



ITIA BULLETIN

November 2009

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Irish Translators' & Interpreters' Association
Cumann Aistritheoirí agus Teangairí na hÉireann

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■ Editorial

Dear Readers,
Welcome to the November issue of the ITIA Bulletin and the first one under my editorship. Let me take this opportunity to wish the former editor, Elizabeth Hayes, best of luck for the future and thank her for her ongoing help and support. Founded in 2003 by Jody Byrne, the Bulletin serves translators and interpreters as a forum to share important information, interesting news and opinions. I count on your support and collaboration to continue the great job that the previous editors did.

There is another great opportunity to share ideas and network with your colleagues as we join for a Christmas get-together this Friday (December 4th) at 7.30pm at the Irish Writers' Centre, 19 Parnell Square, Dublin 1. See the details below and I hope to meet you there!

Best wishes for the festive season and every success in the New Year.

Enjoy this Bulletin and keep in touch!

Gosia Emanowicz
Editor ITIA Bulletin
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Executive Committee of ALAI (*Association Litteraire et Artistique Internationale*).

ICLA, the *Irish Copyright Licensing Agency*, is mandated to protect and advance the interests of Irish authors and publishers who have legal rights in copyright protected works that are subject to reproduction.

The event on 4th December is followed by our annual ITIA get-together. Hope you can join us!

■ Translation Ireland: Call for Papers

A CALL FOR PAPERS FOR A SPECIAL EDITION OF OUR AWARD-WINNING JOURNAL, TRANSLATION IRELAND, ON "COMMUNITY INTERPRETING"

Migration into Ireland led to unprecedented demand for interpreters in a large number of languages and a wide variety of settings. Public services have struggled to keep up and the Courts Service and the Garda Síochána issued calls for tender for the provision of interpreting services and signed contracts with translation companies. A graduate course in community interpreting was established at Dublin City University in 2004. A report on interpreting, *Developing Quality Cost Effective Interpreting and Translating Services for Government Service Providers* (2008) was commissioned by the Office of the Minister for Integration and recommended that a national register of interpreters be set up. While demand for interpreters has reduced somewhat over the last year, there is an ongoing need for standards in interpreting.

We welcome articles on the following topics:

- ◆ Interpreters' experiences (please do not include information that could identify the participants).
- ◆ Sign language interpreting
- ◆ Quality and standards
- ◆ Interpreting in different settings (medical, mental health, education, Safepass, courts, garda stations)
- ◆ State policy on interpreting
- ◆ Interpreter provision in Northern Ireland
- ◆ Interpreter training

For further information or to submit an article, please contact either Mary Phelan at mary.phelan@dcu.ie or Krisztina Zimányi at Krisztina.zimanyi@dcu.ie. Articles should be submitted by 31st January 2010.

■ Event at the ITIA

A talk by Samantha Holman (CEO of the Irish Copyright Licensing Agency) on translation and copyright, including the Google Books Settlement

4 DECEMBER 2009, 7.30 PM / IRISH WRITERS' CENTRE, 19 PARNELL SQUARE, DUBLIN 1

Samantha Holman has been CEO of the Irish Copyright Licensing Agency (ICLA) since 2001. In this time the organisation has grown from one full time person with a turnover of less than €100,000 per annum to a four person organisation with a turnover of €1,800,000 per annum.

She is currently the Chair of the European Development Committee within IFRRO and is responsible for the establishment and development of RROs in Europe.

She is also on two national voluntary boards, the Copyright Association of Ireland and the Irish Visual Artists' Rights Organisation (of which she is a founder member) and the national representative to the

■ New European Master's in Translation at DCU

The newly formed *European Master's in Translation* (EMT) network is an initiative of the European Commission's *Directorate-General for Translation* (DGT). Membership of the network acts as a kind of quality mark for masters-level translation studies programmes, and offers considerable benefits: for example, member programmes are entitled to use the designation 'member of the EMT Network' and to use the EMT logo. Their representatives also have access to high-level networking and planning forums organised by the DGT, most notably the annual EMT Conference. EMT-designated programmes will also have priority in the DGT's Visiting Translator Scheme.

Graduates may receive an EMT certificate confirming that they have acquired the competences required by the network, and current students may have prioritised access to certain types of placements with the EU Institutions.

DCU's programme is thus now in the top flight of such programmes across Europe...

To be admitted to the EMT network, translation studies Master's programmes must meet strict eligibility and admission criteria laid out by the DGT. These criteria are mainly focused around the human, infrastructural and technical resources available to each programme, as well as the programme's ability to deliver on a number of core competences required of translators in an increasingly globalised and technologised profession.

It is estimated that there are currently some 400 postgraduate translation studies programmes across the EU. In March 2009 the DGT issued the first call for membership of the EMT network. 93 universities from across the EU (and three non-member states) submitted applications, of which 34, including Dublin City University's *MA in Translation Studies*, were successful. DCU's programme is thus now in the top flight of such programmes across Europe, and at the heart of decision making in the area for the foreseeable future.

DCU's application was supported by a number of industrial partners (*Comunicación Multilingüe, S.L., Labrador, lexisys, Sanas, SAP, SimulTrans, Symantec, TALK finance*) and public bodies (*Fiontar, Translation Section of UNESCO*), all of whom employ graduates of the MA in Translation Studies at DCU, and could attest the professionalism and technological competence of DCU's translation graduates.

Mary Phelan

■ Joining the ITIA

The *Irish Translators' & Interpreters' Association* is always delighted to welcome new members to the Association. There are five categories of membership:

- ◆ Associate
- ◆ Professional
- ◆ Corporate
- ◆ Concession (undergraduate & senior citizen)
- ◆ Honorary

Associate membership is open to anyone with an interest in translating or interpreting. *Professional membership* is for those who meet strict criteria set by the professional membership committee of the ITIA and which is part of the drive to raise the status of the profession in the European market.

Corporate membership is for firms and agencies associated with the profession while *concession* membership is for undergraduate students engaged in third level language and/or translation studies and senior citizens. Finally, *honorary* membership is intended for national and international persons who have distinguished themselves in our professional field. For more information on how to join as well as for the relevant application forms, visit the ITIA website at: www.translatorsassociation.ie

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■ Conference Report

*TRANSLATING AND INTERPRETING BEYOND EAST AND WEST,
CHARLES UNIVERSITY, PRAGUE*

The aim of this conference was to gather researchers, PhD students and translators/interpreters to discuss concepts such as “East and West”; how translation and interpreting might further better understanding of the world; and to exchange views, research results and experiences; as well as to address the new needs we face as a result of new social and intercultural realities.

The notion of the continuing relevance of an “East” and a “West” was discussed in a variety of contexts. The aim was to examine and assess the traditional world views/paradigms (e.g. East and West) with respect to translation, as well as deconstructing, breaking with, and moving beyond barriers and stereotypes to build bridges and reach common understandings.

There were presenters from many different countries (Spain, France, Italy, Belgium, Brazil, India, Indonesia, Turkey, the US, Russia and Poland among other countries). The opening keynote speakers: Daniel Gile from the *Ecole Supérieure d'Interpretes et de*

Traducteurs, France and Harish Trivedi from *Delhi University*; addressed the topic of the implications of globalisation for translation.

Professor Ivana Cenkova, from Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic, referred to the use of the Czech language in interpreting services for the institutions and bodies of the European Union, as well as to implications for the teaching of interpreting for the future training of Czech interpreters. Professor Cenkova's presentation referred to research conducted on the quality of interpreting into Czech during the Czech presidency of the EU.

Contributions on the theory of Interpreting included talks by Augustin Darias from the *University of Las Palmas* in Spain and Magdalena Bartłomiejczy. The former focused on the didactics of interpretation of different types of communicative situations, and the latter addressed how cultural references in Barack Obama's speeches present a challenge for Polish interpreters/translators.

The conference offered interesting views on and insight into the role of community interpreters, for example, on the use of Child Language Brokering (CLB) in linguistic minority communities. The presentations referred to important forthcoming research which will give further insight into the field, for example on parents' views and attitudes towards CLB.

Letizia Cirillo, Michaela Giorgia and Cristina Valentini, researchers from Bologna University further addressed this issue by speaking of how child language brokers assist the integration of immigrants in Italy. They referred to interviews with child brokers who shared some of the issues they face, including the sometimes intense pressures.

The next issue of the ITIA Bulletin will be out next month. If you have any contributions, suggestions or scandals that you would like to share with over 1,000 subscribers worldwide, send them to Gosia Emanowicz at [theitiabulletin\(a\)gmail.com](mailto:theitiabulletin(a)gmail.com).

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There was a debate afterwards about whether CLB should be acknowledged as a form of interpreting, and whether it should be supported or not.

I found the paper by Danuta Przepiórkowska (Warsaw University) on interpreter-mediated communication in the context of globalised marketing to be very useful. The widespread use of the English language in business around the world is a fact of life and a phenomenon investigated by scholars from various fields. As Danuta explained, one field that makes extensive use of interpreting into English, the modern *lingua franca*, is market research.

As a rule, interviews are interpreted into English regardless of the listeners' national or linguistic backgrounds. In a sense, consumers become 'translated beings' and their experience turns into 'translated experience'.

The presentation given by Mehmet Sahin from Izmir University in Turkey focused on teaching strategies, using the example of Second Life. As Sahin explains, "virtual worlds" such as **Second Life** have started to take their place in educational settings.

this conference was an excellent opportunity for building bridges between "East and West" through translation and interpreting

Sahin argued that virtual worlds, with their growing capacity and authentic nature, are likely to serve as a valuable platform for novice interpreters and translators. The main features of Second Life might have a facilitative role in interpreter training and Sahin discussed ways to integrate such technologies in training programs

Translating theory, history, and case studies in literary translation were key themes on the second day of the conference. I was highly impressed by the talk by Alex Krouglov, from the London Metropolitan University, who spoke about the role of translators and interpreters as "modernisers" of language.

Krouglov explained how new lexical terms in the Ukrainian language come about through the impact of western media. I particularly enjoyed, also, presentations by two researchers on "*Translation as a*

core element of Hispanic-American literature" by Miguel Ángel Vega from the University of Alicante.

Julio Santoyo from Leon University addressed the audience with the talk "Where East met West: Translation theory in 12th and 13th Century in Spain: Myths and facts", and it was refreshing to be reminded of quite how far back this East versus West dichotomy stretches.

I believe this conference was an excellent opportunity for building bridges between "East and West" through translation and interpreting, and its many delegates successfully demonstrated how translation/interpreting as transcultural and transgenerational practice goes beyond such divisive and perhaps anachronistic constructs as "East" and "West". The Conference was supported by the European Commission Representation in the Czech Republic.

For more information, visit the conference website: <http://tinyurl.com/ygtdtv5>

Miren-Maialen Samper

Miren-Maialen Samper holds a graduate certificate in community interpreting from Dublin City University and she is an active member of the ITIA interpreting sub-committee

ITIA

■ ATA conference stresses importance of specialising

The *American Translators' Association* annual conference took place recently in New York. One of the key points emphasised throughout the event was the importance of specialised translators. Abigail Dahlberg, a German>English translator specialising in waste management is an excellent example.

Dahlberg, who has a master's degree in translation and interpretation from the University of Edinburgh, worked in Germany before moving with her American husband to Missouri in 2005. Now she does freelance work for, among others, companies that deal with battery recycling and sewage sludge. She said, "It's not just having the language skill. It's also having the expertise in the subject matter. [...] Because the environmental field is so hot right now, I've found new customers are coming to me."

Some words and phrases she frequently encounters include *die Deponie* (the landfill), *die Abfalltonne* (the trash can) and, more recently, something familiar to Americans -- *die abwrackpramie*, which means "cash for clunkers."

Abigail Dahlberg realized she was a success a few years ago while explaining her unusual specialty -- translating documents about waste- management issues from German into English -- to a wide-eyed listener. "I've heard of you!" the man exclaimed. "You're Trash Girl!"

■ Labour TD asks questions in Dáil about translation

Brian O'Shea (Waterford, Labour) - Question 394: To ask the Minister for Finance if his attention has been drawn to the delays being encountered by lawyers as a result of the delay with the publication of new legislation (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. [39257/09]

...we can not afford €1.8 million next year to translate documents no one wants.

Brian Lenihan Jnr (Minister, Department of Finance; Dublin West, Fianna Fail): As the Deputy is aware, I have no direct role in the provision of translation services in respect of Acts of the Oireachtas. Section 3(2) of the Houses of the Oireachtas Commission (Amendment) Act 2006 sets out clearly that this is a function of the Houses of the Oireachtas Commission. Notwithstanding this, in order to provide an answer to the Deputy's question, I have obtained the following information from the Office of the Houses of the Oireachtas:

Under Section 7 of the Official Languages Act 2003, all Acts of the Oireachtas must be published simultaneously in both language versions, i.e. the enacted version and the official translation produced by *Rannóg an Aistriúcháin*. A temporary delay affecting some Acts occurred around the summer recess this year in regard to the publication of some Official Translations as a result of staff vacancies and the

considerably high level of legislation passed in the last weeks before the summer recess.

This delay is now rectified, with the exception of the Health Insurance (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2009, which is now in the final stages of translation.

Brian O'Shea - Question 395: To ask the Minister for Finance the cost of translation of new legislation in 2006, 2007, 2008 and to date in 2009; and if he will make a statement on the matter. [39258/09]

Brian Lenihan Jnr: As the Deputy is aware, I have no direct role in the provision of translation services in respect of Acts of the Oireachtas. Section 3(2) of the Houses of the Oireachtas Commission (Amendment) Act 2006 sets out clearly that this is a function of the Houses of the Oireachtas Commission.

With regard to the cost of translation of Acts, I understand that *Rannóg an Aistriúcháin* has other areas of responsibility that take up a significant proportion of staff time. These include the daily Order Papers for both Houses, a simultaneous translation service for both Houses and an Oireachtas Committee, translation of material for *Imeachtaí* (Proceedings) for both Houses, managing *An Caighdeán Oifigiúil* (the Official Grammar), oversight of the Irish text of EU Treaties and managing miscellaneous translation requirements of the Office of the Houses of the Oireachtas.

Accordingly, it is not possible in the time available to provide an accurate costing for the translation of new legislation from 2006 to date as requested. I will forward the information to the Deputy shortly.

Source: <http://tinyurl.com/yk7u8qww>

■ Minister Ó Cuív Defends Irish Translations

RTE (and BBC) recently reported on the cost of translating documents into Irish. In this era of swingeing cuts, it was suggested that the cost of translating material into Irish (particularly little used documentation) deserves the hatchet treatment.

Éamon Ó Cuív, Minister for Community, Rural & Gaeltacht Affairs defended the obligation to translate official documents into Irish. Speaking through English

in the Dáil, Éamon Ó Cuív stressed that he advocates that such documents be made available on CD or on the internet rather than hard copy.

Minister Ó Cuív went on to add that there are constitutional obligations to Irish as the first official language.

...it was suggested that the cost of translating material into Irish... deserves the hatchet treatment.

Fine Gael's Michael Ring said €1.8 million was spent on translation by State and local authorities last year, and €6 million was spent over the last six years. He said no one is buying or using them and he asked is it time to review the act as we can not afford €1.8 million next year to translate documents no one wants.

Mr Ó Cuív said it not a question of affording as there is a constitutional obligation. In reference to recent controversy over no one buying Irish language copies of the Clare County Plan, he said very few were sold in English either. He said no one is buying them in either language because they can be downloaded.

Source: <http://tinyurl.com/yj2l8qv>

■ Chinese Translation Dispute: "Aobama" or "Oubama"?

While Chinese government officials insist that it was President "Aobama" who visited China, the White House maintains that it was President "Oubama" who went to China. "Aobama" vs. "Oubama", which is a more accurate Chinese translation for "Obama"?

'Aobama' is the official Chinese translation for the last name of the current US President 'Obama'. However, the White House suggested that the name should be translated as 'Oubama', because it sounds closer to 'Obama' in Mandarin.

"Traditionally, when translating foreign proper names phonetically, official Chinese translators follow a table in which certain Chinese characters are used instead of others. The purpose is to allow Chinese people to

immediately recognize that it is a non-Chinese speaking foreigner," says Samuel Chong, a Chinese translator at Abacus Chinese Translation Services, "therefore, sometimes, the chosen character does not necessarily reflect the closest sound."

In the Chinese version, the character 'ao' -- which means 'mysterious' or 'secret' -- is also used in the expression for the Olympic Games, 'Aolinpike'. While the US version, the character 'ou', means 'Europe', and is used in the word 'Europe'.

"I guess it would take some time for Chinese people to accept the US version, if the Chinese government decides to adopt it. It took about a year or so for the Chinese government to adopt the name 'Shou'er' for the name of the capital of South Korea, "Seoul", instead of the traditionally used 'Hancheng'" Chong adds.

People who are familiar with Chinese culture often have a Chinese-like name that they give themselves.

Traditionally, when translating foreign names, there have been regional differences within China. For example, the people in Canton (Guangdong) province used to call San Francisco 'San Fan Shi', instead of 'Jiu Jin Shan', or 'Old Gold Mountain', which most of the rest of the China uses. "That is because most people in Canton (Guangdong) province speak Cantonese, instead of Mandarin. It sounds much nicer to say 'San Fan Shi' in Cantonese compared to 'Jiu Jin Shan'", Chong says.

People who are familiar with Chinese culture often have a Chinese-like name that they give themselves. Christopher Patten, the former governor of Hong Kong, has a Chinese name 'Peng Dingkang', while the current Prime Minister of Australia, Kevin Rudd, has a Chinese name 'Lu Kewen'.

Mary Ma

Abacus Chinese Translation

This article can also be found at <http://tinyurl.com/yzpbnb3>

■ Conferences, Calls & Courses

4th Conference of the International Association for Translation and Intercultural Studies (IATIS)

Please note that the 4th Conference of the International Association for Translation and Intercultural Studies (IATIS) will now take place at Queens University Belfast **from the 24th to the **27th of July 2012. Please note the (slight) change of date!*

More information on the conference will be available in due course from <http://www.iatis.org/content/conferences.php>.

Call for papers

Graduate Colloquium on Theatre Translation at Queen Mary, University of London; Department of Drama, Saturday 20th March 2010

GRADUATE CONFERENCE funded by the AHRC and the GRADUATE SCHOOL IN HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES, QUEEN MARY, UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

Theatre translation as collaboration: re-routing text through performance

- ◆ Keynote speakers: Professor J. Michael Walton and playwright Colin Teevan
- ◆ Round table chaired by critic Aleks Sierz, featuring playwright Martin Crimp and theatre practitioners tba
- ◆ Afternoon workshop led by Gráinne Byrne of Scarlet Theatre

The aim of this one-day graduate colloquium is to explore the collaborative creative processes involved in the re-routing of text from page to stage: what happens when a text is translated for performance?

We wish to examine the act of theatre translation in all its multiple variations, including versions, adaptations and inter-semiotic transfers (for example from film or book to stage). How does research engage with the collaborative nature of translating for performance? We hope to expand and facilitate the dialogue between theatre practitioners and academics, illuminating the practice/theory debate. To this end we particularly welcome papers that of themselves contain a practical or performance element or that examine how we construct performance and how a performance text might be written and received.

All forms of theatre translation (inter- and intra-lingual and inter-medial) will be considered. The main focus is to address and investigate both overt and implicit collaboration in translating for performance. We invite abstracts for 20 minute presentations from all graduate students currently working in Theatre (including dance and design), Translation, Performance or Language Studies, or related areas.

Keywords: Theatre, text, translation, transcription, transliteration, transfiguration, performance, reception, audience, collaboration, adaptation, version, literal, literary, transculturation, neutrality, identity, otherness, ownership, agency, copyright, theory, practice.

All enquiries and abstracts to [translation-colloquium\(a\)qmul.ac.uk](mailto:translation-colloquium(a)qmul.ac.uk). Please include with your abstract a brief biography (50 words). Deadline for 200 word abstracts: 18 December 2009

■ Contacting The ITIA

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■ ITIA Resources for Translators

For more information about the *Irish Translators' & Interpreters' Association* and its activities, please visit our website at www.translatorsassociation.ie.