

Training for Sign Language Teachers and Sign Interpreters in the Netherlands

In the Netherlands we have a four year bachelor education program, where we teach Interpreters and Teachers of Sign Language of the Netherlands. The program was established in 1997, and now is completing its 4th curriculum change. In 2009 we started to align our curriculum to the CEFR : Common European Framework of Reference for Languages. The CEFR distinguishes three language levels for learners of a foreign language: A1/2 (Beginner), B1/2 (Intermediate) and C1/2 (Proficient). The CEFR does not prescribe any didactic method, but we have followed its advice to provide an action-oriented approach, which is anchored to real-live situations and assignments for the learners. In my lecture I will briefly explain the CEFR and how we tried to implement it in our curriculum; also I will provide preliminary results as to the language levels of the students upon graduation. Besides learning a new language (NGT) from scratch, our students also need to be trained as teachers or as interpreters. Of course, four years is not enough time to both master a new language and become an expert in either teaching or interpreting, but this is the allocated time provided in tertiary professional education in the Netherlands. This means that our students, upon graduations, are deemed to be fluent enough in NGT and proficient enough in their professional skills to start working in the field, but they will still need Continued Professional Education. I will talk briefly about SL provisions for the Deaf in the Netherlands also, and about 'efsl'i'.

Date : 24 October 2014 (Friday)

Time : 6:00 - 7:30 pm

Venue : The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Fee : HK\$200

Language : Conducted in English; Cantonese and HKSL interpretation will be provided

Organized by:



ABSTRACT

SPEAKER



Beppie van den Bogaerde

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Beppie van den Bogaerde started out as a teacher/translator/interpreter in English, and later studied General Linguistics at University of Amsterdam, where she obtained her doctoral degree in 2000, on a study titled "Input and Interaction in deaf families".

She has worked at the University of Amsterdam on and off, and is the professor of Sign Language of the Netherlands (NGT) there since 2013. In 1997 she started work at the Hogeschool Utrecht, University of Applied Sciences. She is one of the developers of its bachelor programs for teacher and interpreter of NGT, as well as the master program for Deaf Studies. She is a teacher, researcher and supervisor, and has close connections to the Deaf Community in the Netherlands. She is a fervent advocate of sign language input (or rather: bilingual bimodal input) to all deaf children and has a special interest in the language acquisition of hearing children of deaf parents (kodas). Her latest interests focus on the development of a CEFR for signed languages in general, and specifically SL for professional purposes, in close collaboration with international colleagues (ECML project PRO-Sign, including a description of assessment methods for L2 sign language learners.

REGISTRATION

please submit the registration form through email (seminar@cslsds.org) or fax (3943 4179) on or before **20 Oct 2014.**