The workplace interpreter’s role: ‘It’s not all about work!’

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The workplace is a complex and multi-layered environment, governed by implicit cultural norms and rules. In this highly specialised setting signed language interpreters are expected to shift roles between confidant, co-worker, interpreter, assistant and advocate, whilst having very little guidance on how to balance and maintain their professional and personal boundaries. Effective practice in this setting requires the interpreter to commit to working collaboratively with both Deaf and hearing employees. Exploring the challenges and dilemmas the workplace setting can present, I will reaffirm the need for the interpreter to be an integral, visible and active part of the communication process.

Lectures are held in MLC B-111 from 10:00-11:30 am.
Lectures are provided with ASL or English interpretation.
Required registration information: www.gallaudet.edu/guriec

Jules Dickinson is a scholar and experienced community interpreter based in the UK. Her PhD examined the ways that interpreters impact workplace interaction, with specific focus on humor and small talk in meetings. Jules continues to support the development of the interpreting profession in her roles as teacher, research-practitioner, and supervisor. In addition, she has published extensively on workplace interpreting.

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