Pen-International
Meeting with TUT Faculty Who Visited NTID in June 2001
September 29, 2001 and September 30, 2001
Tianjin, China

Attending Sept 29th Mtg: Zhong, Han, Li, Tang, Wang, Cui, Feng, Clymer, Rizzo, Raymond.

1. Clymer explained the purpose of the meeting is to discuss how things are going as the faculty continue their development of instructional technology skills and plan the use of the new lab.
   a. Clymer reviewed the expectation for the lab is to provide an environment for learning, teaching, demonstration and individual student work on computer systems.
      i. Faculty training and faculty development of multimedia instructional materials should also occur within the new PEN-International facility.
   b. Important to try and measure improved teaching/learning processes due to the PEN-International experiences.
   c. The PEN-International servers at TUT should also be used to provide a mirror site for the PEN-International web pages as posted on the NTID based servers. This will facilitate access to PEN-International resources within China because Chinese nationals will not have to pay access fees.

2. Cui-The lab was able to open on such a tight schedule because of the close communication between both parties.

3. Li-Course material is not on the web server yet, but there are three courses soon to be ready for the web. The lab was just completed; more time is needed to move things to the web.
   a. Course content of courses that may be ready for posting on the web are “Essentials of Networking” and “Principles of Computers”. The Chinese sign language material is not yet ready, but soon.
   b. The materials for these courses were developed using “author-ware” not web applications.
   c. Eventually there will be 7 or 8 different courses on the TUT web site.

4. Zhong-A web-based course he teaches is “Data Structures”.

5. In the future the faculty would like more training on developing html and author-ware applications.

6. Web-based applications are more appropriate for distance education and author-ware is better for the PC’s in the lab.
7. Everyone agreed that if course materials are posted in html on the PEN-International servers at TUT, then other teachers and students in China could access and use the materials.

8. Clymer asked that examples of newly development curriculum and student work produced in the lab be collected and shared with the PEN-International team.
   a. Also, he pointed out that the faculty who attended the training in Rochester should continue their efforts to work with other faculty at TUT to assist them in their professional development.
      i. A brief discussion focused on the expectation that the first group of TUT faculty who were trained in Rochester should develop their skills and then work to help other faculty at TUT. Eventually the expectation is for TUT to become an even more recognized regional and national center on deaf education in China.

9. It was agreed that FrontPage™ is the preferred application for development of web pages. We agreed that web-based curriculum is best for on-line learning and for distance education students. The faculty felt that author-ware developed materials might be better for lab-based instruction.

10. Accessing information from the internet can be a problem because there are fees charged for internet access outside of China.
    a. It was agreed that access to international web resources from the new lab will be difficult for students.

11. We discussed the possibility of creating a CD of faculty developed materials so it could be reviewed and shared in Rochester.
    a. Files could also be transferred between TUT and Rochester using FTP.

12. Feng- The TUT group observed many things in Rochester (June 01) that related to how computers can be used in teaching. They liked what they saw, but need more time to improve their teaching.
    a. Clymer indicated that questions and problems should be sent to NTID and we will be happy to help find resources, contacts and possible solutions.

13. Cui-They saw how to teach deaf students in a technical environment. In China it is much simpler; they use a very traditional lecture to the information that is in the textbook. TUT faculty want to conduct research in China to learn how to better teach Chinese deaf students. He is interested in how to better communicate with students and to show deaf students how to relate better to others. NTID materials are very effective, especially related to job interviewing techniques, job search and how to speak.

14. Cui-Another important lesson from the NTID experience was the realization that there are alternative teaching methods that can be used. Most Chinese classroom presentations revolve around text books.
    a. For example he now explores student interests and background experiences at the start of classes.
b. He made a list of 32 subject matter skills and competencies related to the subject matter to be taught and determined prior experience and interest in the topic. He uses this information to help guide the development and modifications of his curriculum development.

c. It is a new experience for Chinese faculty to ask about student interests and background.

d. He reports that approximately 1/3 of the students have a computer at home or in the dorm and therefore can be given assignments to complete without having to use a TUT lab.

15. In China, lectures are typically one way – teachers teach and students learn!

16. Li- Reported that at NTID students use Flash™ and she is now teaching her students the same application.

17. Zhong-Students in the dorm have access to intranet (within China) and each student has their own email account and address.

18. Clymer-Asks that a simple log book be maintained on the use of the new computer lab and teacher multimedia stations. Also use of the servers and evidence of need for expanded capability is important.

19. Clymer also requested that is would be very helpful if faculty could measure student improvement in learning as a result of the newly developed curriculum and lab use.

20. Software is very expensive in China and students need to take turns using the more expensive package on selected machines.

21. Li-She teaches about networks, but they don’t get to practice the skills on actual networks. Now they will have the opportunity to see how networks function due to the new lab.

22. That TUT faculty felt that if future PEN-International training were to be offered the focus should be on computer courses at NTID/RIT, if there is time while they visit. They prefer to come and observe at NTID rather than having NTID teachers travel to TUT.

   a. Clymer suggested that possibly ISDN technology could be used to permit TUT faculty to observe teaching presentations and strategies. This would permit a planned professional development activity offered by NTID faculty that could include a review of a particular teaching strategy, observation of the technique and then a discussion between NTID and TUT faculty.

   b. Rizzo suggested that possibly the Web Cam technology could be used to save the costs associated with ISDN communication.

23. The meeting concluded with everyone agreeing that we had discussed the status of continuing faculty development and progress with curriculum development.
Meeting with TUT Faculty Who Have Not Visited NTID
September 30, 2001
Tianjin, China


1. Names and Email Addresses
   a. “Tom”, Mathematics
      i. caohongge@sina.com.cn
   b. Zhang Wen Lian, Design of Motion
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   c. Li Qiang, Design of Motion
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   d. “Bob”, Fashion Design
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2. Most of the discussion focused on the interests of the faculty and how they have benefited from the experiences for the faculty who have already been to Rochester.

3. Zhang and Li demonstrated some very sophisticated computer animations showing engineering techniques. Clymer suggested that possibly Professor Araki could collaborate with them since his interest is also engineering.

4. “Bob”, the fashion designer, is both a member of the faculty and the individual who has done much of the web development PEN-International related pages on the main TUT server.

Submitted by:
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PEN-International
October 23, 2001