

“Hands Across the Waters”

October 16 - 19, 2008

FRIDConference.com

Presenter Abstracts and Biographies

Revised 9/19/08

Title: “A Classifier Class on the Classes of Classifiers” Part 1 and 2

Presenter: Greg Camp

Abstract: 2 Hands, 5 HS, Palms In, Chest Level, Move Toward Body with Fingers Wiggling – ALL COME! Yes, you are invited to a seminar on the identification, classification, and incorporation of classifiers in both your ASL to English and English to ASL interpreting work. Beginning with intralingual skill development, participants will research and analyze the use of classifiers in an ASL narrative (taught and facilitated in ASL). Participants will then have the opportunity to identify equivalent functions in spoken English and finally incorporate these skills through translation work into their interlingual work.

Biography: Greg Camp is the Director of Sign Language Associates Professional Education Center and the Director of Virginia Operations for SLA-Virginia, based in Richmond. He also recently served as an adjunct professor for J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College’s American Sign Language and Interpreter Education program. He currently holds a Certificate of Interpreting from the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf. He received his Bachelor’s Degree from Virginia Commonwealth University where his focus of study was Comparative Linguistics: American Sign Language and the English Language and has since completed graduate work focusing on pedagogy and the adult learner. Greg is also involved in the interpreting field serving actively on the board of the Virginia Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf for eight years, six years as President. His contributions have also impacted RID Region II as he served as the Public Relations Chairperson for the 2004 RID Region II Conference and recently served as the Conference Chairperson for the 2006 RID Region II Conference. For his leadership and service he was awarded the 2001 RID President’s Award and the 2006 VRID President’s Choice Award. Also in 2006, Greg was presented with the Presenter of the Year Award from the SLA Professional Education Center.

Title: “Mentorship in the Modern World: A Blueprint for Mentors”

Presenter: Kristie Casanova de Canales

Abstract: The advent of video relay service, new testing standards, and the gap between ITP graduation and “readiness”...all these factors have increased the need for quality mentorship opportunities in our field. Maybe you’re already helping to fill this need as a mentor, or perhaps you’re simply interested in doing so. Either way, the tips and insight you gain in this workshop will benefit you. We’ll cover current mentoring philosophies, common obstacles, and effective strategies. We’ll balance lecture with hands-on activities to ensure you leave feeling more confident and energized about your role as a mentor. *A similar workshop is being offered for interpreters who *have* or *want* mentors. That workshop will examine mentoring from the “mentee”/protégé’s perspective. Because of significant information overlap, it is recommended that conference attendees attend only one of these sessions.

Title: “Mentorship in the Modern World: A Blueprint for Working With Your Mentor”

Presenter: Kristie Casanova de Canales

Abstract: Interpreters seek mentors for countless reasons: to prepare for an upcoming certification exam, to improve their grades in school, to prepare for a specific job, to overcome self-doubt, or simply out of personal motivation to better themselves. You know “mentorship is a good thing”, but *how* do you approach mentorship? What exactly are *your* responsibilities? How do you maximize the benefit of working with a more seasoned interpreter, and what do you do when things *don’t* go well? This workshop will examine current mentoring philosophies, how people react to the word “feedback”, and interpreters’ unique needs as adult learners. The activities and resources presented will empower you to play a more active and informed role in your mentorship experiences. *A similar workshop is being offered for interpreters work as mentors. That workshop will

examine mentoring from the mentor's perspective. Because of significant information overlap, it is recommended that conference attendees attend only one of these sessions."

Title: "Beyond Sign-to-Voice: Matching Register in ASL to Spanish Interpreting"

Presenter: Kristie Casanova de Canales

Abstract: Like all sign language interpreters, trilingual interpreters must make word choices at a moment's notice. Interpreters require an extensive spoken vocabulary because the words they choose must convey not only a signer's explicit meaning but must match register and convey subtle emotional overtones as well. It is a challenge all sign language interpreters face, but interpreters working between ASL and Spanish rarely find training that addresses their specific needs. This workshop provides an opportunity for trilingual interpreters to share ideas, resources, and experiences. We'll ask questions like, "When someone signs "child", when might I voice *vástago* or even *mocosó* instead of the generic *niño*?" With a focus on interactive discussion and many hands-on activities, we'll put newfound resources to use and benefit from the collective experience of our trilingual colleagues.

Biography: Kristie Casanova de Canales (CI/CT) graduated from Houston Community College's ITP in 2000 and will graduate with her B.S. in Communication in 2009. She has interpreted in both bilingual and trilingual settings for the past eight years. She has presented at national conferences on such topics as ASL-to-Spanish voice interpreting and the unique challenges and strategies involved in Spanish Video Relay Service. She currently divides her time among interpreting, mentoring, and trying to promote training opportunities for trilingual interpreters.

Title: "Preventing Learned Helplessness: The Educational Interpreter's Role in Promoting Independence and Self-Advocacy"

Presenters: George Clark and Laura Scheele

Abstract: This presentation will focus on the K-12 educational interpreter's role as it relates to fostering skills for independence and self advocacy. Participants will be provided with information to help them identify symptoms of learned helplessness and will learn how their actions as interpreters can have either a positive or negative impact on a student's progress toward independence. Workshop attendees will learn appropriate expectations for students at various grade levels, in addition to examples of how self-advocacy and other "life skills" could be promoted at all grade and ability levels. The deaf adult perspective on interpreted education, as well as Gallaudet K-12 standards for interpreter use, will be reviewed. The importance of collaborating with other professionals within the educational team will also be emphasized.

Title: "Deaf Education Reform: Does the Educational Interpreter Have a Role as an Agent of Change?"

Presenters: George Clark and Laura Scheele

Abstract: The National Agenda for the Education of Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children was developed by a coalition of consumer, professional, and parent groups to address the alarming state of education for deaf students, evidenced by low test scores and high unemployment rates. The eight goals of the agenda provide a framework for reform at the state and local level. Is it possible for the educational interpreter to be involved in the reform process and be an effective change agent while maintaining ethical and professional boundaries? We think so! This workshop will address the current research findings and accepted "best practices" for the interpreters as it relates to the National Agenda and the RID-NAD and EIPA Codes of Professional Conduct

Biography: George Clark, M.Ed, is a nationally certified interpreter (NAD IV, CI, CT, Ed: K-12), Master Mentor, and an adjunct instructor teaching "Educational Interpreting" for Wright State University's Sign Language Interpreting program in Dayton, Ohio, in addition to serving on the Indiana Educational Interpreter Task Force. He lives in Northeast Indiana and interprets in community and VRS settings

Biography: Laura Scheele, M.Ed., is a nationally certified interpreter (NIC-Advanced), and has been a deaf educator in a public school inclusion program for the past 12 years, as well as a part-time community and VRS interpreter. She also serves on the Indiana Deaf Education Task Force.

Title: "From Interpreting to Transliterating and Back Again" Part 1 and 2

Presenter: Kelly Lamar Crain

Abstract: In this workshop, participants will gain a greater understanding of the applications of interpreting and transliterating for the presentation of English language structures and concepts in educational and/or clinical settings with school-aged deaf and hard-of-hearing consumers. Provided plausible scenarios, participants will work in small groups to determine needs and strategies for ASL interpretation and English-based sign transliteration.

Biography: Kelly Lamar Crain, Ph.D. is the coordinator of the Deaf Education master's degree program and director of the Hearing Specialist: Early Intervention graduate certificate program at the University of South Florida. Dr. Crain earned a bachelor's degree in Speech-Language Pathology & Audiology from the University of Southern Mississippi, and master's and doctoral degrees in Deaf Education from Gallaudet University. He is also an instructor of both Cued Speech and American Sign Language, and holds an EIE Level 3.

Title: "It's the How, Not the What: Preparing for the NIC Interview" Part 1 and 2

Presenter: David N. Evans

Abstract: The NAD-RID National Interpreter Certification (NIC) exam is a new paradigm. Many candidates are unfamiliar with the new testing procedures, and are unsure what to expect during the actual exam. This can heighten anxiety, preventing candidates from representing themselves as well as possible. This workshop will introduce participants to the interview portion of the new NIC exam, providing guidance through the practice DVD, and instruction on procedure and methods for responding to ethical scenarios. While no test content will be shared or discussed, candidates will be able to feel comfortable with testing procedures, and confident about being able to accurately represent themselves. Topics we will cover include an overview of the NIC interview exam, an explanation of the NIC interview rubric, a discussion and modeling of how to answer the interview questions (note: no test content will be discussed), viewing of the NIC Practice DVD, and practice responding to ethical scenarios per the interview rating rubric.

Title: "Providing Effective Training: Workshop Delivery from Creation to Presentation"

Presenter: David N. Evans

Abstract: You have experience, knowledge, and wisdom that you would like to share through formal in-service training sessions, but you don't know how to start. How does one develop an effective training session, useful presentation, and quality handout materials? Unfortunately, outside of expensive, corporate train-the-trainer sessions, little exists to equip presenters (both current and future) to deliver high-impact, quality presentations and workshops. This workshop fills in the gap by offering principles pulled from the fields of adult learning, perception psychology, cognitive load theory, and instruction design. Topics include leaning how to present information for maximum participant buy-in, discovering the place of audience participation in presentations, tips for creating effective multimedia (PowerPoint) presentations, and examples of effective handout materials. All this in a fun, interactive session! If you have ever thought about presenting, or would like your presentations to be even better, come to this workshop. Topics we will cover are the five laws of adult learning, the six ways to come up with topics, four steps to organizing your topics, five principles to improve PowerPoint presentations, creating successful handouts, and nine tips for winning workshop proposals.

Biography: David N. Evans, CI, CT, NIC Master, has a comprehensive history providing ASL/English interpretation services, working extensively in conference settings as well as in music/performing arts, corporate, and community settings. He also provides in-service training to interpreters nationwide on topics related to language, culture, and interpreting issues. National presentations include the 2005 NAOBI conference and two national RID conferences. Presenting since 1992, David's sessions are interactive, entertaining, and informative, creating a relaxed, safe environment for all audiences. David established Bridge Communications in 1996 to further his goals of providing skill-building interpreter workshops and video materials. When not on the road presenting, he makes his home in Minneapolis, where he enjoys playing Frisbee and walks around the city's many lakes.

Title: "Usher syndrome, Understanding and interpreting from a Deaf-blind perspective"

Presenter: Paul Molloy

Abstract:

This workshop will focus on how to most effectively interpret for elementary through college level students who are Deafblind. As a person with Usher syndrome, I will also discuss my experiences (positives and negatives) with interpreters. As a professional, I will discuss positives and negatives I have observed in classrooms throughout New York State.

People attending this workshop will:

Understand Usher syndrome from a psychosocial perspective, NOT medical

Gain strategies for working with individuals who are Deafblind

What works and what doesn't work.

Have a better understanding of issues that Deafblind deals with on a daily basis.

Biography: Paul Molloy

Education - MA Deaf education/Special Education; PhD candidate, Teacher College Columbia University.

Employment - Project Coordinator for the New York State Technical Assistance Project serving students who are Deaf blind from birth to 22 years old; Organized and ran many workshops on Usher syndrome in NY and NJ; Organized and ran many workshops on Teen Leaderships, NY, Florida, Georgia, Nebraska; Organized and participated in AADB teen program at AADB conferences; Workshops for Educators focusing on Deafblind Communication; Environmental needs of DB people; Introduction of language to Deafblind babies and toddlers; Calendar Box; Augmentative Communication

Title: "Mastering the NIC Interview: Bootcamp"

Pre-Conference Presenter: Shonna Pareja

Abstract: Mastering the NIC Interview: Bootcamp is a condensed version of a workshop designed to prepare those wishing to take the NIC. This new test not only tests one's interpreting skills but his/her ability to successfully navigate through the sticky situations in which interpreters find themselves. Participants should know the Code of Professional Conduct thoroughly if attending this active learning session. In this workshop, you will learn a proven format for answering the ethical questions on the interview portion of the NIC at the Master level. You will work on test preparation, business practices, ethical decision-making, and powerful/powerless language. Come join us and learn how to show that you are a Master!

Biography: Shonna Pareja, NIC Master, CI and CT, OTC, started learning ASL at the National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID) in the spring of 1996 as she studied via total emersion every weekend for six months with deaf college students. After moving to Florida in 1997, Shonna continued learning ASL through total emersion by living with deaf friends. She attended the Sign Language Interpretation Program at Daytona Beach College from which she was graduated in 2001. After receiving her interpreting degree, she went back to school and received a degree in education in 2003. In 2003 she was awarded a Certification of Interpretation (CI) and a Certification of Transliteration (CT) and was hired as an adjunct instructor for Daytona Beach College. In 2006 she tested for the National Interpreter Certification (NIC) and was awarded the Master level. In 2007 she was awarded an Oral Transliterator Certification (OTC) and is currently preparing to take the Specialist Certification: Legal (SC:L) within the next year. During her career as an interpreter, Shonna has served FRID as a member of the EIE and QA teams in different capacities. She has attended intensive mentoring training by some of the top professionals in the interpreting field. She has also taken courses on workshop preparation and learned teaching methods that she has implemented in her college classroom and in this workshop.

Title: "Application of FCC and CPC in Video Relay"

Presenter: Laura Rich

Abstract: This seminar will give participants an opportunity to develop a deeper understanding of the FCC and its impact on VRS workplace policies and procedures. Additionally, participants will explore how the RID Code of Professional Conduct is applicable to VRS and how it allows VIs to satisfy industry standards while still attending to their individual needs. The seminar will be a combination of instructor led presentation, participant discussion and participant activities. Discussion points will include an overview of FCC regulations and CPC and the relationship of each to self-advocacy, self-empowerment and the VRS working environment.

Biography: Laura Rich, CI/CT, BA is a professional Sign Language Interpreter and Instructor with 14 years experience working in the field of sign language/deafness. She has a variety of experience in community, educational, and VRS environments. Laura received her Interpreter Training at Hillsborough Community College in Tampa and her Bachelors of Arts in International Studies at the University of South Florida. She is currently pursuing her Masters in Adult Training/Education, also at USF. She has conducted workshops on workplace accommodations, VR services, and interpreter utilization. She is a former high school teacher for deaf/hh students and ASL classes and has served as a mentor to HCC and SPC students for their internship work. Laura currently works as a staff interpreter for the Sign Language Associates Tampa office.

Title: : “Mathematics / Computers / Technology, Interpreting in settings K- PHD” Part 1 and 2

Presenter: Bryon Rowe

Abstract: This workshop takes interpreters from basic mathematics to multidimensional geometry, basic computing skills to quantum computing, and includes some history of technology. A large amount of Sign Vocabulary will be shared and important concepts of how to incorporate Classifiers. Help in learning the language of Mathematics, Computers, Technology, and how to apply language translation techniques to these “languages”

Title: “The Soup to Nuts of Medical Interpreting” Part 1 and 2

Presenter: Bryon Rowe

Abstract: This workshop educates participants on five areas of medical interpreting: Educational, Medical appointments, Hospital, Geriatrics, and Mental Health. The workshop introduces techniques to enhance the required medical and linguistic knowledge to be an effective interpreter in medical settings. Ethical decision making, HIPAA requirements, and Hygiene for your own health will also be explored. My experience as a certified Nurses Aid and many years in each medical interpreting setting helps to inform this workshop.

Biography: Bryon Rowe, CI, CT, EIPA 5, began learning Sign Language from his older Deaf cousin. He taught him much more than Sign Language. His cousin taught him that you can communicate anything if you just have imagination and patience. He never fingerspelled to him, just mimed and signed until Bryon understood. In 1981 Bryon began formal training in ASL and Interpreting. He did what most people with Deaf family members do; he “interpreted” in informal situations without knowing what he was doing. Bryon has been interpreting full time since 1992. Bryon has interpreted within religious, educational (pre-school to PHD level), and community based settings. He interpreted in various locals; Pennsylvania, Washington DC, and NYC. He attended Millersville University, Millersville PA. Was a Certified Nurses Aid, Preschool Teacher, Pastor for a nondenominational Church, and 35 other part time jobs in a wide variety of settings. Since beginning interpreting, Bryon has maintained an average of 30 to 45 hours of training annually in Interpreting/ Sign Language. His first attempts at RID testing, Bryon took and passed the RID Written test in 12-1999, and then took the Certificate of Interpreting 10-2001, and lastly the Certificate of Transliterating 11-2001. Bryon has also taken the Educational Interpreters Performance Assessment with a level of 5.00 as well as being an active member of professional organizations; RID, PCRID, PARID, NAD, and Metro NYCRID.

Title: Changing the Leadership Mindset: The “Everyday Leadership” Model

Pre-Conference Presenter: Amie Seiberlich

Abstract: This workshop explores the current paradigm of leadership within RID; leaders as “doers” and members as “followers.” It then proposes a new model of leadership – “The LVE Model of Everyday Leadership” - that encourages greater membership participation, accountability and the promise of a more collaborative, unified organization.

Topics to be explored include: the history of RID, the effect of RID's history on current efforts to be more inclusive of interpreters in K-12 settings, perceptions and their effects, members as leaders, the effect of "everyday leadership" on change efforts including the establishment of interpreter standards, organizational culture, and the conscious creation of a culture that supports the vision of the organization. These topics will be explored through a variety of means including individual self analysis, small group discussion, role play and presentation.

Biography: Amie Seiberlich, MA, CI and CT. Amie’s passion for leadership in the field of interpreting began in 1993. Early in her leadership career she developed the understanding that positive change is born not of being constrained by our past, but by dreaming - without limit – of our desired future. As President of the Colorado RID Amie continued to explore and create her own leadership dream - which led to the founding of the Leadership Institute for Interpreters.

Amie has most recently taken to sharing her passion for self-discovery through leadership by developing the Leadership Institute Online Education Center. The Online Education Center offers internet based workshops, called [WebShops](#), on a variety of interpersonal and skills based topics for interpreters in all settings. She also shares her passion for leadership by coordinating and facilitating “Leadership and Visioning Retreats” for officers and members of RID state affiliate chapters and regional groups. She has presented on a variety of leadership related topics locally and nationally and wrote her Master’s Thesis on local and state affiliate leadership in RID. Amie is the 2006 recipient of the “Spirit of Region IV Award” for her leadership training efforts within the Region. She is also the recipient of the 2006 Colorado RID Most Valuable President (MVP) Award and the 2007 Mary Lee Ragland Award for the Outstanding Colorado RID Member of the Year. Amie is in her first year of service to RID members as the RID RIV Representative.

In addition to her work with LII Amie has developed coursework for the University of Northern Colorado's DO IT Center and Regis University, and is currently teaching courses she developed in leadership, supervision and interpreting. Amie is also a Certified [Appreciative Inquiry](#) (AI) Facilitator and utilizes AI in her consultation and retreat work.

Amie holds a Master's degree in Communication from the University of Denver, a Bachelor's degree in Journalism from Marquette University and an Associate's degree in Sign Language Interpreting from Front Range Community College. Outside of professional circles and in her free time Amie can be found in the Rocky Mountains on her motorcycle or in her kayak, exploring the Colorado backcountry, perfecting on her water and snow skiing techniques and enjoying time with her family.

Title: “EIPA: National Certification for Educational Interpreters”

Presenter: Shannon C. Simon

Abstract: This session will be informational and serve as a preparation for those wishing to become an EIPA candidate. The Educational Interpreters Performance Assessment (EIPA) has not been available in Florida until now, therefore many educational interpreters are unaware of it. Educational Interpreters can benefit from participating in this evaluation because those who pass the written test and pass the performance evaluation at Levels 4 or 5 receive a credential that is recognized as national certification. In addition to sharing information about the format of the EIPA, the application process and costs, practice performance DVDs will be shown. The Knowledge Standards used to develop the written test will be shared along with specific content materials. This presentation will also serve as a preparation for those wishing to begin preparing for the EIPA written test.

Biography: Shannon C. Simon has been in the field of deaf education and interpreter preparation for over 30 years. In Florida, her name is synonymous with excellent hands-on professional development activities. She is also well known in the educational interpreting field connected to the Educational Interpreter Project, a statewide project funded by the Florida Department of Education. This project, with Shannon in the lead, has been providing professional development for sign language interpreters and oral transliterators working in public schools since 1990. As a self-employed interpreter/transliterator for more than 30 years, and a partner in a new agency, Signs of Interpreting, Shannon has interpreted in all types of situations and continues to interpret regularly. She holds CI, CT, OIC:C, CSC certificates from RID, a Masters degree from Florida State University in Deaf Education, and has completed advanced work in Administration and Supervision at the University of North Florida. Additionally, Shannon is an adjunct instructor for the Sign Language Interpretation Program at Florida Community College at Jacksonville and the University of North Florida where she has developed and taught a number of online courses for interpreters.

Title: “A New Outlook on Looking In” Part 1 and 2

Presenter: Gordon Vernon

Abstract: Have you ever looked at a sample of your work or that of another interpreter and thought, “Hey, that was pretty effective,” or “that wasn’t as effective,” - Why? This workshop is designed to provide you with the necessary framework for analyzing an interpretation. Whether analyzing your own work, or another’s, you’ll leave this workshop with a toolkit you can begin to use immediately.

Biography: **Gordon Vernon**, CI, CT, is the Director of Staff Development at Sign Language Associates, Inc. (SLA) and manages SLA’s nationally renowned Mentorship Program. As an SLA Senior Staff interpreter, Gordon specializes in performing arts, technical, emergency medical, scientific, video remote and video relay interpreting. Gordon served as a Mentor in the SLA Mentorship Program upon joining staff in 1995. He now oversees a team of mentors who welcome several new interpreters each session. Those interpreters are selected based on skill, demeanor, and potential from recent graduates of Interpreter Training Programs and interpreters currently working in the community and educational settings. Gordon currently serves on the RID Affiliate Chapter Relations Committee and is the Immediate Past President of the Potomac Chapter of RID (PCRID) serving the state of Maryland and the District of Columbia. Gordon served on the PCRID Board of Directors in various positions since 1996 and served as Vice President of the Alabama Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf from 1993 – 1994.

Title: “DECIDE: A Model for Approaching Ethical Decision-Making” Part 1 and 2

Presenter: Lynne Wiesman

Abstract: This presentation provides the framework of DECIDE to aid in making solid ethically-based decisions. With the addition of a mechanism to test interpreters’ ethical decision-making knowledge and skills, interpreters are finding that what had previously been thought of as a more intuitive process is difficult to articulate. This framework provides the foundation to externalize and articulate the decisions needing to be made to arrive at a sound ethical decision. This framework ensures a well-rounded approach to stakeholder analysis and helps interpreters to consider all factors involved replacing the “intuition” that is commonly referred to as being made by experienced interpreters.

Biography: **Lynne Wiesman**, MBA, CI/CT, SC:L, Master Mentor, is the founder and CEO of Signs of Development, LLC, an internationally-recognized professional development organization specializing in providing technical assistance, consultation, assessment, mentorship and training to students and educators of ASL and Sign Language interpreting, interpreters, and Deaf adults, children, and educators as well as the general public interested in ASL and interpreting. Signs is a first-to-market company developing CD Rom workshops with CEU credit called WWWorkshops which meet the needs of interpreters maintaining certification by being able to access workshops for credit at their own computer. She has taught at the Northeastern University in the Master Mentor Program for the past 3 years and currently teaches for DeVry/Keller’s Online School of Business. Her previous work experience involves the development, establishment and administration of two interpreter assessment processes (one for community interpreters and the other for educational interpreters) for the state of NC. She has also been involved in program development and consultation for small to mid-size interpreter referral agencies as well as consulting with interpreters in private practice assisting them with business practices. She has written a business practices manual for interpreters “It’s a Matter of \$’s & \$ense” which has an accompanying CD Rom with forms and information for interpreters. Lynne graduated from SW Collegiate Institute for the Deaf, possesses an undergraduate degree in Organizational Leadership, an MBA, was a member of the first cohort of the University of Colorado’s Master Mentor Program, completed one year of law school and is currently ABD toward her Ph.D. in Training & Performance Improvement. Lynne has interpreter certifications/licenses from RID including SC:L, and TX including Texas Court Interpreter Certification.

Title: “25 to Life! The Interpreting Task from Pre-sentencing Through Incarceration” Part 1 and 2

Presenter: Nancy A. Yesbeck

Abstract: Images of a courtroom or a police station are often the first settings that come to mind when one speaks about legal interpreting. However, interpreting services are in high demand from pre-sentencing through incarceration in the prison system. Many interpreters may feel hesitant going into this system due to safety concerns of fear of the unknown. This workshop will focus on the various stages and processes associated with

working in these settings. Specialized legal/prison terminology will be discussed and examined.

Biography: Nancy A. Yesbeck, MAI, CI, CT, is a fulltime staff interpreter with Sign Language Associates, Inc. (SLA). Prior to joining SLA in October of 2005, Nancy was a freelance interpreter in the Commonwealth of Virginia for eighteen years, specializing in legal, political, and conference interpreting. Nancy received her Master of Arts degree in Interpreting and her Associates of Arts degree in Interpreting and Transliterating from Gallaudet University. Her Bachelors degree from Virginia Commonwealth University focused on Deaf Studies. Over the past 18 years, Nancy, a qualified diagnostician, has been heavily involved in the professional development of interpreters both in long-term post-secondary positions at the University of Richmond, Longwood University, and J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College as well as in community workshop venues. Nancy has been involved with the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf on the state and local levels as a Past President and Treasurer for the Virginia affiliate chapter and a cofounder of the local Richmond chapter. Nancy received the 2001 Ron Coffey Award from Gallaudet University and the 2002 Virginia RID Decade Award for her leadership and service in the interpreting community. Nancy A. Yesbeck (MAI, CI, CT) is a fulltime staff interpreter with Sign Language Associates, Inc. (SLA). Nancy has served as lead interpreter at the Powhatan Correctional Center just outside of Richmond, Virginia. Nancy incorporates her hands-on experience and her research from working with the deaf inmates in the correctional system into the workshop presented here.

Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

Educational Interpreter SIG – Ballroom E

Interpreters working in the educational and instructional setting or those wanting to work in this setting.

Moderator: Ashley Luedtke

Biography: Ashley Luedtke CI/CT is a graduate of the University of South Florida where she earned a Bachelor's degree in Educational Interpreting. She has been working for the School District of Palm Beach County for 5 year. During this time she has worked in the elementary and high school settings. She has served as Interpreter Liaison for two years at the high school where she currently works. Ashley also works as a Community interpreter and VRS interpreter. She is currently the RID IEIS Member Section Region II delegate. She previously served on the FRID Legislative Action Committee, of the Interpreter Licensure Committee under Florida Coordinating Council on Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

Legal Interpreting SIG

Interpreters working in a legal setting or those preparing to work in the legal setting.

Moderator: Len Roberson – Ballroom D

Biography:

Multilingual Interpreters SIG – Ballroom A-C

Moderator: Rafael Trevino

Biography: Rafael Treviño is an independent interpreter and translator and nationally certified by the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (NIC Advanced certification). He works between English, Spanish and American Sign Language. He is currently pursuing studies in Spanish Translation and Court Interpreting at Florida International University in Miami. Prior to becoming an interpreter, he worked in the Latin America Accounts Receivable Department for Citigroup Global Securities in Tampa and, prior to that, as Administrative Assistant at the Zolfo Springs Police Department.

Raised in Zolfo Springs, Florida, Rafael now lives in Fort Lauderdale. He recently served as secretary of the Executive Board of the Florida Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (FRID) and on the Florida Licensure Task Force as a representative of trilingual interpreters. He currently chairs FRID's Diversity Enhancement Committee.

Deaf Caucus - Gallery

Moderator: Sarah Harris

Biography: Sarah M. Harris is a Florida native, living in Pinellas Park for over 21 years and profoundly deaf and has several family members that are deaf as well. Sarah was born in Venice, Florida and attended Florida School for the Deaf when she was five years old. She attended different schools in Sarasota County, Florida and graduated from Venice High School in Venice in 1975. Sarah received her Bachelor of Science degree in Human Services from Springfield College in 2003. Her professional and volunteer experience over the past 25 years includes: working as a case manager, program director, client services coordinator at local deaf service center, advocate for deaf women at local domestic violence shelters, deaf literacy program assistant and as a volunteer with Girl Scout with deaf troop, as well as working with her husband in the deaf ministry at Crosspointe Church in Clearwater.

Sarah does ASL storytelling and interpreting in the deaf and hearing community locally and statewide. She is very active with the Florida Association of the Deaf and FRID. Sarah is a strong advocate in the deaf community in Florida and is a council member of the Florida Coordinating Council for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing, appointed by the governor. She has been married for 33 years to a deaf man, Danny Harris, an ordained pastor and a '67 graduate of West Virginia School for the Deaf and has three hearing grown daughters and three grandchildren.

Deaf Blind SIG - Sanibel

Interpreters working with individuals who are deaf and blind or interpreters/Support Service Providers (SSP) or anyone interested in working with individuals who are deaf and blind

Moderator: Michelle Wahlmeier

Biography: