

David Peikoff Chair of Deaf Studies Western Canadian Centre of Deaf Studies

“Working together to bridge research and community development.”



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Executive Summary

The David Peikoff Chair of Deaf Studies (DPCDS) works in collaboration with the Western Canadian Centre of Deaf Studies (WCCDS), bridging research, teaching excellence, and community development. This report summarizes the Centre’s accomplishments over the period of July 01, 2010 to July 31, 2011.

The following are highlights of the past year. A major highlight was that Dr. Russell was awarded a European Science and Research Council Collaborative Fellowship to spend one month working with Dr. Christopher Stone at the Deafness, Cognition, and Language Research Centre in London, UK. This opportunity led to a shared research project and joint publications between the researchers, and contributed to building networks among researchers at DCAL.

Over the year, Dr. Russell was invited to deliver several presentations, seminars, and sessions including:

- **London, UK:** *Mediated Education for Deaf Children: Realities and Realizations.* Research presentation presented for the University College of London, Deafness, Cognition and Language Research Centre
- **Tirana, Albania:** *Interpreting: Working from Models of Discourse Analysis.* Three-day seminar presented for the Albanian National Association of the Deaf.
- **Santa Fe, New Mexico:** *Interpreted education panel.* Session conducted at the 2010 CASA Conference.
 - *Illusion of inclusion? Realities and consequences.* Presentation for CASA 2010 Partnering for Success conference.

- *Interpreting and teaching: Never the twain shall meet?* Presentation for CASA 2010 Partnering for Success conference.
- **Whitby, ON:** *Getting to Meaning: What is Skopos and Why the heck do I need to find it?* One-day seminar presented for the Durham District School Board.
- **Winnipeg, MB:** *Interpreting Research – Building Evidence into our Practice.* Presentation for the University of Manitoba, Dept of Linguistics.
- **London, ON:** *I just don't See It:* Two-day seminar presented for the Ontario Interpreting Services, Staff Retreat.
- **Toronto, ON:** *Supporting Interpreter Development and Telling the Truth – Can you do both?* Three-hour seminar presented for the George Brown College.
- **Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia:** *Malaysia Interpreter Education Seminar.* Five-day seminar presented for the RC Deaf Missions and SAITO College.
- **St. John, NB:** *Legal Interpreting and the Deaf Community.* Two-day seminar presented for the St. John Deaf and Hard of Hearing Society.

Future Activities for 2011 – 2012...

- Work with the University of Alberta Library to address the archival needs of the Deaf Associations in Alberta and Canada.
- Collaborate Grant MacEwan University to support the Ukrainian scholar Anna Zamsha during her academic visit scheduled for October-December 2011.
- Continue to address research project tasks, including a shared funding application with Dr. Chris Stone on the Deaf Interpreting International project and funding for the Calgary Board of Education study on preparation between teachers and interpreters.
- Contribute to the Dept. of Educational Psychology by teaching EDPY 456
- Bring together a group of community advisors who can examine the survey data we gathered last fall about the future of WCCDS, and create a map of action for the next five years.
- Produce one manuscript based on the analysis of the legal interpreting on-line survey.
- Produce two manuscripts on the educational interpreting study.
- Move forward with the Roger Carver student fund development campaign.

Celebrating 25 Years



Particia Shores-Hermann,
Myrna Shannon, Debra Russell

Much of our Dec-March period of time was spent planning to host events to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Centre. This involved consulting with advisors from the community to identify a suitable keynote speaker, to make contact with Myrna Shannon (David Peikoff's daughter, living in California) arranging for travel, communication support, securing venue, etc. Patty Shores-Hermann from the University of Zurich was our special guest, providing a public lecture for the community and giving the keynote address at the anniversary banquet. Patty was one of the original staff members with the centre and is a highly respected international Deaf leader. There were 88 invited guests that attended the banquet and we continue to receive positive feedback on the evening. We will work on editing the video coverage and get that into a form for community showcasing.

History Monograph: Patty Conrad completed the monograph and this was ready for sharing at the 25th anniversary banquet. We are pleased with her work and believe the history that she captured

reflects positively on all of accomplishments of the Centre.

Vision and Values

Over the past year, we held conversations between Deaf community members, academics and university administrators about the centre's name. In keeping with a view of the Deaf community as a linguistic community to be viewed through a lens of cultural appreciation, we sought and received approval from the Dean and Trustees to call the centre the Western Canadian Centre of Deaf Studies (WCCDS). While this may seem as a minor change in our name, it reflects current understanding of not approaching the community of deaf and hard of hearing from a medical or pathological lens that is often associated with terms such as "deafness". Our new name reflects our way of being with deaf and hard of hearing people.

The WCCDS and David Peikoff Chair of Deaf Studies Strategic Plan identifies core activities that include support for conducting and disseminating research, training, enhancing educational access for deaf and hard of hearing students, leadership and liaison, and serving as a community resource. The vision and values that guide the work of the Centre are:

The David Peikoff Chair of Deaf Studies (DPCDS) works in collaboration with the Western Canadian Centre of Deaf Studies (WCCDS), bridging research and community development. The vision is to demonstrate leadership in Canada in the areas of research and development in the area of hearing loss. By cooperating with

the Deaf and hard of hearing communities, WCCDS will support the development of post-secondary opportunities for deaf and hard of hearing learners and programs for these students throughout Western Canada. In addition WCCDS will cooperate with the deaf and hard of hearing communities in order to support community capacity building.

We continue to do the following:

- Function as a research and development base.
- Advocate for the accommodation needed for students at all levels of education.
- Provide leadership in development of programs and services for deaf and hard of hearing people.
- Evolve as a Centre that cooperates with the hard of hearing and deaf communities in order to support community connections and community development.

The values that guide our work include:

- Respect for deaf and hard of hearing people regardless of language and communication preferences.
- Incorporate current literature and research into strategic planning.
- Create professional and collegial relationships with all internal and external stakeholders, including within the University community and the external community.

Achievements and Progress on Goals

The following information is a summary of the activities of the David Peikoff Chair of Deaf Studies and the Western Canadian Centre of Deaf Studies from July 01, 2010 to July 31, 2011, and how those activities supported the goals of the Centre.

CORE ACTIVITY 1: RESEARCH IN DEAF STUDIES

Strategic Initiative: To conduct and disseminate current research in Deaf studies and to support research efforts of other institutions.

Activities that supported this core activity include:

1. Research Projects

Deaf and Hearing Interpreter Teams at International Conferences – Further data were collected during the WASLI conference in South Africa from July 16-17, 2011.

Bridging the Gap: Work of Sign Language Interpreters – Work to Rest Ratio Study – This study has received funding from WSIB in Ontario (\$60,000). Dr. Kathryn Woodcock of Ryerson is the principal investigator and Dr. Russell is a co-investigator along with Dr. Dr. Abdoli-Ermaki and Dr. Sri Krishnan also of Ryerson University, and Steven Fisher (Ph.D. student) from University of Waterloo. Thus far we have consulted on the stimulus material to be used with interpreters on this study designed to identify evidence based work-to-rest schedules for interpreters, thus reducing the potential for short-term and long-

term disability issues related to repetitive strain injuries among interpreters.

Educational Interpreting Inclusive Settings Study – Data analysis continues on this project. Have been invited to write a chapter based on the interpreting data for this study to be published in John Benjamins volume on international research in education.

I participated in an international mentoring project in which Gallaudet University pairs their PhD students with researchers in the field. I had an opportunity to meet the student in person while attending a conference in Texas. We worked on data analysis and coding prior to the Ph.D. student completing their work term with me.

Western Oregon University – served as an External Reviewer on a panel with Dr. Kim Brown-Kurz, National Technical Institute for the Deaf, and Dr. Laurence Hayes, University of Eastern Kentucky. Our task was to review a proposal based on new masters in sign language pedagogy; conducted interviews with key administrators in the university, made recommendations for changes in the program content, and completed a final report based on the three day site visit.

Ukrainian Sign Language – Natalia Adamyuk and Lesia Leshchenko were with us from Sept 23 to Dec 11, 2011. Their time in Canada involved looking at educational opportunities for Deaf students in Alberta, Manitoba and Ontario, and becoming familiar with our approaches to teaching, research analysis and community development. This work was funded through MacEwan as a subcontract from the larger CIDA grant.

A second application from a Ukrainian scholar was submitted to the Alberta Education scholarship program. The successful student is Anna Zamsha and she will spend time with WCCDS and Grant MacEwan from October - December 2011.

A follow up meeting with community stakeholders was held at ASD on April 11, 2011. The purpose of the meeting was to explore a concept paper put forward by Dr. Roman Petryshen on ways to continue the work in Ukraine with the schools working with Deaf students.

Interpreting in Legal Settings – Dr. Len Roberson, University of North Florida, Jacksonville, FL, and Dr. Risa Shaw, Gallaudet University, Washington, DC and I met on October 26, 2010 while attending the CIT conference in San Antonio, TX. We continue to prepare two manuscripts based on the data of the project and will be submitting these over the next few months.

Economic & Social Research Council – Social Science Research Council Collaborative Visiting Fellowship (\$10,000): I completed the fellowship and Dr. Christopher Stone and I continue to seek funding for our shared research projects.



Lesia Leschenko and Natalia Adamyuk

2. Research Scholarship



**Rouzbeh Ghahreman
with Dr. Fern Snart**

Attended a luncheon in honour of Rouzbeh Ghahreman, recipient of the shared Ph.D. scholarship offered by the Dean of Education and the Peikoff Endowment. Our contribution was \$5000.00 for the scholarship.

3. WCCDS Research Lectures

May 12, 2011: Patty Shores Hermann, University of Zurich delivered a lecture entitled: Sign Language Communities in Switzerland. The lecture was well received.

October 2010: Dr. Lon Kuntze, Boston University delivered this lecture to four sites – Winnipeg, Calgary, Lethbridge and here at U of A. Over 130 attendees enjoyed the lecture. We also collaborated with Connect Society and Edmonton Public School Board where Dr. Kuntze provided a three-hour teacher focused workshop at the Alberta School for the Deaf.

4. Publications in the past year

Editorial Service: Continue to serve as the Open Forum Editor on the Editorial Board

of the International Journal of Interpreter Education and reviewer.

Book Chapters:

Russell, D. (in press). Designing a research project: Beginning with the end in mind. In B. Nicodemus & L. Swabey (Eds.) *Essays in Interpreting Research* (pp. 331-376). John Benjamins: Amsterdam.

Referred Publications:

Russell, D., & Stone, C. (accepted for publication) Interview with a Scholar & a Gentleman: Dr. Christopher Stone. *International Journal of Interpreter Education*.

Russell, D., Shaw, R., & Malcolm, K. (2010). Effective strategies for teaching consecutive interpreting. *International Journal of Interpreter Education*, 2 (1).

5. Presentations

Referred Presentations at Scholarly Meetings and Conferences

Stone, D. & Russell, D. Interpreting in International Sign: Decisions of Deaf and non-deaf interpreters. Paper presented at the World Association of the Sign Language Interpreters in Durban, South Africa, July 17, 2011.

Robertson, L, Russell, D. & Shaw, R. *Current Practices in Signed Language Interpreting in Legal Settings in North America*. Paper presented at the World Association of the Sign Language Interpreters in Durban, South Africa, July 16, 2011.

Russell, D. *Interpreting Legal Discourse*. Presentation given to the Saint John Deaf and Hard of Hearing Society, St. John, New Brunswick, June 16, 2011.

Russell, D. *Getting to Skopos in a Mediated Education Environment: bridging research and practice*. Poster presented at the Hawaii International Conference on Education in Honolulu, Hawaii, January 5, 2011.

Russell, D. *Research Matters for Interpreter Educators: An Author's Panel* facilitated by L. Swabey and B. Nicodemus. Panelist at the Conference of Interpreter Trainers conference in San Antonio, TX, Oct 27, 2010

Roberson, L., Russell, D., & Shaw, R. *Current Practices in Signed Language Interpreting in Legal Settings in North America*. Poster presentation at the Conference of Interpreter Trainers conference in San Antonio, TX, Oct 27, 2010

Russell, D. *Getting to Skopos in a Mediated Education Environment: bridging research and practice*. Presentation given to the Colombian Ministry of Education, Cartagena, Colombia. Oct 11, 2010.

Russell, D. *Getting to Skopos in a Mediated Education Environment: bridging research and practice*. Paper presented at the International Congress on the Education of the Deaf conference in Vancouver, BC, July 18, 2010.

Roberson, L., Russell, D., & Shaw, R. *Current Practices in Signed Language Interpreting in Legal Settings in North America*.

Upcoming Presentations:

Dr. Russell will give the keynote address at the Australian Association of Sign Language Interpreters in Sydney Australia on August 27, 2011. While in Australia she will deliver additional presentations at the Melbourne Association of Sign Language Interpreters 25th Anniversary on August 24, 2011 and the National Interpreter Trainers' Network (ITN) Symposium on August 29, 2011.

Russell, D. *Getting to skopos in a mediated education environment: Bridging research and practice*. Workshop to be given to the Manitoba Ministry of Education, Special Area Group on October 21, 2011.

Seminars Taught Nationally and Internationally

Russell, D. *Best Practices in Legal Interpreting*. One-day seminar presented for the Westcoast Association of Visual Language Interpreters in Vancouver, BC, May 28, 2011.

Russell, D. *Make me a Better Interpreter: Interpreting in Legal Settings*. As series of day long workshops presented for Ministry of Justice, Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, March 13-18, 2011.

Strategies for Interpreters in Educational Settings. One-day seminar presented to the E.C. Drury School for the Deaf in Milton, ON, March 11, 2011.

Russell, D. *Educational Interpreting: Putting the Pieces Together*. Four-day seminar given for the Ministry of Education, Cartagena, Colombia. Oct 12-15, 2010

Russell, D. *Consecutive Interpreting in Legal Settings*. Five Day seminar presented for University of Northern Colorado, Greeley, CO. July 26-30, 2010.

Russell, D., & Shaw, R. *Best Practices in Legal Interpreting*. Three-hour workshop presented at the AVLIC conference in Ottawa, ON, July 07, 2010.

CORE ACTIVITY 2: SUPPORT FOR TRAINING & EDUCATIONAL ACCESS

Strategic Initiative: To provide support for on-going research, training, and educational access for deaf and hard of hearing students.

Activities that supported this core activity include:



WCCDS/ACSD ASL Immersion: We held a successful ASL immersion this summer. From

July 4 -8, 2011 the Alberta Cultural Society of the Deaf (ACSD) conducted the immersion at the Alberta School for the Deaf. The total number of participants was 60. Over the years, WCCDS participation in the ASL Immersion program has gradually decreased as ACSD takes on more and more responsibility for this program. This is in keeping with WCCDS's mandate of community development.

Medical Interpreting Services (MIS): We were invited by MIS, which provides all medical interpreting in British Columbia to review their current

performance test. Based on the review, Karen Malcolm and I created 4 new test segments, and organized the filming of these test segments on Jan 29 & 30, 2011. The test segments have been edited and are ready for the next round of testing.

Mental Health Conference: Based on a grant we received from the Calgary Association of the Deaf, WCCDS and Catholic Family Services hosted a two-day mental health conference at Campus St. Jean, April 29-30. Our keynote presenters included Dr. Stephen James, of the E.C. Drury School for the Deaf in Milton, ON, and Karen Malcolm, Vancouver. We had over 40 people attend the conference, with a shared keynote on Friday, and then two tracks of workshops on Saturday – one for therapists, psychologists, and professionals working with Deaf people and another track for interpreters working in mental health settings.

We invited three of the medical students to attend the Mental Health and Deaf Community workshop with Dr. Stephen James on April 29-30, 2011. The three attendees reported that they learned a great deal about intercultural communication and see this as crucial to their emerging understanding of how to serve the Deaf community in appropriate ways.



Dr. Stephen James and the Golden Rule

Ministry of Justice, Government of NL and Labrador: Had the unique opportunity to travel to remote communities of Nain, Nataushish, Sheshatshui and Goose Bay-Happy Valley, to deliver training for Inuit and Innu interpreters working in legal settings. The final day of workshops focused on the needs of the Judges, prosecutors, social workers, teachers working in the corrections system, and those involved in delivering justice programs.

We have agreed to be a partner organization in support of a **SSHRC application** submitted by Western, Ryerson, Queens and University of Manitoba to support Deaf academics.

Roger Carver Award was established through the fund development office. The fund raising campaign began in December 2010. We announced the award at a Deaf community event held on November 13, 2010. This included a screening of the documentary *See what I am Saying* at the Garneau Theatre hosted in collaboration with the Alberta Association of the Deaf.

In February, I met with representatives of the Cambell McLarin Foundation in Calgary with a proposal for funding for the award. Their trustees have not yet met so we have no response to our request. In May, the Alberta Association of the Deaf donated \$5000.00 to the award.

CORE ACTIVITY 3: LEADERSHIP AND LIAISON

Strategic Initiative: To provide leadership and liaison in the field of Deaf studies.

Activities that supported this core activity include:

International Congress on the Education of the Deaf, Vancouver, BC: the conference was very successful and WCCSD was acknowledged for its work in helping to coordinate the team of 40 interpreters.



World Association of Sign Language Interpreters:

I continue to chair an international committee focused on designing educational programs for interpreters in emerging

countries. The committee currently has representation from South Africa, Spain, Mexico, Poland, USA, the Philippines, New Zealand, Australia and Nepal. We



have prepared a draft framework for countries with

Debra Russell with friends at the WASLI 2011 Conference

no formal access to education and for those who are transitioning education to post-secondary institutions and this was presented at the conference in July 2011.

Acted as the liaison to the Scientific Chairs and the WASLI Board in planning a conference in 2011 in South Africa; served on the sponsorship committee.

I was selected as WASLI President during the conference in Durban, South Africa.

Masters in Education Studies MES: We worked with the MES program to recruit several qualified applicants who teach in post-secondary settings, providing ASL-English interpreter education. We are also helping MES to develop two specific option courses for interpreter educators. At the present time, these will be the only option courses of their kind in Canada.

CORE ACTIVITY 4: COMMUNITY RESOURCE

Strategic Initiative: To act as a community resource.

Activities that supported this core activity include:

University of Alberta Community: Educational Psychology 456 (Sept - December and January-April, 2011)

Website: We updated our website to include both English and ASL as part of the interactive information display in two languages. Released two newsletters per year.

Alignment with University of Alberta Priorities

Our activities are congruent with the University of Alberta's cornerstones of attracting talented people, learning, discovery and citizenship, connecting communities, and transformative organization and support, as demonstrated through the following examples.

Talented People: Our activities that support this cornerstone have included a focus on partnerships with organizations

and colleges that serve non-traditional students. By virtue of language and culture, deaf and hard of hearing students are seen as non-traditional, and as a multi-cultural community of learners, they often face multiple barriers. We are building bridges between the University community and the larger community, ensuring that prospective deaf and hard of hearing students consider the University of Alberta as a welcoming learning environment that can accommodate their learning needs. We have worked to recruit interpreter educators to graduate programs, and we have created a new scholarship to support deaf and hard of hearing students. Our Centre celebrates and draws upon diversity by hiring deaf employees who use American Sign Language and all of our research affiliates possess American Sign Language fluency. In addition, our research lectures focus on evidence based research in their field of Deaf Studies, and features scholars from Canada and from other countries.

Learning, Discovery and Citizenship: We support this cornerstone by creating national and international research collaborations. To date we have formed effective relationships with the University of British Columbia, Northeastern University in Boston, Institute of Special Pedagogy in Kiev, Ukraine, the Deafness, Cognition and Language Research Centre in London, UK, and Gallaudet University in Washington, DC. Finally, our Centre has offered mentorship and learning opportunities to undergraduate and graduate students. As well, we have served as a work experience site for high school students from the Alberta School for the Deaf. By serving on the international board of directors for the World Association of Sign Language

Interpreters, we are also building international relationships that create initiatives to foster mutual understanding, advance human rights agendas, and to further enhance the quality of life for all deaf and hard of hearing citizens.

Connecting Communities: Our partnerships with school boards in Edmonton and Calgary, our collaboration with many community organizations such as the Canadian Cultural Society of the Deaf, the Alberta Cultural Society of the Deaf and the Canadian Hard of Hearing Association allow us to identify research challenges and to provide life-long learning opportunities. Teachers working with deaf and hard of hearing students are able to participate in our workshops, which provide access to new research outcomes and create a bridge between research and teaching practice. Our ASL Immersion experiences offer opportunities to learn American Sign Language and to learn how to meaningfully engage with this distinct linguistic minority. Our research lectures invite intellectual openness and opportunities for ongoing dialogue and discussion about areas of importance to the deaf and hard of hearing community. We continue to make the lectures accessible to all Canadians who have access to the Internet, through video-streaming technology.

Transformation Organization and Support: We have also maintained good stewardship of the David Peikoff Endowment Fund, ensuring the financial resources will continue to be available in the future. This will allow the University of Alberta to attract outstanding scholars to serve as the David Peikoff Chair of Deaf Studies. Finally, we have increased our

ability to communicate among both the internal and external university community by producing regular newsletters, quarterly written reports to Peikoff Trustees, Dean Snart, and the Chair of the Dept. of Educational Psychology, and maintaining a current web and electronic presence.

Acknowledgements

I wish to thank the following people for their continued support, encouragement, wisdom and guidance:

The Peikoff Trustees: Dr. Marc Arnal, Dr. Larry Beuchamp, and Martin Coutts.

Dr. Robin Everall, Chair of the Department of Educational Psychology.

Dr. Fern Snart, Dean of Education.

I am also grateful for the support that I have enjoyed from Damian Karl, Megan Senechal, Sue Tompkins, Patty Conrad, and Greg Carrier who have been exceptional research assistants.

To Robin Demko, my administrative assistant, my sincere thanks for her exceptional work that continues to ensure our activities are carried out efficiently and effectively. Questions or feedback about the work conducted in our area can be directed to debra.russell@ualberta.ca or telephone: 780-492-1156.

Respectfully submitted,



Debra Russell
David Peikoff Chair of Deaf Studies
WCCDS Director