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GHANA



Location:	Western Africa, bordering the Gulf of Guinea, between Cote d'Ivoire and Togo
Area:	238,533 sq km
Population:	23,887,812
Capital:	Accra
Language/s:	Asante 14.8%, Ewe 12.7%, Fante 9.9%, Boron (Brong) 4.6%, Dagomba 4.3%, Dangme 4.3%, Dagarte (Dagaba) 3.7%, Akyem 3.4%, Ga 3.4%, Akuapem 2.9%, other 36.1% (includes English (official)) (2000 census)
GDP:	\$1,500 (2009 est.)

GHASLI: NEW INTERPRETER ASSOCIATION IN GHANA

George Pinto, GHASLI Secretary

I want to share with WASLI the latest news of sign language interpretation in my country. In August 2009, a training workshop was organised for some selected sign language interpreters from all the ten regions in Ghana and they were trained as trainers by the Ghana National Association of the Deaf in collaboration with the Denmark Deaf Association.

Now Ghana has formed a sign language interpreters association, known as the Ghana Association of Sign Language Interpreters (GHASLI). Plans are underway to join WASLI. We hope that when we present our Constitution, WASLI will accept it in good faith.

Currently we have about 22 registered members, and for now I am acting as the Secretary for the association.



<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/gh.html>



The house deliberating on the establishment of GHASLI



The National Executive Board of GHASLI



Time for awards



The pioneers of the formation of GHASLI

2009 INTERPRETER MEETINGS IN LATIN AMERICA

Juan Carlos Druetta, WASLI Vice President

July 7-10th – Bogotá, Colombia

The first meeting of Latin American sign language interpreters, the sixth national congress of the deaf community in Colombia ('Past – Present – Future') and the sixth meeting of Deaf Latin Americans were all held in Bogotá, Colombia (South America). More than 400 people from all across America (including USA and Canada), Europe (EUDY President from Sweden; WFD President Markku Jokinen and WFD Board member, Mr Colin Allen), and the WASLI Representatives from Europe, Marco Nardi, and Latin America, José Luis Brieva Padilla were there. I gave my presentations on Deaf

Interpreters and a WASLI presentation with Marco. There I found many Deaf Interpreters for the Deaf-Blind People!! Many interpreters from South America wish to establish an association.

September 20-22nd – Asunción, Paraguay

This was the first seminar about sign language and sign language interpreters. In attendance were the WFD Regional Secretariat of the South America, Mr. Alexis Vergara, and also Mina Geraris and Miss Flavianne Reis, MA. We had different lecturers about sign languages in deaf education, politics, interpreters and so on. More than 250 people from around the country attended.

CROATIA



Location:	Southeastern Europe, bordering the Adriatic Sea, between Bosnia and Herzegovina and Slovenia
Area:	56,594 sq km
Population:	4,489,409 (July 2009 est.)
Capital:	Zagreb
Language/s:	Croatian 96.1%, Serbian 1%, other and undesignated 2.9% (including Italian, Hungarian, Czech, Slovak, and German) (2001 census)
GDP:	\$17,600 (2009 est.)

(Source: <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/hr.html>)

GREAT NEWS FROM CROATIA: SANJA TARCZAY SUCCESSFULLY DEFENDS MASTER'S THESIS

Igor Kusin, Dodir

Zagreb, Croatia

An event of great importance for all the Deafblind in Croatia has occurred recently. On January 14, 2010, at the Faculty of Education and Rehabilitation Sciences of the University of Zagreb, the president of the Croatian Association of Deafblind Persons (Dodir), Sanja Tarczay, has successfully defended her Master's Thesis. Her thesis is entitled "Preconditions for the Professionalisation of Sign Language Interpreters for Deaf and Deafblind Persons" and she defended it before a committee consisting of Professor Mira Oberman Babic Ph.D., chair, Assistant Professor Ljubica Pribanic Ph.D.,

member, and Professor Zorina Pinoza Kukurin Ph.D., external member. Thereby Sanja Tarczay has acquired the right to the academic degree of Master of Arts from the area of study of humanities, field of study educational science, branch of study defectology.

This is not only the first Master's Thesis by a Deafblind person in Croatia, but also the first Master's Thesis from the domain of Sign Language interpreting defended in the Republic of Croatia and thus represents a big step forward in the comprehension of the role and duties of a sign language interpreters in our country.



<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/hr.html>

Our congratulations to Sanja Tarczay, M.A. and we all wish her all the best with her Ph.D. that she has decided to pursue. See <http://www.dodir.hr/hr/novosti.html> for text in Croatian.



Sanja Tarczay, M.A.

BARBADOS



Location:	Caribbean, island in the North Atlantic Ocean, northeast of Venezuela
Area:	430 sq km
Population:	284,589 (July 2009 est.)
Capital:	Bridgetown
Language/s:	English
GDP:	\$18,500 (2009 est.)

(Source: <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/bb.html>)



<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/bb.html>

THE SITUATION IN BARBADOS

Sophia Watts

There have been two groups formed before about 20 years ago to assist with the deaf: AFAD (Association for the Advancement of the Deaf) and RIAD (Registry of Interpreters for Advancement of the Deaf); both these groups are now defunct.

There are a few people on the island who can communicate with deaf but only two qualified persons; we have a 2% population who is believed to be deaf from a total population of 280,000 persons. I am not sure if there are any plans to reform a group again but it is my personal desire to become qualified so that I can establish a school to teach persons how to communicate with the deaf at a higher level.

We have a school for the deaf and that is all. I know there is a deaf club who meets on Saturday evenings but that was established by the deaf themselves so therefore they don't allow hearing persons unless one of the deaf persons personally invites them in.

There is a great need and a lack of interpreters; I am truly desiring to become certified so that I can establish my school.

AUSTRALIA



Location:	Oceania, continent between the Indian Ocean and the South Pacific Ocean
Area:	7,686,850 sq km
Population:	21,262,641 (July 2009 est.)
Capital:	Canberra
Language/s:	English 78.5%, Chinese 2.5%, Italian 1.6%, Greek 1.3%, Arabic 1.2%, Vietnamese 1%, other 8.2%, unspecified 5.7% (2006 Census)
GDP:	\$38,100 (2008 est.)

(Source: <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/as.html>)

REPORT ON 2009 ASLIA CONFERENCE, MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA

**Sarah Strong, ASLIA and WASLI member, ACT,
Australia**

How often do we find ourselves ‘unpacking’ concepts while interpreting - rummaging through the depths of our knowledge in search for the true meaning in the languages we are working with? How appropriate then, that interpreters and consumers came together recently to “unpack the interpreter” at the 2009 Australian Sign Language Interpreter’s Association (ASLIA) Conference.

With such an intriguing conference theme - “Depends on the context: unpacking the interpreter”, what were we in for?

Over 250 delegates converged on the Melbourne conference venue in August to find the largest ASLIA conference by far - not just in the amount of delegates - but in the wide range of presentations from international speakers, interpreters, consumers, educators, researchers and more. It was also preceded by the Interpreter Trainer’s Workshop (ITW).



<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/as.html>

This range of topics provided the opportunity to share in a number of contexts, and delve into sign language interpreting from a range of perspectives. These included presentations on technology, interpreter performance, working with Deaf professionals, and interpreting in specific situations such as mental health, education, with Deafblind consumers and in rural areas.

During a 'Global Perspectives' forum, delegates had the chance to learn about the contexts outside Australia, with presentations from representatives of Uganda, Fiji, Cambodia, Thailand and our own WASLI Regional Representative. Many were not only enlightened but motivated to become enthusiastically and generously involved in the 'Skills Auction' during a social dinner to raise money for the Creating Opportunities Fund - for sponsorship of overseas delegates. The auction raised over \$7,000 and included delegates offering their skills in massage, interpreter test preparation sessions, catering dinner parties, as well as interpreting related books and other resources.

The conference enabled me to do a little unpacking of my own, using each of the presentations to reflect on what I should be packing in my 'interpreter toolkit' and bring to the interpreting profession. This was also a unique opportunity to witness a professional team of conference interpreters - including Deaf Interpreters working into International Sign. Since the conference, there's a whole lot more tools, ideas and strategies to consider when re-packing this interpreter!



In Melbourne, Australia

Auslan interpreters with sponsored interpreters from Thailand, Cambodia, and Fiji

WASLI EDUCATION TASK GROUP: CALL FOR RESOURCES

Deb Russell, Task Group Chair

The most frequent request WASLI receives is for help to educate interpreters. We have participation from 15 countries and it is a pleasure to chair this task group and to see the range of perspectives among the participants.

We have formed a task group to produce some guidelines and materials that can be made available to countries requesting support. The task group work is going well and we have produced the first philosophical statement to guide the work of anyone providing educational events in international contexts.

We now are again seeking your input – many of you are lifelong learners – interpreters who read and apply new knowledge to your work, presenters at conferences, leaders of workshops, and authors. Our task is to identify key resources that can be helpful to all people who have a role in educating interpreters, whether that is in short-term trainings and workshops, individual courses, and formal programmes. If each of you can look at the resources you use or have created, and then please tell us:

- a. The references to three of the top books you think are crucial for teaching interpreting (you can submit more than three, but three would be a great start for us!)
- b. The references to three of the most useful articles or chapters that you use.
- c. Three papers and/or presentations that you have delivered that you are happy to share with colleagues around the world.

All of this material will be properly cited and proper credit given to the creator of the materials, and put into a database. Any contributions are welcome. Please send all references and/or materials and papers to Patrick Galasso at wasli.task@gmail.com before March 31, 2010. Thank you in advance!

WASLI IS ON FACEBOOK!

Have you joined our WASLI facebook group?

Just search on Facebook for 'WASLI' or click here:

<http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#/group.php?gid=43616528279>



SLIANZ CONFERENCE: CALL FOR PAPERS

3 & 4 July, Christchurch, New Zealand/Aotearoa

SLIANZ is now calling for papers for the 2010 conference. We would like to invite interested parties and organisations to submit abstracts for your proposed presentations or workshops. These should relate to professional development of sign language interpreters, and the conference theme of “**The Art and Craft of Interpreting**”. Some topics you might want to consider presenting on are: performance or theatre interpreting, role shift, register and specialisation.

Please send a summary (abstract) of your presentation – this should be less than 200 words. It should also outline the objectives of your presentation/workshop, the length of time required to deliver this, and how it relates to the theme. Video or DVD submissions in NZSL are welcome; these should be less than 3 minutes. Please also include your name, contact details and in what language your presentation will be delivered (NZSL or English).

We strongly support all interpreters, deaf and hearing consumers of interpreting services to think about what skills/experiences you can share with your colleagues, in a very supportive environment.

Send your submissions by **25 February 2010**, to: conference@slianz.org.nz or post to: P.O. Box 6090 Wellesley Street, Auckland.

We will let you know the outcome of your submission by 15 March 2010.

Regards,

SLIANZ Conference Committee 2010

www.slianz.org.nz



ASLIA NATIONAL CONFERENCE: CALL FOR PAPERS

Brisbane, Australia

Friday 27th - Sunday 29th August 2010

The 2010 ASLIA National Conference is seeking expressions of interest to present at this exciting conference. The call for papers is extended to all stakeholders, including: spoken or signed language interpreters and trainers; consumers of interpreting services; sign language teachers; service providers; regulatory bodies; and, researchers from Australia and overseas.

We are looking for challenging, informative and relevant presentations that reflect the conference theme:

Interpreters AND... : Exploring settings, interactions and best practice in interpreting.

The theme is intentionally broad to reflect the scope of the interpreting profession in contemporary society. We encourage presenters to explore the theme in creative ways, and from a range of perspectives. Some suggestions for exploring the theme include, but are not limited to, the following topics:

- Interpreters and education
- Ethics
- Accreditation
- Research
- Roles and responsibilities
- Employment conditions
- Service provision
- Career development

We are seeking submissions for conference presentations and conference workshops: presentations will be 40 minutes (including 5 minutes for questions/discussion); workshops will be for 1.5 hours – please keep in mind that workshops will be delivered to a large group, so content should be suitable for this format.

Submissions should include:

- Name of presenter(s)
- Contact details for lead presenter
- Brief CV for each presenter (maximum: English - 100 words; Auslan - 1 minute)
- Language of presentation (Auslan or English)
- Whether you intend it to be a conference presentation or workshop
- Title of presentation
- Abstract (maximum: English - 300 words; Auslan - 3 minutes)

Abstracts should be emailed to info@asliaconference.org.au by 31 March 2010.

Applicants will be notified by 24th May 2010 and will be required to submit a copy of their paper six weeks in advance of conference (by 16 July 2010) to assist interpreter preparation.

If you have any questions about the conference, the call for papers process or possible presentation ideas you would like to discuss, feel free to contact us at: info@asliaconference.org.au

Please note: ASLIA is a volunteer-run Association, in order to keep delegate costs to a minimum; we are unable to pay presenters or pay for presenters' travel costs or accommodation. However, we do offer presenters a discounted registration fee.

Visit our website for more information and register to receive updates: www.asliaconference.org.au

ANNOUNCEMENT: WASLI EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING 2010

The WASLI Executive Board meeting for this year will be hosted by ASLIA, and held in Brisbane, Australia, August 26-27 2010. We are very much looking forward visiting the Australasia / Oceania region, and hope to also attend the ASLIA National Conference in Brisbane.

ASLI (UK) CONFERENCE: CALL FOR PAPERS

The next conference will be taking place on 16th and 17th October 2010 in Nottingham, England. The conference theme is 'Developing the interpreter; developing the profession' and, in honour of the launch of ASLI's CPD (Continuing Professional Development) system, will provide an opportunity to attend both workshops and presentations, sharing knowledge, experience and generating new reflections on interpreting. This call for papers invites proposals for papers from all stakeholders: Deaf and hearing interpreters, consumers, sign language and interpreter trainers and interpreter researchers for the UK and further afield.

Thematic areas include:

- Developing interpreters
- Mentoring and the personal and professional development of interpreters
- Interpreter perspectives on interpreting development
- Consumer perspectives on interpreting development
- Developing the profession
- Engaging with the Deaf community
- Quality in the profession and interpreting services
- Setting and maintaining quality standards
- Deaf and hearing interpreters working together
- International perspectives
- The role of agencies in the development of the profession
- Other relevant topics

We are looking for submissions for workshops (3 hours) and presentations (90 minutes with 1 hour presentation and questions with 30 minutes discussion). You should state whether your submission is for workshop or presentation.

Submissions should be received by 5:00pm on 30th April 2010 and should include:

- Name of presenter(s)
- Brief CV for each presenter (max. one page per person)
- Contact details
- Title of presentation
- Theme of presentation
- Language of presentation
- If the presentation is for a plenary or workshop session (or both)
- Abstract – maximum 200 words

The official conference languages are English and BSL. All presenters using a different spoken or signed language will need to supply their own interpreter. Proposals should be submitted in English on a Word document or in BSL on a CD or DVD and sent electronically.

Email: scientific@asli.org.uk

The Scientific Committee of the ASLI Conference 2010 will consider the abstracts. Authors will be notified of the acceptance or rejection of their submissions by 21st May 2010. Successful authors will be required to submit a copy of their paper six weeks in advance of conference for interpreter preparation.

The conference programme will be circulated on 28th May 2010 and will be available on the conference pages of the main ASLI website along with other conference news and developments.

We look forward to receiving your submissions and welcoming you to London.

Warm regards, Jules Dickinson (Chair, ASLI Conference Committee 2010)

INTERESTING ARTICLES AND LINKS

Sign language bill passed in Hungary, November 2009. Read here for more information in English: http://www.eud.eu/news.php?action=view&news_id=78. The website for the Hungarian Association of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (SINOSZ) is <http://www.sinosz.hu/>.

Signmark (www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Signmark), the one and only Deaf Sign Language Rapper, has signed an international recording deal with Warner Records International. Please enjoy this preview video of his first record of his new album:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oUtM8_DOVUI (Thanks to Annemari Laurento, Finland)

An article about language death:

http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_8311000/8311069.stm

The need for competent interpreters in court:

<http://www.fbnewsleader.com/articles/2009/12/05/news/00newscourthearing.txt>

International Day of Deaf People 2009 in Paris, France. There are video clips presented in LSF and International Sign: <http://www.websourd.org/spip.php?article137694#2>

An article on medical interpreting: <http://www.amnhealthcare.com/News/news-details.aspx?id=32778>

DEAF YOUTH CAMP OF COLOUR

June 2010, Oregon, United States

Deaf Youth Camp of Colour will immediately precede the National Deaf People of Colour Conference II, taking place on June 13-27, 2010 at Camp Taloali, in Stayton, Oregon. This camp is the first-of-its-kind, focusing on issues relating to forty-eight high school aged deaf and hard of hearing youths of all ethnic/racial backgrounds: African-American, Latino, Asian, (Native) American Indian, bi-racial, multi-racial. For more information and application packet, please visit www.dycc.org and/or contact us at dycc2010@gmail.com. It is the vision of Deaf Youth Camp of Colour to educate and strengthen the inner qualities and character (beliefs, responsibility, pride and confidence) of deaf and hard of hearing campers who will evolve into future advocates for themselves and their community.

WORLD DEAF LASER PARTY

World Deaf Laser Party, also known as WDLP - we are from TWOD Events (The World of Deaf), and we hereby organise one of the world's largest outdoor laser parties for the first time in deaf history! All human beings are more than welcome!

Max **7000** people at Odderøya Amfi in Kristiansand in Norway.

This event includes sign-language music, DJ, VJ, AJ and the attitudes. Big screen, TV, lights and lasers in the dance area and on Saturday a loose foam party. You should not miss out, come see! If anyone needs a place to stay and more information, visit the website:

<http://www.twod.no/events/wdlp>

ADVERTISING IN THE WASLI NEWSLETTER

The WASLI Board have developed a schedule of fees for advertising in the WASLI newsletter – please see the table below. A substantial discount is available to WASLI members (see <http://www.wasli.org/Membership.htm> for more information on membership). You can pay to advertise products, services, etc. that relate to sign language interpreting. Of course, there is still no cost to advertise upcoming conferences, calls for papers, and news from around the world! For more information, please contact the Editor: newsletter@wasli.org. The WASLI Executive Board will approve all requests for advertising.

Schedule of advertising fees (in US dollars):

Size	Cost	Discount
FULL PAGE	\$160.00	\$80.00
½ PAGE	\$80.00	\$40.00
¼ PAGE	\$40.00	\$20.00

WE NEED YOUR NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS!

Please share interpreting news from your part of the world with us! To make a contribution, please contact newsletter@wasli.org.

The next deadline for newsletter contributions is **MONDAY 22nd MARCH, 2010**.

IMPORTANT

The Editor, together with the WASLI Executive Board and external contributors, produce the WASLI newsletter. WASLI will work to ensure the authenticity of any information provided. WASLI accepts no liability for the accuracy of the contents or any opinions expressed. Readers are invited to reproduce information provided the source is quoted. Readers should contact secretary@wasli.org for permission to use WASLI official photographs, or to advise of a change of email address.

WASLI EXECUTIVE BOARD

Officers: Liz Scott Gibson (President); Juan Carlos Druetta (Vice President); Zane Hema (Secretary); Daniel Burch (Treasurer)

Regional Representatives: Emiko Ichikawa (Asia); George Major (Australasia & Oceania); Philemon Akach (Africa – official representative); Jack Owiti (Africa – temporary representative); Selman Hoti (Balkans); Marco Nardi (Europe); José Luis Brieva Padilla (Latino America); Deb Russell (North America); Anna Komarova (Transcaucasia & Central Asia)

WASLI VOLUNTEERS

WASLI Webmaster: David Wolfenden

WASLI Membership: Robin Demko

WASLI Translations Coordinator: Rafael Treviño (plus volunteers)

Newsletter proofreaders: Patrick Galasso and Alan Wendt

Education and Training Task Group volunteers

Certification and Assessment Task Group volunteers