

Important Dates

We must start with an apology to all of our members because this is the first efsli briefing for nearly three months.

As you will know, an entirely new Board was elected at last September's AGM in Ljubljana and the three months before Christmas proved to be unusually busy. The whole Board has worked tirelessly to meet a range of deadlines; preparing the annual accounts by the end of December as required by the EU Jean Monet Operating Grant, arranging and attending training courses in Warsaw and Linz, representing efsli at conferences in Germany and Brussels and, most testing of all, organising the European Parliament launch of the efsli publications 'Learning Outcomes of a Three Year Undergraduate Course' and the accompanying 'Assessment Guidelines'.

efсли springschool
Belgrade, Serbia
11th - 13th April 2014

efсли AGM
Antwerp, Belgium
12th September 2014

efсли conference
Antwerp, Belgium
13th - 14 September 2014

efслиT
Antwerp, Belgium
15th - 16th September 2014

efсли at The European Parliament



The launch, held on 17th December, was hosted by Ádám Kósa MEP (the first Deaf person to be elected to the European Parliament) and comprised an impressive agenda of very influential speakers from the European Parliament, European Commission and major NGOs. Speaking for efsli were Professor Lorraine Leeson (Trinity College Dublin) who, as Chair of the efsli Committee of Experts, was responsible for the final writing of the publications and Peter Llewellyn-Jones, the efsli President.

efсли Board

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- **Jolanda Peverelli**
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efсли Staff

- **Lourdes Calle Alberdi**
efсли project coordinator (Spain)
- **Minke Salomé**
Administration (The Netherlands)
- **Andy Irvine**
Web Designer and Web Master (Scotland)

As you can imagine, organising such an event is an extremely complex process and we are indebted to Lourdes Calle who coordinated the three-year project and, in the run-up to the launch, guided us through the minefield of etiquette, protocols and security clearance by working closely with Ádám Kósa's office.

There is only space here to record our sincere gratitude to the efsli members, academics and practitioners who contributed to the project by participating in the three efsli working seminars in Utrecht, Hamburg and Dublin. A full report of the project and the European Parliament launch will appear in the efsli Newsletter later this month.

In the meantime, news of what else we have been up to since the AGM in September.



European Network of “Social” (Public Service) Interpreters

Before stepping down as efsli President at the AGM in Ljubljana, Marinella Salami arranged for the incoming President to attend the inaugural meeting of a new European Network of Public Service Interpreters. The meeting at the Committee of the Regions in Brussels on 3rd and 4th October was chaired by Pascal Rillof, Sector Coordinator, Public Service Interpreting and Translation for Flanders (Kruispunt Migratie-Integratie) and the attendees included academics/teachers of Public Service Interpreting training courses, representatives of European interpreting organisations (e.g. EULITA, efsli) and service providers (agencies, public institutions, etc.) from across Europe and representatives from the European Commission Directorate General for Interpreting. The discussions focused on the differing levels of competence of spoken language public service interpreters across the member states and the need for better training if migrants are to access essential services throughout the EU.

It was agreed that a formal organisation should be established to take the lead in improving the quality of the interpreting services necessary for migrants across Europe are to achieve full citizenship. The efsli President now sits on the steering committee and two of the subcommittees charged with developing the organisation and planning the first stages of its work. As soon as the subcommittees have met a fuller report explaining efsli's role and how its affiliation can enhance efsli's work will be made available to the members. The next meeting of the Network will be held at Alcalá University in Madrid on 2nd April, the day before the 5th International Conference on Public Service Translation and Interpreting.

JUSTISIGNS

The first meeting of the JUSTISIGNS project partners was held at Trinity College Dublin on 5th and 6th December. The three-year EC-funded project will develop training for sign language interpreters working in legal settings, legal professionals on how to best work with interpreters and programmes to raise the Deaf Communities' awareness of their rights and how to gain equal access to the legal systems in their own countries. The partners working on the project are University of Leuven Faculty of Arts Antwerp; efsli; Heriot Watt University, Edinburgh; Centre for Deaf Studies, Trinity College Dublin; Interkantonal Hochschule für Heilpädagogik, Zurich; Interest-source Group (Ireland) Limited; EULITA.

INSIGN

It was confirmed in October that the European Commission has agreed to fund a one-year project to develop a remote video interpreting platform to allow deaf people immediate access to the EU institutions. The first meeting of the partners is scheduled for January 14th in Brussels. Efsli is taking the lead in researching current provision, describing the type of interpreting service to be established, providing specialist training for the interpreters and evaluating the quality of the interpreting available through the VRI platform.

The project partners are:

the European Union of the Deaf (EUD) Belgium;
DNEXTEP Consulting S.L. (Designit) Spain;
Ivès, France;
Significan't/SignVideo, UK;
efsli, Belgium;
Heriot Watt University, Scotland.

During the research phase it is likely that we will have to survey and consult the efsli full members (national associations). Again, efsli will be reporting regularly on the progress of the project.

Training

11-13 April 2014
efsli Spring School, Belgrade, Serbia
“Interpreting Research”

In association with the Serbian Association of Sign
Language Interpreters (ATSZJ)

Please note: the deadline for the ‘call for
trainers’ is 20th January. Information on the Spring School is
available on the efsli website

<http://efsli.org/call-for-trainers-efsli-spring-school-2014/>



Conferences

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

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



In association with the Belgian Association of Sign Language Interpreters (BVGT)
Please note: the **deadline** for the call for speakers/presenters at the conference is **20th January**

15-16 September 2014
efsli Trainers Seminar, KU Leuven
Antwerp, Belgium

"Teaching Mind Tricks? From Consecutive to Simultaneous Interpreting ... and Back"

In association with KU Leuven, Faculty of Arts, Antwerp

The efsliT organisers are considering holding a 'clinic' on the afternoon of the 14th, after the efsli Conference has closed, to give younger and less experienced trainers and researchers attending the seminar an opportunity to meet with and talk to more experienced teachers and academics.

Please note: the **deadline** for the call for abstracts is **20th February**



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The Board is grateful to past members of the efsli Board for their invaluable support over the last three months.