

WASLI Newsletter 2007 - 11



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

- INTERPRETERS GRADUATE IN MADAGASCAR
- INTERPRETERS GRADUATE IN ARGENTINA
- ONLINE CONFERENCE FOR DEAF PEOPLE 2008
- NEWSCLIPS FROM THE USA

INTRODUCTION

As more and more countries introduce interpreter training programmes, so the need comes for ceremonies to celebrate those who are successful and graduate. This has been the case for sign language interpreters in both Madagascar and Argentina, who in association with support from the Deaf community have done just that. There are photos and reports below.

The next ONLINE Conference for Deaf people takes place 4-7 February 2008 and details of how you can participate are given below together with a few newsclips from the USA.

INTRODUCING THE WASLI EXECUTIVE BOARD



Above: (Left - Right: Daniel Burch (Treasurer), Anna Komarova (Transcaucasia & Central Asia), Deb Russell (North America), George Major (Australasia & Oceania), Liz Scott Gibson (President), Emiko Ichikawa (Asia), Zane Hema (Secretary), Marco Nardi (Europe))



(Above: Selman Hoti (Balkans) and Jose Luis Brieva (Latino America) were appointed by the WASLI Executive Board with the specific task of developing the work of WASLI in their respective regions)

INTERPRETERS GRADUATING IN MADAGASCAR

WASLI knows that the National Association of the Deaf in Norway has been working closely with the Madagascar Deaf Federation in developing training for sign language interpreters. Theodoric Rajaonary sent the photographs below which are pictures taken from the recent graduation ceremony of the latest group of interpreters to have completed the programme.

ASLI (England, Wales and Northern Ireland) has sponsored Theodoric to attend WASLI 2005 and WASLI 2007.





INTERPRETERS GRADUATE IN ARGENTINA

For first time in Argentina 5 sign language interpreter members of the Mendoza Association of Argentine Sign Language Interpreters – AMILSA - (Province of Mendoza) got a national university degree valid in all the provinces of the country. Those interpreters graduated the first semester of 2006 from the National University of Cuyo.

Making history

In 2000 AMILSA presented a project to create a university interpreter-training programme under the faculty of Elementary and Special Education

This project goal was to provide formal training to interpreters doing their job empirically as well as provide a higher status to the interpreting job: all this in order to offer a quality service to the deaf community.

The same year AMILSA created a commission of interpreters and teachers of the deaf. This commission with the commission of teachers from the "Direction of Career of Teachers of University level in Deafness and Speech Therapist" as well as the "Institute for the Development of Special Education" worked together. As a result of their work the "edict" (I am not sure the meaning of "Ordenanza" in Argentina's legal/educational system. I am assuming is an edict but I am not sure) No. 74 from the Superior Counsel of the National University of Cuyo the University Interpreting Training Programme was created on September 12 of 2003

The first group of interpreters joined the new programme in 2004 and they graduated in 2006. The names of interpreters in that group are:

- 1) Natalia Anghinolfi (Santa Fe)
- 2) Cesar Pellegrini (Mendoza AMILSA)
- 3) Marisa Piergentili (Mendoza AMILSA)

- 4) Deborah Pizarro (Mendoza AMILSA)
- 5) Viviana Burad (Mendoza AMILSA)

The graduation ceremony was held on 25 October 2007 in the Ángel Bustelo Auditorium at the Exposition and Conference Center. The graduation ceremony was presided over by the authorities from the National University of Cuyo.

It was also attended by authorities from the faculty of Elementary and Special Education, teachers from the ITP, colleagues and most important than all, the Deaf Community from Mendoza

(Information provided by Viviana Burad - AMILSA founder member - from Mendoza Argentina.) *(Translated by Margarita Rodriguez)*

ONLINE CONFERENCE – SUPPORTING DEAF PEOPLE 2008

The fifth in the series of highly successful online events, Supporting Deaf People 2008 will take place from the 4th - 7th of February 2008. These conferences offer an international platform for information exchange and debate. To date, participants to SDP conferences have come from nearly 30 different countries over 5 continents.

For further information about the Supporting Deaf People online conferences, please see: <http://www.online-conference.net>

INTERPRETING IN MULTILINGUAL OR MULTIETHNIC CONTEXTS

Studies in Interpretation

A Research Series from Gallaudet University Press

Edited by Melanie Metzger and Earl Fleetwood

Guest Editors: Rachel Locker McKee and Jeffrey Davis

The fifth volume in the Studies in Interpretation series will be a collection of articles on the theme, ***Signed Language Interpreting in Multilingual or Multiethnic Contexts***, to be guest edited by Rachel Locker McKee, senior lecturer in deaf studies at Victoria University of Wellington, and Jeffrey Davis, professor in education, University of Tennessee. The editors are now accepting abstracts for papers that explore the challenges of working between combinations of languages in multilingual or multiethnic situations involving Deaf persons in circumstances such as the following:

- **Indigenous or regional** minority (spoken) languages community contexts in which Deaf people want to participate through signed language interpreting (eg, Maori cultural settings in New Zealand), or the use of indigenous or regional sign varieties by Deaf people (eg, Native American, or Catalan sign varieties)
- **Immigration** of Deaf and hearing people which results in (i) use of a different national signed language in a new host country (eg, Mexican Sign Language in USA), (ii) the use of a different host country spoken language by hearing associates of Deaf people in the new host country (eg. the use of Spanish by families of Latino deaf children in the USA).
- **International** conferences and meetings in which signed language interpreters are required to work between a non-native spoken language (usually English, as an official conference language) and one or more national signed languages.

While interpreting between any two languages entails the same fundamental processes and

skills, there are particular contextual issues for interpreters who work in the multilingual situations described above. Interpreting in minority language situations raises specific challenges around:

- achieving linguistic and cultural equivalence across wide cultural and linguistic gaps
- cultural expectations about the interpreter's role and relationship to the minority community
- mediating very unequal status/power dynamics
- establishing training and standards of competence for working in minority languages
- the need for collaborative relay interpreting practices

Due for release late Nov 2008

NEWSCLIPS FROM THE USA

USA - UNIVERSITY FOR DEAF IS PUT ON PROBATION

Gallaudet, the nation's only liberal arts university for the Deaf, has been put on probation by its accrediting agency, a sign that the campus continues to face problems months after protests last year shut down the school for days

http://www.nytimes.com/2007/07/01/education/01gallaudet.html?_r=1&oref=slogin

USA - LICENSE NEEDED TO BE SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETER

Some American Sign Language interpreters must apply for a license by July 1 to work legally beyond Oct 1st

<http://www.tucsoncitizen.com/ss/local/55977.php>

IMPORTANT

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

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