

PEN-International Year Seven Report

March 1, 2007 - February 28, 2008

April 1, 2008

James J. DeCaro, Director
E. William Clymer, Associate Director

PEN- International is funded by grants from The Nippon Foundation of Japan to NTID



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Making a Difference in Deaf Education Worldwide

Dear Colleagues,

At the completion of seven years of operation, PEN-International continues to make great progress in attaining its goal of improving postsecondary education for deaf men and women around the world. By continuing to follow our strategy of utilizing and expanding our international network, we have been able to enhance the local capability of each participating institution and increase our impact within each partner country. This report shows the variety, quality, and scope of the efforts of the members of PEN-International to improve the infrastructure, expertise of faculty and staff, and the support services available to deaf students.

Warmest Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James J. DeCaro".

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

PEN-International Year Seven Report

James J. DeCaro, Director
E. William Clymer, Associate Director

PEN-International
National Technical Institute for the Deaf
Rochester Institute of Technology
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April 1, 2008

PEN-International is funded by grants from The Nippon Foundation of Japan to NTID

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Introduction



PEN-International Director James J. DeCaro Meets with Chairman Deng PuFang of China Disabled Persons' Federation to Discuss Collaboration

PEN-International Partners and Affiliate Institutions

Japan

- National-Tsukuba University of Technology (N-TUT) and PEPNet-Japan

China

- Tianjin University of Technology (TUT)
- Beijing Union University (BUU)
- Changchun University (CU)
- Chongqing Normal University (CQNU)
- Zhongzhou University (ZU)

Russia

- Bauman Moscow State Technical University (BMSTU)
- Novosibirsk State Technical University (NSTU)
- Academy of Management-TISBI in Kazan
- Vladimir State University Center for the Deaf (VSU)
- Chelyabinsk State Technical University (CSTU)

Philippines

- De La Salle-College of St. Benilde (CSB)

Czech Republic

- Charles University

Thailand

- Ratchasuda College of Mahidol University

Korea

- Korea Employment Promotion Agency for the Disabled (KEPAD)
- Korea Nazarene University (KNU)

Vietnam

- Dong Nai Provincial Teacher's College

Hong Kong

- Centre for Sign Linguistics & Deaf Studies, The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK)

The Postsecondary Education Network-International (PEN-International), a multinational partnership of colleges and universities worldwide, was created in 2001 through funds provided by The Nippon Foundation of Japan to the National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID) at Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT). The Nippon Foundation of Japan is a grant-making organization that provides financial assistance for activities that can improve the quality of living of people around the world.

PEN-International's charge is to improve and expand postsecondary education for deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals around the world. PEN uses numerous strategies to achieve this goal including conducting faculty development and training, constructing state-of-the-art multimedia laboratories at partner institutions, sponsoring cultural exchanges and events, providing partners with a platform to share experiences and expertise with other colleagues, and disseminating network and educational resources throughout the world. In addition, PEN-International continuously seeks out new opportunities to expand its network.

PEN-International is the first and only worldwide network of postsecondary education programs serving deaf students. Currently, the network includes eighteen (18) partner and affiliate institutions from Japan, China, Russia, the Philippines, the Czech Republic, Thailand, Korea, Vietnam, and Hong Kong. Two of these institutions joined the PEN-International network in project year seven: Chongqing Normal University (CQNU), China, and Chelyabinsk State Technical University (CSTU), Russia. Further, there are sixteen (16) institutional members representing PEPNet-Japan.

The overarching vision of PEN-International is to develop an international network that enhances and maintains local capability and global networking at each participant postsecondary institution. Participant institutions evolve from being importers of information to being self-sufficient technology providers and then exporters of this technology to other programs in their home countries. PEN-International facilitates this international network by leading and sharing technology and instructional innovations. The other participant institutions are nodes on the international network, fostering an educational ripple effect throughout their home countries.

PEN's fundamental operating principle is, "All participants will work in partnership to determine solutions that meet local needs."

A total of 425 representatives from PEN partner and affiliate institutions participated in at least one PEN-International training workshop in project year seven. These participants represented 17 out of the 18 partner institutions. This participant rate reflects a 20% increase from last year, and a 55% increase from two years ago. PEN-Russia reported nearly 300 representatives participating in at least one PEN-International workshop in year seven.

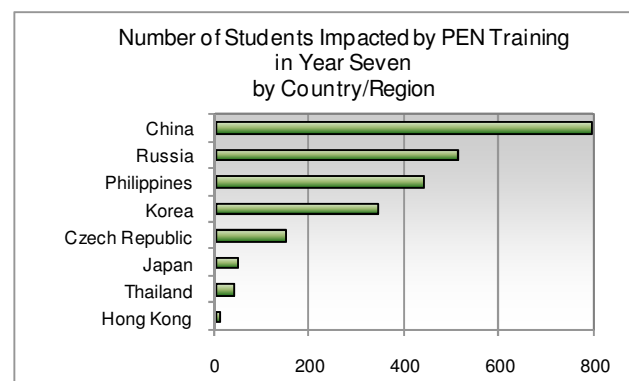
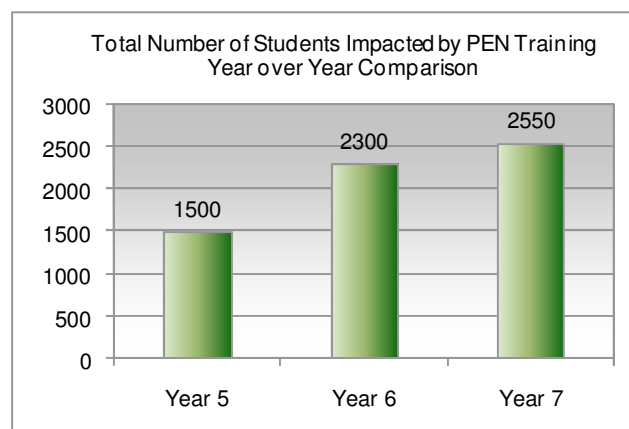
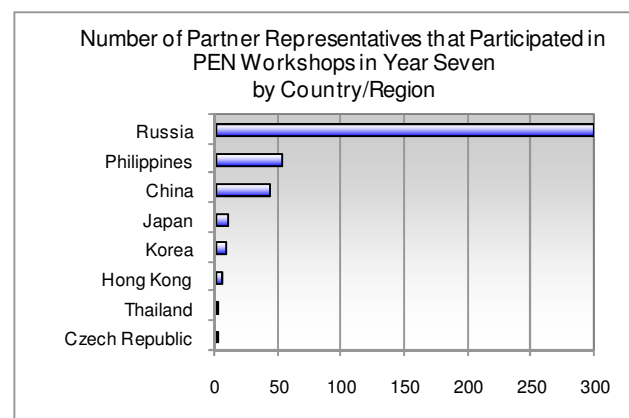
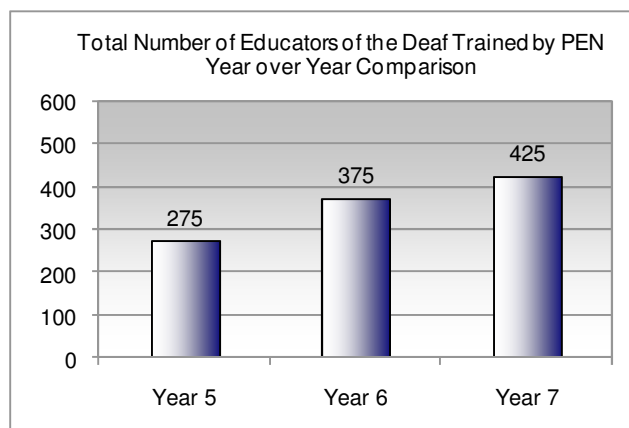
As a result of participation in PEN-International training workshops, partner institutions reported impacting nearly 2,550 of their students in year seven through the implementation of new ideas, skills, and technologies learned. The number of students being impacted by PEN training also has steadily increased over the last three years. PEN-China reported impacting nearly 800 students in year seven alone.

Almost all of the partners that have been in the network for more than one year conducted at least one workshop and/or training seminar in year seven as a result of skills learned through PEN-International training initiatives (13 out of 15). A total of 67 workshops were conducted, resulting in a 45% increase from last year. Bauman Moscow State Technical University (BMSTU), Russia, conducted 32 workshops in year seven, the most of any partner institution. More than 2,000 individuals received training through these partner training initiatives. Additionally, 511 faculty and staff members participated in training through PEPNet-Japan.

Further, PEN-International trained an additional 1,200 individuals through participation in deafness-related conferences. These conferences attract educators of the deaf from all over the world, reaching beyond PEN partner institutions.

The partnership between PEN-International and selected institutions has proved to be an added benefit as it has contributed to, or served as a catalyst for, receiving monies from other sources. In year seven, 13 partner institutions reported receiving money from sources other than PEN-International to fund their program and improve the postsecondary education of deaf individuals in their home country. The amount of money that partners received in year seven within their respective countries ranged from \$14,000 to \$750,000, totaling more than \$3,250,000. This total reflects an increase of more than \$2,870,000 from year six.

Note: The impact numbers were compiled based on information supplied from 17 of the 18 partner institutions.





*PEPNet-Japan Participates in
Weeklong Interpreter Training Program
December 2007*



*Academy of Management-TISBI in Kazan
Opens New Multimedia Laboratory with
Multipoint Videoconferencing System
June 2007*



*KEPAD Translated and Adapted
Guidance Book "Class Act"
December 2007*

In year seven, PEN-International and partner institutions presented nearly 90 training workshops, and more than half of these workshops were developed and conducted in year seven for the first time. One significant outcome was the development and implementation of a weeklong workshop training series entitled, "Establishing an Interpreter Training Program." This series, conducted twice with delegations representing China, the Philippines, and PEPNet-Japan, was led by Dr. Rico Peterson, Associate Professor in the Modern Language Department at Northeastern University in Boston, Massachusetts.

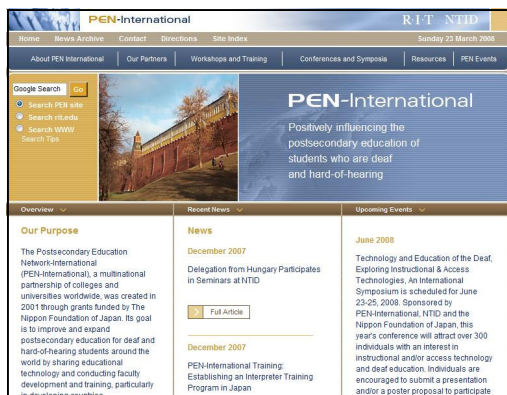
Another significant training series was an intense weeklong "American Sign Language" workshop conducted in Shanghai, China, by PEN-International Consultants Patricia Mudgett-DeCaro and Yufang Liu.

The PEN multimedia laboratories continue to be utilized regularly for both course and non-course work, averaging almost 60 hours per week. This finding is consistent with the usage rate reported in year six. The Academy of Management-TISBI in Kazan opened a new multimedia center in year seven, and reported using their new laboratory an average of 60 hours per week for course work alone; the most of any partner institution. Zhongzhou University, China, built its first sign language laboratory, the first and only one of its kind in all of China.

The use of videoconference technology continues to expand. All five of the institutions that make up PEN-Russia purchased multipoint videoconferencing systems to further partner relations, advance collaborative initiatives, and conduct remote training. In addition, the videoconference training workshops conducted by PEN-International with De La Salle-College of St. Benilde (CSB), Philippines, continued in year seven. Four more of these two-hour videoconference training workshops were conducted, all of which were rated very favorably.

One major accomplishment of Korea Employment Promotion Agency for the Disabled (KEPAD) was the adaptation of a guidance book called, "Class Act." This book, originally developed and produced by NTID, was modified only slightly to include examples and sign language terms commonly used in Korea. A total of 500 of these guidance books were published and distributed to 269 institutions throughout Korea for the purpose of improving the teaching and learning process for students who are deaf.

In year seven, delegation visits resulted in various collaboration opportunities. PEN-International's relationship with the China Disabled Persons' Federation (CDPF) strengthened, and as a result, a 17-member delegation of experts in deaf education participated in a series of training workshops at NTID in October 2007.



*PEN-International Web site
Averaged 2,500 Hits per Day
in Year Seven*



*James J. DeCaro's Interview on
American Airlines Sky Radio had the
Potential of Reaching 4.2 Million Listeners
January 2008*



*Chairman Yohei Sasakawa,
The Nippon Foundation of Japan,
Receives Honorary Doctorate from RIT
May 2007*

Further, a series of training workshops conducted in December 2007 with a delegation from Hungary was a direct result of a delegation visit made by PEN-International to the Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in June 2007.

The dissemination of program information is essential to expansion. The newly designed PEN-International Web site continues to be a universal portal to distribute information and instructional resources to educators throughout the world. In year seven, the site received approximately 905,000 hits by more than 23,000 unique visitors from 50 different countries; 20 more countries than last year.

The media also can play a significant role in expansion. In year seven, PEN-International Director James J. DeCaro was interviewed on American Airlines Sky Radio and was broadcasted as a continuous loop on 29,000 American Airlines domestic and international flights. This interview, which described the PEN-International program and its accomplishments, had the potential of reaching 4.2 million listeners.

PEN-International's efforts were recognized in year seven as well. Yohei Sasakawa, Chairman of The Nippon Foundation of Japan, was awarded a Doctorate of Humane Letters during RIT's 2007 Academic Convocation Ceremony. Sasakawa was recognized for his efforts to foster world peace, improve the educational circumstances of men and women who are deaf, and contributions to the eradication of leprosy.

James J. DeCaro, Director of PEN-International, received the inaugural James J. DeCaro Leadership Award from the Rochester Hearing and Speech Center, and was named Ambassador of Goodwill for People Who are Disabled by the City of Tianjin, China.

The following report describes all of PEN-International's year seven accomplishments in brief.

Faculty Professional Development and Training

Conducting faculty development and training is a primary strategy used by PEN-International to improve and expand postsecondary education for deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals around the world. PEN-International designs and conducts workshops based on locally defined and delineated needs of PEN partner institutions. Workshop participants learn skills and technologies that can be immediately applied to their own educational programs and readily passed on to other educators in their home countries.

In year seven, almost 90 workshops were conducted by PEN-International and partner institutions with more than half of these workshops developed and presented to educators of the deaf for the very first time. The number of workshops conducted by PEN-International and partner institutions has steadily increased since PEN's inception in 2001, with the number of workshops nearly tripling in the last four years.

PEN-International continued to conduct weeklong training workshops to meet the needs of partner institutions in year seven. More of these in-depth workshop series were conducted with more partner institutions. One significant outcome was the design and implementation of a training series entitled, "Establishing an Interpreter Training Program." This series, conducted twice with delegations representing China, the Philippines, and PEPNet-Japan, was led by Dr. Rico Peterson, Associate Professor in the Modern Language Department at Northeastern University in Boston, Massachusetts. Another significant outcome was an intense weeklong "American Sign Language" workshop conducted in Shanghai, China, by PEN-International Consultants Patricia Mudgett-DeCaro and Yufang Liu. Other significant workshop topics included instructional technology and design, classroom communications, support services, and employment.

Other major outcomes relating to professional development and training include four two-hour training seminars conducted with faculty, students, and alumni from De La Salle-College of St. Benilde, Philippines, via videoconference technology. In addition, three partner institutions conducted their own conferences/seminars in year seven: Novosibirsk State Technical University, Bauman Moscow State Technical University, and PEPNet-Japan.

Year seven professional development and training outcomes are outlined below.

PEN-International Workshop Development

PEN-International and its partner institutions conducted almost 90 workshops/training presentations in year seven. More than half (n=53) of these workshops were developed and presented by PEN-International and/or partner institutions for the first time. These workshop presentations and corresponding resource materials are available on PEN-International's Web site, and faculty in partner countries are encouraged to use this library of workshops to conduct faculty development and training in their home countries.

The following chart outlines the new workshops/seminars developed by PEN-International and its partner institutions in year seven alone.

Workshop Title / Presenter(s) / Location / Date / Number of Participants

1. NTID Curriculum Development & Instructional Design				
James J. DeCaro and E. William Clymer				
> Korea Employment Promotion Agency for the Disabled (KEPAD) and Korea Nazarene University (KNU) at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY			Mar-2007	8
2. Educational Training & Resources				
Jonathan Millis				
> Korea Employment Promotion Agency for the Disabled (KEPAD) and Korea Nazarene University (KNU) at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY			Mar-2007	8
> Ratchasuda College, Mahidol University at RIT/NTID, Rochester, NY			Oct-2007	2
3. Video Post-Production Process				
Stacy Bick				
> Korea Employment Promotion Agency for the Disabled (KEPAD) and Korea Nazarene University (KNU) at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY			Mar-2007	8

Workshop Title / Presenter(s) / Location / Date / Number of Participants

4.	RIT Online Learning Joeann Humbert and Richard Fasse > Korea Employment Promotion Agency for the Disabled (KEPAD) and Korea Nazarene University (KNU) at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY	Mar-2007	8
5.	Employment and Job Search: What Teachers Need to Know John Macko and Karen Downs > Korea Employment Promotion Agency for the Disabled (KEPAD) and Korea Nazarene University (KNU) at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY	Mar-2007	8
6.	NTID Classrooms/Labs: Assistive Technology, Instructional Technology, Design & Features Robert Brewer > Korea Employment Promotion Agency for the Disabled (KEPAD) and Korea Nazarene University (KNU) at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY	Mar-2007	8
7.	History of NTID Interpreter Training and Education Donna Gustina > De La Salle College of St. Benilde and PEN-China at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY Linda Siple > PEPNet-Japan at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY	Apr-2007 Dec-2007	12 10
8.	Interpreting as a Profession! Wayne Kip Webster > De La Salle College of St. Benilde and PEN-China at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY > PEPNet-Japan at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY	Apr-2007 Dec-2007	12 10
9.	Models of Interpreter Training Programs Rico Peterson > De La Salle College of St. Benilde and PEN-China at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY > PEPNet-Japan at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY	Apr-2007 Dec-2007	12 10
10.	Curriculum Development in ASL & Interpreting Rico Peterson, Grant Wiggins, and Jay McTighe > De La Salle College of St. Benilde and PEN-China at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY > PEPNet-Japan at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY	Apr-2007 Dec-2007	12 10
11.	Services Learning in Interpreting Education Christine Monikowski and Rico Peterson > De La Salle College of St. Benilde and PEN-China at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY > PEPNet-Japan at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY	Apr-2007 Dec-2007	12 10
12.	Curriculum Development in ASL Barbara Ray Holcomb and Sam Holcomb > De La Salle College of St. Benilde and PEN-China at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY > PEPNet-Japan at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY	Apr-2007 Dec-2007	12 10
13.	Interpreter Training Program - Panel Discussion Donna Gustina > De La Salle College of St. Benilde and PEN-China at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY	Apr-2007	12
14.	Teaching Mathematics to Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Postsecondary Students: Part III Vince Daniele and Joan Carr > Video Conference Workshop with College of St. Benilde; Philippines	Apr-2007	20
15.	NTID Educational Program T. Alan Hurwitz > Novosibirsk International Seminar on Deafness; Russia	Jun-2007	200
16.	PEN-International Project at the Present Stage James J. DeCaro > Novosibirsk International Seminar on Deafness; Russia E. William Clymer > NTID Administrative Team Retreat; Rochester, NY	Jun-2007 Jun-2007	200 7
17.	Training the High Qualification Specialists at the Bauman MSTU Alexander G. Stanevsky > Novosibirsk International Seminar on Deafness; Russia	Jun-2007	200
18.	Showing the Lesson at the Multi-media Laboratory on the Internet-Network A.A. Bertik and A. Sokolov > Novosibirsk International Seminar on Deafness; Russia	Jun-2007	200
19.	Tasks of the Regional Social Organization M.Y. Bragin > Novosibirsk International Seminar on Deafness; Russia	Jun-2007	200

Workshop Title / Presenter(s) / Location / Date / Number of Participants

20.	Facilities of the Technical Equipping of the Deaf Students Educational Process E.A. Kreisman > Novosibirsk International Seminar on Deafness; Russia	Jun-2007	200
21.	Innovative Technologies of the Deaf Students Training in Conditions of the Quality Control System M.G. Grif > Novosibirsk International Seminar on Deafness; Russia	Jun-2007	200
22.	Modern Information Technologies as a Mean of the Deaf Pupils Socialization I.A. Zaitseva > Novosibirsk International Seminar on Deafness; Russia	Jun-2007	200
23.	PEN-International: Improving Postsecondary Education James J. DeCaro > Bauman International Conference of Education of People with Disabilities; Russia	Jun-2007	200
24.	Programs to Support Rochester Institute of Technology's Mainstreamed Deaf Students T. Alan Hurwitz > Bauman International Conference of Education of People with Disabilities; Russia	Jun-2007	200
25.	Issues of Special Education in Higher Education: PEN-China Bao Guodong > 2007 Beijing International Forum on Special Education; Beijing International Education Expo 2007; China	Jul-2007	50
26.	Issues of Special Education in Higher Education: Zhongzhou University Yu Huijian > 2007 Beijing International Forum on Special Education; Beijing International Education Expo 2007; China	Jul-2007	50
27.	Use of Online Resources for Offering Sign Language Instruction James J. DeCaro and E. William Clymer > The Centre for Sign Linguistics & Deaf Studies; The Chinese University of Hong Kong; Hong Kong	Jul-2007	6
28.	Overview of Art & Computer Design John Cox > The Centre for Sign Linguistics & Deaf Studies; The Chinese University of Hong Kong at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY > Ratchasuda College, Mahidol University at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY	Sep-2007 Oct-2007	3 2
29.	Overview of Applied Computer Technology Department Elissa Olsen > The Centre for Sign Linguistics & Deaf Studies; The Chinese University of Hong Kong at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY	Sep-2007	3
30.	Adobe Products Nick Paulus > The Centre for Sign Linguistics & Deaf Studies; The Chinese University of Hong Kong at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY	Sep-2007	3
31.	e-publishing for Faculty Marianne Buehler > The Centre for Sign Linguistics & Deaf Studies; The Chinese University of Hong Kong at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY	Sep-2007	3
32.	Explore Library Resources Joan Naturale > The Centre for Sign Linguistics & Deaf Studies; The Chinese University of Hong Kong at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY	Sep-2007	3
33.	NTID Learning Center & Smart Classroom Jeff Porter > The Centre for Sign Linguistics & Deaf Studies; The Chinese University of Hong Kong at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY	Sep-2007	3
34.	Video Conferencing Technology and Procedures Minoru Yoshida > The Centre for Sign Linguistics & Deaf Studies; The Chinese University of Hong Kong at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY	Sep-2007	3
35.	Management of Support Teams John Cox, Dawn Tower-DuBois, and Sidonie Roepke > Delegation from Vietnam at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY	Sep-2007	10

Workshop Title / Presenter(s) / Location / Date / Number of Participants

36.	Provision of Interpreting Services Wayne Kip Webster > Delegation from Vietnam at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY	Sep-2007	10
37.	Coordination of Access and Support Services for Deaf and HOH Students in Smaller Postsecondary Programs Desiree Duda > Delegation from Vietnam at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY	Sep-2007	10
38.	Presentation and Tour of MCC Disability Services Office, Counseling and Advising Center B. Arnone and Taine Vinci > Delegation from Vietnam at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY	Sep-2007	10
39.	Introduction to Instructional Technology & PEN Instructional Technology Course E. William Clymer > Ratchasuda College, Mahidol University at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY	Oct-2007	2
40.	RIT Disabilities Services Susan Ackerman > Ratchasuda College, Mahidol University at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY > Delegation from Hungary at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY	Oct-2007 Dec-2007	2 6
41.	Self Instruction Lab Cheri McKee > Ratchasuda College, Mahidol University at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY	Oct-2007	2
42.	NTID Learning Consortium Jeff Porter > Ratchasuda College, Mahidol University at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY	Oct-2007	2
43.	PEPNet-United States: Roles and Challenges of Coordinators, and Support Services Provided to Local Universities and Colleges Marcia Kolvitz and Patricia Billies > Third Annual PEPNet-Japan Symposium; Japan	Oct-2007	200
44.	Understanding the Needs and Empowerment of the Students who are Deaf: Study Results Takuma Ohta > Third Annual PEPNet-Japan Symposium; Japan	Oct-2007	40
45.	Understanding the Needs and Empowerment of the Students who are Deaf: RIT/NTID Experience Minoru Yoshida > Third Annual PEPNet-Japan Symposium; Japan	Oct-2007	40
46.	American Sign Language Workshop Patricia A. Mudgett-DeCaro and Yufang Liu > Disabled Persons' Sports Training School in Shanghai; China	Nov-2007	16
47.	Accounting Basics for Micro-Entrepreneurs Joshua Beal > Video Conference Workshop with College of St. Benilde; Philippines	Dec-2007	17
48.	Market Needs Assessment Joshua Beal > Video Conference Workshop with College of St. Benilde; Philippines	Dec-2007	15
49.	Online Notetaker Training & Notetaking Resources Patricia Billies > Delegation from Hungary at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY	Dec-2007	6
50.	Tablet and New Technologies in Notetaking Services Peter Lalley > Delegation from Hungary at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY	Dec-2007	6
51.	Options in Captioning Peter Lalley > Delegation from Hungary at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY	Dec-2007	6
52.	Interpreting and Captioning Services used at NTID Wayne Kip Webster > Delegation from Hungary at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY	Dec-2007	6
53.	Project Access Susan Foster and Gary Long > Delegation from Hungary at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY	Dec-2007	6

Total Number of Participants 2,562

Korean Delegation Participates in Training at NTID



PEN-International Conducts Training with Representatives from KEPAD and KNU March 2007



Korean Delegation Tours RIT/NTID Campus and Facilities March 2007

PEN-International hosted an eight-member delegation from Korea during the week of 3-10 March 2007. The delegation represented PEN partners from the Korea Employment Promotion Agency for the Disabled (KEPAD) and the Korea Nazarene University (KNU).

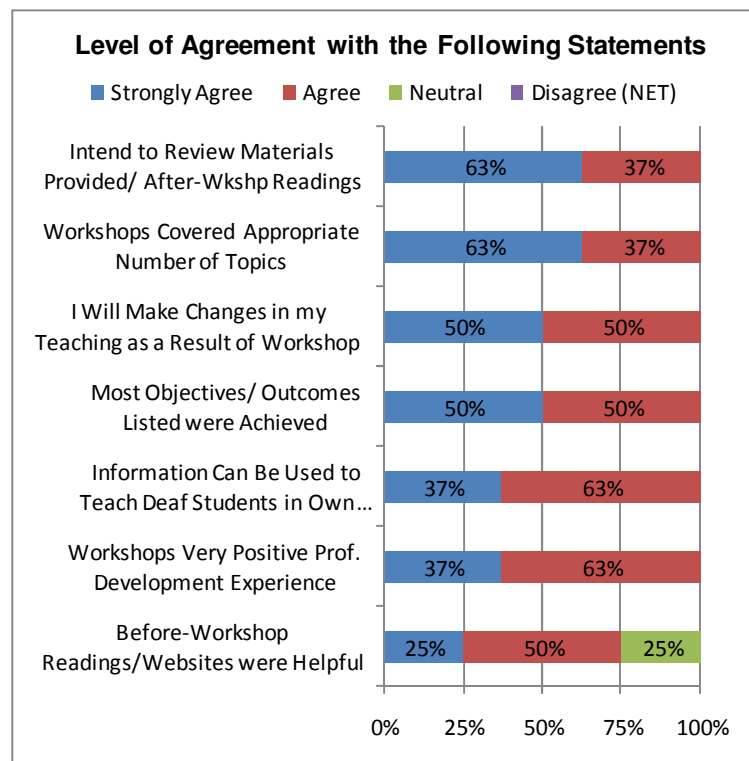
The weeklong workshop series focused on instructional technology and design, classroom communication, support services, and employment. A total of 14 different training workshops were conducted. The purpose of the workshop series was to provide members of the Korean delegation with sufficient background information and resources to begin the process of implementing changes at their institutions.

Each participant was given an overview of various RIT/NTID approaches to using technology and communication strategies. Participants then accessed additional resources, from the myCourses postings, to gain a better understanding of the information being presented and to identify possible strategies for implementation. The RIT myCourses system was used as a means to share resources and communicate with individual participants.

The workshop series was rated very favorably overall by respondents. All (100%) of the respondents either strongly agreed or agreed with six out of the seven attributes.

The workshops that were ranked the highest overall include:

- > Instructional Design
- > Working with Interpreters in the Classroom
- > Managing Classroom Communication



Three-quarters (75%) of the respondents mentioned that they most enjoyed the instructors, and being given the opportunity to learn about the educational system of NTID.

"So impressed of your instruction, technique and skill. I enjoyed your educational system to be detailed, dedicated service toward deaf and hard-of-hearing students. Impressed by so many services for the deaf."

Training Participant

"Most impressive on teaching skill, especially during the Instructional Design Course. Enjoyed kindness, effort, and mind of instructors."

Training Participant

Establishing Educational Interpreting Programs in China and Philippines



*PEN-International Conducts Training with
China and Philippine Delegation
April 2007*



*China and Philippine Delegation
Tours RIT/NTID Facilities
April 2007*

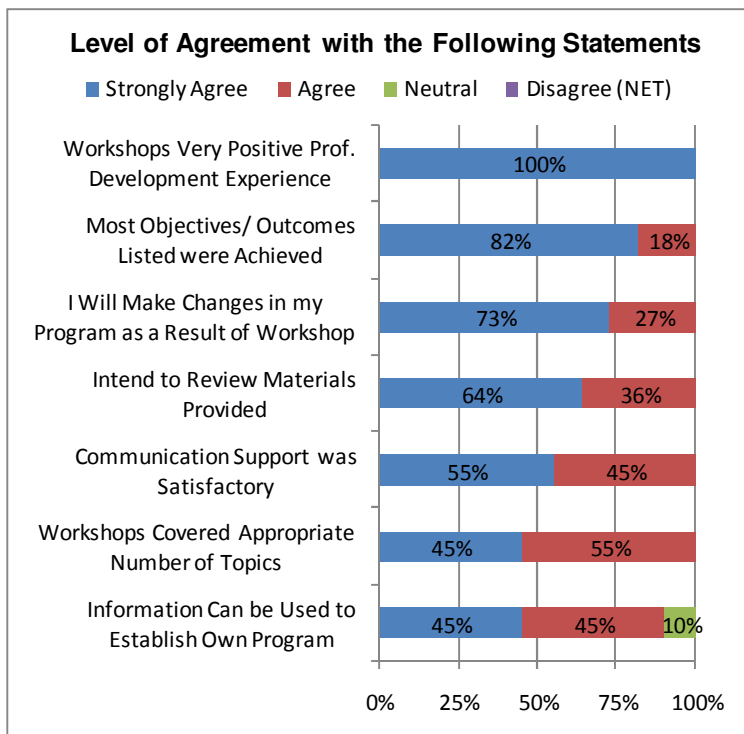
From 21-27 April 2007, PEN-International hosted a 12-member delegation from China and the Philippines. The purpose of this visit was to participate in a weeklong training session entitled, "Establishing an Interpreter Training Program." The delegation included two representatives from De La Salle College-St. Benilde, Manila, Philippines, and 10 participants representing Tianjin University of Technology, Zhongzhou University, and the China Disabled Persons' Federation, all in China.

Dr. Rico Peterson, Associate Professor in the Modern Language Department at Northeastern University in Boston, Massachusetts, was the primary trainer for the week. Donna Gustina, chairperson of NTID's Department of American Sign Language and Interpreter Education, conducted a workshop and facilitated an evening panel discussion with three students in NTID's interpreter training program. Several other faculty members from NTID's Department of American Sign Language and Interpreter Education conducted presentations and training workshops throughout the week. The weeklong series included nine workshops in total and various tours of the NTID facilities.

The workshop series was rated extremely favorable. All (100%) of the respondents strongly agreed that the workshops were a very positive professional development experience.

The workshops that were ranked the highest overall include:

- > Service Learning in Interpreter Education
- > Models of Interpreter Training Programs
- > Interpreting as a Profession
- > Curriculum Development in ASL & Interpreting



At the conclusion of the workshop series, many participants expressed their desire and need to establish ongoing communications with PEN-International/NTID as they develop their own interpreting programs.

"I think it would be of great help to us if we can continue our communication with PEN (and Rico) as we go on establishing our program."

Training Participant

"Thank you once more to PEN-International and RIT/NTID for providing this wonderful opportunity to our group. I am forever grateful."

Training Participant

Mathematics Workshop with CSB



*Vince Daniele and Joan Carr of NTID
Conduct Math Workshop via
Teleconference with CSB
April 2007*

On 16 April 2007, PEN-International conducted the final of a series of three mathematical teleconferences between NTID and the De La Salle-College of St. Benilde (CSB), Manila, Philippines. The teleconferences, each two hours in length, were presented by Vince Daniele, Chair of the Mathematics and Science Department at NTID, and Joan Carr, Associate Professor in NTID's Mathematics Department.

The teleconferences focused specifically on how to best teach mathematics to deaf and hard-of-hearing postsecondary students. Specific course objectives included:

- > design of mathematics courses;
- > describe and compare classroom presentation options;
- > explore visual strategies for presenting and solving mathematical problems;
- > impact of spoken and signed language on teaching and learning mathematics;
- > use of scientific calculators to motivate and enhance student learning; and
- > role of tutors and other support services assisting with mathematics instruction.

The third teleconference was unique in that it was web-streamed live, as well as sent to CSB via an ISDN network. Officials from The Nippon Foundation of Japan were able to view and hear the training live through a dedicated link on the PEN-International Web site. Approximately 20 CSB faculty members participated in this workshop.

Charles University Representative Conducts Study Visit at RIT/NTID

"What we value most about this wonderful project is having you, our reliable friends, with whose generous help we can contribute to help the students with special needs reach their full human potential."

*Daniela Janáková
Charles University*

Dr. Daniela Janáková of Charles University visited RIT/NTID during the week of 22-27 May 2007. The purpose of her visit was to continue consultations with the NTID English faculty, review relevant literature, and identify and purchase subsequent instructional materials.

During this visit a cooperation agreement was prepared between Charles University and the National Technical Institute for the Deaf at Rochester Institute of Technology. The purpose of the document was to encourage and develop scientific and cultural cooperation between the two universities.

Dr. Janáková also had the opportunity to attend the 122nd Academic Convocation at Rochester Institute of Technology. This ceremony included awarding academic degrees to the RIT/NTID graduates and Honorary Doctorates to former President Bill Clinton and Mr. Yohei Sasakawa, Chairman of The Nippon Foundation of Japan.

PEN Provides Status Report to NTID Administrative Team

On 18 June 2007, PEN-International presented a status report on the work of PEN-International to the NTID Administrative Team. The NTID Administrative Team members, led by NTID Dean T. Alan Hurwitz, included Linda Hoke, Donald Beil, Christine Licata, Eleanor Rosenfield, Gerry Buckley, and Al Smith.

The presentation included an overview of year six accomplishments, including the development and implementation of more than 40 different workshop topics, the redesign and launch of the new PEN-International Web site, the Computerworld Award, the Summer Leadership Institute, and the mathematics workshop conducted with CSB using videoconference technology. This presentation also identified PEN-International's future goals and activities.

Hurwitz and DeCaro Deliver Keynote Addresses at Novosibirsk Seminar



*RIT Vice President T. Alan Hurwitz Delivers
Keynote Address at Novosibirsk Seminar
June 2007*

On 4 June 2007, RIT Vice President Dr. T. Alan Hurwitz and PEN-International Director Dr. James J. DeCaro presented keynote addresses at the Novosibirsk International Seminar on Deafness at Novosibirsk State Technical University.

Dr. Hurwitz presented to the assembled audience of 200 plus educators from across Siberia regarding the educational program of NTID at RIT.

Dr. DeCaro discussed the current state of affairs with regard to the PEN-International project.



*More than 200 Educators Attend Conference
at Novosibirsk State Technical University*

*“Dr. Hurwitz and I were
delighted to participate with our
Russian colleagues in exchanging
programmatic information
and to learn of the effectiveness
of Russian efforts.”*

*James J. DeCaro
PEN-International*

Hurwitz and DeCaro Deliver Keynote Addresses at Bauman Conference



*PEN-International Director James J. DeCaro
Delivers Keynote Address at
Bauman Conference
June 2007*

Dr. DeCaro and Dr. Hurwitz also presented keynote addresses at the International Conference on Education of People with Disabilities at Bauman Moscow State Technical University on 7 June 2007.

Again, more than 200 attendees from education, government, business, and associations for people with disabilities were at the conference. Dr. DeCaro delivered a presentation entitled, “PEN-International: Improving Postsecondary Education.” Dr. Hurwitz’s presentation described the support services and programs available to RIT’s mainstreamed deaf students.

The conference was chaired by Rector Fedorov of Bauman, who stressed the importance of providing high quality education and services for men and women who are disabled.

PEN Conducts Follow-up Training at KNU



E. William Clymer Conducts Presentation at KNU on Support Services at NTID July 2007

E. William Clymer, Associate Director of PEN-International, visited Korea Nazarene University (KNU), Republic of Korea, in July 2007 to conduct follow-up training as a continuation of the training delivered to a KNU/KEPAD delegation at RIT/NTID in March 2007.

The follow-up training focused on the support services that are currently available to assist mainstreamed deaf and hard-of-hearing students at NTID. Approximately 100 faculty members and students were in attendance.

Additionally, Professor Clymer toured the KNU campus and met with the leadership of the support services and special education departments. During a meeting with KNU President Im, Professor Clymer discussed the final plans for KNU to become a sister institution with NTID. Clymer and President Im also outlined a plan where NTID and PEN-International will collaborate with KNU on enhancing the knowledge of faculty and staff with regards to providing support services to mainstreamed postsecondary deaf students in Korea.

PEN Conducts Follow-up Training at KEPAD



President Park Welcomes E. William Clymer to KEPAD July 2007

E. William Clymer also visited Korea Employment Promotion Agency for the Disabled (KEPAD) during his visit to the Republic of Korea in July 2007. The purpose of this visit was to again provide follow-up training as a continuation of training delivered to a KNU/KEPAD delegation at RIT/NTID in March 2007.

Similar to the training provided to KNU, Mr. Clymer addressed faculty members and students on the types of support services that are currently available to assist mainstreamed deaf students at NTID. Approximately 60 people were in attendance.

During this visit, Mr. Clymer toured two KEPAD locations, met with KEPAD President Park and had discussions with groups of faculty and staff members about instructional strategies.

In a meeting with President Park, Professor Clymer discussed a wide variety of topics focusing on strategies to enhance the ongoing collaboration between KEPAD and NTID/PEN-International. These topics included research and development of assistive technologies, NTID participation at upcoming KEPAD events in Korea, and participation of KEPAD faculty at the June 2008 Instructional Technology Symposium.



E. William Clymer Conducts Presentation on Support Services at KEPAD

PEN Representatives Visit the Chinese University of Hong Kong



*E. William Clymer Provides Training on the Use of Online Resources for Offering Sign Language Instruction
July 2007*



*The Deaf Students' Program of CSLDS Conduct Presentation on Teaching Materials and Course Development Systems
July 2007*

James J. DeCaro, Director and E. William Clymer, Associate Director of PEN-International, visited the Centre for Sign Linguistics & Deaf Studies (CSLDS), Department of Linguistics and Modern Languages at the Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) in July 2007. The primary agenda was to review progress on the development of sign language resources, provide training on the use of online resources for offering sign language instruction, and to review technical support and classroom technology necessary to provide training to regional deaf community members on the documentation of local sign languages.

The Deaf Students' Program of the CSLDS provided a thorough presentation and demonstration of the teaching materials and course development systems used at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. The status of each of the three books and related materials were presented and demonstrated. Additionally, an electronic sign dictionary and other training protocols were reviewed.

The afternoon meetings focused on the technology requirements of labs and classrooms that are being renovated at the Centre to accommodate the planned arrival of local sign language experts to receive training in the documentation and production of regional sign language resources. Smart classroom technologies, computer networking, and videoconference technologies were discussed in great detail.

Professor and Chairperson Gladys Tang from the Centre for Sign Linguistics & Deaf Studies hosted the PEN-International delegation during their visit.

Faculty Members from the Chinese University of Hong Kong Visit NTID



*Mr. Cheng and Mr. Chu of the University of Hong Kong Participate in a Series of NTID Workshops
September 2007*

During the week of 15-22 September 2007, Mr. Cheng Ka Yiu and Mr. Chu Kwan Ngai, from the Centre for Sign Linguistics & Deaf Studies at the Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK), visited PEN-International.

Cheng and Chu are currently working to develop curriculum and technical systems for producing linguistically-based sign language dictionaries as well as teaching and learning materials to assist deaf students at their university. A total of eight workshops were designed and conducted to help in this process. In addition, Cheng and Chu toured the RIT campus and NTID facilities, including classrooms and laboratories.

Professor Gladys Tang, Chair of the Department of Linguistics and Modern Languages at the Chinese University of Hong Kong was on campus 21 September 2007 to participate in discussions regarding the next steps in the collaboration between PEN-International and CUHK.

Delegation from Vietnam Participates in Training at NTID



Delegation from Vietnam Participates in a Series of Workshops at NTID September 2007

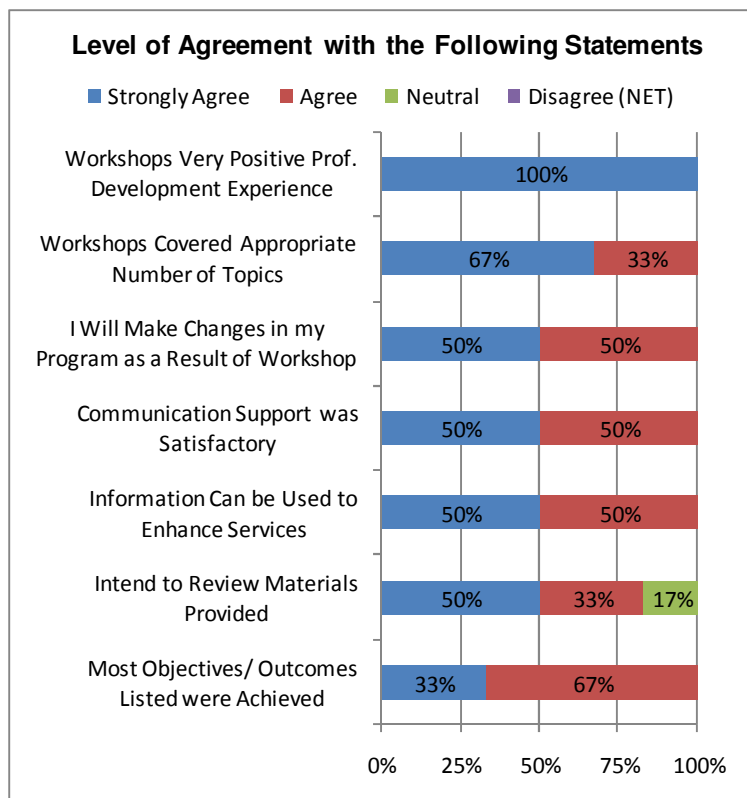


Vietnam Delegation Prepares to Tour NTID Facilities

During the week of 22-26 September 2007, PEN-International hosted a 10-person delegation from Vietnam. This delegation included government representatives from the Ministry of Education and Training, Institute for Strategic Planning and Education, the National School for Higher Education, and several Vice Chairpersons of Peoples Committees in various provinces. Mr. Yasunobu Ishii of The Nippon Foundation of Japan and Mr. James Woodward of the Deaf Cultural Studies Program in Dong Nai, Vietnam, were also members of the delegation. The group visited Rochester as part of a multi-city tour, which included stops at the U.S. Department of Education in Washington, D.C., the Maryland School for the Deaf, the state of Maryland Department of Education, and Monroe Community College in Rochester, New York.

The purpose of their visit to PEN-International was to get an overview of RIT/NTID and the various support and access services provided to deaf and hard-of-hearing students mainstreamed at RIT. Ms. Desiree Duda, a consultant with the Northeast Technical Center (a PEPNet program), met with the delegation to discuss provision of support and access services within smaller postsecondary education programs. The delegation participated in a total of seven different workshops, toured the NTID facilities, and observed RIT classes in session.

The workshops were rated very favorably overall. All (100%) of the respondents strongly agreed that the workshops were a very positive professional development experience.



"The programs (presented) are useful and impressive."

Training Participant

"I'm fully grateful to the support and assistance as well as information sharing by the teams from RIT, NTID, PEN and MCC. Thank you much for all."

Training Participant

China Disabled Persons' Federation Organizes Study Tour at NTID



*Leaders Across China Participate in
Study Tour at NTID
October 2007*



*Delegation of Chinese Leaders Meet
RIT Vice President T. Alan Hurwitz
October 2007*

A delegation supported by the China Disabled Persons' Federation (CDPF), consisting of 17 experts from across China, conducted a study tour at PEN-International and NTID between 12-15 October 2007.

The CDPF organized this visit in collaboration with PEN-International to introduce leaders in the field of special education to the work of PEN. Various presentations were conducted regarding the PEN-International program and its efforts to improve postsecondary education for deaf and hard-of-hearing students around the world. The delegation was headed by Mr. Pang RunHui the President of the Mongolian Disabled Persons' Federation.

This study tour evolved from PEN-International's ongoing relationship with the China Disabled Persons' Federation; a relationship that transpired in 2005 as a result of a two-year research study designed to assess postsecondary deaf education in China. The study was conducted by PEN-International for the government of the People's Republic of China.

PEN Conducts Training for Members of Ratchasuda College, Thailand



*Members of Ratchasuda College
of Mahidol University in Thailand
Participate in Training at NTID
October 2007*

During the week of 9-15 October 2007, two members from Ratchasuda College of Mahidol University in Thailand visited NTID to participate in a series of workshops related to instructional technology and design.

One of the main purposes of the visit was to introduce the newly appointed Director of Ratchasuda College, Dr. Sumalee Dechongkit, to NTID and PEN-International. Pronpun Somboon accompanied Dr. Dechongkit during this visit. They participated in seven different workshops as well as several walking tours of the RIT campus and NTID facilities.

In addition, discussions about future collaboration between Ratchasuda College and NTID were held. These discussions focused on training faculty in instructional development, assisting with the development of a new masters level curriculum related to instructional technology, obtaining information about student leadership and empowerment, and collaborating research efforts on the effectiveness of instructional technology.

PEN Conducts ASL Training in Shanghai, China



PEN-International Consultants Patricia Mudgett-DeCaro and Yufang Liu Conduct Weeklong ASL Workshop in Shanghai November 2007



Workshop Participants Practice Using American Sign Language under the Instruction of Patricia Mudgett-DeCaro



ASL Workshop Organizers, Facilitators, and Participants Pose After a Week of Intensive Training

PEN-International Consultants Patricia Mudgett-DeCaro and Yufang Liu conducted an intensive American Sign Language training workshop in Shanghai, China, during the week of 20-27 November 2007.

This ASL workshop was initiated through the Chinese government. The Chinese government believes that more deaf individuals from around the world will be coming to China as a result of their openness to host more international events. In anticipation of this trend and realizing that American Sign Language (ASL) is one of the most widely used sign languages, the Shanghai Disabled Persons' Federation, with the support of the CDPF and PEN-International, funded this workshop.

The training was held at the Disabled Persons' Sports Training School in Shanghai. A total of 16 hearing persons, who are fluent in English and Chinese Sign Language, participated in the weeklong training workshop. These participants represented various cities/regions throughout China. The workshop was very well received, and participants were not only grateful for the opportunity to learn ASL, but appreciated the exposure to a new teaching style.

At the conclusion of the workshop Mudgett-DeCaro and Liu, met with Huang Wei of CDPF to discuss subsequent ASL training initiatives.

"Thanks a lot for your efficient and interesting course. I had learned so much from it, not only the knowledge about ASL, but also the methods of teaching sign language."

Training Participant

"I'm very interested in your fresh teaching method. I'm going to try it in my class next term."

Training Participant

PEPNet-Japan Delegation Participates in Interpreter Training Program



Dr. Rico Peterson, Associate Professor at Northeastern University, Leads Training Workshop with PEPNet-Japan Delegation December 2007



PEPNet-Japan Delegation Participates in Weeklong Interpreter Training Program

During the week of 9–14 December 2007, PEN-International hosted a 10-member delegation from PEPNet-Japan. This delegation, which represented various colleges, universities, and support service centers throughout Japan, participated in a week-long training session at NTID entitled, “Establishing an Interpreter Training Program.”

Dr. Rico Peterson, Associate Professor in the Modern Language Department at Northeastern University in Boston, Massachusetts, was the primary trainer for the week. Faculty members from NTID's Department of American Sign Language and Interpreter Education also conducted various presentations during this weeklong training series. A total of nine workshops were conducted as well as various tours of the NTID facilities, including the ASLIE laboratory and NTID Interpreting Services Department. There was also a great exchange of resources, including articles, textbooks, curriculums, dictionaries, and CDs.

The workshops were rated extremely favorable. All (100%) of the respondents strongly agreed that the workshops were a very positive professional development experience, and that they intend to review the materials that were provided. Participants believe they received enough information to establish their own interpreting programs.

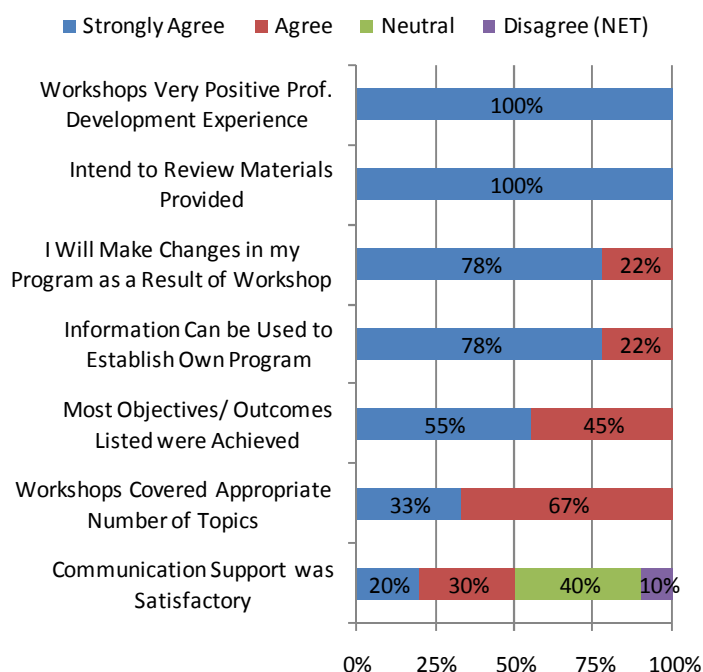
The workshops that were ranked the highest overall include:

- > Models of Interpreter Training Programs
- > Service Learning in Interpreter Education
- > Program Issues and Consultations

“I am so glad that I was a part of this observing team. As an interpreter myself, I was so touched to see how this job was so highly regarded and how much effort was put into organizing this training program.”

Training Participant

Level of Agreement with the Following Statements



Delegation from Hungary Participates in Seminars at NTID



Delegation from Hungary Participates in Weeklong Training on Notetaking and Real-time Captioning, December 2007



Hungarian Delegation Prepares to Tour RIT Campus and NTID Facilities

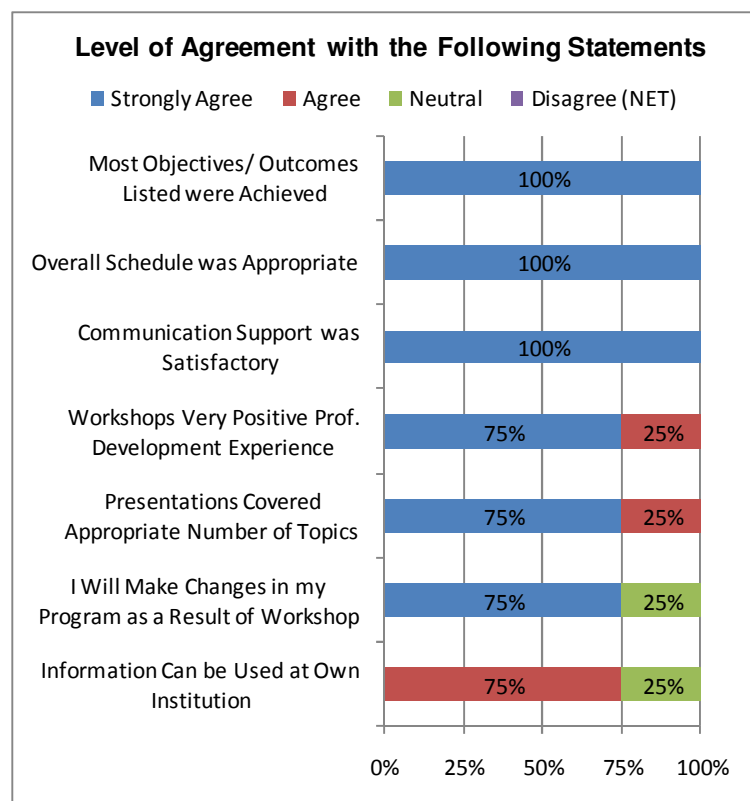
A six-member delegation of experts from Hungary participated in a series of seminars and training workshops relating to the provision of notetaking and real-time captioning to students in mainstreamed postsecondary education programs. This workshop series was conducted at NTID during the week of 15-21 December 2007.

During the weeklong visit, the delegation participated in a total of 11 different training workshops, toured the RIT campus, NTID facilities, and observed a classroom in session using C-Print services.

Overall, respondents felt the workshop series was very beneficial. Three-quarters (75%) of the respondents strongly agreed that the presentations were a very positive professional development experience, and that they plan to make changes to their program based on the information that they received. In addition, all (100%) of the respondents felt that the objectives and outcomes listed in the schedule were achieved, the overall schedule was appropriate, and the communication support was satisfactory.

The workshops that were ranked the highest overall include:

- > Interpreting and Captioning Services used at NTID
- > Online Notetaker Training & Notetaking Resources
- > Tablet and New Technologies in Notetaking Services



"Most of the services that were introduced by the lecturers were new to me. So I enjoyed learning new things, opening my mind to new ideas, planning and thinking about how to introduce these services in Hungary. The whole week kept me really active."

Training Participant

Series of Three Teleconferences Conducted with CSB



*Professor Sid Barefoot
Conducts Teleconference on
Improving Classroom Communication
December 2007*



*Mr. Joshua Beal
Conducts Teleconferences on Accounting
Basics and Market Needs Assessment
December 2007/January 2008*

*"I enjoyed the whole presentation.
It was well thought out and the way
he talks at times is empowering."*

*Training Participant
"Improving Classroom Communication"*

*"I enjoyed most the interaction
between speaker and students."*

*Training Participant
"Market Needs Assessment"*

Three different two-hour teleconferences were conducted with faculty and staff members, students, and alumni from De La Salle College of St. Benilde, Manila, Philippines, during December 2007 and January 2008.

The first teleconference was presented on 6 December 2007 by Mr. Sid Barefoot, Associate Professor in NTID's Department of Communication Studies and Services. Professor Barefoot presented a workshop on "Improving Classroom Communication." During this videoconference, Mr. Barefoot presented key elements of communication management strategies and how to apply these strategies to the classroom. A total of six faculty and staff members who work with deaf and hard-of-hearing students participated in this workshop.

The second teleconference entitled, "Accounting Basics for Micro-Entrepreneurs," was presented on 18 December 2007. Mr. Joshua Beal, a graduate student in RIT's Masters of Business Administration Program and PEN-International professional intern, presented basic accounting principles that focused on accounting equations including the three main categories: assets, liabilities, and owners equity. There were approximately 20 participants, including students, alumni, and faculty members in attendance.

Beal also presented the final teleconference in the series entitled, "Market Needs Assessment." This workshop was presented on 21 January 2008 and approximately 20 students and faculty members were in attendance. Beal presented an overview on conducting market needs assessments for aspiring business owners. He covered the various types of needs assessments, including the 12-step process of conducting a market needs assessment. He used a clothing business and coffee shop as examples.

The feedback received from participants was very favorable for all three workshops. All of the participants either strongly agreed or agreed that the workshops were a very positive professional development experience. Participants also felt that the methods, materials, and technologies that they learned during the workshops were relevant and could be readily applied.

Positive comments were offered about both instructors relative to their teaching styles. Participants appreciated their personal approach and interactive teaching methods. Several participants mentioned the need for more time in order to go more in-depth in the material, share more experiences, and provide more examples.

Lab Utilization

PEN-International has constructed state-of-the-art high technology multimedia laboratories at many of the partner institutions in an effort to aid and accelerate the use of instructional technology for educating students who are deaf and hard of hearing. The use of instructional technology to educate deaf students is essential as it gives these students the resources they need to learn and compete at the same level as their hearing peers. (Please note that the laboratories were either funded by PEN-International or by local organizations, but were all used in conjunction with PEN-initiated activities.)

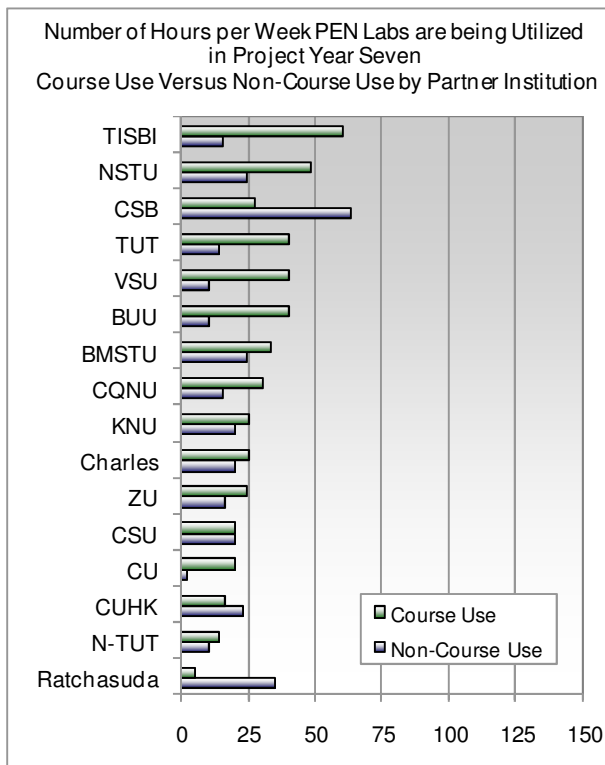
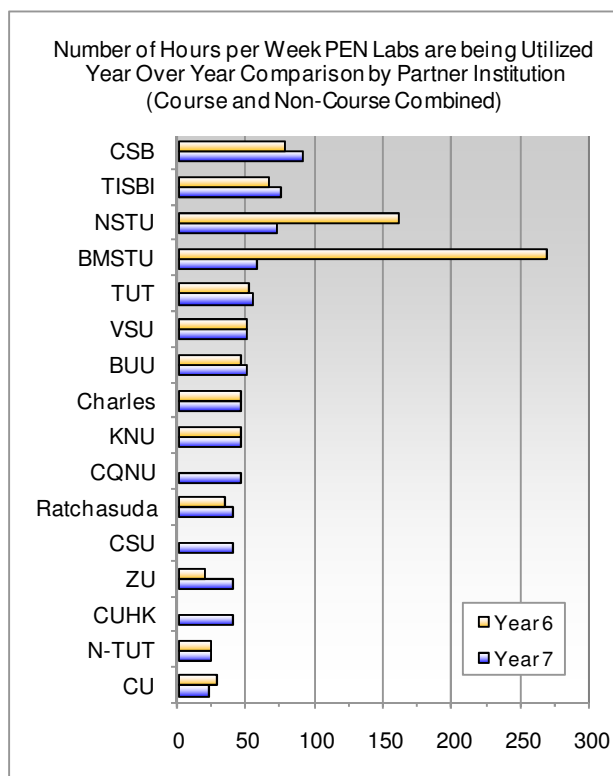
Similar to previous years, faculty members continue to use the multimedia laboratories primarily as smart classrooms, to improve the teaching and learning process for deaf students at their institutions. Faculty members also use the laboratories to share with colleagues in their home countries the information that they learned through PEN-International training initiatives. Often faculty members conduct further research relating to instructional technology to improve their own curriculum.

The number of computers at partner laboratories range anywhere between 12 and 500, resulting in more than 1,200 computers in total.

The multimedia laboratories are being utilized regularly for both course and non-course work, averaging almost 60 hours per week. This finding is consistent with the average usage rate reported in year six. De La Salle-College of St. Benilde (CSB), Philippines, reported using their laboratory nearly 90 hours per week. However, more than 60 of these hours were used for non-course activities. The Academy of Management-TISBI in Kazan reported using their laboratory an average of 60 hours per week for course work alone, the most of any partner institution. TISBI opened a new multimedia laboratory in year seven. This laboratory was built in part by funds provided from PEN, but mostly from TISBI and the Government of the Novosibirsk Region.

Both Bauman Moscow State Technical University (BMSTU) and Novosibirsk State Technical University (NSTU) experienced a decrease in lab usage in year seven. Last year BMSTU reported significant changes in their laboratories, and it was the first full year NSTU's laboratory was in existence. These factors may have contributed to the exaggerated findings reported in year six.

Almost all of the partner institutions with a multimedia laboratory made improvements to their laboratory in year seven. Most of these institutions either bought new computers or equipment for their laboratory or upgraded software programs with non-PEN funds. PEN-Russia reported purchasing a group/multipoint videoconferencing system.



Videoconference Technology



*PEN-International Conducts Videoconference Training Workshop with CSB
December 2007*



*Professor Sid Barefoot Conducts Training Workshop with CSB from PEN-Headquarters using Videoconference Technology
December 2007*



*New Multimedia Laboratory at TISBI
Features a Multipoint
Videoconferencing System*

Videoconference technology is used regularly by PEN-International headquarters and between partner institutions for the purpose of conducting not only PEN business, but training faculty to improve postsecondary education for deaf and hard-of-hearing students.

In project year seven, the use of videoconference technology increased significantly.

PEN-International conducted four separate training workshops with faculty members, students and alumni from De La Salle-College of St. Benilde (CSB), Philippines, using videoconference technology in year seven. These workshops, each designed as a two-hour training session, focused on teaching mathematics to deaf and hard-of-hearing students, improving classroom communication, accounting basics, and market needs assessment. A total of seven videoconference training workshops have been conducted with faculty members, alumni and/or students from CSB to date. The first videoconference workshop with CSB was conducted in July 2006. All of these workshops have been well received, and as a result, training through the use of videoconference technology will continue to be used with CSB in the future.

In project year seven, the five partner institutions that constitute PEN-Russia (BMSTU, NSTU, VSU, TISBI, and CSTU), each purchased a multipoint videoconferencing system. This videoconference system has already been used to further partner relations, advance collaboration initiatives, and train students remotely.

Videoconference technology continues to be an effective communication tool to promote and expand the work of PEN throughout the world.

“Our significant accomplishment in year seven is the multipoint videoconferences with institutions/participants of PEN-Russia.”

Elena Martynova, CSTU

“A significant accomplishment was the introduction of technologies of remote training.”

Igor Egorov, VSU

Network Expansion

PEN-International and partner institutions continuously seek out opportunities to expand the network. Network expansion increases the ability to impact the educational experiences and reach out to more deaf and hard-of-hearing students sooner.

In project year seven, two new institutions were added to the PEN-International Network: Chongqing Normal University (CQNU) in China, and Chelyabinsk State Technical University (CSTU) in Russia. Both institutions have made significant strides in serving people who are deaf, and were deemed to be fully prepared to join the PEN-International network. In fact, several representatives from both universities have already participated in at least one PEN-International training workshop. As a result of this training, almost 75 deaf and hard-of-hearing students had been impacted through improvements in curriculum and/or the use of instructional technology in the classroom.

In project year seven, other partner institutions have also experienced expansion through the creation of a new laboratory, the development of a local network, and the implementation of new programs.

Zhongzhou University, China, built a sign language laboratory, the first and only one of its kind in China.

A domestic network was formed between Korea Employment Promotion Agency for the Disabled (KEPAD), Korea Nazarene University (KNU), and Seoul National School for the Deaf. This network was established to encourage the sharing of ideas, resources, and technologies in an effort to advance the educational process of deaf and hard-of-hearing students in Korea.

De La Salle-College of St. Benilde, Philippines, announced that their interpreting program is now officially recognized as a profession, and Ratchasuda College, Mahidol University, Thailand, developed a Masters Degree program on the development of instructional technology for people with disabilities. Further, KEPAD now offers a specialized course for deaf students. This program was inspired as a result of training provided by NTID and PEN-International.

Institutions New to the PEN-International Network in Year Seven

- > Chongqing Normal University (CQNU), China
- > Chelyabinsk State Technical University (CSTU), Russia



*Memorandum of Understanding is Signed
Between NTID and CQNU
October 2007*



*Memorandum of Understanding is Signed
Between NTID, BMSTU, and CSTU,
October 2007*

“We became more aware of the educational needs of deaf and hard-of-hearing students and became more responsive. Consequently, this led to a change in deaf education.”

Heaeun Choi, KEPAD

Cross-Cultural Exchanges

The sponsoring of cross-cultural exchanges and deaf cultural events remains an important part of the PEN-International program. PEN-International supports both real and virtual student and faculty exchanges between participating universities. The belief is that these cultural events strengthen the knowledge and skills of all participants and help to develop a better understanding of the diverse cultures that affect our world.

In project year seven, NTID Haiku students were invited to attend and perform at the Third Haiku Pacific Rim Conference in Japan. PEN-International also supported two presentations conducted for the RIT/NTID community on Russian deaf history. In addition, an academic exchange program evolved between Tsukuba University of Technology (N-TUT), Japan, and two other PEN partners: Changchun University (CU), China, and Bauman Moscow State Technical University (BMSTU), Russia. Further, PEN-International sponsored two visiting scholars in year seven: Takuma Ohta of Japan, and Venetta Lampropoulou of Greece. Mr. Ohta earned a Certification of Advanced Study during his 18-month stay, and Ms. Lampropoulou spent her six-month visit working on two books relating to current issues in deaf education and Greek sign language.

NTID Haiku Students Attend Third Haiku Pacific Rim Conference in Japan



*Delegation Visits Chairman Sasakawa
of The Nippon Foundation of Japan
April 2007*

Two students, both former winners in the 2005 Robert F. Panara Haiku contest, were invited to attend and perform at the Third Haiku Pacific Rim Conference held 3-12 April 2007 in Matsuyama, Japan. The students, Jack Williams and Stephen McDonald, were accompanied by NTID retired faculty member Jerome Cushman and PEN representative Patricia Mudgett-DeCaro.

At the conference, Williams and McDonald gave a presentation entitled, "Thank you Murakami Kijo" in which they described two famous Haiku Japanese deaf poets named Kijo and Sanpu. Through narrative and signed Haiku, the students demonstrated how deafness affected the poets' writings.

During this visit, the delegation also met with Chairman Sasakawa of The Nippon Foundation of Japan. At this meeting, the students were given the opportunity to perform some of their award winning Haikus.

Russian Scholars Conduct Presentations on Russian Deaf History at RIT



*Russian Scholars Conduct Presentation for
RIT/NTID Community, September 2007*

On 21 September 2007, PEN-International and the Department of Cultural and Creative Studies at NTID sponsored two presentations by distinguished Russian scholars, Dr. Victor Palenny and Mr. Arkady Belozovsky, for the RIT/NTID community.

Dr. Palenny, a professor in Russia and chief editor of the All Russian Federation of the Deaf monthly magazine, VES, presented on Deaf Russian History. Mr. Belozovsky, the first full-time deaf instructor of American Sign Language/Deaf Studies at the Center for Language Studies at Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island, presented on the Deaf Intellectual Purge During the Stalin Era. These presentations were attended by approximately 60 people.

Dissemination of Network and Program Information

Sharing technological information with other educators throughout the world in an effort to achieve the overarching vision of improving the quality of education for all deaf and hard-of-hearing students continues to be an important component of the PEN-International program. The specific strategies used to disseminate program information and instructional materials include the administration of a comprehensive, up-to-date Web site, print and media coverage of PEN-International programs and events, and participation in numerous deafness-related conferences.

PEN-International hosted and/or presented at a total of nine deafness-related conferences in project year seven, three of which were hosted by PEN partner institutions. Nearly 2,500 educators attended at least one training session presented by PEN-International and/or its partner institutions in year seven.

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

One of PEN-International's major accomplishments in the previous project year was the significant redesign and launch of the new PEN-International Web site. The goal of this redesign was to improve the utility of the site, making it easier to navigate with improved access to information and resources. This goal has been achieved.

In year seven, the site received approximately 905,000 hits by more than 23,500 unique visitors from 50 different countries. The number of different countries visiting the PEN-International Web site increased by 20 from year six. On average, there were 2,500 hits per day, and most of those hits originated from PEN partner home countries: United States, China, Japan, Philippines, Korea, and Russia. The other countries that registered a significant amount of hits (approximately 10,000 in total) in year seven include the United Kingdom and Canada.

PEN-International R-I-T NTID

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Search Tips

PEN-International

Positively influencing the postsecondary education of students who are deaf and hard-of-hearing

Overview ▾ Recent News ▾ Upcoming Events ▾

Our Purpose

The Postsecondary Education Network-International (PEN-International), a multinational partnership of colleges and universities worldwide, was created in 2001 through grants funded by The Nippon Foundation of Japan. Its goal is to improve and expand postsecondary education for deaf and hard-of-hearing students around the world by sharing educational technology and conducting faculty development and training, particularly in developing countries.

News

December 2007

Delegation from Hungary Participates in Seminars at NTID

December 2007

PEN-International Training: Establishing an Interpreter Training Program in Japan

June 2008

Technology and Education of the Deaf, Exploring Instructional & Access Technologies, An International Symposium is scheduled for June 23-25, 2008. Sponsored by PEN-International, NTID and the Nippon Foundation of Japan, this year's conference will attract over 300 individuals with an interest in instructional and/or access technology and deaf education. Individuals are encouraged to submit a presentation and/or a poster proposal to participate

PEN-International in the News

In project year seven, more than a dozen stories/articles were reported about PEN-International news and events. These stories appeared in various media, including print publications, radio, and the World Wide Web.

Although the total number of articles written about PEN-International decreased from year six, the articles in year seven were more substantial.

In January 2008, an interview on American Airlines Sky Radio with PEN-International Director James J. DeCaro aired as a continuous loop on 29,000 American Airlines domestic and international flights. This interview had the potential to reach 4.2 million listeners. The segment aired under the title, "Innovation in Education" in the talk radio segment of American Airlines on-board passenger audio system. Regularly featured Sky Radio guests include former President Jimmy Carter, Donald Trump, Steve Forbes, Charles Schwab, Sumner Redstone, Michael Dell, Leeza Gibbons, Tony Robbins, Suze Orman, and Ben Stein.

The Special Education College of Changchun University featured PEN-International in its Catalog, a promotional tool used to not only inform current students of news and events, but attract new students to the university.

Other articles focused on PEN-International's relationship with Tianjin University of Technology (TUT) and PEN's commitment to improving higher education for deaf students in China; in-depth training workshops conducted by PEN-International with delegations from Hungary and Korea; and posted abstracts of PEN-International's research studies.

In addition, several publications featured articles on Director DeCaro's recent honors. In September 2007, Dr. DeCaro received a Leadership Award from the Rochester Hearing and Speech Center, and was named Ambassador of Goodwill for People Who are Disabled by the City of Tianjin, China.

Print/Media Coverage of PEN-International Project Year Seven

Print Publications

- > Community College Times, USA
- > Scholarship@RIT Newsletter, USA
- > RIT News & Events, USA
- > RIT The University Magazine, USA
- > Special Education College of Changchun University Catalog, China
- > Chinese Journal of Special Education, China

News Media

- > Sky Radio Network - American Airlines

World Wide Web

- > Népszabadság Online, Hungary
- > Paper.com, China
- > NTID News, USA
- > Deaf Today, USA
- > Blog.canpan.info, Japan
- > G3ict.com
(Global Initiative for Inclusive ICTs)



*PEN-International Director James J. DeCaro
Interviewed on American Airlines Sky Radio
Potentially Reaching 4.2 Million Listeners
January 2008*

*"The Sky Radio interview provided
an excellent media outlet to share
the successes of the PEN-
International partners with an
important international audience."*

*James J. DeCaro
PEN-International*

PEN-International Exhibit at the NAG Street Fair



*PEN-International Displays Exhibit
at the NAG Street Fair
April 2007*



*PEN-International Student Ambassador
Christopher Samp Speaks to NAG Member
Dr. Angel Ramos Regarding the
2006 Summer Leadership Institute*

On 26 April 2007, PEN-International displayed an exhibit, as part of a “street fair” showcasing NTID programs and projects, for the visiting NTID National Advisory Group (NAG).

PEN-International staff member Minoru Yoshida, along with two students who participated in the 2006 Summer Leadership Institute, Elizabeth Sorkin and Christopher Samp, represented PEN-International. The students represented PEN as student ambassadors and talked about their experiences at the 2006 Summer Leadership Institute that took place at Herstmonceux Castle in East Sussex, England.

During the fair, NAG members, NTID faculty and staff, students, and community members mingled and viewed the various exhibits.

One NAG member was assigned to a specific display and asked to present on that program. Dr. Angel Ramos led a five-minute presentation and discussion about PEN-International and its Summer Leadership Institute during an open NAG meeting that same day. It was a beneficial afternoon of networking and interaction.

PEN-International at the 15th World Federation of the Deaf Congress



*Denise Kavim, PEN-International,
Markku Jokinen, WFD President, and
T. Alan Hurwitz, RIT Vice President
Discuss Future Collaboration, July 2007*

Dr. Alan Hurwitz, Vice President for RIT and Dean, NTID, and Dr. Denise Kavim, Senior Project Associate at PEN-International, represented NTID and PEN at the 15th World Congress of the World Federation of the Deaf held in Madrid, Spain, during the week of 16–22 July 2007. The theme of the conference, planned jointly with the Spanish National Confederation of Deaf People, was “Human Rights Through Sign Languages,” and there were approximately 1,500 participants in attendance from more than 100 countries.

During the conference, Dr. Hurwitz and Dr. Kavim held meetings with key WFD board members and personnel regarding future involvement by NTID and PEN-International with WFD activities and conferences. In addition, a productive meeting was held with the presidents of the All Russia Federation of the Deaf and the Moscow Federation of the Deaf to discuss collaboration on the establishment and expansion of a training program for sign language interpreters throughout Russia. Several of PEN-International’s partner and affiliate countries were also represented at the conference, including China, Japan, Russia, Korea, and the Philippines.

PEN Partner Hosts Conference at Novosibirsk University



*More Than 200 Educators from Across
Siberia Attend Novosibirsk International
Seminar on Deafness
June 2007*

On 4 June 2007, Novosibirsk State Technical University hosted the Novosibirsk International Seminar on Deafness. More than 200 educators from across Siberia were in attendance.

The one-day conference included a total of eight presentations and featured keynote addresses from RIT Vice President T. Alan Hurwitz and PEN-International Director James J. DeCaro.

Some of the presentation topics included: training highly qualified specialists using skills learned through PEN-International workshops; teaching deaf students through the use of the multimedia laboratory and Internet; support services; and issues relating to innovative technologies in the classroom.

PEN Partner Hosts International Conference at Bauman



*Bauman Hosts International Conference on
Education of People with Disabilities
June 2007*

Bauman Moscow State Technical University hosted the International Conference on Education of People with Disabilities on 7 June 2007. Approximately 200 individuals were in attendance representing education, government, business, and associations for people with disabilities.

RIT Vice President T. Alan Hurwitz and PEN-International Director James J. DeCaro also presented keynote addresses at this conference.

PEN-International Exhibit at ALDA Conference



*PEN-International Displays Exhibit
at ALDA Conference
September 2007*

On 28 September 2007, PEN-International displayed its exhibit at an open house featured during the 2007 Conference of the Association of Late Deafened Adults (ALDAcon-2007).

Approximately 150 participants attended the open house hosted on the first floor of the Lyndon Baines Johnson Building at NTID. During the open house, participants had an opportunity to learn about various programs and services available within NTID/RIT. PEN-International's exhibit documented the accomplishments of various PEN activities from the past seven years. The exhibit was very well received by a wide range of participants.

2007 Beijing International Forum on Special Education



Director of PEN-International James J. DeCaro Delivers Keynote Address at the 2007 Beijing International Forum on Special Education July 2007

James J. DeCaro, Director of PEN-International, was a keynote speaker at the 2007 Beijing International Forum on Special Education; Beijing International Education Expo 2007, in Beijing, China, on 12 July 2007.

Dr. DeCaro's paper was entitled, "Postsecondary Deaf Education in China: Trends and Future Directions." The paper highlighted the results of a two-year qualitative study that documents postsecondary deaf education in the People's Republic of China. The paper also provided data that will be useful during the development of the next five-year plan.

Dr. DeCaro also chaired a session of plenary addresses on the first day of this significant gathering of international experts on special education.

A number of PEN-International partners from within China and Japan attended this symposium. This provided a unique opportunity to network and share the accomplishments of PEN with other special education leaders from across China.

PEN-China Holds Business Meeting



PEN-China Conducts Business Meeting to Discuss Sign Language Interpreting Training in China, July 2007

At the conclusion of the 2007 Beijing International Forum on Special Education; Beijing International Education Expo 2007, representatives of all PEN-China partners and the China Disabled Persons' Federation met to discuss issues related to the implementation of sign language and sign language interpreter training within China.

A second agenda item related to a student art exhibit that will first be shown in China and then displayed at NTID in Rochester, New York, in fall 2008.

A concise action plan was formulated and shared with all participants. The business meeting was chaired by Dr. James J. DeCaro, Director and E. William Clymer, Associate Director of PEN-International.



Business Meeting Concludes after Formulating a Viable Action Plan

"The July 2007 gathering of all the PEN-China partners resulted in detailed plans for future collaboration within China and with other PEN partners in the network."

*E. William Clymer
PEN-International*

PEN Represented at Korean Skill Contest and Assistive Technology Fair



*Exhibit at Assistive Technology Fair
Displays Recent Accomplishments of
KEPAD, KNU, and PEN-International
September 2007*

Through the efforts of PEN-International affiliates, Korean Employment Promotion Agency for the Disabled (KEPAD) and Korean Nazarene University (KNU), PEN-International was well represented at the 24th National Skill Contest for the Disabled and Korea Assistive Technology Device Fair 2007. This event was held in Pusan, Korea, during 31 August - 3 September 2007.

This important national gathering of experts in disability and access technology provided an opportunity for KEPAD, KNU and PEN-International to share recent accomplishments and plans with attendees by means of hands-on demonstrations, posters and descriptive materials.

Mongolia, Bhutan, Indonesia, Fiji, and the Philippines also participated in this year's invitational training, conducted through a partnership between KEPAD and the International Labor Organization. A variety of events were conducted during the four day gathering, including a scholastic exhibit, assistive technology device displays, an art exhibit, and the "24th National Skill Contest of the Disabled."

Third Annual PEPNet-Japan Symposium



*Minoru Yoshida of PEN-International
Presents at the Third Annual PEPNet-Japan
Symposium, October 2007*

E. William Clymer, Associate Director of PEN-International, Patricia Billies, Associate Director of PEPNet-Northeast, Marcia Kolvitz, Director of PEPNet-South, and Minoru Yoshida, Technical Specialist of PEN-International, participated in the Third Annual PEPNet-Japan Symposium held on the campus of National-Tsukuba University of Technology in Tsukuba, Japan, on 21 October 2007.

Former PEN-International intern, Takuma Ohta, and PEN staff member Minoru Yoshida presented at the concurrent session, "Understanding the Needs and Empowerment of the Students who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing." Mr. Ohta provided his comprehensive review of his study in the United States and described how empowerment is actually utilized in both the United States and Japan, and the new challenges both countries face. Mr. Yoshida introduced how students who are deaf and hard of hearing empower themselves at RIT/NTID and he shared his own personal experience at RIT/NTID. Approximately 40 people attended the session, and both presentations were well received.



*Patricia Billies and Marcia Kolvitz of PEP-
Net United States Conduct Keynote Address*

The highlight of the symposium was an interview session with the two keynote speakers: Patricia Billies and Marcia Kolvitz. They provided an overview of PEPNet in the United States, the roles of a PEPNet/Disabled Student Services Coordinator, challenges the coordinators face, and how PEPNet provides support services for local universities and colleges across the United States. The speakers also shared some stories of how the role of coordinators have evolved. The interview session was moderated by Dr. Mayumi Shirasawa, Program Coordinator of PEPNet-Japan.

Delegation Visits

Delegation visits to PEN-International and NTID, and by PEN-International representatives to current and prospective partner sites, is necessary in order to improve postsecondary education for deaf students around the world. A delegation visit often is the first step toward collaboration and/or expansion.

A good example of this is PEN-International's relationship with the China Disabled Persons' Federation (CDPF). PEN's research study in 2005, conducted on behalf of the People's Republic of China, assessed postsecondary deaf education in China. A result of this study was the launch of a series of collaboration initiatives between PEN and CDPF. Most recently, CDPF sponsored a weeklong training series at PEN with a 17-member delegation made up of experts who specialize in deaf education from across China.

In year seven, PEN-International continued to use delegation visits to access programs, encourage expansion with current partners, and nurture collaboration opportunities with potential partners.

PEN-International Director, James J. DeCaro, and RIT Vice President, T. Alan Hurwitz, traveled to Russia to meet with PEN-Russia institutions in June 2007. One purpose of this visit was to assess program effectiveness. DeCaro and Hurwitz were extremely pleased with the progress that has been made to date to improve deaf education in Russia, and encouraged the institutions to continue to move toward self-sufficiency.

A series of training workshops on notetaking and real-time captioning conducted in December 2007 with a Hungarian delegation was a direct result of a delegation visit by PEN-International to the Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in June 2007. The delegation felt the training was extremely beneficial and more collaboration is expected in the future.

PEN Consultant Patricia Mudgett-DeCaro helped Changchun University celebrate its 20th Anniversary in September 2007. She also represented PEN-International in a meeting with Changchun's Advisory Committee regarding the future expansion of its Special Education Center.

The Korea National College of Rehabilitation and Welfare traveled to PEN-International in October 2007 for the purpose of future collaboration. A meeting has been planned this spring with the current Korean affiliates (KEPAD and KNU) to discuss expanding their partnership to include this new institution.

There were also visits to Chongqing Normal University (CQNU), China, and to Chelyabinsk State University (CSTU), Russia, in November 2007, to assess their readiness to join the PEN-International network. Their readiness was apparent and they were formally asked to join the network.

Most recently, PEN met with Ronald Tschetter, Director of the Peace Corps, in Washington, D.C., to begin collaboration to address postsecondary education issues for deaf students in Africa.

Delegation Visits to PEN-International

- China > Oct-2007
- Korea > Oct-2007

Delegation Visits by PEN-International

- Russia > Jun-2007, Nov-2007
- Hungary > Jun-2007
- China > Sep-2007, Nov-2007
- Washington, DC > Feb-2008



*Patricia Mudgett-DeCaro Represents PEN-International at Changchun University's 20th Anniversary Celebration
September 2007*



*Delegation Representing PEN-International and NTID Visited Director Ronald Tschetter of the Peace Corps in Washington, D.C.
February 2008*

Awards and Recognition

PEN-International and its partner institutions continue to be recognized for their impact on deaf education worldwide. In project year seven, Chairman Yohei Sasakawa of The Nippon Foundation of Japan was awarded a Doctorate of Humane Letters from RIT, PEN-International Director James J. DeCaro received a Leadership Award from the Rochester Hearing and Speech Center, and Dr. DeCaro was named Ambassador of Goodwill for People Who are Disabled by the City of Tianjin, China.

In addition, Zhongzhou University (ZU), China, reported winning the first-ever sign language interpreting skills competition of Zhengzhou City.

Yohei Sasakawa of The Nippon Foundation of Japan Honored by RIT



*Chairman Yohei Sasakawa,
The Nippon Foundation of Japan,
Receives Honorary Doctorate from RIT
May 2007*

On 25 May 2007, Mr. Yohei Sasakawa, Chairman of The Nippon Foundation of Japan, was awarded a Doctorate of Humane Letters, Honoris Causa, during RIT's 2007 Academic Convocation Ceremony. Sasakawa was recognized for his efforts to foster world peace and improve the educational circumstances of men and women who are deaf, and for his contributions to the eradication of leprosy, which is one of his major life goals. The honorary degree was conferred by President Albert J. Simone at the same ceremony at which an Honorary Doctorate was also conferred upon former President Bill Clinton.

Mr. Sasakawa leads The Nippon Foundation of Japan, an organization with an annual philanthropic budget of \$750,000,000. He also serves as the World Health Organization Ambassador of Goodwill for Leprosy Elimination, and is the recipient of the Health-for-All Gold Medal of the World Health Organization. Along with Vaclav Havel and Elie Wiesel, Mr. Sasakawa established Forum 2000—an ongoing gathering of world leaders that promotes global peace and world justice. Mr. Sasakawa was the primary advocate for funding the Postsecondary Education Network-International at RIT's National Technical Institute for the Deaf.

DeCaro Receives Local and International Honors



*Director James J. DeCaro Received
Awards from the Rochester Hearing and
Speech Center and the City of Tianjin
September 2007*

In September 2007, Dr. James J. DeCaro, Director of PEN-International, received the inaugural James. J. DeCaro Leadership Award from the Rochester Hearing and Speech Center (RHSC). This award represents Dr. DeCaro's extreme dedication and enthusiasm toward improving development efforts for RHSC.

DeCaro also was named Ambassador of Goodwill for People Who are Disabled by the City of Tianjin, China. This award recognizes Dr. DeCaro's commitment to bettering the educational experiences of deaf students in China.

*"We applaud your efforts and
contributions on behalf of all deaf and
hard-of-hearing people in China."*

Bao Guodong (TUT)

Special Projects

PEN-International and its partner institutions were involved in numerous special projects in year seven, many of which included the review, publication, and distribution of various deafness-related resources. In year seven, one major accomplishment of Korea Employment Promotion Agency for the Disabled (KEPAD) was the adaptation of a guidance book entitled, “Class Act.” In addition, PEN continued to present the findings of a two year research study about tertiary deaf education in China, and reported PEPNet-Japan’s significant accomplishments to improve support services to deaf students throughout Japan.

Korean Class Act Books



*KEPAD Translated and Adapted
Guidance Book “Class Act”
December 2007*

“It is my hope that this guidance book will be of assistance to teachers who strive to improve teaching and learning in deaf education.”

Sooseok Yang (KEPAD)

In year seven, Ilsan Vocational Competency Agency for the Disabled, a division within Korea Employment Promotion Agency for the Disabled (KEPAD), translated and adapted a guidance book called “Class Act,” that was originally developed and produced by NTID.

The guidance book is designed specifically for teachers for the purpose of improving the teaching and learning process for students who are deaf or hard of hearing. These improvements are made through the use of instructional technology. The book illustrates strategies that can be implemented to address a variety of issues and challenges that teachers regularly encounter in the classroom when instructing deaf students.

KEPAD did not make any significant changes to the guide book, but only added relevant examples and sign language terms commonly used in Korea.

The translation and editing process took approximately six months. A total of 500 books were printed, and these books were distributed to 269 institutions throughout Korea.

PEN Supports Development of Resource to Serve Hard-of-Hearing Students

For the past two years, PEN-International has participated in the development of a resource that is now available on-line for serving students who are hard of hearing. The resource is entitled, "Hard of Hearing Students in Postsecondary Education: A Guide for Service Providers."

This product is the result of work conducted by the Hard of Hearing Task Force, a group that first convened in December 2005. The task force, co-sponsored by the University of Arkansas Rehabilitation Research and Training Center for Persons who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing (RT-31) and the Postsecondary Education Programs Network (PEPNet) was co-chaired by Dr. Doug Watson and Dr. Marcia Kolvitz. The task force meetings were facilitated by Dr. James J. DeCaro and Dr. Denise Kavin of PEN-International, who also served as co-editors of the work product.

The publication is intended primarily for service providers at the postsecondary education level; however, information and resources included will be helpful to students and parents as they discuss future plans for education. Teachers, transition specialists, and other related staff from secondary programs also can use this resource as a tool when working with students as they transition from secondary to postsecondary education and training programs.

Effective Communication and Instructional DVD's Provided to Partners

As a result of PEN-International's recent self-study and continuing efforts to provide partners and affiliates with meaningful professional development activities, two DVD's of professional development workshops offered at NTID for its students, faculty, and staff were produced. The DVD's address issues related to effective classroom communication and instructional strategies and serving students with low vision.

In April 2007, each partner country received a DVD set to be used for faculty training and development.

DeCaro Reviews New Resource from Simon & Schuster



*Director DeCaro Reviews New Resource
Published by Simon & Schuster Entitled
"Talking Hands," July 2007*

*"Ms. Fox has done a masterful job of
utilizing her journalistic competence
and sensibilities..."*

*James J. DeCaro
PEN-International*

In July 2007, PEN-International Director James J. DeCaro reviewed a pre-publication galley proof of "Talking Hands," a book published by Simon & Schuster (2007). The book is written by Margalit Fox, a staff writer from the *New York Times*, and accurately describes the "mysterious and beautiful world of the signed languages of the deaf, and explains what they reveal about how all language, signed and spoken, works inside our heads."

DeCaro was honored to review the pre-publication of the book and gave high praise for Fox's writing, and, in particular, descriptions of the Bedouin Signing Village that she and a group of four renowned linguistics visited. DeCaro highly recommends this book to anyone who "has an intellectual curiosity about languages."

PEN Presents Postsecondary Education for Deaf in China Research Study



*PEN-International Consultant
Patricia Mudgett-DeCaro Delivers
Presentation on Postsecondary Education for
Deaf in China Research Study at
Changchun University, September 2007*

In 2005, PEN-International completed a research project for the government of the People's Republic of China to assess postsecondary deaf education in China.

In year seven, PEN-International continued to present the results of this study for the purpose of widespread dissemination of the information contained in the report, and ultimately for it to be a catalyst for change throughout China.

In year seven alone, the results of this study were presented during three different occasions, reaching more than 300 people:

- > Rochester School for the Deaf, May 2007
- > 2007 Beijing International Forum on Special Education; Beijing International Education Expo 2007, July 2007
- > Changchun University's 20th Anniversary Celebration, September 2007

PEPNet-Japan Continues to Improve Support Services to Deaf Students

PEPNet-Japan continued to grow and develop during the project year implementing strategies and disseminating resources in support of postsecondary deaf students in Japan. PEN made a significant initial investment in PEPNet-Japan, and N-TUT has now acquired funds from within Japan to support the operations of the network.

PEN continues to support specific activities of PEPNet-Japan including; interpreter training workshops and the Third Annual PEPNet-Japan Symposium. PEN-International is pleased with the continued expansion and sophistication of the resources available from PEPNet-Japan. A significant accomplishment reported by PEPNet-Japan during year seven includes the addition of two new member institutions, raising the number of total partners within the network to 16.

Publications during this same time period by PEPNet-Japan include reports on the process of establishing support service systems, a Notetaking Handbook, a Cumulative Report on the 2004 and 2006 visits to the USA, an Introduction to PC Notetaking (Pilot version), and three new tip sheets (interpreting in higher education, support provided by interpreter, and coordinating tasks at the beginning of the semester). Finally, PEPNet-Japan produced the Third Annual PEPNet-Japan Symposium Report.



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*PEPNet-Japan Website
Includes News, Resources, and Training Schedules for
Educators of the Deaf Throughout Japan*

Upcoming Events

In project year seven, PEN-International spent a considerable amount of time planning and preparing for three important events that are scheduled to take place in the following project year: 2008 Instructional Technology and Deaf Education Symposium; Summit to Create a Cyber-Community to Advance Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Individuals in STEM; and the 2008 Summer Leadership Institute. These upcoming special events are outlined below.

2008 Instructional Technology and Deaf Education Symposium

An International Symposium **Technology and Deaf Education**



Exploring Instructional and Access Technologies

June 23-25, 2008

Sponsored by
National Technical Institute for the Deaf at
Rochester Institute of Technology
The Nippon Foundation of Japan and
PEN-International

The National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID) is hosting the fifth Instructional Technology and Deaf Education Symposium entitled “Exploring Instructional and Access Technologies” on the campus of Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) in Rochester, New York, on 23-25 June 2008. This Symposium, sponsored by NTID and The Nippon Foundation of Japan through PEN-International, provides 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 Symposium, chaired by PEN-International Associate Director E. William Clymer, will consist of plenary addresses by international experts, more than 40 concurrent sessions, and 24 poster sessions all focusing on issues related to the use of technology in deaf education in K-12 and postsecondary levels.

Summit to Create a Cyber-Community to Advance Deaf Individuals in STEM

The Summit to Create a Cyber-Community to Advance Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Individuals in STEM (DHH Cyber-Community) will occur on 25-28 June 2008 on the campus of Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) in Rochester, New York. This three day conference, led by RIT and the University of Washington (UW), will include 50 leaders in the field of support service provision for postsecondary deaf students in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) programs. The goal of the Summit is to report on the current state of on-line remote interpreting and captioning, and outline the characteristics of a multimedia cyberinfrastructure that provides remote communication support for deaf and hard-of-hearing students in STEM mainstreamed classrooms.

2008 Summer Leadership Institute



*Herstmonceux Castle, England
Site of the Summer Leadership Institute*

The second-ever PEN-International Summer Leadership Institute, a multinational weeklong program for postsecondary deaf and hard-of-hearing students, will take place 9-16 August 2008 at Herstmonceux Castle in East Sussex, England.

The primary goal of the Summer Leadership Institute is to promote the development of leadership and advocacy skills among student leaders from PEN-International partner and affiliate institutions regarding community service, general access, support services, employment, and deaf cultural awareness.

A total of 26 deaf and hard-of-hearing students have been invited to participate. This international exchange of students is ideal for exposing these students to the diverse cultures that affect our world.

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