

Interpreting Studies at University of Birmingham

Call for participants – Understanding UK public service interpreter’s experience and wellbeing

Responding to Lord Wolfson’s review, this research seeks to understand UK public service interpreter’s experience and wellbeing, especially since the outsourcing of interpreting services.

Rationale

Recent pilot studies (Yuan 2022a, 2022b) have shown that UK public service interpreters’ interpreting experiences, and how interpreters manage emotionally charged and/or ethically challenging situations while facilitating interlingual communication constitute under-studied areas. Furthermore, the profound impacts induced by outsourcing interpreting to private agents on interpreter’s individual experience and wellbeing, and on public service interpreting as a profession also need urgent investigation. To achieve a more in-depth understanding of these issues, one-to-one interviews will be conducted with professional interpreters who are registered with NRPSI and have PSI experience for more than 5 years. Language pairs and areas of expertise are not restricted.

Participants will be compensated at a rate of £50 per hour for the interviews.

Interested eligible interpreters can contact the Principal Investigator Dr. Xiaohui Yuan via x.yuan@bham.ac.uk for further information. Please include in your email your language pair(s), areas of expertise, confirmation of your NRPSI membership and years of practice. Any further enquiries on the project or eligibility for participation are welcome.

Dr. Xiaohui Yuan is Associate Professor of Interpreting Studies at University of Birmingham. She leads the MA programme in Chinese-English Interpreting with Translation and has published a monograph and peer-reviewed articles on the sociological aspects of interpreting and translation practice. Prior to her academic career, she was an interpreter for the UN agencies in Geneva.