



TIEC GAZETTE

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Haley Heinz provides student services at TIEP.

TIEP's One Stop Help Desk

Inside the front door at TIEP stands a sign: "Visitors. Please see student advisor for assistance."

An arrow points to Haley Heinz, TIEP Student Adviser and Coordinator of Student Services.

She is likely to be both the students' first contact at the program and their constant source of assistance.

"I'm here," Haley says, "to help students with everything from immigration to banking to helping them find a doctor."

She responds to inquiries from prospective students, registers students when they arrive, and counsels students on academic programs.

An important part of her duties is the [TIEC Sponsored Student Program](#). She continues a program that since the 1950s has helped students from over 20 countries maximize their academic experiences in the U.S.

This newest member of the TIEP family also has international experience of her own, teaching English in Japan, counseling American and international students in Cambridge, England, and studying in Greece.

"Cross cultural communication is so important," she says, explaining her interest in international education. "That's what promotes understanding."

Tutoring Lets International Professionals Combine English Study, Work Schedules

Over 40 years, more than 27,000 students have used the [Texas Intensive English Program \(TIEP\)](#) as a path to academic and professional success.

TIEP, however, is not a crowded highway. For students like Yu-Ki Fujiyama, it is a highly personalized, one-on-one journey with a tutor.

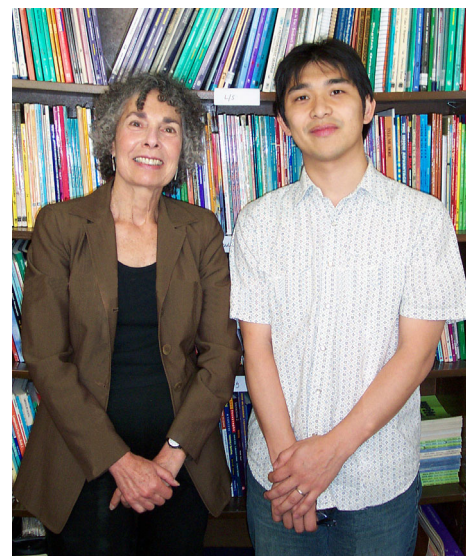
Yu-ki Fujiyama, who came to Austin to work as a semiconductor engineer at Sony, studied English in school in Tokyo.

"I studied English conversation," he says, "but I did not speak a lot. At TIEP my main study is speaking. I talk about a lot of topics with my teachers."

One advantage to tutoring, says Dr. Benné Willerman, who is teaching Yu-ki Fujiyama this term, is precisely this kind of attention.

TIEP tutors such as Dr. Willerman are drawn from the regular classroom faculty, so students benefit from years of personal expertise as well as the support of the organization.

"A tutorial can provide all the linguistic input that a regular class does," she explains, "and students get to listen to a native English speaker all the time."



Dr. Benné Willerman is tutor for Yu-ki Fujiyama.

"Not only do they get all the aspects of class with all the materials available, but there are opportunities for field trips – lectures or other events – limited only by the student's wishes and the teacher's creativity."

Most students who pursue tutoring at TIEP, she notes, are business people, spouses of business people, or spouses of students at The University of Texas at Austin. "But really, it can be anybody in the community who wants to polish up any aspect of English."

Already, Yu-ki Fujiyama has found an improved ability to converse in English with his co-workers at Sony.

"When I come back to Japan," he says, "I'll speak English very well. But if I had not come here to this school, I could not speak English at all."



Two former university presidents have joined the [Prince Mohammad Bin Fahd University](#) project. Dr. Donald R. Haragan (left) of Texas Tech University and Dr. Robert Furgason of Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi will provide advice on international affiliations and accreditations. In the foreground are some of the other consulting reports TIEC has produced for the project.