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# ITIA BULLETIN

September 2006

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## In This Issue

■ Editorial.....	2
■ The ITIA celebrates 20 years.....	2
■ New Members of the ITIA.....	4
■ Court Interpreting: pestering, perversity and a touch of perjury.....	5
■ Report from the XII Euralex International Congress 2006	6
■ Letter to the Editor.....	7
■ A Call for International Solidarity for Freedom of Expression.....	7
■ EST Young Scholar Award 2007.....	9
■ Employment Opportunity.....	10
■ Conferences, Calls & Courses.....	11
■ Contacting The ITIA.....	13

**Irish Translators' & Interpreters' Association**  
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## ■ Editorial

Dear Readers,

This month the ITIA celebrated its twentieth anniversary. A huge thank you to all the active members who have given their time and expertise to the continuing evolution of our association. Maith sibh! Here's to all participating members - past, present and future!

Enjoy!

**Elizabeth Hayes**  
Editor ITIA Bulletin  
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## ■ The ITIA celebrates 20 years

### ROUND TABLE OF ITIA CHAIRPERSONS

As most of you know, the ITIA recently celebrated its twentieth anniversary. The birthday event took place on Saturday, September 9<sup>th</sup> in The Irish Writers' Centre. To mark the occasion, there was a round table discussion chaired by Michael Cronin and the panel was made up of former and present chairpersons of the association. The discussion was informal but, through the contributions of the panel, charted the development of the association and, indirectly, of the profession over the last twenty years.

The first subject put to the panel was what changes they had witnessed in their time in the ITIA.

Cormac Ó Cuilleaináin remarked on the increased status and appreciation of translation and interpreting both in academia and the wider world. The other major change that Cormac commented on was the seismic shift in the technological and communications landscape that has impacted the translation profession. Initially the fax machine gave translators freedom to communicate with distant clients but this has developed into a situation where most translators are working remotely. The 'death of distance' has really benefited translators. While this certainly affords translators greater freedom, there is a negative impact on the job market with translators in developing countries taking on jobs for a fraction the price that is being demanded in the West. Nonetheless, Cormac saw no reason to despair at this as he remembered being told 20 years ago that the

profession was dying! To Cormac, the key to continued success is professionalisation. This is necessary to distinguish trained and professional translators from mere opportunists.

Michael Cronin chaired the association in an Ireland that was undergoing huge changes. In the past, members mainly worked in central European languages but nowadays, of course, there is a much broader range of languages represented by our members. The marketplace has also been transformed from one where translators/interpreters were mostly working for clients based outside of Ireland to one where the domestic market is providing a large quantity of work for translators/interpreters. He also commented on how interpreting was a latecomer to the association, which was originally called the '*The Irish Translators' Association*'. There is now massive demand for interpreters in Ireland.

The *Official Languages Act* also brought big changes in the area of Irish translation with a huge increase in work available and not enough qualified interpreters to do it.

Angela Ryan was keen to recognise the diversity that the organisation has always striven to embrace. There has always been a diverse range of people involved. The board has always been populated by people from different nationalities, both men and women, working translators and academics, literary and non-literary translators. During her tenure, the AGM was held in Cork to cater to members living in the south of the country.

Gabrielle Milch Skinner was impressed by the development of translation courses and how they are now preparing students for the workplace. In the past, university courses did not prepare students for the realities and practicalities of a career as a translator/interpreter. Also, localisation has made a huge impact on the market in Ireland. Prior to localisation, few people could make a living from translating alone whereas nowadays it can be a full-time job. The expanding job market has given professionals further scope for specialisation.

During Gabrielle's tenure, Translation Ireland was published for the first time. Back then, it was 8 photocopied pages long!

Giuliana Zeuli got into translation through localisation. The advent of MT made the work she was doing tedious as it became more about revision than translation. She moved into literary translation although there was very

little work at the time for a translator of hiberno-English into Italian. With time however, the appetite in Italy for translation of Irish works of literature has grown considerably. Giuliana also works as an interpreter and work in interpreting has increased considerably since Ireland held the presidency of the EU. She stated that she would like to see a greater reflection of the new Ireland in the association with, for example, more members from the EU accession states on the committee.

Michael McCann spoke about the commercialisation of the profession and on the impact of globalisation. For the first time in history, the subject of translation is predominantly commercial. Globalisation has enabled companies to bring their products to the world at large and this has brought work to translators and interpreters. Currently, most translation being done is out of English but this may reverse in the near future. The other big change that Michael commented on is the rate of turnover. Where 20 years ago translators may have been given six weeks to do a job, today they are being given just one week. Technology has helped translators to speed up some areas of activity. Translation Memory software, for example, has taken the repetition out of translating certain text types.

Our current chairperson, Annette Schiller, spoke of the increased demand for a broad range of languages. French, German, Spanish and Italian are no longer the core working languages. The buoyant economic situation in Ireland has meant that the demand for community interpreters in Eastern European languages has increased dramatically. The worrying trend of unqualified and unprofessional workers being employed as interpreters is a major problem. Again, professionalisation is an efficient way to tackle this. Annette went on to speak of the certification process

that is being introduced in the ITIA at the moment. Certification is only available to members who have already achieved professional status. It is important that the ITIA sets the bar high so that our members are clearly distinguished by the quality of their work. Recently, there has been a big effort by Annette and ITIA secretary Mary Phelan to increase the profile of the association through letters to newspapers and radio interviews.

Finally, Michael Cronin asked the panel what trends they could see emerging over the next ten years. Opinions were divided on the future of the English language with some feeling that English would continue to be bastardized as a result of its success as a global lingua franca. Increased monoculturalism may lead to non-English speaking countries making English their own. The more optimistic believe that minority languages will survive through emerging technologies such as open source software. English may adapt and change without a diminution in standards.

The chairperson closed the debate by stating that nobody could have predicted the achievements of the ITIA at the outset and we have every reason to be optimistic for the future of the organisation. Of course, an association (not to mention a voluntarily-run association) is only as strong as its members. Continued and greater participation in ITIA events is a must to advance the status of the Association.

*AN EVENING WITH PAT MCCABE AND HANS-CHRISTIAN OESER*

To round off the celebrations, author Pat McCabe and Hans-Christian Oeser, who translated most of McCabe's novels into German, delighted attendees with a lively talk and readings.

Oeser opened with a quick biography of McCabe including the fact that he was once a member of a showband, he spent 17 years teaching in Dublin and London and he has now returned to his home town of Clones where he lives with his wife and children. He feels an almost psychic connection to the land of his father and speaks of the cyclical nature of life in that he has returned to where he started, "we shall not cease from exploration, and the end of all our exploring will be to arrive where we started and know the place for the first time." This quote (from T.S. Eliot) appears in his novel *Call Me the Breeze*.

Many of McCabe's novels are set in small towns and critics have accused him of being negative about small towns. On the contrary, the small towns that McCabe conveys are fabulous worlds full of interesting

### ■ Next Issue of the ITIA Bulletin

The next issue of the ITIA Bulletin will be out in October 2006. If you have any contributions, suggestions or scandals that you would like to share with over 950 subscribers worldwide, send them to Elizabeth Hayes at [elizabeth.hayes7\(a\)mail.dcu.ie](mailto:elizabeth.hayes7(a)mail.dcu.ie).

### Subscribing to the ITIA Bulletin

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characters. He has said of Longford, another small town where he spent some years, "People who put down small towns are just trudging out the same old opinions - they don't open their eyes. I had the time of my life in this place. There is a whole secret world here." Times have changed and McCabe commented on how changing lifestyles have altered the arena of communication. In the not-so-distant past, people went about their business on foot and chatted to one another regularly and freely. Because most people drive everywhere now, chit-chat that people in small towns engaged in with passers-by is lost. He laments this and what he sees as 'the death of community.'

McCabe relates that the strange, eccentric characters that appear in his novels really existed in the Clones of his youth. The reason for the high number of eccentrics walking around this midlands town (and no doubt other small towns across Ireland) was that highly intelligent people did not have educational opportunities. Without an outlet for their minds, eccentricity set in. Further, these unusual, eccentric people were not reviled in the way they would be today as McCabe feels that non-conformism was more acceptable and even admirable in the 1960s.

Also the regional inflections that he uses to bring characters to life is being standardised and diluted. Nuanced brogues are being lost to far less interesting standardised accents. Francie Brady's voice is at once local and universal.

When he started to write *The Butcher Boy*, which was unlike any of his previous works, he tapped into small town Ireland in the 1960s and it all came to the surface – music, religiosity and the general atmosphere. The music of that period looms large. Traditional Irish music was not (and indeed is not) hugely popular in the midlands but the big influences were brass bands, parlour music and country and western. This type of music is easy to dance to but, more importantly, has strong narratives. In his novel, *Emerald Gems of Ireland*, he referenced ballads from his childhood throughout. Unfortunately, because that Ireland has slipped so far from us, the references were not picked up and most readers believed that McCabe had written the song fragments himself!

With regard to translation, McCabe says that he does what he can to help translators out if they need explanation of a concept in order to better render it into the target language. For this reason, he is regularly in email contact with various translators. His house is full of translations of his novels but he admitted that he did

not give them much attention! In fact, he does not even know how many languages his work has been translated into.

Oeser has translated all but the two of McCabe's novels and spoke of the great privilege of translating such a great novelist. Besides McCabe, Oeser has translated works by John McGahern, Ian McEwan, F. Scott Fitzgerald and many more. He is a writer in his own right and has had works published on (among other things) Ireland.

Both McCabe and Oeser gave excellent readings from three of McCabe's novels which gave an insight into modern literary translation as Oeser had captured beautifully the rhythm of the narrative.

## ■ New Members of the ITIA

The ITIA welcomes the following new members...

### Ordinary Members

**PATRICK MURRAY**  
Appt 95, Via Aldo Moro 12  
Cinisello Balsamo  
Milan  
20092 Italy  
Tel: 00 39 02 6129 3891  
Email: c.murray(a)lice.it  
ENGLISH from Italian  
patents, light engineering, biochemistry.

**ATTRACTA COSGROVE**  
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Mobile: 085 713 15 17  
Email: attractacosgrove(a)online.ie  
ENGLISH from French and Spanish  
medical, property, legal.

**LOUISE KELLEHER**  
10 Roselawn Way  
Castleknock  
Dublin 15  
Mobile: 086 878 31 84  
Email: louise.kelleher4(a)mail.dcu.ie  
ENGLISH from French and Spanish

**MONIKA KUBISIEWICZ**  
6 Brookwood Avenue  
Artane, Dublin 5  
Mobile: 086 055 55 27  
Email: mkubisiewicz(a)email.it  
POLISH from English and Italian  
Business correspondence, brochures, websites, conference materials

SARAH MADDEN  
44 St Mobhi Road  
Glasnevin, Dublin 9  
Mobile: 087 66 39 260  
Email: sarah(a)dublin.ie  
ENGLISH from German  
legal and commercial

### Correction: Professional Member

MS. MARIANA STOYANOVA  
107 Rathgar Road  
Rathgar, Dublin 6  
Email: mariana\_stoyanova(a)hotmail.com  
Tel: 085 7146535  
Translator of English to Bulgarian and vice versa  
linguistics, legal, education, general

### Joining the ITIA

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

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

*Ordinary 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](http://www.translatorsassociation.ie)

## ■ Court Interpreting: pestering, perversity and a touch of perjury

(REPRINTED WITH PERMISSION FROM *THE BEXLEY: THE HOUSE MAGAZINE OF THE CITY OF SALFORD BENCH*, No. 46, 2005, 3-4).

Whether most courtrooms were ever designed - even by a committee - or just spawned is debateable, but clearly they were never designed with any thought for interpreters or interpreting. This may or may not lead to frustration in defendants who imagine they have some vague right to know what is being said about them (for or against them), but it certainly impinges on the sanity of any interpreters whose lip-reading skills (especially lip-reading from behind the speakers, as in Salford Magistrates' Court No. 1) are underdeveloped. When interpreters cannot hear what is being said - and I confess I am not sure whether the Loop system works for this purpose -, some enterprising ones simply invent the speech they imagine they see mouthed (at an angle of 90° to the mouths in question, as it happens, in Salford Court No. 8) at any particular moment. Others may be still hopeful that if they intervene (that is, speak "in their own voice" - I remember once saying: "Sir, the interpreter intervenes to request that you direct the Prosecutor to whisper less inaudibly") - they may be allowed to hear a smattering of what is being said.

I do still enjoy the joke perpetrated by some Magistrates/Judges consisting of directing everyone to "speak slowly because there is an interpreter present" - which of course is irrelevant to competent interpreters - , but not bothering to get them to speak audibly. Plate-glass may work wonders, inter alia, for the safety of the Bench but hardly promotes the defendants' (imagined?) right to hear what is being said about them, while most microphones, like good children, are seen but not heard. In my years as an interpreter, I have never noticed the slightest rise in decibels for more than about 3.75 seconds following any direction from the Bench. In the course of one trial, I pestered the judge five times to be allowed to hear to have some inkling of what was being said before I realised that only pests pester, after which I simply invented my own (no doubt brilliant) questions and speeches for the Prosecution and the Defence. I still regard as mildly perverse the mumbling of advocates who insist that their clients must be given no clue as to what they are saying in their defence.

Just as perverse as speaking slowly but inaudibly is the practice of some advocates who pause after every few words to allow the interpreter to convey what they have

said, in places where, presumably, they believe the Holy Spirit has infused them with the knowledge that those segments of speech will make sense in the other (“target”) language or, more miraculously still, that if certain divinely-inspired segments make sense in English then surely they must make sense in other languages. These believers in infused knowledge often become visibly distressed if the interpreter does not utter something, even if gibberish, during every pause. For example, if they say “I now want to ask you...” followed by a pause, an interpreter into my target language, Spanish, can say nothing meaningful because the English “ask”, being polysemous, may be followed by something like “a few questions”, “where you were...”, “for your comments on the following...” or “to listen to this”, which are four different uses/meanings of “ask” and therefore cannot be translated meaningfully (as *hacer*, *preguntar*, *pedir* or *rogar* respectively) until I hear what follows.

The common practice of locking interpreters into the dock with defendants is based, presumably, on the thinking (thinking?) that “We don’t need interpreters: we’re British; only those foreigners need interpreters and we don’t want to hear what they are being told, rightly or wrongly, by their interpreters”. In other words, the assumption that the defendant needs to hear nothing that is being said, for or against him/her, extends to the assumption that the Court needs to hear nothing said to the defendant! It is fortunate then that, as far as I know, there is no quality control whatsoever in Court interpreting!

And perjury? Just as most courtroom layout displays no thought for interpreters or interpreting, so also the interpreters’ oath/declaration was drafted, if at all, without any idea of what an interpreter does. It undertakes “[...] that I will well and faithfully interpret and true explanation make of all such matters and things as shall be required of me [...]”. Now, whatever interpreters do, they can never, must never and never do explain anything to anyone. They simply repeat in language B to the best of their ability what someone else has said in language A – that is, if they can hear it – but on no account can they, must they, do they explain it.

Would Their Worships like to hear an interpreter say something like: “I don’t remember. - Your Worships, the explanation of the defendant’s amnesia is that he doesn’t want to admit that, yes, he was in Tesco’s at that time on that day”? One defendant, who during several months’ remand had been coached - sorry, had instructed her solicitor - that she would plead guilty but had not been told how to do so (remember “my”

defendants may know nothing about the English judicial system), upon being asked in Court: “Do you plead guilty or not guilty?” replied, quite logically as it happens: “Yes, I do” and, when the question was repeated, answered “I’ve said I do”. Should I have explained: “Your Honour, she means that she pleads guilty?” Or should I explain to a defendant that “Why didn’t you answer that simple question when you were interviewed by the police?” means: “Did your solicitor advise you to say ‘No comment’?” A touch of perjury is therefore an essential ingredient in every Court interpreter’s toolbox – “lunchbox” would probably have been better here, but what’s a little mixed metaphor in a world where so much confusion rules anyway?

And yet Court interpreting is one of the activities I personally most enjoy, perhaps because it is one of the things I do best with least effort, allowing me to observe human foibles at their most variegated. I find it easy to have no emotion or opinion whatsoever about anything, especially about anyone’s guilt or innocence (an essential attribute in Court interpreters), and I am always tickled by the invariably serious treatment of situations which are equally invariably saturated with implicit fun and - often even - games.

Leo Hickey  
MA LLB LenFyL PhD DPSI NRPSI

## ■ Report from the XII Euralex International Congress 2006

The twelfth of the biennial conferences of the *European Association for Lexicography* was held recently (6-9 September) in the *Università di Torino*, Italy, organised by Prof. Carla Marengo and colleagues, with the support of various academic and public bodies and leading dictionary publishers.

The 344 registered participants from all over Europe (92 from Italy) and beyond were treated to a programme of papers on every conceivable (it seemed) aspect of dictionaries, so indispensable to translators. Topics included historical and scholarly lexicography and etymology, computational lexicography and lexicology, the dictionary-making process, reports on various projects, bilingual lexicography (featuring some unusual language combinations), dialect dictionaries and linguistic atlases, terminology and terminography, dictionary use, phraseology and collocations, and other lexicological issues. There was even an item of interest to interpreters using Italian sign

language. To these must be added more informal poster exhibitions, book displays, software demonstrations, round-table discussions, etc.

It was impossible to attend more than a fraction of the events on offer, as papers were delivered in four/five parallel sessions, but the Proceedings (with the text of all papers and lectures, plus introductory extracts in English) were provided from day one, so participants could make an informed choice as to which talks to attend, and read up on anything else at leisure, though 'leisure' may be a strange word for the perusal of nearly 1300 pages of text, in two volumes!

An interesting fact to emerge was that Euralex papers (and presumably similar materials) are not listed bibliographically by the language they are delivered in (though this is usually the language of the title). So, I made my own little survey this year. At a rough calculation, of 111 formal papers, 80 were in English, 16 in Italian, 9 in French, 3 in Spanish, 2 in German, and 1 (on an early dictionary) in Portuguese. The Italian-language material was doubtless seen as being of greatest interest to Italian-speakers, and indeed quite a lot of it was dialect-related. Other non-English contributions appeared similarly directed at specific-language audiences.

Despite their serious purpose, many papers succeeded in being entertaining as well – one on newspaper headline language produced the hilarious (and genuine) example '*Headless Body in Topless Bar*', as well as the potential example of 'strike threat plea probe move shock' with its string of monosyllabic nouns, which we have somehow learned to interpret (up to a point).

There were nine participants from Ireland, all involved in Irish-language projects. One round-table session featured a description by colleagues based in *Dublin City University* of an on-line Irish-Welsh (with English) terminology project, part-funded by the EU and Foras na Gaeilge, and accessible from 2007 at <http://www.focal.ie>

It wasn't all work in Torino. The city is renowned for good food and wine, as well as for its shopping, fine buildings and cultural life. The 2006 Winter Olympics were held here in January. But efforts to see the Holy Shroud (*la Sacra Sindone*) failed. The famous relic is now displayed only rarely, and will not go on public view again until the year 2025. In the meantime, positive and negative photographic images are exhibited in a side chapel of the cathedral.

I still have to read up on the handling of Hungarian preverbs, fashion words in Afrikaans, Latin terms in Sanskrit dictionaries, machine-lemmatization of ancient Greek, and other fascinating subjects, having just read in a French contribution how word-game champions can end up disregarding in other spheres valid words and forms not admitted (for whatever reason) to the ruling 'referee' dictionaries.

The next Euralex International Congress is set for July 2008, in Barcelona.

Máire Nic Mhaoláin

## ■ Letter to the Editor

Regarding the subject of spelling reform (ITIA bulletin, August 2006 issue), as a native Italian speaker, I have always found English spelling baffling and fascinating at the same time. I soon learned that, unlike Italian, English spelling is both unrelated to pronunciation and unpredictable. It's part of the charm of the language, of its richness. I do not believe language should be as rigorous and rational as science; language is not a laboratory product. Language is a living thing and as such is inconsistent.

Honestly I can't see the point in reforming the English spelling. Languages change spontaneously. There's nothing inherently wrong in *nite* or *thru* and probably one day they'll be as acceptable and accepted as *night* and *through*. We've already learnt to spell *jail* instead of *gaol* or *connection* instead of *connexion*. It's natural that other changes will occur in the future, just like it has always done.

What I find outrageous is the misuse of *it's* and *its*. It's not a mere spelling matter here, it's grammar. To make things worse, pronunciations vary both at regional and national levels. To spell the way we speak would be therefore impractical and silly. A man from New York wouldn't be able to read *The Financial Times* for example. English would stop being the universal language it is today. Which English should be taught abroad?

A reform would be just a waste of time and money (everything would be re-written), and surely it wouldn't improve our linguistic abilities. We would have only to lose and nothing to gain.

Regards,  
Raffaele La Gala

## ■ A Call for International Solidarity for Freedom of Expression

### ABOUT US

We are a Turkish literary translators' organization founded with the aim of protecting the economic and moral rights of book translators and contributing to the development of the profession of translation in Turkey. Our initiative started as an e-discussion group in the summer of 2003, and eventually, after many discussions and meetings, it was given a semi-official status in June 2006 by the name of *ÇEVİR* (Professional Association of Turkish Book Translators).

### OUR OBJECTIVE

The recent resurgence of rules and regulations in Turkish law restricting freedom of expression has been applying enormous legal pressure on everyone enjoying this freedom, ranging from writers to translators, and publishers to editors. Apart from supporting the freedom of expression *per se*, *ÇEVİR*, as a professional organization, aims specifically to secure the position of translators before the law and to prevent them from facing arbitrary prosecutions on grounds of the regulations ambiguously worded to provide a pretext to curb the freedom of expression. By promoting national and international solidarity, we hope that this initiative enlightens the Turkish public opinion regarding the current situation and that it helps build urgent amendments to secure and implement the "freedom of expression".

### CURRENT SITUATION

1) An investigation was carried out into the book *Father and Bastard* [*Baba ve Piç*] by Elif Shafak and charges were filed against the author herself, together with her translator, Asli Biçen, and publisher Semih Sökmen. Later the charges against the latter two were dropped on grounds that the author resides in Turkey.

2) Fatih Tas, owner of Aram Publications and translators Lütfi Taylan Tosun and Aysel Yildirim are currently standing trial for John Tirman's book *Spoils of War: The Human Cost of American Arms Trade* [*Savas Ganimetleri*] published in April 2005. They may face imprisonment for a term of 2 to 7.5 years.

3) Again, publisher Fatih Tas, together with his two editors, F. Kurhan and Lütfi Taylan Tosun, and translator Dr. Ender Abadoglu, are currently standing trial for the book *Manufacturing Consent: The Political Economy of Mass Media* [*Rizanin İmalatı*] by Noam

Chomsky and Edward S. Herman, published by Aram Publications in March 2006. They may face imprisonment for a term of 1.5 to 6 years.

### LEGAL BASIS FOR THE INDICTMENT OF TRANSLATORS IN TURKEY

The Turkish law on intellectual and artistic property (FSEK) regards the literary translators' work as a "derivative work". Although this law secures the economic and moral rights of both the original owner of the work and the translator, in the articles of Turkish Criminal Code on "crimes committed through publications" (to humiliate the state, to insult the military forces, to deliver separatist propaganda, etc.) the translator is subject to prosecutions, again based on FSEK and the related articles of the Press Law, as "the owner of the work" if the owner of the original work does not reside in Turkey or is outside the Turkish jurisdiction and so on. Moreover, the owners and the editors of publishing houses still stand trial, and this is an undeniable evidence of the fact that a primitive conception of criminal responsibility still holds the upper hand. Along this line of reasoning, anyone could be brought before the court, from cover designers to those printing them in printing houses, and even readers.

On the other hand, as stated by the President of the Turkish Republic, Ahmet Necdet Sezer, "The seventh paragraph of the 38th article of the Constitution stipulates that criminal responsibility is personal." This principle aims to make sure that punishment is decided and meted out only and exclusively to those who have committed a crime, and not to anyone else. In other words, this principle says that criminal responsibility needs to be based on 'offence'."

People of common sense should acknowledge that the "ownership" of a translator is not related to the content of the text s/he is obliged to translate accurately and completely as required by professional ethics but to the way the content is reproduced in Turkish or in any other target language. This is, in fact, why FSEK considers the translator as an "owner of the work" and also formalizes the concept of "ownership of the derivative work" to differentiate the two. The translator does not express an opinion of his/her own; s/he has to abide by what is written by the author. In this respect, just as the way an interpreter who interprets for a suspect in court cannot be held responsible for the content of the suspect's statements, the translator of a written work cannot be held responsible for the content of the text that s/he has translated.

Furthermore, in the laws of many European countries, for instance, in German Federal Criminal Code, there are general provisions providing scientific and artistic works and their translations with immunity from such penalties. In any case, in many countries in the world, scientific and artistic works in particular, enjoy greater protection than other expressions of opinion aimed at propaganda because it is accepted that people of science and arts—that certainly includes translators—do not express their opinions merely for propaganda purposes. All written works are systematized sets of thoughts. No idea, regardless of its content, can be considered as a crime as long as it remains within the format of an opinion. Therefore, as far as universal law is concerned, there is no valid rationale to include an author, publisher or a translator within a chain of criminality in relation to a book. We would like to re-emphasize that: We, as ÇEVİRİ, are openly and utterly against the restriction of the freedom of expression exercised on all parties, whether they hold the ownership of the original work or the “derivative work” or simply participate in the production. We consider the attempts to punish translators for their translations as the extreme tragicomic instance of a hostile attitude against the freedom of opinion and expression in our country, an attitude which has existed for many years, and which, under the pretext of “the war against terror” has recently been gaining momentum in many countries of the West as well.

#### YOUR LEGAL STATUS

In this context, we believe that obtaining information on laws pertaining to translators in your country and their criminal liabilities, in the event that those acts through publication are considered crime under your criminal code, will be of help for us in our struggle for the freedom of expression in our country.

#### OUR REQUEST

We invite you to follow, to the best of your ability, the current and possible future cases filed against writers, publishers and translators in connection with books published in Turkey, and to send observers to trials whenever possible; to contact the official authorities in Turkey, ask to be informed about the cases, let them know that you are sensitive to the issue of freedom of opinion and convey your protest; to support various activities to be organized by ÇEVİRİ such as petitions, conferences and the like; and to stay in touch and act in solidarity with ÇEVİRİ.

We thank you very much in advance for your attention and help on this subject and wish to work with you in various and more enjoyable activities in the future.

## ■ EST Young Scholar Award 2007

Applications are invited for the next *EST Young Scholar Award*, to be presented at the EST Congress in Ljubljana in September 2007, with the financial support of John Benjamins. The value of the award is €2500.

#### *What is the Award for?*

The Award is for a significant contribution by a young scholar to Translation or Interpreting Studies, such as a doctoral thesis or equivalent monograph, not necessarily published. The work must have been completed since the previous EST Congress, Lisbon 2004.

#### *Who can apply?*

Applicants must be members of EST at the time of application. Applicants must apply in person. Teachers are requested to draw the Award to the attention of potential applicants.

#### *How and when to apply?*

Applications should be sent by January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2007, to Heidrun Gerzymisch-Arbogast  
Advanced Translation Research Center (ATRC)  
Building A 22, University of the Saarland  
Postfach 15 11 50  
D - 66123 Saarbrücken, Germany

or electronically to [h.gerzymisch\(a\)mx.uni-saarland.de](mailto:h.gerzymisch(a)mx.uni-saarland.de)

Applications may be submitted electronically or in printed hardcopy. Applications submitted in hardcopy must include three copies of the work submitted (to be retained by the referees), three copies of an abstract of about 1000 words, three copies of the curriculum vitae of the applicant. Applications submitted electronically must include the complete work to be evaluated with an abstract and curriculum vitae as described above. The work may be in any language. The abstract must be in English. In all cases, an electronic version of the abstract should also be sent by email to:  
[h.gerzymisch\(a\)mx.uni-saarland.de](mailto:h.gerzymisch(a)mx.uni-saarland.de)

#### *Assessment procedure*

Each application will be assessed by three referees. The jury of referees will be arranged and coordinated by the EST Award Committee chaired by Heidrun Gerzymisch-Arbogast. The final decision will be made by the Committee.

## ■ Employment Opportunity

### Concordia University, Montréal, Canada

The *département d'Études françaises* from Concordia University invites applications for one tenure-track position in translation.

The ideal candidate will have a PhD with a specialization in computer-assisted translation and a demonstrated interest in translation theory. Applicants must have appropriate university teaching experience, a publication record, practical experience in translation, an ability to work cooperatively, to tutor students and to perform administrative tasks.

The candidate must have a good command of French (speaking, reading and writing).

Please send your application to the contact name provided below c/o Concordia University, 1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W., Montreal, Qc. H3G 1M8. Applications should consist of a cover letter, a current curriculum vitae, copies of recent publications, a statement of teaching philosophy and interests, a statement of research achievements and evidence of teaching effectiveness. Candidates should arrange for three letters of reference to be sent directly to the department contact.

Subject to budgetary approval, we anticipate filling these positions, normally at the rank of Assistant Professor, for July 1, 2007. Appointments at a more senior level may also be considered for some of the positions advertised. Review of applications will begin immediately and will continue until the positions are filled. All applications should reach departments no later than November 1, 2006.

All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadian citizens and permanent residents of Canada will be given priority. Concordia University is committed to employment equity.

*Contact Name:*

Dr Ollivier Dyens

*Contact Title:*

Directeur, département d'Études françaises

*Contact Email:*

odyens(a)alcor.concordia.ca

## ■ Conferences, Calls & Courses

### **Sixth Portsmouth Translation Conference, UK** **University of Portsmouth, Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November, 2007**

Conference title: Translation Technologies and Culture.

Keynote Speaker: Anthony Pym

The international conference aims to investigate the interface between translation technologies and culture from a range of different perspectives. In the modern world technology is both shaping the way communication takes place across the different cultures of the world community and, at the same time, being shaped by those cultures. What are the implications of this changing environment for the translator and the interpreter and those that train them? Do we understand the changes that are taking place and appreciate the threats and opportunities they bring with them?

For all information please log on to the conference website: [www.port.ac.uk/translationconference](http://www.port.ac.uk/translationconference) which contains details of the programme, the abstracts, the venue and online registration. The conference fee is £40, £25 for students.

The conference organiser is [ian.kemble@port.ac.uk](mailto:ian.kemble@port.ac.uk)

### **Online Postgraduate Certificate in Translation Studies** **Centre for Translation and Intercultural Studies, University of Manchester**

The Centre for Translation and Intercultural Studies is offering a programme designed for people who would like to obtain a postgraduate qualification in translation studies from the University of Manchester but who are unable to attend a part-time or full-time programme in Manchester. The Postgraduate Certificate in Translation Studies is delivered via the web and is a part-time programme (requiring approximately 4-6 hours of study per week).

The next session runs from October 2006 to June 2007 and consists of two course units:

1. Introduction to Translation Studies
2. Commercial Translation, Spanish-English or English-Spanish

Note: applications received by mid-September may still be considered for the 10<sup>th</sup> October start date.

For more information on the programme please consult the following webpage:

<http://www.llc.manchester.ac.uk/Research/Centres/CentreforTranslationandInterculturalStudies/OnlinePostgraduateProgramme/> . Alternatively, go to <http://www.llc.manchester.ac.uk> and follow the links to Translation and Intercultural Studies. For an online application form, see: <http://www.manchester.ac.uk/postgraduate/howtoapply/>

Queries about the programme may be emailed to Dr Sandra Torres ([Sandra.Torres@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:Sandra.Torres@manchester.ac.uk)) or Dr Maeve Olohan, ([maeve.oloohan@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:maeve.oloohan@manchester.ac.uk))

**European Society for Translation Studies****5<sup>th</sup> EST CONGRESS - LJUBLJANA 2007**

Faculty of Arts, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia, September 3rd – 5th 2007

**ANNOUNCEMENT AND CALL FOR PAPERS****Why Translation Studies Matters**

Translation Studies in its modern form as a distinct inter-discipline has been in existence for several decades. We now have a number of specialized journals, hundreds of scholars who meet often for conferences, many theses, dissertations and academic positions. Clearly, Translation Studies matters to those who are engaged in it, be it because they find it fascinating as a scholarly activity, because it is part of their academic career, or for other reasons. But does it matter to others? Does it, for example, add value to practitioners of translation, by teaching them something useful and allowing them to enhance their translation skills, or perhaps by enhancing their status in society? Does it contribute to translator training by offering useful training methods, assessment criteria or other elements? Does it matter to other academic communities by contributing new knowledge and new methods from the realm of translation? Does it matter to society at large, for instance by showing what impact translation-related phenomena have had on various communities? Are some effects of Translation Studies still to come? Which, how and when?

Contributions could address these important questions from many angles, for example by discussing the relations between Translation Studies and the practice of translation and/or between Translation Studies and translator training, by performing sociological analysis of the groups involved, by examining the relationship between Translation Studies and immigration policies, or the links between Translation Studies and new forms of electronic literacy. In addition, questions can be raised about the 'interdisciplinary' nature of Translation Studies and its shifting and often problematic relationship with neighbouring fields.

**Sessions and Pre-congress workshops**

The congress programme is scheduled to start on the morning of 3rd September and end by lunch time on 5th September. It will include plenary sessions, panels, parallel sessions and posters.

Pre-congress workshops will take place on 2nd September - two in the morning and two in the afternoon. They require a minimum of 20 participants. The provisional issues and moderators are:

- ◆ Critical reading for learning and self-improvement (Moderator: Daniel Gile)
  - ◆ Democratization of knowledge through Specialized Translation (Moderators: Susanne Göpferich and Peter Kastberg)
  - ◆ The challenge of using a plurality of methods in empirical translation research (Moderator: Gyde Hansen)
  - ◆ Terminological issues in TS (Moderator: Gerhard Budin)
- (Estimated workshop fee: €70)

*Paper proposals*

Abstracts of minimum 500 words with five keywords for 20 min. papers and for posters should be submitted online via this website: [www.est2007.si](http://www.est2007.si)

Panel proposals should be submitted by the moderator as a single abstract with the list of panellists (names and affiliation). Panels, made up of 4-5 panellists, should be structured around a precise topic and consist of 90 min. debates on a pre-determined set of questions formulated by the moderator.

The Congress languages will be English, French, German and Spanish. Contributions may be given, and abstracts should be submitted, in any of these languages. Contributions in other languages than English should be announced with an abstract and a title in the relevant language. The title should also be translated into English for the benefit of colleagues who do not understand it. As there will be no interpreting into English, presentations given in the other languages may have a limited number of listeners.

**Key Dates**

The deadline for submission of abstracts and panel proposals is 1st November 2006. The scientific committee will return its decision around 15th March 2007.

**Further information**

A second circular including further information will be issued in March 2007

A third circular including the congress programme will be sent shortly before the congress dates

Further information will be made available on the conference website at: [www.est2007.si](http://www.est2007.si) and on the EST-website:

[www.est-translationstudies.org](http://www.est-translationstudies.org)

## ■ Contacting The ITIA

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

Address: 19 Parnell Square, Dublin 1, Ireland  
Telephone: +353-1-872 1302  
Fax: +353-1-872 6282  
Email: [itiasecretary\(a\)eircom.net](mailto:itiasecretary(a)eircom.net)  
Web: [www.translatorsassociation.ie](http://www.translatorsassociation.ie)

### ITIA BULLETIN

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### ITIA COMMITTEE - 2004/2005

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## ■ ITIA Resources for Translators

The *Irish Translators' & Interpreters' Association* has compiled a series of useful information leaflets for translators and interpreters - both members and non-members alike. These leaflets are available from the ITIA website at [www.translatorsassociation.ie](http://www.translatorsassociation.ie).

- ◆ *The Translation Profession*
- ◆ *Joining the ITIA*
- ◆ *Ordinary Membership Application*
- ◆ *Professional Membership Application*
- ◆ *Database Entry*
- ◆ *Code of Practice*
- ◆ *Background Information*
- ◆ *Translation Services in Ireland*
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