



TIEC GAZETTE

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TIEP Trip to Japan and Korea Extends Opportunities for Study Abroad in Texas

Dr. Terry Simon, Director of the Texas Intensive English Program (TIEP), spent 12 days during November in Japan and Korea, where he found keen interest in the new TIEC Study Abroad program.

Following meetings with students, faculty, university officials, and educational advisors who assist students with their foreign study plans, he noted, "They liked the fact that TIEC offers a choice of universities and that English-language training was part of the program prior to transferring to the campus."

TIEC Study Abroad is a two-part program that begins with intensive English-language study

at TIEP in Austin and continues at one of seven Texas universities. Each part of the program lasts four to six months, providing a full-year American academic experience.

Both Japan and Korea send significant numbers of students to the United States for English-language and university study.

One student agency he visited serves as a wholesaler for 5,000 travel agencies in Korea.

Another has issued 30,000 international student identification cards and has begun to provide its clients with information about language schools, including TIEP.

"The people I hadn't met with before were very interested in learning about Austin and in seeing pictures," said Dr. Simon, who made a similar trip last year.

"They were interested in the high tech industry – many did not know that Samsung has a factory here," he added. "They were also interested to see that Austin is such an attractive place, with its lakes and hills, and an abundance of trees."

In addition to familiarizing the international audience with the new TIEC Study Abroad program, Dr. Simon met with educators to



Dr. Terry Simon (c) with Prof. Kimio Takahashi (l) and Prof. Hirokazu Toma (r) of Nihon University discussed international study for Japanese students.

work on continuing and extending existing English-language programs.

In Mishima, Japan, he met with officials at Nihon University regarding TIEP's ongoing program for high school students and a possible similar program for college students.

Also in Japan, Dr. Simon met with the education directors of two large corporations that currently sponsor TIEP study for employees. These companies are considering increasing the number of employees they send to study English in Austin.

In Seoul, Korea, Dr. Simon met with Mrs. Jai Ok Shim, Executive Director of the Korean-American Educational Commission, to discuss the upcoming 2005 Fulbright American Studies Institute.

In January, 36 Korean secondary school teachers of English will arrive in Austin to participate in the fourth consecutive year of this program at TIEC.

Two More Steps for PMU

Two teams of experts from TIEC-affiliated Texas universities met in Austin in November to prepare recommendations concerning student services, continuing education, and research for the new Prince Mohammad Bin Fahd University (PMU) in Saudi Arabia.

Members of the Student Support Services team are: Dr. John A. Edwards (team leader), VP for Enrollment Management and Student Services at The University of Texas-Pan American; Rhonda Boyles, Associate Director for Career Services at the University of Houston – Clear Lake; Dr. William P. Fleming, Executive Director of the Student Advising and Mentoring Center at Sam Houston State University; and Dr. Wanda Mercer, VP for Student Services at Tarleton State University.

Members of the Research Development and Continuing Education team are: Dr. Richard Bothel (team leader), Executive Director of Continuing and Distance Education at Lamar University; Dr. Ghislaine Kozuh, Lecturer in the McCombs School of Business and the Department of Civil Engineering at The University of Texas at Austin; and Dr. Paul C. Maxwell, VP for Research and Sponsored Projects at The University of Texas at El Paso.

A delegation of higher education visitors from Vietnam visited TIEC in November. Seated (l-r), Gerald P. Martin, Asian-American Exchange; Le Thi Giao Chi, The University of Danang; Truong Vo Dung, Can Tho University; and Dr. Terry Simon, TIEP. Standing (l-r), Dr. Nick L. Poulton, TIEC; Dr. Le The Que and Duong Hong Anh, Vietnam National University – Hanoi; and Dr. Ronald Aqua, TIEC.

