TIEC GAZETTE

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Dr. Wen-Whai Li, Dr. Troy Henson, Dr. Charles Dalton and Dr. William A. Heenan (l-r) met in Austin to design the PMU engineering program.

TIEC Teams Busy Designing Professional Degree Programs

April was TIEC's busiest month to date on the Prince Mohammad Bin Fahd University (PMU) project, with representatives of five task teams meeting with academic and business leaders in Saudi Arabia.

Upon their return, three teams immediately began work designing university curricula; the other two will begin work in May.

"Our academic and industry counterparts were extremely hospitable and helpful," noted Dr. Peter Cooper, Chair of the Department of Computer Science at Sam Houston State University.

Other TIEC representatives agreed. "I was impressed by the sincere interest of all concerned to make PMU a first class university," said Dr. Moustafa Abdelsamad, Dean of the College of Business at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi.

The TIEC teams meeting in April included:

Business: Dr. Abdelsamad, (Team Leader); Dr.. Glenn B. Dietrich, The University of Texas at San Antonio; Dr. John J. Dinkel,Texas A&M University; Dr. Varghese Jacob, The University of Texas at Dallas; and Dr. Martin E. Taylor,The University of Texas at Arlington.

Information Technology and Computer Science: Dr. Cooper (Team Leader); Dr. Archie L. Holmes, Jr., The University of Texas at Austin; Dr. Nereu Florencio Kock, Jr., Texas A&M International University; Dr. Ka-Cheong Leung, Texas Tech University; and Dr. Mayur R. Mehta, Texas State University-San Marcos.

Engineering: Dr. William A. Heenan, Texas A&M University-Kingsville (Team Leader); Dr. Charles Dalton, University of Houston; Dr. Troy Henson, The University of Texas at Tyler; Dr. Wen-Whai Li, The University of Texas at El Paso; and Dr. W. Dan Turner, Texas A&M University.

From Labs to Libraries, Texas Universities Are Inspiration for New Facilities at PMU

The expertise that Texas architects and educators have gained designing state-of-the-art campuses for rapidly growing student populations will have a direct affect on university education in the Middle East.

Ashraf Ibrahim, chief designer for the new Prince Mohammad Bin Fahd University (PMU) and senior architect for Zuhair Fayez Partnership in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, toured Texas campuses in April to study first hand how the facilities meet the institutions' needs.

The architect also met with the TIEC architectural liaison team to receive feedback and fine-tune the design of the PMU campus.

"Elegant and functional" were the words that Sidney J. Sanders, a registered architect and Assistant Vice Chancellor for the Office of Facilities Planning and Construction for The University of Texas System, used to describe the ZFP master plan and schematic design.

"The design," Mr. Sanders said, "uses imaginative architectural forms appropriate for a twenty-first century university. The buildings also respect the history, culture and sense of place of Saudi Arabia."

Ashraf Ibrahim (l) toured The University of Texas at San Antonio with Charles Crane

Ashraf Ibrahim, Sidney Sanders and Dr. Wayne Moore (l-r) reviewed architectural plans

Mr. Ibrahim's tour of Texas universities concentrated on "smart" classrooms, engineering labs, libraries, student centers, administrative offices, and campus planning.

In Austin, the PMU architect worked closely with Mr. Sanders; Dr. Wayne Moore, The University of Texas at Brownsville; and Dr. Nick L. Poulton and Ernest Wood of TIEC.

At The University of Texas at San Antonio, Mr. Ibrahim toured existing buildings and new construction with John Soudah, Assistant Director, Academic Computing; Daniel Sibley, Assistant Director, Facilities Planning and Development; and Charles Crane, Director, Office of International Programs.

At Texas A&M University-Kingsville, he toured the new College of Engineering with Dr. William Heenan, Dean of the College, and Dr. Robert Tucker, Professor of Engineering.

At The University of Texas at Austin, he toured leading-edge electronic classroom facilities in the new Applied Computational Engineering and Sciences Building with Andres Adkins, UT Architect and Project Coordinator.