

# **NTID/RIT Lands Third Major Award To Lead Global Effort For Educating Deaf**

March 1, 2003

Nippon Foundation has awarded the National Technical Institute for the Deaf at Rochester Institute of Technology \$1.19 million to continue its leading role in improving education and career opportunities for deaf people around the world.

To date, The Nippon Foundation has awarded NTID \$3.28 million to help colleges across the globe improve technological education for their deaf students through a program called Postsecondary Education Network International (PEN-International), conducted in partnership with Tsukuba College of Technology in Japan.

Deaf students attending specific colleges in Japan, China, Russia, and the Philippines will continue to benefit from PEN-International's expertise through improved curriculum, increased access, new technology, multi-media labs and trained faculty. This year, programs in Beijing and in Prague, Czechoslovakia, have been added to the growing list of PEN-International collaborators.

"Each country is in a different stage of educating deaf people at the college level. Each has its own set of goals," said James DeCaro, Ph.D., former Dean of NTID, and director of PEN-International. "Add to that mix each country's unique written, spoken and signed languages, its own culture and technical knowledge, and it becomes a very exciting, multi-layered project."

For more information about PEN-International and its global partners, visit [www.pen.ntid.rit.edu](http://www.pen.ntid.rit.edu).