WORKSHOPS
Monday July 1st, RMIT University

Half-day workshops are open to the general public (you can book into these workshops without attending the conference)

Morning Session: 9:00am - 12:00pm

Forensic Interviewing

Do you know how to be a good listener? Do you know how to elicit the most reliable information from a client or witness? Is your interviewing technique based on scientifically tested methods? This workshop will introduce the main concepts you need to improve interviewing in your professional practice, including:

-International best practice models of interviewing
-Planning an effective interview
-Question types
-Reliability of responses
-Contamination of evidence
-Topic management
-Closure
-Information management

Intended audience: legal practitioners, members of the judiciary, law enforcement and justice department agents, legal interpreters, students in related fields

Presented by: A/Prof Georgina Heydon

Plain Language Writing: Clarifying communication between the legal system and the the public

It is no secret that legal language is hard to understand for non-lawyers (and sometimes for lawyers). However, ignorance of the law is no defence, so there is a fundamental problem. Some of the complexity of legal language is a product of the complexity of some legal concepts, but it has been demonstrated often that much of the complexity is unnecessary. Legal contexts can introduce further impediments to communication

This session will:
-analyse some of the sources of the communication difficulty, provide an example and suggest some possible solutions
-participants will have the opportunity to workshop some legal language that is targeted at a lay audience, analysing the sources of difficulty, and then attempting to remedy them;
-participants will compare the results of their efforts and receive feedback

Intended Audience: anyone interested in lawyer-lay communication.

Presented by: Prof John Gibbons

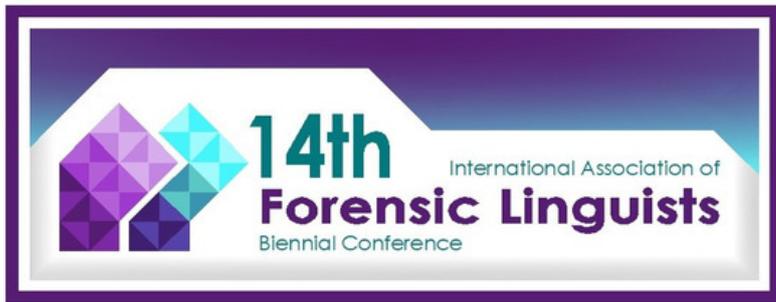### Forensic Transcription and Translation for Linguists

Transcription and translation of indistinct covert recordings used as evidence in criminal trials has been shown to be a major problem. For example, courts allow police transcripts to 'assist' juries' comprehension, with inadequate protection from misleading errors they might contain

The next question is: what alternative should linguists offer to ensure juries are always assisted by reliable and useful transcripts and translations? Transcription is an important tool in many branches of linguistics, especially phonetics and conversation analysis. However, forensic transcription is undertaken in very different circumstances. Most notably, 'ground truth' regarding their content is typically not available, and the transcript will be used in ways that are unusual in linguistics.

This workshop explores these issues in a way that contributes to improving both forensic transcription and translation, and theoretical understanding of the process and product of transcription.

Intended audience: Linguists at all levels

Presented by: Dr Helen Fraser

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14th International Association of Forensic Linguists Biennial Conference

Cost: 75 AUD per workshop. You can book one workshop per session. Book online at https://iaflconference2019.com/workshops/

Afternoon Session: 1:00pm - 4:00pm

Forensic Linguistics For Teachers

This hands on workshop presents a variety of methods for engaging students in the study of English language through forensic linguistics case studies and methods. The models for classroom exercises are suitable to use within secondary school English curricula at all levels and the English Language (VCE) curriculum as well as undergraduate linguistics courses. Teachers will be shown how to develop materials for a mock crime exercise involving authorship identification and how to use voice analysis to investigate the sounds of English.

The workshop will include collaborative learning opportunities and participants are encouraged to bring their own ideas for class projects to share and develop with peers.

Intended audience: Teachers of English and Linguistics

Presented by: A/Prof Georgina Heydon

Legal or Police Interpreting for both T&I and legal professionals

Are you a good interviewer? Do you have the interviewing techniques to elicit the most reliable information for the case at hand? If you answer is yes, think about when your interviewee doesn't speak the same language as you, and you have to work through an interpreter. Are you still confident the answers are still yes? This workshop will introduce the main concepts you need to improve interviewing in your professional practice, including:

-Interlingual challenges in legal discourse
-Concept of 'accuracy' in interpreting
-Speech styles and interpreting
-Challenges of interpreter-mediated interviews
-Planning an effective interpreter-mediated interview
-Achieving effective interpreter-mediated interviews

Intended Audience: legal practitioners, members of the judiciary, law enforcement and justice department agents, legal interpreters, students in related fields

Presented by: Dr Miranda Lai

Effective use of forensic speech recordings as evidence in criminal trials: Legal and scientific issues

Your brief includes covert recordings. The transcript shows they contain admissions that concern you – but is the transcript reliable? You listen to the audio: it is unintelligible (poor quality; foreign languages; maybe both). Then again, your ears aren't the best. When you check the enhanced version against the transcript, you can hear most of the key phrases. Surely the judge and jury will too – they'll have headphones. So should you spend time checking it out further? Or go along with it, directing limited resources to bigger issues? It's a judgment call, but there's some relevant science that can help you make the right decision.
Learn about it in this workshop, rather than in the rush of trial preparations..

Intended audience: legal practitioners, members of the judiciary, students in related fields

Presented by: Adjunct Professor Helen Fraser