

S I G N A L S

News & Resources for Ohio Educational Interpreters

Interpreting & Sign Language Resources ♦ Summer 2005

ISLR MENTORING PROGRAM

Is Mentoring for YOU??

Are you looking for some one-on-one professional support? Do you have skill areas that you want to improve, but are not sure where to begin? Would you like to find a professional development opportunity that fits your budget and



time? If so, then you are a PERFECT candidate for the ISLR Mentoring Program!

ISLR believes that every interpreter possesses both areas of strength and areas needing improvement. Mentoring is a wonderful way to provide opportunities for growth for both mentors and mentees.

(See Is Mentoring for YOU?? on page 5)

ISLR MENTORING PROGRAM

Meet the ISLR Mentoring Team!

ISLR is expanding our mentoring team to provide mentoring services to more interpreters across the state. ISLR staff members Jean Parmir and Margaret DiMaria Murphy will continue to provide mentoring. In addition, we'd like to introduce you to the newest members of our mentoring team...

Marla Berkowitz

I am a freelance Deaf interpreter and teach American Sign Language at OSU. My background includes twenty years of experience in Deafness, teaching ASL, interpreter assessment, education and training, and more as well as two masters' degrees.



I have experienced both roles, as a mentee and as a mentor. As a result of these experiences, I have found new friendships and was inspired to pursue the art of interpreting. To be an effective mentor, one must have the patience to really listen not only with the eyes, but by making the effort to use appropriate language tone and body posture to be warm and engaging. To be an effective mentee, one must be a self-initiator and show a willingness to be introspective as well as to have realistic goals and expectations of the mentoring process.

(See TEAM on page 4)

Upcoming Statewide ISLR Workshops

November 5 in Columbus

Discourse Mapping: What It Is & Why It's Important

Presented by Patty Gordon

See page 3 for more information



SIGNALS ♦ Summer 2005

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Join the ISLR Advisory Committee!

ISLR is looking for interpreters to serve on the ISLR Advisory Committee. The committee assists ISLR in identifying the needs of interpreters around the state. The committee consists of two representatives for each of five regions and two members-at-large. The current vacation positions are:

<u>Position</u>	<u>Term Ends</u>
Northeast: 1 vacancy	June 2007
Central: 1 vacancy	June 2006
Southeast: 2 vacancies	June 2006
	June 2007
Southwest: 1 vacancy	June 2007
At-Large: 2 vacancies	June 2006
	June 2007

Advisory Committee members meet in Columbus on three Saturdays during the school year and at a retreat during the summer. At the meetings, members receive lunch and may be reimbursed for mileage and hotel accommodations. Members serve for a two-year term.

To be eligible for committee service, interpreters should have an Associate License, have worked for three or more years in the schools, and show evidence of leadership skills. Consideration will be given to diversity in areas such as age of students served, urban and rural areas, and gender.

To apply, please send a copy of your resume and a letter of support from your supervisor to ISLR (see back page for contact info). Positions are open until filled.

We hope you will consider applying for this committee and encourage interpreters in your area to apply as well. This is your chance to have a voice in the programs and services offered to interpreters in your area and across the state!

ISLR Advisory Committee Notes

The Advisory Committee met on April 23, 2005. Members present: *Southeast*: Jackie Miller; *Northeast*: Karline Caslow; *Northwest*: Sue Lottier, Sally Bowes; *Central*: Sharon Bordean, Lori Peters; *Southwest*: Sherry Miller, Pat Maille. Jean Parmir and Pam Brodie from OSD, Phyllis Adams from Sinclair Community College, and Donna Owens and Wendy Stoica from OCALI also attended.

ISLR Update: Information was shared about the mentor training, plans for Summer Institute, and the new module by Sue Basone. Committee members selected a topic for the fall workshop to be presented by Patty Gordon.

OSD Outreach Update: Information was shared about the establishment of an Advisory Committee for the Center for Outreach Services and positions available and filled within the department.

Credentials for interpreters: Possibilities for licensing educational interpreters who are qualified but not graduates of ODE-approved ITPs are being explored. There is also a new task force discussing a possible bill for State Licensure for all interpreters. RID is currently considering whether to accept interpreters with the Educational Interpreter Performance Assessment (EIPA) credential as RID certified members.

OCALI Update: The Cochlear Implant Task Force is developing guidelines for best practices educating students with cochlear implants.

ITP Updates:

Sinclair Community College has a one-year Deaf Studies certificate and an Associate degree. They are working on adding a one-year Educational Interpreter certificate. This would not replace the degree, but would provide an area of specialization for students as well as coursework for working interpreters to meet licensure requirements. Sinclair will also be offering classes at a branch campus in Warren County. They have been collaborating with Edison Community College in Piqua and will have an articulation agreement with Wright State, as will other associate degree programs.

Wright State University will be hiring a fulltime faculty member for the 2+2 program by the fall and will offer some courses under the Rehab Department.

Washington State Community College has a certificate program and hopes to eventually expand to a degree program.

Deafness and Eye

By Sal Parlato, Jr.

Deafness and I —
Because one of us can hear —
Stand on opposite ends from each other;
Face-to-face but far, not really near.
Still, we're connected by a line,
Not of blood (like a brother)
But of eye,
By line of sight
And —
Though none of us can hear it —
By spirit.





INSIGHT

What do you enjoy most about being an educational interpreter?

R. Shiloah James, Boardman Local Schools

I enjoy working with young people and feeling that my occupation has an important purpose — being a crucial link to facilitating communication and assisting the student to receive a better education.



Marlene Martin, Lucas County ESC

Seeing first hand a light bulb of understanding going off in the student's eyes as they comprehend a new subject and participate in class.

Shelley Myers, Dublin City Schools

I enjoy learning the information along with my students. Whoever said educational interpreting was boring obviously never paid attention to what they were interpreting!



Bunny Shimberg, Beachwood Schools

First of all — the kids. Seeing language develop and knowing that I had direct involvement in that process. We've had some students start with us without any language and in a relatively



RESOURCE RICHES

Orienting Consumers to the Role and Function of an Educational Interpreter

By Susan L. Basone

In collaboration with ISLR, Sue Basone has developed an independent study module to help interpreters teach consumers how to work effectively with them. In this two CD-rom set, you will go through power point slides and watch video clips from a live workshop Sue presented on this topic. Sue shares both informal and formal means to explain your role to consumers, such as teachers and students, including role plays of dialogues with a teacher and principal. You will be guided to complete activities to develop a list of partnerships, prioritize a list of consumers, and develop strategies to teach consumers about an interpreter's role. The CDs are easy to use. Simply pop them in your computer and the presentation launches automatically.

If you would like to purchase this module, send a check for \$4.00 to ISLR (see back cover for contact information) to cover duplication and shipping. Please make checks payable to OSD.



RESOURCE RICHES

Do you use a resource that would be beneficial to other interpreters? Please share with us by writing a review or description of a book, video, CD-Rom or web site that you find helpful. Send your review to ISLR (see back cover for contact information).

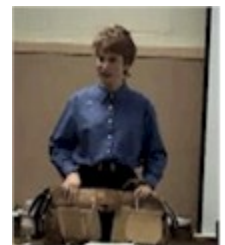
ISLR WORKSHOPS

November 5th Discourse Mapping Workshop

On Saturday, November 5th at OSD in Columbus, Patty Gordon will present "Discourse Mapping: What It Is and Why It's Important." This workshop is geared for interpreters working in educational settings. The focus will be on defining discourse mapping, prosody and identifying how discourse mapping impacts the quality of interpretations and transliterations. Participants will identify features of ASL that create a discourse "map" and practice incorporating and reinforcing these features in their own work.

Patty Gordon has been an interpreter since 1987 and an interpreter educator since 1993. She holds a BA in linguistics and has completed the Project TIEM Teaching ASL program.

Watch for registration materials in the mail as well as more information in the Fall 2005 edition of *Signals*.





(TEAM – Continued from page 1)

Sharon Bordean

In 1973, I married my high school sweetheart whose parents were deaf. Needless to say, this opened a whole new world for me. I went from barely signing to learning enough to begin interpreting in our church. I had learned everything I knew about sign language and interpreting from the Deaf Community and a few workshops along the way, but I needed formal training. I graduated from Columbus State Community College and then was able to get my RID CI & CT certifications. I've been working as an Educational Interpreter for the Columbus City Schools since 1986, working mostly at the middle and high school levels.



I would love to work with educational interpreters who seem to be burning out. We all need a mentor to encourage us to do our best. We can come up with our own creative solutions if we are guided by a mentor.

Amy DeLorenzo

I am an interpreter in Columbus and have interpreted in many settings for the past seven years, including three years as an educational interpreter. In addition to my AAS in interpreting, I have a BA and MA and am working on my PhD. I have also been teaching ASL for two years and will start teaching interpreting at Columbus State this summer.



I was a mentee in the ISLR program. This was a great experience. I was not only able to build a skill that I felt was lacking, I also received an unforeseen benefit – I began to trust myself and recognize my own ability to mentor myself! I am joining ISLR as a mentor because I want to see our field shift towards a more supportive environment. I think mentoring will play a key role in this process. It will help all of us (mentors and mentees) recognize the wisdom and skill we bring to any situation.

Kathy Geething

After living sixteen years in Ashland, I have recently moved to Wooster, Ohio. I have been interpreting for nine years in just about every setting you can imagine: education, religious, community, medical, & recently video relay. I have a BS in education, an AA in interpreting,

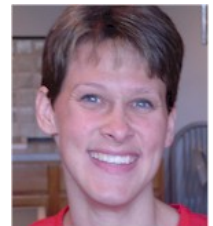


and hold both CI & CT certifications. I also teach in the ASL and interpreting programs at Kent State.

My main reason for becoming an ISLR mentor is that I wish I would have had an interpreting mentor. A number of Deaf people informally “mentored” me as language models. However, most of my interpreting development came from the school of hard knocks and many wonderful workshops. I think an effective mentor is simply willing to come up along side someone else and struggle with them through the self-discovery and growth process. A mentee is someone who has set goals for themselves and is willing to stretch themselves to struggle towards that goal.

Jamie McCartney

I am from North Canton, Ohio. I have interpreted for thirteen years professionally in postsecondary, community, and platform venues.



I was mentored through a short program in Canton. It was a wonderful experience and I learned a lot about myself and about my mentors. I joined the ISLR mentoring team because I want to be able to formally help interpreters who want to improve their interpreting skills. Mentees will benefit from mentoring by learning or further developing ways to separate themselves from their work as well as learning how to self-assess, so they can continue to improve even after the mentoring has stopped.

Leah Subak

I am from northeastern Ohio in Cuyahoga Falls. I have interpreted for twenty-five years in a wide variety of settings. Currently, I am an Interpreter Educator at Kent State University. I have an MA degree in Deaf Education from Gallaudet University and a certificate in teaching ASL and interpreting from Project TIEM.



I am becoming an ISLR mentor because I was mentored and want to give back and I believe mentoring is a crucial piece to interpreter education. Mentoring is important because it leads to self-discovery which will effect change which will impact the Deaf consumers we serve. I have been both a mentor and mentee – at times without realizing it. Both roles led to “a-ha” moments that changed me and possibly the mentor/mentee forever.

(See TEAM on page 5)



(TEAM — continued from pg 4)

Successful mentors and mentees share many characteristics — willing to learn, share, take risks, and be vulnerable. Through the mentoring process, mentees have a chance to learn about, affirm and grow their own strengths and gifts that they bring to the field.

Dawn Watts

I was hired at OSD as a contract interpreter by Sara Paullin Casto (with me in photo). I joined ISLR as an interpreter educator three years ago.



From the recent mentor training, we discussed that the role of a mentor is not to critique an interpreter, but to build a scaffold for the mentee to get them thinking about how to take their work to the next level. Deaf mentors have a lot to offer hearing interpreters. I'm excited to have another Deaf interpreter, Marla, on the mentoring team to help Deaf and hearing people work together.

ISLR WEB

Educational Interpreter Job Postings

Want to hire an interpreter? Want to apply for educational interpreting positions? Check out the new Job Posting page for educational interpreting positions in Ohio on the ISLR web site (see back cover).

To submit a posting, send the following to ISLR (see back page):

- ◆ Job Title
- ◆ Employer
- ◆ City
- ◆ Contact person with email/phone
- ◆ Links to web sites for the employer and/or position.

Is Mentoring for YOU???

— Continued from page 1

Interpreters may be interested in mentoring services for a variety of reasons. A recommendation for mentoring may also be generated by an ISLR assessment. Some of examples of types of mentoring available are:

- Interpreting skill development (voice-to-sign and sign-to-voice)
- ASL skill development
- English skill development
- Interpreting process mentoring
- Professional or ethical issues

ISLR offers these services for FREE to all educational interpreters in any city in Ohio. You do not have to live in or near Columbus to receive these services.

Mentoring is offered in three sessions during the year: September 1 to December 30, January 1 to April 30, and May 1 to August 30. Each session will last 10-12 weeks, depending on the interpreter's learning objectives. Applications are due 4 weeks before each session and selection of mentees will occur 2 weeks before the mentorship session is scheduled to start.

We are now accepting applications for our fall session. Slots go quickly, so don't hesitate to call. You can complete an application at <http://www.ohioschoolforthe deaf.org/islr/mentoringapplication.pdf> or call Margaret Murphy (see back cover) for more information.



ISLR WORKSHOPS

Summer Institute — Learning & Laughing!

On June 14–17th, interpreters from across the state came to Columbus to participate in Summer Institute and an ASL Immersion Experience. What did some of these interpreters say about their experience?

"ISLR Summer Institutes are the BEST! I'm so glad to be able to take advantage of this AWESOME resource!"

"I was hoping to leave a better signer than when I came and I think I am (though I still have a lot to learn)."

"I learned better ways to get information across to the deaf student."

"It was difficult for me, but having to participate in each session was very helpful. The instructors were very informative and eager to answer questions and really wanted you to learn and understand!"





IVA D'LEMA

Pay Scale for Educational Interpreters

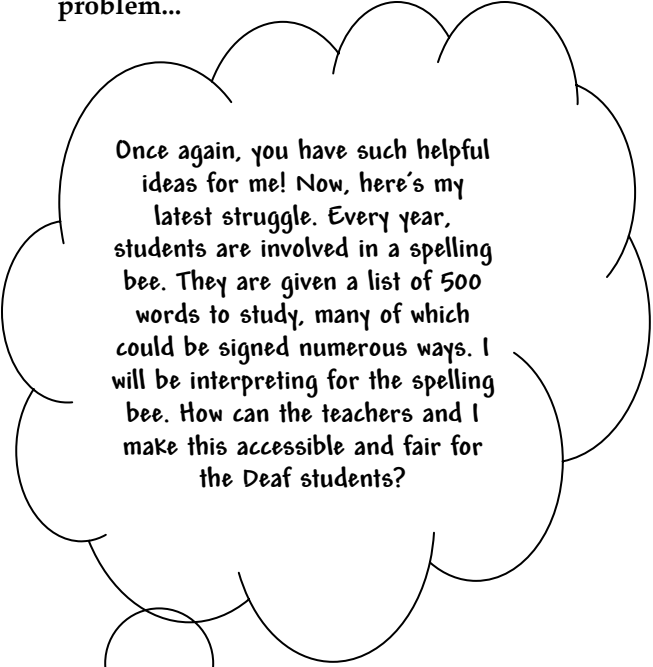
In the Spring 2005 edition of *Signals*, Iva shared this dilemma...

When I accepted my position as an educational interpreter, I agreed to the pay rate my supervisor offered. But now I am starting to wonder whether I am being paid fairly. How can I find out what an interpreter's pay scale should be?

At Summer Institute in June, many participants shared their thoughts for Iva in a survey. Iva and other interpreters in this situation could...

- **Ask other interpreters about their rate of pay.** Contact interpreters who work in the same district currently or in the past. Ask interpreters in other area school districts about their wage. Ask around at OCRID meetings, ISLR workshops, and conferences. Most interpreters would likely be willing to share this information if they understood the reason behind the request, especially if the results of the survey would be shared with them in the end. If talking to interpreters about how much they earn face-to-face is uncomfortable, ask interpreters in educational interpreter listservs, such as TerpsNSchool (<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/terpsnschool/>) or K-12 Terps (<http://victorian.fortunecity.com/stoker/103?>).
- **Contact school districts, Educational Service Centers (ESCs), and Special Education Regional Resource Centers (SERRCs).** Call the human resources or personnel department and ask the pay range for interpreters in their district or agency. Or check out the web sites for these organizations and see if they have interpreting jobs posted that include a pay rate.
- **Check with the union that interpreters are a part of in area school districts.** State-level or local unions for school employees may have this information to share.
- **Contact the East Shore SERRC for their 2003-2004 survey of interpreter pay rates.** Lori Harris conducted a survey for interpreters in Lake, Cuyahoga, Geauga, Portage and Summit counties. Contact her at es_harris@lgca.org and ask to be sent the report from this survey.
- **Consider all the factors that affect pay rates.** Keep in mind that interpreter pay rates are affected by years of experience, certifications, degrees, and the cost of living in the area. Also consider the entire compensation package, including benefits such as insurance and retirement plans,
- **Check on-line salary comparison calculators.** For example, www.payscale.com will compare a job profile to others in the area with similar jobs, including interpreters for the deaf. Basic reports are available at no charge or more information is available for a fee.

But you know Iva, now she has a new problem...



Once again, you have such helpful ideas for me! Now, here's my latest struggle. Every year, students are involved in a spelling bee. They are given a list of 500 words to study, many of which could be signed numerous ways. I will be interpreting for the spelling bee. How can the teachers and I make this accessible and fair for the Deaf students?



IVA D'LEMA

So, how might Iva handle her new dilemma? Send your thoughts to ISLR by September 1st to be included in the next edition. You do not need to send a polished response — just an idea or two. Or do you have a dilemma that Iva could share in *Signals*? See the back cover for contact information for ISLR. Submissions may be edited. Individuals who contribute to this column will not be identified with their comments. Contributors will be acknowledged on an annual basis.



Upcoming Events

July 2005

Vocabulary Enhancement: Workplace & Job Interviews

July 6 in Dayton, Ohio

Contact Rob Hoopes 937.512.2897

American Society for Deaf Children Convention

July 9–13 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Contact Jessica Wells 412.371.7000 jwells@wpsd.org

Mano a Mano Conference

July 9–10 in San Antonio, Texas

Contact Gentry McDaniel 407.518.7900

gmcdaniel21@aol.com

Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf Conference

July 10–15 in San Antonio, Texas

Contact RID info@rid.org 703.838.0030 v 703.838.0459 tty

Grammar Enhancement: Word Order

July 11 in Dayton, Ohio

Contact Rob Hoopes 937.512.2897

Vocabulary Enhancement: Legal Concepts & Courtroom

July 13 in Dayton, Ohio

Contact Rob Hoopes 937.512.2897

ASL Camp

July 15–17 in Lakeside, Ohio

Contact Lori Woods lwoods@csc.edu

Family Learning Weekend

July 15–17 in Columbus, Ohio

Contact Liz Dunbar-Grooms edgrooms@osd.oh.gov
614.728.1401 v/tty

Grammar Enhancement: Discourse Organization

July 18 in Dayton, Ohio

Contact Rob Hoopes 937.512.2897

OCRID LAC 3 Meeting & Workshop

July 19 in Youngstown, Ohio

Contact Kelly Kerr LAC3@ocrid.org 330.717.3836

Grammar Enhancement: Spatial Maps & Classifiers

July 25 in Dayton, Ohio

Contact Rob Hoopes 937.512.2897

Where Can I Find That? Community Resources for Interpreters, Educators & ASL Students by M. Somnitz

July 29 in Columbus, Ohio

Contact Chris Evenson 614.287.5616 cevenson@csc.edu

August 2005

Deaf Educators & Educational Interpreters Conference

August 2–3 in Carmel, Indiana

Contact Amber Bahler 317.920.6311

ABahler@isfd.state.in.us

Deaf Awareness Day at Cedar Point

August 6 in Sandusky, Ohio

Contact Linda Adams jerlin84@woh.rr.com

In-Depth Look at ASL Minimal Pairs by Lori Woods

August 12 in Columbus, Ohio

Contact Chris Evenson 614.287.5616 cevenson@csc.edu

ASL Social Night

August 12 in Columbus, Ohio

Contact Lori Woods lwoods@csc.edu

Ohio Association of the Deaf Conference & Miss Deaf Ohio Pageant

August 12–14 in Dublin, Ohio

Contact Linda Mahmood lmahmood@aol.com

An Introduction to Mental Health Interpreting

August 19 & 26 in Columbus, Ohio

Contact Chris Evenson 614.287.5616 cevenson@csc.edu

OASLTA & OCRID Summer Fun Picnic

August 28 in Grove City, Ohio

Contact Melanie Somnitz LAC4@ocrid.org

September 2005 & Beyond

OCRID LAC 3 Meeting & Workshop

September 20 in Youngstown, Ohio

Contact Kelly Kerr LAC3@ocrid.org 330.717.3836

Triumph of the Spirit: DPN Chronicle by Angel Ramos

October 8 in Columbus, Ohio

Contact Dawn Watts WattsD@osd.oh.gov

OCRID Annual State Conference

October 28–30 in Columbus, Ohio

Contact Anthony Nelson conference@ocrid.org

614.596.8157 v

Ohio DEAFair

November 5 in Columbus, Ohio

Contact Marsha Nippert OhioDEAFair2005@aol.com

ASLTA Professional Development Conference

November 6–8 in Las Vegas, Nevada

<http://www.aslta.com/conf2005/>



More info about these & other events is at www.ocrid.org, the Ohio Chapter of Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf website. Receive updates to OCRID's listing by sending email to OCRID-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

Interpreting & Sign Language Resources

Ohio School for the Deaf

500 Morse Road
Columbus, OH 43214



614.995.1566 v/tty

614.995.1567 fax

EduTerp@osd.oh.gov

Is this your current email address? If not, send us your email address at EduTerp@osd.oh.gov



Visit our website!

www.ohioschoolforthe deaf.org/islr



ISLR Advisory Committee

Northwest Representatives:

Sally Bowes, *West Liberty Salem*
Susan Lottier, *Lucas County ESC*

Northeast Representatives:

Karline Caslow, *Akron Public Schools*
Rebecca Costas, *Champion Local*

Central Representatives:

Sharon Bordean, *Columbus Public*
Lori Peters, *Franklin County ESC*

Southwest Representatives:

Patricia Maille, *Ross-Pike ESD*
Sherry Miller, *Dayton City Schools*

Southeast Representatives:

Jacqueline Evans, *Zanesville City*
Jackie Miller, *Athens City Schools*

Email Advisory Committee members at ISLRAdvisory@osd.oh.gov (indicate who should receive the email & the message will be forwarded)

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Interpreting and Sign Language Resources receives funding from the Ohio School for the Deaf and the Office for Exceptional Children, through a grant from Title VI-B.

About ISLR

The Interpreting and Sign Language Resources (ISLR) department at the Ohio School for the Deaf serves Ohio pre-K-12 schools, public school interpreters, and interpreting students. ISLR provides professional development for educational interpreters, including workshops across the state. Additional services include assessment of interpreting, ASL assessments, mentoring, and internships.

Signals is published quarterly by ISLR. Past issues are archived on our web site. If you would like to receive this newsletter, join our mailing list. Contact us or visit our website for more information.

Information in this newsletter is gathered from a variety of sources. ISLR does not endorse workshops or materials unless specifically stated. Submissions may be edited.