Interpreting & Translation Research Group

Weekly Seminar Series

Reflections on Critical Link 6, 2010: Ethics; mediation; research

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UWS Interpreting and Translation Research Group

The 6th Critical Link conference held at Aston University in Birmingham in July 2010 demonstrated both continuities with the broad-ranging issues of previous Critical Links, and some significant advances in research, practice and theorising in a number of crucial areas. After giving a brief background to the Critical Link movement, Uldis will discuss:

The ethical turn. While papers on ethics were few and discussion of ethics patchy in previous Critical Links, Aston saw a significant numbers of research-based and theoretically mature papers on ethical issues, with some striking contributions in ethics and mental health, police investigations, immigration, Codes, and pedagogy of ethics.

Mediation. The issue of role of interpreters has been a mainstay of Critical Link, with the very first Critical Link in 1995 staging a legendary debate on interpreting and advocacy. It can be observed that advocacy has almost evaporated as an object of research or interest, but the issue of mediation, as practiced particularly in Mediterranean and some other European countries, raises some novel issues in the relation between interpreting and other bilingual work.

A growing research community is clearly developing; and although some research heavyweights were not present at CL6 (eg Angelelli, Hale, Kelly, Niska, Pochhacker…) this seemed to have given space to numerous very impressive contributions from new researchers, with Lund (Sweden), various universities in the UK and Mediterranean countries leading the way and serious contributions emerging from Japan; while there is continuing strong Sign Language interpreting research from the USA, UK and Australia.

The seminar will finish with a brief introduction to the newly formed Critical Link International organisation, which will provide a more permanent structure to Critical Link.

Thursday 16 September, 2010
1 to 2pm – Building 23: BA.23.G.40
Bankstown campus, UWS

Please RSVP to itrg@uws.edu.au

Coming up:

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<th>30 September</th>
<th>Beyond linguistic competence: Socio-cultural competence in translation</th>
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<tr>
<td>1-2 pm</td>
<td>Dr Ping Yang</td>
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<tr>
<td>BA.23.G.40</td>
<td>Lecturer in Linguistics, UWS School of Humanities and Languages</td>
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<td>Member of Interpreting and Translation Research Group</td>
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Attendance at this seminar series entitles AUSIT members to 10 PD points