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China Educational Technology Initiative,
China Wireless Project

Taught OCW material, deployed MIT
iLabs, and explored wireless technology
applications

The Projects:

For CETI, we taught MIT Open Courseware at Dalian University of Technology and Zhejiang University, and helped in the operation of MIT's iLabs, which enable remote teaching and experiments.

For the China Wireless Project, we traveled to Fuzhou, China to deploy pilot wireless mesh networks with Fuzhou University, Trigmax, and FuRiHeng Electronics. We formalized the creation of a Chinese wireless technology research lab and trained on-ground technical support.



The Hosts:

Dalian University of Technology (DUT):
DUT is located in Dalian, China, a northern coastal city known for its beautiful beaches and scenery. The university provided housing, food, facility access, and lab access.

Zhejiang University (ZJU):
ZJU, one of China's most prestigious universities, is located in Hangzhou, China. The southern city is famous for West Lake.

Fuzhou University (FZU):
FZU recently opened its wireless technology research laboratory, and is working with MIT to explore the applications of wireless in bridging the digital divide.



Impact:

The CETI program was an opportunity to apply technical and language skills while exploring a new culture: tastes (from pig ears to sheep feet), sights (breathtaking mountains), smells (think Durian) and sounds (learning Chinese!).



Our China Wireless Project demonstrated the capabilities of wireless technologies, deployed trial sites, developed software, and initiated partnerships with institutions in China and the United States. The wireless covered a university lab and a local business.

Preparation:

CETI and China Wireless applied technical skills from MIT through sharing OCW curriculum with students and applying technologies. Language skills were needed to coordinate with administration, present material, and travel the nation.



Preparing for change was key, as often the situations required modifying curriculum, altering deployment plans, and addressing unanticipated problems. Anticipating potential challenges added flexibility and smoothed execution.

Life in China:



Dalian:
In Dalian, we had the chance to explore the gorgeous beaches, enjoy beautiful parks, and participate in an active night-life.

Hangzhou:
Hangzhou's West Lake is world-famous for its exquisite beauty: towering pagodas, serene lake, ancient temples, and delightful food specialties.

Fuzhou:
Surrounded on three sides by lush mountains and forests and bordered by the ocean, Fuzhou is known for its seafood specialties and beautiful mountain/ocean scenery.



Back at MIT:



The MISTI internships give us the opportunity to apply MIT skills and technology to real world challenges. We demonstrated how wireless mesh can be used to extend Internet coverage to rural and developing regions. In the process, we experienced the Chinese culture and worked with Chinese students and staff to create sustainable solutions.

Our team hopes to return to China to continue on the wireless deployment. In addition, I look forward to a career that works with both China and the United States in technology development.