



WASLI

World Association of
Sign Language Interpreters

Newsletter November 2021

WASLI 2023 conference

The WASLI 2023 Program Committee had their first online meeting.

Are you interested in reviewing abstracts for the conference?

Let us know:

hpdebra.wasli@gmail.com

Considering being a 2023 volunteer? There should be opportunities at the conference - watch this space.

Keeping up with WASLI

Want to be always in the know of what is happening in the sign language interpreting world and what WASLI is doing? There are lots of ways to keep up.

Follow us on Facebook, on Twitter, and make sure you are signed up for our mailing list:

<https://www.facebook.com/wasli.official>

@WASLI_tweets

<https://wasli.us1.list-manage.com/subscribe?>

WASLI President representation

Following the WASLI online conference the WASLI president, Dr. Christopher Stone, had several consultations to further the profession:

LAC Region Deaf interpreters closed meeting



The WASLI president and Deaf Interpreter Advisor, Arunas, joined academics from Brazil presenting to a closed meeting of the LAC NASLI hearing and deaf representatives to present on the roles, profiles and professional competencies of deaf interpreters.

We hope that the meeting will move the issue of DIs forward in the region.

Consultation for Indonesia

The WASLI president and Deaf Interpreter Advisor, Arunas, were invited by the Indonesian Association of the Deaf to support the establishment of a national interpreter association. The meeting was attended by deaf and hearing representatives of the NAD, the national interpreting agency, and senior interpreting professionals.

Conference 2021 - caught up?

Our presenters kindly agreed to be recorded. Links to the recordings can be found at:

<https://wasli.org/conference-july-10-11>

These are for personal use and can be used for your own professional development.

Please consider making a donation to WASLI if you are in a position to do so - suggested donation \$25 USD

wasli.org/donation

These resources should become part of our Skills Repository for professional development - currently a work in progress.

This will also be where the revised leadership training (see article in this Newsletter) resources will be available.

Sharing research/publications

We are happy to bring your attention to the following resources:

[Recorded conference interpretations: translation or interpretation?](#)

[Feature in The Linguist: Split second decisions](#)

[From Word to Sign](#)

[Is good good enough? Ethical and responsible development of sign language technologies](#)

We are hopeful that Indonesia will establish a NASLI and we will watch this development closely. It would provide a good model for other countries with hard-to-reach communities and very multilingual societies.

Pilot leadership training with AFSLI



Honorary WASLI Honorary President Dr. Debra Russell and WASLI President Dr. Christopher Stone have been piloting the leadership modules online. These have been organised throughout September, October and November. Eight African countries were represented by nine attendees.

We will use the feedback that we have received to consider how we can better make this available to National Members of WASLI. The group also discussed how the resources might be used at a regional level to support leadership training, including having the English portion of the slides presented in other languages such as French, Portuguese, Swahili, etc.

ISAAB- IS interpreter accreditation



The WASLI - WFD IS interpreter accreditation call was launched in September with a deadline for applications set on October 15th, with our Honorary President agreeing to run the process as the ISAAB Chair Heidi Green needed to take a medical leave of absence. Debra Russell was ably supported by

WASLI Support

You can give the gift of WASLI all year round!

You can make a donation through our PayPal Donation button:

wasli.org/donation

Or donate via bank transfer - if so please contact our Treasurer Nigel Howard at:

treasurer.wasli@gmail.com

Or become a member and/or encourage your professional association to become a member:

wasli.org/membership/individual-member

wasli.org/membership/national-membership

wasli.org/membership/organisation-member

If you wish to support WASLI in other ways please do reach out to your [Regional Representative and Regional Deaf Interpreter Advisor](#).

You could support by helping to organise regional events, webinars, workshops, etc.

You could support in providing translations into languages other than English and IS.

You could serve on one of the Working Groups or suggest one in an area of interest to WASLI.

Betsy Winston and the previous ISAAB Chair (and current president) Christopher Stone.

We are pleased to have five pre-accredited candidates. All of them female and from the following countries: Belgium, France, Canada, Australia and Japan.

We received thirteen applications for accreditation. Of those eight are male and five female, coming from Hong Kong, Scotland, South Africa, UK, Spain, Colombia, USA and Croatia. Three applicants completed the Spanish assessment.

The IS exams are now with the IS assessors. Results will be known in December.

WASLI in attendance

The WASLI Board members occasionally attend activities and webinars organised by our partners. Our secretary, Dr. Isabelle Heyerick, attended the following webinars:

UK interpreter census

Webinar on the results of the UK census regarding the signed language profession in the UK. A research commissioned by ASLI (UK) and carried out by researchers from Heriot-Watt University, Wolverhampton University and the University of West of Scotland.

There were some interesting findings regarding gender disparities. It was found that women were more likely to be part-time freelance than men, and that men were both more likely to undertake high profile work and be more willing to take that work.

There was also a lack of minority group representation with respect to the the UK profession. When compared with the UK 2011 census there was under representation of what are known as Black and Minority Ethnic groups, most notably British Asian communities.

The census can be found at:

asli.org.uk/census-report-2021/

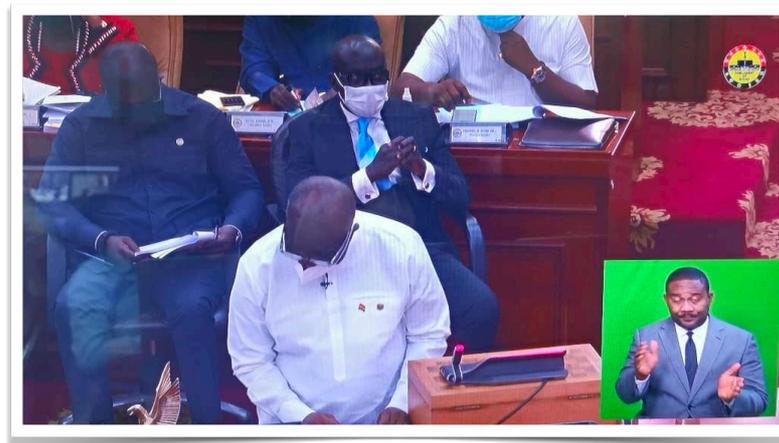
EFSLI and IOCN (Interpreters of Colour Network) webinar

The webinar “Will ethnic diversity change interpreting?” was presented by Akbar Sikder. This addressed the issue of the need for diversity in the interpreting profession in Europe.

Examples of good practice from the leadership training



As part of Ghana's Parliament's desire to make it inclusive and accessible to all, the former Speaker Rt. Hon. Prof. Aaron Mike Ocquaye in October 2018 announced the introduction of Ghanaian Sign Language Interpreting for parliamentary proceedings. Now deaf people could access parliamentary debate on TV, Facebook live and in-person interacting with their Members of Parliament (MPs) because of the availability of 3 Sign Language Interpreters employed by the Parliament of Ghana.



Something for the WASLI newsletter?

If you have something to share in the WASLI newsletter please let your Regional Representative and Regional Deaf Interpreter advisor know and we can share it with our global interpreting community.

Thank you
