

“Receptive Skills, Can You Understand Me Now?”

Bio of Bill Ross and Workshop Description:

William F. Ross III, a child of Deaf parents, has been interpreting for over 22 years and holds dual certification from the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf. He has a Master of Science Degree in Special Education from Southwest Missouri State University. Mr. Ross is currently employed at North Carolina School for the Deaf as Director of Communication Access Support Services (CASS) Department. Previously, he was employed as a staff/community interpreter with the Massachusetts Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. In addition, he has been an instructor at multiple college and universities. He has presented nationwide and has several publications to his credit.

Description:

This workshop focuses on the improvement of visual receptive language skills among sign language interpreters. Many interpreters for the Deaf today acquire American Sign Language (ASL) as a second language; the ability to understand sign language is critical to a comprehensive understanding and interpretation of the signed message. Providing interpreters with the tools needed to identify areas of concern will aid them in building the skills needed for a quality interpretation. Attention will be given to various techniques that aid in developing greater receptive ability. Some topics addressed: contextual clues, numeric recognition, fingerspelling, regional signs, and techniques used to elicit repetition from Deaf speakers.