

WASLI Newsletter 2007-8



WASLI is committed to the development of the profession of sign language interpreting worldwide

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INTRODUCTION

It has been sometime since the last newsletter and much has happened since then. The webpage for WASLI 2007 has been updated with a photo gallery and information about the event so please visit the page www.wasli.org and click on WASLI 2007. Since the summer there has been much activity and this newsletter brings you news from the official statistics of the WASLI 2007 Conference, as well as a report on WASLI at WFD and WASLI at the RID 2007 Conference.

WASLI 2007 SEGOVIA

The WASLI 2007 Conference was a wonderful experience for those who attended and readers who want a comprehensive overview of the event should visit the website www.wasli.org

Official Statistics:

255 Attendees at conference – 197 women and 58 men (If you include working interpreters, and the organising committee – the total would be 270)

41 Countries represented from ALL WASLI regions

Most attendees came from Spain – 102



(Photo: Delegates from the host country, Spain, are welcomed to the Conference by everyone playing the castanets.)

WASLI AT THE WFD CONGRESS, MADRID WFD/WASLI JOINT AGREEMENT

The WASLI President and Secretary attended the WFD General Assembly in the afternoon in order where an important event took place and this was the signing of the WFD/WASLI Joint Agreement.

This agreement is about each organisation making a commitment to work closely together. A report on the signing and a copy of the joint agreement can be found on the website www.wasli.org click on WORLD FEDERATION OF THE DEAF.

MEETING WITH THE WFD PRESIDENT

The WFD President, Mr Markku Jokinen, was able to set aside time from his very busy schedule at the WFD, to speak with the WASLI President and Secretary to commence discussions on how the 2 organisations can work together. The talks were very valuable and ended with a commitment to work together and to pursue together what was agreed in the WASLI/WFD Joint Agreement.



(Above: WASLI President, Liz Scott Gibson, WFD President, Markku Jokinen and WASLI Secretary, Zane Hema.)

MEETING INTERPRETERS FROM LATINO AMERICA

The WASLI Latino America region encompasses many countries and includes South America, Central America and the Caribbean and West Indies. Delegates from Peru, Costa Rica, Argentina and Columbia attended the WASLI Conference. Jose Luis Brieva of Columbia was appointed by the WASLI Executive Board to develop the work of WASLI in the newly renamed 'Latino America' region.

During WFD he organised a meeting between the WASLI President and Secretary and interpreters attending from other Latino America countries, to discuss what could be done. In addition to the above, interpreters from Cuba, Venezuela, Uruguay and Panama attended. Colleagues from Spain joined the meeting. Two important issues were raised. First was the

need for WASLI information and news to be made available in Spanish and second was the need for there to be a conference that would bring interpreters from the region together.

A number of people have agreed to translate WASLI information into Spanish and so the work on this has started. Discussions continue about holding a possible conference in the region.



(Photo of interpreters from Latino America and from Spain plus the WASLI President and Secretary)

WASLI AT THE RID CONFERENCE, SAN FRANCISCO

The Registry of Interpreters held the Biennial Conference in August in San Francisco. The WASLI President sent a video message of greetings to the conference which saw Cheryl Moose take up the office of President a farewell presentation made to outgoing President, Angela Jones.

Deb Russell, WASLI North America Regional Representative, attended the event on behalf of WASLI. WASLI also had an exhibition stand and Bill Moody headed the team of volunteers that shared the work of promoting WASLI, taking membership applications and donations.

"RID has been lovely. The WASLI President's video message of greetings made a great impression and we had some increased traffic to the booth because of her warm words. Nicole did a great job of editing the material into a tight clip that was moving and inspirational. I think the group did a great job of hosting the table, and memberships came in and publications were sold. We looked very 'home grown' in comparison to other tables, so I know we can improve on that. Anyway, it is a great start, and I think raised some important consciousness in the USA about WASLI." – Deb Russell

WASLI would sincerely like to thank all those who assisted in the preparation, who helped out during the conference, and who voluntarily gave of their time and effort to support WASLI.



(Photo: Some of the volunteers at the WASLI Exhibition at the RID Conference)

NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

NEW ZEALAND – SHORTAGE OF INTERPRETERS

<http://www.stuff.co.nz:80/4227440a11.html>

MALAYSIA - A SIGN THE DEAF NEED HELP

There are only 15 sign language interpreters for the 30,000 Deaf people in the country

http://www.nst.com.my:80/Current_News/NST/Friday/National/2091520/Article/index_html



ENGLAND, - ASLI '21 Years: Coming of Age – Looking Back – Going Forward
5-6 April 2008, London

http://www.asli.org.uk/A_Conference08.htm



CANADA – AVLIC 2008 'Connecting Minds and Communities'
29 July – 2 Aug 2008 – St Johns, Newfoundland and Labrador

<http://www.avlic2008.com/home.html>

IMPORTANT

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To make a contribution or to advise of any change of an email address please contact secretary@wasli.org

WASLI EXECUTIVE BOARD

Officers: Liz Scott Gibson (President); Zane Hema (Secretary); Daniel Burch (Treasurer)

Regional Representatives: Emiko Ichikawa (Asia); Georgina Major (Australasia & Oceania); Philemon Akach (Africa); Selman Hoti (Balkans); Marco Nardi (Europe); Jose Luis Brieve Padilla (Latino America); Deb Russell (North America); Anna Komarova (Transcaucasia & Central Asia).