

INTERPRETERS NEWSLETTER

MAY 2005

BACHELOR COLLEGE DIPLOMA TRAINING



Diploma students with Lecturer Sumati Chakravarti on their training block in April at Lotteries House in Broome. (L-R)George Lee, Ronnie Jimbidie, Heather Umbagai, Sumati Chakravarti, May Melpi, Anne Lenard, Stephanie Boombi, Kim Aldus, Janet Oobagooma & Margaret Ford.

Ten KIS Interpreters have almost come to the end of their training . There are two more blocks in May and June before the interpreters complete their Diploma of Interpreting from which they will get NAATI accreditation.

During the training in Broome at the beginning of April the students worked really hard. They visited Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Service (KAMS) students and talked about the importance of using interpreters with health clients.

They also visited the Broome detectives and discussed using interpreters when the police take witness statements and for the police caution. The police were very pleased with the interpreters they have used from KIS in the past.

A visit was also made to the Centrelink office in Broome where they talked about the difficulties with using

family members for interpreting Centrelink business.

Soon we will be looking for more people to do the Diploma which starts in the second half of this year.

INTERPRETING TRAINING WITH KIMBERLEY COLLEGE OF TAFE

KIS interpreters have a lot of training needs - diploma of interpreting, specialist training and training for facilitators. We have been talking to all of the training organisations in the Kimberley and also Batchelor in the NT over the past couple of years looking for an organisation to provide high quality training for KIS interpreters. Kimberley College of TAFE has committed to providing training for interpreters in the future. The first project will be a partnership arrangement between Batchelor and Kimberley TAFE to deliver the diploma in the second half of this year. We will be working out the details of specialist training over the next few months.

The Kimberley Language Resource Centre is celebrating its **21st Anniversary**. There are a number of ongoing and planned language projects for 2005, including a film documentary that will tell the history of the KLRC through the people and communities involved in language work over the past 21 years.

Language projects are taking place with the Warrwa, Mangala, Worla, Kija, Jaru, Wanyjirra, Wangkajunga, Walmajarri and Worrorra language groups. There are also plans for further work with these language groups as well as with the Gooniyandi, Bunuba, Kukatja, Nyikina, Ngarinyin, Kwini, Wunambal and Gaamberra language communities.

Language work cannot happen without the involvement of community people. The KLRC carries out community driven projects, which means that the community people from the language groups above are committed to working on language in their community. The types of projects happening now, or being planned, are: language reading and writing workshops; language worker skills training; language teacher linguistic workshops; wordbooks; plants, animals and fish projects on country; alphabet books; music workshops; oral histories; dreamtime stories.

You can contact KLRC on ph 08 9168 6005, fax 91686023, PMB 11, Halls creek, WA 6670.

DARWIN MEETING

In March Lesley went to a meeting in Darwin. There were people from Batchelor, Northern Territory Interpreting Service , Aboriginal Interpreting Service, interpreters and the woman who is writing the new interpreter training course Susan Briggs. They discussed the new training course and made sure that the needs of Aboriginal interpreters were thought about. The new training course will be ready in 2007.

CROSS CULTURAL TRAINING

In March the KIS Steering Committee , David Newry, chairman of Mirima Dawang Worlab - Gerring Language and Culture Centre, June Oscar, Chairperson of KLRC, Lesley Baxter, KIS Coordinator, Keeley Palmer, Patsy Bedford, Siobhan Casson, Community Linguist and Annette Chunuma met with Matthew Wrigley from Rockpool communications for a one and a half day workshop on cross cultural training.

The purpose of the workshop was to talk about whether KIS wants to do Cross Cultural Training as a part of its business.

We know that many people need and want the training so that they can work better with everyone in the Kimberley. Cross Cultural Training would also mean more work for interpreters. The meeting decided that planning would start for Cross Cultural sessions over the next few months.

CENTRELINK

KIS has put in a proposal to start a trial project in Kununurra with interpreters working in the Centrelink office. This will be for 3 half days a week for Centrelink Aboriginal clients. The interpreters will work in Murrinh-patha, Miriwoong and Kriol.

It has been quiet with jobs over the wet season but business is building up again. In the first 4 months of this year there have been interpreting jobs in the following languages : Walmajarri, Ngarinyin, Kija, Kriol, Jaru, Kukatja, and Murrinh-patha.

The people we have been working for are Kimberley Land Council, Northern Land Council, Derby Police, Argyle Diamond Mine, Ministry of Justice, Aged Care, Aboriginal Interpreting Service in Darwin, Karrayili Adult Education Centre, Lingiari Foundation and a private individual for court in Darwin.

Thankyou and keep up the good work!

TRAINING IN BROOME



In March , Diploma students had a meeting in Broome with Patrick Dodson, June Oscar and their lecturer Sumati Chakravarti. Patrick Dodson spoke about the importance of using Interpreters in many different situations.

JUSTICE....KIS is still in contact with the Magistrate about getting interpreters in the courts throughout the Kimberley.

For the past year we have been talking to Antoine Bloemen and wrote a proposal to him in March 2005. Last week Antoine rang KIS to say that he is working with people in the Department Of Justice to get funding for these interpreters.

MARKETING

KIS wants to make a video about interpreting to show community people what the job of an interpreter is, what rules they have to work with and how to use interpreters for better communication.

We are also making a new poster to advertise KIS in communities and government departments. It will be a poster showing KIS interpreters working. Please ring or send any good photos to Dee at kis.bookings@westnet.com.au

IMPORTANT...ALL INTERPRETERS

Can you please let KIS know if you're leaving your community, or are moving around. It will make it easier to find you .

You can call us on the KIS free call number, **1800 330 331**.

Also please ring us when you've finished your job.

We need to know how long you worked for so we can pay you .