

# THE NORTHWEST LINGVIST



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## National Certification for Healthcare Interpreters under Development

By Cynthia E. Roat, MPH

As of summer of 2008, Washington State remains the only state in the country to offer official certification for healthcare interpreters. But that is going to change.

May 30, 2008 marked the first meeting of the National Coalition on Health Care Interpreter Certification. The mission of this group is nothing less than the establishment of a valid and reliable certification process for healthcare interpreters that will be available in all states and, in some form, for all languages.

The Coalition started as a Coordinating Committee, which was convened in 2007 by the National Council on Interpreting in Health Care (NCIHC) with funding from The California Endowment and is made up of representatives from the NCIHC, the California Healthcare Interpreting Association (CHIA), the International Medical Interpreters Association (IMIA, formerly MMIA), and the American Translators Association (ATA). This Coordinating Committee developed a protocol under which organizations could apply to join the Coalition. Stakeholders were sought from among interpreter associations, healthcare facilities and health plans, community advocates, interpreter edu-

cational programs, government entities, accrediting organizations, and language companies.

Many groups applied, and the resulting group of 18 organizations (plus the Coordinating Committee) met for the first time in Chicago on May 30. The Coalition adopted a Statement of Purpose and Principles to guide its work, and then formed itself into six work groups: Certification and Process Development, Legal Aspects and Languages of Lesser Diffusion/Rural Areas, Logistics, Fundraising, Communication and Outreach. These work groups will seek the help of experts in the field and organize the work necessary to design and implement a national certification process.

Would you like to have a voice in this process? The Coalition will be seeking input on a variety of questions related to interpreter practice and testing, through on-line surveys and focus groups. Keep an eye out for invitations coming through NOTIS, or check out the Certification Updates page on the NCIHC website at [www.ncihc.org](http://www.ncihc.org). ❖

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A chapter of the  
**American Translators Association**

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WITS has a Web page which can be visited at www.witsnet.org.

## NOTIS Notes

### New Members

### DVD announcement

The DVD-ROM of 48th ATA Conference is available. As a NOTIS member you can view it for free! (Pretty much.)

NOTIS is lending the DVD-ROM of the 2007 ATA conference in San Francisco to its members. Members can borrow the DVD for a one-week period. The DVD contains many of the preconference seminars and almost all of the myriad educational sessions. The format combines an audio track with viewable presentation slides. ATA-certified translators can earn continuing education credits by viewing the DVD. (Check with the ATA for number of credits available and work required for obtaining credit.).

DVDs of the 46th (2005) and 47th (2006) ATA conferences are also available.

To ensure that the DVD is returned in a timely manner a deposit equal to the purchase price is required. The DVD costs \$149.00, and a fully refundable deposit of \$150.00 is required to borrow the DVD. Borrowers can obtain the DVD by mail or directly from Ken Wagner. Make your reservation to view the DVD today! Contact:

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 Japanese-English Medical Translations  
 340 NE 192nd St.  
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## WITS Notes

### New Members

Graciela Bravo Black	Spanish
Seongae Byun	Korean
Dubrevka Martincic	Croatian Bosnian Serbo-Croatian
Jonas Nicotra	Portuguese French
Claudia Sibila	Spanish
Sarbjit Singh	Punjabi Hindi Urdu
Susan Sola	Spanish
Steven Strausz	Mandarin
Ellen Whiting	Czech
Elwin Wirkala	Portuguese Spanish
Geleta Mitiki Wodajo	Oromo Amharic Russian

### Rejoining Members

Jeanine Horton	Spanish
Jin So	Korean

## For the Record: The Truth about State Court Certification Exams

By *Katrin Johnson*

Most court interpreters, whether they've taken the state court certification exam or not, have strong opinions about the exam and have heard many worrisome rumors. In an attempt to dispel myths surrounding the examination process, this article provides basic information on where the exams come from, their structure, and how examinees' performances are evaluated.

### Washington's Involvement in the Consortium

In the early 1990's the Washington Court Interpreter Program, under the leadership of Joanne Moore, took the bold step of developing court interpreter certification exams in multiple languages, because none were available at a national level for local use. Very few states offered interpreter certification testing at that time, making Washington a leader not only in setting standards for court interpreters, but also in developing a tool to measure those standards. While other state courts began to recognize the value in such testing, they were not yet positioned to develop their own exams. As a result, in 1995, the state courts in Washington, New Jersey, Oregon and Minnesota joined forces, in collaboration with the National Center for State Courts, to establish the Consortium for State Court Interpreter Certification.

The Consortium develops, regulates and makes available court certification exams to member states. Washington and New Jersey donated their exams to the Consortium, which created the foundation for the Consortium exam pool, while Oregon and Minnesota contributed funds. Currently the Consortium provides certification exams in sixteen languages, and its members have expanded from four to forty states. The Washington Court Interpreter Program currently offers certification testing in nine languages: Arabic, Cantonese, Korean, Laotian, Mandarin, Russian, Somali, Spanish and Vietnamese. (The Khmer exam, administered in the past, is not available for testing at this time.)

### Certification Exam - The Basics

The Consortium certification oral exam measures language knowledge and fluency in both languages, and the ability to interpret the information in each of the three modes required in court—simultaneous interpreting, consecutive interpreting and sight translation of documents. The successful candidate must score a minimum of 70% on each section. The entire exam is tape recorded and is administered by a proctor.

In the simultaneous portion, the candidate will interpret an opening or closing statement in English, approximately 800 to 850 words in length. The script is recorded at a speed of approximately 120 words per minute, which is much slower than typical courtroom speech. For the consecutive portion, the candidate interprets a dialogue where an attorney questions a non-English speaking witness on the stand. The utterances vary from one word to no greater than fifty words, and the entire consecutive portion contains approximately 900 words. In the sight translation section, the candidate is given an English document approximately 225 words in length, and six minutes to read it aloud into the foreign language. Next, the candidate receives a document of the same length in the foreign language, and is given six minutes to interpret aloud into English.

### Scoring Units

Scores are based on candidates' ability to accurately interpret pre-selected words or phrases, or "scoring units." There are three broad categories of scoring units. "Grammar and usage" (25% of scoring units) includes grammar, verbs, false cognates, interference and literalism. "General lexical range" (40%) includes general vocabulary, legal terms and phrases, idioms and sayings. The final category, "conservation of more technical forms" (35%) includes register, numbers/names, markers, intensifiers, emphases, precision, embeddings, positions, slang and colloquialisms. The 215 scoring units are distributed across the entire exam in varying degrees of difficulty, and the meaning of the source language must be unambiguous.

### Rating

Each candidate's exam is reviewed by a team of two raters. Raters have taken and passed the same or a similar certification test, or in the case of newly developed examinations, are academic experts who have participated in the exam development. All raters receive specific training; most have experience in test administration and scoring.

When evaluating a candidate's performance, the raters independently score each scoring unit, and then compare their scores. If the raters disagree on the performance of a scoring unit, they consult a scoring dictionary developed for the exam. The scoring dictionary contains a compilation of interpretations for each scoring unit that have

*Continues on page 8* ○○○

## NCIHC Developing Standards for Training Programs

By Cynthia E. Roat, MPH

How do you develop a profession from an ad-hoc activity? In 2000, the NCIHC laid out a five-step plan to move healthcare interpreting out of the “ad-hoc” category and closer to becoming a profession.

STEP 1: Develop national consensus on the role of the interpreter.

STEP 2: Develop a single National Code of Ethics, based on consensus about the interpreter’s role

STEP 3: Develop National Standards of Practice, based on the Code of Ethics

STEP 4: Develop Standards for Training Programs, so that the standards are being taught consistently nationwide.

STEP 5: Establish national certification to test interpreters’ ability to implement the standards of practice.

The role of the healthcare interpreter had been a matter of great debate since the NCIHC first met as an informal working group in 1994, convened by Seattle’s own Cross Cultural Health Care Program. By 2000, there was still some disagreement about the interpreter’s role in healthcare settings, but it was generally agreed that interpreters in health care were engaged in facilitating understanding in communication. In 2001, the Council published *The Role of the Healthcare Interpreter: and Evolving Dialogue*<sup>1</sup> as a summary of those years of debate and discussion.

Soon after this report, the Council initiated a national consensus-building process around ethics, publishing in 2004 the *National Code of Ethics for Interpreters in Health Care*. From 2003-2005, a similar process was undertaken to develop standards of practice. Members of Seattle’s Society of Medical Interpreters participated in focus groups and an on-line survey to help formulate these standards, which were published in late 2005 as *National Standards of Practice for Interpreters in Health Care*.

NCIHC’s next step was to be the development of standards for interpreter training, however, a growing energy around certification across the country caused a change in priorities. A survey of assessment programs published by The California Endowment in late 2006 showed that a number of states were committed to developing state certification. In an effort to avoid duplication of effort, the Council began to seek funding to convene a National Coa-

lition for interpreter certification. Funding came through in mid-2007 and the Coalition’s Coordinating Committee was convened immediately after.

The Council has not lost sight, however, of its goal to develop standards for training programs. A proposal to do just that is now being circulated to various funding organizations, with the goal of having the standards completed rapidly so as to inform the development of certification.

So, how do you develop a profession from an ad-hoc activity? With vision, long-term commitment, flexibility and a whole lot of hard work!

<sup>1</sup> All the documents mentioned here are available for free download at [www.ncihc.org](http://www.ncihc.org).

### *Would you like to:*

- ✓ Learn more about NOTIS and the T&I profession?
- ✓ Help NOTIS give the best possible service to its members?
- ✓ Earn a little spare cash?

The NOTIS Board of Directors invites interested candidates to apply for the position of Membership Coordinator.

The Membership Coordinator position involves processing memberships and keeping our membership roster up-to-date.

Computer skills and email a must. Database experience strongly preferred.

For more information, please send a résumé and cover letter describing your background and suitability for the position to: [info@notisnet.org](mailto:info@notisnet.org). Preference will be given to members of the Society.

## WITS 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and Consecutive Note-Taking Workshop

*By Ferdinand Vélz, WITS board member*

Sixty-seven WITS members and colleagues —or just under half of our WA state membership— met at the Silver Cloud Inn in Bellevue on June 21. We celebrated 20 years of the society's existence. Participants also earned four AOC-approved continuing education credits for the wonderful and interesting presentation on consecutive note-taking.

President Kenny Barger introduced our presenter, Andrea Florissi, before his 10 a.m. seminar. Florissi has extensive conference interpreting experience in Italian and is familiar with other languages. He shared the seven principles of consecutive interpreting and an interesting note-taking technique. This includes the use of symbols, which should be quicker to write than words, and making note of the idea rather than the word. There are advantages to taking notes vertically, in columns, vs. horizontally. The Shift technique shared by Florissi causes you to read your notes diagonally from top left to bottom right. We proceeded in the afternoon with plenty of note-taking practice, with Florissi reading varied sources aloud. Most interpreters present were able to paraphrase well from notes taken using the technique just learned.

At noon, we had a tasty lunch catered by the Inn, followed by our annual meeting. Most WITS board members were present. We seem to be doing well. Out of a total membership of 154 from eight states, including Florida and New York, only 18 non-renewals were recorded in 2008. Our financial situation is acceptable. We spend close to 25% of our assets in programs that benefit our membership and the rest is the cost of doing business as a non-profit, plus we had a bit leftover for cake, literally. The program managers and guardian angels treated us to two cakes on our 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary, a surprise even to some of us board members.

Our business meeting concluded with the following seven reports. Outreach Chair Julie Bryan began with a bright note. Last year we sponsored only four outreach activities and so far this year we've had nine. By the end of 2008 we plan on having 12 to 14 total. Other persons to thank for this, besides Julie, are Emma Garkavi, Claudia A'Zar, Amy Andrews, and more. Dr. Steven Muzik, our representative to the Interpreter Commission, reported that while last year 160 aspiring court interpreters were tested, this year 300 have been tested so far. Barbara

Robinson spoke for Programs and informed us about the success of the certification preparation activity held on March 29. Around 80 persons attended and submitted excellent evaluations. Future activities for October 4 (International Translation Day) and a December holiday potluck with NOTIS are being planned.

Ginger Wang, WITS Treasurer, and Christina Zubelli, Office Manager, gave positive reports on our treasury and membership, as noted above. Guest Katrin Johnson, from AOC, has just begun her court interpreter liaison position. She arrives with over three year's experience managing the interpreter program in Minnesota. She praised our state's 50% refund program to local courts to help cover costs incurred by hiring certified and registered court interpreters, on the condition that the courts comply with certain minimum payment levels, create a Language Access Plan, and comply with a few other requirements.

The business meeting concluded with congratulatory remarks from WITS Founding Members Mary Martí and Arminda Baade, and from letters by former WITS Presidents Angela Torres-Henrick and Susana Stettri-Sawrey, also founding members. They all had encouraging and positive comments for WITS. ❖



**Conference Interpreter Andre Florissi  
instructs on consecutive**

## WITS 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting Photos



Programs Co-Chairs Barbara Robinson  
and Alicia Lanzner



WITS Founding Members Mary Marti  
and Mindy Baade cut the cakes



Office Manager Christina Zubelli  
reports on membership

### New Spanish-English legal terms glossary available

*Spanish court interpreters will want to download the pdf of the new glossary of terms recently posted to the AOC website. The glossary was prepared by Joseph Tein and edited by Kenneth Barger and Claudia A'Zar—all WITS members and certified court interpreters.*

[http://www.courts.wa.gov/programs\\_ orgs/pos\\_interpret/content/glossary/  
Glossary%20of%20Legal%20Terms %20-%20English-Spanish.PDF](http://www.courts.wa.gov/programs_orgs/pos_interpret/content/glossary/Glossary%20of%20Legal%20Terms%20-%20English-Spanish.PDF)

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been deemed as “acceptable” or “unacceptable” by other teams of raters in the past. If the scoring dictionary doesn’t include the word or phrase used by the candidate, the raters will consult reputable bilingual dictionaries and other sources to see if the word(s) used would be acceptable in any country where the language is spoken. If agreement still can’t be reached, a third opinion may be sought. The benefit of any doubt always goes to the candidate, so if only one rater believes the scoring unit is interpreted incorrectly, the unit is marked as correct.

While scoring units provide for objectivity and consistency, an additional evaluation is crucial to assess a candidate’s consistency in interpreting and language skills. For example, a candidate may score well because all scoring units were accurately interpreted, yet the candidate may have made countless mistakes in between scoring units, or significantly changed the meaning of the source language, or has a strong accent that is nearly impossible to understand. Test raters will assign one of three values to the candidate’s performance — acceptable, borderline and unacceptable. A score of “acceptable” is assigned when the performance is competent or better, and a score of “borderline” indicates the raters’ concern with demonstrated weaknesses. In both cases, however, the scoring unit score will determine whether the candidate passes. A score of “unacceptable” is assigned when the candidate clearly does not meet minimum standards for court interpreting. It is extremely rare that a candidate would score “unacceptable” yet accurately interpret 70% of all scoring units in each section. In such an event, however, the candidate’s exam will automatically be referred to a second rating team.

The information contained in this article, as well as many more details, are readily available online. The Consortium prides itself on transparency of its testing policies and procedures, so that interpreters can better understand its exams. To find more information about test development, scoring and rating, log onto [www.ncsconline.org/D\\_Research?CourtInterp.html](http://www.ncsconline.org/D_Research?CourtInterp.html). Next click on “Consortium for State Court Interpreter Certification” and “Manuals Developed by the Consortium.” You’ll also find countless other resources for interpreters on these pages, including employment opportunities and interpreter publications and resources. ❖

*Katrin Johnson works for the WA state Administrative Office of the Courts as the Court Interpreter Program Coordinator, and is a member of the Consortium for State Court Interpreter Certification Executive Committee.*

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## Cultural Corner

*By Laura A. Wideburg*

Spanish took the title as the language spoken by the most people in the United States after English in the 1970’s, but which language was spoken prior to that? Many people would be surprised to hear that German was the Number Two language in the United States from its inception as a nation until the 1970 Census. In fact, except by one vote, German would have become the language spoken here, due to the hostility toward Great Britain after the Revolutionary war.

What was the attitude toward German during the 1800’s by the English speaking population? If you imagine that German-speaking people were easily accepted, you would be wrong. The attitude was hostile both to immigrant Germans and to the German language, not to mention beer. Yes, the “American” drink was whiskey and beer was seen as a devilish foreign import. When Queen Victoria married Prince Albert back in the “Mother Country,” attitudes became slightly friendlier, and both Christmas trees and beer drinking became American customs.

However, with World War One, attitudes shifted back toward hostile. German language books were burned, German language newspapers were closed, and German Lutheran churches switched their language from German to English as a result of being seen as “the enemy.” Nevertheless, German was still the native language most spoken in the United States, although by this time, parents were urging their children to speak English to prove that they were true Americans. Assimilation from the large German population means that today one in four of all Americans have some German heritage. And Mexican beer? You have German-Mexicans and German-American-Mexicans to thank for that! ❖

## Mario Flores bids colleagues farewell: an open letter

Dear friends and colleagues,

I think it is time I put an end to the rumors you may have heard and set the record straight. Yes, it's true: this interpreter is crossing over to the dark side and becoming an attorney! Later this summer, I leave Seattle to attend law school at Syracuse University in upstate New York.

As I embark on what is to become my second career, public international law will be natural progression to both my personal and professional concerns. As many of you know, I was born in Chile and was barely eight years old when my parents decided to uproot our family of five and move to New York in the wake of what was then the first democratically elected Marxist president in the world. When we returned three years later, Chile was a very different country.

President Allende had bankrupted a prosperous nation in the brief period of three years, as he raced at breakneck speed to implement social changes at any cost. My brother and I stood in never-ending lines from dusk to dawn holding a spot for our mother hoping there would be enough bread, rice or toothpaste when our turn came up. People with money and contacts could still get their heart's content in a thriving black market but the rest of us, we had to compromise: we got ration cards that gave a family the possibility of getting barely enough to survive on, only if we managed to secure a place close to the front of the line. The inequalities I experienced then and continue to see in a world that is ever more diverse and interconnected yet remains affected by pervasive disparities have driven me to work on behalf of promoting and improving access to justice and health care by disenfranchised populations.

As an interpreter, I feel the ability to help people bridge linguistic, cultural and ideological barriers is a blessing. Early on in my career, I helped individuals one by one, interpreting in courts and hospitals. Later, as I became an instructor, I had the opportunity to share my experience with bilingual individuals across the U.S. so that they, in turn, could help limited English-proficient (LEP) populations. I also worked with medical providers and law enforcement on cultural competency and on how to communicate with LEP individuals. In 2003, I had the honor of being invited by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to join a group of national experts to

establish National Standards for Health Care Interpretation Services. My goal now is to expand on that work and advocate for international human, civil and political rights, in organizations such as Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch.

I am very thankful to have had the opportunity to work with and learn from a bright and dedicated group of interpreters and translators. There have been many of you who have been an inspiration, a lending hand, or a good friend to me. I am especially grateful to Martha Cohen from the King County Superior Court Interpreters Office for her unbelievable support. When I moved to Seattle in 1991, I knew nothing about court interpreting; my background was in conference interpreting. Martha freely invited me to her office, offering selfless advice, guidance and opportunities. She was instrumental in helping me become a successful court interpreter. Over the years, I have attempted to do no less by "paying it forward" and helping other interpreters in the hopes I can repay even if only a fraction of what she did for me.

Notwithstanding where life may lead me, I remain eternally indebted to Washington's community of professional interpreters. If you happen to come by upstate New York in the next three years, feel free to contact me. Even if you don't come by, I offer you my expertise and experience as a resource if you ever need them.

Warmest regards,

Mario A. Flores, Interpreter

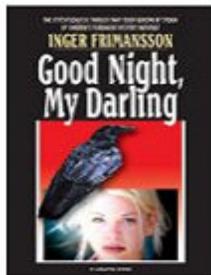
*Washington State Court Certified*

*U.S. Courts Certified*

*ATA Certified Translator, English into Spanish*

## Laura Wideburg awarded “Best Books” translation prize

by Verla J. Viera



NOTIS Board Member and Newsletter Editor Dr. Laura Wideburg has received a Best Books of 2007 award from *ForeWord* magazine. The Gold Medal in the fiction translation category was bestowed on her English rendition of Swedish novelist Inger Frimansson's *Good Night, my Darling*.

The original novel, *God natt, min älskade*, won Best Swedish Crime Novel of the Year (Svenska Deckareakademions pris) in 1998. Wideburg also translated its sequel, *Skuggan i vattnet*, which won the 2005 Best Swedish Crime Novel prize. That translation was released in May of this year. She is presently working on

a third novel, *De nakna kvinnornas ö* (*The Island of Naked Women*), scheduled for publication in 2009.

Wideburg has an MA in Scandinavian Languages and Literature and a PhD in Germanic Languages and Literature from the University of Washington. She has worked as a professional translator since 2001, and will be an evaluator for the inaugural administration of the ATA Swedish to English certification exam.

The Traverse City, Michigan based *Foreword* is a bi-monthly magazine dedicated to reviewing independently published books in order to inform librarians and booksellers of works issuing from that sector. Their professional freelance reviewers are primarily academics, and come from throughout North America. ❖

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## Meeting Our Members

By Katrin Rippel

### Settling History and Culture: Meeting Radu Ivan

Romania is a country located in South-East Central Europe, North of the Balkan Peninsula, within and outside the Carpathian arch, bordering on the Black Sea. It shares a border with Hungary and Serbia to the west, Bulgaria to the south, and Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova to the northeast. Romania and Moldova share much more than a border, they share great parts of history and virtually the same language. With its independence in 1994, Moldova adopted a Constitution wherein it also declared that Moldova's state language was now called officially Moldovan. This part of proud and history of a European region ripples through the world and accompanies one of our member's daily life - far away from his home country.

Radu Ivan was born and raised in Bucharest, capital city of Romania. He completed his Medical Doctor degree at Carol Davila University of Medicine and Pharmacy in Bucharest, Romania.

In 1992, Radu left former communist Romania and the chaos that existed after the fall of the Iron Curtain and went to Stuttgart, Germany, where he practiced Urology, later Anesthesiology.

In 2002, he relocated to the United States, to Seattle, Washington. He started to study at Kaplan Test Prep Center in order to obtain his medical license for the U.S. During this time, Radu became involved in teaching and translation and interpretation. He taught Romanian and German Language at the Seattle Language International School, and was School Interpreter and Teaching Assistant for foreign preschool students in Puget Sound Educational Service District and in the Bellevue School District.

He completed programs in Interpretation with special training in medical and legal interpreting and got certified by DSHS for Medical Interpreting and Social Services Interpreting. Furthermore, he successfully passed the written and oral exam for the Washington State Court Interpreter Program, and also became a Labor & Industries approved interpreter.

Radu Ivan started his company Eldoraba Language Network with which he provides throughout the Puget Sound his services as an Interpreter for Washington Courts and various law firms. As an Interpreter Coordinator with

the Washington State Department of Labor and Industries, he interviews, hires and directs interpreters to various assignments, and performs follow-up evaluations. Yet his most regular assignments are in medical settings and in hospitals. His favorite location is Harborview Hospital. It almost became his second home, Radu says, since he is there a few hours almost every day - what surely is also connected to his other passion - although set aside for right now - of being an Anesthesiologist.

Radu regularly lives with and speaks his four languages Romanian, Moldovan, German and English. Because of the fact that Romanian language and Moldovan language are, besides some regional differences, almost identical, there regularly occurs some confusion about it and Radu explains repeatedly to clients about history and culture of Romania and Moldova, i.e. at the Courts where Romanian is a registered language and interpreters can get tested and registered with it versus Moldovan is not.

With not even a hand-full of Romanian and Moldovan interpreters in the state of Washington, it's unique that Radu owns this part of history and culture and settles it here, far away from its former home country. Furthermore, it is an advantage to its carrier to be able to fulfill demands of clients requesting specifically Moldovan language skills.

*Every issue Katrin Rippel interviews a NOTIS or WITS member. Next issue it could be you!*

### Joke Box

An introductory foreign language teacher was discussing the elements of grammar with her students and said, "Most languages have a double negative, which makes a statement positive, but no language has a double positive that makes a statement negative."

Just then, a voice from the back of the room popped up, "Yeah, right."

\*\*\*

*If your joke makes it into the newsletter, you will receive a \$5 coffee card! Send your joke to the NWL editor at [widburg@ix.netcom.com](mailto:widburg@ix.netcom.com).*

## WASHINGTON STATE COALITION FOR LANGUAGE ACCESS

*Interpreters and Providers working together to ensure Language Access for Limited  
English Proficient Individuals in Washington State*

### SAVE THE DATE

Washington State Coalition for Language Access is proud to present:

Language Access Summit IV

Friday October 24th & Saturday, October 25th 2008

at

The Coast Wenatchee Center Hotel and Convention Center,  
Wenatchee, Washington

Whether you are an interpreter/ translator or someone who works with the LEP population,  
this conference will offer something for you!

#### ***Selected Conference Presentation Topics and Goals***

- Learn the Basics of LEP Policies/Access
- Technology & Resource Demonstrations
- Access for Deaf and Hard of Hearing  
Individuals

- Stories From the Field
- Cultural Awareness Curriculum
- Launch of Statewide Interpreter/Translator  
Directory
- Networking Opportunities

#### ***CO-SPONSORED BY***

***Northwest Justice Project, Legal Foundation of Washington, Washington State Court Interpreters and Translators Society (WITS), Northwest Translator and Interpreter Society (NOTIS), Washington Administrative Office of the Courts, Interpreter Services & Community House Calls at Harborview Medical Center, Washington Coalition of Sexual Assault Programs (WCSAP), Washington State Office of Public Defense, Columbia Legal Services and Seattle University School of Law—Access to Justice Institute***

For more information Contact: JoAnn Guzman 206.464.1519 Ext. 361 Email [joanng@nwjustice.org](mailto:joanng@nwjustice.org)

Registration Information will be available soon at [www.wascla.org](http://www.wascla.org)

## WASCLA Summit IV Conference "Building for the Future"

Friday and Saturday

October 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>

THIS 2 DAY CONFERENCE will be held in Wenatchee, WA  
at the Coast Wenatchee Center Hotel and Convention Center

*Co-Sponsored by:*

Northwest Justice Project, Legal Foundation of Washington, Washington State Court Interpreters and Translators Society (WITS), Northwest Translator and Interpreter Society (NOTIS), Washington Administrative Office of the Courts, Interpreter Services & Community House Calls at Harborview Medical Center, Washington Coalition of Sexual Assault Programs (WSCAP), Washington State Office of Public Defense, Columbia Legal Services and Seattle University School of Law & Access to Justice Institute.

### Who Should Attend?

Those who are interested in language access including interpreters, translators and anyone working in organizations which serve LEP individuals in Washington State, or the surrounding areas, are encouraged to attend this conference to gain valuable resources; ideas about effective and efficient provision of interpreter services; share best practices; and share proven models for service delivery to LEP individuals. Regardless if you are new to the field of language access or have years of experience, this conference will prove valuable by offering both basic and advanced topics.

### Goals for the Summit:

- Learn more about LEP policies, interpreter and translator best practices, training for staff on working with interpreters, telephonic interpreting, interpreter and translator certification, reimbursement systems, translation models, and cultural competence.
- Launch a statewide directory of interpreter and translator resources.
- Network with professional interpreters and translators.

**THIS CONFERENCE IS FREE!!!\***

\*Excluding hotel costs - We have a group contract with the *Coast Hotel and Conference Center* with mention of "WASCLA Summit", for the night of 10/24/08, at the group rate of \$89.00 (plus tax). Unfortunately, they only have approximately 65 rooms left within the hotel, due to other groups hosting events in the convention center that weekend. For a list of other hotels see the chart below.

**WASCLA Summit IV Conference**  
*"Building for the Future"*

**REGISTRATION FORM**

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

State & Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of services your office provides:

- Law Enforcement/Prosecutors
- Advocacy & Legal Service Providers
- Medical Treatment Providers
- Government Agencies
- Interpretation & Translation
- Courts
- Other: (Please describe) \_\_\_\_\_

Please check dates of planned attendance:

- Friday, October 24, 2008
- Saturday, October 25, 2008

Please check choice of meal:

- Meat  None
- Vegetarian

Will you be bringing an LEP policy (drafts welcome):

- Yes
- No

Please check interpreter need (if any):

- ASL
- Language:

Would your agency like to reserve a resource table:

- Yes
- No

Please e-mail, fax, or mail this page only!

Please return REGISTRATION FORM only via e-mail, fax or mail as soon as possible,  
but no later than *Friday, October 3, 2008*.

*Confirmations will be sent to participants at the address provided above.*

Washington State Coalition for Language Access  
c/o JoAnn Guzman  
Northwest Justice Project  
401 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave S., Suite 407  
Seattle, WA 98104  
Fax: (206) 624-7501  
E-Mail: [joannng@nwjustice.org](mailto:joannng@nwjustice.org)

### Directions to Wenatchee Coast Center Hotel and Convention Center

Plenty of Parking available!!!!

#### From the Bellingham Area:

Merge onto I-5 S. Merge onto US-2 E via EXIT 194 toward SNOHOMISH/ WENATCHEE. US-2 E becomes WENATCHEE AVE. End at 201 N Wenatchee Ave Wenatchee, WA 98801-2009.

#### From the Seattle Area:

Take I-90 East toward Spokane. Take exit 85, WA-970 North towards WA-903 N/ Wenatchee. Turn left onto WA-970. Then turn right onto WA-907 East. WA 970 East becomes US-97. Turn right onto US-2 E/ US-97 N. US-2 E/ US-97 N becomes Wenatchee Avenue. Arrive at 201 Wenatchee Avenue.

#### From the Spokane Area:

Merge onto I-90 W. Take the WA-281 N exit, EXIT 151, toward QUINCY/ WENATCHEE.

Turn RIGHT onto WA-281 SPUR. Turn RIGHT onto WA-281 N/ WA-281. Turn LEFT onto F ST SW/ WA-28. Continue to follow WA-28. Turn SLIGHT LEFT onto WA-285. Turn RIGHT onto S MISSION ST/ WA-285. Continue to follow S MISSION ST. Turn RIGHT onto 2ND ST. End at 201 N Wenatchee Ave Wenatchee, WA 98801-2009

#### From the Walla Walla Area:

Merge onto US-12 W. Take the US-395 N exit, EXIT 14, toward SPOKANE. Merge onto US-395 N, via EXIT 14B, toward SPOKANE. Take the WA-17 N exit toward MESA/ MOSES LAKE. Turn LEFT onto WA-17/ PEPIOT RD. Continue to follow WA-17. Merge onto I-90 W via the ramp on the LEFT toward SEATTLE. Take the WA-281 N exit, EXIT 151, toward QUINCY/ WENATCHEE. Turn RIGHT onto WA-281 SPUR. Turn RIGHT onto WA-281 N/ WA-281. Turn LEFT onto F ST SW/ WA-28. Continue to follow WA-28. Turn SLIGHT LEFT onto WA-285. Turn RIGHT onto S MISSION ST/ WA-285. Continue to follow S MISSION ST. Turn RIGHT onto 2ND ST. End at 201 N Wenatchee Ave Wenatchee, WA 98801-2009

The Coast Wenatchee Center Hotel

Physical Address:

201 N Wenatchee Ave  
 Wenatchee, WA 98801  
 (509) 662-1234

Learn more about Wenatchee, WA at <http://www.wenatchee.org/> or [www.wenatcheewa.gov/](http://www.wenatcheewa.gov/)

**HOTELS IN WENATCHEE, WA**

NAME	ADDRESS & PHONE	INFO & RATE
Wenatchee Coast Hotel and Convention Center	201 N Wenatchee Ave Wenatchee, WA 98801 (509) 662-1234	Group rate at \$89 per room with mention of WASCLA Summit. To receive the discounted rate, rooms must be reserved at least 30 days prior to the conference. All requests for the discounted rate following September 23 <sup>rd</sup> , 2008 will be accepted on a space available basis. For additional information, see the Center's website at: <a href="http://www.wenatcheecenter.com">www.wenatcheecenter.com</a>
La Quinta	1905 N Wenatchee Ave Wenatchee, WA 98801 509) 664-6565	Regular rate - \$109 <a href="http://www.lq.com">http://www.lq.com</a>
Econo-Lodge	232 N. Wenatchee Ave, Wenatchee, WA (509) 663-7121	Regular rate - \$65.00 / double occupancy <a href="http://www.econolodge.com">www.econolodge.com</a> .01 mile from Center Hotel & Convention Center
Holiday Inn Express	1921 N. Wenatchee Ave., Wenatchee, WA (888) 400-9714	Regular raga - \$126.00 / double occupancy <a href="http://www.hiexpress.com">www.hiexpress.com</a>
Comfort Inn	815 North Wenatchee Ave, Wenatchee, WA (509) 662-1700	Regular rate 0 \$119.00 / double occupancy <a href="http://www.comfortinn.com">www.comfortinn.com</a> 0.6 mile from Center Hotel & Convention Center

## Events Calendar

Date	Event	Details	Location
August 23, 2008	ATA Professional Development Event: Localization Seminar	<a href="http://www.atanet.org/calendar/">www.atanet.org/calendar/</a>	Seattle WA USA
September 12-14, 2008	Tennessee Assn of Professional Interpreters & Translators (TAPIT) 2008 TAPIT Annual Conference	<a href="http://www.tapit.org/">www.tapit.org/</a>	Nashville, TN
September 26-27, 2008	Houston Interpreters and Translators Association (HITA) HITA International Translation Day Celebration & Conference	<a href="http://www.hitagroup.org/">www.hitagroup.org/</a>	Houston, TX
September 27-28, 2008	Atlanta Assn of Interpreters & Translators (AAIT) 2nd Annual Conference: International Year of Languages	<a href="http://www.aait.org">www.aait.org</a>	Atlanta, GA
October 4, 2008	NOTIS/WITS 20 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary and International Translation Day Celebration	3-6 pm Info: +1(206) 701-9183	Community Center at Mercer View, Mercer Island, WA
October 10-12, 2008	2008 International Conference on Medical Interpreting	Information: <a href="http://www.mmia.org/conferences/default.asp">www.mmia.org/conferences/ default.asp</a>	Boston, MA
October 13-15, 2008	Localization World Conference	<a href="http://www.localizationworld.com">www.localizationworld.com</a>	Monona Terrace, Madison, WI
October 24-25, 2008	WASCLA Summit IV	<a href="http://www.notisnet.org/program/notiscal.asp">www.notisnet.org/program/ notiscal.asp</a>	Wenatchee Convention Center Wenatchee, WA
November 5-8, 2008	49th Annual Conference of the American Translators Association	<a href="http://www.atanet.org">www.atanet.org</a>	Hilton in the Walt Disney World Resort, Orlando, FL
November 15, 2008	NOTIS Annual Meeting & ATA Conference Recap	+1(206)701-9183	TBA
December 6, 2008	NOTIS/WITS Holiday Potluck Party	+1(206)701-9183	University of Washington Waterfront Activities Center, Seattle, WA

For more international, national, and local events, please see: [www.notisnet.org](http://www.notisnet.org), [www.witsnet.org](http://www.witsnet.org), [www.atanet.org](http://www.atanet.org)

## NOTIS / WITS Board Meetings:

Organization	Date & Time	Location	Contact
WITS	April 30, 2008	By phone	(206) 382-5690
NOTIS	May 28, 2008, 6:30 p.m.	TBD	info@notisnet.org
NOTIS	June 21, 2008, 12:00 p.m.	TBD	info@notisnet.org
NOTIS	August 7, 2008, 6:30 p.m.	TBD	info@notisnet.org

All Board Meetings are open to the membership of their respective organizations.

Printed on recycled paper.



NOTIS  
 1037 NE 65<sup>th</sup> Street #107  
 Seattle WA 98115  
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 E-mail: info@notisnet.org  
 Website: www.notisnet.org