

Critical Link 6

26 - 30 July 2010
Aston University
Birmingham, United Kingdom

Call for Papers

The Organising Committee of Critical Link 6 would like to invite you to submit an abstract for a presentation at the Critical Link 2010 Conference. This Call includes submissions for papers, poster sessions, discussion panels, workshops, round table discussions, and pre- & post-conference workshops.

The Conference will bring together representatives from every sphere of the public service interpreting community: academics, interpreting practitioners, employers, trainers, policy makers, service providers and service recipients to shed new light on the vital role that public service/community interpreters play in our world.

The conference theme is **Interpreting in a Changing Landscape**. The aim is to explore political, legal, human rights, trans-national, economic, socio-cultural, and sociolinguistic aspects of public service/community interpreting. Abstracts of papers relating to the following key strands in interpreting **research** and **practice** will be prioritised for inclusion in the programme:

1. Commissioning of interpreting services

- a. National and political responsibility for service provision
- b. Public awareness of costs and benefits
- c. The role of national and multinational interpreting agencies
- d. The practice of outsourcing interpreting services
- e. The role of the state in the certification of public service interpreters
- f. Analysing demand for interpreting services

2. Professional governance within public service/community interpreting

- a. Codes of Ethics and Conduct, disciplinary procedures
- b. The role of professional associations
- c. Professional registers, local lists and trade unions
- d. Performance management of interpreters – monitoring, feedback and supervision
- e. Regulation of interpreters and of interpreter services
- f. Quality assurance mechanisms and external validation systems
- g. Advocate, mediator, culture broker, interpreter: one job or many?
- h. The rights of immigrants and asylum seekers to communication services

3. Using innovative practice and new technologies to improve public service interpreting

- a. Telephone, Video, Remote interpreting
- b. Telecommunication and Webstream interpreting
- c. Terminology storage and retrieval
- d. The virtual courtroom
- e. Interpreting in conflict zones

4. Interpreter training and education

- a. Who sets the standards and what are they?
- b. Who should provide training and who should fund it?
- c. Technology in interpreter education
- d. Access to training
- e. Assessment, accreditation and qualifications
- f. Training the trainers
- g. Less widely-taught languages
- h. Role of private accrediting bodies

5. Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

- a. Models of CPD for interpreters
- b. Language enhancement programmes
- c. Progression routes and rewards for excellence
- d. In-service training for public sector staff

6. Research

- a. Social impact of research
- b. Innovative research methods
- c. Interdisciplinary research in legal, medical, social services and local government settings
- d. Interpreting in humanitarian or military intervention
- e. Practitioners as researchers

Abstracts should be approximately 300 words and written in English. When submitting your abstract, please specify the format and which of the strands your contribution will address: paper (20 minutes + 10 minutes discussion), poster, workshop, panel, round table discussion (90 minutes). Proposals for pre-and post-conference workshops are also invited and should be labelled accordingly.

Key Dates:

Deadline for submission to Critical Link 6 of abstracts and proposals:	31 October 2009
Notification of acceptance:	20 January 2010
Deadline for presenters to confirm participation by registering:	1 March 2010
Draft Programme will be available on:	1 May 2010
Registration will begin on:	15 April 2009

For more information please refer to the Critical Link 6 website at <http://www.aston.ac.uk/CL2010> or contact Prof. Christina Schaffner at c.schaeffner@aston.ac.uk.