

THE GLOBAL DEAF CONNECTION

SARAH HOUGE, *M.Ed., M.A.*

*Recent Adjunct Faculty at Gallaudet's International Program,
RID Certified Deaf Interpreter, World Federation of the Deaf worker
in West/Central Africa, consultant for UNICEF, Peace Corps volunteer*

WHEN: Friday, Nov. 4, at 4-6 pm

WHERE: West Chester University, South Campus

Sturzbecker Bldg., 855 S. New St., Room 102 B

WHAT: Discussion of Deaf people from around the world: their similarities, differences, communication, schooling, family life, work, and...

Some Deaf people from other countries may also be attending.

COST: \$2 at the door – to support the WCU ASL Club

SPONSORS: WCU ASL CLUB & DeafCAN! (Deaf Community Action Network)

Event will be voice interpreted for the 'sign-impaired'

(WCU ASL students will receive extra credit.)

For your information - Ms. Houge also will be DeafCAN!'s annual banquet keynote presenter on November 6th.



Sarah Houge, M.Ed., M.A.

A Minnesota native, Sarah Houge graduated from the University of Minnesota with a bachelor's degree in English and Masters of Education in Special (Deaf) Education. She has worked as a teacher in several programs in Minnesota, as well as Hawaii, Jamaica and Kenya. Sarah coordinated the Basic Adult Education and Civics program at Communication Services for the Deaf of Minnesota, where she worked closely with students with diverse personal backgrounds, some from the U.S. but most hailing from a range of countries including Cambodia, Somalia, Barbados and Laos.

Inspired by her experience as a Peace Corps volunteer and her work on international community projects, Sarah was driven to learn about the field of international development and enrolled in the International Development for People with Disabilities M.A. (IDMA) program at Gallaudet University. Upon graduation in 2010, she worked with the World Federation of the Deaf on their Human Rights and Capacity Building Project in the West and Central African region. Sarah provided training to members of national Deaf Associations, interpreter associations, service providers and other organizations working with the Deaf and Hard of Hearing population in ten African countries.

Sarah has collaborated with grassroots organizations including Global Deaf Connection, focusing on Deaf Education and mentoring, and Global Reach Out with youth exchange programs. She participated in exchange programs through Mobility International USA, working to improve conditions for women and girls with disabilities, as well as Discovering Deaf Worlds' EMPOWER Program through the U.S. Department of State. Sarah also completed a consultancy for UNICEF in Bhutan, where she compiled the first research report on the Deaf community in the history of the nation. Most recently, Sarah worked at Gallaudet University as an adjunct faculty in the IDMA Program.

In 2012, Sarah became a Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (USA) Certified Deaf Interpreter following years of field experience with foreign languages, International Sign and interpretation. She continues to work in a variety of medical and social services settings, and actively seeks opportunities to branch out into international interpreting following a successful initial experience in Amman, Jordan during a conference for women with disabilities.

Sarah has extensive experience with deaf schools, nonprofit organizations and communication services both locally and abroad. She is available to contract with businesses, organizations and educational programs to provide consulting and training in the fields of education, development and communication.

DeafCAN! is pleased to have Ms. Houge as our keynote speaker November 6th and welcomes Deaf refugees/immigrants as special guests.