

# 100 years of conference interpreting

## Call for Papers

3&4 October 2019  
ILO, Geneva, Switzerland

The University of Geneva's Faculty of Translation and Interpreting (FTI) and the International Labour Office (ILO) are pleased to invite you to celebrate 100 years of conference interpreting on 3&4 October 2019.

### Background

In the summer of 1919, the Treaty of Versailles was signed ending WWI, giving birth to the League of Nations and the International Labour Office, ushering in a new era of multilateral diplomacy and - owing to the rise of English as an international language - establishing the need for conference interpreters. Over the past century conference interpreting has evolved to become a recognized profession with its own vibrant community of practitioners, researchers and trainers. In 2019 we celebrate 100 years of conference interpreting.

### Topics of interest

Following the multilateral tradition, this conference will provide ample room for participatory debate. The three topics of the conference – practice, research and training – will each be introduced by a keynote speaker, discussed by a panel of experts and informed by a series of short presentations. Ideally, contributions should reflect on the past and present before projecting likely future developments and scenarios. We are particularly interested in contributions addressing one or several of the following questions:

#### *Practice*

What have been the most noteworthy changes in the profession and what is yet to come? How has the interpreter's workplace changed and what will the next change entail? How have working conditions evolved and where will this evolution lead? What has been the main appeal of the profession and how is that going to change?

#### *Research*

What have been the most ground-breaking research findings and what remains unknown? How have the research paradigms changed and in which direction are they moving? What methods have generated research breakthroughs and which look most promising? What theories have been falsified and which have stood the test of time?

#### *Training*

What have been the most successful training approaches and what will be needed in future? Where have training methods adapted to new needs and where are they lagging behind? What developments have influenced training and what will be the next big challenge? Who is best suited to provide what kind of training?

## Guide for authors

Abstracts can be submitted from 15 March to 15 April 2019 using our online platform ([www.unige.ch/fti/conf1nt100](http://www.unige.ch/fti/conf1nt100)). Importantly, all paper presentations will be given as Pecha Kucha 20x20 (for more information, including examples, see [www.pechakucha.org](http://www.pechakucha.org)) and all presenters are expected to submit a complementary poster for extensive informal Q&A. As simultaneous interpretation into English, French and Spanish will be available throughout the event, we invite submissions in any of these three languages.

*Once the submission window opens, contributors be expected to provide:*

- Title: Between 5 and 25 words  
Abstract: Between 200 and 300 words  
The following information about the study/project must be included:  
What was the motivation (background)?  
What was the objective (aim)?  
What was the question (research question/hypothesis)?  
How did you answer it (design/method)?  
What is your answer (results/discussion/conclusion)?  
References: APA format, no word count

## Important Dates

First call for papers: 15 February 2019  
Submission of abstracts opens: 15 March 2019  
Submission of abstracts closes: 15 April 2019  
Notification of acceptance: 1 June 2019  
Upload of presentations/posters opens: 1 July 2019  
Upload of presentations/posters closes: 15 September 2019  
Early registration: 1 May – 30 June 2019  
Regular registration: 1 July – 15 September 2019  
Late registration: 16 September – 1 October 2019  
Event dates: 3&4 October 2019

## Contact

For any inquiries regarding the conference, please contact: [Conf1nt100@unige.ch](mailto:Conf1nt100@unige.ch)

We look forward to seeing you in Geneva later this fall!

Sincerely,  
The Organizing Committee