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Director's Message

A Guide for Living

The Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (RID) Code of Professional Conduct (CPC) is a guide to assist professional interpreters in using critical thinking skills to make ethical

decisions. According to Stephen D. Brookfield, a professor in the Department of Higher and Adult Education at Columbia University and author of *Developing Critical Thinkers: Challenging Adults to Explore Alternative Ways of Thinking and Acting*, is "...learning to think critically is one of the most significant activities of adult life."

Our mission and goal at the VRS Interpreting Institute (VRSII) is to encourage all participants to incorporate CTS, as Brookfield describes it, into their own personal and professional lives – to explore ways of teaching and learning that have never been done before. Through this exploration we can take risks, learn from our mistakes and successes and value the experience.

I challenge you to step "out of the box," leave your comfort zone, come to the VRSII and learn to use CTS in your lives. Just as the CPC is a guide for interpreting, CTS can be a guide for living.

Earn College or CEU Credit

The VRSII, in partnership with the University of Arizona, offers college credit for graduate and undergraduate courses. Many VRSII courses also provide Continuing Education Units (CEUs). Courses are offered for American Sign Language and interpreter educators and students. To learn more about VRSII courses, send an email to vrsii@sorenson.com or visit www.vrsii.com/training. Visit the website during January to access the 2012 VRSII course schedule.



2011 School-to-Work Program Graduates

Interpreter Educators Symposium Scheduled for March

The VRSII believes interpreter educator leadership shapes the knowledge, skills and personal attributes of future interpreters who will provide outstanding interpreting services to the deaf community.

In support of this philosophy, the VRSII will host its first Interpreter Educators Symposium from March 7 to 11, 2012, in Salt Lake City. Symposium speakers will include nationally-known trainers Carol Patrie, Marty Taylor and Sharon Neumann Solow.

"We are very excited to offer this unique educational opportunity for interpreter educators. The courses will be outstanding," says Carolyn Ball, Executive Director of the VRSII.

Further information will be forthcoming in January. Save the dates for this exceptional event.



VRS Interpreting Institute, Salt Lake City

School-to-Work Application Now Available

The VRSII School-to-Work Program, highly acclaimed by program graduates, will be offered again June 20 through Sept. 14, 2012. Application forms are now available on the VRSII website at www.vrsii.com/training.

The School-to-Work Program provides a course of study designed to assist recent IEP graduates in obtaining additional supervised experiences to gain the practical skills necessary to pass the National Interpreter Certification Interview and Performance tests to gain successful employment in the field of interpreting. This is achieved through a structured, 12-week internship as well as specifically designed classes and lab assignments. For more information, send an email to vrsii@sorenson.com.