



The National Consortium of Interpreter Education Centers

Creating Opportunities for Interpreters and Interpreter Educators

www.nciec.org

Betsy Winston, Director
National Interpreter
Education Center at
Northeastern University

Laurie Swabey, Director
CATIE Center at St.
Catherine University

Beverly Hollrah, Director
Gallaudet University
Regional Interpreter
Education Center

Linda Stauffer, Director
Mid-America Regional
Interpreter Education
Center

Cathy Cogen, Director
Northeastern University
Regional Interpreter
Education Center

Pauline Annarino, Director
Western Region
Interpreter Education
Center

AA-BA Partnership

Change in our field is imminent. In 2012, a minimum of a bachelor's degree will be a requirement to sit for RID certification. Today in 2009, approximately seventy-five percent (75%) of the 145 identified interpreter education programs are offered at the associate degree level and housed in two-year institutions. While the RID certification mandate will result in a new approach to interpreter education, it is recognized that two-year programs will not simply vanish on July 1, 2012. In alignment with this understanding, providing insight and tools to interpreter educators is a primary goal of the NCIEC AA-BA Partnership work team.

Over the past four years, the AA-BA Partnership work team has led a national conversation around the current issues in AA-BA partnership and the potential barriers to change. Guided by an exhaustive literature review, dialogue with A.A. and B.A. Interpreter Education Directors and other discovery approaches, the AA-BA Partnership work team has framed its work around the concept of "partnership" to identify effective models of AA-BA partnership that lead to successful interpreter education program design.

To this end, the work team has engaged in a variety of activities. Among them:

- Hosting of a **BA Directors meeting**, a one-day meeting in 2006 that brought together 26 B.A./B.S. Interpreter Education Directors to discuss issues of AA-BA partnership and the importance of ASL standards.
- Hosting of an **AA Directors Summit**, a two-day opportunity in 2007 that brought together 65 A.A./A.A.S. Interpreter Education Directors to collectively address issues of transfer, articulation and partnership.
- Publishing **Toward Effective Practices: A National Dialogue on AA-BA Partnerships, (2008)** a summary report of the work conducted between 2006 and 2008 by the AA-BA Partnership work team, including a snap-shot of the current AA-BA partnership practices in our field and the models garnishing the most interest through focus group work.
- Presenting work and findings of the AA-BA Partnership work team at national conferences.

In 2010, the AA-BA Partnership work team will publish a second monograph, **AA-BA Partnerships:**

Creating New Value for Interpreter Education Programs 2010, that offers program directors information and resources to establish AA-BA partnerships. More specifically, this new document will provide interpreter educators with an updated picture of the field in terms of current partnerships, a greater understanding of the critical components needed to sustain a successful partnership, a more in-depth study of related models including case studies, as well as partnership resources. Anticipated availability of this publication is August 2010.

Contact Us

Pauline Annarino: pgannarino@aol.com

Linda Stauffer: lkstauffer@ualr.edu