
NRPSI makes two new senior appointments

The National Register of Public Service Interpreters (NRPSI) has announced two new senior appointments: Stephen Bishop (right) as Executive Director and Silvina Katz as Non-Executive Practitioner Board Member. Stephen replaces Jessica Myint Thinn, who directed NRPSI's transformation programme during its critical first year, and will be responsible for delivering NRPSI's strategy to maintain and develop professional interpreting standards. Stephen has a background in professional publishing and extensive experience in serving the needs of practitioners pursuing CPD.

He said: 'I'm pleased to be joining an organisation that is so well regarded by its users. My aim is to maintain the rigour of the National Register and its regulation, while exploring ways that we can help interpreters to

enhance their professional skills.'

Silvina has more than 30 years' experience as an interpreter and translator, working for a range of organisations including the Police, Courts and Prison Service. She has worked as a language tutor for many years and as an associate university lecturer on DPSI courses specialising in Law and Health.

She said: 'I look forward to working with my colleagues on the Board and with Registrants to help NRPSI to maintain and develop professional standards, thereby protecting professional interpreters and the users of their services.'

Ted Sangster, Chair of NRPSI, added: 'We are delighted that Stephen and Silvina have joined us and look forward to working with them to build on the achievements we have enjoyed over the past year.'



Professional Conduct Committee

The ITI Professional Conduct Committee (PCC) is seeking new members – turn to the inside back cover for full details. The following statement of preferred composition is intended to guide the recruitment and selection of members of the PCC.

Ideally, members should include: a chair who has preferably both legal experience and experience in dispute resolution; at least two members with current legal experience as a solicitor, barrister, legal translator or court interpreter; and at least one member with experience of dealing with complaints against members of organisations.

We recognise that we may not always be able to meet the desired skills and experience required by the PCC from ITI's members. The PCC and Board therefore reserve the right to appoint independent members from outside ITI's membership base or to request specific legal support.

Composition of the PCC

Current members of the Board may not serve on the PCC, and applications from recently retired members are not encouraged. Individuals who have been

admonished or warned by the Committee may not serve on it, nor may anyone who has previously been expelled from ITI.

The role is unremunerated, but out-of-pocket expenses will be met as for any other ITI committee.

Due to the unpredictable nature of the Committee's work, members should be available to accept an assignment at short notice. Members should be willing to meet by teleconference, via Skype, face-to-face from time to time, and also occasionally on the fringes of ITI events.

All other things being equal, the PCC aims to have a broad balance between male and female members and between translators and interpreters.

PCC members' core competencies

Below is a list of competencies we expect from every member of the PCC:

- 1. Positive approach** Understands and shows a positive attitude towards the culture, values and objectives of ITI, and helps to promote them.
- 2. Specialist knowledge** Accumulates, keeps up to date with and applies specialist

translation and interpreting industry knowledge to the work of the PCC and ITI.

3. Self-management Has good organisational and line management skills. Is willing to abstain from controversial public debate within the Institute and the profession generally while in office.

4. Analysis and scrutiny Effectively evaluates and assesses data to determine the framework and content of decision-making and decisions.

5. Teamwork Works with others to accomplish objectives by respecting the needs and contributions of those involved. Sets themselves high standards, takes pride in their work and is clear about accountability. Listens to the views of others.

6. Decision-making Works with others to discuss issues and challenges effectively, and arrive at an agreed understanding of what needs to be done. Is able to reflect on the ramifications of decisions. Understands the need to act with resolve, while also considering the needs of a wide range of members. Recognises that as a PCC member they should be willing to take difficult decisions.