

## BOOK REVIEW

**Embracing the Value of Deaf Interpreting at Work**

Adam, R., Stone, C., Collins, S. D., and Metzger, M. (2014). *Deaf Interpreters at Work: International Insights*. Washington, DC: Gallaudet University Press. 180 pages. Hardcover. \$70.00.

The concept of Deaf interpreting (DI) is not new, but misconceptions and uncertainty persist regarding the skills and strategies necessary to become a Deaf interpreter. This research-based book provides a snapshot of current research on DI influenced from different theoretical frameworks and different methodologies. It is a timely book due to the growing discussion of DI in the field of interpreting and translation. At the national and international levels, as well as in social media, Deaf interpreters are becoming more visible. In addition to the first national conference on DI held in the United States in 2015, DI is now a theme throughout the interpreting and Deaf communities. This book discusses the emerging research on DI, in hopes of resolving misconceptions about it, as well as helping practitioners and trainers to foster better relationships between Deaf and hearing interpreters.

This book opens with a description of Deaf interpreters and their roles, as well as showing visually how they are positioned in various interpreting settings. An overview of research to date is provided, along with the concept behind DI, and an introduction to the terminology used throughout the book.

Although different topics are discussed, one intriguing study explored the strategies that are employed by Deaf-Deaf interpreter teams. This study could help Deaf interpreters to better work together by incorporating those strategies. Another study examined the power dynamic of teams with both hearing and Deaf interpreters that could help resolve the challenges of Deaf and hearing interpreters working together. From an international perspective, another study focused on the challenges of developing national DI testing instruments, assessment processes, and standards. Other studies focused on a framework for conversational practices during teaming,

the nature of adverbial use in tactile American Sign Language between deafblind individuals, and linguistic strategies used by Deaf and non-Deaf teams in conference interpreting. All topics in this book are unique and this kind of knowledge will certainly serve to better help train teamers to work together effectively.

Although this book presents interesting research on DI, some studies were limited due to having only a few participants and several strayed from the main topic of DI. For a more comprehensive understanding, a larger variety of perspectives from more Deaf interpreters are needed. Further research and discussion in both the academic and Deaf communities will help clarify the role of DI and as Deaf interpreters continue to gain a more prominent place in the world of sign language interpreting.

Even though research on DI is still new, this book has begun the exploration of DI. Readers will gain insight into what tools and strategies Deaf interpreters utilize and how to train hearing and Deaf interpreters to work together effectively. The findings in this volume can now inform the training, accreditation, and continued development of DI around the world. This book will also pave the way for scholars to do more research in the field of DI. This book is recommended for practitioners and educators in Interpreting Training Programs in order to better train future Deaf interpreters as well as help hearing interpreters on how to best work with Deaf interpreters.

Jason D. Listman  
National Technical Institute for the Deaf  
Rochester Institute of Technology