

EuroSign Interpreter Project

CCE is delighted to announce a major grant for the EuroSign Interpreter Project, worth €336,000, awarded by the EU Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency under its Lifelong Learning Programme. The application was compiled by John Walker, convenor of Deaf Studies, supported by Laura Cecil, convenor of research in CCE, and Pam Coare, director of CCE.

The project, to run for two years, will develop and pilot materials to train people who are bilingual between two different sign languages as interpreters, a qualification yet to exist in Europe. The project will be delivered in partnership with organisations in Hamburg, Paris and Prague.

The outputs will include a website, online learning module, printed learning materials, case studies, dissemination events, filmed interviews with interpreters, and a consortium of experts. All these will engage with training programmes to move towards qualifying interpreters between two cross-national European languages.

John Walker, convenor of Deaf Studies, said: “This project will provide resources for training centres to seriously consider including interpreting between two sign languages in their programmes; it will enable Deaf people travel, study and engage in business across national borders. In its current state, two Deaf entrepreneurs would rely on 3 interpreters to communicate; a sign language to sign language interpreter would work directly between the source and target languages.

Pam Coare, director of CCE, added: ‘We are absolutely delighted to be awarded this funding, and to be able to develop innovative ways of working with the Deaf community in Europe. Deaf Studies is a growing area of work at Sussex, and we very much hope this project will allow us to develop further work with colleagues across Europe.’

For further information, please contact

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