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Tsinghua University's WECL English Education Program Will Use SET-5 and SET-10 Spoken English Tests

MENLO PARK, Calif. -- Spoken English tests from Ordinate Corp., the leading provider of automated spoken language assessments, will be a standard component of the curriculum of Tsinghua University's World Exchange College of Language (WECL) English Education Program.

Tsinghua University is often considered to be the top technical university in China. WECL offers English immersion language instruction at Tsinghua and at other locations in China, including Beijing International Studies University, Yantai University and Xiamen WECL English College. WECL English College will use Ordinate's SET-5 and SET-10 spoken English tests for placement and exit testing of all of their students.

The SET-10 and SET-5 tests are fully automated 10- and five-minute tests of English speaking and listening abilities. Both tests are administered over the telephone and scored by the Ordinate testing system. Score reports are provided online, typically within minutes after the test taker has completed the test.

"Emphasis on speaking English – not just reading and writing English – is a critical goal at WECL's English immersion program," said Richard Guo, President of WECL English College. "Used as an entrance and placement test, the SET-5 test immediately gives our faculty an accurate picture of the new student's speaking and listening skills. This really helps us tailor the instruction to the student's level. By taking the SET-10 as an exit test, students can finish their one or two years of study with tangible evidence of their own progress."

"The adoption of the SET-10 by such a strong English language learning institution follows the pattern of acceptance that we've been seeing in the academic community," said Lionel Xu, General Manager of United Education, Ltd., Ordinate's exclusive representative in China. "More and more schools are discovering the great benefits of the SET tests, such as prompt scoring, accurate results, and easy administration procedures."

Contact for Ordinate:

Jason Engleman
Menlo Park, Calif. - 650.470.3539

Contact for Harcourt Assessment:

Mark Slitt
San Antonio, Texas - 210.339.5399

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About Ordinate Corp. and Harcourt Assessment, Inc.

Ordinate Corp., a subsidiary of Harcourt Assessment, Inc., was founded in 1996 to develop advanced language testing systems based on new techniques that use speech recognition to score spoken language proficiency. Ordinate combines recognition of spoken utterances with analysis of the manner of speaking to determine language proficiency and other speaker characteristics. Ordinate's augmented speech analysis technology sets a new standard in language testing for speed, accuracy, cost and convenience.

Harcourt Assessment is a leading provider of high-quality assessment instruments and testing programs used by educators, psychologists, speech-language pathologists, occupational therapists and businesses. The company is affiliated with the Harcourt book publishing companies, and together they form the global education brand of Reed Elsevier Group plc (NYSE: RUK and ENL) -- a world-leading publisher and information provider operating in the science and medical, legal, education and business-to-business industry sectors.

About WECL English College

WECL English College is the first English immersion school in Chinese educational history since 1949. WECL English College offers one- and two-year intensive English immersion programs at locations throughout China, often on university campuses. The curriculum includes English language, international business, and world affairs/world cultures. The first WECL English College opened in 1993. For more information about WECL English College, visit www.tsinghua-wecl.com.

About United Education Limited

United Education Ltd. (UEL), a Morningside company, was established in 2003. UEL's management team has rich experience in the fields of education, linguistics and information technology. UEL is dedicated to uplift the standard of services in the education and training sectors in China via the introduction of advanced technologies, products and related services. UEL has been appointed the master distributor of Ordinate SET tests in China, including Hong Kong and Macau.

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