



2015 Second-Quarter Newsletter

Congratulations to Five Interpreters Awarded ISG Scholarships!

Best wishes to the following scholarship recipients as they continue his/her professional development in the field of interpreting. Scholarships will be awarded upon completion of the training and certification.

- Academic Training (\$500): Pablo Duran
- Non-academic Training (\$250): Salvador Mendoza, Folakemi Olapade
- National Certification Testing (\$300): Susan Lopez, Velia Moran

More ISG Scholarships Available

There are still one \$500 scholarship for academic training and one \$100 scholarship for OPI language proficiency testing available. If you are interested, please contact the Scholarship Committee Chair Dr. Scott Homler at scholarship@isgmidwest.org

Spoken Language Healthcare Interpreter Registry Legislation

A bill was introduced this session in the Minnesota legislature that proposes a 4-tiered registry for spoken language healthcare interpreters. The registry would create a platform for interpreters to identify their level of training and tested competency. Also included in the bill is the recommendation to address the issue of differential pay rate for interpreters across the 4 tiers.

The ISG website "Legislation" page has the full text of the senate bill SF2177 and its companion house bill HF2345.

May 30th ISG Workshop Was a Success

Eighty five people attended the "Ethics and Decision-Making" half-day workshop conducted by Ms. Rachel Herring. Ms. Herring is a faculty of the Program in Translating and Interpreting of Century College. Workshop attendees received 0.35 CEUs approved by IMIA. ISG would like to thank Ms. Herring for her excellent presentation and all the volunteers who helped make this training event successful!

Future ISG Meetings

A membership meeting will be held on September 26th. On the agenda are a seminar with CEUs attached and a discussion of the tiered registry bill SF2177/HF2345. Please visit the ISG website for more information in mid-August. The Annual Membership Meeting will be held on December 10, 2015. Detailed information on this meeting will be available in November.

Other News and Bits in the Interpreting Field

- Bruce Downing, Ph.D., Former Director of the Program in Translation and Interpreting of University of Minnesota, was honored as one of the three 2015 Language Access Champions by the National Council on Interpreting in Health Care (NCIHC). Dr. Downing received the award at the NCIHC Annual Membership Meeting in June. The other two Champions were Maria-Paz Beltran Avery, PhD, Managing Project Director of Education Development Center, Newton, MA, and Tracy Young, Language Access Services Coordinator of Barton Health, Lake Tahoe, NV. "It is gratifying to give these individuals the recognition and honor they deserve for their endless efforts to promote language access in health care. Each one is a true hero and embodies the concept of champion." said NCIHC Interim Vice President Marina Hadjiannou Waters.
- "Three Deaf Coloradans and the husband of one of them filed a lawsuit today in the Arapahoe County District Court against A&A Languages of Centennial, Colorado alleging that A&A violated the Colorado Consumer Protection Act by assigning individuals to interpret for medical and other professional appointments when the individuals lacked required certification from the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (RID)." The Civil Rights Education and Enforcement Center article "New Case: Deaf Patients Sue Interpreting Agency for Providing Uncertified Sign Language Interpreters" is posted at <http://creeclaw.org/uncertified-interpreters-lawsuit/>
- "Care Lost in Translation: Medical Interpreters in Short Supply as Health Rolls Grow" - Read this front page report by the San Francisco Chronicle at <http://www.pressreader.com/usa/san-francisco-chronicle/20150427/281595239079741/TextView>
- "The Joint Commission (TJC) is trying to raise awareness among hospitals and other accredited health care professionals about the need to ensure that patients with limited English proficiency (LEP) are provided the proper information about their health care in a manner they can understand." Read the full article posted by Professional Patient Advocate Institute at <http://www.patientadvocatetraining.com/news/237056/Ensure-qualified-medical-interpreters-are-available-to-help-LEP-patients.htm>
- To be eligible to work for the MN state courts, interpreters now must meet two new requirements: achieve a passing score on the Written English Proficiency Test provided by the National center for State Courts (NCSC), and achieve a passing score on the Legal Terminology portion of the NCSC Written Test. These additional requirements were implemented in 2015. In years past, interpreters only had to complete an Interpreter Orientation class and pass an written ethics test. The NCSC website has information on these tests and how to prepare for them. [http://www.ncsc.org/~media/Files/PDF/Services and Experts/Areas of expertise/Language Access/Written and Oral/2014 January_Written Exam Overview 1 29 14.ashx](http://www.ncsc.org/~media/Files/PDF/Services%20and%20Experts/Areas%20of%20expertise/Language%20Access/Written%20and%20Oral/2014%20January_Written%20Exam%20Overview%201%2029%2014.ashx)