

Minutes

Sign Language Interpreting Program Advisory Board Meeting

March 18, 2015

5:30-7:30 pm at the Chinese Super Buffet

Introduction of New Board Members and Attendees: Kaylynn and Judge Bruce Boyer, Daniel Holscher (Voc Rehab), Carol Downing, Vicky Fales and Heidi Quintana and Aidan, Kim Morgan (SPC), Sheryl Mundorff, Shirley Oakley, Martha Campbell, Jose Gutierrez (Morton Plant)

Motion to approve minutes. Boyer moved; Fales seconded. Approved.

Use of Quality Assurance (QA) Exam: SPC has been seeking a certification/assessment exam by a nationally recognized organization. National Industry Certification can be offered to students (written portion called the NIC). USF has offered to share materials to prepare students for written portion of NIC. Expensive test for students, but less costly for membership (includes access to study materials). Daniel Holscher mentioned legislative bills that would allow students who passed NIC written to get a permit to work for two years while pursuing a certificate. FRID is supporting legislation requiring licensure/certification for interpreting.

Viability Report: One goal is to work to establish competencies for ASL courses. (SPC participated in revising the DOE state framework for Sign Language Interpreting.) Establishment of competencies is in progress.

DeafTEC Grant--National Science Foundation Grant out of Rochester Institute of Technology and Technical Institute for the Deaf: Goal is to bring under-represented populations into STEM programs. SPC is currently in Year 4 and is expecting a year extension. We may receive another grant that will extend training even further.

Narrowing the Gulf Conference—April 9-10, EpiCenter: Dr. Oakley and Dr. Carlson will present two DeafTEC presentations on Writing in the Disciplines and Project Access.

Majors Fair: The Sign Language Interpreting Program was represented at the SPC Majors Fair on the Seminole Campus (2/27) and the Clearwater Campus (3/18) by Shirley Oakley, Carol Downing, and INT students. Handout: Sign Language Interpretation Program flyer.

Concern from Judge Boyer: Need for representation of minorities on Sign Language flyer. Also concerns expressed regarding recruitment.

Recruitment: Jose Gutierrez emphasized recruitment from high schools and participating in career days in public and private schools (all levels).

Dr. Oakley showed the updated Sign Language Interpretation Program website.

Professional Development Opportunities: Sam Harris will be attending the World Federation of the Deaf Conference in Istanbul, Turkey, in summer 2015.

Benjamin Bahan of Gallaudet College will be working with students on ASL Storytelling at the Clearwater Campus and will also be presenting “Bleeve: A Narrative of Our Existence” from 7 – 9 on Friday, March 20, at the Palladium.

Tutoring for ASL Courses: We now have ASL tutors on each of the campuses where ASL classes are offered (Clearwater, Gibbs, Seminole and Tarpon Springs). The ASL Labs at Clearwater and Gibbs now have the Who’s Next software program that keeps track of students using the labs. Marika Robinson sends Who’s Next reports to Dr. Oakley and ASL/INT faculty regularly.

Next meeting will be in September.