Warsaw Board meeting

On 24th and 25th January the efsli Board and efsli project coordinator met in Warsaw at the Novotel, venue of the next efsli AGM and conference. They also had the opportunity to meet the organising committee of #efsli2015 AGM and conference and Deaf Interpreters’ seminar. Both events will take place the second week of September in this exciting Polish city. Keep an eye on the conference FB profile for updates. The conference website will be launched very soon. Save the dates!

Lorraine Leeson and Tobias Haug, co-opted efsli Board members

Lorraine Leeson, Director of Research & Director, Centre for Deaf Studies School of Linguistic, Speech & Communication Sciences at Trinity College Dublin (Ireland) and Tobias Haug, Director of the sign language interpreter training programme at the University of Applied Sciences of Special Needs Education Zurich (Switzerland) have been co-opted by the efsli Board to collaborate with them throughout this year in the consultation process towards reviewing the structure for efsli. They were invited to attend the board meeting in Warsaw. Unfortunately Lorraine could not attend due to personal reasons. We welcome them both on board!

8th February deadline call for abstracts

Please submit your abstracts for #efsli2015 conference before 8th February. Send them to abstracts2015@efsli.org. More information at http://efsli.org/call-for-abstracts-efsli-2015-conference/

11th-13th September: #efsli2015 AGM and conference in Warsaw (Poland)

Sponsors for #efsli2015
Does your company or training institution want to become one of the sponsors of the next efsli conference? This is a unique opportunity to bring your company/organisation to the attention of sign language interpreters, researchers, service providers and policy makers from across Europe. You can support efsli 2015 by becoming a Gold, Silver or Bronze Sponsor. Each type of sponsorship offers special benefits and privileges, such as having your information material included in the conference folder, a link to your company/organisation published on the conference website or having your logo displayed on the screen in the conference room during the opening ceremony and during breaks. Please contact the conference organising committee for further information: efsli2015@efsli.org

Training the trainers guidelines
As a follow up on the efsli Learning Outcomes for SLI presented at the European Parliament in December 2013, efsli has been working on developing a set of guidelines for interpreter trainers. After a consultation process with the eCE (efsli Committee of Experts), a first pilot of a training programme took place last December in Valetta (Malta). Peter Llewellyn-Jones and Lorraine Leeson (Trinity College Dublin) led a two-day workshop on interpreter training for the most experienced and skilled interpreters identified by the Maltese Deaf Association and Maltese Association of Sign Language Interpreters. The workshop covered curriculum guidelines, theoretical foundations and implications for practice, identifying and meeting training needs, developing practise materials, analysing and assessing performance and giving structured feedback. A resulting set of guidelines will be available soon on the efsli website.

Insign project materials to be shared soon
As soon as the European Commission gives its final approval to the Insign report, the deliverables generated during the project will be

Consultation process: Vision 2020
Following the announcement made at the 2014 AGM in Antwerp, efsli will shortly be consulting its full members (National Associations of Sign Language Interpreters), individual members and committees (SAF, eRF, eCE and DIN) on the contents of the Vision 2020 five-year plan. The consultation will focus on efsli’s goals and policy priorities and the strategies that will be required to achieve those goals. The final plan, when agreed and properly drafted, will then be voted on by the full members at the September AGM in Warsaw. In the coming weeks we will be contacting you for your opinions and we warmly invite you to participate in this process.

Do you want to bring your organisation to the attention of sign language interpreters, researchers, service providers and policy makers from across Europe? Become an #efsli2015 sponsor!
shared with the sign language interpreter and Deaf communities. These include “Professional and Service Standards” for video remote interpreting service providers and interpreters, a training package for interpreters working in video remote interpreting services and quick guides for service users (EU officers and Deaf and hard of hearing users).

Renata Swiderska (Poland) was elected coordinator of the network at the Deaf interpreters seminar in Antwerp (Belgium) prior to the AGM, and confirmed during the AGM. From 2015 on, the network has planned to organise every year one spring seminar and one working seminar before the efsli conference to further develop the Deaf interpreters' professional field. The next spring seminar will be organised in Berlin and will focus on community interpreting. In the seminar before the efsli AGM and conference in Warsaw the theme will be strategies of arguments to raise awareness about the need and importance of having Deaf interpreters and the services they provide.

**Operations grant application**

On 17th December 2014 the application form for an operating grant under the Erasmus Plus programme was submitted to the EACEA. By the end of March the results of the selection are expected to be published, and we will hear whether or not our application has been successful.

**Elections efsli Board members 2015**

We will shortly be inviting the National Associations (full members) to nominate candidates for election to the Board of efsli. Please contact the efsli President for further details Peter.Llewellyn-Jones@efsli.org. For the nomination forms, please contact admin@efsli.org.

**SAF documents**

SAF (Special Attendance Fund) has been supporting interpreters from countries with a low GDP to attend efsli AGM and conference for years. The guidelines and the form to apply as well as the reports from former participants can be found on the efsli website: [http://efsli.org/info-block/saf/](http://efsli.org/info-block/saf/). Deadline for applications is 31st March.