



TIEC GAZETTE

October 2009

Newsletter of the Texas International Education Consortium

In This Issue

- TIEP provides a forum for Texas universities to explain the admissions process to international students.
- TIEC builds relationships and explores new opportunities for programs in China, Korea, and Japan.
- TIEC builds connections to Colleges of Education at Texas universities.

More About TIEC...

Overview

A unique association of 32 public universities in Texas

Programs and Services

Offering assistance to public and private organizations worldwide

Study in Texas

Featuring a full range of programs for students and professionals

Opportunities at TIEC Career opportunities for university professionals

Contact TIEC

Web: www.tiec.org
E-mail: info@tiec.org

1103 West 24th Street
Austin, TX 78705 USA

Tel. (512) 477-9283
Fax (512) 322-9079

TIEP Student News

TIEP Students and Texas Universities Meet at Fair to Discuss Admissions

Students at the Texas Intensive English Program (TIEP) had the opportunity recently to speak with representatives of Texas public universities about admissions requirements and procedures.

At the TIEP University Fair, students asked questions of a panel of five university representatives, then circulated among booths staffed by these and other universities for individual discussions.

"This was something that benefited both our students and our member universities," said Sophia Kwong, Student Adviser for TIEP, who organized the event.

Participating in the panel discussion were representatives from Texas State University, Texas Woman's University, West Texas A&M University, The University of Texas at Arlington, and the University of Houston at Victoria.

Also meeting with students were representatives from Angelo State University, Sam Houston State University, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, the University of North Texas, and The University of Texas at San Antonio.

As Ms. Kwong noted, "It's always good to get together and talk about the topics that interest our students the most."

So what did students want to know? Here are a few of their questions, with some brief answers:

Q - Can the student be accepted before receiving TOEFL scores?

A - Generally universities require TOEFL, unless the student has completed the highest level of English study at a program such as TIEP. Waivers are granted individually.

Q - Is it too late to apply for admission in the spring semester?

A - Most universities have October deadlines, but the early date generally is set to allow time for processing visas. Students in the United States studying at a program such as TIEP often are allowed to apply later because they already have visas.



Yi-Ta Tsai of Taiwan listened intently and took notes as university representatives discussed the admissions process.



Kristine Combs of West Texas A&M University (left) and Leslie Pearson of Texas Woman's University (right) met with students at the TIEP University Fair.

Q - How much does the verbal score on the SAT matter?

A - The importance of the verbal score varies from program to program. Some put more emphasis on verbal, some put more emphasis on math.

Q - For graduate students, is it possible to waive the GRE or GMAT?

A - These requirements also vary from program to program. Some programs do not require the GRE or GMAT. Others may waive the test for students who already hold a

master's degree. Others may grant conditional admission based on the student's background.

For all questions, representatives recommended that students check the university catalog or inquire directly with the university. As one university representative noted: "There's a whole list of exceptions."

University Consulting News

New Relationships with Universities In East Asia Move Closer to Reality

TIEC President Ronald Aqua has returned from a two-week trip to China, Korea, and Japan during which he explored opportunities for connecting TIEC and its member Texas universities with institutions in those countries.

"These are important countries today, and they will be increasingly important in the future," said Dr. Aqua. "The opportunities for two-way connections with Texas are huge."

Among the opportunities that Dr. Aqua explored for Texas universities are programs that would teach English overseas, bring students to the U.S. for university study, or send students from Texas universities to China, Korea, or Japan for study. Programs also could include faculty exchange, as well as research conducted jointly or by visiting faculty in Texas or abroad.

In order to strengthen ties with existing institutional partners, identify potential new partners, and learn about current educational and economic conditions in each country, Dr. Aqua met with representatives of private companies, officials at universities, and leaders in government. These included the mayor of the Daegu Metropolitan City, Korea, and the provincial governor for Chungcheongbuk-do, Korea.



In a meeting at Kyungpook National University in Korea, Dr. Aqua was presented a plaque by university President Noh Dong-II recognizing him as a valued "Senior International Advisor" to the university.

News for Member Universities

TIEC Builds Relationships With University Colleges of Education

Representatives of TIEC and TIEP traveled to San Antonio in mid-October to showcase opportunities for programmatic collaboration with Texas universities.

The 2009 Fall Teacher Education Conference of the Consortium of State Organizations for Texas Teacher Education (CSOTTE) provided an excellent venue for networking with representatives from colleges of education from universities across Texas.

"We were able to talk to people about different types of projects we are currently exploring that present opportunities for educators interested in some of the evolving issues in international education," said Elyzabeth Joy Holford, TIEC Vice President.

Dr. Woody Smith, TIEP Program Coordinator, noted: "We also talked about how universities can participate in our upcoming program for visiting Korean teachers of English."

The Fulbright American Studies Institute for Korean Secondary School Teachers of English is scheduled for January and February 2010. This TIEC partnership program will bring approximately 30 high school, middle school, and elementary school teachers to Texas for professional development and hands-on classroom experience in the American system of education.