

TAIWAN:

International Military Student Follow-Up

ACCTS staff members Dave and Karen Wittman, who minister to international students who attend the Defense Language Institute English Center (DLI) in Texas, visited several former DLI students during a recent trip to Taiwan in order to renew their friendships and encourage the young officers in their military careers and spiritual lives.

During this trip, the Wittmans met with AMCF Vice President Andrew Tzeng and his family and introduced the former DLI students to key members of the military Christian fellowship of Taiwan. They also met with the extended family of a Taiwanese Air Force F16 pilot who died in a training crash while in the U.S.

The Wittmans also hosted a reunion for all DLI graduates, as Dave shares: “The reunion was split into three different luncheons and dinners. At these reunions, I introduced the the idea of the AMCF and military Christian fellowship, and introduced them to Andrew Tzeng, who also encouraged the active-duty officers and invited them to local and regional events.”

Karen presented a lecture on the history of music therapy to the Department of Psychology at the Military Medical Center in Beitou, which is also known as the Military Suicide Prevention Center. Karen’s lecture came at an important time, as Taiwan’s armed forces are beginning to implement music therapies to military mental health patients. They also met with Dr. (LTC) Tony Chow, Director of Neurology at the Tri-Service Hospital of Taiwan.

“Karen and I cannot tell you how honored we felt to be hosted in Taiwan and how important this trip was to re-kindling relationships, doing follow-up work with the active duty military and bringing the MCF to their lives,” Dave concludes. “While Karen and I estimated that there were about 10-12 Christians from this group of over 40 military officers, many of these folks are open to the Gospel and the MCF. Planting seeds and developing relationships is so important. We must invest in the lives of the young active-duty officers to keep the work of the Gospel going throughout the world.”