuate from these delegation visits.

Consistent with previous years, PEN-International was involved in numerous delegation visits in year five. PEN-International representatives traveled to Hungary (June 2005), Korea (July 2005), New York City, USA (August 2005), Japan (October 2005), Hong Kong (December 2005), and Vietnam (December 2005). The visits to Korea, Hong Kong, and Vietnam concluded in collaboration agreements.

PEN-International has taken the lead for NTID, in collaboration with the Hungarian Ambassador to the USA, in developing a scholarship program for deaf Hungarians to study at NTID. A PEN delegation led by RIT Vice President T. Alan Hurwitz traveled to Hungary in June 2005 and met with Dr. Kinga Goncz, Minister of Child, Youth and Equal Opportunities. Dr. Goncz committed to funding two scholarships for capable Hungarian deaf men and women to attend NTID. As a next step in this collaboration effort, a high level delegation of 12 individuals from Hungary visited NTID in February 2006. The delegation participated in various lectures, seminars and visitations. The visit ended with the planning and/or execution of three significant projects: the scholarship program; a ten-week professional internship program at NTID on support services; and a pilot project to educate the deaf using support services at a selected Hungarian university.

In August 2005, PEN-International Director DeCaro met in New York City with Dermot Hurly M.D., International Executive Director of the Philanthropic Relief, Altruistic Service and Development Project (PRASAD) to discuss potential collaboration in Russia. The PRASAD project currently works in Krasnodar with the Center for Deaf and Near Deaf Children. Krasnodar is one of the cities where PEN-Russia is currently considering expansion. PEN provided Dr. Hurly with more than 50 used hearing aids; a first step towards collaboration.

The delegation visit to Japan in October 2005 included a meeting at the National Center of Sign Language Education. The Center provides extensive facilities and programming for the advancement of Japanese Sign Language and for promotion of its use in Japan.

In June 2005, Lawrence F. Campbell, International Program Administrator of the Overbrook School for the Blind in Philadelphia, and President of the International Council for Education of People with Visual Impairment visited PEN-International. The purpose of this visit was to share program information, an initial yet vital step in the possible future collaboration process.

Delegation Visits by PEN-International

- Hungary, June 2005
- Korea, July 2005
- New York City, USA, August 2005
- Japan, October 2005
- Hong Kong, December 2005
- Vietnam, December 2005

Delegation Visits to PEN-International Offices

- Pennsylvania, USA, June 2005
- Hungary, February 2006



**PEN-International Director DeCaro Meets with
Dermot Hurly, M.D., of PRASAD in NYC**