



TIEC GAZETTE

February 2011

Newsletter of the Texas International Education Consortium

In This Issue

- Tenth Group of Korean Fulbrighters Receive Practical Training in Texas
- Japanese Students Arrive for Intensive English Study During Their Winter Break
- Eleventh American Studies Institute Brings EFL Teachers from India to TIEC
- Texas Public Universities in the News

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

Tenth Group of Korean Fulbrighters Receive Practical Training in Texas

TIEC is conducting the 10th annual Fulbright American Studies Institute for 17 Korean elementary and secondary school teachers of English. This seven-week program, sponsored by the Korean-American Educational (Fulbright) Commission, focuses on applied methodologies for teaching English as a Second Language, American culture, the U.S. educational system, and public speaking skills. Participating TIEC universities across Texas have coordinated school site residencies and home stays, which took place February 2-15. At these local sites, the Korean teachers were able to observe public school classes first-hand and participate in local community events in order to gain deeper insights into American society.

In describing this intensive program, participant Hyeyoung Kwon reported, "I can now look back on my teaching with a new perspective. We learn from the instructors but also from people on the outside."

Another participant, Hyunho Choe, has found Texans to be very helpful: "Three times I was lost in the city. People were very kind and generous, using their cellular phones to help me find the way."

One of the high school teachers in the program, Wanik Chang, was challenged by being a student again, noting that "This program is very intensive, particularly the public speaking and writing." He then quoted a Robert Frost poem learned while at TIEC: "Progress is like walking on a rolling barrel." Summing up his experience, he said, "I think I am progressing."



Japanese Students Arrive for Intensive English Study During Their Winter Break



Thirteen students from Nihon University College of International Relations in Mishima, Japan, arrived in Austin on February 10 for a four-week program at the [Texas Intensive English Program \(TIEP\)](#). This is the sixth group of students from Nihon University to participate in this specially-designed academic and cultural exchange program.

The students engage in intensive English training and also enjoy varied cultural experiences, including a home stay. Among the planned activities are a university tour; conversation exchanges with local university students; and visits to the Texas State Capitol, the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum, and the City of San Antonio. Hidenori Mizuno, a business major, is pleased that his TIEP instructor is very friendly and makes the lessons understandable, observing, "Today I studied about American culture, how to greet people, and Valentine's Day."

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

Eleventh American Studies Institute Brings EFL Teachers from India to TIEC



TIEC conducted its 11th American Studies Institute under U.S. State Department auspices, December 4-18, 2010, for 10 EFL teachers from India. As with previous Institutes for EFL teachers from Latin America, the program sought to enhance the participants' understanding of American culture, society, and educational system. It also provided opportunities for interaction with Americans from diverse

backgrounds, not only to improve participants' English proficiency and teaching but also to foster mutual awareness and understanding of cultures and traditions.

The Indian teachers were afforded opportunities to practice the latest EFL teaching techniques designed to develop active learning. They also observed classes at a local high school, laying the groundwork for future professional collaboration with their new American colleagues. Finally, the teachers gained valuable experience through interactions with home stay hosts and extracurricular activities, including visits to a honky-tonk dance hall, an art museum, the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum, a Toastmasters club, and a field trip to San Antonio.

Texas Public Universities in the News

Several universities which participate in TIEC programs have recently garnered national attention in various fields:

- The University of Houston has been named a "Top-Tier" university by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, joining Texas A&M University and several others in the ranks of elite research universities in the state.
- Texas A&M University continues to rank among the top ten universities in the U.S. in enrollment of National Merit Scholars, placing number one in Texas and second nationally among public universities.
- Sam Houston State University, The University of Texas at Arlington, The University of Texas at Brownsville, and The University of Texas at El Paso are among 115 U.S. colleges and universities recently cited for Community Engagement by the Carnegie Foundation. This honor recognizes the institutions' collaboration with their larger communities.
- Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi made the American Council of Trustees and Alumni's "A" List as one of the top 17 institutions of higher education preparing undergraduates for the workforce. The ranking is based upon the number of core courses—English composition, literature, math, science, foreign language, U.S. history or government, and economics—required for the completion of an undergraduate degree.
- The University of Texas at Arlington has received national recognition as a member of the Consortium for Nanomaterials for Aerospace Commerce Technology, which is developing nanotechnology applications to recharge electronic equipment.

