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## WASLI EDUCATION AND TRAINING TASK GROUP UPDATE

**Deb Russell (task group coordinator)**

The most frequent request WASLI receives is for help to educate interpreters. We have formed a committee to produce some guidelines and materials that can be made available to countries requesting support. The committee work is going well and we have produced the first philosophical statement to guide the work of anyone providing educational events in international contexts. The

next step is to create some structural models for countries with no previous education for interpreters and for those moving from informal education to formal academic structures, and to identify key resources. We have participation from 15 countries and it is a pleasure to chair this committee and to see the range of perspectives among the participants.

For more information, please contact Deb: [northamerica@wasli.org](mailto:northamerica@wasli.org)

## WASLI EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING 2009

The 2009 WASLI Board meeting will be held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, 6-7 Nov 2009, at the Confederacion Argentina de Sordos (Argentinean National Deaf Association) premises.

After this meeting, we will report back to you via this newsletter and our website [www.wasli.org](http://www.wasli.org)

## CAMPAIGN EVENT AT FINNISH PARLIAMENT HOUSE

**Thanks to Colin Allen for this article**

In September, WFD (World Federation of the Deaf) and FAD (Finnish Association of the Deaf) had the opportunity to campaign for funding support from the Finnish Government at the Finnish Parliament House. A campaign team including representatives from both WFD and FAD (Dr Liisa Kauppinen, Mr Colin Allen, Ms Jaana Keski-Levijoki and Ms Kaisa Alanne) met with the Speaker of the Parliament, Mr Sauli Niinisto ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sauli\\_Niinist%C3%B6](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sauli_Niinist%C3%B6)). They asked him to fund WFD at least 100,000 Euro for WFD's activity work as well as to encourage the government to ratify the UN Convention for Finland.

Here is a video clip filmed by FAD Media Crew during the campaign meeting with Mr Niinisto:

<http://www.goodmoodtv.com/internetv/singlevideoplayer.jsp?account=kladmin&id=3381430&videoId=8190103&width=678&height=38>

Earlier in the morning between 8 and 10, there was a Sign Language Cafe at the Parliament House with Deaf people working behind the cafe bar serving coffee/tea so they could communicate in FinSL with any MPs of the Parliament House who wanted to order coffee or tea. This was a brilliant campaign achieved by both FAD and WFD.

Another short clip can be seen here:

<http://www.goodmoodtv.com/internetv/singlevideoplayer.jsp?account=kladmin&id=3381430&videoId=8190091&width=678&height=381>

Below are photos from this event (with thanks to the Finnish Association of the Deaf)



## ONLINE NEWS WEBSITE

Here is a link to a website ("Intranews") with interesting language news that is relevant for interpreters and translators around the world: <http://intranews.intra.net/cgi-bin/index.cgi>

# UPCOMING CONFERENCES

## **International conference on sign languages (CILS)**

Monday, 16 November 2009 – Friday, 20 November 2009

Namur, Belgium

The aim of the conference is to share knowledge and experience with international researchers and professionals and provide them with the contribution of disciplines that, until now, have not been devoted to the study of LSF (Langue des Signes Française de Belgique): issues on bilingualism between oral and signed languages or between signed languages; and anthropologic and philosophical approaches to the relations between Deaf and Hearing communities.

The whole of the conference will be multilingual - LSF, International Signs (IS), French and English

The conference will be 5 days long, each day devoted to one central theme :

- Research on Sign Linguistics
- Bilingualism (oral/signed languages or between signed languages)
- Teaching by/for the Deaf
- Interpreting
- Anthropology and philosophy

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## **NAOBI (National Alliance of Black Interpreters, Inc.) 2010 Biennial Professional Development Conference**

**“Running with the Vision: Empower. Educate. Excel”**

June 24-27, 2010

Phoenix, AZ

CALL FOR PRESENTERS: The NAOBI, Inc. 2010 Conference Committee is currently seeking creative presenters for the 2010 Biennial Professional Development Conference.

See <http://naobi.org/2010/> for information about submitting workshop proposals

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