

Six Month Update Regarding P-CEN

An NTID Project Supported by the Nippon Foundation

October 14, 2011

INTRODUCTION

This outline details the significant accomplishments of the P-CEN team related to the four strands of focus, identified in the 14 December 2011 proposal to the Nippon Foundation from NTID. The four strands include The Secretariat, Pre-College Educational Network (P-CEN), Personnel Preparation and Supporting the IDPP. As work progresses, the elements of the strands have been modified based upon an administrative decisions and project dynamics.

1. The Secretariat

- a. Dr. Fukushima
 - i. Worked with RIT International Office to secure Professor Fukushima's J-1 visa so he could continue his research on deaf-blinds person at RIT and the Helen Keller Institute.
 - ii. Hosted a visit by Dr. Fukushima and his support staff at NTID on August 9 and 10, 2011. He met various members of the NTID faculty, staff and administration. Also discussed in detail his visit with the Tokyo TV to document NTID systems to support deaf-blind students.
 - iii. Hosted a 3-day visit by Dr. Fukushima (October 9-13, 2011), his support staff and a 4 member TV production team. Scheduled a campus-wide presentation and panel discussion lead by Dr. Fukushima on October 11, 2011. Attendance at the presentation was 75+, not counting interpreting and support staff.
- b. Guangzhou University
 - i. Prior to the end of October 2011, P-CEN will host a delegation of 16 faculty members from Guangzhou University. They will conduct a study tour of RIT and the Rochester School for the Deaf.
- c. Joint NTID and Bauman Moscow State Technical University Proposal
 - i. In the months of May and June 2011, a proposal was prepared in collaboration with Bauman Moscow State Technical University to the Ministry of Education and Science in Russia for funding to establish a center at Bauman to "cultivate integrative technological innovations that will identify and remove barriers to the reception of information by people who are deaf or hard of hearing to enhance their participation in education, work and social settings..." The proposal made it through the first round of screening but was rejected in the final round because of the low incidence of the population impacted.
- d. Philippine Secretary of Education Visit to NTID, November 8, 2011
 - i. The Secretary of Education of the Philippines will visit RIT to discuss issues related to deaf education in the Philippines.
- e. Faculty from National Institute of Speech and Hearing (NISH) India, October 23 – 28, 2011.
 - i. Two faculty members from the Degree (HI) Department of the National Institute of Speech and Hearing (NISH) in Karimanal,

Trivandrum, India will visit to learn more about the NTID English programs.

- f. DeCaro has been invited to make a presentation to the government of Korea as regards postsecondary education of students who are deaf...expected to occur before the year is out.

2. P-CEN

a. P-CEN 'Teacher Education Institute'

i. Five Courses Planned –

1. Each online, originating from NTID, resources for each course to be made available on website, eventually available to the entire ASEAN region. Three courses will be completed by end of the year one.

2. Courses

a. *General Methods for Teaching Deaf Students*

- i. *Currently being taught by Nora Shannon to 14 participates, 7 deaf and 7 hearing.*

b. *Language Acquisition*

c. *Developing English Literacy in Content Areas*

d. *Topics in Deaf Education*

- e. *Content Methods* (including a 1-2-week visit to Rochester to work intensively with a face-to-face content area/deaf education specialist)

3. The intention this year is to pilot the courses with experienced teachers at CSB to see whether the content and skills that are being developed for training are appropriate and helpful.
4. The delivery system (using myCourses through RIT) encourages active, cooperative learning, rather than a passive lecture style. By offering the courses on line the instructors are modeling a blended-learning (online and face-to-face) teacher education structure. This type of on line offering may be useful for offering courses to other parts of the ASEAN region. Additionally, the instructors believe that having the teachers experience these active learning strategies themselves, they will be more likely to use them with the deaf students they teach.

5. One challenge to the course delivery is the face-to-face component of the course. We intended to have one face-to-face session per week. This has not happened due to many reasons. We are exploring alternative delivery options to address this issue. At the end of each course, we will evaluate how to improve delivery of information and brainstorm solutions of how to offer the information-giving parts of the courses asynchronously.
6. We intend to have a “packet” of informational modules ready at the end of each course for use with future institute participants.
7. Evaluation of each course and overall program evaluation will be completed at the end of the institute.

b. P-CEN Site Visits by Nora Shannon

i. Thailand and Philippines (April 5 – 10, 2011)

1. Toured School for the Deaf in Thailand and met with a deaf teacher, the vice director and the director of the school with Minoru Yoshida. Investigated viability of inviting a delegation from this school to the signing ceremony and ASEAN Deaf Education Forum Manila. Investigated viability of inviting a delegation from this school to the signing ceremony and ASEAN Deaf Education Forum Manila.
2. Visited Secondary Education Initiatives (SEC-I) schools (LaSalle –Green Hills & LaSalle-Ozamiz) to discuss progress on initiatives started as a result of the fact-finding trip in May 2010.
3. Met with May Cabutihan, SEC-I Coordinator and presumptive principal of the new secondary school for the Deaf in Manila, to discuss qualifications of teachers that will be hired in the new school. These qualifications will be taken into consideration as the Teacher Education Institute is being created.
4. May Cabutihan sent a preliminary planning calendar draft for P-CEN from the CSB perspective.

ii. Manila (July 13-16, 2011)

1. Met with prospective students (CSB teachers) for the pilot Teacher Education Institute that will take place from September 2011 to May 2012.

2. Met with Techie to plan Signing Ceremony and ASEAN Deaf Education Forum in September 2011, including deciding who to invite to present at the forum and who will be participants.
- iii. Manila (September 11-17, 2011)
1. Attended Signing Ceremony
 - a. Signatories included: James DeCaro, Gerard Buckley, Br. Edmundo Fernandez, Br. Victor Franco, and Br. Ricky Laguda.
 2. Attended ASEAN Deaf Education Forum
 - a. Presentations about the state of Deaf Education in the ASEAN region to set a baseline to determine activities in each country.
 3. Held face-to-face class with participants in the Teacher Education Institute. The first Teacher Education Institute class, *General Methods*, started on September 5, 2011.
 4. Met with James Woodward and Nguyen Thi Hoa to discuss two issues:
 - a. Top-up (3+2) BA degree offered through CSB to students who have completed their AAS degree in sign linguistics at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. It was decided that the number of interested students was so small that it would not be economically or pedagogically feasible to pursue further investigation of this option.
 - b. Discussed the possibility of Hoa pursuing a masters degree in the Masters of Science in Secondary Education of Students Who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing program at NTID.
- c. Cisco Telepresence facilities in Manila can be used for presentation originating in NTID Cisco TelePresence facilities.
 - d. P-CEN website underdevelopment, goes live in mid-November. The website will be made fully accessible based standards required by the US government when websites are designed by Federal Agencies (Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act). This will be done using various tools that check for valid XHTML, CSS as well as manual checks where automated verification is not possible. The P-CEN website will mirror the previous PEN International Website design and structure with the application of a

new color pallet to create the distinction between the old and new projects.

e. Location for New School

- i. We have initiated a search in Manila for a site for the model demonstration secondary/upper-secondary school. Presently, there is a school building that is contiguous with CSB that may be available. Dr. DeCaro had preliminary discussions with Brother Vic about this site. He indicates that the owner is interested in our program and would like to building to come to us. However, we will need to make a decision about the location of the school and funding the acquisition over a two-year period.

3. Personnel Preparation to Train C-Print Operators in the ASEAN Region

- a. Development of upgraded C-Print application in process, with the web-based system expected to be ready by C-Print development team early spring, 2012.
- b. Online training resources under development by C-Print development team, to be ready April 2012.
- c. Training will occur April – May 2012. It is expected that the training will be both online and live. Training for 6 to 8 individuals in the Philippines in Year 2.
- d. We are now preparing the selection criteria for those who will receive the training and subsequently selecting those to be trained.

4. IDPP Board

- a. IDPP Signing Ceremony (April 4, 2011)
 - i. Nora Shannon accompanied NTID President Gerry Buckley and represented PEN-International at the IDPP Signing Ceremony at Mahidol University in Thailand.
- b. IDPP Executive Board Meeting and Residency Program, in Bangkok, Thailand (July16- 23, 2011)
 - i. Nora Shannon represented NTID at the IDPP Executive Board meeting.
 - ii. Nora Shannon attended one week of the two-week residency program for CDPP program of American University.
 1. She advocated for the rights of the deaf students who were participating in the program and wrote a report to Dr. DeCaro regarding impressions of the residency.

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