Autumn 2015: efsli schools in collaboration with EDbU and EUDY

In the last few weeks, efsli has been in contact with representatives of the European Deafblind Union (EDbU) and the European Union of the Deaf Youth (EUDY) to further develop the memorandum of understanding signed in previous years. We are delighted to announce that efsli, EDbU and EUDY will actively collaborate in the organisation of an efsli school to be held in Autumn 2015. The first school will be hosted by STTF (Swedish Association of Sign Language Interpreters) in Stockholm on 25th-27th September and focuses on “Interpreting with the Deafblind”. This is organised in collaboration with EDbU. One EDbU representative will be present during the school to provide information about EDbU and present also the service-user perspective to participants. With EUDY, we will be running a school on interpreting in educational settings. This serves to ensure that Deaf students’ perspective cuts across the training content. In this case, an EUDY representative will attend the school to present on the work of EUDY, which will include a report on the results of the last survey conducted among European Deaf youths. The venue and date for this school has still to be confirmed, so keep an eye out for updated information!
ToD (Training on Demand) in Venice on video remote interpreting

Last month, from 29th to 31st of June a very special event took place in Venice: a Training on Demand on Video Remote Interpreting, hosted by ANIOS (Italian Association of Sign Language Interpreters) in collaboration with VEASYT and Università Ca' Foscari (Venice). Dr. Christopher Stone (UK) represented efsli at this event, on invitation from the Board. Helen Fuller (UK) delivered an interesting course that gave the participants an opportunity to consider the role of interpreters when using video technology either providing remote interpreting for participants in another location or for telephone calls with Deaf people using a video platform. This included the ethics of working remotely, the issues of not being present in the room, the issues of using the technology, etc. Dean and Pollard’s Demand-Control Schema was used to discuss the issues (i.e. demands) and solutions (i.e. controls) within this setting. VEASYT provided the platform for practice and there was ample opportunity for the participants to use the platform to make calls with voluntary Deaf people also making themselves available for the practice sessions. There was then further reflection on the practice sessions and examples given by the trainer to further elucidate the controls that interpreters can apply. Efsli would like to give a special thanks to ANIOS for their enormous support along the organisation of this ToD.

4th efsliDI working seminar for Deaf Interpreters and Translators

The efsli Deaf Interpreters’ working seminar will be held on 9th and 10th of September 2015 in Warsaw, Poland (immediately before the efsli AGM and conference). The theme of this year’s working seminar is: “The argument for the use of Deaf Interpreters.” The aim of the seminar is to explore the arguments for engaging Deaf interpreters in such settings as courts, hospitals, conferences, schools, etc., where the accuracy and effectiveness of communication as well as cultural adaptability is very crucial. Prof. Dr. Lorraine Leeson and Prof. Dr. Christian Rathmann will be the leaders of this meeting. All Deaf Interpreters are welcomed. The registration Deadline is 21 August 2015.

Changes in the training and publicity and promotions departments

Due to the changes occurred within the Board along 2015, some adjustments have been made as for the responsibilities for both Board and staff members. Since May 2015 Lourdes Calle is responsible for the training and publicity and promotions department. If any efsli member is interested in hosting an efsli school or providing some information to be published in the efsli publications, you can contact her directly at lourdes.calle@efsli.org

Justisigns project meeting in Zurich

Last 8th and 9th June efsli project coordinator, Lourdes Calle, attended the Justisigns project consortium in Zurich (Switzerland). The consortium, coordinated by Interesource Group (Ireland) Limited, is formed by four universities (Heriot-Watt...
University, Trinity College Dublin, KU Leuven and HfH, Zurich) and two European NGOs: EULITA (European Legal Interpreters and Translators Association) and efsli. During this meeting, discussions were held in relation to the content of the evidence-based training package to be designed by all partners in a collaborative manner. The final product will be available with a creative commons license to assure the dissemination of the results. Some other topics covered during this meeting included an update on the research being undertaken to inform the training package, and dissemination strategies that will be adopted during and after the life of this project. Efsli’s role in this project is mainly one of dissemination. In relation to this, those attending efsli conference in Warsaw in September will have the opportunity to find out more at a Justisigns stand that will be set up with information about the project.

For further information, click on the following link: [http://www.justisigns.com/JUSTISIGNS_Project/About.html](http://www.justisigns.com/JUSTISIGNS_Project/About.html). You can also follow the project in twitter at @justisigns

**efsliDI (Deaf Interpreters) in Berlin**

Last 13th and 14th of June the efsli Deaf Interpreters' Spring seminar was held in Berlin, Germany, hosted by Yomma. The theme of this working seminar was “Deaf Interpreters as Community Interpreters”. The seminar leaders were Benedikt J. Feldmann and Mandy Gnerlich, who are governmental certified Deaf interpreters from Berlin.

They mostly work in community settings and their working experience proved to be very enlightening for the seminar participants. Participants came from Denmark, Belgium, Poland, Finland and the UK. The first day was mostly devoted to discussion on the topic of diversity in the Deaf Community and how that influences Deaf interpreters’ work. During this day, participants also had the opportunity to analyse the “A-Z” of interpreting appointments. The second day focused mostly on practical issues: Participants prepared themselves for different interpreting scenarios in which they had to meet different users’ needs depending on the groups they were interpreting for (e.g. Deafblind people or deaf children). The participants attending this training found it most useful and expressed their interest in having more time in future seminars to further examine the different topics covered.

**Insights #efsli2015 presentations: Anna-Lena Nilsson**

This year’s keynote speaker is Prof. Dr. Anna-Lena Nilsson. She is a Professor of Sign Language and Interpreting Studies at Sør-Trøndelag University College, Trondheim, Norway. Her PhD-thesis was titled “Studies in Swedish Sign...”
Language: Reference, Real Space Blending, and Interpretation”. She has more than 30 years of experience of signed language interpreting, and has been responsible for a number of continuous professional development courses at Stockholm University, Sweden. Her presentation will describe where some of these perceived difficulties in interpreting into spoken language originate, and how they can be handled. Focus will be on the linguistic knowledge and awareness that is needed to interpret simultaneously between languages that are produced and perceived in different modalities. Describing the same situation, speakers of these two types of language will frequently focus on distinct aspects of it, and the information will be packaged in entirely different ways. What skills and knowledge do interpreters need to have then, in order to produce the best possible spoken language rendition of a signed message? Drawing upon different areas of linguistics, the presentation will describe some of the skills and knowledge needed for interpreters to manage crucial structural differences between signed and spoken languages. In addition, a number of key concerns when interpreting monologues, dialogues, and multi-party conversations will be taken into consideration. Important aspects such as when to start speaking, as well as the appropriate choice of expressions and how these choices may affect the impression a Deaf presenter makes on his/her audience will be discussed.

**EACEA coordinators meeting**

In 2015, under the Erasmus Plus Programme, Key Activity 3, efsli has been awarded with a three year partnership agreement that will support efsli in organising all the activities planned for this and next two years. Last 25th June the EACEA (the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency, http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/index_en.php) held a meeting in Brussels in which the 20 organisations selected were invited. Lorraine Leeson, acting treasurer, and Lourdes Calle, project coordinator, attended the meeting on behalf of efsli. They had the opportunity to meet the EACEA officers who will be in charge of accompanying us and evaluating on the work delivered. They informed efsli they will attend some of the efsli activities to be organised in the Autumn. efsli looks forward the opportunity to have the EACEA feedback on our work and also facilitate that efsli members and friends have the opportunity to meet them and get first hand information about the Erasmus Plus funding opportunities available.