

Sally Gillespie

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PERSONAL PROFILE

EDUCATION

2012-ongoing Queen's University Belfast, School of Modern Languages
PhD in Translation
(Funded by Dept. of Employment and Learning)

Thesis Title: Linguistics, Demographic and Deficit of Opportunity; Deaf
Sign Language Users in Northern Ireland

Supervisor: Prof. David Johnston

Brief Synopsis: Rudimentary data, necessary for assessing the provision of appropriate services for deaf sign language users, is currently unknown. Through this research I have developed a digital spatial analysis model, using GIS technology, to combine existing piecemeal data to reveal trends in the population size, distribution and language profile of deaf sign language users. I have also developed a 'look up' resource for identifying the resource of signed language interpreters across the province. By combining the results of both these models the research created the opportunity to better understand the demand for signed language provision in Northern Ireland, the current availability of resources to meet this demand and, through the research, to better understand the impact, on deaf sign language users, of the current imbalance between demand and resource.

2007-2010 University of Wolverhampton
BA(hons) Interpreting (BSL/English)
First Class

Dissertation Title: Access to Medical Services for BSL users in Northern
Ireland- an ideal situation?

2000-2010 Strathearn School, Belfast
3 'A levels' Geography (A), Technology and Design (A),
Physics (B)
1 'AS Level' Maths (A)

QUALIFICATIONS

NVQ6 Diploma in Sign Language Interpreting (2013), SQA Deaf Awareness (2012), ECDL Certificate (2011)

EMPLOYMENT

2015-present	Self employed; CPD Trainer
2014-present	Queen's University Belfast; Teaching Assistant
2011-present	Self employed; Sign Language Interpreter (BSL/English)
2010-2012	Deaf Action; In house interpreter (BSL/English)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

World Association of Sign Language Interpreters (2014-present)
Sign Language Linguistic Society (2012-present)
Scottish Association of Sign Language Interpreters (2012-2013)
British Deaf Association (2011-present)
National Register Communication Professionals (2010- present)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

My specialist research interest is in the interpretation and translation of British Sign Language, however more widely my interests include non language specific interpretation, deaf studies, international signed language and sociology through spatial reference and GIS.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Sessional teaching assistant for core modules on the MA Interpreting course at Queen's University Belfast
- Coursework second marking for MA Interpreting
- Course developer and CPD trainer for interpreters, "Co-working for Sign Language Interpreters"
- Visiting teacher for one session, Universidad Federal de Santa Catarina, Brazil, "Letras LIBRAS Poesia"

ADMINISTRATION

- Self discipline throughout the PhD studentship
- Sole conference organiser for Recognition of Signed Languages in the UK and Ireland, 2013
- Co conference organiser for Connecting Communities, 2015
- Manager of multiple funding streams and bursaries as conference organiser
- Sits on the board of directors for charitable organisation, The Dock.

SKILLS

IT

- Proficient with both Mac and Windows operating systems on computer, tablets and smartphones
- Confident working with media files and associated specialist software, eg. Photoshop, Garageband, iMoves, Movie Maker.

- Proficient using text, data and presentation specific software, eg. Word, Pages, Excel, Numbers, Powerpoint and Keynote.
- Confident using research specific software, eg. RefWorks and Scrivener
- Skilled in using ArcGIS Pro, mapping software.

COMMUNICATIONS

- Confident and accomplished orator and frequently making presentations to academic and professional audiences
- Proficient in many means of correspondence including video calling and messaging (Skype, FaceTime, SignVideo), voice messaging, (WhatsApp), text based communication (SMS, email, mail) and social media (LinkedIn, Twitter)
- Flexible to achieve communication regardless of language barriers

MANAGEMENT

- Comfortable working within a team under instruction and in a position of leadership
- Equally comfortable working independently without supervision
- Thrives balancing multiple demands simultaneously

CONFERENCES ATTENDED

- 2015 Connecting Communities, (UFSC, Brazil)
Organiser, presenter, chair
Paper title: *Politics of Recognition*
- 2015 Transatlantic Communities, (Vigo, Spain)
Paper title: *Dog v Dawg- why do Northern Irish sign language users sign with an American twang?*
- 2015 Territories of Understanding, (QUB)
Paper title: *Why don't I belong? Inability to Assimilate into the Culture into which you are born: Deaf culture as an indigenous minority*
- 2014 Visual Language Professionals, (Birmingham, UK)
Keynote title: *When Theory Meets Practice Exciting Things Happen*
- 2014 Community Interpreting, (Trinity College Dublin, Ireland)
Paper title: *Demographics, Resources and Deficit of Opportunity: deaf sign language users in Northern Ireland*
- 2013 Theory and Practice; New Convergences, (QUB)
Paper title: *Understanding the Target Audience: demographics and interpreting*
- 2013 Recognition of Sign Languages in UK and Ireland, (QUB)
Organiser, presenter, chair
Paper title: *Recognition By What Measure?*
- 2012 TISLR 11, (University College London, UK)
Poster title: *Exploring Language Preference within the Deaf Community of Northern Ireland*
- 2012 International Association for Translation and Intercultural Studies, (QUB)
Conference assistant

Attended only

2015 Visual Language Professionals, (Birmingham, UK)

2013 In and Beyond the Americas; Mexico and Brazil in a Changing World,
(QUB)

2010 European Forum of Sign Language Interpreters, (Glasgow)

PUBLICATIONS

British Deaf History Society (*pending publication*)

FUNDING AND AWARDS

Department of Employment and Learning- PhD studentship (2012-2015)

Santander Mobility Scholarship (2013/14)- Travel Bursary for Brazil

Santander Mobility Scholarship (2014/15)- Travel Bursary for Brazil

I managed funding and sponsorship, secured from multiple sources, to assist in the organisation of the conferences, Signed Languages in the UK and Ireland (2013) and Connecting Communities (2015).

REFERENCES

David Johnston, Queen's University Belfast

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Relationship: Supervisor

Piotr Blumczynski, Queen's University Belfast

p.blumczynski@qub.ac.uk

Relationship: Second supervisor