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# ITIA BULLETIN

March 2007

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*ITIA Bulletin*

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

Dear Readers,

This month's bulletin brings two separate items on controversy surrounding the translation of particular words. One is from a political text in the context of the EU and the other is from a new translation of the Koran. In both cases, the translated text is less forceful than the source text. In either political or religious contexts, is it acceptable to make key changes to a translation based on cultural factors? Does this not involve making assumptions about the target audience and are we, as translators, at liberty to make these assumptions? Have a look at the articles and see if you would have done differently.

I would also like to congratulate the 54 people who are the first group to be accredited Irish<=>English translators. Accreditation is a hot issue in Ireland at the moment and the ITIA is moving ahead with its certification process. The National Union of Professional Interpreters and Translators in the UK has announced a Charter for Standards in Public Service Interpreting. For the full text of this Charter and plenty more, read on...

**Elizabeth Hayes**

Editor ITIA Bulletin

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## ■ All for IATE and IATE for all

A database of EU terminology that has been available to EU translators for some time has now become available to all. It is called IATE which stands for InterActive Terminology for Europe. IATE is the EU inter-institutional terminology database system. It has been used in the EU institutions and agencies since summer 2004 for the collection, dissemination and shared management of EU-specific terminology. It combines the following legacy databases:

- ◆ Eurodicautom (Commission),
- ◆ TIS (Council),
- ◆ Euterpe (EP),
- ◆ Euroterms (Translation Centre),
- ◆ CDCTERM (Court of Auditors),

The project partners are the European Commission, Parliament, Council, Court of Justice, Court of Auditors, Economic & Social Committee, Committee of the Regions, European Central Bank, European Investment Bank, Translation Centre for the Bodies of the EU. Follow this link to translate into and out of all EU languages: <http://iate.europa.eu>

## ■ New Members of the ITIA

The ITIA welcomes the following new members...

### Ordinary Members

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ENGLISH from Spanish  
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literature, legal

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## Professional Members

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Users of IDB systems range from police authorities to community groups, from health trusts to industrial companies. In Ireland, IDB systems are in use by numerous Universities, Councils and language bodies.

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Dean St, Bangor, Gwynedd, Wales LL57 1UT

## 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)

## ■ NUPIT draws up Charter for Standards in Public Service Interpreting

NUPIT is the National Union of Professional Interpreters and Translators in the UK. It is part of the Amicus trade union.

In the UK the *Chartered Institute of Linguists* ([www.iol.org.uk](http://www.iol.org.uk)) runs the *Diploma in Public Service Interpreting* (DPSI) where interpreters can specialise in English law, Scottish law, medical or local government interpreting. Successful candidates can be included in the *National Register of Public Service Interpreters* in the UK, administered by NRPSI Ltd ([www.nrpsi.co.uk/index.htm](http://www.nrpsi.co.uk/index.htm)) a wholly owned and not for profit subsidiary of the Chartered Institute of Linguists.

There has been some dissatisfaction with the NRPSI. Interpreters complain that they can be contacted at all hours by service providers which need interpreters. NGOs and others complain that they have to pay to access the Register. Despite the Register, some service

providers have chosen to outsource interpreters who may not be qualified or trained. As a result, AMICUS/NUPIT has drawn up this Charter for Standards.

## AMICUS/NUPIT Charter for Standards in the Public Service Interpreting Profession

### 1. State Registration

- We believe for the sake of protecting public service professional interpreters and end users, the profession has to be state registered, and this must replace the current voluntary register.
- The register must be independent from any commercial activity
- Attainment of nationally recognised qualifications, i.e. DPSI-Law for those interpreting in the law courts or police stations, together with 400 hours of interpreting experience, should entitle interpreters to register.
- There should be a separate register for interpreters in training, i.e. who have yet to gain their 400 hours experience, yet applying the same professional standards.
- All public services should use only interpreters from the state register.
- Where there is no availability of state registered interpreters, then interpreters in training may be used, failing this a special category of untrained interpreters may be used (see below).
- The state register should be run via a call centre and intranet service which assists in identifying the right geographical and language interpreter.
- A Code of Conduct must apply to all interpreters. Those in breach of this will be subject to disciplinary action.
- All state registered interpreters should carry credentials to be inspected at the commencement of each assignment.

### 2. Interpreting Rates and Terms

- There should be an industry standard rate of pay for all registered interpreters; currently we believe that this should be a minimum of £32 per hour with an annual uplift of RPI +1/2%.

- There should be industry standard of terms and conditions for all registered interpreters including a maximum of 3 hours booked work, health and safety, and agreed list of other terms.

### 3. Outsourcing

- NUPIT believes that all public bodies must use the State Register for identifying their interpreter, and therefore stands against any outsourcing of this work.
- NUPIT believes that outsourcing to agencies has lowered standards in the profession, cut pay and conditions and added costs to public services. Wrong convictions or poor health interpretation has led to serious consequences.
- If public services use intermediary bodies to identify an interpreter from the State Register, then they are not to have any influence over the rates or conditions.

### 4. Continuous Professional Development

- All CPD must be accessible to all.
- All CPD should be accredited and should feed into a professional learning portfolio.
- NUPIT believes that there should be an assistance scheme to enable interpreters to engage in training and development.
- NUPIT promotes the auditing of all interpreting courses to ensure they meet professional standards.

### 5. Interpreters in training and unqualified interpreters

- NUPIT believes that interpreters gaining their 400 hours of interpreting experience should be placed on a separate register until they have gained this experience and have been deemed competent, when they can be put on the full register.
- For rare languages it may not be possible to use a stated registered interpreter of one in training. In these instances an interpreting companion may be used, but must first be subject to a number of tests. A list of interpreting companions must be kept nationally, and these individuals should be encouraged to undertake training to become a registered interpreter where appropriate.
- For rare languages there must be an active recruitment programme to train interpreters, with appropriate funding to enable this to occur.

See [www.nupit.org](http://www.nupit.org) for more information.

### ■ Next Issue of the ITIA Bulletin

The next issue of the ITIA Bulletin will be out in April 2007. If you have any contributions, suggestions or scandals that you would like to share with over 980 subscribers worldwide, send them to Elizabeth Hayes at [elizabeth.hayes7\(a\)mail.dcu.ie](mailto:elizabeth.hayes7(a)mail.dcu.ie).

### ■ Subscribing to the ITIA Bulletin

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### ■ Bad Glück in Berlin Declaration translation

The Berlin Declaration, an EU document to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Rome, was presented by German chancellor Angela Merkel on March 25th. In the first paragraph of the declaration, the German word "Glück" – meaning fortune or happiness - is used, but the most direct translation has been avoided in other language versions

of the declaration. The EUobserver reports that one professor is calling this “political translation”.

However, in the translated versions of the text the word Glück has been given a less solemn treatment. “We, the citizens of the European Union, have united for the better,” the more down-to-earth English version says. The word has also disappeared from the Danish version where *Glück* has been replaced with “*vor fælles bedste*” meaning “for the best” and further down the declaration the word has been lost in translation. There are so many deviations in the Danish version that it cannot possibly be a coincidence, Henning Koch, a professor in constitutional law at Copenhagen University, told Danish daily Politiken. “It would come as a big surprise to me if the translators are bad at German. So then it's a political translation,” he said about the Danish version. According to Mr Koch, the German word *Glück* – used in the declaration to describe the good fortune of 50 years of peace and unity – is too big a word for the Danes to use. “Great, gushing and emotional terms are something the Danes fear,” he said, adding that “Danish pragmatism cannot handle that we are happy for the EU. But you cannot deny reality by turning around the words.”

The following are translations of the word “*Glück*”:

- ◆ auspiciousness
- ◆ bliss
- ◆ felicity
- ◆ fortunateness
- ◆ fortune
- ◆ happiness
- ◆ luck
- ◆ luckiness

Click [here](#) to see the official translations of the text.

## ■ Lionbridge pushing role of translation in lucrative Clinical Trials market

The 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual DIA (Drugs Information Association) Clinical Data Management Conference was held in Vienna recently. This annual meeting delivers the latest information to the medical and clinical professional attendees about the evolving clinical data management function - in order to address the overall clinical development environment and the dynamic role of the data manager.

One of the hot topics this year is issues of data quality throughout the data life cycle in clinical research. Mark

Wade of Lionbridge Technologies, Inc. attended the conference. He explains that as the pharmaceutical industry pursues multi-geography clinical trials, translation has become a critical step, and a potential roadblock, in the global clinical trial (CT) process.

“There is no shortage of information available on why pharmaceutical companies and clinical research organizations (CROs) are running global clinical trials. Regulators are now demanding larger and larger population pools, longer term monitoring, and more trials. Access to large drug-naïve populations, lower operating costs of running the trials, and the ability to rapidly recruit suitable participants are pushing these boundaries farther and farther across the globe into the so-called ascending markets of Eastern Europe, Asia, and Latin America. According to Thomson CenterWatch, 20 to 30 percent of clinical trials are being conducted in ascending regions.

Additionally, pharmaceutical companies are using this as an opportunity to build relationships with key physicians and clinicians in these regions as they are in the best position to ultimately promote and prescribe the drug undergoing the trial when it comes to market.”

Wade explains the challenges facing the globalization of CT, “The decision to run global clinical trials places significant stress on the entire clinical trial process. While overall costs may be lower, it is important to address how you will communicate with all of the participants in the trial.

Virtually all of the materials involved in the clinical trial may need to be translated into the target languages of the trial population. And once the trial is underway, the patient diaries and other in-country trial materials may need to be translated back into the source language to ensure accurate, clean data collection and analysis.”

CT translation differs significantly from other types of translation. Wade says, “When translating standard materials like a user guide for a computer, a linguistically correct translation is perfectly acceptable. The associated terminology is reasonably standardized across the world, and there are fewer nuances in meaning.

In the CT process, the terminology is truly unique to that individual trial and is filled with industry specific language and technical terms. When this material is developed for the patient participants, it has to be understandable at the most basic level so that the patient can participate appropriately. In these cases, simply

having a translator in-country is not enough; they must be certified clinical translators such as doctors or biochemists who understand both the language of the end-user and the language of the trial. The translation of a clinical trial protocol demands a mastery of medical and pharmaceutical language.”

Companies that have already committed to multi-geographic clinical trials are already undertaking some form of translation in the process as it is rarely desirable to recruit a population that is purely bi-lingual, typically with English as the second language. Wade explains why this is so, “While this is acceptable in parts of Europe and even countries like India and Singapore, by accepting only bi-lingual participants you are unnecessarily narrowing your potential patient pool. To reach these mono-lingual study participants some amount of translation is required.

While the overall direct cost of the translation project is small as compared to the scale of the trial, the choice of how to do the translation work can have a dramatic impact on how fast the trial can begin.”

Typically, translation is started once the study protocols are developed. A translation partner is secured with expertise in the local languages to manage the multi-site project. A large scale translation partner has the ability to scale quickly based on the project timelines and bring the required language resources to the project. They also have the ability to deliver clean data consistently across all languages because they are looking at the entire project. This pushes the translation project management to the translation partner instead of trying to manage it in-house.

There is no shortage of examples of how things can go wrong in translation in all industries. The worst possible outcome of a bad translation in CT is a serious adverse patient reaction, however Wade explains the more likely problems associated with a bad translation. “If the translation process becomes the bottleneck to beginning the trial, this can have serious downstream effects. It is estimated that bringing a drug out of the lab and into the market can cost as much as \$500 million. This means that every delay in getting the drug to market can mean hundreds of thousands of dollars in lost revenue opportunity, or worse, mean the difference between a blockbuster drug or a complete market miss. As a result, the pressure to move quickly in all phases of the drug lifecycle is immense.

The other potential risk is not interpreting the patient reported outcomes and the data in the patient diaries

appropriately. Poorly designed and translated forms can lead to patient misunderstandings and mis-reported data. When reviewing these materials, it is critical to have a clear understanding of what the patient is reporting. The success of the drug in trial hangs on the nuance of both how the question is presented, and the patient’s answer.

One of the areas that is most problematic is the translation review process. “These reviews are often conducted by in-house staff in those countries, who have other full-time responsibilities. As a result, even though the translation is complete, the final review cycle can take as much as 7 to 15 weeks. This is a significant roadblock that can have a material impact on the trial. For certain CTs where a cognitive review is necessary, the delay in review times increases exponentially”, explains Wade.

Critical to shortening this step is enabling the reviewers with online tools that make conducting the review easier, or outsourcing the review to an independent resource altogether. Typically, large scale translation providers can assist by providing independent reviewers to conduct the language QA process. Keeping these resources and processes separate from the translators ensures the objectivity that the QA requires.

The landmark civil action cases in the U.S. have pushed regulatory bodies to demand greater scrutiny over drug discovery and clinical trials. One expects that trials will only go more global, with patients being recruited globally on a scale never seen before. CROs who can rapidly recruit a patient population and deliver clean, high quality data will have a huge market opportunity, concludes Wade.

## ■ New Translation Prompts Debate on Islamic Verse

The New York Times recently reported on the controversy caused by a new translation of the Koran. The translator, Laleh Bakhtiar, had already spent two years working on an English translation of the Koran when she came upon Chapter 4, Verse 34. The hotly debated verse states that a rebellious woman should first be admonished, then abandoned in bed, and ultimately “beaten” — the most common translation for the Arabic word “*daraba*” — unless her behaviour improves. There are at least 20 English translations of the Koran. “*Daraba*” has been translated as beat, hit, strike, scourge, chastise, flog, make an example of, spank, pet, tap and even seduce. When she reached the problematic

verse, Ms. Bakhtiar spent the next three months on the word “*daraba*.”

“I decided it either has to have a different meaning, or I can’t keep translating,” said Ms. Bakhtiar, an Iranian-American who adopted her father’s Islamic faith as an adult and had not dwelled on the verse before. “I couldn’t believe that God would sanction harming another human being except in war.” Ms. Bakhtiar worked for five more years, with the translation to be published in April. But while she found a way through the problem, few verses in the Koran have generated as much debate, particularly as more Muslim women study their faith as an academic field.

“This verse became an issue of debate and controversy because of the ethics of the modern age, the universal notions of human rights,” said Khaled Abou El Fadl, an Egyptian-born law professor and Islamic scholar at the University of California, Los Angeles. The leader of the North American branch of a mystical Islamic order, Sheik Muhammad Hisham Kabbani, said he had been questioned about the verse in places around the world where women were struggling for greater rights, but most of all by Westerners. Women want to be free “from some of the extreme ideology of some Muslims,” the sheik said, after delivering a sermon on the verse recently in California.

Ms. Bakhtiar, who is 68 and has a doctorate in educational psychology, set out to translate the Koran because she found the existing version inaccessible for Westerners. She does not speak Arabic, but she learned to read the holy texts in Arabic while studying and working as a translator in Iran in the 1970s and ’80s. She has translated over 30 books on Islam and Islamic beliefs into English. Her eureka moment came on roughly her 10<sup>th</sup> reading of the Arabic-English Lexicon by Edward William Lane, a 3,064-page volume from the 19<sup>th</sup> century, she said. Among the six pages of definitions for “*daraba*” was “to go away.” “I said to myself, ‘Oh, God, that is what the prophet meant,’” said Ms. Bakhtiar, speaking in the offices of Kazi Publications in Chicago, a mail-order house for Islamic books that is publishing her translation. “When the prophet had difficulty with his wives, what did he do? He didn’t beat anybody, so why would any Muslim do what the prophet did not?”

She thinks the “beat” translation contradicts another verse, which states that if a woman wants a divorce, she should not be mistreated. Given the option of staying in the marriage and being beaten, or divorcing, women would obviously leave, she said. There have been

similar interpretations, but none have been incorporated into a translation. Debates over translations of the Koran — considered God’s eternal words — revolve around religious tradition and Arabic grammar. Critics fault Ms. Bakhtiar on both scores.

Ms. Bakhtiar said she expected opposition, not least because she is not an Islamic scholar. Men in the Muslim world, she said, will also oppose the idea of an American, especially a woman, reinterpreting the prevailing translation. “They feel the onslaught of the West against their religious values, and they fear losing their whole suit of armor,” she said. “But women need to know that there is an alternative.”

Religious scholars outline several main threads in the translation of “*daraba*.” Conservative scholars suggest the verse has to be taken at face value, with important reservations. They consider that the Koran holds that force is an acceptable last resort to preserve important institutions, including marriages and nations. Some scholars have accused some Muslims of trying to make the verse palatable to the West. “I am not apologetic about why the Koran says this,” said Seyyed Hossein Nasr, an Islamic scholar who teaches at George Washington University. The Bible, he noted, addresses stoning people to death.

## ■ First translators receive official seal of accreditation

In January, Éamon Ó Cuív TD, Minister for Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs, awarded the first official seals of accreditation at a ceremony in the offices of Foras na Gaeilge in Dublin.

Under the new accreditation system introduced by *Foras na Gaeilge*, (including *An Gúm* and *An Coiste Téarmaíochta*) and in conjunction with *Rannóg an Aistriúcháin*, the translators are being placed on a public panel, having passed a rigorous examination and reached a high standard of excellence.

Minister Ó Cuív said “As we move forward to implement the Official Languages Act and particularly now the Irish language has achieved working language status in the European Union there is more of a requirement than ever for competent translators. To ensure that we can meet the targets set out in the Language Act, we must ensure that the state system has access to translators of a very high standard. There is little doubt that the translators here today have reached this high standard. I congratulate them and I also

congratulate Foras na Gaeilge for developing and implementing the accreditation system for Irish-English translators.”

The 54 accredited translators will have their work monitored on an ongoing basis and will have to undertake further exams within five years to ensure that standards of excellence are maintained. The accreditation system will also provide an outlet for the public and private sectors to register complaints which will be investigated, with particular attention being paid to the accredited translators.

## ■ Deal to release Italian journalist criticised

*La Repubblica* reporter Daniele Mastrogiacomo was freed Monday by his Taliban kidnappers, two weeks after being captured in the dangerous southern province of Helmand. His Afghan driver was beheaded and his translator, Adjmal Nasqbandi, remains in captivity. “The case will not be over until Mastrogiacomo's Afghan guide has been freed” the press freedom group *Reporters Without Borders* said. Afghans are dismayed that their government has apparently done nothing to free the Italian's captured Afghan translator after paying such a high price to liberate a foreigner. The deal was also criticised because aid workers, diplomats, journalists and translators now feel that more kidnappings are inevitable. The deal involved the exchange of five Taliban prisoners for the kidnapped Italian reporter which makes a kidnapped Westerner a valuable asset to the Taliban.

Italy pressed Afghanistan to meet the kidnappers' demands, leading to the release of the five prisoners, reportedly including two high-level Taliban — a former spokesman and the brother of the militia's top ground commander, Mullah Dadullah.

The U.S., Britain and the Netherlands, as well as politicians in Italy, sharply criticized the deal. “We Italians are by now considered unreliable by our own allies,” former premier Silvio Berlusconi said. But Foreign Minister Massimo D'Alema defended the exchange, saying he did not regret that a life had been saved. “I think it's really wrong that we negotiate with terrorists,” Manizha Naderi, an Afghan-American and the director of the aid group Women for Afghan Women, said. “That encourages further kidnappings and further violence against the foreign community.”

Terrorism analysts, however, said the swap was unlikely to increase the threat of kidnappings. Afghan lawmakers, analysts and the family of Mastrogiacomo's kidnapped translator also have decried the apparent double standard in which five Taliban were freed to secure the Italian's release, but nothing has been done to free the translator. “A foreigner is released, the Afghan remains a hostage,” said Mohammad Qassim Akhgar, a political analyst who works on human rights issues in Afghanistan. “It's so disappointing to the Afghan people.” Ghulam Haydan, the father of the kidnapped translator, Ajmal, said he talked to his son by phone on Thursday for the first time since his capture. He said his son pleaded: “Do something for me, my life is at risk.”

“I asked him, 'What does the Taliban want?' And he answered that the government knows. But the government hasn't told us anything,” said Haydan, whose right leg was blown off by a mine in the late 1990s. He said he was furious with the Italian Embassy and the Afghan government for winning the release of Mastrogiacomo but not his 25-year-old son. “The government doesn't care about my son,” he said.

## ■ CAT - The Next Chapter.

*WORKSHOP OF THE LANGUAGE SERVICES IN THE CENTRAL LIBRARY. RESEARCH CENTRE JÜLICH, MAY 11 2007*

After the success of their first workshop in 2005 - “*Who's afraid of CAT?*” - the Language Services at Research Centre Jülich are back with the second conference in the series “*CAT - The Next Chapter*”, which will take place on 11<sup>th</sup> May 2007 in Jülich. Topics this time around include the use of online dictionaries (LEO and Acolada), the practical application of electronic tools for translators and Controlled Language in the everyday translation environment. The Language Services will explain how they work with scientists and researchers using the example of the translation and dubbing of a short film on fuel cells. The individual presentations will be given in German, but questions may be asked in English. The workshop offers translators an excellent opportunity to network, share experiences and build on their existing knowledge of computer aided translation in the unique environment of the largest interdisciplinary research centre in Europe.

For more detailed information and the registration form, visit: <http://www.fz-juelich.de/zb/cat>. Should you have any questions, contact Janet Carter-Sigglow or Hazel Rochford at [cat\(a\)fz-juelich.de](mailto:cat(a)fz-juelich.de).

## ■ Conferences, Calls & Courses

### Translation: Process and Performance

Institute of Germanic & Romance Studies, Senate House, London WC1E 7HU, 23-24 November 2007

#### CALL FOR PAPERS

Co-organised by “*Betwixt and Between: The Queen’s University Belfast Research Forum in Translation and Cultural Encounter*” and The Department of Spanish and Latin American Studies, King’s College, London. The Conference Organisers would welcome papers (of 20-25 minutes duration) in any of the following areas:

- ◆ Translating enactment
- ◆ Who translates? The identity of the theatre translator
- ◆ Translation and creativity
- ◆ Social production: economic and non-economic factors in theatre translation
- ◆ Rehearsal-room practice
- ◆ Translation as collaborative practice
- ◆ Programming translations
- ◆ Translating titles

The following plenary speakers are confirmed:

- ◆ Sirkku Aaltonen (University of Vaasa, Finland)
- ◆ Catherine Boyle (King’s College, London)
- ◆ Eva Espasa (University of Vic, Catalunya)
- ◆ Joe Farrell (University of Strathclyde, Glasgow)
- ◆ David Johnston (Queen’s University Belfast)
- ◆ Stephen Kelly (Queen’s University Belfast)

Proposals (max 100 words) to be submitted to the organisers, from whom further details may also be obtained: David Johnston ([d.johnston@qub.ac.uk](mailto:d.johnston@qub.ac.uk)) and Catherine Boyle ([catherine.boyle@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:catherine.boyle@kcl.ac.uk))

### Seventh Portsmouth Translation Conference

#### 'Translation As Negotiation'

Saturday 10 November 2007

#### CALL FOR PAPERS

As translators and interpreters we engage in a range of negotiatory activities. We negotiate the frontiers and interfaces between languages and cultures; we negotiate translation issues and problems; we negotiate rates, deadlines and briefs with clients. We also engage with the range of expectations and demands made of translators in our diverse cultures and working environments.

The organisers of the seventh Portsmouth Translation Conference invite contributions from translation and interpreting professionals, scholars and students on any topic relating to this year's theme.

We welcome a broad range of approaches to translation, including presentations with an empirical, critical, analytic, pedagogical, technological or professional focus. Enquiries and abstracts to [carol.osullivan@port.ac.uk](mailto:carol.osullivan@port.ac.uk). Abstract deadline: 30 June 2007.

## Call for Papers International Conference

We translate all the time. Translating is an absolute, an essential part of any human interaction. It is a cultural, political, economic, technical, scientific and social necessity whenever we engage with others. Translating is also a profession. For the last 50 years, ESIT has undertaken to train translators and conference interpreters who are vital agents in the exchange of science and affect in contemporary society. Hence the choice of the following generic (but no less precise) title of the translation studies conference to be organised by ESIT on November 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>, 2007 on the occasion of its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary:

You are invited to attend the three half-day sessions of discussions which will address major aspects of translating as a profession. The various types of presentation planned should provide ample opportunity to share our thoughts, knowledge and skills. In order to structure the discussions the following directions have been outlined. You are invited to submit a contribution under one of these headings:

### A/ The translating and interpreting professions:

- ◆ status and perception of these professions
- ◆ factors determining the degree of professionalization in different translation and interpretation sectors (economic considerations, political decisions, professional associations' input, cultural and historical factors, role of clients.
- ◆ professional ethics and the role(s) of translators
- ◆ the impact of new technologies on professional practice
- ◆ the range of translation needs and quality expectations.

### B/ Translation questions – responses from Translation Studies

- ◆ does translation reside in confronting two languages or in keeping them apart?
- ◆ Are there distinct domain-specific and language-specific theories or a single theory with specific techniques?
- ◆ Deverbalisation questioned.

### 2/ The impact on translation of the emergence of globalized knowledge and the assertion of cultural identities

- ◆ Does the emergence of a form of global culture help or hinder the translating process?
- ◆ Cultural identities and translation methods.

### C/ Translator training

- ◆ Criteria for professional training.
- ◆ Do students need some basic grounding in translation theory?
- ◆ How to teach translation skills?

Presentations should last about 20 minutes leaving ten minutes for questions and answers. The working languages of the conference are English and French. Abstracts (about 500 words) should be submitted to the following address by 15<sup>th</sup> May 2007: [jeanine.tharaud\(a\)univ-paris3.fr](mailto:jeanine.tharaud(a)univ-paris3.fr)

Authors will be informed of the scientific committee's decision by June 30<sup>th</sup>.

## Third International Postgraduate Conference in Translation and Interpreting University of Edinburgh, Scotland, 2-3 November 2007.

### CALL FOR PAPERS

Following the great success of two previous conferences hosted by Dublin City University, this event aims to provide a platform for postgraduate students in the field of Translation and Interpreting Studies to present their research in a supportive environment and to meet and exchange ideas on current issues in the field of Translation and Interpreting Studies with other new researchers from around the world. A number of members of staff of the organising universities will be present and will offer feedback to the speakers.

Keynote Speaker: Mona Baker, Professor of Translation Studies, University of Manchester, UK.

Workshop: A workshop, presented by Ian Mason, Professor of Translation Studies at Heriot-Watt University, will offer hands-on advice on how to write academic papers.

Papers and Poster presentations: We welcome presentations by postgraduate students on all areas of Translation and Interpreting Studies, which might, but don't have to, report on one of the following areas:

- ◆ Audiovisual Translation
- ◆ Conference Interpreting
- ◆ Conflict and Translation
- ◆ Corpus-based Translation Studies
- ◆ Dialogue and Public Service Interpreting
- ◆ Gender and Translation
- ◆ Identity Issues in Translation and Interpreting
- ◆ Legal Issues in Translation and Interpreting
- ◆ Literary Translation and Translation of Children's Literature
- ◆ Media Translation and Localisation
- ◆ Signed Language Interpreting and Translation
- ◆ Translation and Interpreting in Postcolonial Contexts
- ◆ Translation and Cultural Studies
- ◆ Translation History
- ◆ Translator and Interpreter Training

Speakers will be allocated 15 minutes for presentation and 10 minutes for discussion. Posters will be displayed during breaks. Advice and guidelines on how to present papers and write abstracts will be available on the website: [www.hss.ed.ac.uk/tipciti/speakers](http://www.hss.ed.ac.uk/tipciti/speakers).

*Abstracts:* Abstracts of 250-300 words, including a title and a brief outline of your paper, should be sent by email to Svenja Wurm, [S.B.Wurm@hw.ac.uk](mailto:S.B.Wurm@hw.ac.uk), by Friday, 1<sup>st</sup> June 2007. Please provide contact details on all documents and indicate whether you would prefer to be considered for a paper presentation or a poster display.

Publication of Papers: Selected Papers will be published by the online, peer-reviewed journal *New Voices in Translation Studies*, edited by Charlotte Bosseaux, Gabriela Saldanha and Marion Winters ([www.iatis.org/newvoices](http://www.iatis.org/newvoices)).

Further Information: Please visit our website: [www.hss.ed.ac.uk/tipcti](http://www.hss.ed.ac.uk/tipcti) or contact a member of the organising committee.

**English Literature and Classical Translation (1850-1950)**

Corpus Christi College, Oxford, 16<sup>th</sup> June 2007,

**CALL FOR PAPERS**

Proposals are invited for this one-day interdisciplinary conference that aims to investigate the impact of translation from the classical languages on literature written in English in the period between the mid-nineteenth century and the end of high modernism (circa 1950). During these decades both the meaning and value of the classical tradition were radically reconfigured and this process of redefinition had a fundamental influence on modern literature. It was a time of rapid expansion in public interest in the ancient world, which is reflected in an unprecedented growth in the number of translations from the classical languages, especially from Greek. Classical literature gradually ceased to be the exclusive domain of a small educated elite and, perhaps inevitably, there was a decline in the cultural and social prestige attached to the knowledge of the ancient languages. The enlarged readership of classical texts reached further down in the social scale and comprised an increasingly large number of women.

In this new socio-cultural landscape translations became the prime locus for the moderns' encounter with the ancient world, and the main means by which classical culture was disseminated. From Matthew Arnold's seminal *On Translating Homer* (1861), modern authors and critics repeatedly come back to arguing that a good practice of classical translation is a fundamental force in the intellectual life of the nation. What constitutes this good practice is of course a matter of dispute.

The conference aims to bring together academics and students in the fields of English and Classics. It is an interdisciplinary forum that will also provide room for scholars interested in reception studies, translation studies, cultural history and history of the book.

Contributions might include, but are not limited to:

- ◆ the 'canon' of classical literature in translation,
- ◆ classical translation and the modern literary canon,
- ◆ the role of translation in the reception of classical culture in the period,
- ◆ modern authors as classical translators,
- ◆ the influence of Latin and Greek translation on stylistic innovation and literary language,
- ◆ translation theory and the classics,
- ◆ classical translation and aestheticism/decadence/modernist experimentation,
- ◆ classical translation and modern literary criticism,
- ◆ the circulation of classical texts in translation.

The conference welcomes both diachronic approaches that examine issues arising from the translation of particular classical authors or texts in the period, and approaches that consider the significance of the theory and practice of classical translation for a modern author or group of authors.

The conference follows from a series of seminars on the same theme that are taking place in the School of Advanced Study of the University of London over the academic year 2006-2007. It will conclude with a roundtable discussion to which the speakers of the London seminars will be invited to contribute in the form of short presentations.

Please submit paper proposals in the form of 300-word abstracts to Stefano Evangelista ([stefano-maria.evangelista@trinity.ox.ac.uk](mailto:stefano-maria.evangelista@trinity.ox.ac.uk)) by 1<sup>st</sup> May 2007.

Proposals from graduate students are particularly welcome. Some financial support for graduate speakers will be available.

## ■ Contacting The ITIA

Irish Translators' & Interpreters' Association  
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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*
- ◆ *Professional Membership Application*
- ◆ *Database Entry*
- ◆ *Code of Practice*
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