

2019 NeAD/neRID Joint Conference

NeAD/neRID Conference June 21 and 22
Country Inn Suites by Radisson
Lincoln North Hotel and Conference Center
5353 N. 27th Street Lincoln NE 68521 402-476-5353

Friday June 21

8:00 AM -12:00 PM NeAD Business Meeting/Reports/
Bylaws
12:00 PM – 2:00 PM Lunch on your own
2:00 PM – 4:00 PM Youth Workshop by Melissa Yingst
4:00 PM – 6:00 PM Dinner on your own
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM neRID/NeAD Panel*
8:00 PM – 10:00 PM Social/Dessert/ASL Story Night

Saturday, June 22

8:00 AM – 11:00 AM Workshop by Melissa Yingst:
Working Together in Solidarity*
11:00 AM – 12:00 PM neRID Business Meeting
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM Lunch (box lunch)
1:00 PM – 4:00 PM Workshop: Gretchen Brown-
Waech: Human Trafficking- It's Not Like the Movies!*

1:00 PM – 5:00 PM NeAD Business Meeting/Election
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM Banquet/Awards
8:00 PM – 10:00 PM Game/Social

**RID CEUs available*

Workshop: neRID/NeAD Panel: Connect, Learn, Grow

June 21, 2019 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Join panelists Cody McEvoy, Mack Weyers, Harley Augensen, Katrina Watton, Rachel Hoyer, Kristina Dalen and Debbie Smith in a discussion of interpreter issues from the perspective of the interpreter and the consumer. Panel mediators Meghann Cassidy and Carly Hiser will present a series of established questions to the panel members. Panel members have been chosen to represent general, business and educational situations where interpreters are involved.

*Intepretek is an Approved RID CMP Sponsor for continuing education activities.
This Professional Studies program is offered for 0.2 CEUs at the Little/None Content Knowledge Level.*

Workshop: Community Building: Working Together in Solidarity

June 22, 2019 8:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Participants will:

- 1) Explore the differences between being an ally compared to the meaning of a community with solidarity
- 2) Observe different situations and scenarios of communities working together in solidarity
- 3) Analyze the dynamics of power and privilege
- 4) Debate different scenarios and critique the use of community solidarity

*Intepretek is an Approved RID CMP Sponsor for continuing education activities.
This Professional Studies program is offered for 0.3 CEUs at the Little/None Content Knowledge Level.
This workshop is approved as a Power, Privilege, and Oppression learning activity.*

Workshop: Human Trafficking: It's Not Like the Movies!

June 22, 2019 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Interpreters are likely to observe nuances of behavior that others may miss. We will discuss the 5 Ws of human trafficking: What it is, who it happens to, where it happens, why it happens and how we can work together to prevent it and to help survivors of trafficking in our own communities while abiding by the CPC in our professional roles.

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Biographies

Melissa Elmira Yingst

All communities have hidden narratives, and Melissa Elmira Yingst is all about finding and bringing awareness to them, especially when they celebrate women and muxeristas.

As a child in Southern California, she sought for deep connections with other people. As she grew, she realized she wanted to do something more. She ventured off to Gallaudet University to earn her Bachelor's in Psychology, and to Arizona State University for her Master's in Social Work. Since then, she held different positions as a social worker and school counselor in New York City and Phoenix. She currently teaches at CSUN and works at Convo as an Outreach Strategist. She is a co-anchor for Tru Biz under the D-PAN umbrella. She recently completed her terms as a board member for Council de Manos and Deaf Women United, where she worked on numerous projects to dismantle white supremacy practices. She also is the co-founder of Alma de Muxeristas, an organization for muxeristas who are Deaf, Deaf Blind, Deaf Disabled, Late Deafened, or Hard of Hearing.

Now back home in Los Angeles with her signature red lipstick (which gives her powers) and her brown Chicana self, she is ready to take on the world with Melmira, her new show!

Gretchen Brown-Waech is the Victim Rights & Human Trafficking Coordinator with the Iowa Attorney General's Crime Victims Assistance Division (CVAD). She was the founding director of Deaf Iowans Against Abuse, serving Deaf survivors of domestic and sexual violence statewide for 8 years. In her present role at CVAD, she collaborates with other statewide organizations to develop and implement best practices and policies for victims of human trafficking and other violent crimes. This includes conducting presentations to raise awareness among community members, as well as targeted training for medical, law enforcement, and victim services providers. In everything she does, she strives for equity and survivor-centered action.

Cody McEvoy was born and raised the great state of Nebraska. He is the oldest of three siblings who are all Deaf. Though the rest of his family is hearing he feels fortunate to have both hearing and Deaf members in his family. After high school, he attended the Rochester Institute of Technology in New York for four years and earned a degree in Psychology. Upon graduating he relocated to New England where he was employed for four years at the American School for the Deaf (ASD). His position under the Behavioral program at ASD provided him an opportunity to work as a one-on-one staff member as well as a staff member in the boys dormitory. His other duties at ASD included working with the international residential students from United Arab Emirates and Pakistan. Finally, after leaving Nebraska eight years ago, Cody recently relocated back to Nebraska and started a new position with the Nebraska Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing as an Advocacy Specialist.

Mack Weyers is a deaf individual who came from an all Deaf family minus one sister who is hearing. He grew up in Waverly, Nebraska, but currently living in Ashland, Nebraska. He is a father to three beautiful children. His son Tyson, who is eight-years-old, and his two daughters Delia, who is five, and Ayla who just turned one. The also recently added a new member of the family, Bacon the piglet. Mack has many years of experience in construction, pouring concrete, and handy work. Anything that needs installed or assembled, he is your guy. His current position is with HVAC systems. Finally, he is a die-hard Cornhuskers fan. His hobbies include hunting, fishing, camping and playing basketball.

Harley Augensen is a former linguist with the U.S. Air Force. Currently enrolled in the University of Nebraska Omaha's Interpreter Training Program, she will graduate in 2020. Mrs. Augensen is the co-founder of a mentoring group for students within her field at the University. She enjoys crochet, hockey, and training her new puppy.

Katrina Watton, NIC, KQAS, EIPA has been a professional sign language interpreter for 8 years. She was born and raised in Fremont, NE and attended Bethel college in Mishawaka, IN. There she received a BA in Sign Language Interpreting and an AA in Criminal Justice.

Katrina has worked in a wide variety of freelance settings, as well as VRS, although her passion lies in the legal field. She is currently involved in “Project CLIMB”, a year-long legal training program through the University of Northern Colorado.

In her free time, Katrina likes to be outdoors with her daughter and twin boys, whom she enjoys homeschooling, or taking on any extra education opportunities she can.

Rachel Hoyer is a sophomore in college at Metropolitan Community College, she will be at the University of Nebraska Omaha in the fall. After a couple years of changing her mind, Rachel is finally pursuing a degree in Business Administration with a concentration in Human Resources. She is excited to only have two years left of school and to graduate with her Bachelor’s. As well as going to school, she also works at a childcare center as an Infant Teacher, caring for three-month-old to eighteen-month-old babies. For fun, Rachel likes to play with her husky, Zelda, spend time with her family and walk around downtown Omaha enjoying the beautiful weather.

Kristina Dalen is native to Council Bluffs, Iowa. She graduated from the Interpreter Training Program at Iowa Western Community College in 2009. Kristina began working for Iowa Western Community College upon graduation until 2012. Since 2012 she has been working as the Educational Sign Language Interpreter position at the Iowa School for the Deaf. Kristina also has experience working as a Video Relay Interpreter for Interpretek, and Sorenson Relay Services. She has three sons, two of which are still at home and one whom now lives on his own. Their family has a lab/husky mix, Grizzly. One of her favorite things to do is to spend time outdoors.

Debbie Smith, M.A., CCC-A is an Audiologist who serves as a Parent-Infant Specialist at Boys Town National Research Hospital. Debbie has over 30 years of experience and provides home-based family intervention using a family-centered coaching model. She holds degrees in communication disorders and audiology. In addition, she completed Post Graduate studies specializing in early intervention with families who have young children who are deaf or hard of hearing. She has a wide range of expertise with particular specialization in hearing technology, teaching sign language to families of young children, educational decision-making, and orientation of childcare and early childhood providers to working with children who are deaf or hard of hearing.

Meghann Cassidy received her A.A.S. degree in Sign Language Interpreting from Iowa Western Community College in 2000 and a B.A. in General Studies with an emphasis in Criminal Justice from the University of Nebraska at Omaha in 2015. Meghann obtained Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf certification in 2006. She has worked in various settings throughout her career: Post-secondary, theatrical, and video relay service. Meghann has had the privilege to be involved with neRID in the past as Executive Director, Member-at-Large, and Vice President. She currently serves as the Metro Area Representative for neRID.

Carla Hiser earned her Associates of Applied Art in Early Childhood Education from the Metro Community College in Omaha, NE. She continued her education at the University of Nebraska Omaha and earned her Bachelor of Applied Arts Degree in Multidisciplinary Studies. Following graduation Carla has worked as a paraprofessional at the Iowa School for the Deaf. She has worked with children from infancy to fifteen-years-old. She also has a daughter, Caitlin who is twenty-one-years old. Her favorite quote is “A person is a person no matter how small” by author Dr. Seuss.

