

## In This Issue

- **Brazilian Teachers Experience U.S. Education and Culture**
- **Korean Fulbright Teachers Complete Rigorous Seven-Week Program in Texas**
- **TIEP at Lamar Scholarship Recipient Named to LU President's List**
- **Japanese Undergraduates Combine English Study and Cultural Immersion**

## 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*

## Contact Us

Web: [www.tiec.org](http://www.tiec.org)  
E-mail: [info@tiec.org](mailto:info@tiec.org)

1103 West 24th Street  
Austin, TX 78705

Phone: (512) 477-9283  
Fax: (512) 322-0592

*TIEC is an Equal Employment Opportunity employer.*



# TIEC GAZETTE

*Newsletter of the Texas International Education Consortium*

February 2016

[www.tiec.org](http://www.tiec.org)

## Brazilian Teachers Experience U.S. Education and Culture

**T**IEC welcomed 25 teachers of English from 18 Brazilian Binational Centers for a two-week faculty development program, January 17 – January 30, 2016.

Now in its second year, the program focused on knowledge of and exposure to contexts in which English is taught to speakers of other languages, along with a more general understanding of U.S. education and culture. In addition to attending lectures on teaching methodology and the American educational system, participants visited local schools and other ESL

programs and shared an evening dinner with a local Austin host.

"I personally enjoyed the moments I interacted with people around here— at the bus, at the supermarket, and with my American dinner host, as well," said Fernanda Silva de Oliveira, from Brasília. "People were very friendly."

The visiting Brazilians also had the unique opportunity



to practice their English conversation skills in overlapping activities with a separate TIEC training program for English teachers from Korea, including a professional networking luncheon facilitated by TIEP instructors.

## Korean Fulbright Teachers Complete Rigorous Seven-Week Program in Texas

**T**wenty-two Korean elementary, middle, and high school teachers participated in a seven week program, January 4 – February 19, 2016, that focused on teaching English as a

second language, American culture, the U.S. educational system, and public speaking skills.

This was the fifteenth such group to be trained at TIEC since 2002 under the

auspices of the Korean-American Educational (Fulbright) Commission.

A highlight of the program for many participants was a two-week site residency in public

schools and home stays in communities across Texas, facilitated by local volunteers and participating Texas universities.

Eunsuk Shin, from Daegu, Korea, spent her residency at Calhoun Middle School in Denton. "After my classroom presentation about Korean culture," she said, "the students would greet me in Korean whenever they saw me. It was very cute, and very touching. That's something I'll remember."



*Korean and Brazilian educators practice English conversation in a joint TIEP-led activity.*

## TIEP at Lamar Scholarship Recipient Named to LU President's List

**C**hien Dong, recipient of the inaugural TIEP at Lamar annual scholarship last year, continued his record of academic excellence by being named to Lamar University's President's List in December of 2015 for the fall semester.

Students at Lamar University must earn a 4.0 grade point average to receive this honor. Dong was one of 612 students who qualified for the President's List out of an overall population of almost 15,000 students.

Dong explained that his TIEP at Lamar instructors helped give him the tools to succeed in his university courses.



*Chien Dong (right) with TIEP at Lamar instructor Melanie Almufti.*

"The TIEP at Lamar grammar class taught by Melanie Almufti gave me a lot of skills for writing, and the vocabulary helped me with reading," Dong said. "In the writing class with Alex Monceaux, I had opportunities to present research at conferences

and gain confidence in my presentation skills."

Dong added that he used the scholarship to buy textbooks and a computer. The tuition waiver he received through the scholarship saved him around \$10,000 this year.

Dong traveled from his home in Vietnam to the U.S. in the fall of 2014 to study English at TIEP at Lamar and later enrolled in Lamar University, starting in the fall of 2015. He is now considering options for a master's degree in chemical engineering after completing his bachelor's, with Lamar University as his probable first choice.

## Japanese Undergraduates Combine English Study and Cultural Immersion

**T**wenty-four Japanese students from Nihon University's College of International Relations in Mishima are devoting their spring vacation to studying English at TIEC, February 8 – March 5, 2016. This is the tenth Nihon University group to participate in this customized academic and cultural enrichment program.

The four-week program features intensive English-language training by TIEP instructors in addition to field trips to the Texas State Capitol, the city of San Antonio, a university campus, and other extracurricular activities. Students spend all four weeks in a home stay with a local Austin family.

Nihon University professor Hirokazu Toma, who studied at TIEP before attending Austin Community College and, later, earning a master's degree at St. Edwards University, accompanied the students during the first few days of the program.

"I came to Austin as a student and really liked it," Toma recalled. "That experience is something

I'm glad to share with young people. The fun part, actually, is seeing the change in students after their stay here."

