

PEN-International

Year 9 Report

March 1, 2009 - February 28, 2010



E. William Clymer, Interim Director
Gail Hyde, Interim Associate Director

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



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



PEN-International Year Nine Report 1 March 2009 to 28 February 2010

Dear Colleagues,

After nine years of operation, PEN-International continues to evolve as a driving force in the education of young deaf men and women in our partner countries. We have stayed true to our founding mission and have enhanced the local capabilities within each of our partner countries, while providing professional development opportunities to our members. Recently, we have seen how adept all PEN partners are in expanding their influence within their regions and countries by becoming more self-sufficient and by initiating programs to solve local challenges.

This year has been one of change within PEN. Dr. James J. DeCaro agreed to become Interim President of NTID until 1 December 2010, while NTID searches for a new President. I assumed the role of Interim Director of PEN-International for the year. Nora Shannon joined the team in Rochester and has been focusing on issues related to pre-college education programs. Gail Hyde joined PEN-International as Interim Associate Director, assisting with many operational issues. PEN-International continues to be supported by two outstanding project associates, Corinne Heschke and Mary Lamb, and by a part-time technology specialist Patrick Smith.

As we complete year nine and begin year ten, we look back at many accomplishments and see a very bright future for deaf students and their teachers who have benefited from the contributions of PEN-International.

Best Regards,

E. William Clymer
Associate Professor and Interim Director

PEN-International Year Nine Report

E. William Clymer, Interim Director
Gail Hyde, Interim Associate Director

PEN-International
National Technical Institute for the Deaf
Rochester Institute of Technology
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April 1, 2010

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Introduction



*2009 PEN-International Annual Business Meeting
co-hosted by PEN-China and Changchun University,
September 2009.*

The Postsecondary Education Network-International (PEN-International) 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), to improve and expand postsecondary education for deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals around the world.

PEN-International has far exceeded its program goals and objectives in the nine years it has been in existence. As evidence, Yasuhiko Iwaoka of Research and Development, Inc. visited NTID

and PEN-International in September 2009 on behalf of The Nippon Foundation of Japan to conduct a formal independent Project Evaluation. PEN-International received a “Level I-Exceptionally High” effectiveness rating in reaching its program goals, the highest rating possible.

Project year nine brought several operational changes. On 19 October 2009, Dr. James J. DeCaro, Director of PEN-International, was named Interim President of NTID and Interim Vice President and Dean of RIT effective 1 December 2009. This announcement came after current NTID President T. Alan Hurwitz was selected to become the next President of Gallaudet University effective 1 January 2010. DeCaro agreed to be Interim President of NTID for one year and will then return to his responsibilities as Director of PEN-International and Director of the NTID Center on Access Technology. Associate Director of PEN-International E. William Clymer was named Interim Director of PEN-International, and Gail Hyde, Senior Research Administrator at NTID, was named Interim Associate Director of PEN-International, both effective 1 December 2009. Further, a national search for a Senior Project Associate for PEN-International resulted in the hiring of Nora B. Shannon in June 2009. Her vast experience teaching deaf and hard-of-hearing students at all academic levels and her experience teaching language-related curriculum content and methods courses makes her a great addition to the PEN-International team.

Background

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

PEN-International is the first and only worldwide network of postsecondary education programs serving deaf students. Currently, the network includes 18 partner and affiliate institutions from Japan, China, Russia, the Philippines, the Czech Republic, Thailand, Korea, Vietnam, and Hong Kong.

PEN-International Partners and Affiliate Institutions

Japan

- National-Tsukuba University of Technology (N-TUT) and Postsecondary Education Programs Network-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 (CSU)

Philippines

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

Czech Republic

- Charles University

Thailand

- Ratchasuda College of Mahidol University

Korea

- Korea Employment Agency for the Disabled (KEAD)
- 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 overarching vision of PEN-International is to develop an international network that enhances and maintains local capability and global networking at each participant 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.

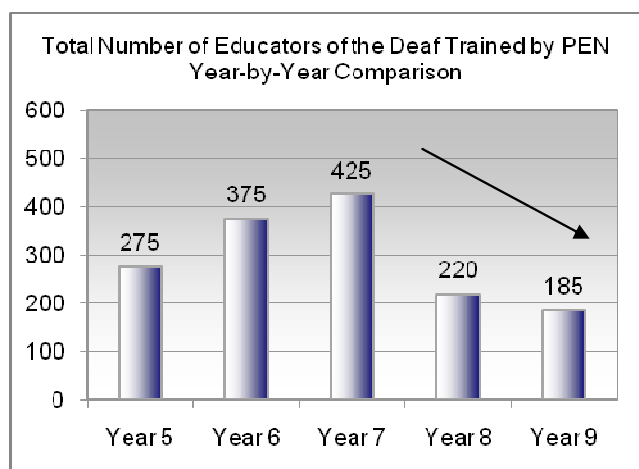
To further the work of PEN and build even stronger allegiances, partner institutions within Russia and China formed sub-networks (PEN-Russia and PEN-China) in years five and six, respectively, to address issues and concerns specific to their local delineated needs. In project year nine, Korea Employment Agency for the Disabled (KEAD; formerly known as KEPAD) and Korea Nazarene University (KNU) officially joined together to form PEN-Korea. Their charge is to improve the postsecondary education of deaf students across Korea through improved access to professional education and support services.

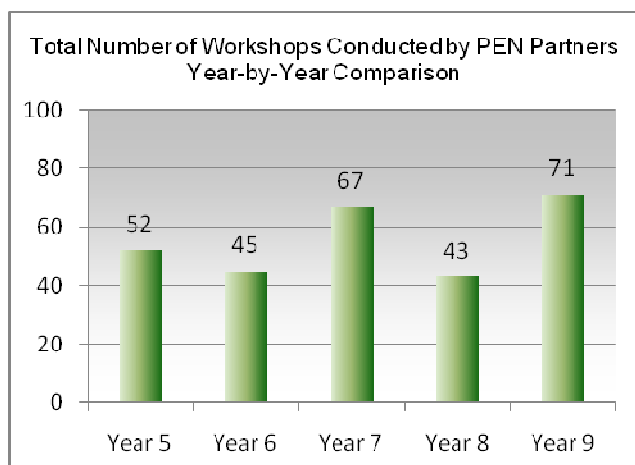
Year Nine Outcomes

PEN-International's vision of partner institutions becoming self-sufficient technology providers and exporters of technology in their home countries continued to eventuate in year nine.

Partner institutions sought less training by PEN-International, increased the number of workshops conducted in their home countries, trained more educators of the deaf than ever before, and as a result, impacted 2,450 deaf and hard-of-hearing students worldwide.

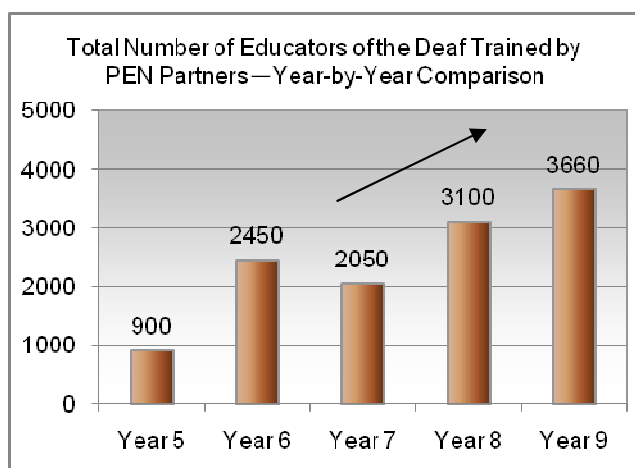
PEN-International conducted more than 50 training initiatives with 185 representatives from PEN partner and affiliate institutions in project year nine. Thirty of these workshops were developed and presented by PEN-International for the first





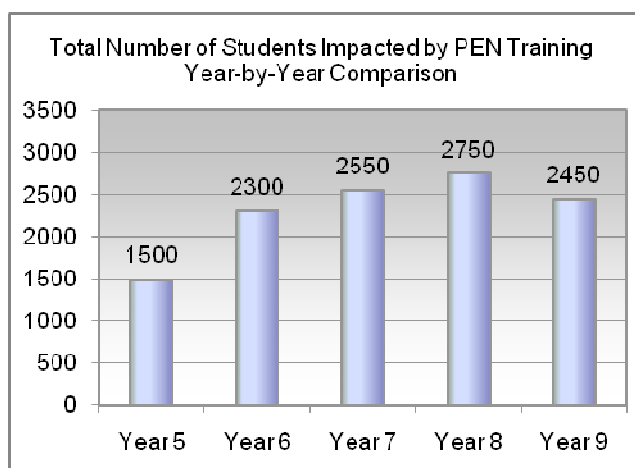
time. The decline in training by PEN-International representatives continued, and as mentioned in ‘the year eight report, was very much anticipated and desired as proof of partner self-sufficiency. Similar to recent years, partner institutions sought more in-depth training from PEN-International addressing specific areas of need.

In year nine, almost all of the PEN partner institutions conducted at least one training workshop themselves with faculty and administrators of the deaf in their home country. More than 70 training workshops were conducted by partners in total, an increase of nearly 30 more workshops than year eight. Partners averaged approximately 50 workshops per year between project years five and eight.



As a result of these training initiatives by PEN partners, 3,660 educators of the deaf were trained in year nine. This number has steadily increased over the last three years. Further, 2,450 deaf students were impacted through the implementation of new ideas, skills, and technologies learned. PEN partners had an impact on an average of 2,500 deaf and hard-of-hearing students per year over the last four years.

PEN-International trained an additional 280 individuals through participation in deafness-related conferences. These conferences attract educators of the deaf from all over the world, reaching beyond PEN partner institutions.



In project year nine, PEN partners continued to make vast improvements to their programs, providing more opportunities for deaf and hard-of-hearing students at their respective institutions. Significant accomplishments in this project year include:

- Special Education College of Changchun University, China, received two distinguished titles “National Advanced Unit of Special Education” and “Education System in Jilin Province Advanced Collective”
- Chongqing Normal University, China, created a program for deaf students to pursue a career in teaching/education
- Zhongzhou University, China, increased the number of majors available to deaf students

“PEN-International training has paved the way for the foundation of Department of Universal Design at KNU which is the only higher education organization for students with hearing impairments in Korea.”

*Seung-An Im
President, KNU*



PEN-International Director James J. DeCaro holds the PEN Annual Business Meeting at Changchun University, China, September 2009.



NTID President T. Alan Hurwitz receives warm welcome, Changchun University, China, September 2009.

- Chelyabinsk State Technical University, Russia, developed a career guidance training program for deaf students
- The Academy of Management-TISBI, Russia, in a joint project with the Association of Open Communication, produced three films designed to teach deaf children sign language
- Vladimir State University Center for the Deaf, Russia, significantly increased its enrollment and
- De La Salle-College of St. Benilde, Philippines, opened the Center for Education and Development (CEAD) to assist deaf students with access and support services.

The partnership between PEN-International and partner institutions has served as a catalyst for receiving monies from other sources. Having partners secure local or government funding is a primary goal of the PEN-International project as partners move toward self-sufficiency. In year nine, 15 out of the 18 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 nine totaled more than \$3,700,000, an increase of more than \$1,000,000 from year eight.** Several partners mentioned the securement of future program funding as their most significant accomplishment in year nine.

Note: The impact numbers were compiled based on information supplied from 16 of the 18 partner institutions.

A major outcome of year nine was the PEN-International Annual Business Meeting that took place in September 2009. All of the PEN partners and affiliate institutions were in attendance. This event, co-hosted by PEN-China and Changchun University, was the first PEN business meeting held outside the United States. Each of the PEN partners was given the opportunity to provide a brief presentation about their program's accomplishments and describe future plans and objectives.

PEN-Russia conducted two significant events in year nine: PEN-Russia Business Meeting, April 2009 and the 75th Anniversary dedication of the establishment of higher education for people with special needs in Russia, December 2009. The purpose of the PEN-Russia Business Meeting was for the partners to

discuss the progress they have made related to PEN-Russia goals at each of their respective institutions. Executive Director Shuichi Ohno of The Nippon of Foundation of Japan and Director James J. DeCaro of PEN-International were in attendance, and applauded PEN-Russia's achievements in improving education opportunities for deaf students in Russia. The 75th Anniversary of the establishment of higher education for people with special needs in Russia was marked by a celebration at Bauman Moscow State Technical University in December 2009 that included more than 75 dignitaries representing PEN-International, the Russian government, and schools and organizations actively involved in the education of people with disabilities. During this celebration, PEN-International Director James J. DeCaro and NTID President T. Alan Hurwitz presented Rector Igor Fedorov of Bauman Moscow State Technical University with the RIT Presidential Medallion. This award recognizes Rector Fedorov's "outstanding and long-term support of deaf students and PEN-International at Bauman."

The multimedia laboratories at PEN partner institutions continue to be utilized regularly for both course and non-course work, averaging more than 50 hours of use per week. Faculty members use the multimedia laboratories primarily as smart classrooms, to aid in the teaching/learning process. Almost all of the partner institutions made improvements to their laboratory in year nine. Partners purchased new computers, equipment and/or software in an effort to stay current with changing technologies. Chelyabinsk State Technical University, Russia, opened a new multimedia lecture room for deaf students, and Charles University, Czech Republic, purchased web cameras for each student computer to enable distant learning.

In year nine, PEN-International continued to sponsor cultural events in an effort to strengthen the knowledge and understanding of the different cultures that affect our world. In September 2009, Taiko drummers representing Circle Percussion Group SEN and HIBIKI performed at RIT/NTID in the Panara Theatre. Audience members met with performers on stage after each show to test their own drumming skills.



PEN-International Director James J. DeCaro and NTID President T. Alan Hurwitz present Rector Igor Fedorov of Bauman with RIT Presidential Medallion, December 2009.

"We greatly appreciate how PEN-International provides each member university with the opportunity to exchange ideas and to learn from each other."

*Qu Xueli
President, Special Education College,
Beijing Union University*



Taiko drumming ensemble from the Circle Percussion Group SEN and HIBIKI perform at RIT/NTID, September 2009.

Two significant cultural exchanges occurred in year nine: RIT graduate Arricka Nowland participated in a two-month cultural exchange to South Korea in June 2009, and PEN-International hosted 18 deaf and hard-of-hearing students from KNU in October 2009. In addition, PEN-International sponsored a Haiku performance in Wisconsin and the World Premiere of “Discovering Shuktara” — a film produced by Discovering Deaf Worlds about 18 boys and girls abandoned in India.

The dissemination of program information is essential to improving postsecondary education opportunities for deaf students around the world. The PEN-International Web site continues to be a universal portal to distribute information and instructional resources to all educators of the deaf. In year nine, the site received nearly 120,000 views by 37,500 unique visitors from 50 different countries. An interview conducted with PEN-International Director James J. DeCaro by The Voice of Russia Radio was the major news event of the year. The radio segment was broadcast worldwide by RUVR Broadcasting Company.

PEN-International and partner institutions were involved in several special projects in year nine. Core leaders representing The Nippon Foundation of Japan and PEN-International met several times through the course of the year to discuss the creation of an Institute on Disability and Public Policy for the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). A plan was developed in year nine to investigate the establishment of a Bilingual-Bicultural Deaf Education High School Program in the Philippines. The program includes providing students with clear videoconferencing and texting capability through OLPC (One Laptop Per Child). Further, KEAD published a resource guide on communication strategies for deaf students, and Charles University developed an interactive English Language Teaching software program for deaf and visually impaired students.

The following report describes all of PEN-International’s year nine accomplishments in brief.



PEN-International hosts cultural exchange with students from KNU, October 2009.



Establishment of a Bilingual-Bicultural Deaf Education High School in the Philippines could provide students with their own laptop, such as the OLPC shown above.

“The publication of a Communication Skills Program for Deaf Students, developed by KEAD, represents an ongoing commitment by KEAD to improve the situation for deaf men and women in Korea.”

*James J. DeCaro
Director, PEN-International*

Operational Activities

Formal Program Evaluation Conducted by Independent Consultant

On 2-4 September 2009, Yasuhiko Iwaoka of Research and Development, Inc. visited NTID to conduct a formal independent Project Evaluation for The Nippon Foundation of Japan. The intent of the evaluation was to determine the effectiveness of PEN-International over the last 10 years in establishing and reaching its program goals. Iwaoka met with members of the PEN team individually and without managers in small group settings. The interview format allowed team members to speak comfortably and freely about the project. The subsequent report evaluation gave PEN-International the highest possible rating—a Level I-Exceptionally High—regarding the group’s success in reaching its goals. The report noted that “Management, clerical staff, and teachers are working in a well-equipped system. As a result of the efficient process in which the network is expanding and training is being carried out at participating universities, there has been an increase in the number of countries and schools, all with a high degree of satisfaction. The activities of PEN-International are being deployed in a superb manner.” PEN-International prominently recognizes the fact that the PEN partner institutions are to thank for the program’s success.

“PEN-International recognizes and appreciates the fact that all of the successes stem from the commitment and hard work of our international partners.”

*E. William Clymer
Associate Director,
PEN-International*

National Search for Senior Project Associate for PEN-International

After a six-month national search, Nora B. Shannon joined PEN-International as a senior project associate in June 2009. Her background includes many years of teaching deaf and hard-of-hearing students at every academic level. Most recently, she was the coordinator of student teaching for the Master of Science in Secondary Education of Students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing program at NTID. In that capacity, she taught language-related curriculum content and methods courses as well as supervised student teachers throughout the United States. At PEN-International, Shannon will be working with PEN partner De La Salle-College of St. Benilde (DLS-CSB) in the Philippines as they work to establish a secondary school for deaf students. She also will be involved in setting up a Teacher Education Institute for teachers of deaf students from Vietnam and the Philippines and coordinating the Summer Leadership Institute for deaf students from the United States, Japan, China, the Philippines, and Russia.

“I think every teacher of deaf students dreams of starting his/her own school. Even though these new schools in Asia will not be ‘mine’ per se, through PEN I can participate in a brand new venture!”

*Nora B. Shannon
Senior Project Associate,
PEN-International*

Faculty Professional Development and Training

Faculty professional development and training continues to be the primary strategy used by PEN-International and its partner institutions to improve and expand postsecondary education for deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals around the world. Workshops are designed and conducted based on locally defined and delineated needs. Participants learn skills and teaching strategies that can be immediately applied to their own educational programs and passed on to other educators of the deaf in their home countries.

In year nine, PEN-International hosted delegations representing PEPNet-Japan; National-Tsukuba University of Technology (N-TUT), Japan; De La Salle-College of St. Benilde (DLS-CSB), the Philippines; Korea Employment Agency for the Disabled (KEAD), Korea; Dong Nai Provincial Teacher's College, Vietnam; and Korea National College of Rehabilitation & Welfare (KNCRW), Korea. PEN-International representatives also traveled to the Philippines to conduct a series of workshops on Establishing an Educational Interpreter Training Program and Coordinating Interpreting Services. Further, James J. DeCaro presented at the 75th Anniversary Celebration at Bauman Moscow State Technical University (BMSTU), which marked the establishment of higher education for people with special needs in Russia.

Year nine professional development and training outcomes are outlined below.

PEN-International Workshop Development

In year nine, PEN-International conducted more than 50 workshops/training presentations with 185 faculty and administrators representing PEN partner institutions. Thirty of these workshops were developed and presented by PEN-International for the first time to address specific needs of PEN partners or communicate the efforts and activities of the PEN-International program. The workshop presentations and corresponding resource materials are available on PEN-International's Web site and educators of the deaf, representing both partner and non-partner institutions, are encouraged to utilize these resources to aid in the advancement of postsecondary education for deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals.

An additional 70 workshops/training presentations were conducted by partner institutions in their home countries in year nine; this number represents an increase of nearly 30 workshops/training presentations from last year. As a result of these partner training initiatives, an additional 3,660 educators of deaf and hard-of-hearing persons were trained in year nine, impacting 2,450 deaf students worldwide. Further, PEN-International trained an additional 280 individuals through participation in deafness-related conferences.

"Expertise and accumulated resources from PEN-International and NTID have benefited us and inspired faculty to better meet deaf students' needs through appropriate accommodations and developing learning materials."

*Heaeun Choi
Faculty Member, KEAD*

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

1.	Overview of Spoken Language Learning and Practice Lab Tour and Presentation by Larry Scott > Delegation from PEPNet-Japan at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY > Delegation from the Philippines at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY	February 2009 March 2009	12 10
2.	Overview of Student Services Presentation Workshop by Eleanor Rosenfield and Robb Adams > Delegation from PEPNet-Japan at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY	February 2009	12
3.	Introduction to C-Print System and Demonstration Presentation Workshop by Pam Francis > Delegation from PEPNet-Japan at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY > Delegation from the Philippines at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY > Delegation from Korea at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY	February 2009 March 2009 March 2009	12 10 2
4.	Overview of Student Health Services Presentation Workshop by Cassandra Jordan, Susan Feder, and Jill Travers > Delegation from PEPNet-Japan at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY	February 2009	12
5.	Interpreter Training: Methods, Theory, and Evaluation 3-Hour Presentation Workshop by Kathleen Darroch, Gayle Macias, and Wayne Kip Webster > Delegation from Japan at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY	February 2010	9
6.	Program Development for Sign Language Interpreter Education Presentation Workshop by Rico Peterson and Wayne Kip Webster > De La Salle-College of St. Benilde; Philippines	February 2009	20
7.	Curriculum Development for Sign Language Interpreter Education Presentation Workshop by Rico Peterson and Wayne Kip Webster > De La Salle-College of St. Benilde; Philippines	February 2009	20
8.	Curricular Materials for Sign Language Interpreter Education Presentation Workshop by Rico Peterson and Wayne Kip Webster > De La Salle-College of St. Benilde; Philippines	February 2009	20
9.	Administrative Support and Access Services at RIT/NTID Presentation Workshop by Steven Nelson and Wayne Kip Webster > Delegation from PEPNet-Japan at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY > Delegation from the Philippines at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY > Delegation from Korea at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY > Delegation from Korea at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY	February 2009 March 2009 March 2009 February 2010	12 10 2 4
10.	Student Panel on Notetaking and C-Print Services > Delegation from Korea at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY	March 2009	2
11.	Program to Support RIT Cross-Registered Students Presentation Workshop by Peter Lalley > Delegation from the Philippines at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY > Delegation from Korea at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY > Delegation from Korea at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY	March 2009 March 2009 February 2010	10 2 4
12.	Counseling Services Presentation Workshop by Lee Twyman and Robb Adams > Delegation from the Philippines at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY > Delegation from Korea at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY > Delegation from Korea at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY	March 2009 March 2009 September 2009	10 2 6
13.	Introduction to NTID Center on Employment Presentation Workshop by Kathleen Dollinger-Meyer and Karen Downs > Delegation from the Philippines at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY	March 2009	10
14.	C-Print and Notetaking Services at RIT Presentation Workshop by Ann Kuntz > Delegation from the Philippines at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY > Delegation from Korea at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY	March 2009 March 2009	10 2
15.	Faculty Development Plan & Curriculum Hiring and Promotion Policies Presentation Workshop by Laurie Brewer > Delegation from the Philippines at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY	March 2009	10

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

16.	Tablet and New Technologies in Notetaking Services Presentation Workshop by Peter Lalley > Delegation from the Philippines at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY > Delegation from Korea at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY	March 2009 March 2009	10 2
17.	Introduction to PEPNet Presentation Workshop by Denise Kavim > Delegation from the Philippines at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY > Delegation from Vietnam at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY	March 2009 August 2009	10 14
18.	Policies, Systems & Procedures Regarding Admissions Presentation Workshop by Laurie Brewer > Delegation from the Philippines at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY	March 2009	10
19.	Captioning & Interpreting for STEM Students Using Cyberinfrastructure: A Recommendation Report Presentation Workshop by James J. DeCaro, E. William Clymer and Eleanor Rosenfield > California State University at Northridge Conference; Los Angeles, CA > Association of Higher Education And Disability Conference; Louisville, KY	March 2009 July 2009	30 25
20.	Hard-of-Hearing Students in Postsecondary Settings Presentation Workshop by James J. DeCaro > Panel at Hearing Loss Association of America National Convention; Nashville, TN	Jun-2009	50
21.	Mathematics Program at NTID Presentation Workshop by Vince Daniele > Delegation from Vietnam at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY	August 2009	14
22.	Special Education in the Social Context Course Description with Field Experience Component Presentation Workshop by Sue Foster > Delegation from Vietnam at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY	August 2009	14
23.	Overview of the Masters of Science in Deaf Education (MSSE) Program Presentation Workshop by Gerry Bateman > Delegation from Vietnam at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY	August 2009	14
24.	VETFLIX - Explanation and Demonstration Presentation Workshop by Nora Shannon and Gerry Bateman > Delegation from Vietnam at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY	August 2009	14
25.	Microteaching - Explanation and Demonstration Presentation Workshop by Nora Shannon and Gerry Bateman > Delegation from Vietnam at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY	August 2009	14
26.	Introduction to ASL and Interpreter Program Presentation Workshop by Donna Gustina, Cindy Sanders and Linda Siple > Delegation from Korea at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY	September 2009	6
27.	Leadership Workshop Presentation Workshop by Denise Kavim and Scot Atkins > Delegation from Korea at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY	September 2009	6
28.	Effective Communication and Negotiation Skills Presentation Workshop by Mark Rosica > Delegation from Korea at RIT/NTID; Rochester, NY	September 2009	6
29.	Assistive Technologies at the National Technical Institute for the Deaf Presentation Workshop by E. William Clymer > Accessing Higher Ground Conference; Westminster, CO	November 2009	25
30.	Challenges Faced in the Field of Postsecondary Education in Russia: Some Modest Thoughts Presentation Workshop by James J. DeCaro > 75th Anniversary Celebration of the Establishment of Higher Education for People with Special Needs in Russia; Moscow, Russia	November 2009	75

PEN-International Hosts Delegation from PEPNet-Japan

In February 2009, a delegation of 12 individuals from PEPNet-Japan, led by Dr. Mayumi Shirasawa, Associate Professor of N-TUT and Director of PEPNet-Japan, visited several institutions throughout the United States, including a one-day visit to NTID and PEN-International.

During their visit to PEN, the delegation learned how to best support medical school students who are deaf or hard of hearing. The delegation also participated in several workshops and presentations related to counseling and access services currently provided at NTID. In addition, the delegation went on a tour and received an overview of the RIT Student Health Center and the NTID Spoken Language Learning and Practice Lab.

“Visiting America always brings us a great experience to learn. PEN-International also provides us with contacts to widen our network. I would really like to thank PEN for their continuous help!”

*Mayumi Shirasawa
Associate Professor, N-TUT and
Director, PEPNet-Japan*

Delegation from N-TUT Visits NTID

On 3 February 2010, a delegation of 11 professional interpreters and support service coordinators from N-TUT, both deaf and hearing, visited NTID as part of a multi-stop visit to the United States to learn more about support services available for postsecondary deaf students.

The group, led by Dr. Mayumi Shirasawa, toured NTID and attended a 3-hour workshop related to interpreting services at NTID. The workshop was organized by Steven Nelson, Director of Access Services, and presented by Wayne Kip Webster, Manager, SCB/CAST/GCCIS Interpreting team and senior interpreters Gayle Macias and Kathleen Darroch. The visitors were provided with in-depth information and criteria on how to properly and accurately assess interpreting skills.



Delegation from N-TUT participates in 3-hour interpreter training workshop, February 2010.

PEN-International Conducts Interpreter Training at CSB

Dr. Rico Peterson and Wayne Kip Webster conducted a PEN-International workshop at the College of St. Benilde in Manila, Philippines, 2-6 March 2009. This five-day workshop brought together more than 20 hearing and deaf faculty in a series of workshops on Establishing an Educational Interpreter Training Program and Coordinating Interpreting Services.

Dr. Peterson conducted workshops in Curriculum and Program Development that focused on standard principles in assessment. Participants studied assessment as the core value in integrating program and curriculum delivery. Webster conducted workshops on Interpreter Service Provision, History, and Ergonomics. A highlight for the participants was the one-on-one individual counseling offered by Webster on Cumulative Trauma Disorder.



Dr. Rico Peterson and Wayne Kip Webster conduct interpreter training at CSB, the Philippines, March 2009.



More than 20 hearing and deaf faculty from CSB participated in five-day workshop series, March 2009.

CSB Participates in Training at NTID

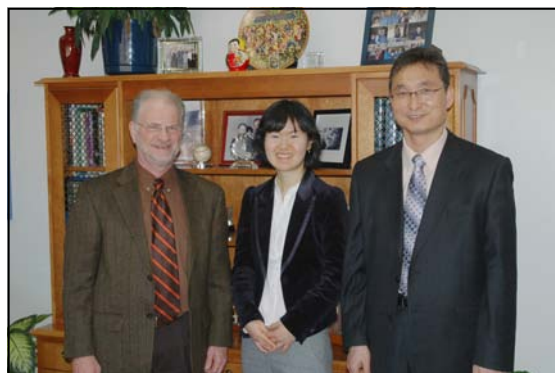
Less than one month later, 10 delegates from the College of St. Benilde visited PEN-International to learn about support services available to RIT students who are deaf (28 March - 4 April 2009). The group attended more than a dozen workshops over five days that covered topics such as counseling, C-Print, employment, course development, Project Access, and new technologies available in notetaking services. The group also visited local and regional attractions, including Niagara Falls.



Delegation from CSB participates in weeklong training on support service provision, April 2009.

KEAD Representatives Participate in Extensive Training at NTID

In March 2009, two representatives from the Korea Employment Agency for the Disabled (KEAD), Heaeun Choi and Kugjoo Lee, visited PEN-International headquarters as part of a nearly two-month visit to the United States designed to help KEAD form a PEN network in Korea (PEN-Korea). The group spent two weeks at RIT/NTID getting an overview of both RIT and its successful curricular, educational access and support programs for deaf students. They also met with leaders of the Postsecondary Education Network (PEPNet), a grant program housed at RIT whose mission is to improve transition services and educational access for students who are deaf or hard of hearing, and they attended workshops and training sessions led by RIT/NTID faculty members. The delegation participated in nine different workshops during their stay, such as counseling and access services, C-Print, new technologies in notetaking, and a program to support RIT cross-registered students. The group also visited PEPNet regional centers in Minnesota, Tennessee, and California, returning to Rochester periodically to continue their training with PEN administrators. KEAD's goal is to establish a solid network of support services for individuals who are disabled in Korea.



T. Alan Hurwitz, NTID President and Vice President/Dean of RIT for NTID, pictured with KEAD representatives Heaeun Choi and Kugjoo Lee, March 2009.

“Our partnership with PEN has enabled KEAD to be a catalyst in making a difference in deaf education in Korea. We have benefited through the sharing of resources and experiences.”

*Heaeun Choi
Faculty Member, KEAD*

Administrators from Korea National College Receive Training at NTID

Four administrators from the Korea National College of Rehabilitation & Welfare (KNCRW) visited PEN-International headquarters in February 2010 to learn about RIT/NTID's support services for students with disabilities, including deafness. The delegation, led by Maria Kong, Director of Korea National College's Support Center for the Students with Disabilities, toured RIT, attended workshops that described RIT's efforts to support students who are deaf, and shared information about Korea National College's current access services. There were also discussions regarding future collaboration.



Administrators from the Korea National College of Rehabilitation & Welfare pictured with Director James J. DeCaro, PEN-International, February 2010.

PEN-International Hosts Teachers from Vietnam

Fourteen teachers from Vietnam, led by Dr. James Woodward and Ms. Nguyen Thi Hoa, visited PEN-International from 10-14 August 2009. The purpose of the visit was to familiarize the teachers with methods and programs that offer direct services to deaf individuals in the United States. The group visited the Rochester School for the Deaf Summer Program and attended a presentation on teaching mathematics at NTID. They also learned about PEPNet-Northeast and the Masters of Science in Secondary Education of Students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing (MSSE) Program. They participated in workshops from the MSSE program, which enabled them to see direct instruction by both veteran and novice teachers. The weeklong training was a precursor to a four-week teacher education program that PEN will offer to teachers from Vietnam during summer 2010.



*Teachers from Vietnam visit
PEN-International for training,
August 2009.*

DeCaro Presents at 75th Anniversary Dedication in Russia

On 3 December 2009, PEN-International Director Dr. James J. DeCaro spoke at Bauman Moscow State Technical University on the occasion of the 75th Anniversary of the establishment of higher education for people with special needs in Russia. In his speech, titled, “Challenges Faced in the Field of Postsecondary Education in Russia: Some Modest Thoughts,” he discussed how all those who work with and for people who are “differently abled” need to continuously challenge their sensibilities by asking themselves questions related to teaching and communicating with such students. Approximately 75 Federal and Regional Legislative Assemblies’ deputy members, governmental officials, representatives of the Russian President’s Administration, executives of public organizations of the disabled, and Russian and foreign charity foundations, as well as guests from Russian and foreign universities who are actively involved in the vocational education for people with disabilities, attended. This forum was one of PEN-Russia’s most significant accomplishments in year nine.



*James J. DeCaro presents at
75th Anniversary of Establishing Higher
Education for People with Disabilities in Russia,
November 2009.*

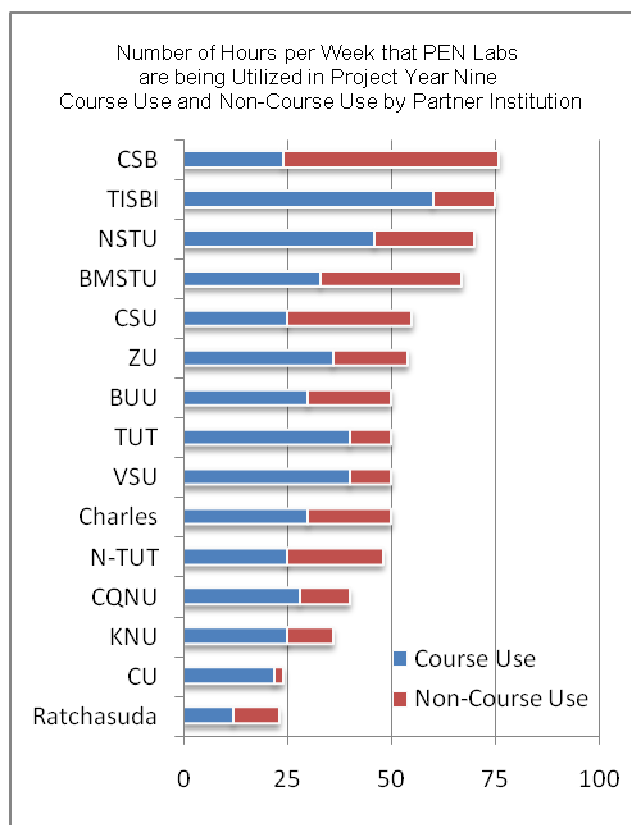
Lab Utilization

Almost all of the PEN-International partner institutions have state-of-the-art high technology multimedia laboratories to support the use of instructional technology for educating students who are deaf or hard of hearing. The use of instructional technology is essential to providing deaf students with the tools and resources needed to learn and compete at the same rate as their hearing peers. (Please note that the laboratories were either funded by PEN-International or by local organizations, but all were used in conjunction with PEN-initiated activities.)

Faculty members continue to use the multimedia laboratories primarily as smart classrooms, utilizing the technology available to assist in the teaching/learning process. Faculty members also use the laboratories for faculty training and development, sharing the information that they learned through PEN-International training initiatives with their colleagues. Some institutions also use the multimedia laboratories to educate parents on the psychology and pedagogics of deaf and hard-of-hearing students as well as videoconferencing with other PEN partner institutions for the purpose of sharing information and teaching strategies.

Almost all of the partner institutions added or upgraded their computer systems in project year nine. The total number of computers in the multimedia laboratories at partner institutions increased to more than 1,500, an increase of more than 300 computers from year eight. These laboratories are being utilized regularly for both course and non-course work, averaging more than 50 hours of use per week. This finding is slightly lower than the average usage rate reported in previous years (64 hours in year eight and 59 hours in year seven).

Almost all of the partner institutions with a multimedia laboratory made improvements to their laboratory in year nine. As previously mentioned, many partners purchased new computers and equipment, while others purchased new or upgraded software. This year, Chelyabinsk State Technical University (CSU), Russia, opened a new multimedia lecture room for deaf students, and Charles University, Czech Republic, added web cameras to each computer to support distant learning.



“As a result of Bill Clymer’s recommendation, each student computer was equipped with a high quality web camera to enable distant learning with experts at Bristol University Centre for Deaf Studies.”

*PhDr. Daniela Janáková
Deaf Studies English Coordinator,
Charles University*

Videoconference Technology



DeCaro meets Minister of Education and Science of the Russian Republic by videoconference, February 2009.



Executive Director Shuichi Ohno visits each of the PEN-Russia laboratories through the use of videoconference technology, April 2009.



RIT graduate Arricka Nowland and KEAD students participate in videoconference with NTID cross-registered RIT student Gabe Campbell, June 2009.

PEN-International and its partner institutions have widely utilized videoconferencing technology over the years. This technology has allowed PEN-International representatives and their partner institutions to attend the same meeting while residing at different locations around the globe. In project year nine, videoconference technology was used numerous times for this purpose as well as for fostering cultural awareness.

On 19 February 2009, Director James J. DeCaro of PEN-International had a virtual meeting, through videoconferencing technology, with Rector Igor Fedorov and Professor Alexander Stanevsky of Bauman Moscow State Technical University and Minister Andrei Fursenko, Minister of Education and Science of the Russian Federation. The purpose of the meeting was for DeCaro to meet Minister Fursenko and to discuss preparations for the upcoming celebration of the 75th Anniversary of the higher professional education of disabled people in Russia. Bauman is currently working with the Ministry to discuss support for the education of people who are deaf in Russia.

Videoconference technology was also utilized during the PEN-Russia business meeting in April 2009. Executive Director Shuichi Ohno of The Nippon Foundation of Japan was able to virtually visit each of the PEN-Russia multimedia laboratories and meet with deaf students and specialists.

Videoconference technology enabled a group of students at the Institute of Social Rehabilitation at Novosibirsk State Technical University to participate in their first-ever scientific conference.

In June 2009, RIT graduate Arricka Nowland participated in a two-month cultural exchange to Korea. During this time, Ms. Nowland taught American Sign Language at KEAD's Ilsan Vocational Competency Development Center. Her teaching at Ilsan culminated with a videoconference with NTID cross-registered RIT student Gabe Campbell. After learning ASL, becoming familiar with deaf culture in the United States and at NTID, and meeting a Deaf American student, all of the KEAD students now have the desire to travel to the United States and NTID.

Network Expansion

PEN-International and partner institutions constantly explore opportunities to expand the network for the purpose of extending its reach to more and more deaf and hard-of-hearing students each year.

In project year nine, PEN-International, Korea Employment Agency for the Disabled (KEAD), and Korea Nazarene University (KNU) officially joined together to form the network PEN-Korea. PEN-Korea's charge is to improve the post-secondary education of deaf students across Korea, improve access to professional education and support offered to deaf people in educational settings, and develop resources and best practices and improve expertise for enhancing the educational opportunities for deaf people in Korea. The formal signing ceremony took place on 15 September 2009.

Expansion is not only defined as increasing the number of partners in the network, but also by expanding opportunities for deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals. In year nine, several partner institutions developed and implemented new programs and increased support services to benefit deaf and hard-of-hearing students at their institutions.

Chongqing Normal University, China, developed a program that provides deaf students the opportunity to pursue a career in teaching. Similarly, Zhongzhou University, China, reported that more majors are available to deaf students than ever before in an effort to meet varying needs and interests. Beijing Union University, China, received funding support to launch a pilot program on applied higher education of deaf students. Chelyabinsk State Technical University, Russia, implemented a career guidance training program for deaf and hard-of-hearing students, and De La Salle-College of St. Benilde, Philippines, created the Center for Education and Development (CEAD). CEAD helps to prepare education access and accommodation support services to deaf students at their institution. Further, Ratchasuda College of Mahidol University, Thailand, set the groundwork in year nine to offer a one-year pre-college program in 2011 in an effort to better prepare deaf and hard-of-hearing students for higher education. These preparation courses will include Thai Language, Sign Language, and computers.



Seung-An Im, President of KNU, James J. DeCaro, Director of PEN-International, and Sun Kyoo Dim, President of KEAD, participate in formal signing ceremony of PEN-Korea, September 2009.

"At the PEN Business Meeting in China, we discussed how our deaf students are not adequately prepared for higher education. It was suggested that we set up a one-year pre-college program. We have already started planning and preparation for this new program."

*Dr. Pimpa Kachondham
Assistant Professor,
Ratchasuda College of Mahidol University*

Cross-Cultural Exchanges

Participation in cross-cultural exchanges and support of deaf cultural events and activities has been a primary goal of PEN-International since its inception in 2001. 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 nine, PEN-International sponsored Taiko performers, a Haiku event in Wisconsin, and the world premiere of the film “Discovering Shuktara.” PEN-International also supported two cross-cultural exchanges: RIT graduate Arricka Nowland participated in a two-month teacher exchange to South Korea, and 18 students from Korea Nazarene University (KNU) participated in a weeklong student exchange at NTID. A cultural exchange also occurred among partner institutions. In September 2009, a graduate student from Zhongzhou University majoring in Sign Language Translation traveled to KNU for further study.

PEN-International Hosts Taiko Performers

On 19 September 2009, PEN-International, RIT and NTID welcomed members of the Circle Percussion Group SEN and HIBIKI to Rochester. The group made its first visit to the United States to perform in the “Upstate NY Tour 2009 Taiko History—To the Future of Music and Disability.” Taiko, meaning “Big Drums,” is a traditional Japanese percussion instrument. Taiko drums have a unique low, booming beat that ancient Japanese believed held special powers. To this day, Taiko plays a vital role in Japanese festivals and ritual ceremonies.

Performances were enjoyed at RIT/NTID in the Panara Theatre, with special performances at The School for the Arts, Mary Cariola Children’s Center, and the Rochester School for the Deaf. SEN and HIBIKI performed several different styles of Taiko drumming arrangements. After each show, audience members met the performers on stage and were able to test their drumming skills for themselves.

Dr. Harold Mowl, Superintendent of the Rochester School for the Deaf, said, “The arrangements so expertly performed for us by members of the group, and by those with disabilities in particular, truly reinforced in our students the fact that they must not allow their deafness or anything else to hold them back, in their young lives now and as leaders in the future.”



Circle Percussion Group SEN and HIBIKI perform at RIT/NTID, September 2009.



Audience Members are invited on stage to test their drumming skills, September 2009.

RIT Graduate Arricka Nowland Visits Korea

In June 2009, RIT graduate Arricka Nowland participated in a two-month cultural exchange to South Korea, supported by PEN-International and PEN-International partners, the Korea Employment Agency for the Disabled (KEAD) and Korea Nazarene University (KNU).

During the first six weeks, Nowland taught American Sign Language to 15 deaf students in the mechanical engineering program at KEAD's Ilsan Vocational Competency Development Center. In her spare time, she socialized with deaf students from other programs who taught her Korean Sign Language and described their experiences growing up deaf in Korea.

Nowland also spent a week teaching beginner, intermediate and advanced English classes at Korea Nazarene University. Although the visit was short, Nowland met with students, faculty and participated in local deaf activities discussing issues pertinent to the Korean deaf community.

During this cultural exchange, Nowland also had the privilege of meeting with Seung-Il Byeun, Chairman of the Korea Association of the Deaf; Byoung-Kil Moon, Chairman of the Seoul Association of the Deaf; and Kyu-Sik An, General Director of the Seoul Association of the Deaf along with other deaf leaders and sign language faculty involved in the Korea and Seoul Associations of the Deaf. In addition, she visited the Samsung School for the Deaf, one of Seoul's residential deaf schools. She learned more about elementary and secondary deaf education in Korea and taught an ASL class to the high school students.



RIT graduate Arricka Nowland participates in cultural exchange to South Korea, June 2009.



Arricka Nowland teaches American Sign Language at KEAD, June 2009.

“When I returned to the United States, my bags were full of gifts and my heart was full of fond memories and warm regards toward the deaf people I had met in Korea.”

*Arricka Nowland
RIT Graduate*

Cushman and Williams Perform Haiku in Wisconsin

On 15 February 2009, a presentation on “Haiku Poetry in American Sign Language: Metaphor in Time and Space” took place at the Mineral Point Opera House in Mineral Point, Wisconsin. The event was co-sponsored by PEN-International and more than 50 people were in attendance. Jerome Cushman, a retired NTID faculty member, and Jack Williams, a deaf RIT alum and poet, utilized haiku to inform the hearing participants about Deaf culture. In addition to their original haiku, Cushman and Williams shared poems by and information about RIT Professor emeritus Robert Panara, who inspired the haiku contests at NTID and Tsukuba College of Technology in Japan. They also performed haiku and shared the stories of two deaf haiku poets, Kijo and Sanpu, and described past haiku visits to Japan sponsored by PEN-International.



Jerome Cushman, retired NTID faculty member, and Jack Williams, deaf RIT alum and poet, perform haiku in Wisconsin, February 2009.

PEN-International Supports World Premiere of “Discovering Shuktara”

PEN-International was one of the sponsors for the world premiere of “Discovering Shuktara,” a film produced by Discovering Deaf Worlds (DDW). Founded in January 2007, DDW travels the world to learn and share stories of empowerment, inspiration and connection between international Deaf communities. “Discovering Shuktara” is a “remarkable story of 18 boys and girls in Kolkata, India, who were given a new chance at life after being abandoned by their families or escaping abusive homes. While many non-governmental organizations in India often overlook homeless children who are deaf or have cerebral palsy, Shuktara embraces them.” Shuktara Founder, David Earp, summarizes this experience “Before, they (deaf children) were written off as incapable of learning, developing as individuals or integrating into society. Now, boys and girls grow in every sense—physically, in confidence, in skills, in communication.” The premiere was held in Rochester, New York, on 22 July 2009.



“Discovering Shuktara” World Premiere was held in Rochester, New York, July 2009.

PEN-International Hosts Cultural Exchange with KNU

Eighteen deaf and hard-of-hearing students from Korea Nazarene University (KNU), led by Dr. Hyunbea You and faculty members Laura So Young Frank, Se Jung Lee, Byoung Chen Youn, Ji-Sook Choi, and Eunji Um, visited PEN-International from 26 September until 3 October 2009.

The goals of the cultural exchange were to give students an opportunity to explore different cultures and strengthen their identity, to foster self-confidence and elevate the motivation of students, to build a closer relationship between NTID and KNU, and to exchange information and share experiences in order to improve deaf education in each country.

During the visit, members of the KNU delegation were introduced to NTID and its mission and structure. Workshops were presented by Denise Kavin and Scot Atkins on Leadership Skills, and by Mark Rosica on Effective Communication and Negotiation Skills. The delegation enjoyed an afternoon visit at the Rochester School for the Deaf, which was led by Susan Searls. KNU faculty also attended workshops on Interpreter Training conducted by NTID's American Sign Language and Interpreter Training Department, led by Donna Gustina, Cindy Sanders, and Linda Siple, and on Counseling Services conducted by NTID's Counseling Services, led by Lee Twyman and Robb Adams.

Highlights of the week included students from both colleges sharing their own experiences regarding education, deaf culture, and American culture and an activity in which NTID student ambassadors hosted a KNU student for a daylong "shadowing" experience. The students also visited Niagara Falls and the Genesee Country Village and Museum.



Students and faculty from KNU participate in cultural exchange at NTID, September 2009.



KNU students perform cultural activity, September 2009.

"I really enjoyed learning about deaf culture in Korea, getting to know the students from KNU, and showing them around our campus."

NTID Student Ambassador

Dissemination of Network and Program Information

The sharing of technological information and resources with other educators of the deaf throughout the world is essential in order to improve the postsecondary educational opportunities for all deaf and hard-of-hearing students. The strategies used to disseminate program information and instructional materials have been very successful over the years. These strategies include the administration of a comprehensive and up-to-date Web site, media coverage of PEN-International programs and activities, and participation in numerous deafness-related conferences.

PEN-International hosted and/or presented at five deafness-related conferences in project year nine and participated in several business meetings to evaluate program effectiveness and pave the way for future programs and initiatives.

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

The PEN-International Web site continues to be a universal portal to disseminate information and resources related to the PEN-International program.

In year nine, the site received nearly 120,000 views by 37,500 unique visitors from 50 different countries. On average, there were nearly 350 views per day, and most of those views originated from PEN partner home countries: United States, Korea, Japan, the Philippines, China, and Russia. The other countries that registered a significant number of views in year nine include Canada, the United Kingdom, India, Malaysia, Australia, Germany, Trinidad, Indonesia, and Hong Kong. The overall number of views decreased from year eight; however, the number of unique visitors increased.

The screenshot shows the PEN-International website. At the top, there is a header with the PEN-International logo and the RIT NTID logo. Below the header is a navigation bar with links: Home, News Archive, Contact, Directions, Site Index, and a date display: Monday 1 March 2010. A secondary navigation bar contains links: About PEN International, Our Partners, Workshops and Training, Conferences and Symposia, Resources, and PEN Events. On the left side, there is a Google Search box with a 'Go' button and radio buttons for 'Search PEN site', 'Search rit.edu', and 'Search WWW', along with a 'Search Tips' link. The main content area features a large image of a group of people in a meeting, with the text 'PEN-International' and the tagline 'Positively influencing the postsecondary education of students who are deaf and hard-of-hearing'. Below this, there are three columns: 'Overview' with a dropdown arrow, 'Recent News' with a dropdown arrow, and 'Upcoming Events' with a dropdown arrow. The 'Overview' column contains the text 'Our Purpose' and a paragraph about the organization. The 'Recent News' column contains a 'News' section with a date 'December 2009' and a paragraph about a delegation from Nanjing Technical College, followed by a 'Full Article' link and a date 'October 2009'. The 'Upcoming Events' column contains a section 'Upcoming Events' with a date 'June 2010' and a paragraph about a Teacher Education Institute event.

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 2009 President Ding Youg lead a six person delegation from the Nanjing Technical College of Special Education, Nanjing China, to visit NTID and PEN-International. Full Article October 2009	Upcoming Events June 2010 A month-long Teacher Education Institute will be held at NTID from 1 – 25 June 2010. PEN partners from Viet Nam and the Philippines have been invited to attend. Topics covered will include language acquisition, methods of teaching deaf students, audition and spoken language and psychology.

PEN-International in the News

In project year nine, PEN-International news and events appeared in nine different online and news media outlets.

The major news event of the year was an interview conducted in April 2009 with Dr. James J. DeCaro, Director of PEN-International, by The Voice of Russia Radio. Director DeCaro was in Russia attending the PEN-Russia business meeting at Bauman Moscow State Technical University. The segment, titled, "US Scientist Appreciates Cooperation with Russian Institutes under PEN-International" focused on the goals and objectives of the PEN-International program, the role PEN-Russia has played in the program's success, and the significant advancements PEN-Russia has made to support people who are deaf in the federation. The interview was broadcast worldwide by RUVR Broadcasting Company.

"We started working with Bauman because we wanted to work with the best in each country where we worked. The results of Bauman and PEN-Russia are better than I ever could have imagined."

*James J. DeCaro
Director, PEN-International
The Voice of Russia Interview, April 2009*

A press conference with Mass-Media in Moscow was also held in year nine to introduce a joint sign language project created by the Academy of Management-TISBI and the Association of Open Communication.

Other news articles focused on the pivotal role The Nippon Foundation of Japan has played in helping RIT's NTID improve education and career opportunities for deaf people around the world.

Media Coverage of PEN-International Project Year Nine

Online Publications

- > Hearing Loss Association of America
- > RIT University News
- > NTID News Online
- > Giving to RIT
- > DeafRead
- > Deaf E-News
- > Discovering Deaf Worlds

News Media

- > The Voice of Russia,
RUVR Broadcasting Company
- > Mass-Media in Moscow



*PEN-International Director James J. DeCaro
meets with Shuichi Ohno, Executive Director of
The Nippon Foundation of Japan, at
Bauman Moscow State Technical University
during PEN-Russia business meeting,
April 2009.*

PEN-International Annual Business Meeting

All of the PEN partners and affiliate institutions attended the PEN-International Annual Business Meeting on 11-14 September 2009 in Changchun, China. This event, co-hosted by PEN-China and Changchun University, was the first PEN-International business meeting held outside of the United States, and it was a smashing success.

Under the leadership of PEN-China Director Bao and the academic leadership of Changchun University, the business meeting venue and program reached the high standards of all PEN-International events. Each partner and affiliate was given the opportunity to provide the group with a brief presentation about their program's accomplishments from the past years and describe their plans for future efforts.

High on the agenda was a discussion of the future of PEN-International's goals and projects, given The Nippon Foundation policy that prevents additional funding at previous levels after 10 years of the project's operation. More than 50 PEN stakeholders were in attendance.



Each partner institution made a presentation at PEN Annual Business Meeting, September 2009.



All of the PEN partners and affiliates were well-represented at the PEN Annual Business Meeting, September 2009.

24th Annual International CSUN Conference

From 16-21 March 2009, Dr. James J. DeCaro, E. William Clymer, and Dr. Eleanor Rosenfield represented PEN-International at the 24th Annual International CSUN (California State University at Northridge) Conference on Technology & Persons with Disabilities in Los Angeles, California. DeCaro, Clymer, and Rosenfield presented a paper, titled, "Captioning & Interpreting for STEM Students Using Cyberinfrastructure: A Recommendation Report." The conference was attended by more than 4,500 educators and disability experts worldwide. The conference is the largest of its kind in the world and is known for "showcasing cutting edge technology and practical solutions that can be utilized to remove the barriers that prevent the full participation of person with disabilities in educational, workplace and social settings." More than 30 people attended this paper session.

PEN-Russia Business Meeting

A significant outcome of year nine was the PEN-Russia Summit held at Bauman Moscow State Technical University on 21-23 April 2009. The purpose of the Summit was for each of the partners to discuss the progress of PEN-Russia at their institutions and explain how their institution has specifically benefited from their association with the PEN-International program. These presentations were presented to Executive Director Shuichi Ohno of The Nippon Foundation of Japan and Director James J. DeCaro of PEN-International.

Videoconferences were also held with each PEN-Russia institution to provide Executive Director Ohno with the opportunity to virtually visit each site. He also had the opportunity to interact with students and faculty in person and virtually.

Executive Director Ohno expressed his extreme pleasure with the accomplishments of PEN-Russia.

"This is exactly what The Nippon Foundation hopes for all the programs it funds."

*Shuichi Ohno
Executive Director,
The Nippon Foundation of Japan*



*Executive Director Ohno of
The Nippon Foundation of Japan and
Director DeCaro of PEN-International
participate in PEN-Russia Business Meeting,
April 2009.*



*Shuichi Ohno and PEN-Russia
representatives interact with students
during facility tour at Bauman,
April 2009.*

PEN Participates in Panel at Hearing Loss Association of America Convention

PEN-International and NTID were well represented at the Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA) National Convention on 18-21 June 2009 in Nashville, Tennessee. PEN-International Director James J. DeCaro and NTID President and Vice President/Dean of RIT for NTID T. Alan Hurwitz were two of the seven panelists gathered to discuss how to support hard-of-hearing students in postsecondary education. Each of the panelists conducted an individual presentation. This occasion was also used to introduce a series of eight informational “tipsheets” for deaf college students covering topics related to hearing loss and communication access. More than 50 people attended the panel discussion.



AHEAD 2009 Global Access: Opening a World of Opportunity

From 20-25 July 2009, Dr. James J. DeCaro, E. William Clymer, and Dr. Eleanor Rosenfield represented PEN-International at the AHEAD (Association on Higher Education And Disability) 2009 Conference, “Global Access: Opening a World of Opportunity” in Louisville, Kentucky. DeCaro, Clymer, and Rosenfield once again presented their paper, “Captioning & Interpreting for STEM Students Using Cyberinfrastructure: A Recommendation Report.” More than 30 people attended this paper session. AHEAD is a professional organization for “individuals involved in the development of policy and in the provision of quality services to meet the needs of persons with disabilities involved in all areas of higher education.”



Accessing Higher Ground Conference 2009

PEN-International Associate Director E. William Clymer presented a paper at the Accessing Higher Ground Conference 2009: Accessible Media, Web & Technology on 10-14 November 2009 in Boulder, Colorado. The paper, “Assistive Technologies at the National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID)” described the educational options available to deaf students at NTID, compared the direct instruction and supported instruction as implemented at NTID, and explained how NTID research and development at NTID may have an impact on the use of technology throughout the world. Approximately 25 people attended this presentation.

Delegation Visits

Delegation visits to PEN-International and NTID, and delegation visits by PEN representatives to current and prospective collaboration sites, are necessary in order to expand the reach of PEN-International and ultimately improve the educational opportunities for even more deaf students around the world. A delegation visit continues to be the first step toward a collaboration agreement.

In project year nine, PEN-International participated in several delegation visits that set the foundation for future collaboration on projects to improve deaf education in China, Kosovo, Greece, the Philippines, and in the Southeast Asian region.

On 21 December 2009, President Ding Youg led a six-person delegation from the Nanjing Technical College of Special Education in Nanjing, China, to NTID and PEN-International to discuss potential collaboration in the areas of curriculum development, faculty training, and most importantly, interpreter education and training, a national need in China. Further discussions regarding a formal collaboration agreement will occur within the organizational structure of PEN-China.

President of the American University of Kosovo, Christopher G. L. Hall, visited PEN-International on 10 February 2010 to learn more about NTID and the PEN-International program. He recently learned of a primary school for the deaf in Kosovo and is interested in providing this school with the tools and technology needed to best prepare these students for success.

On 27-29 April 2009, Director DeCaro was invited to be a guest lecturer at the Deaf Education Program at Patra University in Greece. During his visit he met with Professor Venetta Lampropoulou, Director of the Deaf Education Program, to discuss the development of a proposal to the European Union for a joint project in Greece to extend the reach of PEN.

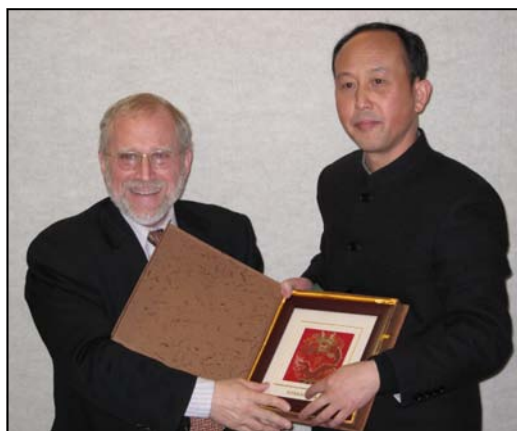
There were also visits to and from the Philippines for the purpose of investigating the establishment of a secondary school for deaf students in Manila, and to Thailand to discuss the creation of an Institute on Disability and Public Policy for the Association of Southeast Asian Nationals (ASEAN). These projects are discussed in more detail under "Awards and Special Projects."

Delegation Visits to PEN-International

- Philippines > June 2009
- China > December 2009
- Kosovo > February 2010

Delegation Visits by PEN-International

- Greece > April 2009
- Philippines > August 2009
- Thailand > July 2009 and August 2009



President Ding Youg of Nanjing Technical College of Special Education, China, presents James J. DeCaro with gift, December 2009.



James J. DeCaro is a guest lecturer at Patra University, Greece, April 2009.

Awards and Special Projects

In year nine, PEN-International and RIT formally recognized Rector Igor Fedorov of Bauman Moscow State Technical University for his outstanding efforts and support of deaf education by presenting him with the RIT Presidential Medallion. As in previous years, PEN and its partner institutions also were involved in several special projects to advance the education of deaf individuals worldwide. These special projects include creating an institute on disability and public policy in the ASEAN region, and investigating the establishment of a secondary school for the deaf in the Philippines. Further, KEAD and Charles University created a resource guide and teaching language program, respectively.

Rector Igor Fedorov Receives RIT Presidential Medallion

On 3 December 2009, PEN-International Director James J. DeCaro and NTID President T. Alan Hurwitz presented Rector Igor Fedorov of Bauman Moscow State Technical University with the RIT Presidential Medallion at the 75th Anniversary celebration of the establishment of higher education for people with special needs in Russia. The RIT Presidential Medallion was given to Rector Fedorov to recognize him for “his outstanding and long-term support of deaf students and PEN-International at Bauman.”



*Rector Igor Fedorov of Bauman
accepts RIT Presidential Medallion from
NTID President T. Alan Hurwitz and
PEN-International Director James J. DeCaro,
December 2009.*

Creation of Institute on Disability and Public Policy for ASEAN Region

A series of meetings were held in project year nine with a core team of leaders from The Nippon Foundation of Japan and PEN-International to discuss the creation of an institute on disability and public policy for the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). ASEAN, established in 1967, includes the member states of Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam. The team met four times between July and December 2009 in Thailand and Washington, D.C., to begin planning for the creation of this Institute designed to improve the circumstances of persons with disabilities in ASEAN countries. The leadership team included Shuichi Ohno and Akiie Ninomiya from The Nippon Foundation of Japan, James J. DeCaro and E. William Clymer from PEN-International, and Larry Campbell from the International Council for Education of People with Visual Impairment. Team members plan to have the Institute fully operational within five years.

Investigating the Establishment of Secondary School for Deaf in Manila

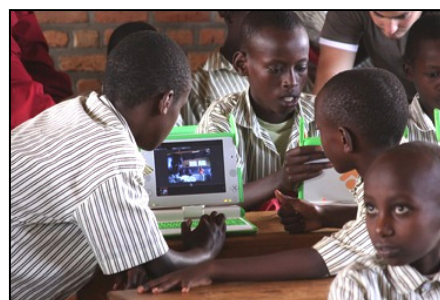
In project year nine, under the auspices of PEN-International, a plan was developed to investigate the establishment of a Bilingual-Bicultural Deaf Education High School Program in Manila, the Philippines. This high school program will be the first of its kind in the Philippines to equally value both signed and spoken language.

Several meetings occurred throughout the year to set the groundwork for the project. In June 2009, three representatives from De La Salle-College of St. Benilde (DLS-CSB) visited PEN-International: Brother Victor Franco, FSC, President of DLS-CSB; Robert Tang, Vice President for Academics; and Theresa Christine de la Torre, Director of the Center for Access and Development. In August 2009, Nora Shannon, PEN-International Senior Project Associate, visited Manila to learn more about the Philippines' educational system for deaf students. Ms. Shannon visited existing secondary programs for deaf students and interviewed stakeholders, including current and former teachers and interpreters in secondary programs for the deaf, faculty of the School for Deaf Education and Applied Studies at DLS-CSB, and deaf students in secondary and tertiary programs.

A significant component of the project is to investigate possibility of clear videoconferencing and texting through OLPC (One Laptop Per Child) XO Video Chat, supplying one laptop per child. However, the current OLPC-XO Video Chat activity is not currently designed for deaf users. A proposal was submitted to the RIT Lab for Technological Literacy (LTL) in December 2009 and accepted in January 2010 to build a new, more efficient product that meets the needs of deaf students. A proof-of-concept version will be demonstrated at the NTID Technology Symposium on 21-23 June 2010.



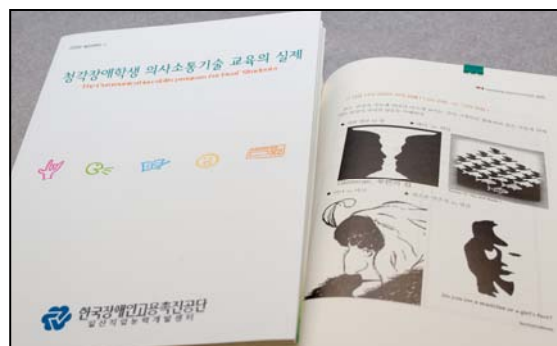
Nora Shannon, PEN-International Senior Project Associate, visits Manila to research the Philippines' educational system for deaf students, August 2009.



Establishment of a Bilingual-Bicultural Deaf Education High School in the Philippines could provide students with their own laptop, such as the OLPC shown above.

KEAD Publishes Resource on Communication Strategies for Deaf Students

In project year nine, 500 copies of *Communication Skills Program for Deaf Students* were published and distributed to 127 educational institutions in Korea by the Korea Employment Agency for the Disabled (KEAD). The book was based on curriculum information and communication strategies developed at NTID by Dr. Sidney Barefoot of the NTID Speech and Language Department. Its successful publication is one of several initiatives undertaken this year by KEAD to improve the educational circumstances of deaf men and women in Korea. PEN Director James J. DeCaro says the book “represents what is possible through meaningful international cooperation.”



KEAD publishes resource titled “Communication Skills Program for Deaf Students,” December 2009.

Charles University Creates Interactive English Program for Deaf Students

In project year nine, Charles University developed and introduced an interactive English Language Teaching program designed to teach reading and writing skills to deaf and hard-of-hearing and vision-impaired students. This hybrid program stimulates both sight and hearing simultaneously and was designed so that students can follow a written text on a computer screen and/or listen to an audio recording narrated in both British and American voice. Comparing the differences in pronunciation is a benefit to the vision-impaired students, and deaf and hard-of-hearing students benefit from the high quality graphics that mix pictures and text to stimulate creativity.

“I am very grateful to the organizers and sponsors of PEN-International. I have been provided with the skills to best teach English to deaf students. These skills were a catalyst in developing new strategies and programs in the Czech Republic. I do believe that together we can significantly improve the tertiary level of education of students with special needs worldwide.”

*PhDr. Daniela Janáková
Deaf Studies English Coordinator,
Charles University*

Upcoming Events

In year nine, PEN-International spent a considerable amount of time planning and preparing for four significant events that are scheduled to take place in the next project year: the 2010 Instructional Technology and Deaf Education Symposium, the PEN-International 10th Year Anniversary Celebration, the Teacher Education Institute, and the 2010 Summer Leadership Institute. These upcoming events are outlined below in brief.

2010 Instructional Technology and Deaf Education Symposium

An International Symposium
Technology and Deaf Education



***Exploring Instructional and
Access Technologies***

June 21-23, 2010

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

<http://www.rit.edu/ntid/vp/techsym/>

The National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID) is hosting the sixth Instructional Technology and Deaf Education Symposium, “Exploring Instructional and Access Technologies,” on the campus of Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) in Rochester, New York, on 21-23 June 2010. 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 on 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, nearly 60 concurrent sessions, and 30 poster sessions all focusing on issues related to the use of technology in deaf education at the K-12 and postsecondary levels.

PEN-International 10th Anniversary Celebration

*“We are grateful to all of
the PEN partner institutions
that have helped us achieve this
milestone. We truly have a great
deal to celebrate!”*

*James J. DeCaro
Director, PEN-International*

PEN-International’s 10th year anniversary celebration will take place in June 2010, prior to the Instructional Technology and Deaf Education Symposium in Rochester, NY. Representatives of all PEN partner and affiliate institutions will participate in the Year 10 PEN-International Annual Business Meeting followed by the anniversary celebration. PEN-International is honored to have Chairman Yohei Sasakawa of The Nippon Foundation of Japan in attendance, helping to mark this significant milestone.

Teacher Education Institute at NTID

“This three-week training program will provide participants with in-depth information and teaching strategies that will, once applied, significantly improve the educational programs for deaf students at their institutions.”

*Nora B. Shannon
Senior Project Associate,
PEN-International*

The first-ever Teacher Education Institute will be held at NTID in June 2010. PEN-International partners from Vietnam and the Philippines have been invited to attend this three-week training program. The Teacher Education Institute encompasses a series of courses, titled, “Psychology of Deaf People,” “Language Acquisition,” “Audition and Spoken Language,” “General Training Methods,” and “Methods for Teaching Specific Subjects to Deaf Students,” including science, mathematics, literacy, and social studies. Faculty with expertise in each of the subject areas will be responsible for instruction. All of these courses offered will be taught from a Deaf cultural perspective.

2010 Summer Leadership Institute, Herstmonceux Castle, England



2008 Summer Leadership Institute was held at Herstmonceux Castle, East Sussex, England, August 2008.

The third PEN-International Summer Leadership Institute, a multinational weeklong program for postsecondary deaf and hard-of-hearing students, will take place 21-28 August 2010 at Herstmonceux Castle in East Sussex, England.

Approximately 50 participants—20 deaf and hard-of-hearing international students, 16 sign language interpreters and voice language translators, faculty members, speakers from the National Technical Institute for the Deaf and PEN-International's partner programs in Japan, China, the Philippines, and Russia, and a representative from The Nippon Foundation of Japan—will participate in the program.

The goals of the Institute are to promote the development of leadership skills among postsecondary student leaders who are deaf and hard of hearing, to focus on self-advocacy skills, and to engage in learning about Deaf Culture and awareness. This is accomplished through ice-breaking activities, training workshops by faculty members, student leadership presentations, evening cultural performances and demonstrations, team-building exercises, and social activities. In addition, there will be an educational daylong field trip to London.

“One of the best experiences of my life so far.”

Past Summer Institute Participant

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