Accessible Distance Learning: An International Perspective

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Topics for Today’s Presentation

- Background of PEN-International
- PEN’s Use of Distance Learning Technologies
- Demonstration of Videoconference with Philippines
- Cyber Infrastructure “Summit” Report

RIT/NTID Information

- PEN-International
- RIT (University)
  - Nine Colleges
  - Students
    - 13,000 Undergrad
    - 3,400 Graduate
  - NTID (College of RIT)
    - 1,250 Students
    - 475 Faculty/Staff
    - Direct Service and Supported Students

The Nippon Foundation of Japan

- Improve Education in Participant Countries
- Establish International Network
- Provides Funds for PEN-International

PEN-International Goals

- Improve Teaching, Learning and Curriculum Development
- Increase the Application of Technology to Teaching and Learning
- Expand Career Education Opportunities for Deaf and Hard-Of-Hearing People Around the World

PEN-International Vision

Importer
Self-Sufficiency
Exporter
Implementation Strategy

- Faculty Training & Development
- Online and WWW Resources
- Multimedia Computer Centers
- Evaluation & Research
- Dissemination
- Student Leadership & Empowerment

Online and WWW Resources

- Instructional Technology Course
  - Enhanced use of blended course presentations
  - Discussion and participation facilitated
  - Grading easier

Demonstration Call to CSB

Online and WWW Resources

- Improved Workshop Resources
  - All partner access
  - Relevant Languages
Multimedia & Computer Centers

- New Computer Center Accomplishments/Enhancements
  - CSB Expansion

PEN Use of Videoconferencing

- Business Meetings
- Informational Discussions
- Formal Training
- Move towards Bridging, Captioning and IP Protocol

A Status Report on the Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Cyber-Community Summit

- Led by Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID) and University of Washington (UW)
- Supported by the National Science Foundation (NSF)
- Held on Campus of RIT immediately following Symposium
- 50 leaders of support service provision for postsecondary deaf students in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) programs

Summit Goals

- Report on the current state of online remote interpreting and captioning
- Identify the benefits and challenges associated with implementing a multimedia cyberinfrastructure to support d/hh students in STEM mainstreamed classrooms

Summit Web Site

- http://www.ntid.rit.edu/cat/summit/resources.html

Groups

- 50 leaders divided into 6 constituency groups
- Educational, Linguistic & Sign Language Researchers/Developers
- Coordinator of Support Services
- STEM Faculty
- Cyberinfrastructure Specialists
- Educational Captioners & Interpreters
- Students
Plan

- Each group presented to Summit gathering benefits and challenges associated with developing a multimedia cyberinfrastructure specific to area of expertise
- Groups discussed challenges and developed recommendations on how to implement a multimedia cyber-infrastructure for d/hh students mainstreamed in STEM
- Each group presented to Summit gathering group recommendations

Initial Draft

- Posted for Public Review Soon.
- Will be Posted on Web Site.

Scope

- Services
  - Interpreting
  - Captioning
  - Notetaking
  - Remote Services in Various Learning Environments

Researchers

- Match Student to Technology
- Preferences vs. Performance
- Elements of Successful Business Model
- Measuring Success

Coordinators of Support Services

- Identifying Service Providers
- Retaining Service Providers
- STEM Issues
- Support from Faculty and Tech Support
- Prioritizing and Last Minute Requests

STEM Faculty

- Keeping Students Engaged
- Understanding Communication and Educational Processes for Deaf Students
- Participation During Class and After Class Activities
Cyberinfrastructure Specialists

- Develop Approaches, Methods and Techniques
- Develop System Integration, Operation and Administration
- Create an Experimental Platform and Testbed

Captionists and Interpreters

- Technical/Logistical
- Communicative/Linguistic
- Pedagogical
- Professional Standards

Students

- Respect and Recognize Diversity
- Educating the Provider
- Develop Social Network of STEM Students
- Virtual Support