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# REPORT FROM NEW ZEALAND - SLIANZ 2008 "BEST PRACTICE: THE BRIDGE TO PROFESSIONALISM"



Area:268,680 sq kmPopulation:4,173,460Capital:WellingtonLanguage:English (official), Maori (Official), New Zealand Sign Language (Official)Currency:New Zealand Dollar (NZD)GDP:\$27,200 per capita

(Source: <a href="https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/nz.html">https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/nz.html</a>)

The SLIANZ (Sign Language Interpreters Association of New Zealand) annual conference was held recently in Auckland, New Zealand, July 12 – 13. George Major, the WASLI Australasia & Oceania representative, attended the conference. She gave a WASLI report and read a message of greetings from the WASLI President, Liz Scott Gibson. At the AGM, the membership voted on George staying on as the WASLI representative until the term finishes in 2011 (as this is currently a SLIANZ position, but George has recently moved to Sydney, Australia, for study!).



(Above: Alan Wendt (ex-SLIANZ President) interpreting, Jeff Davis presenting)



(Above: Tania Davidson (committee member) and Delys Magill (new SLIANZ President) launching the new SLIANZ professional development system)

The conference programme included an interesting mix of research presentations and practical workshops, and SLIANZ was pleased to host Dr Jeffery Davis as the keynote presenter, and Ms Joneti Rokotuibau (President, Fijian Interpreters Committee) as an invited guest. The SLIANZ committee also launched the new Professional Development system, whereby members will undertake a minimum of 3 (to become 4 in the future) professional development activities per year and report back on them. This is likely to become a points-based requirement for membership, but for the first year is a trial and it is voluntary.

The newly elected SLIANZ committee is:

President – Delys Magill (Auckland)

Secretary – Sarah Mossman (Wellington)

Treasurer – Lynnley Pitcher (Auckland)

Committee members – Micky Vale (Wellington), Tania Davidson (Whangarei), Judith Reweti (Auckland), James Bichan (Auckland), and Bridgette Strid (Wellington)

SLIANZ publishes a quarterly electronic newsletter – if you would like to receive a copy (free), please email: <a href="mailto:newsletter@slianz.org.nz">newsletter@slianz.org.nz</a>

If you would like to contact George Major, the WASLI Australasia & Oceania representative, please email: <a href="mailto:austoceania@wasli.org">austoceania@wasli.org</a>

The SLIANZ website is <u>www.slianz.org.nz</u>



(Above: Joneti Rokotuibau (President, Fijian Interpreters Committee) and George Major (WA-SLI Australasia & Oceania representative))

(Report by George Major WASLI Regional Representative for the Australasia & Oceania Region)

## efsli/WASLI PROTOCOL – SIGNING AT efsli 2008





(Above: efsli President Maya de Wit (Netherlands) and WASLI Regional Representative for Europe show off signed copies of the Protocol)

The *efsli* 2008 AGM and Conference took place in Voorschoten in the Netherlands 12 – 14 September 2008. This year was a very successful event in many respects. There were a record number of attendees (over 260) from a record number of countries (30). *efsli* has a Special Attendance Fund which anyone can donate to at with record donations, the fund was able to sponsor colleagues from Malta, Ukraine, Romania, Serbia and Poland to attend.

The AGM/Conference also welcomed colleagues from beyond the border including the RID President, Cheryl Moose.

For WASLI the most important part of the AGM was the signing of the *efsli*/WASLI Protocol. The Protocol is a document that both organisations have worked together on and sets out ways in which the 2 organisations will collaborate and work together.

The document can be found on the WASLI website at: <u>http://www.wasli.org/PDFs/Joint%20Agreements/efsli-WASLI%20cooperation%20final%2020</u> 08.pdf

WASLI was able to sell the WASLI 2007 Conference Proceedings during the AGM/Conference and agreed to donate  $1 \in$  for each book sold. I took 40 books and sold 40 books and WASLI was able to donate  $\in$ 40 to the *efsli* Special Attendance Fund.

An in-depth report has been included in the *efsli* November Newsletter. If you would like to have a copy of this, please contact me at <u>europe@wasli.org</u>



For information about efsli visit www.efsli.org



For information about efsli 2009 'Sound Minds Sound Hands' in Tallinn, Estonia visit: <u>http://www.evkty.ee/eng\_efsli2009/index.html</u>

To watch the movie of efsli 2008 go to <u>http://nl.youtube.com/watch?v=ujBZ3Rutau8</u>

(Report by Marco Nardi, WASLI Regional Representative, Europe)

## ISRAEL - ISLIA THE INTERPRETER ASSOCIATION



Area:20,770 sq kmPopulation:7,112,359Capital:JerusalemLanguage:Hebrew, Arabic, EnglishCurrency:Israeli ShekelGDP:\$26,600(Source: https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/is.html )

The Sign Language Interpreter Association in Israel (ISLIA) was formed in 1993, and was finally recognised by the government last January. We have approximately 50 members.



From November 2008 the sign language interpreting training will take place at bar Ilan University and will be a two year programme with the possibility to continue to do a third year.

(*Report from Adina Izralevich, Israeli Sign Language Interpreter Association* <u>http://malach.somee.com/</u>)

#### **UPCOMING EVENT**



Interpreters in health, legal, and public services

May 6-8, 2009 Vancouver, Canada

CRITICAL LINK 2009 6 – 8 May 2009 Vancouver BC, CANADA

For information on the 2009 Global Voices, Local Results Conference, an international conference on community interpreting. Website: <u>www.criticallink.org/2009conference</u>

#### **LEGAL INTERPRETING CONFERENCE – USA - 2009**

Legal American Sign Language Interpreters, Inc.

Formerly known as Conference of Legal Sign Language Interpreters (CLSLI), we've changed our name to Center for Legal American Sign Language Interpreters, Inc. (LASLI Center)!

The LASLI Center provides a free and useful resource for both legal ASL interpreters and those who use their services in legal and judicial settings. It is the home site for the triennial Iron Sharpens Iron conferences, a source for articles of interest to practitioners as well as a resource for finding experienced and qualified interpreters, trainers, speakers or linguistic experts--and much more!

The databases are still to be populated with more, the News and Events still to be loaded with more, the Resources still to be expanded with more. And with more, we can do more to increase the efficacy of the educating, advocating, and training that we do as an adjunct to the services we provide. Although the name has changed, our mission remains the same: to present legal sign language interpreters with an opportunity to enhance skills and augment knowledge in the specialized field of legal and judicial interpreting by providing quality training and education in a focused environment conducive to discussion, learning and mutual mentoring.

So, help spread the word: Iron Sharpens Iron 2009 is happening May 25-29, in Atlanta, Georgia. And now you can register AND pay on-line. Website: <u>www.laslicenter.com</u>

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