Important Dates

efsli Summer School
Dublin, Ireland
11th - 13th July 2014

efsli Deaf Interpreters Seminar
Antwerp, Belgium
10th - 11th September 2014

efsli AGM & conference
Antwerp, Belgium
12th & 13th - 14th September 2014

efsliT
Antwerp, Belgium
15th - 16th September 2014

Topics:
- Word from our president
- Live Board meeting, Brussels
- Deaf Interpreters Seminar
- Insign Project
- SAF donations
- Summer School in Dublin
- Justisigns
- AGM & Conference
- EfsliT
- PRO-Sign Conference

A Word from the President

When the Board met in Brussels a week or so ago, it was nearly seven months after being elected in Ljubljana. All of us have been surprised about just how much work is involved and, with the start of two major projects (Insign and Justisigns), the publication and launch of the ‘Learning Outcomes’ in December, the organising of efsli Schools and Training on Demand courses, and the planning of the next AGM, Conference and Trainers’ Seminar (efsliT) - we have been running around like headless chickens. We are all agreed that we couldn’t have got through the last months without the wonderful support of so many committed individuals; past members of the Board, the Chairs and members of the efsli committees (SAF, eRF, the Committee of Experts), the efsli staff members and many, many individual efsli members. We are really grateful to all of you. The Board meeting highlighted that, although it has taken us some time to learn the ropes, we are now working well as a team. Having caught up we can now turn our thoughts to the future. We hope that as many as possible of you will be able to attend the AGM and Conference in September because we now need to give some serious thought to the future direction of efsli and we need you to tell us where you want it to go. It is, after all, your organisation!

Here’s to the next few months!
All the best, Peter
Live Board meeting in Brussels, 26 – 27 April

The five members of efsli Board together with Lourdes and Minke spent the last weekend in April in Brussels at a live meeting, only the second one since the AGM which elected this new Board. The meeting was held at EUD office on Rue de la Loi - Wetstraat 26/15 and we are very grateful to EUD for providing this space.

The weekend proved to be quite busy as we had a whole lot of topics to discuss. The first day was dedicated to different departments of efsli Board and reporting what has been happening since we last met in person in December. After hearing detailed reports about training, publicity and promotions and efsli's current financial situation, we discussed the various active committees efsli comprises as well as the newly established Deaf Interpreters’ Network. We also saved time to discuss issues that our member association asked us to help with and proposals to further improve our work and cooperation with the members.

On Sunday we split into working groups to plan events (such as the upcoming efsli Summer School), projects (such as Insign), changes and developments (e. g. improving the efsli website), and many others.

During the whole weekend we have come up with several interesting suggestions for the 2014 AGM in Antwerp and we hope all of you will participate in deciding about them!

Deaf Interpreters Seminar

Call for Papers at the efsli working seminar for Deaf Interpreters and translators, 10th and 11th of September 2014 in Antwerp, Belgium

“Settings where Deaf Interpreters and Translators are Employed”

The aim of the seminar is to review and describe diverse settings (e.g. T.V., web-based translations, court, conferences, governmental agencies etc) in Europe, where Deaf interpreters and/or translators are engaged. It also aims to illustrate strategies of team interpreting.

Leaders at the seminar will be Dr. Robert Adam and Prof. Dr. Christian Rathmann

Submission guidelines:
Abstracts are invited for 15-minute presentations (plus 10 minutes for discussion).
All presentations will be delivered in International Sign.

Abstracts must be videotaped in International Sign (max. 5 minutes) and be sent via Dropbox, Vimeo or YouTube to christian.peters@efsli.org with the following information:
- Title of the paper - Name of author(s) - Affiliation(s)
- Address(es)
- Email address(es)

Abstract submission deadline:
May 31, 2014
First pilot platform demonstration at the European Parliament

Last 9th April 2014 the first demonstration of the Insign pilot platform took place at the European Parliament in Brussels (see previous efsli in brief’s and efsli Newsletter Spring edition 2014 for background information). Peter Llewellyn-Jones (efsli President) and Lourdes Calle (efsli project coordinator) attended on behalf of efsli.

During the event Access to the European institutions for deaf sign language users & hard of hearing citizens, hosted by MEPs Ádám Kósa and Werner Kuhn, speeches were delivered by representatives of several UE institutions and European NGOs, such as Olga Cosmidou (Director General, DG Interpretation and Conferences, European Parliament), Brian Fox (DG Interpreting, European Commission), Yannis Vardakastanis (President, European Disability Forum) and Humberto Insolera (Vice-president, European Union of the Deaf).

After the welcome speeches, a joint team of members of the European Commission's Academic Network of European Disability experts (ANED) and the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) made a presentation of the Indicators Project, in which they develop and populate indicators on the right to political participation of persons with disabilities. This was followed by the presentation of the EUD UNCRPD series first volume, Political Participation. Best practices collected in the book were presented by MEP Emer Costello and Joachim Denkinger (Deputy Secretary General of the Greens / EFA).

Finally, a demonstration of the Insign Platform was carried out live. Both Deaf and hard of hearing persons reached their MEP representatives using the pilot platform the Insign consortium has been working on during the last 3 months. The interpreters, based on a remote relay call centre in the UK, interpreted between different signed languages, including International Sign, and their respective spoken languages. For hard of hearing people the platform offer the service of respeakers, whose work let hard of hearing citizens communicate with their representatives receiving their responses in a written text form. It was a successful demonstration that provided the consortium with a lot of feedback from users (deaf, hard of hearing and hearing), interpreters and respeakers that will allow the Insign consortium to make some adjustments in order to provide an improved service. In addition, the information collected during both the training at London and the demonstration will be used by efsli when working on the design of a training course for interpreters and respeakers that will be first piloted and then delivered during the summer.

Next platform demonstration will take place in September 2014.
A month ago, efsli Special Attendance Fund sent out an email to all efsli members seeking for your support. We turned to you because saf will be celebrating its 10th anniversary this year. Throughout the past 10 years, every year saf has been able to give several interpreters the opportunity to attend the efsli AGM and conference. This was made possible because of you and your incessant contributions to the fund.

In order to commemorate these fantastic achievements and as a birthday present to the interpreters in Europe this year our goal is to be able to fund 10 saf applicants – to make it 10 interpreters for 10 years.

When we wrote to you at the beginning of April, through association’s contributions, individual donations and fundraising events we had managed to raise enough to cover the conference fee for two attendees. That was great already, but far away from our aim of 10 and so we asked for your help. The response to our emails was overwhelming! We received a number of very generous donations from all over Europe. Right now, we are in a position to support 7 fellow interpreters to attend the conference. So thank you very much again to everybody who has contributed to this!

Today we want to let you know that we are only 3 persons short of our goal of 10 to be supported by saf. And we are still dreaming of making it 10 interpreters for 10 years... Wouldn’t it be great if with a joint effort we would be able to make it in the end? So please help us to fulfil our dream and make the 10th saf anniversary a special one!

Warm regards
Julia Cramer (coordinator of efsli saf)

For more information or if you would like to make a donation: http://efsli.org/info-block/saf/ (paypal donation button, bank transfer also possible)

NOW available in the efsli SHOP

efsli.org/shop
At the end of April we’ve opened registration for the efsli Summerschool. This Summer School will be from Friday the 11th of July until Sunday the 13th of July 2014, in Dublin, Ireland.

The topic of this Summer School will be: Team Interpreting.

The topic stems from a lack of opportunity to team interpret on a regular basis. When it comes to teaming there can be a struggle to switch from a lone interpreter to being a team player. It is important to explore this with European colleagues, to share tips and develop strategies to ensure that team working is successful.

Bridge has begun to use Dean & Pollard’s Demand-Control Schema (DC-S) as a mechanism for interpreters to reflect on their work and for use as a framework for determining interpreting outcomes in order to provide the best service possible to the Deaf and hearing communities we work amongst. But how can we ensure that, when the time arises to be part of an interpreting team, we can step up and be a supportive member of an interpreter team.

The deadline to submit training applications is 7th May 2014.

Call for trainers / Summer School 2014

Registration as participant is possible until the 7th of June 2014.

http://efsli.org/events/efsli-schools/coming/summer-school-2014/

Justisigns

As previously reported, efsli is one of the partners in the EU-funded project, ‘Justisigns’. Over the next three years, along with the University of Leuven Faculty of Arts Antwerp; Heriot Watt University, Edinburgh; The Centre for Deaf Studies, Trinity College Dublin; Interkantonal Hochschule für Heilpädagogic, Zurich; Interesource Group (Ireland) Limited (a project management company), and the European Association of Legal Interpreters and Translators (EULITA), we are working to develop training programmes aimed at legal professionals working with interpreters, sign language interpreters working in legal settings, and information for Deaf communities across Europe about their legal rights.

The following message is from Jemina Napier (Herriot Watt) and Tobias Haug (Interkantonal Hochschule für Heilpädagogic, Zurich).

It would really help us if as many efsli members as possible could complete the survey.
Dear all,

You are invited to participate in this research project which is being carried out by an international team of experts as part of the EU-funded JUSTISIGNS project.

JUSTISIGNS represents a ground-breaking initiative focusing on identifying competencies for interpreting in legal settings and providing training for both qualified and qualifying signed language interpreters. The target groups include qualified and qualifying signed language interpreters working in legal settings; Deaf people and legal professionals.

All data collected is anonymous. Results will feed into reports on the situation regarding interpreter provision in legal settings across Europe and help in planning continuous professional development courses for Irish interpreters in the field, and in training.

Completion of this survey should take an estimated 20 minutes. Please follow this link to participate at this survey:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/WLRTLK2

The closing date of the survey is May 31, 2014.

*Please pass on to your members and any other contacts*

We would like to thank you on behalf of the JUSTISIGNS project team, Jemina Napier and Tobias Haug

AGM and Conference

12-14 September 2014
efsli 2014 AGM and Conference
Antwerp, Belgium

“Mind tricks: Our brain is the limit. Cognitive processes in sign language interpreting”

The regular registration is still open and it will be open until the 30th of May. From that date on only late registration is possible. So keep an eye on that!!

At this moment 124 people have registered. Take a look at the following website:

http://efsli.org/2014/participants/
Here you can see the registered participants and from which countries they’re from.
15-16 September 2014
efsli Trainers Seminar, KU Leuven
Antwerp, Belgium

“In Teaching Mind Tricks? From Consecutive to Simultaneous Interpreting ... and Back”

In association with KU Leuven, Faculty of Arts, Antwerp

KU Leuven, Faculty of Arts, Antwerp is proud to host the next efsli Trainers’ Seminar which will take place in the centre of the beautiful city of Antwerp, Belgium on 15 and 16 September 2014. The theme of the seminar is: “Teaching Mind Tricks? From Consecutive to Simultaneous Interpreting... and Back.” This theme builds on the topic of the efsli Conference which runs prior to this event, though the efsliT Seminar focuses on pedagogical aspects.

A key goal of the Seminar will be a critical evaluation of established teaching practices, for example the practice of treating translation, consecutive interpreting and simultaneous interpreting as separate entities. We want to explore whether this separation of skill sets really is established practice or whether there are alternative and/or blended approaches that can or should be applied. Another aim is to share pedagogical practices associated with teaching and assessing interpreting skill set development, including the cognitive processes inherent to interpreting.

The seminar programme includes presentations and workshops and provides ample opportunities for the exchange of knowledge, ideas and good practice.

The languages of the Seminar are spoken English, Flemish Sign Language (VGT), and International Sign (IS). Please note that we provide interpretation between these three languages only and that there will be no speech-to-text reporting. Participants wishing interpretation to or from other sign languages will need to bring their own interpreters and are requested to contact the organising committee as soon as possible to make further arrangements.

Seminar fees are as follows:

**Before or on 10th of June 2014**

- EFSLI members: € 195
- Non-members: € 245

**After 10th of June 2014**

- EFSLI members: € 235
- Non-members: € 285

*More information to be found at:*
PRO-Sign Conference

The PRO-Sign project (efsli is associate member), funded by the European Centre for Modern Languages (ECML), is a first and highly significant step toward the establishment of European standards for specifying proficiency levels for use in Deaf Studies and Interpreting programmes offered at tertiary level. (http://www.ecml.at/pro-sign)
The PRO-Sign Team is organising a second conference open to all professionals, teachers and researchers interested in developing and establishing common sign language levels. The CEFR for Signed Languages in Higher Education

September 24 – 26, 2014
Universität Hamburg, Edmund-Siemers-Allee 1, ESA West, Room 221

Project Members are Lorraine Leeson, Ireland; Tobias Haug, Switzerland; Christian Rathmann, Germany; Beppie van den Bogaerde, The Netherlands

Local Organisers are Stefan Goldschmidt; Christian Rathmann and colleagues at IDGS. The working languages will be International Sign and English

Conference Fee:
Early bird: € 130 until June 30 2014
Regular: € 160 after June 30 2014 (until September 12, 2014)
Send your registration (name, affiliation) to britta.harms@sign-lang.unihamburg.de
Confirmation will be sent after the payment is recorded.

Further information:
http://www.ecml.at/F5/Events

Call for Papers: Deadline: June 1, 2014

Duration of presentations will be a maximum of 20 minutes, including time for questions.

Three topics to be covered:
1. Report of CEFR-related activities and developments in my country
2. Development of CEFR-related teaching materials in my country: Current Issues
3. Sign Language Assessment

Please include
Your name and affiliation; abstract in English (max 150 words) or in International Sign (max. 2 minutes, with link to Youtube, Vimeo or Dropbox); title of abstract and kind of topic (please pick up one of three topics) Send your abstract to: conference-office@cefr4sl.eu