

CATIE Center Highlights

at the College of St. Catherine

AUGUST 2007

ASL Immersion: Six Degrees of Skill Building

40 participants from seven states spent the week communicating only in ASL, engaging in a variety of classroom and real-world activities designed to build practical conversational ASL skills.

1. Deaf Instructors Nigel Howard, Elizabeth Beldon and Byron Bridges led morning sessions covering classifiers, ASL linguistics, medical vocabulary and other topics.
2. One-on-one interaction with Deaf Mentors from across the country. A unique opportunity for learning real language from real language users!
3. On campus activities included Deaf, Deaf World, ASL Poetry Slam, Game Night, Storytelling and ASL performance. Who says learning can't be fun?
4. Off campus activities included a visit to Thompson Hall, one of the oldest continually operating Deaf Clubs in the country, the Mall of America and the

Minneapolis Institute of Arts.

5. Participants received feedback from mentors, giving them ideas for their ongoing skill development, and areas to focus on.
6. Living and eating together gave ASL Immersion participants and Deaf Mentors time to socialize casually, providing exposure to the real world of Deaf Culture.

Sure, they learned a lot and had a lot of fun. But don't just take our word for it! Visit our website for a link to pictures!

If you missed this opportunity, mark your calendars now for next year's ASL Immersion June 1-6, 2008! To be added to our email list, send an email to catiecenter@stkate.edu, subject: ASL Immersion.

ASL Deaf Mentors Teaching and Learning

The ASL Deaf Mentor Training welcomed experienced mentors, teachers, and those new to mentoring to the College of St. Catherine campus this past June. With 24 participants from 16 states, it was quite a diverse group!

The Mentors attended a workshop each morning provided by the Sorenson Communications Professional Development training team: Gino Gouby, Stephanie Clark, Lisa Perry Burckhardt and Debbie Peterson. They provided tools and facilitated discussions designed to build mentoring skills, and develop a plan for becoming an active mentor. The CATIE Center thanks Sorenson Communications for contributing the training team staff.

In the afternoons, Mentors joined the ASL Immersion participants in pursuing fun and educational activities. They led the Deaf Deaf World activities, exposing the ASL Immersion students to a variety of real world situations for vocabulary building. Mentors commented that they especially enjoyed the field trips, and the opportunity to work hands-on with ASL students.

With so few spaces available, many individuals interested

in mentoring were not able to attend this year. We will offer this program again next year from May 30 through June 6, 2008. With two more days for training before the ASL Immersion participants arrive, mentors will have an opportunity to concentrate on developing their feedback skills and mentoring approach before actively mentoring.

To be added to our email list, send an email to catiecenter@stkate.edu. Type ASL Deaf Mentor Training in the subject line.



ASL Deaf Mentors and ASL Immersion Participants

CATIE Center receives DHHS Grant for 2008-2010

The CATIE Center has received \$65,000 from the Minnesota Department of Human Services, Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services Division. This grant targets increasing the number of nationally certified sign language interpreters in Greater Minnesota.

The CATIE Center proposal includes providing educational opportunities to prepare interpreters for testing, study groups, and offering the national certification exams, for three types of certification currently offered by the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf. Activities for this project will take place between July 30, 2007 and June 30, 2009.

The three certifications are:

1. NIC (National Interpreter Certification), which is accepted for all interpreting assignments, and equates to fully certified for interpreters who wish to work in medical settings;
2. CDI (Certified Deaf Interpreter) for interpreters who are Deaf and work in a team

setting to ensure full language access for Deaf consumers who may have limited English proficiency or other language challenges; and

3. SC:L (Specialist Certificate: Legal) for interpreters who wish to interpret in court and other legal settings.

Priority for registration goes to interpreters living and working outside the seven-county metropolitan area in the state of Minnesota. This is to effectively increase Deaf consumers' access to qualified interpreting services where the shortage of interpreters is most reported.

This innovative series of learning opportunities will be implemented through a partnership with CSD, using distance learning technology, and presented by nationally known presenters. The program builds on previous activities of the CATIE Center, also funded by DHHS, including CDI Training offered in May 2007, and The World of Legal Interpreting offered in July 2006.

Interpreting in Mental Health Settings

In May, 2007, the CATIE Center presented **Interpreting in Mental Health Settings** at the College of St. Catherine. This event, funded by DHHS, was facilitated by Arlyn Anderson and Dan Langholtz.

This program was designed to give an overview of the necessary knowledge, skills, attitudes and psychological tolerance for work in emotionally-charged settings. Participants had

the unique opportunity to discuss clinical environments and practice pre- and post-session consultations directly with mental health therapists.

Participants particularly appreciated the overview of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM IV), and the opportunity to share their own experiences interpreting in mental health settings.

CDI Training

With funding received from DHHS, the CATIE Center offered a three-day seminar on the work of a certified deaf interpreter. There were 32 participants, from 13 states! Over half of these participants took the CDI written exam immediately following the workshop. Jimmy Beldon, Paula Gajewski-Mickelson and Patty Gordon were the instructors.

Participants reported that the highly interactive

format and the group discussion were very valuable, many emphasizing what a great group it was to work with!

Additional opportunities for deaf interpreters to develop the skills and knowledge to prepare them for the CDI exam will be offered this coming year. Watch our website for details or send us an email to be added to our email list for CDI events!

**Coming soon:
CDI Study
Groups!**

DeafBlind Camp in Michigan

For the past four years, the CATIE Center (and formerly the RSA Region V Interpreter Education Project) has supported the August **DeafBlind Weekend** in Michigan, developed and coordinated by Self Help for Independence Equalizing DeafBlind.

It was clear from the participants in those workshops that this was a positive experience for everyone involved. Interpreters not only experienced working with DeafBlind consumers in a supportive environment, but increased their understanding of DeafBlind culture and experience. DeafBlind participants were thrilled with the opportunity to teach interpret-

ers about working with consumers who are DeafBlind, practice communicating their needs and advocating for their communication access with and through interpreters, and engage in a variety of activities with other DeafBlind individuals.

The CATIE Center, in partnership with the Helen Keller National Center (HKNC), has worked to bring this experience to more people (interpreters and DeafBlind!). The first efforts to replicate Michigan's program will be offered in Illinois and Indiana, with future possibilities in Minnesota, Kansas and Missouri.

Legal Interpreting

The CATIE Center is continuing to support legal interpreting skill development opportunities. This past year we partnered with the Minnesota Supreme Court Interpreter program to offer two workshops:

1. **ASL Court Interpreter Orientation.** Katrin Johnson, the Coordinator of the Minnesota Supreme Court Interpreter Program had long felt that ASL Interpreters' needs were not being met by attending the same training as spoken language interpreters to be added to the Court Roster. Ms. Johnson revised the curriculum specifically for ASL Interpreters, and offered



this program at the College of St. Catherine in April.

2. **Continuing Legal Interpreting Training with Carla Mathers** built on the knowledge and skills developed through the World of Legal Interpreting program in July 2006. This program was designed to focus on the roles of the interpreter, as established through case law.

This fall, the CATIE Center will offer study groups to support interpreters planning to take the SC:L. Details and registration information will be posted on our website soon!

**Coming soon:
SC:L
Preparation
Study Groups!**

NIC Interview Prep

This first seminar in our DHHS-funded series for NIC certification preparation will guide participants through an in-depth exploration of the interview portion of the NIC exam.

Activities include discussing the rubric that raters use, viewing the NIC practice DVD to become familiar with the format of the test, and hands on practice in small groups as participants develop responses to several ethical

scenarios. Sample answers for other scenarios will also be reviewed.

Interpreters from Greater Minnesota who have taken and passed the NIC Knowledge test are encouraged to register.

More information and downloadable registration form is available on our website www.stkate.edu/catie.

**Now accepting
registrations!**

Medical Interpreting: On the Scalpel's Edge

When the Law Meets Medicine

The DVD, **When the Law Meets Medicine**, with the study packet of the same name is now available!

Designed to give Deaf Interpreters an opportunity to practice translation of written English legal-oriented texts, including Notice to Patients, Advance Health Care Directives, Minnesota Patients Bill of Rights, and Notice of Privacy Practices. However, this type of translation practice is valuable for any interpreter. Contains additional translation resources, step by step activity plans and worksheets, and sample translations. RID members can even earn CEUs for their work! For more information, download the order form and packet (separately) from our website www.stkate.edu/catie.

Special offer! Order **When the Law Meets Medicine** in September and receive FREE SHIPPING! Just write "Highlights Special" instead of the shipping charges on your order form. This offer is good for orders received by the CATIE Center from September 1—30, 2007. Ordering other materials with **When the Law Meets Medicine**? This offer applies to your entire order.

Medical Website

Be sure to visit www.medicalinterpreting.org to check out the video blogs on various topics in medical interpreting, link to other resources on the internet, and learn more about the CD-ROMs, DVDs and Independent

Study packets designed for medical interpreting skill development.



A Prescription for Success

The CATIE Center is pleased to collaborate with Mount Sinai Deaf Access Program to offer the September 14-16, 2007 workshop **A Prescription for Success** in Chicago, IL.

This three day workshop will discuss medical interpreting using the Demand-Control Schema, using ASL classifiers in medical settings, touring the hospital and engaging in role-play scenarios. Download the registration packet from our website: www.stkate.edu/catie. Click on Medical Interpreting, then calendar of medical interpreting events.

Medical Interpreting Focus Groups

The CATIE Center has been fortunate to connect with medical interpreters all across the country for our medical interpreting focus groups. Georgia, Illinois, Kansas, Maine, Minnesota, New Mexico, Oregon, and Texas interpreters all provided valuable, diverse perspectives on the draft effective practices for healthcare interpreters document.

Look for this document to be posted on www.medicalinterpreting.org this fall!



*Collaborative for the Advancement
of Teaching Interpreting Excellence*

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The CATIE Center at the College of St. Catherine is the Collaborative for the Advancement of Teaching Interpreting Excellence.

We are a member of the National Consortium of Interpreter Education Centers, funded by the U.S. Department of Education (RSA) to significantly increase the number of qualified interpreters available to interpret in vocational rehabilitation and other professional settings. Our region includes the states of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio and Wisconsin.

The CATIE Center has also received a grant from the Minnesota Department of Human Services, Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services Division for provision of specific training opportunities and resources to interpreters working in Greater Minnesota.