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# ITIA BULLETIN

January 2006

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

Dear Readers,

A happy New Year to one and all! If one of your resolutions for 2006 is to update your technology skills, then the journey starts here. In the last issue of the bulletin, Gudmund Areskoug wrote about open source software and its uses in the preservation of dying or minority languages. Open source software can also be used effectively as a tool in the act of translation. An excellent introduction to open source software by Martin Wunderlich entitled "What's the FOSS all about?" is on page 5. Keeping up to date with technology is central to your very survival in the workplace. It is easy to feel like you have been left behind but it's never too late to start learning. Well, that's my resolution for 2006 anyway!

Comments and contributions are always welcome. Enjoy!

**Elizabeth Hayes**  
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## ■ You say eiro, I say euro

It was recently reported in the Irish Times that the Latvian Parliament plans on spelling the euro currency e-i-r-o when it becomes operational in their country in 2007. The spelling e-i-r-o is compatible with the Latvian spelling of the word 'Europe'. Apparently the 'eu' diphthong does not exist in the Latvian language so they have opted instead to use the word eiro. Other EU countries who plan on changing the spelling of the currency are Hungary, Slovenia and Malta who all claim that their languages are incompatible with the 'eu' diphthong.

The move is being challenged by EU bureaucrats who are citing a law passed in 1997 by EU finance ministers. The law states that the currency should be spelt e-u-r-o with exception being granted to Greece to use the Greek alphabet. Latvia is threatening to take a case to the European Court of Justice challenging the law. If Latvia is successful, the way will be open for other countries to choose their own name for the currency.

The Latvians maintain that the e-u-r-o spelling will be used in official documentation and the e-i-r-o spelling in daily life. Euro notes are uniform and therefore use the word 'euro'. Coins are specific to each country and

so, potentially, the coins of each country could have a different spelling of the word which would also be different to the spelling on the notes. It will be interesting to see how the EU will deal with this issue.

## ■ Accreditation System for Irish-English Translators

An accreditation system for Irish-English translators is being developed by Foras na Gaeilge at the request of the Minister for Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs, *Éamon Ó Cuív*, T.D.

An accreditation certificate will be awarded to translators who reach a level of excellence. As a first step in testing this standard an examination will be held in February 2006, and at regular intervals subsequently. A panel of accredited translators will be thus established, which will be available to the public and private sectors by May, 2006.

This accreditation system will be a continuous process and support will be offered to people seeking to achieve accreditation. This system is for the benefit of individual translators and translation agencies, and the certificate of accreditation will safeguard the reputation of competent translators.

A seminar will be held on 20<sup>th</sup> January, 2006 from 10.00 - 12.30 pm at Foras na Gaeilge, 7 Merrion Square, Dublin 2, in order to discuss the system with the translation sector. Individual translators, representatives from translation agencies and other interested parties will be welcome.

*More Information:*

Eilís Ní Bheilbigh, Foras na Gaeilge 01 639 8400  
Breandán Mac Craith 087 235 4834 or 01 639 8407

### **Córas Creidiúnaithe d'Aistritheoirí Gaeilge/Béarla**

Ar iarratas ón Aire Gnóthaí Pobail, Tuaithe agus Gaeltachta, An tUas. *Éamon Ó Cuív*, T.D., tá córas creidiúnaithe d'aistritheoirí Gaeilge/Béarla á fhorbairt ag Foras na Gaeilge.

Déanfar séala creidiúnaithe a bhronnadh ar aistritheoirí a bhaineann caighdeán sárchumais amach. Mar chéad chéim chun an caighdeán seo a thástáil déanfar scrúdú a eagrú i mí Feabhra, agus ar bhonn tráthrialta ina dhiaidh sin. Cruthófar painéal d'aistritheoirí creidiúnaithe agus beidh an chéad leagan den phainéal ar fáil do na hearnálacha poiblí agus príobháideacha i mí Aibreáin, 2006.

Próiseas leanúnach a bheidh sa chóras creidiúnaithe seo agus tabharfar tacaíocht do dhaoine chun cuidiú leo an séala a bhaint amach. Is chun leasa aistritheoirí aonair agus cuideachtaí aistriúcháin an córas seo, agus beidh an séala creidiúnaithe ina chosaint ag aistritheoirí cumasacha.

Chun an córas a chur i láthair earnáil an aistriúcháin, déanfar seimineár a réachtáil ar 20ú Eanáir, 2006 ó 10.00 r.n. go 12.30 i.n. i gceannáras Fhoras na Gaeilge, 7 Cearnóg Mhuirfean, Baile Átha Cliath 2. Cuirfear fáilte roimh aistritheoirí aonair, ionadaithe ó chuideachtaí aistriúcháin agus daoine eile ar leas leo an cúram seo.

Breis Eolas Ó:  
Eilís Ní Bheilbigh, Foras na Gaeilge 01 639 8400  
Breandán Mac Craith 087 235 4834 nó 01 639 8407

## ■ New Members of the ITIA

The ITIA welcomes the following new professional members...

**ALDA GOMEZ**  
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Spanish from English and French  
Translator and Bilateral Interpreter

**MICHELLE COTTER**  
26 Palmer Court  
Palmer Road  
Rush, Co. Dublin  
English from German  
Technical translation

## ■ Next Issue of the ITIA Bulletin

The next issue of the ITIA Bulletin will be out in February 2006. If you have any contributions, suggestions or scandals that you would like to share with over 900 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

To subscribe, simply send an Email to [itia-ezine-subscribe\(a\)yahogroups.com](mailto:itia-ezine-subscribe(a)yahogroups.com)

To unsubscribe, simply send an Email to [itia-ezine-unsubscribe\(a\)yahogroups.com](mailto:itia-ezine-unsubscribe(a)yahogroups.com)

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Bilateral and Conference Interpreter  
Mandingo, Mende and Krio.

### 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)

## ■ Review: A Trilingual Wörterglück

A TRILINGUAL WÖRTERGLÜCK: JOHANN P. TAMMEN IN GERMAN, IRISH, AND ENGLISH

JOHANN P. TAMMEN ...UND HIMMELWÄRTS MEERE – AUSGEWÄHLTE GEDICHTE / ...AND SKYWARD THE SEAS – SELECTED POEMS / ...FARRAIGÍ I dTREO NA SPÉIRE – ROGHA DÁNTA. ENGLISH TRANSLATIONS BY HANS-CHRISTIAN OESER; IRISH TRANSLATIONS BY GABRIEL ROSENSTOCK. BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH / BÉAL FEIRSTE: COISCÉIM, 2005.

Thursday November 4<sup>th</sup> 2005 saw the visit to the Goethe Institut in Dublin of the esteemed German poet, editor, translator, and literary impresario Johann P. Tammen for the launch and reading of the trilingual edition of his selected poems, published here in Ireland by Coiscéim. Also present were his English-language translator Hans-Christian Oeser and Irish translator Gabriel Rosenstock.

musician Witold Rek. He is a member of German P.E.N and lives in Bremerhaven-Weddewarden.

Tammen's immersion in world literature is visible in the geographical and literary variety of writers who appear in his dedications, among them the Czech poet Miroslav Holub, and New York modernist Djuna Barnes. Tammen is also heavily influenced by the visual arts, in particular by the paintings of Paul Klee, whose 1926 painting 'Boat' appears on the cover and whose work was the inspiration for the poem "Die Schiffe ankern in Himmel" ("The boats drop anchor in the sky" / "Na longa ar ancaire sa speir"). In this poem, the poet cautions a child against speaking in haste. Instead he urges:

VERTRAUE DEN FASERN DES PINSELS DIE DIR  
EIN BAUMGROßES PORTRÄT DES HERBSTES INS  
KINDERBETT SCHÜTTEN BLAU SEGELN DIE SCHIFFE  
UMS HIMMELSGESTÜHL BLAU IN DEN KLEIDERN  
DER NACHT TRETEN DIE MATROSEN AN DECK  
DIE TOPPFLAGGE SETZEND DEINE ENDLOS LANGEN  
GEBETE UNTER DEM ROSTSTAUBIGEN RASSELN  
DER ANKERKETTE ERSTICKEND.

TRUST THE BRISTLES OF THE PAINTBRUSH THAT  
SPILL A TREE-SIZED PORTRAIT OF AUTUMN INTO  
YOUR COT SO BLUE, THE BOATS SAIL ROUND  
THE CHOIR STALLS OF HEAVEN SO BLUE, IN THE GARB  
OF NIGHT THE SAILORS STEP ON DECK  
HOISTING THE MASTHEAD FLAG YOUR ENDLESS  
PRAYERS DROWNED BY THE RUSTY CLANK  
OF THE ANCHOR CHAIN.

CUIR DO MHUINÍN I NGUAIRÍ NA SCUAIBE A SCAOILEANN  
PORTRÁID DEN FHÓMHAR IS Í CHOMH HARD LE CRANN  
ISTEACH ID CHLIABHÁN IS GORM IAD NA LONGA  
AR A GCVRSA THAR CHÓRLANN NEIMHE IS GORM Í  
ÉIDE OÍCHE NA MAIRNÉALACH IS IAD AG DUL AR AN DEIC  
AN BHRATACH ACU Á HARD D'URNAÍ FHADA SHÍORAÍ  
MvCHTA AG GEOIN MHEIRGEACH  
SHLABHRA AN ANCAIRE.

The presentation of any work – though particularly poetry – in parallel translation, offers not merely discrete linguistic renderings of a work, but also the opportunity for the reader with a knowledge of both languages to explore the interstices of language in what is lost – and gained – in both versions, thus providing a new vision of two cultures in relief. In the present version this effect of contrast is augmented with the juxtaposition of three languages, thus offering further opportunities to explore nuances in the interpretations of an original by two different translators.

*In the present version this effect of contrast is augmented with the juxtaposition of three languages...*

Tammen was born in Hohenkirchen, Friesland in 1944. He studied German, History, and Social Sciences at the Carl-von-Ossietzky Universität in Oldenburg and subsequently worked as a film critic with the Darmstädter Echo and as an assistant editor with the weekly stern. In 1968 he joined die horen – a journal of literary, art, and cultural criticism – initially working as assistant editor and, for the past eleven years, as editor-in-chief. The journal has proved highly influential in Germany and, in 1982, Tammen also embarked on the publishing initiative "edition die horen", later collaborating with Gregor Laschen on the series "Poesie der Nachbarn" in 1988. He has authored ten collections of poetry, for which he has received numerous awards including the "Nachwuchsstipendium für Literatur des Landes Niedersachsen" (1980) and the "Literaturstipendium der Stiftung Bahnhof Rolandseck." As editor of die horen he has been awarded the "Alfred Kerr-Preis des Börsenvereins des Deutschen Buchhandels" (1980 and 1988), "the Karl-Heinz Zillmer-Preis der Hamburgischen Kulturstiftung" (1998) and the "Kulturpreis des Fonds Islands Banki", Reykjavik (2000). He has translated work by the Irish poets Cathal Ó Searcaigh and Tomás Mac Síomóin and has collaborated with the Polish jazz

The translators themselves, in their 'Afterword', draw attention to another very visual distinction which may be observed between Tammen in German, English, and Irish – the transformation of the “compact, solid, squareness” of the appearance of many of the German poems, which appears to become progressively more ragged as the eye traverses the page to their English and Irish renderings. Such may be the effect of another movement, that of the linguistic movement between two Germanic languages and then between Germanic and Celtic languages. Yet, to characterise this exclusively as loss would be to ignore the extra unfurling of meaning as the eye traverses the three different linguistic renderings here – the jaggedness of the Irish margins in this sense may be seen to represent, not failure, but rather an unravelling of the original revealed in juxtaposition.

Of course the problem which a work such as this faces from the point of view of criticism is that proper justice may only really be attempted by a trilingual reviewer, with the editorial freedom to quote at length from all three languages – two conditions which cannot really be fulfilled in the present forum. Yet, they are conditions which should ideally be insisted upon – not to would represent a failure to recognise, from a translational point of view, the ambition of a trilingual project such as this. And while this ambition might once have seemed opulent in more monolingual times, the linguistic Babel into which Ireland is rapidly transforming demands it in new critical approaches to writing about translated literature. It is in their refusal to compromise this ambition that the success of Tammen, Oeser, Rosenstock, and Coiscéim in producing the present volume lies.

The collection is co-funded by *Bórd na Leabhar Gaeilge*, the Goethe Institut, and the Ireland Literature Exchange.

John Kearns  
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*For a review of this book by Peter Sirr, see <http://petersirr.blogspot.com/2005/12/setting-weathercock-free.html>  
Coiscéim publications are available from Conradh na Gaeilge, 6 Harcourt St., Dublin 2 and other selected retail outlets, or may be ordered direct from Coiscéim, Tig Bhríde, 91 Bóthar Bhinn Éadair, Páirc na bhFianna, Binn Éadair, Baile Átha Cliath 13.*

## ■ What's the FOSS all about?

*A brief introduction to open-source software for translation and localisation.*

### Introduction – what is FOSS?

In recent years, the concept of free software or open-source software has been moving into the mainstream of computing. Or rather, to be more precise, it has always been there and has always been an important part of the computing world. In fact, you are probably using such software every day when surfing the web: The majority of websites on the internet (more than 70%) are hosted with Apache, an open-source web server. However, the concept has gained popularity and visibility beyond such hidden infrastructure. In this article we will have a look at the principles of FOSS and how translators can benefit from existing solutions.

Free software, as defined by the Free Software Foundation, must guarantee the following four freedoms:

- 1 Freedom to run the program for any purpose
- 2 Freedom to study and change the program's source code
- 3 Freedom to distribute copies of the program
- 4 Freedom to improve the program and release improvements to the public

(Sometimes these freedoms are numbered from 0 to 3, because in programming you usually start counting with zero. You might find this a very nerdy thing to do and right you may be).

This agenda is usually illustrated by telling people to think of free as in “free speech” and not as in “free beer“. For the purpose of formalising the software's adherence to these freedoms, various licences are available. The most prominent one is probably the GNU General Public Licence (GPL), which guarantees the four freedoms mentioned above. In addition, it has a so-called viral effect. That is, if you make changes to a program in accordance with freedom 4 (or 3), you are obliged to publish the derived work under the GPL also. Furthermore, all distributions of such derived works must state that they are governed by a specific licence. The source code must be provided upon request or may be included in the package. A different version of this licence, the Lesser GPL (LGPL) avoids the viral effect in order to build a bridge to otherwise licensed software.

The acronym in the title of this article is not a typo, but stands for “free and open source software“. The distinction between “free” and “open-source” is very

important for some people and you can read more about the somewhat ideological debate on the websites of the Free Software Foundation FSF ([www.fsf.org](http://www.fsf.org)) and the Open Source Initiative OSI ([www.opensource.org](http://www.opensource.org)). For all practical purposes, we will ignore this distinction here, hoping not to draw the wrath of anyone upon us.

In contrast to free/open source software, there is proprietary software (simply put). This software is owned by a person or company and generally the source code will not be publicly available. Most applications and the operating system running on most translators' machines will be proprietary software, such as Windows, MS Office, Trados etc.

#### Elaboration – why does FOSS make sense?

As for the key features of FOSS for translators, I would mention the following ones:

- ◆ The software is for free. You don't pay a cent, except for download cost or the cost of preparing and shipping a physical medium.
- ◆ The developers are very responsive. Not only will you know the person who is programming your tools by name, you can also let them know what features you want and they will normally react very responsively to user feedback. Specific tools usually have mailing lists and active user communities, who will provide you with excellent support.
- ◆ Open standards and FOSS go hand in hand. Open standards, such as TMX, enable the interoperability of tools. Compare this to the closed and proprietary file formats used by some tools, which effectively creates vendor lock-in.
- ◆ The philosophy behind free/open source software: Collaboration and transparency are key to the success of FOSS. According to my experience, this philosophy is very compatible with the co-operative spirit in the international translation community.

One of the most important advantages is that the usual vendor lock-in that goes along with proprietary software is absent in the free/open-source model. When you buy a commercial closed-source tool, all future updates to that application will come from the vendor, who may or may not charge for such updates. The user is at the mercy of the vendor. When you are working with a FOSS tool, not only do you get all the updates for free, you may also decide to hire your own developer and have him or her program the updates you want. Furthermore, if the vendor of your tool goes out of business or otherwise disappears, you might be stuck with a piece of software that will not be updated. In the FOSS world, anyone can pick up the source code and continue the development.

Does all this sound like a viable business model? Not at all – at first sight. To a large extent, the efforts in the FOSS world are supported by the enthusiasm of the community and by generous donations of time and money. Other sources of income for companies operating in the FOSS world are consulting services, support, documentation, customisation or related sales of closed-source components or even hardware.

#### Translation with FOSS – available tools

Having clarified more or less what the FOSS is all about, let's have a closer look at the tools that are available for translators. The initial distinction you should make when you want to try free/open-source software for yourself is whether it should be on the application level or on the operating system level.

On the application level, there are several interesting programs, which can be installed on a normal Windows PC, just like any other program. The following is a small selection of tools that are most likely to be relevant for translators:

- ◆ OpenOffice.org: This office suite comprises the same set of applications as MS Office: word processing (*Write*), spreadsheet (*Calc*), presentation (*Impress*). In addition there is a drawing program with the inventive name *Draw*, an editor for mathematical formulae called *Math* and a database program called *Base*. It should be emphasised that OpenOffice's *Write* is compatible with MS Word to a large extent. You can open, translate and save MS Word documents in *Write* and usually your clients won't notice the difference. RTF is also supported. ([www.openoffice.org](http://www.openoffice.org))
- ◆ OmegaT: This translation memory application runs on Windows, Mac and Linux and can be used to translate OpenOffice files, (X)HTML, text files and Java resource bundles. It supports TMX, so existing translation memories can be used with OmegaT also. In conjunction with the conversion options provided by OpenOffice, OmegaT could thus be used to translate most source material that one comes across as a translator. ([www.omegat.org/omegat/omegat.html](http://www.omegat.org/omegat/omegat.html))
- ◆ XLIFF tools: There are a number of tools that support the XLIFF standard: *Sun's Open Language Tools* and *Transolution* are two free options, in case you are asked to translate such a file. ([open-language-tools.dev.java.net](http://open-language-tools.dev.java.net); [transolution.python-hosting.com](http://transolution.python-hosting.com))
- ◆ Okapi Framework: This collection of components, applications and interface specifications was recently open-sourced by Enlaso. It comprises, for instance, *Olifant*, an application for managing translation memories. ([okapi.sourceforge.net](http://okapi.sourceforge.net))

On the operating system level, you might feel inclined to give Linux a try, without necessarily wanting to plant

a full installation on your existing system. For this purpose, there are a number of Linux distributions (i.e. different versions or further developments) that will fit on a single CD. You can download such a distribution, burn it to a CD and configure your computer to boot off that CD (see here how to do this:

[www.hedden.org/bootcd.html](http://www.hedden.org/bootcd.html)).

When I first attempted this, I was very suspicious, but it turned out to be a perfectly simple thing to do.

Distributions that can be used for this purpose are *Klax* ([ktown.kde.org/~binner/klax/](http://ktown.kde.org/~binner/klax/)), *Ubuntu*

([www.ubuntu.com](http://www.ubuntu.com)) and *Knoppix* ([www.knoppix.org/](http://www.knoppix.org/)).

There are also a large number of companies that will ship the CD to you for a few Euros.

Linux has a reputation for being for computer experts only and hard to install and to use. These days, the distribution will typically include a desktop environment that is intuitive to use, at least as much as Windows. The distributions mentioned above include either the *K Desktop Environment* (KDE) or *Gnome*, another desktop for Linux.

#### Translation of FOSS – localising Linux et al.

Another major advantage of the open-source world is that localisation efforts, i.e. the translation and adaptation of digital material, such as the user interface, usually include more languages than in the commercial world. For instance, OpenOffice is being localised into 90 languages at present (see [10n.openoffice.org/languages.html](http://10n.openoffice.org/languages.html)). Many of these languages have not been deemed commercially viable by Microsoft (and other commercial software providers), who is now trying to catch up with the development with the so-called “LIP strategy”. These “*Language Interface Packs*” provide a limited localisation of the user interface.

OmegaT is presently available in Belorussian, Esperanto, Brazilian Portuguese and many other languages. You may even participate yourself in these localisation efforts by donating your time and knowledge to an open-source project and getting lots of credits in return. After all, collaboration is the basis on which FOSS thrives.

In addition to localising applications, there are extensive localisation efforts going on in the world of Linux. To get an idea of the work being done, the internationalisation websites of the KDE project ([18n.kde.org/](http://18n.kde.org/)) or the Gnome project ([developer.gnome.org/projects/gtp](http://developer.gnome.org/projects/gtp)) are good starting points. The information provided includes statistics on

the current state of the localisation work and which steps to take, if you want to get involved. Gnome is currently looking for translators into Irish: [www.linux.ie/projects/gnome-ga/](http://www.linux.ie/projects/gnome-ga/). As Gudmund Areskoug already pointed out in the last issue of the *ITIA Bulletin*, FOSS can play a major role in preserving endangered languages.

Translation with and of free/open source software could also be relevant in the area of translator education. On the one hand, free software could be used to teach such concepts as translation memory applications or open standards. On the other hand, the translation and localisation of existing software might very well be a useful exercise for students and at the same time beneficial for the developers and users of the localised software.

#### Conclusion – where to go from here?

If this article has managed to raise your interest in free and open-source software and how to make it work for you, then there are several sources of further information on the web:

- ◆ [www.linuxfortranslators.org/linux/linux.html](http://www.linuxfortranslators.org/linux/linux.html) – Contains a wealth of useful information about running Linux as a translator, including detailed “how-to’s”, reviews of a large range of applications and various other information.
- ◆ [www.translatewrite.com/osupdate.html](http://www.translatewrite.com/osupdate.html) – Open Source Update is a monthly newsletter covering all aspects of using open source software in translation work. The contents comprise interviews, technical details and other interesting readings. This newsletter is published by English to French translator Corinne McKay, whom I would like to thank a lot for her support in writing this article.
- ◆ [translate.sourceforge.net/wiki/guide/start](http://translate.sourceforge.net/wiki/guide/start) – A wiki page with plenty of information about open-source localisation, including sections on general processes, specific projects and available tools.
- ◆ [www.martinwunderlich.com/foss-links.html](http://www.martinwunderlich.com/foss-links.html) – The author's link list with a number of resources.

Given these resources and some curiosity, you will soon be exploring the terra (in)cognita of free/open-source software, a model which has the potential to change the world of translation.

Martin Wunderlich

*The author would like to thank Henry Pijffers and Anne Stöckert for their helpful comments on this text.*

## ■ Conference Review

WARSZTATY TRANSLATORSKIE VI – SIXTH WORKSHOP ON TRANSLATION  
CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF LUBLIN, POLAND, DECEMBER 5TH TO 9TH 2005.

In the seven years of their existence, the series of *Warsztaty translatorskie* – the translation workshops co-organized by the *Catholic University of Lublin*, Poland and the Department of Slavic Studies at the *University of Ottawa* – have achieved an international reputation in raising awareness about Polish-English literary translation. Following a tried and tested formula of translation workshops in the morning and conference presentations in the afternoon, this year's event – organized excellently by Konrad Klimkowski of the *Maria Curie-Skłodowska University* and Jolanta Klimek of the *Catholic University of Lublin* – didn't disappoint: while the prospect of a five-day event in conference terms might seem lengthy, this reviewer ended up extending his Lublin stay to take in the full event, so impressive was the combination of practical activities and stimulating discussion.

*...one of the most worthwhile translation events which I have experienced in recent years.*

The morning workshops were co-ordinated by Prof. Richard Sokoloski of the University of Ottawa, one of the founders of the warsztaty, and by Prof. Michael J. Mikos of the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee – both internationally renowned Polish literary translators and scholars. Similar to previous years, they presented with a series of Polish poems to translate into English ranging from a sonnet by the sixteenth-century Mikolaj Sep-Szarzynski, to works by contemporary poets such as Tadeusz Różewicz and Jan Twardowski. I never cease to be amused by the extreme passion with which a group of translators will argue the kind of intricate lexical and syntactic choices which might appear to be of little consequence to the layman. Nevertheless, consensus was reached on a final version of each translation at the end of every session, and these will be published in the next volume of proceedings of the event (three of which have appeared already, with a fourth on the way).

The conference sessions in the afternoon featured a variety of speakers discussing a wide range of issues relating to translation and interpreting. Particular highlights for this reviewer included Aniela Korzeniowska's discussion of Polish translations of Robert Burns and the possibility of translating James Kelman, Anna Cetera on metatranslation, Ewa Obszyska on English translations of Witold Gombrowicz's *Ferdydurke*, and Agnieszka Szarkowska on the translation of forms of address in the Polish TV series *Plebania*. Several of those presenting might already be familiar to Irish audiences from their appearance at the DCU translation studies conference from last April – aside from Klimkowski himself, the conference also featured Iwona Paskal on the localization of magazines, and Magda Kopczynska and Ewa Koscialkowska-Okonska discussing further aspects of translator training. Irish-Polish research was particularly well represented, with papers by four separate Irish Polonists, including Robert Looby on Dorota Masłowska in English, Mark Ó Fionnáin on Irish translations of Adam Mickiewicz, and Barry Keane on his own translation of Cyprian Kamil Norwid's "*Spartakus*". Finally, special mention must be given to Anita Jones-Debska, who closed the event with a discussion of the music of poetry and a recital of some of her own translations of Polish poetry, including a particularly fine rendering of Krzysztof Kamil Baczyński. The fact that she thoughtfully plied her attentive audience with Polish *miód* helped to create a particularly warm atmosphere with which to close proceedings.

Considering that the event was entirely free of charge for all participants, I think it must rank as one of the most worthwhile translation events which I have experienced in recent years. I very much hope that these valuable and highly enjoyable workshops will continue to take place in the future and would strongly urge anybody with an interest in Polish translation to participate.

John Kearns  
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*For more information on the Warsztaty translatorskie and for details of how to obtain the published proceedings of previous events, please contact Konrad Klimkowski at [konrad.klimkowski\(a\)gmail.com](mailto:konrad.klimkowski(a)gmail.com). The homepage of this year's event is at [www.kul.lublin.pl/wnh/struktura/f\\_polska/workshop/index.html](http://www.kul.lublin.pl/wnh/struktura/f_polska/workshop/index.html)*



## ■ Conferences, Calls & Courses

### Deutsch- Englische Übersetzerwerkstatt im Europäischen Übersetzerkollegium Nordrhein-Westfalen in Straelen

6-11<sup>th</sup> March, 2006

Leitung: Karen Nölle-Fischer

Gefördert vom Deutschen Übersetzerfonds, der Botschaft der USA und dem Ireland Literature Exchange”

For more details see:

<http://www.literaturuebersetzer.de/pages/seminare-archiv/dewerkstatt06.htm>

### Certificate in Collaborative Translation Teaching

Vic, Spain 10–14<sup>th</sup> July 2006

An intensive certificate course designed for translation teachers who are seeking to enhance their course development and delivery skills; graduates of translation and interpretation, and of languages and teaching, considering a career in teaching; administrators exploring the possibility of starting a new translation program; experienced professional translators wishing to teach.

Course overview: Principles of Pedagogy, Materials Development, Assessment & Evaluation

For more information - [http://www.uvic.es/fchtd/especial/en/collaborative\\_translation\\_teaching.html](http://www.uvic.es/fchtd/especial/en/collaborative_translation_teaching.html)

### Call for Papers: RESEARCH.loc

*Localisation Focus-The International Journal for Localisation* now offers researchers the opportunity to publish research papers in the specially designated central section entitled RESEARCH.loc.

You are invited to submit an article that explores any of:

- ◆ Theory and Practice of Localisation
- ◆ Globalisation & Internationalisation
- ◆ Computer Science Education
- ◆ Best Practices
- ◆ Project Management
- ◆ Translation
- ◆ Standards
- ◆ Language & Cultural Issues

Your work will be reviewed by leading industry experts and you will receive detailed feedback, with recommendations where applicable.

*Localisation Focus* is published quarterly so the lead time between submission and publication is much shorter than for other less-frequently published journals.

Submissions for RESEARCH.loc should be sent to [LRC\(a\)ul.ie](mailto:LRC(a)ul.ie)

By submitting articles (which should not have been published previously) authors agree for their work to be published by *Localisation Focus-The International Journal for Localisation*, in both printed and electronic form.

## LR4Trans III: Third International Workshop on Language Resources for Translation Work, Research and Training

Genoa, Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2006 (postconference workshop at LREC2006)

### Call for Papers

Practising translators, translators-to-be and translation training institutions and associations are now more aware of the value of their digital content in the form of language resources (LRs). In recent years we have witnessed tremendous advances in the availability of large LRs in a variety of languages accessible to translators and language professionals. Primarily this concerns the availability of large monolingual corpora, either general and representative of a language as a whole, or specialised and representative of a particular text type, e.g. news corpora. Easy availability of electronic texts and modern computational methods also allow for the creation of Do-It-Yourself corpora for specific language combinations and domains. Other LRs, e.g. term-banks, are also (increasingly) widely available and regularly used by translation researchers, trainers and practitioners.

The LR4Trans initiative has evolved to include several types of LRs, e.g. termbanks, which are also widely available and used regularly by translation researchers, trainers and practitioners. Keeping track of language industry and market moves, we have shown a strong interest in the interaction between LRs, standards and tools. In this edition, we are particularly keen to further explore the exciting avenues that localisation is opening for LRs.

Last but not least, we would also like to hear from initiatives connected with LR for translation and communication purposes in corporations and organisations with multilingual needs as well as relevant training instances. As happened in previous editions, the purpose of the LR4Trans-III Workshop is to bring together researchers and practitioners active in the field and give them the opportunity to share their knowledge and best practice.

### Keynote speakers

- ◆ Silvia Bernardini (University of Bologna)
- ◆ Gregor Thurmair (Linguattec)
- ◆ Sue Ellen Wright (Kent State University)

### Topic coverage:

This third workshop will concentrate on usefulness of LR in every aspect and facet of translation: from the use of LR in educational and on-the-job training (including e-learning and new forms of technology-facilitated training), to their use LR by freelance and in-house language professionals. Papers are invited on topics including:

- ◆ use of LRs in localisation and internationalisation technologies and processes
- ◆ interaction of LRs with other translation-related language technologies, such as machine translation (MT) and automation of multilingual content processes
- ◆ alignment of research moves with industry/market requirements in relation to LR for translation and localisation use of LRs, especially annotated corpora, in the practices of researchers in translation studies and professional translators
- ◆ integration of such practices into the training of future translators
- ◆ use of corpora in development of reference materials for translators, such as bilingual dictionaries, glossaries, termbanks and knowledge ontologies.

### Submission of papers

Papers should be no longer than 3,000 words, including abstract, (optional) keywords, and references. Endnotes are preferred to footnotes. If meaningful pictures or diagrams are to be inserted, these should be kept to a minimum, numbered, and followed by a one-line caption. Authors are kindly requested to submit two abstracts, an extended one (delivered separately in .txt format) no longer than 450 words and a shorter one (200-250 words) to appear as part of the paper. If the paper aims to describe a resource's or system's development, exploitation and/or evaluation, it is important to present its features, functionalities and usefulness in a clear and step-by-step fashion. A detailed description in the paper would ideally be enriched by a more practical and interactive demo on the workshop day.

Further details available from: <http://www.ifi.unizh.ch/cl/yuste/LR4Trans-III/index.html>

Register online to submit a paper at:

<http://www.easychair.org/LR4TransIII/submit/>

### Important dates:

- ◆ Deadline for workshop paper submission: 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2006
- ◆ Notification of Acceptance: By 15<sup>th</sup> March 2006
- ◆ Paper Final Version for Workshop Proceedings: 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2006
- ◆ Workshop Date: Sunday, 28<sup>th</sup> May 2006

## Medical Interpreting Online - University of Massachusetts

The Translation Center of the University of Massachusetts Amherst is pleased to announce the 4<sup>th</sup> EDITION of the course '*Medical Interpreting Online*', offered through the university's Division of Continuing Education.

This course, which is 100% online, is ideal for individuals who like to work at their own pace or who have tight schedules that make it hard for them to engage in training and educational programs. Our e-learning platform is easy to use. Students will:

- ◆ familiarize themselves with medical terminology and vocabulary, word derivations, medical procedures and devices.
- ◆ learn the role of the interpreter in the medical interview, standards of interpreting practice, ethics, multi-cultural problem-solving, and mediation.
- ◆ practice interpreting medical interviews and learn how to implement cross-cultural communication skills into daily practice

This course is a chance to learn about the hot issues in Medical Interpreting, for which students are asked to read a number of articles and to engage in threaded discussions.

This course is also a chance to meet people from other places and with common interests and exchange experiences with them. One important goal of this course is that students and instructor learn from each other's knowledge and experiences. Some of the sections serve that particular purpose.

The class is multilingual, with most major languages accepted. All materials are in English so that students can work into the foreign language of their choice. Language-specific assignments are corrected by native speakers.

Requirements include fluency in one language other than English and the desire to improve interpretation skills.

Open to interpreters, translators, bilingual health workers, nurses, doctors, hospital administrators, therapists, social workers, and anyone interested in improving the quality of bilingual health care.

For more registration information please contact UMass Amherst, Division of Continuing Education:  
[www.umasslearn.net](http://www.umasslearn.net)

Contact the instructor to request an information package: [roberto.gracia\(a\)alumni.umass.edu](mailto:roberto.gracia(a)alumni.umass.edu)

## ■ Contacting The ITIA

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### ITIA BULLETIN

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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*
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