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**Northwestern Polytechnical University**

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### **SPEED GREETINGS**

(adapted from young adult “speed dating”)

This is an activity that worked very well and was a lot of fun for the students. First, we presented a short lesson on proper greetings and farewells, and how to carry on a conversation. Then we had the students number off by declaring themselves a #1 or a #2. All the number ones were asked to form a line. Then the number two students formed a line facing the line of number ones. They were asked to begin a one on one conversation with the person in front of them, using proper greeting language, carry on the conversation, and end with proper farewell language when a signal was given (once conversations started, turning out the lights for a moment became the signal to change partners). Then each student in the line of number 2's would rotate to the next person on the right in the number one line that stayed stationary. The end number 2 person would go around to the far end of the line. Then the greetings and conversations would begin again. We would continue rotating until the time allotted for this activity was finished. The students really seemed to enjoy this activity, got to know each other better, and were able to practice English in interesting conversations. We recommend that this activity be used early in a semester or as an ice breaker in English Corner or most any informal gathering.