

OBSERVERS IN THE VIRTUAL ENVIRONMENT

FOR PARTICIPANTS

Is there someone observing an online event that you are participating in? What does this mean and how does it affect you? This sheet provides an overview of what is involved and your rights as a participant.

BACKGROUND: ROLE OF THE OBSERVER

In Canada, and the world, it is uncommon to have a Deaf professor and Sign Language – Spoken Language interpreters working in a post-secondary setting. It is also worth noting that the interpreting is a practice profession wherein observing working professionals is vital for development in the field. Observers in this space will either be ASL-English interpreters (student or working professional) or members of the Deaf community.

EXPECTATIONS OF OBSERVERS IN THE EVENT

1. Your educational/professional experience is paramount. Therefore, observers have been asked not to have side conversations or engage in other distracting behaviours during the event. Observers have been asked to keep their video off and microphone muted during the event.
2. Observers have been asked not to ask questions during the event and wait until after the event is finished.
3. Information pertaining to the observation (meeting content, names of those present, etc.) is confidential and will be treated as such. Observers have signed an agreement to not disclose this information to anyone that was not present in the event during the observation.

YOUR RIGHT AS A PARTICIPANT

IMPORTANT: You have the right at any time, for any reason, to ask an observer to leave. Inform Dr. Campbell and she will handle the situation.

For more detailed information about SMU Interpreting Services, please check out the SMU [Deaf Academics & Interpreters](#) webpages.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the SMU Faculty of Science staff interpreter, Ashley Campbell at:

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or

902-496-8761