



NCIEC AA to BA Transition Project

One of the priorities for the National Consortium of Interpreter Education Centers (NCIEC) is to assist both two-year and four-year Interpreter Education Programs in the transitions they might make in response to the RID requirement that interpreters have a bachelor's degree in order to take the national certification tests. A working group was formed to plan a national conversation about current issues in AA to BA transitions and to identify models and potential barriers of articulation and change. To open this conversation, the group decided to plan a national focus group of BA program directors that would meet in San Diego, CA, one day prior to the CIT Conference. The goal of the meeting is to identify current and creative models for successful AA to BA student and program transition, to document barriers faced in implementing transition models and to begin development of a draft document outlining effective transition practices.

Participants were also invited to join online discussions mid-September through mid-October and then re-join discussions after the San Diego meeting. Directors will receive instructions about how to join and participate in the online discussions and technical assistance will be available. There will be four weeks of online discussions with directors assigned to diverse groups, followed by continued discussion after the San Diego meeting. To date, 24 program directors have agreed to participate online and attend the all-day meeting.

Future plans include a working consensus regarding levels of fluency, admissions criteria, model articulation agreements, and curricular issues. In addition, the group will initiate similar conversations with AA program directors, convene regional meetings as well as a possible meeting in conjunction with the 2007 RID Conference.

For more information about the NCIEC and their goals, please visit the website at www.nciec.org/.

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