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# WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

The WASLI Executive Board would like to warmly welcome Robin Demko, our new Membership Secretary.

Here is an introduction from Robin:

*I am a Deaf Canadian. I work as an administrative assistant for the Western Canadian Centre for Deaf Studies and the David Peikoff Chair of Deaf Studies at the University of Alberta in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.*

*I am currently doing a Masters degree in Distance Education with Athabasca University.*

*I live with my spouse, 3 dogs and a cat who thinks he is a dog. In my spare time (which I have very little of!), I attend Uechi Ryu karate classes.*

*I worked with WASLI on the sponsorship programme for the 2008 Segovia conference and am now working as Membership Secretary for WASLI.*

You can email Robin at [membership@wasli.org](mailto:membership@wasli.org)



## WASLI HAS A NEW WEBSITE

We are pleased to announce that WASLI has a brand new website! Please visit [www.wasli.org](http://www.wasli.org) to have a look, and tell your friends and colleagues. Huge thanks to David Wolfenden, WASLI's webmaster.

A screenshot of the WASLI website homepage. The header features the WASLI logo (World Association of Sign Language Interpreters) and a search bar. Below the header is a navigation menu with links: Home, About This Website, Documents, Mentoring, Guidance, FAQs, and Contact Us. The main content area has a green banner with the text "Committed to the worldwide development of sign language interpreting". Below the banner is a "Welcome to our New Website" section with a quote: "Welcome to this website, the internet home of the World Association of Sign Language Interpreters (WASLI). This is a new and exciting era for sign language interpreters, and WASLI as a membership-led organisation, is proud to be at the forefront of developments. This website is designed to meet your needs for information and support, and to bring you up to date news of what is happening in the sign language interpreting profession. We recognise that the situation of sign language interpreters is very different from country to country, but by sharing the knowledge and experience you have, you will strengthen and...". To the right of the welcome message are two boxes: "Documents" (Download and read the latest WASLI documents) and "Calendar". A left sidebar contains a list of links: Acknowledgments, Code of Ethics, Glossary, Links, News, Research &amp; References, Testing Assessment and Accreditation, Training Establishments, WASLI Publications, Message from the President, WASLI Executive Board, WASLI History, World Federation of the Deaf, Joint Agreements, and Deaf Interpreters.

## THAILAND



Location: Southeast Asia, bordering the Andaman Sea and the Gulf of Thailand, southeast of Burma

Population: 65,998,436

Capital: Bangkok

Language/s: Thai, English (secondary language of the elite), ethnic and regional dialects

GDP: \$8,100 (2009 est.)

Exports: Textiles and footwear, fishery products, rice, rubber, jewellery, automobiles, computers and electrical appliances

(Source: <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/th.html>)

## SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETING IN THAILAND

### Zane Hema, WASLI Secretary

Thailand is located in southeast Asia, bordering the Andaman Sea and the Gulf of Thailand, southeast of Burma. A unified Thai kingdom was established in the mid-14th century. Known as Siam until 1939, Thailand is the only southeast Asian country never to have been taken over by a European power<sup>1</sup>. Thailand is a beautiful country with friendly people, tasty food and a tropical climate. It is a popular destination for people from all around the world.

At present there is only one place in Thailand where you can train to become a signed language interpreter and this is at Ratchasuda College located at Mahidol University in the capital Bangkok. On 25 February 2010, the WASLI Secretary made a visit to Ratchasuda College to meet with those who are responsible for training interpreters.



*Sopon Chaiwatanakulwani, the Dean Dr Pimpa Kachondham PhD, Dr Suksiri Danthanavanich PhD and the WASLI Secretary in front of the mural in reception which also shows HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindorn*

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/th.html>

## About the College

Ratchasuda College was established in accordance with the generous mercy of HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindorn, daughter of HM the King of Thailand. She has held a life long interest in and has a deep concern for persons with disabilities. Much of HRH efforts in the past have been concentrated on the very young.

It is through HRH efforts and urging that action is being taken now to expand educational services to persons with disabilities beyond the secondary school level. In mid 1990, HRH expressed concern for the disabled and urged the development of programmes to provide opportunities for education and training of persons with disabilities.

It is HRH Princess Sirindhorn's conviction that the disabled, given proper training, will lead lives which are as productive and rewarding – both personally and to society as a whole, as those who have no disability. Because of HRH the Princess' commitment to this cause, she has graciously consented to give her name to Ratchasuda College of Higher Education and Research Centre for (the Physically Disabled) under Mahidol University.



*The Dean – Dr Pimpa Kachondham PhD and the WASLI Secretary*

## Philosophy of Ratchasuda College

Ratchasuda College is a college of higher education for disabled adults in Thailand, providing education and academic services through research to develop knowledge concerning maximising the potential for life for persons with disabilities based on equality cooperation.

## Meeting with staff

I had the great pleasure to meet (1) the Dean - Dr Pimpa Kachondham PhD, (2) Deputy Dean - Dr Pomphan Pumipu, (3) Thai Sign Language Interpreter/Lecturer/Sign Language Interpreter Trainer - Sopon Chaiwatanakulwanit and (4) Lecturer/Linguist (Grammar of Thai Sign Language) – Dr Suksiri Danthanavanich PhD. From our meeting it was interesting to find that signed language interpreter training has been part of the programme at Ratchasuda College for some time. Firstly, training was at the *Certificate* level and then it progressed on to the *Graduate* level. But more exciting is that from June 2010, the College will run a 4-year BA programme. Also we talked about the Deaf community and sign language interpreters I was given the following estimates:

- Deaf Population: 300,000 (estimated)

- Number of Sign Language Interpreters: 300 (151 people have completed the Graduate Programme in Sign Language Interpreting and about 40 people now work as Sign Language Interpreters)
- Interpreter Education/Training: BA (Thai Sign Language Interpreting), starts June 2010, 4-year programme



*WASLI Secretary, Dr Pomphan Pumipu PhD, - Sopon Chaiwatanakulwanit and Dr Suksiri Danthanavanich PhD)*

It is important to appreciate that signed language interpreting has not yet developed as a profession as much as it has in other countries but it is developing. The earning potential of a signed language interpreter in Thailand varies. An interpreter working in the public service can expect to earn between 6,840 – 10,000 baht a month (*100 baht is roughly about USD\$3.09*). On an hourly basis interpreters earn between 200 and 500 baht per hour and the differences depend on the type of interpreting assignment so the more complex assignments will mean a higher rate per hour.

Thailand has a National Association of Thai Sign Language Interpreters (NATSI) which was established in 2002. Sopon Chaiwatanakulwanit was the first President and now serves as Vice President. The Association has 40 members and a committee comprising of 11 members.

### **NATSI Objectives**

- To cooperate with Thai sign language interpreting services



<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/th.html>

- To be representative of Thai Sign Language interpreters of Thailand
- To enrich knowledge and experiences between members
- To promote knowledge about sign language interpreters to the public
- To study and research
- To facilitate and to control quality standards for members through training
- To collaborate with institutes, associations and other organisations that have the same objectives in Thailand and foreign countries

## Contact

Sopon Chaiwatanakulwanit – Email: [sopon88@hotmail.com](mailto:sopon88@hotmail.com)

Ratchasuda College at Mahidol University <http://www.rs.mahidol.ac.th/>

It was a pleasure to meet the staff and to find out about what is happening in Thailand. WASLI wishes Ratchasuda College every success as they begin the teaching of the BA programme in June 2010. WASLI also wishes NATSI success as it begins the journey of profiling the profession of signed language interpreting throughout the kingdom.

## Acknowledgements

Dean - Dr Pimpa Kachondham PhD  
 Deputy Dean - Dr Pomphan Pumipu  
 Sopon Chaiwatanakulwanit  
 Dr Suksiri Danthanavanich PhD

## CANADA



Area: 9,984,670 sq km  
 Population: 33,487,208 (July 2009 est.)  
 Capital: Ottawa  
 Language/s: English (official) 58.8%, French (official) 21.6%, other 19.6% (2006 Census)  
 Currency: Canadian dollars (CAD)  
 GDP: \$38,400 (2009 est.)

(Source: <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ca.html>)

# REPORT FROM AVLIC (ASSOCIATION OF VISUAL LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS OF CANADA)



**Colleen Friel and Barb Mykle-Hotzon, March 2010**

The Association of Visual Language Interpreters of Canada is the national, professional association of American Sign Language-English interpreters in Canada; we currently have over 600 members. Our mandate is similar to that of other professional interpreter associations: advancing the profession by promoting high standards and certifying interpreters. Among other things, we provide to our members and the public the Code of Ethics and Guidelines for Professional Conduct (CoEGPC) and an innovative process for dispute resolution.

Our CoEGPC has been used worldwide by interpreter associations looking to create their own code of ethics. The principle behind this document is to serve as a guide for our members and the general public who use the services of our members. As such, it aspires to ensure quality of service for all persons involved. Adherence to all five tenets is essential for maintaining national standards and each tenet is of equal weight and significance. The five tenets are as follows: Professional Accountability, Professional Competence, Non-discrimination, Integrity in Professional Relationships and Integrity in Business Practices. Our members ratified the newest version of the CoEGPC in July 2000 and in July 2008 AVLIC created an ASL version available for viewing on our website at [www.avlic.ca](http://www.avlic.ca) on the Resources page.

To complement our CoEGPC, our membership ratified the Dispute Resolution Process (DRP) in 2004, which aims to maintain accountability to the field of interpreting. When there is a suspected violation of the CoEGPC, AVLIC expects the complainant will approach the interpreter involved and attempt to resolve the issue in a professional manner and in a spirit of respect and cooperation. The DRP offers a three-level process for dealing with concerns, Level One: Discussion and/or Consultation, Level Two: Mediation, and Level Three: Grievance. While it is intended that a majority of the issues will be resolved in Level One through the use of AVLIC-trained Internal Resource Persons (IRP), Level Two sees that a professional mediator is hired who is trained in resolving ethical and professional conduct disputes. Filing a grievance at Level Three is the final option available when the first two levels have not been successful. Level Three grievances will see an external professional arbitrator facilitate all aspects of the process at this level. In July 2008, AVLIC completed the translation of our Dispute Resolution Process into ASL and it can also be found on our website at [www.avlic.ca](http://www.avlic.ca) on the Services page.

Although AVLIC has established our CoEGPC and has created the Dispute Resolution Process as a way of being accountable to the consumers we serve and each other, there is still a number of interpreting related issues our members are faced with. One of the areas of most concern, and

requiring a high level of focus, is for those interpreters working with Deaf children in the school system. In Canada, school districts often do not adequately assess the skills of potential candidates during hiring processes. Therefore, they hire unqualified or under-qualified “signers” under the guise of providing accessibility to education for the Deaf child. As we all know, interpreting is a specialised skill and therefore the children, families and other professionals are unaware of the employees’ lack of proficiency. Our members who work in the school systems have asked for assistance in setting standards and our hard working Educational Interpreting Issues Committee (EIIIC) is doing a good job of supporting them. On AVLIC’s behalf, the EIIIC recently contacted the Ministry of Education in each of our ten provinces and three territories to promote the importance of hiring qualified interpreters, and to educate school districts about interpreting. The response was encouraging, but of course more work needs to be done.

Though the promotional efforts of the association we are seeing an increase in the number of employers of interpreters requiring AVLIC membership as a condition of employment and this is a win-win situation for all involved; employers are confident the employee has completed an interpreter education programme,



<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ca.html>

consumers receive services from a trained professional and AVLIC increases its membership numbers. AVLIC will continue to strive to make important connections like this with other departments within the Canadian government and other agencies nationwide that contract/hire interpreters. This is one of the major strategies outlined in our new national strategic plan being brought before the membership at our next annual general meeting in July 2010 in Ottawa, Ontario ([www.avlic2010.com](http://www.avlic2010.com)). This plan proposes to revise our current mission as well as introduce a new vision and core value statements for the association.

Please continue to watch our website for further details on all of these Canadian initiatives and feel free to contact us at any time with your questions at [avlic@avlic.ca](mailto:avlic@avlic.ca).

## NIGERIA



Location: Western Africa, bordering the Gulf of Guinea, between Benin and Cameroon  
 Area: 923,768 sq km

Population: 149,229,090  
Capital: Abuja  
Language/s: English (official), Hausa, Yoruba, Igbo (Ibo), Fulani  
GDP: \$2,400 (2009 est.)

(Source: <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ni.html>)

## NEWS FROM ASLIN (ASSOCIATION OF SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS NIGERIA)

The Nigerian National Association of the Deaf (NNAD) held its 2009 annual general meeting in October. Deaf Nigerians came to the city of Calabar, River State Capital and made progress on the issue of deaf rights in Nigeria. It was important for the deaf Nigerians to invite interpreters to attend the AGM as it is done in the international community. The AGM coincided with the planned training of National Executives of the NNAD in Nigeria. This is the beginning of new things to come since issues concerning interpreters was part of the training. We hope in the future to work with the Nigerian deaf community as partners in progress. Recently there has been a great understanding between the two bodies which shows a lot of mutual respect to interpreters and deaf persons alike. We hope that by the New Year 2010 there will be a memorandum of understanding between NNAD and ASLIN.



<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ni.html>

Also in late 2009, ASLIN had a meeting with Liz Gupta, the education program manager of Volunteer Services Overseas (VSO) in Abuja. We discussed ways forward in achieving the dreams of ASLIN. Liz was the former Boss of Christine Roscheart (Coco), a deaf blind lady who stayed in Nigeria for two years. During Coco's stay she was a source of inspiration to us. She donated the sum of 50 thousand naira to support ASLIN's registration with the Corporate Affairs Commission. She also donated a Camcorder and sign language books. She also organised a 3 day interpreter training course with the title "Professionalism of Sign Language Interpretation in Nigeria". She was also instrumental to so many advocacy programs in Nigeria. Coco recently relocated back home.

The meeting between Liz Gupter and ASLIN lasted for about an hour and half. There was a brief review of ASLIN activities within the one year working relationship with VSO. Liz commended the growth of the association in realising its objectives. She encouraged us to develop our action plan which will give more direction and focus in carrying out the task of developing ASLIN. The meeting ended with an appeal from ASLIN for VSO to provide the association executives with capacity

building training and organisational management skills. Liz responded with a promise to contact volunteers about the request. ASLIN shows its appreciation to Liz for her kind support all through the years. We wish her success in her future endeavours.

Finally, the NNAD recently conducted a one week training workshop which was organised by the World Federation of the Deaf. The training was to educate the Nigerian Deaf community on the issues of rights of deaf people. This training has paved a way for greater things to come in the lives of deaf Nigerians. ASLIN was also in attendance for the one day public lecture presented to the Abuja Association of the Deaf which is a branch of the NNDA. A lot of facts were revealed during the training, which was conducted by Lucy Upah and Caroline Conlon (WFD representatives). Central and West Africa have the lowest and the most underdeveloped situation of deaf rights and deaf related issues. Countries in the region have few or no professional interpreters. This stands as a great challenge to both deaf communities and sign language interpreters in the region. The problem is not a total absence of interpreters but a lack of training opportunities for interpreters and deaf communities. We wish to commend the WFD on these eye opening facts and appeal to WASLI and WFD to look into training programmes and scholarships for persons from the region to go for further studies.



*ASLIN members and WFD Representative (Caroline) during a Seminar organised for Abuja Association for the Deaf and Sign Language Interpreters*



*The Abuja Association of the Deaf and WFD Representatives during a Public Lecture*

# CONFERENCE REPORT: SUPPORTING DEAF PEOPLE 2010

**Tania Davidson, New Zealand**

The seventh Supporting Deaf People online conference was held 3-6 February 2010. This was my first online event, which I initially approached with some trepidation. My hope is that this report explains how online conferences work and encourages more of our members to consider attendance in future.

From start to finish, everything was easy. The registration process was quick and simple. The beauty of technology and the superb setup by Direct Learn Services allowed the 334 delegates from around the world to log in regardless of location or time zone.

In addition to the comprehensive Delegate Pack, there was a raft of extra features: a list of participants; a handy map to mark your location and see that of others; a guided tour; FAQs; a quick reference list so you could see who was 'attending' the same presentation; an instant message facility to send private messages with other delegates; a general discussion and resource sharing area, as well as a – B.Y.O., obviously – coffee corner for social chatter. All this *before* even looking at the papers on offer!

One week before the conference I received a password; this allowed immediate access to the two keynote speeches, all 11 presentations and signed language video clips. It also helped to budget time and make sure that I was able to attend the sessions of greatest interest.

And what a good thing – the first keynote "*Profanity as a function of language and strategies for interpreters*" (Kelly Murphy, USA) attracted a whopping 526 messages from participants! The sheer volume of reading could easily become overwhelming if not thought out ahead of time.

The main themes for this year's conference were:

- Interpreting in specialist settings
- Interpreters, fallout and vicarious trauma
- Effective interpreting, politeness, face and culture

As much as the presentations provided a veritable feast of food for thought, discussions in-session were real eye-openers. Some were simultaneously challenging and informative; daunting and sobering; heartening and engaging, ably and skilfully facilitated by each of the presenters. Others were quirky, contentious and humorous; or as off-putting, puzzling and far outside my sphere of knowledge as one might expect at a more traditional conference.

The depth and breadth of the collective knowledge conference-goers brought with them was phenomenal and easily the most enjoyable aspect of the conference. I realised again that we each have our own collection of on-the-job snapshots and this was a chance to take a peek into each other's albums, so to speak.

So much information, so many threads during discussions, so much to process and compare with one's own experiences and understanding! Thankfully, a four-week post-conference window allows ample opportunity to catch up on whatever was missed. In theory, attendance at every presentation is a distinct possibility.

To be at home, wherever that might be, and in touch with colleagues both known and new was a rare and novel treat. One point to note – participation in the discussions is not compulsory. You can be a 'read-only' attendee. Provided that you enjoy reading large volumes of information, I unhesitatingly recommend this conference to anyone wishing to expand their knowledge base and gain a more global insight to common issues facing our industry.

*(Report originally published in the Sign Language Interpreters Association of New Zealand newsletter; see [www.slianz.org.nz](http://www.slianz.org.nz) for further information)*

## SERBIA



Location: Southeast Europe, between Macedonia and Hungary  
Area: 77,474 sq km  
Population: 7,379,339  
Capital: Belgrade  
Language/s: Serbian 88.3% (official), Hungarian 3.8%, Bosniak 1.8%, Romany (Gypsy) 1.1%, other 4.1%, unknown 0.9% (2002 census)  
GDP: \$10,400 (2009 est.)

(Source: <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ri.html>)

# FIRST SIGNED LANGUAGE INTERPRETING SERVICE IN SERBIA

Vera Jovanović and Desanka Žižić



<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ri.html>

We are happy to announce that on December 3<sup>rd</sup> 2009 the first Sign language Interpreting Service was established in Belgrade, Serbia.

This service will provide interpreting services free of charge for deaf and hard of hearing people in the territory of Belgrade in different settings such as: legal settings, police, health, local governmental bodies and institutions, procedure of creating legal documents (testaments, contracts etc), employment, individual needs and support to independent living (using public services, complaints, bank, parents meetings in schools, marriages, funerals, filling in different forms, writing and translating unofficial letters, phone calls, video interpreting etc). This service is available for every deaf person provided that the setting is within the city of Belgrade, regardless of potential user's city of residence.

It is a pilot project of the Organisation of the Deaf of Belgrade and the Department for Protection of Persons with Disabilities of the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy of Serbia.

The goal of this project is to provide interpreting service free of charge for deaf and hard of hearing people and also to collect and analyse data on different issues, such as: the need for interpreters within the deaf community, settings in which interpreters are most needed, and finances needed to support this kind of service by the government.

The future forms of support for this kind of service depend a lot on the results of this pilot project and on the survey that will be carried out within it. So if there are any positive experiences or good examples of similar surveys, we would really appreciate if you would share this kind of information with us! The Serbian government is currently preparing a law on the use of sign language so it is necessary to find the most suitable ways to legally regulate this kind of service by the Government.

We prepared a leaflet and a video with necessary information related to the service, in Serbian and in Serbian Sign Language. Also we have been attending numerous meetings in the Deaf Club in Belgrade to inform the deaf community about this new service, and have held many meetings with the Ministry to prepare



the survey, which will be carried out at the same time.

In first three months 110 individual Deaf users have already used this service and every day there are more and more people coming aboard. According to the feedback of our users, so far we have met their expectations and needs fully and adequately, and we expect more and more new clients every day. At the moment there are two full time interpreters and three freelance interpreters.

This pilot project will last until May 2010. We hope and we will do our best to make it continue and to arrive to the point when it will be a service provided permanently by government and arranged by law.

All of you are part of this success and we wanted to thank you for supporting us!

We would like to express special thanks to Mr. Colin Allen who has been our friend, mentor and biggest support through all these years; and to our Hungarian friends from the National Association of Sign Language Interpreters (JOSZ). Having heard the presentation of the Serbian representative in the efsli meeting in Switzerland in 2007, they offered to share their knowledge and experience with Serbian and other colleagues who still didn't have an organised and established system of state funded interpreting services. They organised several wonderful learning days in Budapest, Hungary for all of us. And it has been a really great support which has empowered us to make this giant step towards this goal!

## **EFSLI 2010: 'SYNERGY - MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER'**

**September 10 - 12, 2010**

In 2010, efsli will be coming home when its AGM and Conference will be held in Glasgow, Scotland.

The Scottish Association of Sign Language Interpreters (SASLI) is proud to welcome efsli members back to our small but beautiful country. The conference venue is the Radisson SAS hotel, located in the heart of Glasgow and less than a 5 minute walk from the main railway station. There is also a range of other hotels and hostels close by to suit all budgets.

The theme of the Conference is 'SYNERGY - Moving Forward Together'. We shall be looking back on the development of the profession of interpreters of signed languages. Can we be satisfied that we are fully equipped for the challenges and changes the future will bring? Are the goals and values of interpreter practitioners and educators shared by providers and service users?



This conference will explore the missing links at both a micro and macro level, and encourage reflection on the skills and knowledge necessary to equip signed language interpreters from all parts of Europe for a constantly evolving environment

As well as providing you with an informative and stimulating conference, we guarantee you will enjoy yourself. Bring your dancing shoes, try the haggis and savour the whisky!

We look forward to seeing you in Glasgow in 2010

For further information please contact: Gordon Chapman [enquiries@efсли2010.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@efсли2010.org.uk)

Conference website: <http://www.efсли2010.org.uk/>



## **ASLIA INTERPRETER TRAINERS' WORKSHOP (ITW): CALL FOR PAPERS**

**Monday 30th and Tuesday 31st August 2010, Brisbane, AUSTRALIA**

The 6th ASLIA National Interpreter Trainers' Workshop (ITW) in Brisbane, Australia on 30 & 31 August 2010 offers interpreter educators and trainers an opportunity to come together to share information, expertise and resources. The ITW will take place immediately after the ASLIA National Conference. Delegates in attendance at the ITW are typically signed language interpreter educators, trainers and practitioner-researchers from across Australia, and overseas. The ITW is the only regular opportunity available in the southern hemisphere for these delegates to come together and share teaching resources and strategies, discuss developments in the field, and network with national and international peers involved in interpreter education and training.

**Abstracts:** We are seeking presentations on innovative approaches that promote good teaching and learning, and specific strategies educators have found useful in training interpreters. Papers submitted can address development activities and initiatives aimed at trainee interpreters, accredited interpreters and/or Deaf Relay Interpreters. The following is a list of some possible presentation topics, but the list is by no means exhaustive:

- Initiatives supporting successful student outcomes

- Specific training activities & resources
- Assessment and standards
- Distance learning in interpreter education
- Closing the gap between sign language classes and interpreter training courses
- Research related to interpreter training
- Mentoring programmes
- The use of technology in training

Presentations may be either: a) Lecture-style of 40-minutes duration (30-minute presentation, 10 minutes for questions); or, b) Practical workshop (from 1.5 hours - 3 hours). In your abstract, please clearly indicate which style of presentation you would like to give, and if a workshop, specify preferred length of time needed, from 1.5 - 3 hours. Presentations can be delivered in Auslan or English.

Abstracts written in English are to be a maximum 300 words in length and in Word format. Alternatively, you may also submit an abstract in Auslan of no longer than 3 minutes in duration (on DVD format only). Your submission should include your abstract and a title for your presentation; your name and contact details; your affiliation (if applicable); preferred presentation language; presentation type (lecture or workshop); and a brief (100 word max.) bio about each presenter.

Please submit a soft copy of abstracts in Word format to: [itn@aslia.com.au](mailto:itn@aslia.com.au) or submit DVD abstracts in Auslan to: ITW2010, PO Box 189, Haberfield NSW 2045, Australia.

Deadline: Abstracts must be received by 8 May 2010

Acceptance: Letters of acceptance will be emailed by 24 May 2010

Submit full paper/PowerPoint in soft copy: For interpreter preparation purposes by 24 July 2010

Please direct any ITW2010 queries to Karen Bontempo: [itn@aslia.com.au](mailto:itn@aslia.com.au)

## **AVLIC 2010 CONFERENCE**

**July 6-10, 2010, Ottawa, Canada**

The conference theme will be "*Small Steps Big Difference*", showcasing the several seemingly small steps we take in our profession to develop ourselves and others as skilled professionals and support of our communities. These steps often go unnoticed and yet accumulate over time, have an impact on ourselves and others, making a significant difference in our community.

The Ottawa Marriott Hotel is pleased to offer us its warm, inviting hospitality and first-class conference facilities, located in the city's beautiful downtown, just steps away from Canada's Parliament buildings, national museums, galleries and famous Byward Market shopping district.

Please explore our website and contact us with any questions you may have:  
<http://www.avlic2010.ca/>

Looking forward to seeing you in at AVLIC 2010 Conference in OTTAWA

Catherine Maier, Roxanne Whiting and Paula Bath

Your AVLIC 2010 Conference Co-Chairs

## **CALL FOR PAPERS: THE INTERPRETERS' NEWSLETTER**

**Special issue on Television Interpreting**

**Department of Language Sciences, Interpreting and Translation**

**University of Trieste (Italy)**

**Editors: Francesco Straniero Sergio and Caterina Falbo**

Television Interpreting (TI) is still a largely under-researched area, as compared to other forms of audiovisual translation, such as subtitling and dubbing, and other institutional settings of what is known as Dialogue Interpreting, such as health care, immigration services and courtroom interpreting. The aim of this special issue on TI is to bring together state-of-art research results. Our intention is to provide a place where researchers, practitioners and broadcasters from diverse communities can present their different perspectives in this field. The goal is to reach a better understanding of similarities/differences in this particular form of interpreting.

The editors invite contributions that address conceptual, theoretical, methodological and practical issues of TI. Papers must be submitted in English or French and describe original research which is neither published nor currently under review by other journals or conferences. Submitted manuscripts will be subject to a process of peer review.

**Topics of interest include, but are not limited to, the following:**

- TI vs. Conference Interpreting and other interpreting activities
- Analyses of interpreter performance
- The creation of TI corpora
- Interpreting modalities (simultaneous, consecutive, hybrid forms) and media genres (talk shows, news, media events, etc.)
- Monologue vs. dialogue formats in TI

- Interactional aspects of TI (the interpreter's mediation function, role and identity negotiation, the relations between on-screen and off-screen participants, etc.)
- Interpreters as journalists and journalists as interpreters
- TI vs. news reporting, commentary and editing
- Television as an institutional employer of interpreters (market demand, number of languages, recruitment policies, working conditions, code of ethics, etc.)
- The role of television in shaping the professional status of interpreters
- Quality assessment and users' expectations (including the broadcasters' perspective)
- Abstracts must be 350-500 words long and should be sent as Word attachments to the e-mail address [interpretersnewsletter.2011@units.it](mailto:interpretersnewsletter.2011@units.it) (Subject: "ABSTRACT TI 2011").

**Important dates:**

- Abstract submission: 15th September 2010
- Notification of acceptance: 30th September 2010
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## **NORTH AMERICAN SUMMIT ON INTERPRETING**

**Washington, D.C.**

The first North American Summit on Interpreting will take place on June 17 2010 in Washington, D.C. The purpose of the Summit is to bring together leaders and specialists from the various sectors of the interpreting profession (community, conference, legal, medical, military and signed language) to take stock of the current state of the profession and envision its future. We anticipate attendees from professional associations, academe, government, and the private sector at the event.

Detailed information about the Summit can be found at [www.interpretamerica.net](http://www.interpretamerica.net). I am proud to say that two of our initial sponsors are academic institutions on the forefront of interpreter training—the Monterey Institute and the National Centre for Interpretation at the University of Arizona.

The Summit is not a "scholarly" meeting per se, but we will be presenting some very interesting research on the interpreting market and the legal framework within which we exercise the profession as well as standards of practice, training and certification. Academe has a very important role to play as the interpreting profession matures in the United States.

Registration opened January 15th and we anticipate that the event will sell out. The Summit is meant to encourage networking and dialog, and will be presented in plenary format, limiting the number of possible attendees. The one sector where our contacts are thin is signed language interpreting. Could you help get the word out to colleagues that you think fit the profile we are

looking for and would be interested in attending? Spoken language interpreters have much to learn from our signed language colleagues. I hope you will also consider attending.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Barry Slaughter Olsen: [barry.olsen@miis.edu](mailto:barry.olsen@miis.edu)

Summit website: [www.interpretamerica.net](http://www.interpretamerica.net)

## WE NEED YOUR NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS!

Please share interpreting news from your part of the world with us! To make a contribution, please contact [newsletter@wasli.org](mailto:newsletter@wasli.org).

The next deadline for newsletter contributions is **MONDAY 17<sup>th</sup> MAY, 2010**.

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