



Sociolinguistic Glimpses into Unique Deaf Communities: Past, Present and Future

Thursday, September 27, 2012
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
Metcalf Chemistry Auditorium
(190-194 Thayer Street)

How do the past and present shape our image of the Deaf communities through the preservation of visual history documentation? Using a Deaf lens, we will examine some sociolinguistic features of Deaf communities that have created their own cultures and heritage in our changing global world. We will discuss and analyze the unique environmental characteristics of iconic deaf residential schools and communities including: the *Rochester Method*, used by the Rochester School of the Deaf for 125 years, Zimbabwe, and other Deaf communities.

Presenter: Deirdre Schlehofer

Deirdre Schlehofer is an Assistant Professor in the Department of American Sign Language and Interpreting Education at the National Technical Institute for the Deaf at the Rochester Institute of Technology. She received an Ed.D. degree in Teaching & Curriculum from the University of Rochester, holds a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from the University of Alaska at Anchorage, and a Master of Philosophy from the University of Bristol, England. Her research interests include sociolinguistics within Deaf communities and the cultural history of Deaf people. Dr. Schlehofer has over 20 years of experience teaching students and children in the U.S., U.K., and Zimbabwe in cross-cultural and cross-linguistic environments.

