Qinghai
Xining
D-Lab China History

- Began summer ’05 through existing relationship with Qinghai University

- 1-month workshop with QU students
  - Similar to MIT D-Lab
  - Composting toilet project with local village
  - Student group

- 1-week visit to Yushu
  - Interested primarily in energy projects
At Qinghai University
A Nomadic Community
In Yushu
IAP Projects

- Composting toilet
  - Qinghai University students
  - Improve design
  - Large-scale implementation plan

- Biogas system
  - Lightweight, sturdy, easily transportable
  - Temperature issue

- Snowmelt system
  - Use snow for drinking water
IAP Schedule

- 5 Jan – depart Boston
- 6 Jan – arrive Beijing
- 10 Jan – arrive Xining (train)
- 16 Jan – arrive Yushu (bus)
- 28 Jan – arrive Xining (bus)
- 29 Jan – Chinese New Year!
- 31 Jan – Arrive Beijing (train)
- 3 Feb – Arrive Boston
Expectations

- Rich cultural experience
- Already established connections, even though 1st D-lab project
- Closely work with university students, villagers, & NGO
- See many views of China
- Part implementation, part fact-gathering

- Housing
  - Hotel in Beijing; QU in Xining; SSG/nomads in Yushu

- Difficult to adapt
  - Xining – 2300m (7800ft), Yushu – 3700m (12,100ft)
  - Deep winter on ‘roof of the world’ = COLD
  - Less-than-ideal transportation

- Additional costs
  - ~$150 transportation, ~$50 food, souvenirs, clothes, etc.
Future Possibilities

- Spring term courses

- Summer
  - MIT China program
  - Overlap with IAP
  - Focus on Biogas Implementation
  - Qinghai University students