This talk explores bilingual women’s social and narrative positioning as informal community interpreters in a rural town dependent on industrial meat processing. It addresses how these women employed reflexive interdiscursivity and oriented to different chronotopes to re-analyze the cultural politics of migrant labor, shedding insight into what happens when legal recognition of migrant labor is withheld/deferred and how this influences the chronic exhaustion and ambivalence that shape the social, reproductive and linguistic labor necessary in supporting migrant workforces in transnationally intertwined rural political economies.

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