



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

ITIA Bulletin

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Editorial

This first newly numbered issue of the Bulletin would like to wish all our readers a healthy and prosperous 2015. While we bade goodbye to 2014 with a very merry mulled wine ITIA Xmas party, so far this year seems to have begun with quite a number of the topics from previous years continuing to raise their heads - the role of technology in translation, government bodies being unwilling or unable to understand what an interpreter does and the skills needed as well as the dilemmas of translating work which have cost people, as in the case of Charlie Hebdo, their lives. It would certainly appear that there is plenty more work required to try to improve all translators' and interpreters' place in the professional world.

Speaking of professionals, we were delighted to welcome Prof. Lorraine Leeson as Honorary ITIA Member in December for her more than two decades of work in sign language interpreting and with the deaf communities. We also have a good bye and many thanks to Jody Byrne for his many years of input - founder of the ITIA Bulletin in 2000, editor until 2003 and layout person until last month.

For those of you who follow current issues through social media, do check out the ITIA Facebook page <http://www.facebook.com/ITIA.Ireland> to keep up to the minute!

If there are any other themes, topics or issues that are exercising you and which you would like to see covered in the Bulletin please let us know at theitiabulletin@gmail.com

Anne Larchet & Adam Brożyński
Co-Editors

This article looks at advances in machine translation, adding to the interminable debate.

The battle of the translators: man vs machine

Once, machine translation was only possible in a galaxy far, far away - from Star Trek's Universal Translator to Hitchhiker's Babel Fish. But now that Microsoft's Skype Translator enables callers speaking different languages to converse in real-time via machine translation, that science fiction fantasy has become a non-fiction reality. But in the battle of the translators, who wins - man or machine?

Skype's new translator is an impressive technological feat that is able to take spoken words, convert them into text, translate the text, and then synthesize it back into spoken words in the language of the person on the other end of the call, all in a fraction of a second. All-in-all a platform that will be enormously helpful for breaking down barriers and enabling business and social conversations across the planet - If you haven't tried it, find a Spanish-speaking friend and check it out. You will be muy sorprendido.

Yet, with the growing globalization of business and commerce, many of whom struggle to communicate with customers, officials, employees and partners in foreign markets, comes a burgeoning demand for high quality translations. Couple that with the fact that consumers have proven time and again that they are far more likely to buy when a website or e-commerce platform is tailor translated into their native tongue, and the need is unmistakable.

Anyone who has tried to read a Google Translated article knows that machine translations still don't

entirely get things like context, colloquial and nuance. This hysterical rendition of the hit song "Let It Go" -- where the lyrics were Google Translated into another language and translated back into English ("Lit white snow on the mountain tonight/no visible legs/Discrimination Law/is probably the queen....") - makes this point crystal clear.

...machine translations still don't entirely get things like context, colloquial and nuance.

Having your message lost in translation is often comic, but it can also be downright embarrassing. Take the case of Sajid Javid, the British Economic Secretary to the Treasury (similar to Secretary of the Treasury), whose title was quite literally translated to a visiting Japanese delegation as "Cheap Typist". And of course, it can go beyond funny and awkward, it can actually do damage to your business. Just ask Pepsi, which, when introducing their product to the Chinese market, used the slogan "Come Alive with the Pepsi Generation", which was translated as "Pepsi brings your ancestors back from the dead" (a promise Pepsi could never deliver on).

In short, when localizing your website or marketing materials for foreign speakers and markets, you best make sure nothing is getting lost in translation.

The Skype Translator, with its advanced machine learning, will no doubt get better with time, but still has a long way to go to match the level of accuracy, creativity and flair for language of a professional human translator.

So, while machine translations may be great for rudimentary translations or even video calls, professional human translators are expert craftsmen, linguists, wordsmiths and proofreaders all wrapped in one. In addition to possessing cultural insight, they also are better editors who shape and perfect a piece for better public consumption, guaranteeing a level of faithfulness to the original document - a skill that not

even the most cutting-edge machine translation technology is capable of doing just yet.

Machine translators are simply not yet at the level of their chess-playing counterparts, which can beat humans at their own game. As long as automatic translators lack the self-awareness, insight and fluency of a professional human translator, a combination of human translation assisted by machine translation may be the optimal solution.

Ofer Shoshan

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Original source: <http://tinyurl.com/llf34mg>

Here the dangers of sole reliance on machine translation are exposed.

An Irishman's Diary – Patient lost in translation

The perils of Google Translate

Time was, the biggest risk of miscommunication in hospitals arose from the bad handwriting of doctors. But according to the *British Medical Journal*, there's a new menace stalking the emergency wards these days, Google Translate.

Anyone who has ever resorted to that technological wonder (Google Translate, I mean, not the BMJ), even in a non-medical context, might have reason to be nervous about the thought of it being relied on during hospital treatment. And yet it sometimes is, apparently.

British medics find themselves on occasion having to make quick decisions about patients across a gulf of mutual miscomprehension, and where no human interpreters are available. When that happens, GT may be resorted to, with mixed results.

For the purposes of a survey, as reported by the journal, 10 common medical phrases were auto-translated into 26 different languages. Then human speakers of the languages translated the results back into English, revealing an assortment of horrors.

In one case, I needed to have the medical English translated too. Thus the word "fitting", as I now know,

can also be the present participle of a verb meaning “to have seizures”. As such it featured in the worst mistranslation, whereby the phrase “your child is fitting” became, in Swahili, “your child is dead”.

Only slightly less terrible was the Polish translation of a suggestion – used to relatives when the patient is indeed deceased, or nearly – “your husband has the opportunity to donate his organs”. Thanks to Google Translate, this becomes: “Your husband can donate his tools”.

Other mistakes were at least borderline poetic. Googled into Marathi (an Indian language), the sentence “your husband had a cardiac arrest” comes out as “your husband had an imprisonment of heart”. And then there’s the phrase “your wife needs to be ventilated”, which in Google-Bengali is “your wife wind movement needed”.

...the phrase “your child is fitting” became, in Swahili, “your child is dead”.

For some reason, this last concept reminds me of a story concerning the late English politician Jeremy Thorpe. According to the obituaries he was, before his famous fall from grace, considered one of the most charismatic of MPs.

Key to his popularity was an ability to remember the names of constituents – a trick he managed by the classic memory-training technique of giving each person a nickname based on word association.

The method backfired once, however, when he struggled to recall the very unusual family name of a voter in Barnstaple. After scouring his mental database, he took a chance, as follows: “So nice to see you again, Mrs Bag.” Whereupon she corrected him that her surname (of Norman origin, I believe) was in fact “Gas”.

I was writing here last week about a Twitter account that scours the web for inadvertent examples of iambic pentameter, then matches them with rhyming others to produce – occasionally, anyway – something greater

than the separate originals. But accidental poetry didn’t start with the internet, nor did mistranslation.

For examples worthy of Google Translate, you can go back to the first English-language Bible, compiled by Myles Coverdale in 1535. Coverdale was one of the early-adaptor Protestants, who felt strongly that the Good Book should be accessible in the vernacular, and didn’t let his lack of Latin, Greek, or Hebrew deter him from making it so.

Hence such leaps of imagination as when he was working on the Book of Psalms and came to the section (105: 18) wherein a man named Joseph is captured and put in irons.

In Hebrew versions, it was specified that the irons were around his neck. But in Hebrew, the word for “neck” can also mean “soul”. And confronted with this confusion, Coverdale lost the run of himself altogether before declaring, *vis-à-vis* Joseph, that “the iron entered into his soul”.

This sounds like something Google Translate might come up with when trying to explain the condition of a patient just arrived in A&E on a Saturday night. Yet it is undoubtedly poetic and implies something more profound than the prosaic original. So, even though subsequent Bible translations returned to the intended meaning, Coverdale’s image lived on.

Iron in the soul is not something diagnosed by modern doctors, even ones with bad handwriting. But it still sounds convincingly like a metaphysical condition. And among other uses, it has served as an English title for Jean-Paul Sartre’s book *La mort dans l’âme*, which describes the crisis of conscience in occupied France in 1940 and the subsequent transition from apathy to resistance.

Frank McNally

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Translators for Journalists (T4J) condemn the murder of the journalists and cartoonists at the Charlie Hebdo satirical newspaper and the police that guarded them. We are all someone's Charlie.

Translators for Journalists condemn the murder of French journalists and cartoonists

On behalf of all the members of Translators for Journalists, a French-based network of linguists specializing in media translation, we condemn the murder of the journalists and cartoonists at the Charlie Hebdo satirical newspaper and the police that guarded them.

Our thoughts and prayers go to the families and friends of the victims.

The Translators for Journalists network was created because we believe the most basic freedom of all is that of the press, since it safeguards all the others. The proof is that in every country where democracy is in peril, journalists are the first to be attacked.

Linguists are not foreign to the work of journalists or to the conditions they endure. According to Intranews, 1,349 interpreters have been killed or murdered in action since 2001, many of them working as “fixers” for the press.

On the day of the launch of Translators for Journalists, the body of Naseeb Karnafah, a Libyan journalist on Al-Wataniya TV, was found in a cemetery in Sabha two days after she had been kidnapped, her throat cut.

Now extremists have murdered the staff of journalists as cartoonists at Charlie Hebdo in Paris, simply because they poked fun at what should be mocked: any form of political or religious restriction on individual freedom of expression. We are all someone's Charlie.

Contact: Malcolm Duff, Chief Editor
<http://www.translatorsforjournalists.org>

A number of articles from the home front, starting with an article by Kevin Hickey reporting for online Irish language journal Tuairisc.ie that there has been a big reduction in the cost of interpreter provision to the courts, which has come down to €1.26 million. In 2014, interpreters were provided in 6,728 cases. Of these 1,781 or over a quarter, were Polish, followed by Romanian, Lithuanian, Russian, Mandarin, Vietnamese, Arabic, Latvian, Hungarian and Czech.

According to the Courts Service Annual Report 2013, interpreter provision in 2008 cost €3.75m, and in 2012 €1.56m. Costs have come down partly because of a tendering process and partly due to reduced demand.

Laghdú ar sheirbhísí ateangaireachta cúirte

Costas na seirbhíse ateangaireachta i gcúirteanna na tíre tite 66% le sé bliana anuas

Chosain ateangaireacht go Béarla €1.26m ar sheirbhís na gcúirteanna le linn na bliana seo caite ach ba in áit na leathphingine a bhí an caiteachas ar ateangaireacht ón nGaeilge.

Cuireadh seirbhísí ateangaireachta ar fáil i 6,728 cás agus ba í an Pholainnis a bhí ar bharr liosta na n-éileamh.

Úsáideadh ateangaireacht ón bPolainnis i 1,781 cás – sin os cionn an ceathrú cuid de na cásanna ar theastaigh aistriúchán ó bhéal lena n-aghaidh.

Níl figiúirí iomlána le fáil fós ó Sheirbhís na gCúirteanna maidir leis an gcaiteachas ar ateangaireacht ón nGaeilge ach tuigtear do Tuairisc.ie gur mionchaiteachas a bhí i gceist mar nach raibh an Ghaeilge i measc na ndeich dteanga is mó a raibh éileamh orthu sna cúirteanna.

Seo mar a bhí na figiúirí a bhain leis na deich dteanga sin:

Polainnis (26%)

Rómáinis (19%)
Liotuáinis (17%)
Rúisis (7%)
An Mhandairínis (6%)
Vítneaimís (3%)
Araibis (3%)
Laitvis (3%)
Ungáiris (1.5%)
Seicis (1.4%)

De bharr socrú nua a rinne Seirbhís na gCúirteanna tar éis próiseas tairisceana poiblí, is 3 chomhlacht ar leith a chuireann an ateangaireacht ar fáil anois ar bhonn náisiúnta do chúirteanna na tíre.

Dá thoradh sin, agus de bharr laghdú ar an éileamh ar sheirbhísí ateangaireachta le roinnt blianta anuas, thit costas na seirbhíse sin 66% le sé bliana anuas.

Dúirt Seirbhís na gCúirteanna gur chuireadar seirbhísí ateangaireachta ar fáil i gcás 210 teanga agus canúint éagsúil le scór blianta anuas.

Íocadh beagnach €600,000 leis an gcomhlacht Translation.ie agus beagnach €360,000 le Lionbridge International as seirbhísí ateangaireachta a sholáthar le linn 2013.

Deirtear i dtuarascáil bhliantúil Sheirbhís na gCúirteanna don bhliain 2013 atá díreach foilsithe, gur chabhraigh an córas nua lárnaithe le seirbhísí ateangaireachta ar chaighdeán níos airde a sholáthar do na cúirteanna agus d'úsáideoirí na gcúirteanna.

Ní bhíonn ateangaireacht riachtanach don Ghaeilge i gcás cúirte nuair atá an teanga ar a dtoil ag an mbreitheamh agus ag na páirtithe éagsúla atá gafa leis an gcás.

Kevin Hickey

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Same author also reports in Tuarisc that the number of court cases where interpreters were provided for Irish is going down. While interpreters

were provided in 28 cases in 2011, by 2014 they were only provided in 14 cases. Apparently, some cases were heard entirely in Irish without any need for an interpreter.

Titim 50% ar líon na gcásanna le hateangaire Gaeilge

Níor cuireadh ateangaire Gaeilge ar fáil ach le haghaidh 14 cás i mbliana.

Tá titim 50% ar líon na gcásanna ar cuireadh ateangaire Gaeilge ar fáil lena n-aghaidh le ceithre bliana anuas.

De réir eolais atá faighte ag Tuarisc.ie ó Sheirbhís na gCúirteanna, cuireadh ateangaire Gaeilge ar fáil le haghaidh 28 cás i 2011 ach tá laghdú leanúnach tagtha ar líon na gcásanna ó shin i leith. Níor cuireadh ateangaire Gaeilge ar fáil ach le haghaidh 14 cás i mbliana.

Seo thíos na figiúirí a chuir Seirbhís na gCúirteanna ar fáil do Tuarisc.ie:

Líon na gcásanna ar cuireadh ateangaire Gaeilge ar fáil lena n-aghaidh

2011 – 28

2012 – 17

2013 – 15

2014 – 14

Ar ndóigh, éisteadh roinnt cásanna go huile is go hiomlán trí Ghaeilge le linn na mblianta thuasluaite agus sna cásanna sin, ní bheadh aon ghá le hateangaire.

Tá ateangaire curtha ar fáil sa chás go roghnaíonn cosantóir go n-éistfí a chás i mBéarla ach gur mhian leis, mar sin féin, fianaise agus ceisteanna a ghabhann leis an gcás a chloisteáil ina theanga dhúchais de ghrá na soiléireachta.

Tá an titim seo i gcás na Gaeilge ag teacht cuid mhaith leis an laghdú atá tagtha ar chostas na seirbhíse ateangaireachta cúirte le haghaidh teangacha eile.

Mar a tuairiscíodh ar an suíomh seo an tseachtain seo caite, chosain ateangaireacht go Béarla €1.26m ar

sheirbhís na gcúirteanna le linn na bliana seo caite, ach ba in áit na leathphingine a bhí an caiteachas ar ateangaireacht ón nGaeilge.

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I measc na dteangacha eile ina gcuirtear seirbhísí ateangaireachta ar fáil níos minice ná mar dhéantar i gcás na Gaeilge, tá an Vítneaimís, an Araibis, an Laitvis, an Ungáiris agus an tSeicis.

De bharr socrú nua a rinne Seirbhís na gCúirteanna tar éis próiseas tairisceana poiblí, is 3 chomhlacht ar leith a chuireann an ateangaireacht ar fáil anois ar bhonn náisiúnta do chúirteanna na tíre.

Dá thoradh sin, agus de bharr laghdú ar an éileamh ar sheirbhísí ateangaireachta le roinnt blianta anuas, thit costas na seirbhíse sin 66% le sé bliana anuas.

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Kevin Hickey

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Below is a piece by our Chairperson, Mary Phelan, commenting on a recent FLAC report on Social Protection and Interpreter Provision.

FLAC Report Review

FLAC, the Free Legal Advice Centre, in association with Crosscare, Dublin City Centre Citizens Information Services and Doras Luimní, has published a report on the issues faced by immigrants in accessing social protection. The report is called Person or Number? 2 and is available online: <http://tinyurl.com/pxhoq64>

The research was carried out by the NGOs mentioned above and focuses on 35 cases where there were issues around social protection. In all, 71 issues were raised by the 35 people. In addition, an online survey was carried out of 31 development managers in Citizens Information Services.

The ITIA is glad to see the issue of access to interpreters being raised in the report. People who speak English and need to access social protection do not have to confide in others about needing to access services. However, those who are not fluent in English are often dependent on family members and friends to accompany them to appointments. Interpreters should be provided either in person or over the phone to ensure that social protection officials can do their jobs properly and that people who do not speak English can access the services to which they are entitled. However, the report does not mention the issue of interpreter training and competency – all too often, paid interpreters are recruited by translation agencies without any quality controls or checks. Social protection staff would also benefit from training in how to work with an interpreter and what to expect from an interpreter.

This is an extract from the report:

4. Use of Interpreters

In the Department of Social Protection's Customer Action Plan 2013-2015 it has committed to ensuring: the rights to equal treatment established by equality legislation, and accommodate diversity, so as to contribute to equality for the groups covered by the equality legislation ... Identify and work to eliminate barriers to access to services for people experiencing

poverty and social exclusion, and for those facing geographic barriers to services. Under this particular commitment it states that: The Department will...Provide interpretation and translation services to meet customer needs.

...interpreters are recruited by translation agencies without any quality controls or checks.

There were at least five cases in the sample where it was clear that applicants had inadequate English language skills to fully understand the application procedures they were involved in. In none of these cases was a person offered an interpreter and in one case a person requested an interpreter and was refused. This issue merits a separate study in its own right as it is a serious and significant issue if people are not being facilitated to engage with the social protection system in a fair way. If applicants have inadequate English language skills it can lead to very unbalanced interactions with misunderstandings on both sides. Crosscare's Information and Advocacy Services service used interpreters 1,128 times for 504 distinct individuals in the year to the end of June 2014. Information obtained under the Freedom of Information Acts shows that in 2013 only 492 people were provided with an interpreter in their interactions with the Department of Social Protection. This was a year that saw €1.4 million people in receipt of a social welfare payment. This is also in the context of the 2012 CSO report 'Profile 6 Migration and Diversity – A Profile of Diversity in Ireland' concluding that 43,229 non-Irish nationals could either not speak English well or not speak English at all.

Table 6. Interpreter usage in the Department of Social Protection

Year	In person interpreter	Telephone interpreter	Annual totals
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	interactions	interactions	
Jan- July 2014	137	163	300 to July
2013	288	204	492
2012	354	232	586
2011	273	136	409

Sourced under a Freedom of Information request to the Department of Social Protection

The average usage of interpreters per year in Department of Social Protection was 496 times over the three years from 2011 to 2013, either via the telephone or in person. This equates to just under 10 times per week, or two per day across the whole national network of 125 regional and branch offices. These low figures warrant further examination and research.

Recommendations

The Report makes a number of recommendations including one on interpreter provision:

10. Better use of Interpreters

Any person who is not fully capable of understanding their interactions with the Department of Social Protection without the assistance of an interpreter should be provided with an interpreter by the Department.

10.1 Guidance and training for frontline officials needs to be drawn up to assist in deciding whether or not an interpreter should be engaged to help deal with an applicant's case.

10.2 An applicant should be provided with an interpreter on request.

10.3 Monitoring of the implementation of the guidelines is also required.

Mary Phelan
ITIA Chairperson

Given the recent marking of Holocaust Remembrance Day Frank McNally's article is most pertinent.

An Irishman's Diary about the Corkman who translated 'Mein Kampf'

It will be 70 years in April since Adolf Hitler died and the German copyright on *Mein Kampf* is about to expire. This means that Bavaria's regional government, which assumed the rights upon Hitler's death, will no longer be able to suppress the work, as it has done since 1945.

The resultant soul-searching in Germany was the subject of a documentary recently on BBC Radio Four. But as the programme also explained, translations of the book abroad have never gone away. And a fascinating subplot of the story concerned the first full English-language version of Hitler's diatribe, which was the work of an ex-priest from Cork.

Born in 1880, James Murphy was by the late 1920s a married journalist and translator working in Berlin. As such, in 1934, he wrote a book about Hitler's rise, *The Drama of His Career*. This sufficiently impressed the Nazis that they then asked him for a full translation of *Mein Kampf*, which had previously made it into English only in much-abridged form.

Some time later, however, they changed their minds. After a trip to London in 1938 to secure a publisher, and having left the full manuscript in Berlin, Murphy learned he was no longer welcome in Germany. But he badly needed the money an English publication would bring. So his wife, who was able to travel to Berlin unnoticed, volunteered for a rescue mission.

First she tried to persuade an official from the ministry of propaganda to release the manuscript, arguing that a US version was imminent, and that her husband's work was a fair interpretation of Hitler's words. The bureaucrat was unimpressed. "Do you want me to be put up against a brick wall and shot?" he asked her.

But then Mrs Murphy tracked down a former secretary of her husband's who had a copy of the manuscript. So albeit without official approval, she was able to bring this back to London.

The translation was rushed into print, with ominous timing, in early 1939. And a short review of it in this

newspaper offered qualified admiration, viz: "While one may not share the enthusiasms of the author [...] and may even condemn much of the doctrine on international relations, it is hard not to feel some sympathy with his personal struggle."

In fairness, the critic also took issue with a suggestion in Murphy's own preface that much of the book's bitterness should be seen in the context of "conditions now past". The review concluded, tellingly: "The translator is entitled to his opinion, but not a line of the *Mein Kampf* has ever been withdrawn."

Translation was rushed into print, with ominous timing, in 1939.

The English version went on to sell an estimated 200,000 copies. But Murphy never received any royalties, in part because of doubts about copyright and also because the publisher argued he'd already been paid a fee for the original commission. Then in 1942, German bombs destroyed the company's presses, along with the book's plates. After which, an American translation became the standard English-language version.

In the meantime, those who did benefit from sales of Murphy's work included the British Red Cross, which garnered proceeds from a version published in 18 weekly instalments, with anti-Semitic illustrations, at sixpence each.

The book was of course a huge commercial success for Hitler himself, although not immediately. His appalling verbosity and bad German at first failed to woo readers. Then the book received the sort of sales boost than can only happen when the author becomes a dictator with supreme power.

From there on, it was a bestseller by government order, with promotions ranging from free copies for all married couples, to enormous, expensively bound editions for the Nazi supreme leadership, which was expected to read it on lecterns, like a Bible.

But even among people who didn't have to, the book has found willing audiences. One of the steadiest overseas

markets, according to the documentary, is India, where *Mein Kampf* has always sold well. As interviewees explained, the text is seen there as everything from a work of anti-British history to a kind of “self-help” manual on the rise of a small man.

The programme – *Mein Kampf: Publish or Burn?* – which was produced by John Murphy, the translator’s grandson, is still available on the BBC website. Back in Germany, meanwhile, the first post-copyright edition is already being prepared, with suitable annotations. There are misgivings, but historians have defended it as a necessary pre-emptive against the work’s revival by “charlatans and neo-Nazis”.

Frank McNally

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Announcement

Centrifugal: Contemporary Poetry from Dublin and Guadalajara

Launch, Tuesday February 10th 2015

Long Room Hub, Trinity College Dublin, Dublin 2.

The *Trinity Journal of Literary Translation*, in association with The Long Room Hub at Trinity College Dublin and the Irish Translators' and Interpreters' Association, present the Dublin launch of *Centrifugal: Contemporary Poetry from Dublin and Guadalajara* – a bilingual anthology of reciprocal translations / re-interpretations / versions of the work of 7 pairs of poets from the two cities. The book is published by Mexico's EBL-Cielo Abierto publishing house in conjunction with CONACULTA, Mexico's National Council for Culture and the Arts, and is co-edited by Ángel Ortuño (Guadalajara) and Christodoulos Makris (Dublin).

Introduced by Christodoulos Makris, and also featuring contributions from Alan Jude Moore, Anamaría Crowe Serrano, Catherine Walsh, John Kearns and Kit Fryatt, the event will include readings from the anthology [supported by audio recordings of the Mexican poets reading their original poems in Spanish] alongside discussions on the range of approaches employed in rendering the work of each partner poet into English.

Tuesday 10 February 2015, 6.30pm in the Long Room Hub, Trinity College Dublin, Dublin 2.

Seven poets from Dublin and 7 from Guadalajara exchange selections of their work in pairs and render the work of their partner poet in the opposite language. The emphasis is on re-interpretation rather than traditional translation: the poems become new in the hands of the partner poet while bearing the poetic core of the original. *Centrifugal* investigates the multiple possibilities of meaning released through the transfer of texts between languages. The poets' responses range from rewrites to deliberate mistranslations to dialogues with the originals to entirely new poems. Some make use of a near native-level knowledge of the opposite language, and some require literal translations of the source texts; others resort to dictionaries, web searches or Google Translate.

The writing presented in *Centrifugal* "strays from the centre, away from the main stream of how poetry and translation are expected to behave". In addition to providing a record of the work of some of the outstanding poets currently writing in the two cities, this book stands as a significant contribution to the exploration of the relationships between language, geography, identity and poetry.

Featuring: Alan Jude Moore & Xitlálitil Rodríguez
Anamaría Crowe Serrano & Mónica Nepote
Catherine Walsh & Laura Solórzano
Christodoulos Makris & Luis Eduardo García
John Kearns & José Eugenio Sánchez
Kimberly Campanello & Ángel Ortuño
Kit Fryatt & Ricardo Castillo

Centrifugal was officially launched in December 2014 at the Guadalajara International Book Fair in Mexico, the premier annual meeting event of the Spanish-language publishing world.

Obituaries

Sacvan Bercovitch (1933 – 2014)

A Canadian literary critic, cultural historian and an acclaimed translator of Yiddish. Bercovitch spent most of his life teaching and writing in the United States. During an academic career spanning five decades, he was regarded as one of the most influential and controversial names of his generation in the emerging field of American studies. He was born in Montreal to Russian Jewish parents and raised in a Yiddish-speaking household. Among other Yiddish writers he translated the work of Sholem Aleichem, Yaacov Zipper and Itzik Manger.

Follow this link to find out more about this inspiring figure: <http://tinyurl.com/mn78q97>

Adam Brożyński

info@polishtranslator.ie

Stanislaw Baranczak (1946 - 2014)

A poet, translator, scholar, lecturer and editor, he studied Polish at the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań. His published poetry first appeared in 1965. He is most well known for his English to Polish translations of the poetry of Emily Dickinson, Gerard Manley Hopkins, Robert Frost, Edward Lear and Seamus Heaney, as well as Shakespeare's dramas. He was also involved in political activity from the 1960s upto 1981 when Poland declared martial law and Baranczak left Poland for Harvard. One of his books, *Chirurgiczna precyzja / Surgical Precision*, won the Nike Literary Prize in 1999.

Anne Larchet

Worth a click

The Gibberish Korean of The Interview

- <http://tinyurl.com/nt23u4b>

The amazing brains of the real-time interpreters

- <http://tinyurl.com/nodk2mz>

What's Hot, What's Not?

What's HOT...

A European Court has confirmed the conclusion of the Advocate -General that in certain circumstances conditions relating to minimum rates for the self-employed/freelancers may be included in collective labour agreements to prevent 'social dumping'. This is a landmark decision which may provide many of our colleagues in Europe with a legal basis to tackle the exploitative rates paid by some large translation and interpreting agencies.

Financial Times readers from all over the world were invited to read and rate their favourite books - which featured a number of translations - one reviewer stating that she couldn't understand how it had taken so long for, in this instance Jaume Cabre's work to be translated into English.

...What's NOT

In stark contrast, an Irish Times reader was most put out at the list of best reads being predominantly translations. You definitely can't please them all!

The Spanish government has passed a law permitting any person, with or without qualification or training to act as an interpreter in Spanish courts and police stations and not having due regard for EU Directive 2010/64. Sound familiar?

Joining the ITIA

The *Irish Translators' & Interpreters' Association* is pleased to welcome new members to the association. We currently have the following categories of membership:

- Professional
- Associate
- Institutional
- Student
- Honorary

Professional Membership is awarded to translators or interpreters who meet the strict criteria of the ITIA based on qualification and level of experience.

Applicants must also achieve a PASS in the annual Professional Membership Examination (translator or interpreter) set by the ITIA.

Associate Membership is available to translators and interpreters who are starting out on their careers and to those who do not work full-time as a translator or interpreter. Many members avail of Associate Membership until such time as they have acquired the requisite experience and/or qualifications to apply for Professional Membership. Associate Membership is also availed of by people with a professional interest in the professions of translation and interpreting (e.g. terminologists, translation/interpreting tutors etc.) and by those who have a general interest in these professions.

Institutional Membership is available to bodies that do not function as commercial agencies, for example university centres for translation and interpreting studies or cultural institutes. Application documents for Institutional membership are currently being prepared.

Student Membership is available to persons undertaking undergraduate studies in any discipline or those undertaking postgraduate studies in translation or interpreting.

Honorary Membership is awarded by the ITIA AGM to persons in Ireland or abroad who have distinguished themselves in the field of translation or interpreting.

For further details and application forms, please see our website at <http://tinyurl.com/y65bgtb>

New Associate Members of the ITIA - December 2014

SUZANNE NOLAN

ENGLISH to and from FRENCH

DEJAN NOVACIC

ENGLISH to and from SERBO-CROAT

MILENA-PETRUTA OLTEANU

ROMANIAN from ENGLISH

NURILA OROZBEKOVA

ENGLISH to and from RUSSIAN

EGLE SMAIDZIUNAITE CORBETT

ENGLISH to and from LITHUANIAN

LARA WEAVER

ENGLISH from SPANISH, FRENCH

Contacting the ITIA

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ITIA Bulletin

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