



David Quinto-Pozos, PhD
President, *Mano a Mano*
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¡Hola, mis amigos y colegas de la RID! Hello to all my friends and colleagues at RID! I feel very honored to be introducing myself to you as the newly elected President of *Mano a Mano*, an organization for interpreters who work in Spanish-influenced settings. I have been a part of RID since I became a student member in 1989 while attending the University of New Mexico's B.S. program in Signed Language Interpretation. It was that program that gave me the foundation to work as an interpreter at Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT)/National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID), and it was RIT/NTID that exposed me to various interpreting challenges and supported me as I advanced my skills. After working at RIT, I attended graduate school at the University of Texas at Austin and earned an M.A. and Ph.D. in Linguistics. My research has been on various topics: contact between Mexican Sign Language (LSM) and ASL, register variation in ASL, constructed action (i.e., role shift phenomena), trilingual interpreting, and, most recently, signed language disorders. I have been lucky to be on the faculty and work with wonderful people in the ASL Programs at the University of Pittsburgh, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and, beginning August 2009, at the University of Texas at Austin. I am looking forward to leading *Mano a Mano* with the help and support of our membership. A few of our future goals are: to increase our visibility and influence as a national organization, to support the acquisition of skills and knowledge of our trilingual interpreters, and to enhance the participation of all our members in the work that we do. I know that it will take many people and much work to accomplish these goals, but I am confident that the members of *Mano a Mano* have the passion to make things happen. And, I feel strongly that a collaboration with RID will be invaluable as we work to make our dreams a reality! We are committed to working together in order to advance our profession. I encourage all who are interested in learning more about trilingual interpreting to join *Mano a Mano*. You do not need to be fluent in all three languages (ASL, English, Spanish) to be a member; you only need to possess a passion for wanting to provide high quality services to our Deaf, Hard of Hearing, and Hearing stakeholders in Spanish-influenced communities. Visit our website at: www.manoamano-unidos.org