



## *News Release*

November 9, 2010  
[Nancy Livingston](#)  
Public Relations  
651-779-3222  
Fax 651-779-3470

[Century College](#)  
3300 Century Avenue North  
White Bear Lake, MN 55110

### **Century Translating and Interpreting (TRIN) Program Attracts Top Students**

Century College student Patricia Santos works as an interpreter at Children's Hospital, has a degree from the University of Notre Dame, speaks several languages, has lived in several different countries and has taught college Spanish.

At the urging of her employer, she is currently enrolled in Century College's new Translating and Interpreting (TRIN) Program to earn a certificate that brings more professionalism to an area that has been largely informal.

"I love the work, but I had no formal training in interpreting," said Santos, the mother of four busy teenagers. "I knew to be a good interpreter you needed more than just language proficiency. I wanted to know more about the skills required to be the best possible interpreter. Now that I am going through the program, I can't imagine being an interpreter and not having this training."

Santos said the Translating and Interpreting Program teaches research, theory and ethics in addition to skills. Students also gain deeper insight into cross-cultural communication. While Santos is fluent in Spanish, others in the Century program speak a variety of languages including Hmong, Vietnamese, Arabic, Korean, Somali and Khmer.

Students in the program are trained to work in professional areas where interpreters are needed, such as hospitals, doctors' offices, schools, government offices, courtrooms, prisons, immigration offices and professional conferences. Often the work they do is critical in the life of the person with limited English proficiency who requires the interpreting or translation.

“The most satisfying part of the job is that you know you are meeting the needs of people who otherwise would not have access to quality care,” said Santos.

Cristiano Mazzei, instructor and program coordinator of the Translating and Interpreting program, said that Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 in the United States requires that every institution receiving federal funds must offer interpreting services to people who have limited English proficiency. “Because of this mandate, the whole country is trying to provide structure to these services,” said Mazzei. “We are training people to be professional language and cultural mediators.”

Century currently offers a 30-credit certificate in Translating and Interpreting in addition to a 60-credit Associate in Applied Sciences degree in this area. Sample courses include Introduction to Translation and Related Skills, Standards of Practice and Skills of Interpreting, Occupational Glossary Development, and Skills of Interpreting. Students also take courses in communication, linguistics, and other related areas. The program is open to all languages, appropriate for experienced interpreters and individuals new to the field, and accepts transfer students. Classes are offered evenings and weekends and financial aid is available for students who qualify.

Century has partnered with both Rochester Community and Technical College and Riverland Community College to provide three of TRIN's main courses through broadcast inter-active television (ITV). Students

living in the Twin Cities metro area can attend courses on-campus at Century, and students living in the Rochester, Austin and Owatonna areas can attend Century's TRIN courses via ITV at Rochester Community and Technical College or Riverland Community College.

For more information, please call Cristiano Mazzei at 651-748-2639.