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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

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TIEC GAZETTE

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TIEC Representatives Speak at Yucatán Conference

TIEC Vice President David Aronofsky and TIEP Director Terry Simon were featured speakers at the Engineering and Technology Innovation Congress (Congreso de Innovación Ingeniería y Tecnología), CIITEC 2016, held at the Instituto Tecnológico Superior Progreso (ITSP) in Yucatán, Mexico, May 25-27.

In his presentation, Dr. Aronofsky discussed the importance of English fluency in the professional job market and workplace, both generally and in technology companies. Dr. Simon conducted a workshop for the ITSP English teachers and English teachers from Progreso-area high schools on the field of teaching English as a foreign language,



TIEP Director Terry Simon (left) presents to English teachers from ITSP and Progreso-area high schools.

including accreditation of intensive English programs, current and future trends, and resources for English-language teachers and learners.

This event was the latest cooperative endeavor between TIEC and ITSP since an ITSP faculty member, Iván Fuentes, came to TIEC as part of the Proyecto 100,000 English as a Second Language program in November 2014. Based on his experience in the program, Mr. Fuentes helped arrange visits by two senior ITSP administrators to TIEC in January 2015.

TIEC also organized a visit hosted by TIEP at Lamar for ITSP General Director Lila Rosa Frías and ITSP Associate Director Arturo Sánchez Escalante in April 2016, in which

collaborative opportunities between ITSP and the Center for Advances in Port Management at Lamar University (LU) as well as between Yucatán's Port of Progreso and the Port of Beaumont, were discussed.

Dr. Brian N. Craig, interim director of the Center for Advances in Port Management at Lamar University, and Dr. Alberto Marquez, a Lamar University engineering professor, were also invited to speak at CIITEC 2016 on the LU Port Center.

While in Yucatán, the Texas delegation also visited the Port of Progreso. In addition, Drs. Aronofsky and Simon met with the Strategic Planning Director for the Yucatán Higher Education Office to discuss potential future collaborative projects between TIEC and State of Yucatán public postsecondary institutions.



TIEC Vice President David Aronofsky addresses ITSP students and faculty about the importance of English in the professional job market and workplace.

TIEP Instructors Share Professional Experiences at TESOL International Convention

Six Texas Intensive English Program (TIEP) instructors participated in the 50th annual TESOL International Convention and English Language Expo, April 5-8, 2016, in Baltimore, Maryland.

The instructors gave presentations on professional leadership, English grammar, intercultural communication, and strategies for writing successful convention proposals.

Alex Monceaux, a TIEP at Lamar instructor, was elected during the conference to be the 2016-2017 newsletter editor for TESOL's Material Writers Interest Section.

TIEP Academic Coordinator John Schmidt continues to serve on the TESOL Board of Directors for the 2015-2018 term.



TIEC hosted a three-member delegation from Saudi Petroleum Services Polytechnic (SPSP) on May 20, 2016, to explore areas of potential future collaboration. SPSP is eight years old and has three branches in Dammam and Al-Khafji that offer technical training across the full spectrum of skills needed by oil and gas companies, including drilling. The visit was organized in close coordination with the U.S. Consulate in Dhahran. Pictured above (left to right) are Abdulrazak M. Al-Shukri, SPSP Operations Manager; TIEP Director Terry Simon; Saad A. Al-Shahrani, Director of the SPSP Drilling and Construction Training Center; TIEC President Ronald Aqua; and Mustafa H. El-Gorashi, SPSP Quality Assurance Manager.

TIEC Operating Council Discusses Current Initiatives and Long-Range Objectives

Representatives from 15 Texas public universities convened in Austin, Texas on May 6, 2016, for the semiannual TIEC Operating Council meeting to exchange information about current international programs and initiatives on their campuses as well as network with colleagues from across the state.

During the discussion, one common theme was the streamlining of internal operations for managing the increased presence of international students on campuses, including the consolidation of different international student services into a single office, i.e., the

“one-stop shop.” Growing interest in study abroad has also led to changes in processes that would encourage greater participation of both faculty and students in such outbound programs.

The following universities were represented at the meeting: Angelo State University, Midwestern State University, Stephen F. Austin State University, Sul Ross State University, Texas A&M International University, Texas A&M University—Kingsville, Texas State University, Texas Tech University, The University of Texas at Dallas, The University of Texas at El Paso,

The University of Texas at Tyler, University of Houston—Clear Lake, University of Houston—Victoria, University of North Texas, and West Texas A&M University.

