



### Language at Stellenbosch Engineering Faculty



- University Vision : Promote Multilingualism
- BEng 1<sup>st</sup> year : Parallel Medium
  (separate streams for Afrikaans[A] and English[E])
  2<sup>nd</sup> year: Parallel Medium or Real-time Interpreted (translated) lectures
- In 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> year: modules in A or E (all A lectures interpreted to E in real-time)
- All tests & exams set in Afrikaans and English
- Students may always answer in their preferred language





# Interpretation used



- Lectures
  - Whole undergraduate programme since 2012
- Tutorials in exceptional cases
- Faculty Board meetings
- Advisory Board meetings
- Recruitment events in Stellenbosch



#### Critical success factors



- Whole programme available in both languages
- Professionalism of interpreters
  - Training
  - Quality assurance system
- Cooperation of teaching staff
- Keep to what was promised



# Implementation issues



- Classes above 250 split into A&E
  - Staff provision challenges
  - Time table and venue complications
- First week overload
  - English to Afrikaans sometimes not utilised



### Implementation issues



- Interpreters require
  - Contact info of lecturers
  - Teaching materials for preparation
  - Inform about lecture venue changes
  - Time to move between venues, issue and receive headsets



#### Conclusions



- Engineering's language plan works
  - Strategic objective achieved: diversity of intake improved significantly
  - Improve multilingualism less certain

- The interpretation service works
  - Testimony of students
  - Relieves teaching staff workload



#### Further work



Dubbing video recordings