

## Tsukuba College of Technology in Japan

- 150 Deaf and 120 Blind students
- Established 1988, as 3 year program

## 2005 Oct.1 into 4 year program!

2001 PEN International agreement with NTID.

Good evening or afternoon, friends.

My name is Suto, associate professor of Tsukuba College of Technology (TCT), there co-author president, Dr.Ohnuma..

Today, we would like to talk about higher education in Japan, focusing on collaboration with PEN-International.

## Contents International Exchange Program Establishment of PEP-NET Japan

Since we don't have much time today, I will talk about 2 major issues,. First, International Exchange programs, and second establishment of PEPNet-Japan.



first topic, international exchange program. We carried out four projects these 2 years .

First, the exchange program between TCT and CSB.

Second, the program between TCT and NTID.

In these program, TCT students visited other partner institutions like CSB and NTID for one week,

and after that, students from these institutions came to Japan a few month later and stay for a week.

These cultural exchange programs were fruitful both students and faculty to learned each other. We strongly hope these exchange programs will be also continued in the future, constantly.

We also had Chinese deaf students Art Exhibition on October, inviting 3 PEN partners from China,

and a paper car race between TUT and TCT using TV conference system.



Now, Let's turn to the second topic. We started to launch very big project called PEPNet-Japan. As you can see, PEPNet-Japan is named after the American PEPNet, and it stands for Postsecondary Education Program Network of Japan for students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing.

As same as PEPNet in America, the mission of PEPNet-Japan is to establish a strong network between universities and colleges which accept Deaf and Hard of hearing students, and provide better services for those students by collaborating with each other.

To accomplish these missions, TCT has started discussions with 12 pioneering institutions over Japan.

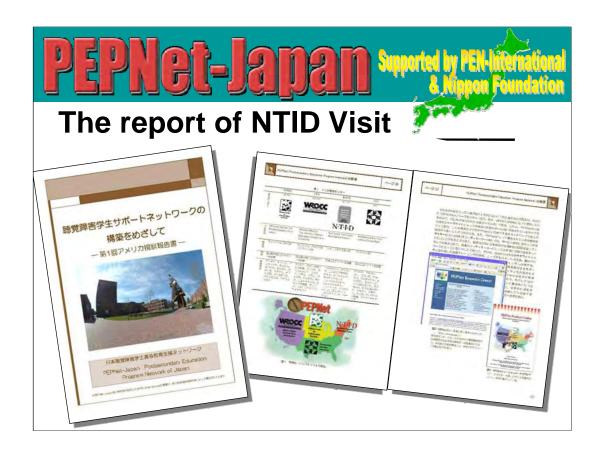


The trigger for this new network was the faculty development in April when PEP-Net Conference in Pittsburg last year was held, at the same time PEN-International meeting was there. Fortunately we could participate and observed it very closely.

In this Faculty Development, 6 Japanese delegates attended. 3 from TCT and the others from 3 different institutions. Since we didn't have deep discussions with other institutions before in Japan, this FD became a very good opportunity to build up this network..



Soon after this Faculty Development, we decided to hold a conference to share what we had learned in Pittsburgh. This is a picture of that conference. All 6 FD participants gave presentations on PEPNet and PEN-International projects in the middle area of Japan..

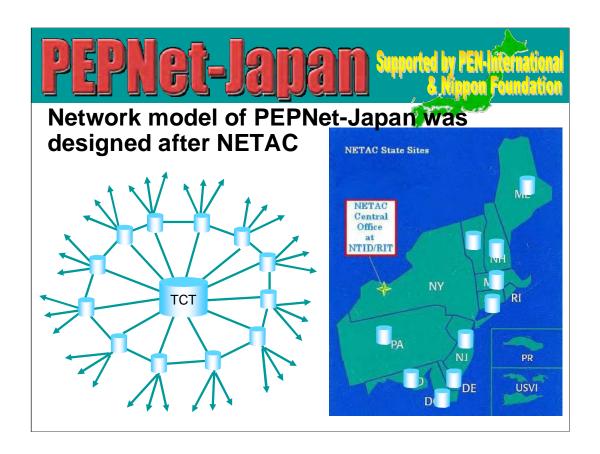


After the conference, we had written up a report about this Faculty Development in NTID for dissemination.

Through these activities, we learned the importance of collaborative work among institutions to support Deaf students.



Finally, on Oct 29<sup>th</sup> '04, we held the first official meeting of PEP Net-Japan in my college, in TSUKUBA our college.



During this first meeting, we agreed on two significant issues.

First, that the 13 institutions support each other in finding and developing the best support model for Deaf students.

These 13 institutions support other institutions by advice and technical support so that we can spread our know-how to the other part of Japan.

This model is designed after the NETAC network in USA which supports institutions by collaborative work of site coordinators in each states.



Based on this agreement, PEPNet-Japan has just started in Japan. Here is a example of what we have done so far:

First In March 2005, 10 delegates from 6 institutions visited NTID and several universities in NYC to learn more about

American support services for the deaf and Hard of Hearing..



On May 14<sup>th</sup> '05, we held a forum on higher education for Deaf or hard of hearing individuals in TOKYO to share our activities with other Japanese institutions.



we also held a report meeting to share the information we had gathered in visit to America.

## **Domestic & International activities**

- Encouraged TCT(TUT) to provide high quality higher education in Japan and to
  - Co-host the APCD 2006, OCT. 9-12
- PEN-International (Dr.J.DeCaro )
   supports Higher Ed. Section at APCD.

Various domestic and international educational activities led us to providing high quality education in Japan. We are

Admitted to raised up to 4 year program university from Oct.1. We host the APCD (Asia Pacific Congress on Deafness) next

Year. We are very much appreciating PEN International support and participation to Higher Education section.

APCD 2006 is held

Date: October 9-12, 2006.

Venue: Tokyo, Ichikawa & Tsukuba, Japan

Host: APCD 2006 Executive Committee

Co-host: All Japan Deaf School teachers' Association, The 40<sup>th</sup> annual conference held

