



NAETISL

National Association of
Educational Translators and
Interpreters of Spoken Languages

2026
Virtual Conference
**BUILT BY MANY VOICES,
POWERED BY ONE VISION**

Day 1: Friday, August 28, 2026 | Session Descriptions

11:00-11:15 AM: Welcome & Opening Remarks

11:15-12:00 PM: Skill-Building Activity: *The Interpreter's Ethical Dilemmas*

Participants will join a breakout room where they can collaborate with peers and a NAETISL facilitator to practice responding to ethical dilemmas.

12:00-1:00 PM: *The First-Person Paradox: Vicarious Trauma in Interpretation Work* by Dr. Layla Sarquis

This session will address key cultural differences impacting stress responses and features in interpretation work; practical strategies to improve wellbeing and emotional boundaries while managing a range of intense external emotions and circumstances expressed on a first-person basis; unconscious biases and approaches to mitigate them, and healing team dynamics that enhance collaboration, productivity, and wellbeing.

1:00-2:00 PM: *Two Roles, Two Skillsets: On the Benefits of Organizational Separation of Interpreters and Liaisons* by Dr. Mathew "Mateo" Maddox

The practice of relying on staff who happen to be bilingual to serve as interpreters is pervasive in public schools. While these employees may be excellent teachers, administrative assistants, nurses, custodians, or other professionals, their language proficiency is often unassessed, and formal interpreter training is typically not required. Many districts have institutionalized this practice by combining the two distinct positions of cultural/family liaison and school interpreter into one as a dual-role liaison/interpreter (DRLI). For DRLIs, maintaining professional boundaries can be difficult: they may feel pulled between advocating for LEP families as liaisons and remaining neutral as interpreters. The solution is to separate the liaison and interpreter roles at the organizational level.

2:00-2:30 PM: Lunch Break or Networking Opportunity

2:30-3:30 PM: *AI in Translation and Interpretation: Issues Related to Ethics, Bias, and Confidentiality* by Dr. Ana Soler

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is a tool and not a revolution. While AI-powered translation and interpretation tools promise speed and efficiency, they also pose critical ethical challenges that we cannot afford to ignore. In this interactive discussion, we will explore the hidden biases embedded in AI systems, the ethical obligations of language professionals, and the role that educational interpreters/translators play in protecting confidentiality and data integrity.

3:30-4:30 PM: *Prepared to Perform: How Preparation Shapes Accuracy in Simultaneous Interpreting* by Mariana Landaverde Martinez

If you want to break into the world of conference interpreting, this session will show you why preparation is the key to success. From researching subject matter and building glossaries to using AI tools that streamline vocabulary management, you'll discover practical strategies that reduce stress and sharpen accuracy in the booth. With practical examples drawn from real interpreting contexts, you'll see how preparation renews confidence and resilience. It's an invitation to elevate your craft, no matter where you are in your career.

4:30 PM: Raffle and Closing



**FRIDAY
AUG 28**
11 AM - 5 PM EST

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**SATURDAY
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