

3. *I have what you need. You have what I need.*

The interpreting field is one that requires team work. Although there are models out there from people who have been interpreting a long time and who think teaming is unnecessary, I think differently. Your team may be someone three shades darker than you, born in the French Riviera but raised in the United States, and you're interpreting Caribbean stories. He happens to have access to that information because of his familial connections in the Caribbean.

Another example is you may be from mid-state Iowa and grew up on a farm and are interpreting an agricultural seminar on soil nutrients. Your team needs you.

We are connected. The faster we look for how we are connected and start appreciating our diversity, the faster we can advance our field in ways yet known.

No matter how you look at it, diversity matters and diversity works when we consider ourselves and when we consider how much we are connected to others and need others who are not like us.

NAOBI, Inc. needs you. We are always looking for allies to forward the cause of our field to bring in more qualified and well-trained interpreters. We look for allies as we promote excellence in the field and empower interpreters to be excellent in what they do. These types of actions are hallmarks of NAOBI, Inc. We are looking for allies. Are you an ally? Go to www.NAOBI.org and see how to join. Be sure to add your comments to the President's Blog! ■

NCIEC Deaf Interpreting Work-team to Present at the RID Deaf Caucus Meeting

NCIEC DI Work-team

The National Consortium of Interpreter Education Centers' (NCIEC) Deaf Interpreting Work-team has been invited to update the RID Deaf Caucus members on its recent work during their meeting at the RID conference. The presentation will focus on three aspects of the team's work: we will highlight findings from the National Deaf Interpreter (DI) Survey and focus groups conducted during 2007 and 2008, describe the Consortium's collaborative work with RID and NAD on the Certified Deaf Interpreter (CDI) test and launch a new resource and networking Web site for DIs at DIInstitute.org.

The National DI Survey findings help us better understand who DIs are, whom they tend to work with and most common places of employment. Our analysis has revealed interesting relationships between DIs' backgrounds and achievement of RID certification. It also further informed our understanding of the formative experiences of many DIs, paths to becoming a DI, the practices and priorities of DIs' educators and what DIs feel is needed to promote and expand the field of deaf interpreting.

Deaf Caucus members may be interested to learn of the Consortium's work with RID and NAD on the CDI test. Members of the newly created NCIEC-RID-NAD Task Force on the CDI test will report on current efforts to assure appropriate pass rates and rigorous professional standards for DIs. The task force is reviewing such details as the test development history, current testing approaches, item format, language clarity and educational prerequisites. RID will look to the task force for its recommendations concerning possible revisions and strategies for continuing to offer certification opportunities, even while the CDI test revision process is underway.

Finally, the Consortium's presentation will introduce a new Web site that we hope will be of value to current and prospective DIs and to others who want to learn about deaf interpreting. The Web site will carry information, learning tools, a calendar of educational events, resources such as an annotated bibliography of literature and materials on deaf interpreting, video presentations and opportunities for interaction and networking among DIs.

The Consortium's presentation will be at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, August 4, during the RID National Conference. Please check the Deaf Caucus events schedule and RID National Conference program for details. ■



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