Welcome Message from Dr. Melanie Metzger, Department Chair

Welcome back to a new semester in the Department of Interpretation. I hope that everyone had an opportunity to relax and recharge during the winter break, ready for a new semester together. A special welcome to those students joining our department this spring; we wish you success in your studies and hope you will enjoy your time at Gallaudet. You are joining a unique academic community, and the only academic department in the world that focuses on signed language interpretation and translation at the BA, MA, and PhD levels within a Deaf immersive environment, and we are glad you are here!

This semester we are excited to launch a new DOI electronic newsletter. We are a large department, with multiple programs and with students, faculty, and staff engaged in numerous activities, and we hope this newsletter will support our desire to communicate well about the good work members of the community engage in. Please enjoy reading a few highlights in this first edition.

This spring semester in the Department of Interpretation is always a rich one, filled with internship experiences, research presentations and posters, and more. I am confident this will be an exciting and rewarding semester as we continue to engage in the work of learning and researching the linguistic and social processes and products of translation and interpretation.

Best wishes for an enjoyable and successful semester!

Calendar Highlights

January 2016

Jan 29th / Friday
Welcome Back Social: Paul Harrelson’s House 5 pm - 7 pm

February

Feb 12th / Friday
DOI Lunch Gathering: 2nd floor cafeteria 12pm - 1 pm
Colloquium Lecture Series

The second lecture in the 2015-16 DOI Colloquium Lecture Series was given on December 4, 2015, by Dr. Giulia Petitta (Visiting Scholar), Dr. Brenda Nicodemus (Associate Professor), and Mark Halley (PhD student). The lecture titled “This is the sign for …” Managing metalinguistic references in discourse, described the linguistic phenomenon of metalinguistics and the challenges these references pose for signed language interpreters. Metalinguistic references occur when a speaker uses language to talk about language, e.g., “The ASL sign for dog is DOG.” Metalinguistic references are challenging because spoken languages and signed languages do not share phonological features and therefore, cannot be replicated verbatim in the target language. How do signed language interpreters manage metalinguistic references? The researchers analyzed data from both monologic and dialogic interpretations and results indicate that interpreters employ a number of strategies, including pointing, shifting eye gaze, fingerspelling, and modeling signs. The presenters provided an overview of metalinguistics, showed a typology of metalinguistic references types, and presented video data of interpreters managing metalinguistic references in discourse. Dr. Valerie Dively (DOI Professor) served as respondent to the lecture. Thanks are due to the Gallaudet University Regional Interpreter Education Center (GURIEC), the Center for the Advancement of Interpreting and Translation Research (CAITR), and the Department of Interpretation.
Welcome New Faculty: Dr. Emily Shaw - Assistant Professor

What is your highest degree completed and where is it from?

I graduated with a PhD in Linguistics from Georgetown University.

What are your current research projects?

I am working on adapting content from my historical and etymological dictionary into a curriculum to teach the history and etymology of ASL to deaf students in K-12 settings. I’m also in the planning stages of a video edition of the same dictionary. I am working on two articles from my dissertation data involving the study of gesture in both signed and spoken interactions.

Any department initiatives you are involved with that students should know about?

I am currently working with Tony Ellis and other faculty and staff in the department to enhance and digitize video sources for skills work. This is a multifaceted project that will involve creating new materials as well as collecting and categorizing what we already have. I am also working with some students to develop a series that will highlight issues of power and privilege in the interpreting community. The goal is to more fully understand these dynamics in our interpreting work but also in our daily lives. More to come on this project!

Welcome New Outreach Coordinator: Lynn Dey

Where were you before you came here to Gallaudet?

I taught American Sign Language and in the interpreting program as a minor at Gardner-Webb University for six years. I volunteered many hours with Deaf-Blind conferences and camps along with the Gallaudet 150th anniversary. I completed my second Masters degree in May 2015.

How did you become interested in Outreach Coordinator position?

Gallaudet University has a great networking system. I have friends here who I knew from my former employment as an Admissions Counselor and from when I graduated from the Department of Interpretation with my MA in the summer of 2006. Because of my familiarity with Gallaudet University programs, departments, services and other activities such as organizations and sports, I decided to apply for this position.

What are your duties here?

I work closely with the Department of Interpretation programs and other departments in the University for conference planning and recruitment. This Spring 2016, I am working on preparing for a group of Fall 2017 students who will be applying. More regional and national conferences will be held during the summer months, and I will recruit interpreting students or alumni to assist manning the booths from their home states. My other duties include greeting prospective students and their parents who visit Gallaudet and be prepared to answer any questions they may have.
BAI Student of the month: India Hitchcock

Where were you before you came here to Gallaudet?

I attended Northeastern University in Boston. During my freshman year of college I took an ASL class and loved it. After that semester I decided to change majors to pursue interpretation. During my Sophomore year I transferred to Gallaudet.

What made you choose Gallaudet?

I wanted the chance to live and learn in an immersive environment. Coming to Gallaudet has been a rich opportunity for me both personally and as an interpreting student. I hope to be graduating from Gallaudet in May 2017.

Any advice for other students in your program to succeed?

I've really benefitted from making the most of the resources available on campus to improve my ASL.

MAI Student of the month: Jesus Candelaria

Where were you before you came here to Gallaudet?

I am from Tucson, Arizona and completed my undergraduate degree in Deaf Studies from the University of Arizona in 2004. Before I came to Gallaudet University I worked in Florida for five years. I was interpreting in the following areas: medical, business, academic, video relay service, legal, and occasionally cruises.

What made you choose Gallaudet?

A dear friend told me that I should apply for graduate school at Gallaudet University and really encouraged me to pursue it. I’ll never forget the confidence, guidance, and support that she has shown me along the way.

Any advice for other students in your program to succeed?

There is no achievement without struggle. My best advice to students is to never give up. Fight for what you want to learn in and outside of the program and in the real world. Reach out to your friends and family for support, they love you and will carry you. Every person has something to contribute; therefore, your perspectives, thoughts, and feedback are valuable to everyone. Take time to balance your workload and personal life; play is just as important as education.
PhD Student of the month: Roberto Santiago

Where were you before you came to Gallaudet?

Prior to coming to Gallaudet I was working as an interpreter and living in my hometown, Berkeley, California. My wife Tenysa, who is also an interpreter, and I had just bought a house and welcomed our first baby. We were pretty set on living in Berkeley forever. Then the opportunity to come back to Gallaudet for the PhD program came along and it was too good to pass up. Here we are six years and two additional kids later.

What made you choose Gallaudet?

This is actually my second stint here at Gallaudet. I first came for the MAI program in 2002. It was an investment that paid off in a very tangible way. I was one hundred times better after two years in the MAI program than I had been when I arrived. This time around I chose Gallaudet because it was an incredible opportunity. I also knew that Gallaudet had a great faculty. I was excited about coming back to campus to learn from this group of teachers I had deep respect and admiration for.

Any advice for other students in your program to succeed?

Trust the program. It's the same advice I give to BA and MA students. Trust the program. The way we approach teaching and learning interpreting is different than what you'll find in most other schools. It might seem foreign or confusing, but if you give yourself over to the process it's incredible. Also, be open to learning things that you don't think you like. Really, succeeding as a PhD student is a lot like succeeding as an interpreter. If you keep yourself open to learning new things in new ways, if you make yourself a student of the world beyond what you think are your interests you'll end up doing amazing things. Also, get really good about keeping a calendar. I can't stress that enough.

PhD News from Co-coordinators Dr. Danielle Hunt and Dr. Melanie Metzger

New advising system in place

As of the fall semester, all doctoral students have PhD academic advisors. To find out who your advisor is, please log into Bison.

Laura Maddux passed her dissertation defense on November 19, 2015

Her Ph.D. dissertation title is SOURCE ATTRIBUTION INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS IN ASL-ENGLISH INTERPRETER EDUCATION. In this study, she sought to provide needed interpreter education data by examining the effects of Metzger’s (2005) proposed method of source attribution instruction for interpreting students. The results of the study indicate that the proposed method of teaching source attribution provides significant beneficial instructional results for students’ source attribution interpreting skills.
MAI News from Coordinator Dr. Danielle Hunt

Group of New MAI Students from Orientation

Left to right: Robyn Weintraub, Rebecca Suskin, Alice Dulude, Courtney Slagle, Dani Hunt, Jenni Mosiman, Melanie Seaman, Carllee James, Tyriibah Royal, Jay Pittman, Brittany Quickel, Meri Faulkner, Samantha Fina, and William Lovik.

MAI research projects

MA students currently enrolled in INT 778 have all been approved for data collection by IRB. Several students began collecting data during the winter break. Good luck to all of you conducting original research and congratulations to the following students who received Small Research Grants: Darla Konkel, Devlin Breckenridge, Jay Pittman, Jesús Candelaria, Mary Beth Morgan, Rebekah Knodel, Shannon Davies, and Sura Lutvik.

BAI NEWS from Coordinator Dr. Keith Cagle

Group of New BAI Students from Orientation

Betty Colonomos Visits INT 325: Fundamentals of Interpretation

On November 18, 2015, the students enjoyed listening and learning from Betty Colonomos, a well-known leader in the field of interpreter training. The class also had other visitors to come and present throughout the semester including: Dr. Melanie Metzger, Janis Cole, and Adam Bartley. The students benefitted from the visitors’ expertise in cognitive process translation and interpretation. Dr. Keith Cagle and two Ph.D. students, Mark Halley and Ricardo Ortiz, taught the course.

Beyond the Classroom: BAI Students Tour U.S. Capitol

By Annie Marks

Senior BAI students enrolled in INT 453, a skills class focused on interpreting interaction related to business and government discourse, had a unique opportunity to engage in learning outside of the classroom last semester. In September, students from the class visited the U.S. Capitol and met with Steve Phan, a long-standing staff interpreter with the U.S. Capitol.

Lola Phan, a senior BAI student, met Mr. Phan while working as a support staff volunteer at the RID National Conference in New Orleans last summer. Mr. Phan extended an invitation for Lola and her classmates to tour the Capitol.

“It was unique for us that Mr. Phan was able to personally lead our tour. He was able to talk to us about the world of government interpreting and his vast experience with it.” said Ms. Phan. “Then there was the actual tour of the 223 year-old Capitol building, which was a separate treat. Even as a DC native, it was my first time visiting the Capitol and the experience was one I felt especially lucky to have.”
Students visited the Capitol Visitor’s Center and toured some of the public spaces and points of interest in the building and Mr. Phan shared history, facts, and stories about the historic site.

“One fun fact I learned was that the Capitol has an underground train for government employees,” senior BAI student Allison Tyeryar said.

Tyeryar also said the tour helped inform students’ knowledge about working in settings where business and government discourse unfolds because interpreters have to be prepared when information like some of the historical facts that appear in conversation. Much like interpreting work, Mr. Phan told students he is always prepared for the unexpected.

“I learned that what you might think an average day working at the Capitol would be like might end up being completely different!” Tyeryar said.

ARTICULATION AGREEMENT CEREMONIES WITH ACC AND FRCC

On September 10, 2015 we had two articulation agreement ceremonies with Austin Community College (ACC) in Austin, Texas and Front Range Community College (FRCC) in Westminster, Colorado. The ceremonies were conducted live through Fuzemeeting with administrators and fellows. The purpose of articulation agreements is to help transfer of graduate students from their AA program in interpretation to our BA program in interpretation program at Gallaudet.
Gallaudet University hosted the inaugural *Summer Interpreting and Translation Research Institute* from August 2-7, 2015. The Institute, the first of its kind in North America, was designed to advance training and to stimulate high-level discussion in Interpreting and Translation Studies among existing and future scholars. The Institute was a collaborative venture between the Department of Interpretation at Gallaudet University and the Graduate Studies Program in Interpreting and Translation at the University of Maryland.

Spoken and signed language interpreters from around the globe attended the Institute. The theme of the 2015 Institute - “One Question, Multiple Approaches” - was explored through instruction and dialogue about various qualitative and quantitative research methods traditionally used to explore research questions in interpreting and translation.

Many thanks to Dr. Minhua Liu from Hong Kong Baptist University, Drs. David Sawyer and Peng Wang from the University of Maryland, and Dr. Jean Turner from the Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey. Special thanks to Drs. Keith Cagle, Steven Collins, Valerie Dively, Danielle Hunt, Melanie Metzger, and Giulia Petitta. The program coordinator for the event was Dr. Brenda Nicodemus, Director of the Center for the Advancement of Interpreting and Translation Research (CAITR) at Gallaudet University.

**GURIEC**

GURIEC and the NCIEC’s focus for 2015-2016 is to increase awareness about and use of our current resources. This fall, our most popular resources were related to Deaf Self-Advocacy Training (DSAT), trilingual interpreting, Deaf interpreting, and mentoring. DOI students, faculty, and staff represent the people we strive to serve, while also providing a lot of support to our programs. In Fall 2015, DOI students and alums were among the 60 participants of our online NIC Performance Exam preparation course, and also attended local DSAT training events. In September, we re-launched our Community Calendar of regional Deaf and interpreting-related events, and we had Corrie Pond (MAI ‘15) to thank; she offered to design and manage an independent website to make the calendar more user-friendly.
(Please check it out and submit events here: http://bit.ly/calguiec). We also worked with Dr. Metzger and Lynn Dey to promote our resources and DOI’s programs at various conferences across our 14-state region. And of course, we were thrilled to have DOI presenters in the Colloquium Series. As a reminder to students and pre-certified interpreters, if you are an Associate member of RID, we encourage you to register for CEUs for our events. RID will track your workshop participation, which can be very useful for your portfolios! Please come and see us or email us anytime with your questions about our programs or your professional development needs. If you’re not yet on our mailing list, we hope you’ll join here and stay in touch: http://bit.ly/nciecnews.

Hilary Mayhew and Mary Beth Morgan at the PCRID Conference

DSAT Train Trainers Ikumi Kawamat and Niesha Washington-Shepard at the MDAD Conference

Mary Beth Morgan (GURIEC Assistant), Hilary Mayhew (Coordinator), Dr. Jules Dickinson (Presenter), and Bev Hollrah (Director)
SCPC: Student Code of Professional Conduct

The Gallaudet University Department of Interpretation (DOI) prepares students to become professional interpreters who apply critical thinking skills and adhere to the NAD-RID Code of Professional Conduct in their interpreting practice. The principles for student conduct are intended to develop the foundational tenets of confidentiality, professionalism, civility, communication, respect for others, ethical practices, and commitment to the profession. The DOI Student Code of Professional Conduct is now available in American Sign Language.

Upcoming social events

Welcome Back Social on January 29th at 1335 East Capitol Street, SE Washington, DC.
DOI lunch gathering on February 12th on the 2nd floor in the cafeteria from 12pm to 1.
Colloquium series with Jack Hoza on March 4th from 10am to 11:30am in the library room B111. DOI Department lunch gathering on the 2nd floor cafeteria from 12pm to 1:30pm.

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Gallaudet University
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We welcome your comments and submissions. Contact Alice Ward by email at alice.ward@gallaudet.edu or call 202-651-5149 if you would like to be added to our mailing list, or if you have submissions, questions, or suggestions. Submissions are due by COB on the 15th of each month.

DOI Newsletter committee:
Mr. Tony Ellis, Ms. Cat H.-M. Fung, Dr. Keith Cagle, Dr. Dani Hunt and Dr. Melanie Metzger