Some Issues on PEN-International Development in China

(Speech delivered in the leaders’ conference on June 24, 2005)
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I. PEN-International great development obtained in China

i. PEN-International development in China has been supported and paid attention to from Chinese local governments, China Ministry of Education and China Disabled Persons’ Federation. In 2004, officials who are in charge of education in China Ministry of Education and China Disabled Persons’ Federation took part in the seminar held by PEN-International in China and showed their supports.

ii. In China, there are four universities which recruit deaf students joining PEN-International. They are TUT (Tianjin University of Technology), CU (Changchun University, BUU (Beijing Union University), ZZU (Zhongzhou University). As a result of the PEN-International successful development in China, All universities and colleges recruiting deaf students all wish to join the activities organized by PEN-International.

iii. PEN-International has made Chinese deaf students know the world, improved her partners’ teaching level and learning quality. Faculty and students are eager to know advanced teaching means and achievements, accordingly, promoted inter-school exchanges at home and abroad.

iv. PEN-International activities were reported at different time and places by Chinese propaganda media at different levels, like newspapers, TV stations, etc. Thus, not only did deaf students and teachers know PEN-International, but also whole society paid their attentions to the PEN-International activities.

v. Thanks to the PEN-International successful operating, in 2003, the top director of PEN-International, Mr. James DeCaro was awarded “Haihe Award” by Tianjin governments in China. This is the highest award conferred by Tianjian Government to the foreign experts who made contribution to China’s construction. Furthermore, Mr. DeCaro was invested with Tianjin honorary citizen.

II. My suggestions to PEN-International development

i. PEN-International should take different strategies in different countries with different situations of economy and population. However, final target is making higher education of the deaf developed in different countries, propelled by PEN-International. For example, like in China with more population, more deaf people and undeveloped economy, it is not far enough that there are one or two universities joining PEN-International. There must be more
universities from different areas taking part in activities, and via them, PEN-International purpose goes around all over China.

ii. Although PEN-International activity is done in the folk way, it must try to obtain the support from governments in its country and the propaganda from the media. None but thus, PEN-International will be able to develop more successfully. We do like this in China. I think it well effective. Getting the support with resultant forces from government and the folk, PEN-International will get the twice result and half the effort.

iii. In the countries like China, in which deaf education is still undeveloped, PEN-International should make propaganda in middle schools and primary schools in order that middle school and primary school students pay attention to and know PEN-International before they enter their university.

iv. PEN-International will organize different countries to research sign language in future.

v. Continue to spread the advanced teaching ideas and means in the deaf people’s school, and do well in teacher training.

III. Assumes of China PEN-International development in the next five years

i. Fully exert the kernel function of the existing four partners in all the country. Make the PEN-International bring into play with most benefit. Hereon the base, new partners will be drawn on in western part or southern littoral of China in 2007 in order to make PEN-International partners distributed with reason in different areas of China.

ii. Strengthen the contact between PEN-International and China Disabled Persons’ Federation; Try to get CDPF to support and direct the PEN-International activities all over China; at last realize the full-side cooperation between PEN-International activity and CDPF’s education program and set up PEN-China Office.

iii. Whole national PEN-International academic conference of education of the deaf will be held biennially. International delegates will be invited to take part in and deliver their papers. In 2008, Exhibition in China of deaf students’ art works will be held, and try to be held in Beijing national art gallery.

iv. Promote the compiling work of daily sentences of sign language among China, America and Japan. And try to recommend its laser disc and book.

v. I and my assistant will be good for supervising the partners, make a full use of PEN-International funds, and make it give out full benefit. Not waste and at the same time accounts are perfectly in order. Bring into PEN-International funds, pressing local government and university to invest together for the deaf persons’ education.