



**Western Canadian Centre of Studies  
in Deafness & the David Peikoff Chair  
of Deafness Studies**

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Spring 2004

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**David Peikoff Chair of Deafness  
Studies**

The Chair is pleased to announce a **Post Doctoral Fellowship (PDF)** for the period of Sept. 2004 - August 2005. Bringing on a PDF will help develop new researchers in the field of deafness. Applications are due to Dr. Debra Russell by June 01, 2004. For further information see our website.

**Over the past few months** the David Peikoff Chair of Deafness Studies has been involved in several research projects, including:

- Study of Courtroom Discourse and Interpretation (on-going analysis of American criminal trials)

- Review of Sign Language Interpreting Screening Tool (2003)
- Review of Text-Based Support Services for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students (2004)
- Study of Interpreters in Educational Settings (2004-ongoing)
- Creation of a proposal for a summer institute for teaching assistants working with deaf and hard of hearing children
- Creation of a proposal for ASL Teacher Training
- Collaborating with the Deaf Community Interpreter Task Force to create options for sign language studies and interpreter education in Alberta.

Debra will travel to Sweden in May to present a paper on legal interpreting at Critical Link 4. She will then join a delegation from the University of Alberta and Grant MacEwan in Kyiv, Ukraine and give a paper at the Institute of Special Education.

**David Peikoff Chair of Deafness  
Studies Lectures and Workshops**

We have had two excellent Peikoff Lectures already in 2004. In January, Patrick Boudreault from California State University spoke on politics and the impact of language decisions for the Anglophone and Francophone Deaf communities. He also provided a workshop for teachers and another on working with Deaf interpreters. All events received rave reviews! Then in March, Dr. Anita Small and Joanne Cripps presented a lecture on ASL and early language acquisition. They also

held a workshop for teachers and highlighted exciting new resources for older students, such as [www.deafplanet.com](http://www.deafplanet.com). These were two fabulous events, with requests for them to return to Alberta soon.

### **Jones Memorial Lecture**

Monday, April 19, 2004, 7:00 pm, Room 2-115 Education North. Dr. Christine Yoshinaga-Itano from University of Colorado will speak on "Predictors of Successful Outcomes for Children with Significant Hearing Loss". See our website for further information: <http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/edpsychology/wccsd.cfm> or contact Debra Russell at [debra.russell@ualberta.ca](mailto:debra.russell@ualberta.ca) for further information.

### **Institute of Special Education, Ukraine.**

We were pleased to meet Dr. Bondar of the Institute of Special Education in Ukraine. Randy Dziwenka and Debra Russell spoke with Dr. Bondar about signed language research, and some of the initiatives that have occurred in Canada.

Dr. Bondar visited other University centres and spoke with many faculty members prior to the signing of an agreement between the University of Alberta, Grant MacEwan and University of Lviv to foster shared research projects. Our thanks to Ihor Kobel, Dr. Michael Rodda and Roman Petryshyn of Grant MacEwan College for their hard work in preparing for Dr. Bondar's visit.

**Thank you to Alberta School for the Deaf** students who have shared their artwork with us. We will be framing their art and displaying it in our hallway. Plans are underway to invite the students and staff to join us for a celebration once the prints have been mounted on our walls.

### **Advisory Committee Members**

If you are interested in serving on an advisory committee for WCCSD and the Chair, please contact us. Our strategic plan for the next three years has been completed and we are now seeking community members who are interested in guiding our work.

### **Teacher Training Program**

Applications are still being accepted for the Masters in Deafness Studies program. Please contact MaryAnn Bibby at [maryann.bibby@ualberta.ca](mailto:maryann.bibby@ualberta.ca) for further information.

### **Educational Interpreting Research Project**

If you are interested in participating in a study that examines deaf children's access to the language of the classroom via interpretation services, please contact Debra Russell. The perspectives of interpreters, teacher assistants, parents, students and teachers are to be included.

### **Specialized Support and Disability Services Research (SSDS)**

Over the next several months, WCCSD in collaboration with the University of Alberta's SSDS, will be working collaboratively on a research project.

More specifically, we will be looking at:  
a) the identification and provision of accommodations specific to the communication preference, academic skills background, and the type of academic program (e.g., undergraduate or graduate), b) the identification and defining of appropriate program accommodations; and c) the determination of what, if any, exam accommodations are 'reasonable' to provide for deaf and hard of hearing students.

### **Summer Institute for Teaching Assistants, Transliterators, and Interpreters**

We will be offering a 5-day summer institute from August 15 - 20, 2004 designed to enhance the skills and knowledge of participants by exposing them to current language development

theory and practical teaching is the use of sign language. Contact us for details.

### **Sensitivity and Communication Workshop with Cindy Gordon**

May 05, 2004, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm,  
Room 5-114H, Education North

This workshop is on hearing loss and communication strategies. It is offered during Hearing and Speech Awareness Month. This workshop is free of charge and open to all. Please register with [cindy@bridgessupport.com](mailto:cindy@bridgessupport.com)

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