



**Irish Translators' and Interpreters' Association**  
*Cumann Aistritheoirí agus Ateangairí na hÉireann*

# ITIA Bulletin

**2016 / 5**

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## Editorial

This last 2016 issue of the Bulletin is an east meets west affair - we welcome Lichao Li from China and Ken Waide, Japanese Irish to the ITIA Executive Committee and look forward to their perspective enriching our meetings. Keeping with the rising sun, our Members' Corner column is by Akagi Kobayashi originally from Japan, but who has lived all over the globe. Her path to translation and interpreting is certainly not linear but extremely interesting.

As happens with voluntary committees and pressures of work, we are saying 'hasta luego' to Miriam Abuin who has taken her leave of the Executive Committee and we would like to thank her for all her work on the Marketing Sub-Committee in producing our ITIA leaflets for both potential members and also the business community. We are saying 'Hallo und willkommen' to Marina Bilak, who volunteered at the AGM to come on to the Committee. That makes our nationality line-up as follows: 1 Chinese, 1 Japanese Irish, 2 Italians, 3 Germans and 5 Irish - and yes, our monthly meetings are culturally colourful!

The ITIA 2016 Xmas party will be held on 2 December at the IWC and members are very welcome to join us to see Honorary membership being conferred on Eileen Battersby of the Irish Times for her constant promotion of translated works and their translators. Dr. Michael Cronin will speak at the event so between speakers and Xmas fare we are sure to see off the year in good spirit.

Anne Larchet, Editor

## MEMBERS' CORNER

*Akagi Kobayashi has been an ITIA member for 15 years and is our only ITIA PM for English/Japanese.*

### **Q. Describe yourself professionally in a few lines.**

I have been working as interpreter and translator in Japanese and English since the 1980's, joining ITI as a professional member in 2000 and ITIA shortly afterwards. Bi-directional translation work led to information development (aka technical writing), a field in which I obtained a Masters degree from Sheffield Hallam University in 2013. What I learnt from this and various other qualifications that I studied for, together with my experience and skills developed over the years, enable me to fulfil my current role as a language quality manager in a global organization.

### **Q. When and why did you decide on a career in translating/interpreting?**

By 'natural selection', might be the short answer. I had other passions and interests in my younger days, in London, such that it never occurred to me to pursue the career path that I am in now. English was almost the exclusive language in my daily life, the L2 that by pure chance I had acquired to the fluency I had. Aged eight, I was whisked away from the familiar surroundings of Tokyo to New Delhi where my father was posted. The experience of new languages was more fun than arduous, but the culture shock was massive ... bewildered as I was, I learnt about cultural diversity through my skin, as it were, absorbing with all the senses and emotions of a child.

I acquired a world view that took for granted that we lived in a heterogeneous society – of multiple cultures, languages, religions, beliefs, values, tastes... Not that I was aware of it at the time. It was only a few years later, coping with the counter culture shock of returning to Japan, that I realized what had happened, and much later that I re-evaluated what I had gained.

When the time came to consider what tertiary studies I should follow, Linguistics was on my list – diversity of languages and what they represented had fascinated me, as well as the system of structures and sounds. I was also curious about how language functioned inside me: I never felt a direct connection between myself and language. There seemed to be an area of emotional and conceptual depth in my brain that was beyond the reach of words. A thought or feeling would occur conceptually non-verbally, then would get interpreted by language, just as music or visual arts would do (and often better, I thought). Words never felt to be equal to my inner self.

*My inner linguistic detachment didn't present a problem. To the contrary, my brain would take me to that inner area of concepts with no words, to identify the meaning of what was said, to resurface in an expression in another tongue*

In the end, I didn't take up Linguistics, and instead pursued music, music therapy, and social care for the intellectually disabled, in various combinations. I was deeply engaged in what I was doing.

One day, an acquaintance in the Japanese Embassy called me up to ask whether I would work as an interpreter on an Anglo-Japanese opera production. They were searching high and low for a capable person with musical knowledge.

Blissfully ignorant of anything about the difficulties of interpreting, I said yes, and had the greatest fun in my life.

It turned out that I had the physical knack of interpreting. It was multi-tasking not dissimilar to sight-reading on the piano in a chamber music setting, when you have to keep an ear out for the other parts, and read all the parts simultaneously as well as play your own part. From then on, I took on freelance work. I also took a short professional course in interpreting. A very helpful friend who had studied phonology corrected me precisely where my Japanese pronunciation was getting anglicized.

My innate curiosity was satisfied by the variety of work that came my way; I am hopeless at remembering people and faces, but apparently have the capacity to memorize new vocabulary. I do spend a lot of time learning the context and vocabulary before an assignment, so that I am basically in tune with the discourse, understand the subject matter, and don't have to think during exchanges. There are times, of course, in a non-booth situation, when I have two tracks going on in my brain, searching ahead for a term reference while working through the preceding utterance.

My awareness of potential cultural conflicts helped. After all, translation exists within a cultural system. If people are completely unaware of cultural differences, they need to be told, within a dialogue of trust. If others hold a pessimistic view, over-estimating the differences, they could be shown the spectrum of common aims and values, to bring them into perspective. My earlier exposure to different types of work and people of various backgrounds also worked in my favour.

My inner linguistic detachment didn't present a problem. To the contrary, my brain would take me to that inner area of concepts with no words, to identify the meaning of what was said, to resurface in an expression in another tongue. Yes, I found myself to be the natural embodiment

of some of the major theories of cognitive process of translation, as readers may have noticed. Of course, where dictionary meaning is concerned, I go in the quickest of time from SL to TL. I direct that through a different route.

**Q. Name the most important thing you did that helped launch your career.**

At one time I had a part-time job in a stockbrokers firm in the City, where my main duties developed into translating business and economic articles. With the kindly help of the managing director, who always read out my translation, I entered another world, and learned how to read *The Financial Times*!

The turning point came when I took a short contract job on a construction site for a memory chip manufacturing plant. This job eventually stretched to nine years of intensive and varied work, day in and day out, in a team of five to fifteen translators, and introduced me to the world of technology, and the complexity of difficulties language and cultural differences could create.

**Q. How important are training and qualifications for a career in translating/interpreting?**

I would recommend anyone aspiring to be a translator or interpreter to take up translation studies after completing a language undergraduate degree. (Choose well, as courses vary.) After that, they should view the early part of their professional life as a period of apprenticeship. It is a little bit like training to be a pilot, or a teacher, where you need the basic skills plus the experience and exposure to a wide variety of situations to become fully competent. In my experience, students coming out of universities are equipped with the foundation to develop their knowledge and skills in the chosen field. I think that's wonderful, but only the beginning.

It is important to have an understanding of the cognitive and theoretical aspects of the art of translation. If you have natural facility in

languages, I'm sure you'll enjoy discovering what lies beyond your immediate experience. You'll be able to explain the grounds of your linguistic decisions not only to yourself, but also to your customer, confidently and convincingly. Readers may agree that our profession still lacks the command of respect that it deserves. I believe it is our responsibility also to educate the public, and to be the beacon of professional knowledge.

*... trust is key to your relationship with your customer, who may not know a word of their target language and have only you to extend that bridge of trust to reach their client's mind*

**Q. Do you think it is necessary to specialize?**

Someone in a translation agency once told me that the best way to make money from translation was to work first in the financial industry for a few years – to acquire the credibility as well as the knowledge – as financial institutions, unlike the health service or the arts, for example, had money to spend. There is something in this advice, as trust is key to your relationship with your customer, who may not know a word of their target language and have only you to extend that bridge of trust to reach their client's mind. Imagine how difficult it must be to build trust without a common language or culture. How do you show trust? How can you read the signs? How can you tell that the TT appropriately conveys the rhetoric in the ST? A proven track record in their own discourse community may well inspire the much needed confidence and comfort.

Specialization also means that you are steadily accumulating knowledge on the subject matter, and likely to need less time for research. The field of pharmaceuticals, which works within a fully documented regulatory framework, may be another choice if looking for bountiful funds.

**Q. How do you find clients?**

Through a network of professional organizations and recommendations from past customers. This is as true for individual translation jobs as for opportunities of employment. Doing good work and keeping in touch.

**Q. Is it possible to have a good standard of living?**

I read a report on a debate in the Japan Association for Translators as to whether one could make ends meet by being a freelance translator. The definition of making ends meet included being able to support a family and put at least one child through university. The answer, unfortunately, was borderline negative.

In my case, as I support my household, I have taken up opportunities for employment when they presented themselves, above the path of being my own business owner. I also prefer working in a team, with all the dynamic interactions that that brings. I have continued with freelance work on the side, as it gives me unique opportunities to get a look into the world of work behind-the-scenes, beyond the narrow confines of a single organization.

**Q. What is your favourite type of text/assignment?**

I was thrilled in my first assignment when I interpreted a joke ... obviously intended to be funny, though not to me. Nevertheless, I translated ... and the listener burst out laughing! It's hilarious when this happens. Conveying emotional content is important, often overlooked in meetings under the weight of factual information that has to be put across. But without emotion, a true meeting of hearts cannot be.

I'll never forget interpreting a zen master's discourse – coming from the heart – with an audience hanging on every word and nuance.

**Q. What is the best/worst thing about being a translator/interpreter?**

Communication between people's minds is what

interests me most. In any interpreting or translation situation, my cue is on 'what is the intention of the text?' and my TT is rendered differently accordingly. Options to reconstruct a sentence are as many as there are ways to inflect the sentence in the first place (think of the umpteen ways the soliloquy 'To be or not to be' can be spoken), so that the equivalent emphasis is expressed in the rendered text. If the intention is missed, the response will be skewed, which will allow an element of unease to creep into the dialogue.

Information development, which I studied, also focuses on anything and everything to do with optimising technical communication for the benefit of the user. Translation of a technical text needs to address the rhetoric in the ST in ways that are comprehensible for the user in the particular context. Failure to do so will leave the user stranded.

From all of the above, you may not be surprised to find that I like translating poetry: dipping into that area of no-word, to explore, and to re-express.

**Q. What advice would you give to someone starting in the profession?**

Are enlightening linguistic intrigues and being the vehicle of communication your greatest desire? Is that where you find job satisfaction?

If you should become more interested in the subject matter you are working on, and wish to take an active role in the discussion, you may need to question your choice. I have heard of interpreters becoming frustrated at not being able to 'do anything', an inversion of which I have come across in management advice 'not to mistake the intelligence demonstrated by interpreters/translators for the ability to take charge of the subject matter'.

Like any profession or trade, you need to be dedicated and continue learning to make a success. Devote some time to study, if you haven't already; a qualification can also work for you in a competitive market. Be professional,

have pride in what you do, have respect for the text, all you work with and for, be true to yourself and let your passion and enjoyment speak through!

Akagi Kobayashi  
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*Continuing our window into colleague associations, this article is from another European Association, new to CEATL and also, like the Macedonian Association in the last issue of the Bulletin, recently founded - ARTLIT - the Romanian Association of Literary Translators.*

## Some things about ARTLIT

The average fee for literary translation in Romania is 2.5 Euros per page and a page means 2000 characters (spaces included or not, it's up to you to negotiate your spaces). Before the Crisis it was around 3.5, some publishers even paid 4, but then 2008 happened and we were told we should be grateful to receive work. None of the big publishers went bankrupt during the Crisis, the sales are now as before, but the fees are not. And Romania is not a cheap country for Romanians, it's hard to make money here and we translators of literature would need at least 5 Euros per page to be able to live out of our work.

So it all started from the money.

The dominant discourse here (from publishers, most university professors and surprisingly even from some translators themselves) is that literary translation is not a profession but a hobby, not work but art. We all agree it's a poor industry but any kind of work deserves fair contracts and remuneration.

The idea of ARTLIT (Asociația Română a Traducătorilor Literari - Romanian Association of

Literary Translators) started in 2013 when Andy Jelčić, then vice-president of CEATL, and Peter Bergsma, president of RECIT, came to Bucharest for an event organised by the Goethe Institute about perspectives in the profession of literary translators in South-Eastern Europe. It was supposed to be the first of a series of such events but as far as I remember it was the only one.

Mr. Jelčić strongly encouraged some of us to start an association and gave a lot of useful tips. We were fascinated by our guests and the organisations they represented first and foremost I think because they were European. And they were teaching us to put order in a chaotic layer of the world. (Offtopic: we have a high appreciation for everything European around here, the word itself has this connotation for the thing well done. It was amusing to read a while ago a book about lexical tendencies in actual Romanian with a chapter dedicated to semantic switches in adjective meanings over time. „European” has a very positive connotation since this EU adventure we are part of, almost a synonym of „good”, while its antonym would be... „Balkanic”.)

There was also a literary translators branch in the Writers' Union but they were invisible, none of us (founding members of ARTLIT) had ever heard of them doing something precise or taking any kind of steps to help better the literary translators' professional status or to stand for their rights in any way. In addition, the admission procedure to this Union was very restrictive.

So we thought it was better to start clean with a new association and thus ARTLIT was legally created in the summer of 2014. 25 years after the events of '89, 25 years during which the market was a jungle and no mechanism had ever regulated the relationship between the translators and the publishing houses.

We became members of CEATL this year. We are the youngest association in the Council. The other delegates were very supportive and

encouraging and somebody told me not to expect it to be easy, there would be results in about ten years. I thought that was fair enough. But this autumn some things happened and that made me quite optimistic and I think the results are beginning to show a little already. People begin to be aware that we exist. That is a good start.

Lavinia Branîște  
ARTLIT founding member

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*Our Chairperson, Mary Phelan, keeps a very sharp eye on the tendering process for translation and interpreting public contracts. Indeed, she and Annette Schiller have been in contact with most sectors in the judicial process - some of whom, the judiciary in particular- are very aware of the serious shortcomings in the quality of the service. However, despite ITIA representations, and other voices, the bottom line continues to be the deciding factor in awarding contracts. (See Worth-A-Click for article on parallel situation in the UK)*

## Another New Regime for Interpreter Provision in Ireland

EU Directive 2010/64/EU on the right to interpretation and translation in criminal proceedings was introduced to reinforce the European Convention on Human Rights and to encourage member states to provide interpreters and to translate relevant documents. The directive mentions that 'Member States shall take concrete measures to ensure that the interpretation and translation provided meets the quality required' i.e., that they 'shall be of a quality sufficient to safeguard the fairness of the proceedings' so accused persons 'have knowledge of the case against them and are able to exercise their right of defence.' The directive

was incorporated into Irish law in 2013 by two statutory instruments, one for the Courts and one for the Garda. A second directive, EU 2012/29/EU, establishing minimum standards on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime, provides for the provision of interpreting and translation services to victims. At the time of writing, almost a year after the deadline, this directive had still not been transposed into Irish law.

The background to interpreter provision is that there is no training course for interpreters in Ireland. Not only this, but there is no examination to test interpreters' ability at actual interpreting. There may well be some excellent interpreters on the market but it is highly unlikely that all interpreters currently working in the courts, garda stations and the asylum process are able to provide a good service. This is not surprising; interpreting is a difficult task and interpreters need to be trained.

In recent years, separate requests for tender were made by the Courts Service and the Garda. However, in November 2015, the Office of Government Procurement issued a request for tender for a multi-supplier framework agreement to provide multi-language interpretation services (not including the Irish language, Irish Sign Language or translation) for an estimated total value of seven million euros. The request for tender was divided into eight lots:

- Central Government Departments
- An Garda Síochána (including telephone interpreting)
- The Courts Service and the Irish Prison Service (including video conference interpreting for the Courts Service)
- Immigration Service and the Legal Aid Board (to include Irish Naturalisation and Immigration Service, Office of the Refugee Applications Commissioner, Refugee Appeals Tribunal and Refugee Legal Services)
- Department of Justice and Equality

- The health sector (Health Service Executive, Health Information and Quality Authority, hospitals delivering health services funded by more than 50% from HSE and/or Central Government Exchequer funds)
- Education Sector (primary, post primary, vocational and third level establishments, Institutes of Technology, Colleges of Education and universities)
- Local authorities (city and county councils, libraries)

The contract award notice dated January 2016 indicates that four offers were received and that the contract award decision for all lots was to three companies: Context, translation.ie and WordPerfect. The agreement is to last for 24 months, renewable. What does a multi-supplier framework agreement involve? First of all, it involves selecting companies to provide the service, as has been done. Then, it involves inviting the companies to tender for work in mini competitions where they compete against each other with the award criteria in this case being either the lowest price or the most economically advantageous tender. A ceiling price is set for the framework agreement and when companies bid against each other, they can either keep to this price or make a lower bid but they cannot increase the ceiling price. Any resulting contracts from the mini competitions will last twelve months.

The request for tender document (rft) is available on the <http://www.etenders.gov.ie/> website. Companies tendering for the framework agreement were asked to provide details of their experience in interpreter provision and at least three references from organisations that had used their services, 'confirming that the Tenderer provided interpretation services to the satisfaction of the customer.' In addition, they were asked to provide half-page CVs for at least two interpreters for each of the 19 most requested languages, who have to be either native English speakers with a recognised academic qualification in the language concerned or native

speakers of other languages with a recognised academic qualification in English. While there was no requirement to provide CVs for interpreters for other languages, elsewhere it is stated that interpreters 'must be competent and proficient' in English and the language for which they are engaged. However, neither an academic qualification in a language nor proficiency in two languages guarantee competent interpreting. A new provision in the rft is that:

Service Providers must have in place robust and transparent procedures for the assessment of new interpreters and the subsequent evaluation of all interpreters available for assignments under this Framework.

The responsibility for assessing interpreters is on the company that provides interpreters but do the companies have the necessary expertise to do this well and to do it well for many languages? How realistic is this idea? Will it come down to an interview in English for example?

Translation companies were asked to describe the training they would make available for interpreters. There is also a suggestion that training in policing, immigration, legal and refugee issues would perhaps be provided by the Garda and other entities that need interpreters. Translation companies were requested to provide specific details of training for telephone interpreters. No such requirement was made for video conference interpreting for the courts, Garda and the Prison Service; this may be something that has not been thought through but research by the Avidicus Project demonstrates the need for training of both court personnel and interpreters in the use of this new technology. See for example Sabine Braun's recommendations on the topic: <http://tinyurl.com/hwntxj3>

Surprisingly, the expectation seems to be that translation companies will provide actual systems for video conference interpreting – they were asked to provide the specific technical details of the service, including hardware and



software systems.

Tenderers were also asked to provide information on how they would meet terminology requirements for interpreters working in, for example, legal, medical, policing or immigration matters. Again, there are questions around the ability of companies to do this.

Service providers will be expected to establish a complaints procedure and, more interestingly, to provide monthly Quality Assurance Reports detailing:

- The number of interpreting assignments carried out, the languages requested and the names of the interpreters;
- Any quality issues or complaints and remedial action taken
- Results of the 5% sample check of 'interpretations provided'

Unfortunately, the rft does not provide any further information on these sample checks, also referred to as quality audits of 5% of all interpretations completed, some of which can be nominated by the clients. What will the quality audit consist of? For example, will it just be a case of asking if the interpreter arrived on time, was dressed appropriately, and appeared to do a good job? Why would companies do their own quality audit? Why not ask other, independent, companies with capacity and experience to carry out real quality audits?

It is worth reproducing a table (see below) from the rft containing the award criteria and minimum scores required. Clearly, interpreter provision is a complex matter from a logistics and administrative point of view. Interpreters may be required at any time day or night. However, out of a possible total 1000 marks, only 100 to quality control.

The rft goes on to provide some more specific details relating to interpreters, who, despite not having any training, and never having been tested:

- Must be of neat appearance and present a professional attitude to work provided by Framework Clients at all times.
- Must not enter into private arrangements with, offer advice to, or advocate on behalf of a customer of the framework user.
- Must adhere to strict professional and ethical standards in the performance of their work, and must at all times provide accurate and truthful interpretations. In this regard Framework Clients, including but not limited to the Courts Service, may require interpreters to swear or complete a written oath/affirmation that they will interpret to the best of their skills and understanding.

The written oath/affirmation relating to confidentiality is included at the end of the rft. Interpreters will be entitled to a minimum payment of one hour and thereafter payment will be per 15 minutes. Travel and subsistence expenses may be paid only for interpreters who have to travel more than 20 kilometres each way to attend an appointment. It remains to be seen if the prevailing low hourly rates of pay will be further reduced.

Under the terms of the competition, no publicity relating to any aspect (the competition itself, the framework agreement, mini-competitions, award or execution of the services contract) is allowed without the prior written permission of the contracting authority.

In 2010, at the Garda Representative Association conference, Sergeant Tom O'Sullivan gave an example of an illegal immigrant who was hired to interpret for a suspect at a Garda interview. Under the terms of the rft, vetting of interpreters has to be carried out in Ireland, in the interpreter's home country and also in any other country where the interpreter previously lived. According to the rft, if a translation company provides unvetted interpreters, this 'may be treated as a serious breach of contract justifying the termination of Framework Membership.'

| Description  | Marks Available | Min. Score |
|--|-----------------|------------|
| <b>Management of Interpretation Service</b><br>Part (i) - 40 marks available. Min Score: 24<br>Part (ii) - 40 marks available. Min Score: 24<br>Part (iii) - 20 marks available. Min Score: 12   | 100             | 60         |
| <b>Service Delivery</b>  | 100             | 60         |
| <b>Confidentiality, Security, Conflict of Interest and Vetting</b><br>Part (i) - 25 marks available. Min Score: 15<br>Part (ii) - 25 marks available. Min Score: 15<br>Part (iii) - 25 marks available. Min. Score: 15<br>Part (iv) - 25 marks available. Min. Score: 15 | 100             | 60         |
| <b>Quality Control</b><br>Part (i) - 60 marks available. Min Score: 36<br>Part (iii) - 40 marks available. Min. Score: 24  | 100             | 60         |
| <b>Booking, Tracking, Invoicing Arrangements and Attendance Sheets</b><br>Part (i) - 20 marks available. Min Score: 12<br>Part (ii) - 30 marks available. Min Score: 18  | 50              | 30         |
| <b>Secondary Technical Knowledge</b>   | 40              | 24         |
| <b>Provision of Management Information (M.I.)</b>  | 60              | 36         |
| <b>Reliability and Continuity of Service</b><br>Part (i) - 30 marks available. Min Score: 18<br>Part (ii) - 20 marks available. Min Score: 12  | 50              | 30         |
| <b>Management of Interpreter Expenses</b><br>Part (i) - 25 marks available. Min Score: 15<br>Part (ii) - 25 marks available. Min Score: 15   | 50              | 30         |
| <b>Video Conferencing Interpretation Services</b>  | 40              | N/A        |
| <b>Telephone Interpretation Services</b>   | 60              | N/A        |

To sum up, interpreter provision continues to be highly unsatisfactory, with the main concern, possibly the only concern, being price. There appears to be no desire to improve interpreter provision, to ensure that interpreters are trained and tested so they can provide a competent service. The State continues to spend a lot of money on a service that is essential but fundamentally unsatisfactory. The EU directives mentioned at the start of this article have been effectively ignored as absolutely no concrete measures have been taken to ensure that interpreting meets quality standards.

Mary Phelan

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## ITIA Translation Competition

Readers may recall that, as part of our 30th anniversary celebrations, we organised a translation competition for secondary schools in Ireland.

Students from 3rd to 6th year were asked to translate an excerpt from a novel or short story (first page(s)) from one of the following languages into English: French, German, Irish, Italian or Spanish. The information was sent out to secondary school language teacher associations. The deadline for entry was May and the winners were announced in July.

There were 32 entries (we would have liked more!): 13 French, 9 Spanish, 8 Italian, 2 German. There were no Irish entries. There was no award for German as the standard was not good enough.

The winners were:

Spanish : Alex Harding, 3rd year, Maynooth Post-Primary School

Italian: Elena Giardini, 3rd year, Maynooth Post-Primary School

French: Chiara del Greco, 5th year, Presentation Secondary School, Kilkenny.

The winners were presented with their €100 prize as part of the FIT Europe meeting in September. They were accompanied by family members and in the case of Alex and Elena, their inspiring teacher, Helen English. Maynooth Post-Primary School receives high numbers of foreign students from all over the world, mainly due to its proximity to Intel. People employed at the company bring their families with them which has led to a vibrant multicultural and multilingual community, particularly in the school.

After the dinner, prize giving and multilingual conversations, such were the positive exchanges that ITIA will go to Maynooth in November to give a talk to the students about a life working with words - and we will run the competition again next year!

Anne Larchet

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## What's hot, what's not

### *What's HOT...*

The Association of Arabic and Persian Translators was established, in collaboration with Iranian and Iraqi academics and professionals, stating the importance of language and translation in the development of ties between nations and civilizations.

### *...What's NOT*

Canada's Translation Bureau announced earlier this year that it would open its home-grown machine translation system Portage to all Canadian government employees. This system will use a vetting algorithm to prequalify interpreters, favouring the lowest-bidding freelancers and having no regard for qualifications, skill or expertise.

## Worth-a-click

**MoJ hopes for fresh start after end of 'shambolic car crash' of a court translation contract**

<http://tinyurl.com/jpyuc7t>

**2016 Stephen Spender prize for poetry in translation – the winners**

<http://tinyurl.com/h4yvrrg>

**Interpreters, translators call for warrants to regulate profession**

<http://tinyurl.com/zgdxa9p>

## Joining the ITIA

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

- Professional
- Associate
- Affiliate
- Institutional
- Student
- Honorary

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

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

**Associate Membership** may be granted to holders of a third level qualification in translation and/or interpreting and/or languages or to holders of a third level qualification with relevant experience.

**Affiliate Membership** is generally availed of by people with a professional interest in translation and interpreting, by those with a general interest in these professions or by professionals from other sectors who wish to work in the area of translation or interpreting and do not currently have a specific qualification or experience in the

area

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

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

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

## New ITIA Members Aug - Oct 2016

### Associate Members

#### Chris Gordon

English from French, Italian

#### Susan Griffin

English from French

#### Richard Huddleson

English from Catalan, Spanish

#### Sally Kingston

English from French

#### Ruth Scales

English from French

### Student Members

#### Hanna Skotulska

## Contacting the ITIA

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### ITIA Bulletin

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