



TIEC GAZETTE

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The University of Houston-Victoria Joins TIEC, Strengthening Its Commitment to International Education and Understanding



The University of Houston-Victoria delivers academic programs on campus (above), online, and at remote sites in the Coastal Bend region.

The University of Houston-Victoria is the newest member of the Texas International Education Consortium (TIEC).

Though new to the TIEC family, UH-Victoria already has a firm commitment to international education and a president who brings years of involvement in the field.

"I've been involved in international education all my life," says Dr. Tim Hudson, who became President of UH-Victoria after serving as provost and vice president of academic affairs and Dean of International Education at the University of Southern Mississippi.



Dr. Tim Hudson is president of UH-Victoria. "Community support for our international initiatives has been very strong," he says, noting that global awareness enhances trade and economic opportunities as well as education.

"I have a certain passion for students to study abroad and faculty to be engaged abroad."

Global awareness, he believes, can benefit everyone. "The role we can play (at UH-Victoria) is to show that international education is something for all students from all backgrounds."

UH-Victoria serves upper level undergraduates and graduate students in more than 30 programs in its Schools of Arts and Sciences, Business, and Education.

Current student enrollment exceeds 2,300. Some 6,600 bachelor's and master's degrees have been conferred since the university's founding in 1973.

UH-Victoria is part of the University of Houston System, which also includes the University of Houston, UH-Clear Lake, and UH-Downtown.

The University of Houston System affiliation already provides an international orientation. Notes Dr. Hudson: "The Board of Regents has adopted international education as one of its new strategic initiatives."

TIEC adds additional dimensions. "There are so many things that institutions can do together that none of us can do individually," Dr. Hudson says. "So joining seemed natural."

"We're very happy to have UH-Victoria as our newest member," said Dr. Nick Poulton, President of the 32-university consortium. "Every campus brings a unique and valuable perspective to global understanding."

Students Learn English All Around Austin

Learning English this summer has been a lot more than classroom study for 17 students from Japan's Nihon University-Mishima Senior High School.

In addition to morning classes at the Texas Intensive English Program (TIEP), the students have spent afternoons talking with people all around the city of Austin.

The students find their own way to destinations chosen by TIEP teachers and search for answers to questions that the teachers have given them. In the three-week program, they have made 13 trips.



Student Hitomi Yamauchi (right) was introduced to her home stay host Helen Roberts and to Texas barbecue at the picnic that opened the English-study program.

The students looked for Japanese music at a record store and Japanese food at a food store. But they also looked for items that are typically American and Texan.

On the campus of the University of Texas at Austin, they described a fountain with a famous sculpture.

On an organized trip to a museum in San Antonio, they asked about other countries' cultures that influenced the state.

After a home stay with a local family, they reported on the family's pets, the menu for dinner, and the family's favorite music.

"It gets them talking with people around town. They have to ask questions," says teacher Judy Murphy. "They take the bus everywhere. They're very versatile."



Dr. Ronald Aqua, TIEC Vice President (right), traveled to Egypt in July to discuss affiliations between Egyptian higher education institutions and TIEC. The meeting at Mansoura University included (from left) Dr. Yehia Abdelazim El-Mashad, Dean, Delta Academy of Science; Dr. Mohamed Rabieh Nasser, Chancellor, Delta Academy of Science; and Dr. Magdy M. Abu-Rayan, President, Mansoura University.