



ASSOCIATION OF SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS OF NIGERIA (ASLIN)
IN COLLABORATION WITH STACI PAISLEY A PROFESSIONAL SIGN
LANGUAGE INTERPRETER FROM USA.

REPORT OF TRAINING WORKSHOP FOR
SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS IN
NIGERIA:
25th – 27th May, 2009

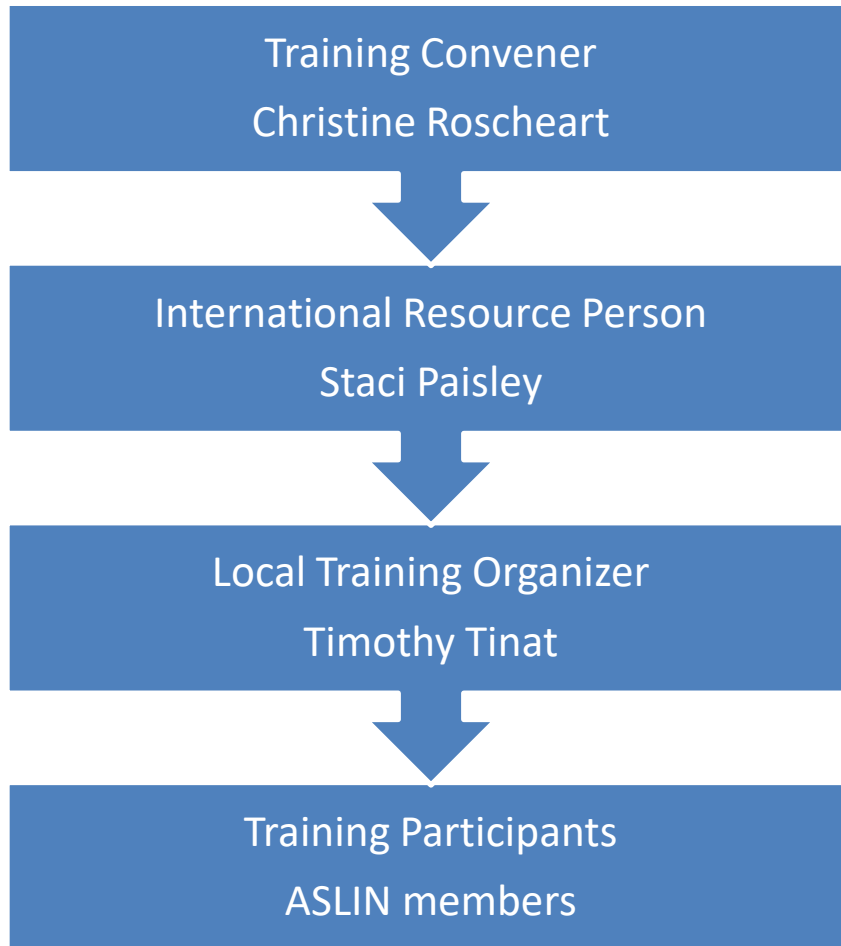
ABOUT NIGERIA/ASLIN

- Nigeria has the total population of about 150 million with 19 million of this number being person with disability.
- Nigeria is located in West Africa bordering the Gulf of Guinea; Niger & Chad (North), Benin (West) and Cameroon East.
- Climatic condition: Equatorial in south, Tropical in Center arid in north.
- Has no disability Law in place, but signatory to UN Convention on Right of Persons with Disability.
- Has 22 institutions relating to education of persons with disability including deaf, both at primary and higher institutions of Learning.
- No much materials available for Sign Language research.
- Before now there was no any formal training held for Sign Language Interpreters.

The Workshop

- The training workshop was organized by Christine Roscheart a deaf blind Canadian through the resource of Staci Spicley an American Professional Interpreter. Christine Roscheart came to Nigeria as a volunteer working with Voluntary Services Overseas.
- As her over sight function she discover the absence of trained interpreters in Nigeria she opted to discussed with her intervener for a short time training to members of ASLIN.
- ASLIN which is the Association of Sign Language Interpreters in Nigeria, came across Christine Roscheart through Timothy Tinat the Secretary of the Association who in turn coordinated the training workshop .
- The structure of the workshop was in these from:

WORKSHOP ORGANIZED STRUCTURE.



Training Support organizations.

- VSO
- University of Jos.

Group Picture of Workshop Participants



Brief Workshop Topics

- Day ONE
 - Our Consumer
 - Breaking False Beliefs
 - Cross Cultural Dynamics
 - Oppression of Interpreters
- Day TWO
 - The Professionalism of Interpreting
 - First Things First
 - Why We Do What We Do
 - Processing
- Day THREE
 - Interpreting Setting
 - Making a Career of Interpreting

Some Things To Consider...

“All studies provided here is based on research done in the United States and Canada.

The field here in Nigeria is prime for data collection and research. It is also highly needed! This is a venture for anyone who wishes to study Linguistics, Anthropology, Interpreting, Diversity/Human Rights, and Education”. Staci Spisley

OUR CHALLENGES

- The major challenge we had was in the area of workshop venue which was later relocated to women model center.
- Low turn out of funding from ASLIN members this affected our logistics.
- Lack of proper communication, participants did not get their invitation letters on time to raise funds.
- Instability of electricity has affected lecture presentations.
- Lack of funding has affected measure activities in the training workshop.

OUR SUCCESS.

- In spite the challenges there was turn out of about 16 invited participants.
- Almost all the geo-political zones were represented.
- The workshop training secretariat was able to source for funds among members, Rev. Athanasius Dapul volunteered his vehicle to convey participants from Hotel to workshop venue.
- Maxwell Provided a stand by Generator set to handle the power supply.
- Certificate of participant where given to participants.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- There should be an immediate and long time training for Nigeria interpreters.
- The University of Jos Special Education Department needs a team of professional interpreters to help in developing a curriculum and setting up an interpreter training course in the department.
- For ASLIN to grow it needs mentoring from other stronger Associations around the world and ASLIN member should be able to attain other international trainings and workshops.

Reporter



- Timothy Tinat.
ASLIN Secretary.