

ARO teacher participates in training program at Oregon State University



ARO instructor Furogh Meerdad (fifth from right, top row), with ARO administrators, teachers, staff, and visiting relief team volunteers in Kabul, May 2007.

August 2007 – ARO language instructor, Furogh Meerdad, participated in July and August in a teacher training workshop at the English Language Institute, associated with Oregon State University (OSU), in Corvallis, Oregon. This was her first visit to the United States, and she was joined at the program by teachers from around the world.

At the end of the two-week workshop at OSU, Furogh and the other participants visited Washington, D.C. to provide cultural training about their respective countries.

Funded by the U.S. Department of State, the English Access Microscholarship program provides an opportunity to study English, and learn more about America. Forty-four countries have enrolled approximately 10,000 students in the program.

The OSU component of the program has as its major overall objectives:

- to help teacher-advisors learn more about American culture and best practices in teaching English
- to prepare participants to share their expertise with each other and with other teachers in their country and region
- to provide resources for teacher-advisors in the program

- to expand awareness among Americans about participants' countries and cultures

The English Language Institute at OSU provides English language instruction and teacher training to the field of international education. The Institute has been at OSU for over 40 years. Teachers receive instruction on the best practices in the language classroom, including how to improve teaching with computer software and the Internet.

ARO is immensely proud of our dedicated teachers. Furogh returned home with new friends and new classroom ideas to share with our students.