Mobile Technologies Unveils First Real-Time Lecture Translation System

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The world's first automated simultaneous lecture translation system was demonstrated last week at the University Without Language Barriers conference at the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT) in Germany. Using the system, non-German speaking students were able to participate in live German lectures with real-time English subtitles appearing on their laptops and iPads.

The real-time lecture translation system is the latest invention from Mobile Technologies, together with its partners at KIT. Mobile Technologies' simultaneous lecture translation platform is a cloud-based system, built on over 20 years of advanced research in speech recognition and machine translation.

"This system demonstrates the cutting-edge of machine learning technology, and the new frontier for multi-lingual communication," said Dr. Alex Waibel, founder of Mobile Technologies and Jibbigo, in a statement.

The lecture translation system uses speech recognition technology to automatically transcribe the speech of the lecturer in real time, and then uses advanced machine translation technology to instantly translate the speech into additional languages. Using the current version of the system, students in the classroom can view live English subtitles using any Web-enabled device.

Waibel is a professor of computer science at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh and at the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology in Germany, and is director of the International Center for Advanced Communication Technologies (interACT), a joint research center at eight leading universities worldwide.

Mobile Technologies is the creator of Jibbigo Translator app, what the company claims is the world's first speech-to-speech translation app that is used on Android and Apple devices. Jibbigo, available in nine language pairings, is a self-contained speech-to-speech translation app that does not need a data or phone connection.