ASLTA and CIT Joint Statement

Introduction

This agreement outlines the roles and responsibilities for a mutually agreed collaborative exchange between American Sign Language Teachers Association (ASLTA) and Conference of Interpreter Trainers (CIT):

IN WHICH: the official languages for communication, in person and in writing between ASLTA and CIT are American Sign Language and written English respectively.

IN WHICH: the agreement recognizes that both parties are independent, non-profit organizations.

IN WHICH: the ASLTA President and CIT President (or their appointed representative(s)) represent the parties in this agreement.

IN WHICH: the agreement respects the parties’ respective missions.

IN WHICH: the agreement is presented as an agreement and is not intended to be legally binding.

Background

The establishment of a Collaborative Agreement between ASLTA and CIT is designed to be a national expression of support for the essential principles and values of signed languages and interpreter education, including:

- Respect and support for Deaf people’s right to effective and equitable communication access.
- A growth mindset as professionals, critical thinkers, and socially responsible citizens.
- Commitment to ongoing improvement for the quality of education for students using/learning American Sign Language for the purposes of educating or interpreting, or other careers using ASL.
Rationale

The purpose of this Collaborative Agreement is to establish a formal framework between ASLTA and CIT in the achievement of common objectives such as:

- Recognize that they share common values for promoting standards and professional development for American Sign Language and interpreter education.
- Promote an open collaborative exchange pertaining to signed languages and interpreter education activities.

Equity Statement

- Provide ongoing Deaf culture and multicultural competency training including Deaf and Deaf allyship (siblinghood), social justice, equity and liberation training.
- Value, recognize and support BIPOC students lived experience concerning diverse communities, Deaf people’s linguistic rights, and making connections with communities to preserve their signed languages.
- Elevate/Enhance students’ cultural experiences with positive experiences, and sensitivity to other communities and cultures.

Members

As our most valued resource of faculty, staff, and paraprofessional members are entitled to a safe, secure, and supportive work environment; a culture that recognizes excellence, encourages meaningful involvement in interest-based, decision-making process; and provides opportunities for professional development, service, and leadership.

Areas of support and promotion as agreed to by the two organizations.

ASLTA and CIT have therefore agreed on the following:

- Consultation and exchange of information.
- During each ASLTA conference, the parties will host an Open Forum for CIT and ASLTA representatives to present relevant information to conference delegates and address questions for each organization.
- During each CIT conference, the parties will host an Open Forum for CIT and ASLTA representatives to present relevant information to conference delegates and address questions for each organization.
• ASLTA will ensure the schedule at the ASLTA conference includes an opportunity for CIT to host track(s). CIT members may attend any workshop and are not limited to CIT only workshops.

• CIT will ensure the schedule at the CIT conference includes an opportunity for ASLTA to host track(s). ASLTA members may attend any workshop and are not limited to ASLTA only workshops.

• ASLTA and CIT will each appoint a liaison person from their board. The ASLTA Liaison and CIT Liaison will have regular videoconferencing meetings to ensure communication is open, allowing us to keep each other abreast of issues discussed at the regular monthly Board meetings, and to deal with any opportunities for shared work.

• During the ASLTA and CIT face-to-face board meetings, each organization will invite the liaison to attend a portion of the meeting via videoconferencing.

• During both ASLTA and CIT national conferences, both organizations will have an exhibition booth at no charges.

• ASLTA and CIT President’s (or a representative of the organization) registrations will be waived for ASLTA and CIT conferences.

• Introductions of ASLTA and CIT board members will be done at both conferences.

• ASLTA will donate a $1,000 sponsorship to CIT conference and CIT will donate a $1,000 to ASLTA conference if budget allows (optional) or an in-kind donation.

• ASLTA will receive one full page of free advertising space in the CIT program book and on the CIT conference website. CIT will receive one full page of free advertising space in the ASLTA program book and on the ASLTA conference website.

• ASLTA and CIT will share links to each other’s organization on their respective websites, Facebook, Twitter, and any other social media used by the CIT or ASLTA.

• ASLTA and CIT agree to share their e-newsletters with each other by posting on each other’s websites.

• ASLTA members shall receive member rate registration fees to attend CIT conferences and CIT members shall receive member rate registration fees to attend ASLTA conferences (following the posted conference timeline for early bird, regular, and late costs).

• On a regular basis, ASLTA will develop content for regular short email message to raise awareness of ASLTA and current events. CIT agrees to share that email with their members.
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ASLTA will recognize CIT Programs during their ASLTA conference.

CIT will recognize ASLTA Programs during their CIT conference.

During ASLTA or CIT conference the other organization will not host any workshops during the business meeting in respect of the importance of that meeting.

ASLTA and CIT will explore ways in which the organizations can cost-share. This could include but is not limited to: shared administrative aspects such as auditing fees, accounting fees, website hosting, and shared administration staff while maintaining the autonomy of the individual organization.

Each party agrees that it shall not at any time disclose to any person any confidential information concerning the activities, business, or affairs of the other party.

The parties agree and acknowledge that both the terms of this agreement and the discussions relating to the collaborative activity of the parties are confidential and neither party will disclose them without the prior written consent of the other party.

No party shall use or disclose any other party’s confidential information for any purpose other than to perform its obligations under this agreement.

The agreement shall become effective upon signature by the authorized representatives from the ASLTA and CIT will remain in effect unless it is revised or terminated in writing. The parties will review the cooperation agreement every two years.

By signing below, the Parties agree to the above roles and responsibilities outlined in the agreement.

There are no expressed or implied conditions, warranties, promises, representations, or obligations expressed through written, oral, or signed messages in relation to the agreement other than those explicitly stated in it or necessarily implied by non-profit organization statutes.

ASLTA President
Signed at: [Signature]
Date: 6/30/2020

CIT President
Signed at: [Signature]
Date: 6/30/20