Foreign Language Interpretation Procedures for Clinics

Foreign language interpretation on behalf of a client in HLS clinics which provide legal services will qualify for HLS pro bono credit. Written translation work does not qualify for HLS pro bono credit since it does not have an advocacy or representational component.

A clinic or SPO needing an interpreter should send an email to clinical@law.harvard.edu as far in advance as possible with the following information:

1) Short description of the client and the case to give a human element without revealing identifying or confidential information
2) Foreign language(s) needed
3) Time commitment with any specific dates and times
4) Other prior coursework or experience required
5) Name and email or phone number for interested students to contact

OCP will run a query in the HELIOS database of students who have listed language proficiencies and an interest in interpreting. OCP will send those students an email with the opportunity. If students are interested, they will contact the clinic or SPO directly. OCP will not give out a list of students from the database. Often no students with the requested language will be available.