A Brilliant New Century for the Deaf
Report of Tianjin Technical College for the Deaf of Tianjin University of Technology

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[Bao GuoDong Biography] Mr. Bao was born in Chaoyang of LiaoNing Province in 1946, and graduated from Tianjin Teacher's College. He served in the following positions in the Tianjin University of Technology: First Year Student Department director, Vice President of the Dean's Office, and chairman of the Tianjin Teachers’ College. He was awarded several honors including the national moral role model of the teaching profession and second place in the national outstanding teaching achievement award. Mr. GuoDong Bao is currently the president and a professor in Tianjin Technical College for the deaf of Tianjin University of Technology, vice director of the board of National Special Higher Education Professors Association (planning), and is the director of the Postsecondary Education Network International (PEN-International) in China.

Tianjin Technical College for the Deaf of Tianjin University of Technology is the first college in our country with special higher education programs opens to the deaf. In 1991, the Special Education Department was founded and started to enroll deaf students. In 1997, the department adopted the name Tianjin Technical College for Deaf.

Tianjin Technical College for the Deaf now offers two programs in the area of Computer science and fashion art design. Both programs accept qualified deaf students from all over the country. Bachelor degrees are awarded to students who successfully complete the four year academic requirements. Currently, there are 153 deaf students from more than 20 provinces, cities and autonomous regions enrolled in this college. The faculty team includes full time lecturers in the Technical College for the Deaf, and also part time lecturers from other colleges of the University of Technology. There are 17 full time lecturers in the college, more than one third of them have the title of associate professor. There are six part-time lecturers, they all are professors or associate professors.
Tianjin Technical College for the Deaf has changed the traditional closed special education system in our country which isolated deaf students from hearing students. Deaf students at Tianjin Technical College study, share residence halls and enjoy social life together with more than 15,000 hearing students. The only difference is that special approaches which are suitable to deaf students are being adopted in the classroom. This model allows deaf students to prepare to live and work in the mainstream, and enhances their life long learning emphasizing independence, self-respect, and self-improvement. Every lecturer in the Technical College for the Deaf is able to sign in Chinese Sign Language, both spoken language and sign language are being used simultaneously in the classroom. At the same time, high tech multimedia technologies are also applied and used in the classes to achieve better teaching results.

Since its establishment, Tianjin Technical College for the Deaf has achieved a great deal. More than 300 deaf graduates have been employed in more than 20 provinces and cities all over the country. They work as laborers, teachers, technicians, webpage designers and small business owners. Some of them have also become leaders of their local organizations for the disabled. Many of them have made great contributions to the society and are role models in their cities, villages, and provinces. Their stories are reported in various media.

To acquire more experience in teaching the deaf, Tianjin Technical College for the Deaf also emphasizes international education expertise exchange. In the past few years, Tianjin Technical College for the Deaf has established strong relationships with the famous special education institutes National Technical Institute for the Deaf in the USA and Tsukuba College of Technology in Japan. Funded by The Nippon foundation of Japan, Tianjin Technical College for the Deaf and the above universities initiated and established The Postsecondary Education Network International (PEN-International Project). With the help of PEN International project, Tianjin Technical College for the Deaf introduced more than one million Yuan(Chinese currency) of international funds, acquired a multimedia equipped classroom and a distance learning system, subsidized 13 young teachers for deaf education theory and advanced educational skill training in the U.S.A., sent 10 teachers and deaf students to visit Japan and the U.S.A, and held receptions for delegation visits of deaf students and teachers from universities all over the world. Direct exchange between deaf students and deaf universities has been accomplished. These
frequent international exchanges have broadened our teachers and students’ prospects, promoted education and teaching, as well as propagated special higher education in China.

Since 1998 under the supervision of Director GuoDong Bao, much scientific research has been successfully accomplished. The researchers participated and completed a primary focus topic in education planning section of “The National Ninety Five Plans”; coordinated and accomplished one primary focus topic in the education section for Tianjin city; one primary focus topic of the Scientific and Technological Commission organization, and two topics requested by the China Disabled Persons Federation. Recent research includes one primary focus topic on special education program for the province’s “Fifteen Plan” of the educational department and one primary focus topic in the national education planning section.

Tianjin Technical College for the Deaf was awarded the Meritorious Service Organization of the Ninety-Five Plans in year 2000. In February of 2001, Tianjin Technical College for the Deaf again was awarded the title of the Civilized School by Tianjin city. In November of 2001, the Tianjin Technical College for the Deaf teaching achievement paper “Establishing a distinguished higher engineering and science education for the deaf” received second prize in national outstanding teaching achievement, and the first prize from Tianjin city in outstanding teaching achievement for higher education.

After the third visit to Tianjin Technical College for the Deaf in the spring of 2001, Deng Pufang, president of the China Disabled Persons’ Federation, praised it and told the leading government officers while speaking in Tianjin that Tianjin Technical College for the Deaf is a shining pearl of the organizations for the disabled in our country.
科学中国人

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本刊记者 石晓萍

聋人工学院从创办至今取得了丰硕成果。已有三百多名聋人大学毕业生工作在全国二十多个省市，他们之中有工人、教师、技术干部、网店制作人、个体老板等，有的还成为了当地残疾人组织的领导人。他们中许多人是本省、本地的身残志坚，为社会作出贡献的先进典型，并被各种媒体报道。

聋人工学院在办学中注重国际交流与汲取先进经验。几年来，聋人工学院与美国国家聋人学院（National Technical Institute for the Deaf）、日本筑波技术短期大学（Tsukuba College of Technology）等国际有名的特殊教育学院建立了良好的校际关系，并在日本世川财团的资助下与这所院校共同发起成立了国际聋人高等教育网络组织（PEN—International项目）。在PEN项目的帮助下，聋人工学院引进一百多万元国际资金建立聋人专用户外媒体教室及远程教育系统，先后资助了13名青年教师出国访问聋人教育理论与先进教育技术的培训。10名教师及聋生访问日本、美国，并接待了几十名世界各地聋人聋生的访问交流，实现了不同国籍聋人大学生之间的直接交流。频繁的国际交流开阔了师生的眼界，促进了教育、教学与国际接轨，同时也宣传了中国的特殊高等教育。

从1988年以来，在鲍国东研究员的带领下已完成多项科研课题，其中参与完成全国“九五”教育规划重点课题一项，主持完成市教育规划重点课题一项、市科委软课题一项、中国残联委托课题两项。现在在研项目有教育部“十五”期间特殊教育规划课题一项、全国教育规划重点课题一项。