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RIT-NTID press release available

ROCHESTER, N.Y., March 24 - The Nippon Foundation of Japan has awarded the Postsecondary Education Network-International, a grant program housed at the National Technical Institute for the Deaf at the Rochester Institute of Technology, \$1.26 million to steward a worldwide network to improve education and career opportunities for Deaf men and women. To date, the Nippon Foundation has awarded PEN-International more than \$4.5 million.

Deaf college students in Japan, China, Russia, the Czech Republic, Thailand and the Philippines will continue to benefit from PEN-International's expertise through improved curricula, increased access to new technology, multimedia labs and trained faculty members.

"Perhaps our most important achievement is the growing number of faculty members who are successfully sharing their newly-developed expertise within their respective countries," said James DeCaro, Ph.D., director of PEN-International.

DeCaro said significant inroads have been made with associates at Tianjin University of Technology in China, De La Salle – College of Saint Benilde in the Philippines, and Bauman Moscow State Technical University in Russia, who have added more than 20 additional institutions to the network.

"This is the ripple effect we have been striving for," DeCaro added.

PEN-International is a multilateral international effort to network colleges and universities that educate people who are deaf. For more information about PEN-International and its global partners visit <http://www.pen.ntid.rit.edu>.

NTID is the first and largest technological college in the world for students who are Deaf or hard-of-hearing. One of eight colleges of RIT, NTID offers educational programs and access and support services to 1,100 Deaf and hard-of-hearing students from around the world who study, live and socialize with 14,400 hearing students on RIT's Rochester, N.Y. campus. Its web address is <http://www.rit.edu/NTID>.

Visit <http://www.rit.edu/NTID/newsroom> for more NTID news.

Reprinted from a news release of RIT-NTID, courtesy of the School of Deaf Education and Applied Studies (SDEAS).

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