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AIPT Chosen by Department of State to Sponsor the WEST Program

WEST (Work, English Study, Travel) will launch in March 2009

Columbia, Maryland (January 21, 2009)—The Association for International Practical Training (AIPT) is pleased to announce that the U.S. Department of State and the Republic of Korea have selected AIPT to help inaugurate the WEST program created to enhance mutual understanding and friendship between the United States and Korea. Launching in March, the program will host an initial 300 Korean university students to study English and participate in internships to deepen their knowledge and experience in the United States while giving them international professional experience and a comprehensive understanding of the U.S. work place.

Craig Brown, Executive Vice President, AIPT, stated, “It is an honor to be called to sponsor the WEST program which focuses on the future of United States and Korean relations through tomorrow’s potential leaders. For 60 years, AIPT has been bringing different cultures together to create global competencies and international cooperation. We are working vigorously with the Global Internship Support Task Force (GISTF) established by the Korea’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MOFAT), to ensure that this reciprocal exchange is successful.”

The students may enter the United States for a period of up to 18 months on the J-1 Exchange Visitor Program allowing them to complete a course of study in English, work as an intern and travel independently. For further information on AIPT’s Korea WEST program and on hosting a Korean intern, please visit, www.koreawest.org or contact us at koreawest2009@aipt.org

Since 1950, AIPT has provided expert advice and services to more than 60,000 people seeking international career-related experiences. A non-profit 501(c) (3) organization, AIPT provides support to thousands of students, early-career professionals, businesses, and attorneys seeking to expand their involvement in the global arena. AIPT is the J-1

visa and work abroad provider that offers the most comprehensive array of programs. For more information on programs offered by AIPT, visit, www.aipt.org