



ITIA BULLETIN

January 2004

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Irish Translators' & Interpreters' Association
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■ Editorial

Welcome to the first ITIA Bulletin of 2004 and my first edition as editor. I would like to thank my predecessor Jody Byrne for his tireless efforts in setting up the Bulletin and editing it for the past year (and indeed for formatting the present issue, while I get to grips with the software!) - I wish him every success with his future research and translation work.

The Bulletin will continue with its usual blend of topical articles, reviews, and announcements, all of which we hope will bring together the community of translators and interpreters both in Ireland and beyond. Following last month's review of the recent print publication of two ITIT on-line symposia, this month we feature an article on the most recent on-line symposium on localization and translator training which took place in November 2003. Also following on from our look at the translators' centre in Prato last month, we have a feature on the EÜK international residential centre for translators at Straelen in Germany.

Just as the present issue was going "to press" (if you can say that about an e-zine) we received news that *Panos Kiliorides* and *Bassia Bannister* have been co-opted to the ITIA Professional Membership Subcommittee. Congratulations on this to both Panos and Bassia.

Of course a bulletin is only as good as the content submitted to it, so I would welcome contributions on all aspects of translation, interpreting, and language mediation in general. The deadline for articles for the next issue is February 10th so get writing!

John Kearns
Editor
kearns(a)pro.onet.pl

■ ITIA Chairman's Book Prize

Congratulations to the winner of the ITIA Chairman's December 2003 book prize who is Carolina Berra of Buenos Aires, Argentina. A copy of the Michael Frayn's *Spies* (Whitbread Novel of the Year 2002) is on its way to the lucky winner as we speak.

This month, we will be continuing the Chairman's Book Prize for our.

To enter, all you need to do is:

- 1 Invite a colleague to join the ITIA Bulletin mailing list by their sending an email to *itia-ezine-subscribe(a)yahoogleroups.com*
- 2 Send a blank Email to *bookprize(a)infomarex.ie* to confirm your participation in the January 2004 draw.
- 3 On the 20th January 2004, we will pick a low prime number at random and - in the date and time order

of the replies to *bookprize(a)infomarex.ie*. A member of the *itia-ezine(a)yahoogleroups.com* mailing list will then be the proud and lucky owner of a translation related book.

- 4 The winner will receive the book in the post /mail and his/her name will be announced in the February issue of the ITIA Bulletin.

So, don't delay, invite a colleague to join our ITIA Bulletin list and send a blank Email to *bookprize(a)infomarex.ie*

■ Babels

Babels is an international network of volunteer interpreters and translators whose main objective it is to cover the interpreting needs of the Social Forums and of other international events, as defined in the calendar of the "call of the social movements".

Created in September 2002 to cover the interpreting needs of the ESF (European Social Forum) in Florence, Babels - through its European co-ordination centres - succeeded in meeting the considerable challenge of assembling 350 interpreters from 7 countries for Florence in less than 2 months.

Objectives

- To play an active part in the conceptual and practical development of alternatives to neoliberalism and to the commodification of the world, by enabling and facilitating intercultural exchange and communication.
- To create an international network of voluntary interpreters and translators who want to use their skills and expertise to enable the sharing of analyses, experiences, and ideas of the social movements generally referred to as the "movements of Porto Alegre", and to allow these to co-ordinate their actions on an international level.
- To contribute to a reflection on the role of languages in the circulation of ideas between social movements, notably by creating common linguistic resources.

To meet these objectives, and in line with the requirements of the social movements and the resources available, Babels aims to participate directly in the

organisation of Social Forums (be they continental, thematic, or global) and of other international events, as defined in the calendar of the “call of the social movements”.

(Excerpt from the Charter for participation in the Babels network)

More information about Babels is available at:
<http://www.babels.org/information/index.html>

■ ITIT On-Line Symposium on Localization and Translator Training

Following on from last month's review of *Innovation & E-Learning in Translator Training* - a book resulting from two on-line symposia on the eponymous topics - this month we take a look at the latest in the same series of symposia organised by the Intercultural Studies Group at the Universitat Rovira i Virgili in Tarragona, this time devoted to localization and translator training.

The on-line discussion took place between November 20th and 29th 2003 (the archive is located at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/itit/messages/1>) and began with a questionnaire and position papers by major names in the field, including Frank Austerlühl, Minako O'Hagan, and Bert Esselink. The questionnaire provided twelve stimuli questions such as “Is translation a part of localization, or is localization a part of translation?”, “Is localization just a result of technology, or does it involve deep conceptual changes?”, “Should all translator-training programs include localization?”, (and, conversely “Should all localization-training programs include translation?”), “Does the localization industry need interaction with the traditional translator-training institutions?” (and, conversely, “Do traditional translator-training institutions need interaction with the localization industry?”), and “Who should fund the training programs?” Many of the position papers provided interesting views on these questions.

In one of the position papers Minako O'Hagan of DCU examined the way in which localization may change traditional notions of translation and made the point that internationalization – as applied in localization circles – deals with localizability and translatability of content at the outset of product design and development, which contrasts markedly with traditional approaches in which translation is typically regarded as “an afterthought,

independent of the source text creation.” Her insistence that localization should be a part of all translator-training programmes was echoed by Patrick Drouin, though both he and Esselink maintain that in the future, as localization tools become more user-friendly, translators will need to know less about the technicalities of the area and training programmes can be adapted accordingly.

Contributions to the on-line debate were many and varied. Moderator Anthony Pym summed up quite a few of the early messages regarding the nature of localization by noting that the “real problem is that we call the industry ‘localization’, when internationalization is the key element of it. Worse, ‘internationalization’ itself is a lousy term, since ‘nations’ have nothing to do with it. The term should be ‘interlocalization’, but it seems too late to change it now.” Stuck with ‘localization’, numerous participants (Gouadec, Sandrini, Chrystello) appealed for dialogue on the topic to necessarily specify what kind of localization – software, website etc. – was being discussed, because (in Gouadec's words) if localization is to be regarded as potentially “translation ... PLUS any number of changes to the necessarily composite material to be 'localised'” then “the translation and other changes are determined by the nature and constraints of the medium.”

Is translation a part of localization, or is localization a part of translation?

As the discussion turned to training in localization, a number of contributors expressed concern that (in Pym's words) “some of us are using the term ‘localization’ as a fancy label for fairly straightforward courses in translation memories and software-localization tools.” Again, Gouadec writes that this is “the surest way to kill localization as a provider of extra income for translators. The moment everyone dubs himself 'localizer' the money differential will be gone. And everyone will probably be paid the price of 'mere translation' as that stupid distinction between 'localization' and 'mere translation' has it.” Discussion on training also brought with it the issue of XML, with another string explicitly asking “What is XML and how do you teach it?” Varying opinions were expressed as to whether translators need to be able to write code, though it seems as though the trend is moving back towards “traditional” translation skill (skills which

much of the rest of the discussion emphasised have been more “localizing” in their orientation than they are often given credit for). Awareness and resourcefulness with new technologies is perceived as paramount.

Also of concern is the relationship between the universities and the localization industry. The neglect that some perceive LISA and the industry in general as having towards translation prompted a number of contributors to emphasise the importance of universities approaching industry for curriculum development, funding, etc. (Tytti Suojanen’s contribution is interesting in this respect).

Towards the end of the debate the field was opened up to more general discussion of localization training and it was at this point that some of the most stimulating and detailed contributions were made. One hopes that this discussion will follow the example of previous symposia by finding its way into more reader-friendly print format, though hopefully without sacrificing many of the longer and more detailed discussions. Finally, it seems a shame that, in a country often mentioned as being at the forefront of localization research and development, Ireland was so poorly represented in the symposium – let’s hope the moves from academia to the industry will serve to involve more of the localizers working here into the debate.

John Kearns
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■ New Members of the ITIA

The *Irish Translators’ & Interpreters’ Association* is delighted to welcome the following new members to the Association:

Professional Members:

PAULA MENÉNDEZ GARCIA

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SPANISH from English French ENGLISH from Spanish - commercial, technical, legal, economical, linguistic.

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GERMAN from English - legal, financial

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Email: kirstiknox(a)eircom.net

FINNISH ENGLISH from Finnish English - general, technical, literature, arts.

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
- ◆ Student
- ◆ 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 *student membership* is for undergraduates engaged in third level language and/or translation studies. 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

■ Next Issue of the ITIA Bulletin

The next issue of the ITIA Bulletin will be out on February 15th 2004. So if you have any contributions, news, suggestions, or something you’d like to share, send them to me, John Kearns, at kearns(a)pro.onet.pl. The deadline for submissions is February 10th.

Subscribing to the ITIA Bulletin

To subscribe, simply send an Email to itia-ezine-subscribe(a)yahogroups.com

To unsubscribe, simply send an Email to itia-ezine-unsubscribe(a)yahogroups.com

■ Translating at the Europäisches Übersetzer-Kollegium in Straelen

The *Europäisches Übersetzer-Kollegium* in Straelen is the first international centre for translators of literature and non-fiction and its aim is to encourage international cultural exchange, particularly through introducing foreign literature to Germany, raising the profile of German literature abroad, and generally improving the quality of both literary and non-literary translations. The centre provides German and foreign translators already in possession of a translating contract with apartments, working space, computers, and a library for the duration of their project. It offers continuing education courses and workshops for translators and authors, as well as seminars and practical training for students. It also provides a specialist translator's library, which is open to the public as a reference library by appointment.

The *Kollegium* was founded in 1978 on the initiative of the Beckett translator Elmar Tophoven and Klaus Birkenhauerthen, under the patronage of Heinrich Böll, Samuel Beckett, Max Frisch, Robert Minder, and Mario Wandruszka.

The Library

The heart of the *Kollegium* is its library with 110,000 books. It is the first and largest specialist library for literature and nonfiction translators. Guests can use the 25,000 reference books in 275 languages and dialects (from Afrikaans to Zulu), the 60,000 works of world literature – usually available both in the original language and in translation – and 25,000 nonfiction books. There are reference works from nearly all fields and periods, many on CD-ROM. A priority for the *Kollegium* is to buy the expensive reference works that are usually beyond an individual's means. For in Straelen translators should find all those books that they dream of but cannot afford.

Residency Grants

Literary translators who have published at least two longer translations and are working on a translating project commissioned by a publisher may apply to live and work in the EUK. This invitation is extended to translators worldwide and draws more applications than can be granted.

The *Übersetzer-Kollegium* can also provide residency grants with the funds and in the name of third parties. Grants are provided by the Ministry for Urban Development and Housing, Culture and Sport of the

Land North Rhine-Westphalia, the European Commission, the Robert Bosch Foundation, the DAAD German Academic Exchange Service; the Perwest Society, and the Foundation for Art and Culture of the Land North Rhine-Westphalia. Several German Lands also provide Straelen grants to their residents.

Please send us your basic biographical data and a list of your published translations. We also require a description of your translating project. And then of course, we need to know when and for how long you would like to come to Straelen.

Ongoing Projects

The *Stiftung Kunst und Kultur des Landes Nordrhein-Westfalen* Translator Prize

In cooperation with the EÜK, the Foundation awards the above prize to acknowledge outstanding achievements in literary translations into and out of German. Supporting international cultural exchange and strengthening international understanding are further considerations in granting the prize. The prize of €25,000 is awarded every two years for a translator's *oeuvre*. From 2001, the prize will be given two consecutive times to a translator into German, then once to a translator from the German language. The foundation has appointed an independent jury of literary translators who will select the prizewinner. Publishers, literary critics, and translators may make suggestions. The application procedures will be announced every two years in the autumn. Please contact the *Europäisches Übersetzer-Kollegium* for application forms.

The Foundation for Art and Culture of the Land North Rhine-Westphalia, Düsseldorf, Translator's Residency

The goal of this residency is to continually strengthen the significance and standing of literary translators conveying culture and literature across borders. Translators working in different languages and specializing in different literary genres provide insights into their work through readings and lectures. Moreover, they offer practical exercises and workshops to school children and the public.

The *Übersetzer-Kollegium* annually invites applications for the position of Translator in Residence in the fall. Questions about the application procedure or booking a TIR-event may be directed to the *Kollegium*.

For further information, please see the *Kollegium's* website: <http://www.euk-straelen.de/>

■ Conferences & Courses

First Dublin City University Postgraduate Conference In Translation Studies

Dublin City University, Glasnevin, Dublin 9, Ireland.
26th-27th March, 2004,

Call for Papers

This one-and-a-half day conference will provide a platform for postgraduate students and those who have recently completed doctoral programmes in Translation Studies to present their research and discuss matters relevant to their work in a supportive environment. Masters students thinking about pursuing doctoral research are also invited to attend.

A number of staff members from the Centre for Translation and Textual Studies (CTTS) specialised in a wide range of subjects will be present to offer feedback to the speakers. Prof. Michael Cronin and Prof. Jennifer Williams will close the conference by rounding up issues raised in the sessions.

Presentations on all areas of Translation Studies are welcome. Papers should report on one or more of the following:

- ◆ research findings
- ◆ methodological issues
- ◆ ethical issues

Speakers will be allocated 20 minutes per presentation, followed by 10 minutes of questions.

Abstracts of 300 / 400 words should be submitted by January 25th to
Gabriela Saldanha: [gabriela.saldanha\(a\)dcu.ie](mailto:gabriela.saldanha(a)dcu.ie)
Marion Winters: [marion.winters\(a\)dcu.ie](mailto:marion.winters(a)dcu.ie)

Certificate in Collaborative Translation Teaching

July 19th-26th, 2004 Vic, Spain

A short certificate course in collaborative translation teaching will be offered at the University of Vic, Spain (near Barcelona) in July, 2004. The course is designed for current and prospective translation teachers who are particularly interested in dynamic, interactive instructional approaches. We will cover a wide range of pedagogical aspects from collaborative learning theory to curriculum development and from course design to evaluation as well as the collaborative utilisation of computer-based resources. The maximum number of participants is limited to 25 to ensure a positive learning atmosphere and so that each individual can participate fully. Every effort will be made to focus on the participants' professional background and pedagogical interests. We expect to bring together a highly international group of participants that will have extensive and varied experience to share. While there will be lectures by experts on the main topics of the course, much of the programme will involve collaborative learning activities that participants should then be able to apply in their respective teaching environments. The entire course will be run in English; no knowledge of Spanish is necessary. Participants may choose to earn ECTS points (which may be applicable to post-graduate programmes at other European universities).

Tuition for the five-day course will be €300. Further information on the course as well as lodgings in Vic and Barcelona can be found on the course's website at:
http://www.uvic.es/fchtd/especial/en/collaborative_translation_teaching.html.

The deadline for applications is April 1st, 2004.

Fourth Conference on Training and Career Development in Translation and Interpreting: Quality in Translation - Academic and Professional Perspectives

February 25th-27th, 2004, UNIVERSIDAD EUROPEA DE MADRID, Villaviciosa de Odón (Madrid), Spain

Within the overarching Conference theme, Quality in Translation - Academic and Professional Perspectives, this year's conference features over 70 papers in both Spanish and English on areas such as specialised translation, translator and interpreter training, translation and IT, translation and the business world, terminology and translation, and professional associations for translators and interpreters. Keynote lectures will include "Training Translators for Quality: Skill Components and Approaches" by Daniel Gile, "El traductor profesional y la empresa de traducción: tecnología, calidad y cooperación" by Miguel Núñez, and "The Quest for Translation Quality in International Organisations" by Emma Wagner.

Further information on the conference is available on the website
<http://www.uem.es/traduccion/actividades/jornadas/>

■ Jobs

Jobs at the International Criminal Court International Criminal Court, The Hague

The International Criminal Court is the first ever permanent, treaty based criminal tribunal, established to promote the rule of law worldwide and to ensure that the gravest international crimes do not go unpunished. The Court is a new international organisation with a diverse staff spanning the entire globe.

The International Criminal Court is undergoing major recruitment, seeking highly motivated and qualified candidates for various positions including: Associate English Translator, Associate French Translator, Conference Interpreter – English, Conference Interpreter – French, English Linguist, English Reviser/Editor, French Linguist, French Reviser/Editor.

All positions are located in The Hague (Netherlands). The International Criminal Court offers a competitive remuneration package in accordance with the United Nations common system of salaries, allowances and benefits.

Detailed information on all vacancies and application procedure is available at the Court's website:
<http://www.icc-cpi.int>

■ Contacting The ITIA

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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.

- ◆ *The Translation Profession*
- ◆ *Joining the ITIA*
- ◆ *Ordinary Membership Application*
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