

Century College's TRIN Program Collaborates with Various Partners to Promote Interpreter Training - By Cristiano Mazzei, TRIN Program Director and Faculty Century College, fall 2010 to spring 2017

The TRIN program has worked hard to identify and apply for grants to meet different needs of the college, students, and various stakeholders regarding interpreter training.

In 2016, we were a key partner in two major grants, one awarded to the Karen Organization of Minnesota (KOM) and the other to University of Minnesota's School of Dentistry.

Due to the increasing number of Karen refugees from Myanmar settling in Minnesota, there has been a growing need for trained interpreters in this language to help new arrivals communicate and access important services. Together with KOM, we applied and received a grant from the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) to help train a large group of Karen students as professional interpreters.

The other grant, from the Minnesota Department of Health, involves training dental students of the University of Minnesota on how to serve better the increasingly diverse population of Limited English Proficient patients by, first, understanding the need for qualified and trained interpreters, and, secondly, learning how to best work with them. The hope is that this important project can be replicated and applied to other healthcare areas.

The TRIN program has also collaborated with high schools to provide an introductory course to bilingual seniors who are thinking about college and careers. The purpose is to provide an overview of the profession, standards of practice, code of ethics, interpreting skills and career opportunities, and to get them interested in pursuing more education and developing their interpreting skills at the college level. Our first experience took place in March 2017 at the Minneapolis Public Schools' Alternative High School on 800 W Broadway. The next project is to offer the same course through Century College's "Century in the High School Program" at Wellstone International High School in fall 2017.

Scholarship Committee – Calling for Volunteers

Please contact ISG if you are interested to serve on this committee. You can reach us by using the "Our Contact Form" on the [ISG webpage](#).

Discussion on Video Remote Interpreting

At the May 24th ISG membership meeting, stakeholders had a robust conversation on video Remote Interpreting (VRI). They shared their perspectives and experience on the pros and cons of using VRI in healthcare settings, how best to use this technology to improve patient care, as well as its impact on the interpreting profession. The participants also recognized the need for all stakeholders to collaborate in defining best practices for remote interpreting. ISG will continue to provide the forum for stakeholders to engage in this important conversation at the next meeting on August 23, 2017.

Next ISG Membership Meeting

When: August 23, 2017; 5:30 PM to 7:00 PM

Light refreshments will be served.

Where: Southdale Public Library,
7001 York Ave S, Edina, MN 55435

Map: Click [here](#).

Note: please go to [ISG website](#) for possible updates/changes.