

# REGISTRATION AND QUALIFICATIONS NEWSLETTER

**MAY 2005**

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**This newsletter is distributed to:**

- Registered BSL/English Interpreters, Deafblind Interpreters (Manual), Lipspeakers and Speech to Text Reporters;
- Approved NVQ Assessment Centres;
- Qualifications Committees for BSL/English Interpreting, Lipspeaking, Deafblind and STT/Note-taking;
- The Independent Registration Panel;
- The Consortium of Interpreter Training and Assessment Providers.

**Editor**

Rosie Addis, CACDP Qualifications Officer - BSL/English Interpreting

## 1. General Information

The number of Language Service Professionals (LSPs) registered from April 2005 is as follows:

Category	April 2005
Member of the Register of BSL/English Interpreters	211
Trainee Interpreter (BSL/English)	39
Junior Trainee Interpreter (BSL/English)	67
Member of the Register of Deafblind Interpreters (Manual)	29
Member of the Register of Speech to Text Reporters	14
Member of the Register of Level 3 Lipspeakers	28
Registered Level 2 Lipspeakers	20

The CACDP database has now been updated with details of all new LSPs and those who have renewed their registration from 1 April 2005.

Once again we would like to thank everyone who met the deadline for registration and supplied all of the necessary evidence within the closing date.

The following points were noted during the registration process:

- Photographs of all shapes and sizes, types, colours and quality were sent in with applications. An outside company now processes the ID badges and the photographs are digitally printed onto the badges. In future, please send in **two colour photographs of passport size, standard and type (i.e. close-up of head and shoulders)**.
- Evidence of Criminal Records Bureau Enhanced Disclosure must be less than three years old for registration purposes. If evidence is provided other than the CRB Enhanced Disclosure Certificate, then this must state the date of when the disclosure was carried out.
- A number of incorrect titles have been used for the training programmes candidates are undertaking or have completed. Please ensure that the titles used match the titles on the application form.
- For BSL/English Interpreters the RJTI and RTI forms are working well and the information supplied on progression is very useful.
- It is the responsibility of the individual LSP to ensure that their Professional Indemnity Insurance covers them for all assignments they undertake and that it is valid for the full registration period (see 6. on page 5).
- The declaration section of the application form was not always completed, resulting in a lot of time and effort being spent chasing up the missing information. Applicants really do need to take the time to tick all of the declaration boxes and cannot be registered until this section is complete.
- Please be aware that the name, registration status and information on whether an LSP has Professional Indemnity Insurance and CRB Enhanced Disclosure will appear on the open register.

## Changes to Contact Details

Please remember to update us on any changes to registration or advertising details as soon as they occur.

## 2. Introducing the New IRP Registrar

“Thank you for giving me this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Christine Wagstaff and I am the new Registrar to the Independent Registration Panel. I started working for the IRP in February of this year, replacing David Brien. I am employed to work one day a week; you can usually speak to me on Wednesdays (unless there happens to be an IRP meeting or Ratification meeting scheduled on another day of the week). Although I am new to the activities of the IRP and the issues regarding BSL/English Interpreters, I have previously been involved in regulation and registration within a different industry. (I have worked in financial services for the best part of fourteen years.) Last week I attended my first IRP meeting, which was very interesting. Following on from that meeting, I will be working on producing the April Factsheet for the IRP. I hope I will get the chance to meet or speak to some of your membership in the course of my duties and I look forward to the challenges that lay ahead.”

Christine can be contacted via email: [christinew@cacdp.org.uk](mailto:christinew@cacdp.org.uk).

## 3. BSL/English Interpreting

### Review of National Occupational Standards

As you will know from the last newsletter, the National Occupational Standards for Interpreting have now come up for review, and CACDP is involved in this process. Many of you have had the opportunity of responding to the questionnaire that CILT produced, asking for comment on the existing standards.

If you feel that you missed out on this chance to comment, you can still do this via the steering group. Please e-mail any comments to myself at [rosiea@cacdp.org.uk](mailto:rosiea@cacdp.org.uk). I will then collate them and pass them on to CILT. The next Steering Group meeting is at the beginning of May, and I will keep you updated as to future developments.

### Feasibility Study – Deaf People Working as Interpreters

As you will also remember from the last newsletter, CACDP have set up a feasibility study to look at the roles of interpreters that are not currently covered by the NVQ (including those of Deaf interpreters). The output from this is to inform CACDP as to whether it is possible to agree a defined role (that is, a real job, required by employers) and set standards for this role from which a qualification and training programme could be developed.

Thank you to all the people who responded. Your comments were much appreciated and without you there could have been no recommendations. The report has now been delivered to the Senior Management Team here at CACDP, who will decide how to respond to this information.

## **New Websites for BSL Vocabulary**

Following on from the Artsigns website ([www.artsigns.ac.uk](http://www.artsigns.ac.uk)), Judith Mole and her team have now expanded to cover BSL vocabulary in the areas of Science ([www.sciencesigns.ac.uk](http://www.sciencesigns.ac.uk)), Engineering ([www.engineeringsigns.ac.uk](http://www.engineeringsigns.ac.uk)) and the Built Environment ([www.builtenvsigns.ac.uk](http://www.builtenvsigns.ac.uk)).

These websites are definitely worth a look, and are a great contribution to CPD. However, it does need to be used in conjunction with BSL linguistic theory, and an awareness of each Deaf client's own vocabulary and knowledge of the subject, which is why the accompanying definitions in English are so useful for us as interpreters.

## **4. Farewell from Roz**

"After almost seven years working part time for CACDP I have decided that the time has come to hand over to someone with new ideas and a new energy to take forward the developments in Manual and Electronic Note-taking, Speech to Text Reporting and Lipspeaking.

All of these areas will be looking forward to new curriculum development in an attempt to meet the changing needs of deaf users of their services.

I do not intend to disappear completely, as I hope I will still be useful to CACDP as an examiner, and I'd like to be able to teach the new lipspeaking curriculum when it comes on stream.

In the meantime I will be travelling around the country, captioning theatre for STAGETEXT and audio describing theatre and other events for blind and partially sighted people – something I have been doing alongside my work at CACDP.

I hope I don't lose touch with those of you I've met during my time at CACDP. In particular I'd like to thank Ross Trotter, the Chair of the two Qualifications Committees for which I had responsibility, who was always at the end of an email with encouragement and advice.

It's been great – see you around!"

Roz Chalmers, Qualifications Officer - Lipspeaking, Note-taking, Speech to Text Reporting until 6 May 2005.

## **5. RNID Free CRB Enhanced Disclosure Checks for Freelance LSPs**

In recognition of the RNID's commitment to quality and security in the provision of LSPs for deaf/hard of hearing/hearing users, it will be offering free Enhanced CRB checks for freelance LSPs during 2005-06. The following conditions will apply:

- For BSL/English Interpreters the offer will be conditional on registration with CACDP by the IRP.
- For Speech to Text Reporters – conditional on registration with CACDP.
- For Deafblind Interpreters (Manual) – conditional on registration with CACDP.
- For Lipspeakers – conditional on registration with CACDP.
- For Electronic Note-takers and Manual Note-takers – conditional on CACDP certification at Level 2.

The RNID is planning to deliver this initiative in partnership with the respective LSP professional associations.

For further information please contact Louise Murphy on 020 7296 8272.

## 6. Professional Indemnity Insurance (PII)

Those of you who are eligible for more than one registration type may need to check your Professional Indemnity Insurance to make sure you are covered for all the LSP services for which you are qualified.

We have been informed that ASLI PII does not cover registered BSL/English Interpreters in their capacity as registered Lipspeakers or Deafblind Interpreters (Manual). If you are registered as a Lipspeaker and/or Deafblind Interpreter (Manual), you will need to obtain further cover for these roles.

It is the responsibility of the registered LSP to ensure that their Professional Indemnity Insurance is appropriate for their role before advertising in the CACDP Directory. CACDP is not able to make enquiries of brokers as to the suitability of cover.

## 7. Deafblind Interpreting (Manual)

Jane Andrews is now back from maternity leave and writes:

"I would like to thank my colleagues for looking after the Deafblind Register whilst I have been on maternity leave. During this time we saw the next wave of registrations and I am disappointed to note, after a significant increase in 2004-5, we have seen a drop in the number of Deafblind Interpreters (Manual) registered for 2005-6. This means there are even fewer registered interpreters for deafblind people to access.

However, I realise that some interpreters who registered in the autumn may think their registration lasts a year. This is not so. Although there are a number of opportunities to register through the year, the registration year lasts from 1 April to 31 March. If you are in any doubt please check your registration ID badge. The next opportunity to register is 1 September with 31 July as the closing date for receipt of completed applications.

Deafblind people are the most vulnerable group of people and have a right to know they are receiving the highest quality of interpreting service. Registration safeguards not only the rights of the deafblind person but also those of the interpreter. I was delighted to hear from one deafblind lady who was very pleased when she asked the interpreter who had been booked by her manager, if (s)he was registered, the interpreter handed her the new larger sized identification badge. The lady told me she was relieved to have a registered interpreter and felt more confident discussing her work and pension issues.

If you have any personal experiences of the new ID badges or the registration system in action please contact me on [janea@cacdp.org.uk](mailto:janea@cacdp.org.uk).

## **8. English LSPs**

The Level 3 Lipspeaking course in London is progressing well, with students finding good opportunities for mentored assignments. A Listening Skills module and Public Service module will be held in the spring. Examinations have been set for early July.

Seven new tutors will attend an Annual Standards Meeting in April as part of their role as internal assessors.

Three new Speech to Text Reporters joined the register in April. We are beginning to see people whose background training is in television subtitling rather than the courts. The Qualifications Committee welcomes this potential new source of Speech to Text Reporters and hopes to see a further increase in registered STTRs in the next twelve months.

## **9. Agency Steering Group Final Consultation**

The Agency Steering Group (ASG) is currently undertaking the third and final round of consultation on the development of agency standards. To obtain a copy of the proposed standards email: [agencysteeringgroup@hotmail.com](mailto:agencysteeringgroup@hotmail.com) or alternatively, for a hard copy contact Donna Rubin at Deaf Direct on 01905 746305 (voice) or 01905 746300 (textphone).

The ASG is also planning to hold a conference for agencies in Walsall on 30 June 2005. The ASG will present the final version of the standards at this conference and also seek the views of agencies regarding their implementation. More information on the conference will be disseminated in due course.