**Project report**

**SCC Project: Enhance Employability of Translation and Interpreting Postgraduate Students at the School of Humanities**

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| **Project Lead: Dr Caiwen Wang (Senior Lecturer in Translation & Interpreting Studies)**  **Staff Co-Creator: Dr Saskia Huc-Hepher (Humanities Employability Director)**  **Staff Co-Creator: Zoë Diderich (Lecturer in Interpreting & Translation)**  **Student Co-Creator Team: Xin Chen, Lok Yiu Roni Tong, Melanie Domingues Tomaz Da Silva, Ameerah Arjanee** |

This project is designed to benefit students studying (a) our one-year MA taught course in Translation and Interpreting (TI), and (b) our one-year MA taught course in Specialised Translation (ST). Specifically, the project aims to help our students on these two programmes reach their academic potentials and enhance their student experience by addressing queries and areas of interests from students' perspectives, so as to prepare them better with employment upon graduation from us.

To achieve these aims, we recruited five professional translators and interpreters and designed a total of eight interview questions on the career of translation and/or interpreting. The five professional translators and interpreters respectively represent the five languages that we are running on our MA translation and interpreting courses: Chinese, French, German, Italian and Spanish. The student co-creators interviewed the five professionals in the University’s filming studios located at the Harrow campus. The interviews were video-recorded, and the video recordings have been professionally edited to the best quality. We have named the video-recorded interview series “INDUSTRY INSIGHTS: PROFESSIONAL TRANSLATOR & INTERPRETER INTERVIEW SERIES”. They are now accessible on the University YouTube channel as below:

Episode 1 (interview with Chang Su): <https://youtu.be/Bdxh-Qm9O9I>

Episode 2 (interview with Charlotte Monnier) <https://youtu.be/TJVJ5S6-onk>

Episode 3 (interview with David Stockings): <https://youtu.be/jsIcoI8qwI4>

Episode 4 (interview with Jessica Oppendisano) <https://youtu.be/5wcD5GEUBGo>

Episode 5 (interview with Olivia Cockburn): <https://youtu.be/fWgvMDomuW0>

In her capacity as the School of Humanities’ Employability Director, **Dr Saskia Huc-Hepher wrote to the project lead Dr Caiwen Wang on the quality of the recordings and said, ‘**On the basis of what I've viewed, I'd first congratulate you and the students - I think they're great! They are very professional and the different insights each interviewee provides are fascinating.’ The professionals invited for the interviews also highly commended this SCC project initiative and Olivia Cockburn, in Episode 5, openly praised this project while she was being interviewed. The project completed with a meet-and-greet gathering where the professionals, staff and student co-creators came to meet the translation and interpreting course team. It was a very well attended event where everyone got to talk with everyone else and exchanged ideas and views.

Both staff and student co-creators have enjoyed the project enormously. The project itself was also a process to train the student co-creators’ professional skills. The student co-creators reported that they have learnt a lot from the process.

We are pleased that our project is a success. As we indicated in our application form, we hope to scale it up to include other cohorts and disciplines in the School of Humanities with the potential to also promote it across the whole University. We will explore this possibility in future.

Caiwen Wang

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