

Wisconsin Court Interpreter Program (CIP) Newsletter

Fall 2012
Volume 1, Issue 2

CIP News: Summit on Language Access

A five-member team from Wisconsin traveled to Houston, TX on Oct. 1-3 to attend a Summit on Language Access in the Courts sponsored by the National Center for State Courts (NCSC). Nearly 300 court leaders from 49 states, three territories and the District of Columbia discussed solutions to improving and ensuring access to justice for litigants with Limited English Proficiency (LEP).

Wisconsin's team consisted of Chief Justice Shirley Abrahamson, John Voelker, Judge John Damon (Trempealeau County), Sara Ward-Cassady and Carmel Capati. Funded by a grant from the State Justice Institute (SJI), this first-of-its-kind summit gave state court leaders a chance to share successful strategies and evidence-based practices, plan system improvements, and discuss approaches to pursue greater consistency across jurisdictions on policies related to interpretation in the state courts. Major themes included training for judges and court

personnel; translation issues and best practices; establishing and enhancing credentialing programs for interpreters; funding and authorization for interpreter programs; use of technology to increase efficiency; collaboration models to increase available resources; and outreach efforts.

Judge Damon and Ms. Capati presented a session with a team from Nevada on "Training Judges and Court Personnel. During their portion of the talk, Wisconsin showed video clips on "Judicial Mannerisms that Make Interpreting Difficult" which were part of a larger training on interpreters offered at the 2012 Judicial College.

Each state team was required to identify priorities related to language access in their courts and to develop an action plan to address them. Members of Wisconsin's team identified the following priorities: 1) create judicial efficiencies with interpreters; 2) expand availability of non-Spanish language interpreters; 3) measure effective use of interpreters; 4) research

different remote interpreting options; 5) evaluate data collection needs and methods; and 6) recognize new emerging languages. Over the next 15 months, the Director of State Courts office, primarily through the CIP will work on addressing these priorities.



Looking to 2013...

Conference

The CIP did not receive the grant initially applied for to host a statewide interpreter conference this November. However, planning for a 2013 conference is underway and funding options are being explored. Stay tuned for more details.

Orientation Location

In 2013, three orientations will be offered instead of 4 with a new location in Stevens Point which will

Inside this issue:

Meet Newly Certified Interpreter: Paula Loubier	2
Bilingual Attorney as Interpreter Case	2
LEP Population	2
Meet Veteran Interpreter: Dawn Maldonado	3
On the Lighter Side	3
Get-Together in Madison Area	3
2013 Conferences and Marketplace	4
Spotlight on Interpreting Book	4

combine the Appleton, Wausau and Eau Claire locations.

Fees

The orientation fee will be increased to \$175 and the written language assessment fee will be increased to \$45.

"Trainee" Level

The "Trainee" level on the Director of State Courts' roster will be phased out. Interpreters currently listed as Trainees who have not taken steps to test will be removed from the roster by Dec. 31, 2012.

Related Organizations

National Association of
Judiciary Interpreters and
Translators (NAJIT)
www.najit.org

American Translators
Association (ATA)
www.atanet.org

Registry of Interpreters for
the Deaf (RID)
www.rid.org

Midwest Association of
Interpreters and Translators
(MATI)
www.matiata.org

Upper Midwest Translators
and Interpreters Association
(UMTIA)
www.umtia.cloverpad.org

InterpretAmerica
www.interpretamerica.net

Cross Cultural
Communications
www.cultureandlanguage.net

Critical Link International
www.criticallink.org

Meet Newly Certified French Interpreter: Paula Loubier



Since my first exposure to high school French, I have always loved languages. A semester study abroad in France solidified my knowledge and love of the language and culture.

At that point I also began studying Spanish and later, German. I participated in study abroad programs in Spain, Mexico, and Germany, and

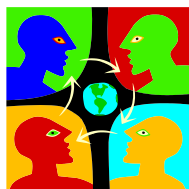
graduated from UW-Oshkosh with a degree in secondary education. I received my Masters in Foreign Language and Literature from UWM with a concentration in French.

After teaching French and Spanish for many years, I began to seriously prepare for a second career in translation and interpreting, completing UWM's "Graduate Certificate in Translation." I completed a translation internship at a national research center in Montpellier, France.

Upon retirement from teaching in June 2011, I was determined to pass the Wisconsin court interpreter oral exam for French. It was a challenge due to the fact that, unlike the

wealth of readily available materials for Spanish, there is really not much for French. I put together my own course, and passed the exam in February 2012.

This qualification has greatly increased the number of interpreting assignments I receive. Since the range of vocabulary and related knowledge needed for court interpreting is so vast, I also feel more confident accepting a variety of interpreting assignments outside the legal area. I currently freelance interpreting in both French and Spanish for several mid-western agencies, and continue to be involved in education in the area of teacher training.



Online Interpreter Training Opportunities

de la Mora Interpreter Training
www.interpreter-training.com/index.html

Interpreter Education Online
www.site.interpretereducationonline.com/

New Mexico Center for Language Access (NMCLA)
www.nmcenterforlanguageaccess.org/

Legal Case: Bilingual Attorney Serving as Interpreter

A recent Wisconsin case involving an attorney who interpreted for his client during an interrogation highlights the problems that can occur when an attorney shifts roles from legal advocate to language expert.

In *State v. Gonzalez-Villarreal*, 2011AP1259-CR decided on Sept 18, 2012, an appellate court reversed the circuit court's disqualification of an attorney who had served as his client's interpreter during a police interview because it violated the defendant's 6th Amendment right to choose

counsel.

During the recorded interview where attorney served as interpreter, the suspect made potentially incriminating statements. Because the attorney acted as an interpreter, the State argued that the attorney had created a conflict by putting himself in a situation where he could possibly be called as a witness to testify about the accuracy of the interpretation.

The trial court agreed with the State and disqualified the attorney. The appellate court,

however, disagreed and said for disqualification to have been warranted, the moving party was required to show the attorney would have been a "necessary" witness which the record did not support.

State LEP Population

According to 2010 US Census data, Wisconsin's LEP population is about 3.2% of its total state population. The top five languages in the state are Spanish (61%); Hmong (9%); German (4.2%); Chinese (3.6%) & Russian (2.7%)

Meet Veteran Spanish Interpreter: Dawn Maldonado



I was born and raised in Milwaukee, WI in a Spanish-speaking home. My parents, who came to the U.S. from Puerto Rico in 1968, insisted we speak Spanish only in the home in an effort to ensure we retain

our family's language and culture. It took my parents several years to learn English and even longer to feel comfortable speaking it. Because of their limited English, I usually served as their interpreter in many different settings such as medical appointments, school visits, and almost every situation where they needed to communicate in English.

While growing up, I studied in Puerto Rico when our

family relocated there for several years. Upon returning to Wisconsin, I continued my education and studied history at Lakeland College.

Despite serving as an interpreter from a very young age, I never gave the profession much thought until 2001 when I became aware of the growing need for court interpreters. I applied and was hired to work as a freelancer in the Milwaukee County courts.

Shortly thereafter, I became certified as a Spanish interpreter in 2004 when certification testing started being offered. I have been providing services to courts throughout the state since then, but primarily in Milwaukee County.



On the Lighter Side...

In Rock County, the Court Commissioner called the case, established who was in attendance and then swore in the interpreter before proceeding with the initial appearance. As the attorney, the defendant and the interpreter approached the podium, the

commissioner said, *"This is the case of the State of Wisconsin versus Jose Gonzalez, case number xxx. Let the record reflect that Mr. Gonzalez appears in person and by attorney Mr. Gonzalez and is being assisted by interpreter Mr. Gonzalez. Mr. Gonzalez, please raise your right hand and be sworn in."*

At this time all three of us raised our hands!

Thanks to Spanish interpreter Victor Gonzalez for sending in this lighter bit of news. It could have been even better if this case had been in front of Judge Ramona Gonzalez in La Crosse.

Newsletters, Blogs, & Other Websites on Interpreting and Translating

Proteus
www.najit.org
Quarterly newsletter about judiciary interpreters and translators

Intersect: A Newsletter about Language, Culture and Interpreting
www.cultureandlanguage.net

The Chronicle
www.atanet.org/chronicle/
Published 11 times a year and is included in annual membership fees.

Interpreter's Launch Pad
www.interpretnaut.com
Free monthly newsletter bringing resources, tips and a bit of fun to the lives of professional interpreters

The Interpreter Diaries
www.theinterpreterdiaries.com

Interpreter Trainers Network
www.itn.asia.com.au/InterpreterTrainersNetwork/Welcome.html

Translation and Interpretation in America
www.translationandinterpretationinamerica.blogspot.com.es/
Blog on teaching interpretation and translation in America

Get-Together with Colleagues in the Madison Area

A small, Madison-based group of translators, legal and medical interpreters has been meeting informally every month for the past two years. The purpose of the get-together is to talk about any noteworthy issues. The meetings have no set agenda and no connection to any larger group, although three MATI members were the

impetus behind its creation.

Any working or student translator or interpreter is welcome to attend.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wed. Jan. 9, 2013 at 6:30 pm at Panera Bread located at 656 W. Washington Ave., Madison 53703, (608) 354-0524 (on the corner of W. Washington Ave. and Regent Street.

Check out the group on Facebook
<http://www.facebook.com/MadisonAreaInterpretersTranslators> or contact Diane Grosklaus Whitty at didawhit@gmail.com for more information.

Contact:

Court Interpreter Program
Office of Court Operations
110 East Main St. #410
Madison, WI 53703
608.266.8635

Carmel Capati, Manager
carmel.capati@wicourts.gov

www.wicourts.gov/services/interpreter/index.htm

Check our website in early January for the 2013 schedule of training, written and oral testing.

Interpreters are encouraged to submit relevant material for the newsletter which will be distributed twice a year in the Spring and Fall.

Members of the Committee to Improve Interpreting and Translation in the WI Courts

Hon. John Damon, Chair
Hon. James Daley
Hon. Barbara Key Hart
Hon. Dan Koval
Hon. Stephanie Rothstein
Rep. Donna Seidel
Ct. Commissioner Ann Sayles
Heather Pantoga
John Powell
Sheila Reiff
Jacqueline Thachenkary
Tamesia Sosa
Melissa Wallace

The committee serves the Director of State Courts office by setting policy and procedural guidance on interpreting and translation issues throughout the Wisconsin court system.

Undergraduate and Graduate Programs

Community Interpreting Certificate Program

Viterbo University, La Crosse, WI
www.viterbo.edu/interpret/

Graduate Program in Translation

UWM, Milwaukee, WI
www4.uwm.edu/letscti/translation/

2013 National Conferences

May 17-19 | National Association of Judiciary Interpreters and Translators (NAJIT) | St. Louis, MO

Nov 6-9 | American Translators Association (ATA) | San Antonio, TX

Jun 14-15 | Interpret America 4th North American Summit on Interpreting | Washington, DC

Aug 9-14 | Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (RID) | Indianapolis, IN

Interpreter Marketplace

ACEBO Materials :
Interpreter's Edge and
Edge 21 Simultaneous
Interpreting Books and
CDs (New) Cost: \$200
Contact: Aida Simental
asimental.09@gmail.com

If you are looking to sell or buy used interpreting or translating related resources or study materials (books, CDs, DVDs, practice exams), you can post it in this newsletter.



Spotlight on "New" Book for Interpreters

A second edition of "Fundamentals of Court Interpretation: Theory, Policy and Practice" came out on September 21, 2012.

The first edition which was published in 1991 explored court interpreting from legal, linguistic, and pragmatic vantages. It standardized practice among court interpreters by providing useful guidelines for the judiciary, attorneys, and other court personnel.

The new edition features separate chapters for judges and lawyers, detailed

information on Title VI of the Civil Rights Act regulations and standards for courts and prosecutorial agencies, a comprehensive review of U.S. language policy, and the latest findings of research on interpreting.

Fondly referred to as the court interpreter's sacred text, it provides the basic theoretical framework for the complex process of legal interpreting.

Authors: Roseann D. Gonzalez, Victoria F. Vasquez, Holly Mikkelson

Carolina Academic Press
ISBN: 978-0-89089-294-7

Glossaries

Searchable Online Spanish-English Glossary
www.sdneyinterpreters.org/glossary.php

Legal Glossaries: Arabic, Western Armenian, Hmong, Mien, Mong, Punjabi, Romanian, Russian, Spanish, Urdu, Vietnamese
www.saccourt.ca.gov/general/legal-glossaries/legal-glossaries.aspx

Legal Glossary: Somali and Mandarin
www.mncourts.gov/?page=461