

# 1<sup>2013</sup> TRANSLATIO

## FIT Newsletter

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



FIT faces the problem of all volunteer organisations: progress is dependent on the time and commitment of volunteers, and despite the best intentions life sometimes throws a curved ball and the best-laid plans come to naught. This is what happened to *Translatio* in 2012 and why no issue has been published since March 2012. We trust we have turned the corner and this year will be better!

Fortunately, not all FIT's plans suffered the same fate. Much work has taken place behind the scenes over the past year and the Council meeting that will take place as this issue is being prepared will see decisions taken on a number of projects. In particular the workplans of the FIT committees for 2012–2015 will be approved and the committees can start work in earnest. I thank our member associations for nominating committee members and all the individuals who are dedicating their time to improving our profession at an international level.

It is said again and again that one gains far more from getting involved in an association than one gives, and I hope that all these committee members will find this is true. Committee work offers a wonderful opportunity both to share one's knowledge and experience and to gain exposure to new ideas and ways of doing things. It helps us grow as individuals and professionals and one hopes that the association also grows as a result of the work done. I firmly believe that the committees are where the bulk of FIT's work should be done, and with your commitment and a carefully considered programme of work the committees can help achieve our aim of making FIT a more valuable asset to the international community.

FIT is growing and changing all the time. This year we celebrate our 60th anniversary. I can scarcely believe that it is almost 10 years since the 50th anniversary celebrations in Paris – that was the first FIT event I attended and it has been a great journey growing with FIT over that period.

Change is never easy, though, and one is in danger of dragging along outmoded ways of doing things just because that is how they have always been done. FIT is carrying a certain amount of that 'baggage', and one of our committees is looking at a reform of the way FIT operates. There have been many changes over the years, but the time has come for a thorough overhaul, to look at FIT's structure from the bottom up and make sure it works well in today's world and will continue to do so into the future. Rest assured that we will consult members to make sure that you contribute to the debate and that we are all well prepared when the final proposals are submitted to the statutory congress in Berlin in 2014. I am sure I can count on each one of you to take part in this process with your usual enthusiasm and support.

Marion Boers  
President

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## FIT Congress 2014 – Join us in Berlin!

Every three years, FIT invites the industry to an international congress. Following successful events in Shanghai in 2008 and San Francisco in 2011, Germany's Federal Association of Interpreters and Translators (BDÜ – Bundesverband der Dolmetscher und Übersetzer e. V.) is delighted to be hosting the professional world congress in Berlin as the organiser of the XXth FIT World Congress in August 2014.

Around the theme *Man vs. Machine? The Future of Translators, Interpreters and Terminologists* talks, panel discussions and workshops, as well as a trade fair, networking platform and jobs exchange, will bring together agents, agencies, university teachers, software tool

providers, students and professional translators, interpreters and terminologists from across the world.

For details and the call for papers, go to [www.fit2014.org](http://www.fit2014.org).



**Berlin**  
August 4 – 6, 2014  
4 – 6 Août 2014



## FIT Regional centres

### New regional centre committees

The two active FIT regional centres – Europe and Latin America – have elected new committees for the period up to the next congress. Members in North America have been working to re-establish the regional centre there, and are looking forward to developing cooperation in the months ahead.

The FIT Europe steering committee, elected at the General Meeting of FIT Europe in Bucharest in November 2011, comprises:

Eyvor Fogarty – chairperson

Cristiana Cobliș – secretary & webmaster

Sabine Colombe – treasurer

Natacha Dalügge-Momme – vice-chair

Doris Grollmann – EU liaison

Renate Dockhorn – vice-chair (European affairs and technology)

The FIT LatAm committee elected in April 2012 is made up as follows:

Silvana Marchetti – chairperson

Dagmar Ford – vice-president

Silvia Leta – vice-president

Alejandra Jorge – secretary

Jeannette Insignares – treasurer

Raquel Atencio – member

Mirna Lorente Lluviera – member



The FIT Europe steering committee: Cristiana Cobliș, Doris Grollmann, Renate Dockhorn, Natacha Dalügge-Momme, Eyvor Fogarty, Sabine Colombe



The FIT LatAm committee: Dagmar Ford, Silvana Marchetti, Mirna Lorente Lluviera, Alejandra Jorge, Silvia Leta, Jeannette Insignares, Raquel Atencio

# Introducing Translatio's new editor

**M**ao Sihui received his MA from the University of Lancaster, UK, and his PhD from the University of Hong Kong. After many years of teaching in Guangzhou and Hong Kong, he is now Professor of English and Comparative Cultural Studies at Macao Polytechnic Institute. He is Vice-President of the Sino-American Comparative Culture Association of China and President of the Federation of Translators and Interpreters of Macao. He has taught BA, MA and PhD courses such as "Contemporary Critical Theory", "Comparative Cultural Studies", "Film Culture" and "Culture and Translation". He has published around ten books and over 60 journal papers in literary, cultur-

al and translation studies. Mao became a FIT Council Member in 2011 and takes over as editor of *Translatio* from Sheryl Hinkkanen.

FIT would like to acknowledge Sheryl Hinkkanen for her work on *Translatio* since 2008. She built the publication up to a popular vehicle for reaching translators, interpreters and terminologists, balancing internal FIT information with news from member associations and other items of interest. The fact that far more material was received than could be published highlights this success.

Thank-you, Sheryl!



Translatio's new editor Mao Sihui

## INTERNATIONAL TRANSLATORS DAY 2011/2012

### ITD – showcasing our profession

**I**nternational Translation Day (ITD) on 30 September offers an outstanding opportunity to showcase the work that translators, terminologists and interpreters do. It is also impressive to see the range of different ways that associations use the day to raise awareness. The reports below, reflecting a selection of the ITD celebrations that took place around the world in 2011 and 2012, offer a glimpse into this richness.

#### AFRICA

##### International Translation Day in the Democratic Republic of Congo

**T**he Association of Professional Translators and Interpreters of Congo (ATIPCO), professional translators and interpreters, other language professionals and various university professors who train translators gathered in Kinshasa to celebrate International Translation Day (ITD) 2011.

Three speakers made presentations. ATIPCO secretary-general Ms Jacky Kapingo welcomed the participants and outlined the importance of International Translation Day.

The president of the association, Mr Jean Paul Nzila, then made a presentation about ATIPCO and its history. He emphasised the importance of translators belonging to a body with international visibility, since globalisation offers language professionals the opportunity to be recognised and exchange knowledge through structures with international visibility.

The third and final speaker of the day, Prof. Dika Dia Nzinga, congratulated ATIPCO on their initiative in celebrating ITD. His talk focused on questions re-

lating to quality and the availability of the necessary expertise related to the administrative and academic procedures involved in training and preparing translators in the DRC. While recognising the availability of this expertise in the trainers, Prof. Dika Dia Nzinga raised the problem of the deployment of these trainers, and he hoped that ATIPCO would be able to take on the role of a union in an effort to resolve this issue. In relation to the trainers' abilities, Prof. Dika highlighted the importance of skills in the following areas:



Participants at the ITD celebration in Kinshasa



1. Integration and the use of cognitive associations,
2. Dissociation of languages, i.e. ensuring that the intrinsic linguistic structure of each of the languages in question is adhered to,
3. Recognising and applying the general principles of translation and their related techniques,
4. Intralinguistic exchange and transfer and their correct application,
5. Mastery of editing techniques and an in-depth knowledge of the rules of writing as they apply to written language and different text types.

Prof. Dika concluded his talk by mentioning the question of theorisation in the training of translators and interpreters, training curricula and academic sanction.

The celebration ended with a cocktail party, after photographs had been taken and those present had had the opportunity to network.

*Jean Paul Nzila*

TD 2012 in South Africa saw a new tradition established: the South African Translators' Institute held a conference in conjunction with the awarding of its triennial Prizes for Outstanding Translation and Dictionaries. The Prizes have been awarded around International Translation Day every three years since 2000, but this was the first time they were combined with a major conference.



SATI prize-winners with SATI chairperson Prof. Anne-Marie Beukes

The SATI Prizes were established to encourage the publication of translations in the indigenous languages of South Africa in an effort to support the further development of these languages. It was therefore fitting that the theme of the conference was *The Role of Trans-*



Prof. Dika and the ATIPCO executive (left to right): Prof. Dika, Ms Nancy Mban-go (treasurer), Mr Jean Paul Nzila (president), Ms Ghys Kakonde (in charge of public relations) and Ms Jacky Kapingo (secretary-general)

*lation and Interpreting in Language Development.* Four plenary speakers enlightened delegates about the role of language technologies in language development and communication, the role government offices can play in developing languages, and the importance of bottom-up initiatives and practices in language development, as well as how translators act as editors. The afternoon session saw 15 papers on a range of topics presented in three parallel streams – the subjects included educational interpreting (which is being increasingly used in South African universities), medical interpreting, plain language and quality in translation. The first was a presentation made in Zulu, which was interpreted into English – delegates were very impressed with this innovation as a practical example of something that will help develop a language.

The day ended with the presentation of prizes for literary translation and the translation of children's literature and for noteworthy dictionaries.

*Marion Boers*

## ASIA

### Four receive TAC Lifetime Achievement Awards

On 23 September 2011, the Translators Association of China (TAC) hosted the second Forum on Translation from Chinese into Foreign Languages in Beijing in celebration of International Translation Day. Nearly 300 representatives from government ministries, public institutions, universities and language service companies attended the event.

The theme – *Translation from Chinese into Foreign Languages – Bridging China*

*with the World* – aimed to increase awareness of the importance of translation in China's integration with the world. Discussions were also held around ways to help people from other countries to understand China and its culture better.

At the opening session TAC presented a "Lifetime Achievement Award in Translation", the highest honour that can be conferred on living translators who have made extraordinary achievements and gained widespread recognition, to four prominent translators:

Mr Gao Mang, a well-known translator of Soviet and Russian literature in China, who has translated the works of famous Russian writers such as Alexander Pushkin, Mikhail Lermontov, Sergei Yesenin and Vladimir Mayakovsky.

Mr Lin Wusun, a leading translator and scholar of international communication, who has translated into English, among others, two masterpieces of ancient Chinese wisdom: *Getting to Know Confucius: A New Translation of the Analects*, and *The Art of War – Sun Tzu*. Mr Lin was formerly a FIT Council Member (1996–2002) and Executive Vice-President of TAC (1992–2004).

Mr Jiang Feng, a prolific translator well known for his translation of English poems by Percy Shelley and Emily Dickenson.



Representatives of the Senior Translators honoured at the ceremony

Mr Li Wenjun, a daring translator who challenged himself to translate William Faulkner's works and succeeded in introducing them into China. He served as Vice-President and the director of the Committee of Literary Translation of TAC.

The forum was also the occasion for granting 368 translators from all over China who have worked in the field of translation or interpreting for over 30 years with outstanding performance the honorary title of "Senior Translator".

Mr Tang Jiaxuan, former member of the State Council and currently Honorary President of TAC, Mr Wang Zhongwei, Vice Minister of the State Council Information Office, and Mr Zhou Mingwei, President of the China International Publishing Group (CIPG), attended the event and delivered speeches, emphasizing the importance of translation to the society.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> TAG Forum and ITD Symposium in Zhaoqing

To celebrate ITD 2012 and enhance communication between translation and interpreting professionals in Guangdong province, the Translators' Association of Guangdong (TAG), a member of TAC (Translators Association of China), organized the 2<sup>nd</sup> TAG Forum and the 2012 ITD Symposium on September 21<sup>st</sup> in Zhaoqing City, Guangdong province, China.

The opening ceremony was chaired by Mr Cao Renjian, Director of the Translators' Association of Zhaoqing City (TAZC). Mr Chen Xuanqun, Vice-Mayor of Zhaoqing City, delivered the welcome speech, followed by an address by Mr



The four recipients of TAC's Lifetime Achievement Award

He Qirui, Executive Associate Director of TAG. Mr Wu Weixiong, a renowned translator, presented a Certificate of Honorary Directorship of TAZC to Mr Chen Xuanqun. This was followed by keynote lectures, by Professor Aiping Mo, Director of the Centre for Translation Studies (CTS), Guangdong University of Foreign Studies (GDUFS), and Professor He Xianbin, Vice-President of Guangdong Polytechnic Normal University.

Under this year's theme, "Linguistic Perspective: Translation Studies and Practice", four key areas were explored: 1) Linguistic theories and translation practice; 2) Studies of translator training; 3) Translation and the development of the local economy and society; 4) Professional translation and translators' career development.

Report in Chinese by CTS of GDUFS

*English translated and edited by Mao Sihui*

## Translation, culture and poetry: ITD 2012 in Macao

Jointly organized by the Federation of Translators and Interpreters of Macao (FTIM) and the School of Languages and Translation at the Macao Polytechnic In-



2012 ITD celebrations in Macao were well attended

stitute (MPI), ITD 2012 was celebrated on 26 September on the MPI campus with the participation of over 180 local translators, interpreters, culture and translation scholars as well as teachers and students from the Chinese-English and Chinese-Portuguese Translation and Interpreting Programmes.

The celebrations started with an opening speech by Professor Choi Wai Hao, Chairman of the FTIM General Assembly and Director of the School of Languages and Translation of MPI, who reiterated the important role of generations of Macanese and Chinese translators and interpreters. Professor Hu Gengshen, a member of the FIT Translation and Culture Committee and President of the



The 2<sup>nd</sup> TAG Forum and the 2012 ITD Symposium





Mao Sihui giving a talk on translation and culture

International Association of Eco-Translationology, followed with a detailed introduction to the origin of ITD. Professor Mao Sihui, President of FTIM, delivered a lecture entitled "(Re-)Constructing Narratives of Memory, Culture & Myth: Reading Jiang Rong's *Wolf Totem* and Howard Goldblatt's Translation". Mao Sihui's talk compared and contrasted how Jiang Rong and Howard Goldblatt construct narratives of collective and personal memories, Chinese state ideology and Mongols' nomadic culture. Professor Mao shared his insights on the movement of literary texts across languages and cultures.

After the talk, three groups of translation students read the poem "Drinking Alone under the Moon" by the Tang Dynasty poet Li Bai/Li Po (701-762) in English, Chinese and Portuguese, accompanied by music.

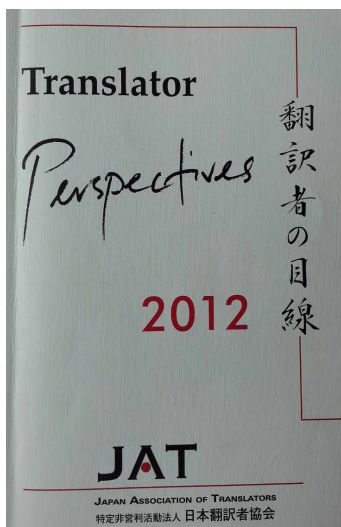
Report by Choi Wai Hao and Mao Sihui of FTIM

## Translator Perspectives 2012

When Fred Uleman, a founding member and current Director of JAT (Japan Association of Translators, established in 1985), suggested compiling an anthology of *Translator Perspectives* to commemorate International Translation Day on 30 September 2012, I wondered if it could really be done in just a few months. However, my trust in the JAT membership has been amply rewarded.

Fifty-nine translators and interpreters wrote short essays (33 in Japanese and 25 in English) in response to the call "What do you think your peers need to know? What do you wish agencies and other clients understood better?" The mandate was vague, but the response

was impressive. Despite translation's importance to global business and international relations, the work process and requisite skills and mindset are little understood. Translation demands context, understanding and empathy. It's a very demanding task, but one that can be vastly improved when clients understand the challenges. JAT has compiled and published this anthology in the hope that it will not only serve as valuable reference for our members but also help users of our services understand and appreciate the work translators do.



I want to thank every author for sharing their perspectives so generously. My deep appreciation goes also to the committee that did all the production work. They are Akiko Endo, Akiko Hirose, Go Ishigame, Paul Koehler, Danny MacLeith, David Stormar, Fred Uleman, Sagiri Yamakawa, and Chiaki Yano. And finally my thanks go to you, the reader. I hope you enjoy reading this booklet and find something of enduring value in it.

(Adapted by Mao Sihui based on Iwata's "Foreword" and "Acknowledgments" in the anthology)

Helen Iwata, JAT President

## EUROPE

### Panhellenic Association of Translators celebrates ITD 2012

The celebration of the International Translation Day organized by the Panhellenic Association of Translators

(PAT) at the Goethe Institute in Thessaloniki, Greece, on Saturday 29 September 2012, was highly successful.



PAT President Eleni Valachou opening the event

This year's event focused on the *Cross-Cultural Aspects of Translation*. The programme opened with compositions of classical Ottoman music from Istanbul and Thessaloniki. PAT President, Ms Eleni Vlachou, officially opened the event. PAT Vice-President, Ms Maria Mousafiri, introduced the cross-cultural aspects in translation praxis. Ms Efi Gelastopoulou and Mr Salim Khakar from the Hellenic Council for Refugees discussed the role of the translator in the integration of refugees, while Ms Katerina Gouleti of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki presented some of the "secrets" of the popular audiovisual translation/subtitling.

In between the presentations, there were artistic interludes. PAT Treasurer, Ms Electra Fillipidou, recited Marina Tsvetaeva's poem "Refugee" in Russian, while PAT Board Member, Ms Maria Logothetou, recited the same poem in Greek (translated by Dimitris Triantafyllidis). A PAT honorary member, Ms Cleo Webber, recited the previously unpublished social poem "Hard" (by Greek poet Stavros Zafiriou). Former PAT Board member, Mr Samuel Bishara, recited the poem "In a Large Greek Colony, 200 BC" by CP Cavafy in both Greek and Arabic (in his own translation).

A cocktail party followed in a very warm and friendly atmosphere. We would like to thank all PAT members and friends for making the event a landmark social initiative for the Greek translation/interpreting community.

Report by Katerina Athanasaki (PAT Secretary-General)

## ITD celebrations in Holland

On 1 January 2009 the new Sworn Interpreters and Translators Act passed into law. This was followed by a public tender for the services of interpreters and translators by the Ministry of Security and Justice, which was awarded to two companies. The system for contracting the services of interpreters and translators has not become less complicated as a result, and uncertainty about the standing of the profession amongst interpreters and translators themselves has only increased.

For this reason ITD 2012 in the Netherlands included talks by experts from Belgium, Germany, the United Kingdom, France, Italy and Norway who discussed the situation in their countries, highlighting the differences in the system applicable to legal T&Is and the way fellow translators and interpreters are trying to organize their businesses and struggle for better financial conditions. It emerged that the Norwegians were better off than most others with regard to their level of organisation, fairness of remuneration and the system for engaging the services of sworn translators and interpreters.

The theme for 2012, *Translation as International Communication*, took a lighter turn after the lunch break with a German psychologist who introduced some Dutch and German “false cognates” and a musician who explained Russian songs and the background to his translation of them. The surprise of the day was Gaston Dorrens’ informative presentation of the app Language Lover’s Guide to Europe, based on his search for places of linguistic interest in Europe.

*Report by Perpetua Uiterwaal*

## Bridging Cultures as the theme

In the Netherlands, International Translation Day is known as *Hiëronymysdag*, taking its name after St Jerome. The theme of a symposium to mark the special day on 1 October 2011 was *bridging cultures*. A series of lectures focused on the transmission of culture between the Western and the Arab world.

The University of Leiden has a long tradition of studies in Arab language and cul-

ture, dating from 1600, but Arabicists in the past did not focus on the translation of literature. Until the 20<sup>th</sup> century, Dutch readers could become familiar with Arabic literature only indirectly, for instance through English or French translations. Times have changed; recently, for instance, a series of Berber stories appeared in direct translation.



The winner of the 2011 Hiëronymus Prize, Fedde van Santen, receives his award

At the symposium, Dr Arnoud Vrolijk told about the trip of a document dating from 1 June 1600. Called a “patent”, the document, in Arabic and translated into Portuguese, acted as an introduction for trade delegations to the East Indies. The first language was based on the wrong assumption that Muslims inhabited the area and therefore would speak Arabic. The letter stated that the “fleet” had come in peace for “trading purposes”, and it was made official by some gold and a seal from the Prince. It made such a good impression on the sultans in foreign lands that it regularly became a reason to organize a banquet.

Dr Gillian Vogelsand, a textile archaeologist and director at the Textile Research Centre (TRC) in Leiden, demonstrated the non-verbal communication of the language of the veil. In contrast to what many believe, the veil was originally a symbol of a woman’s status, displaying wealth and sophisticated, colourful patterns, rather than being an expression of religious views or a symbol of oppression.

Every other year the Hiëronymus Prize is given to a person of outstanding merit for translators and interpreters. At the symposium, Fedde van Santen received the prize for his years of dedication to organizations and institutions of importance to the future of the profession.

The previous winner, Arletter Schellenach, announced the three winners of the “Translated Story” competition. Each, in its own way, illustrated the fascination and importance of the profession.

*Perpetua Uiterwaal*

## Celebrating International Translation Day in Lithuania

The Lithuanian Association of Literary Translators, LALT, marks this day by presenting the annual St Jerome Award. The awards ceremony, which always takes place on 30 September in a prominent location in Vilnius, is followed by a short concert by famous musicians and a reception.

The award is given in two categories: to a translator of foreign literature into Lithuanian, and to a translator of Lithuanian literature into a foreign language. The decision about the winners is based not just on translation quality, but also takes into account merits to the translator’s profession, to theory and criticism of literary translation and to the training of translators, contribution to international cultural exchange.



Celebrating ITD in Lithuania

The award for the translation of Lithuanian literature in 2011 went to Elizabeth Novickas, born in Chicago to Lithuanian parents, “for professional and creative translations into English of novels by Ričardas Gavelis and Kazys Boruta, and for successful promotion of Lithuanian literature”. In the United States, the novel *Vilnius Poker* by Gavelis was included in a list of the *25 Best Translated Books of 2010* selected by the journal *Three Percent* (the title referring to the fact that only about 3% of all books published in the United States are works in translation).



The other award was made to Dr Lionginas Pažusis of Vilnius University "for comprehensive input into the theory of creative translation, criticism and education of translators, and for virtuoso poetry translations into and from English and attention to the sounds of words". He has been translating poetry (mostly classical) both from English into Lithuanian and vice versa.

### St Jerome Prizes for Literary Translation: ITD in Lithuania

The Lithuanian Association of Literary Translators organized an International Translation Day Festival and a ceremony at which the association's St Jerome Prizes were presented at one of the biggest museums in Vilnius.



Translator Georgij Jefremov is congratulated by Nikolay Burov, First Secretary of the Russian Embassy in Vilnius

The St Jerome Prize for translation of foreign literature into Lithuanian was presented to Irena Aleksaitė, for translating books from Polish, most impressively novels by Witold Gombrowicz.

The St Jerome Prize for translation of Lithuanian literature into a foreign language was presented to Georgij Jefremov – for his translations into Russian of many Lithuanian poets and for his enduring contribution to making Lithuanian literature accessible to the Russian-reading public.

The ceremony was followed by a short duo performance (guitar and female voice) of songs from foreign countries, mostly Latin American.

*Report by Laimantas Jonušys  
Photos: Diana Bučiūtė*

### Wales celebrates ITD

International Translation Day 2012 was celebrated in Wales with the presentation of the Wil Petherbridge Memorial Prize to Elgan Davies, a translator at the National Assembly for Wales. The prize is awarded annually, if the required standard is achieved, by Cymdeithas Cyfieithwyr Cymru, the Association of Welsh Translators and Interpreters, in memory of its former secretary and a pioneer in Welsh/English translation. The prize was presented to Elgan Davies by Rhodri Glyn Thomas AM, in his position as the Assembly Commissioner with responsibility for Welsh language functions and policy, at a ceremony held on Thursday 27 September 2012 at the National Assembly Building in Cardiff.

At the same time, Cymdeithas Cyfieithwyr Cymru launched the report on its activities in 2011–12, a successful year which saw more candidates sit the Full Membership examinations than the Basic Membership papers for the first time ever. Over 200 Welsh translators and interpreters have attended its professional development and training activities, and valuable partnerships and links have been built with academia, government, agencies and the courts service in Wales.



The Wil Petherbridge Memorial Prize was presented to Elgan Davies

The meeting was also an opportunity for Dawn Wooldridge, a research student at Bangor University sponsored by Cymdeithas Cyfieithwyr Cymru, to launch her report on profiling Welsh translators and interpreters, a research project to which over 40% of the Association's 352 members responded. The report divulges some of the reasons for becoming a translator, with one member saying: "I've

always enjoyed translating and enjoy it so much that it doesn't feel like work."

*Report by Geraint Wyn Parry, Chief Executive, the Association of Welsh Translators and Interpreters*

## NORTH AMERICA

### Harmony of different cultures and languages: International Translation Day celebrations in Ottawa

ATIO (Association of Translators and Interpreters of Ontario) and OTTIAQ (l'Ordre des traducteurs, terminologues et interprètes agréés du Québec – Order of Authorised Translators, Terminologists and Interpreters of Quebec) held a joint celebration of International Translation Day 2012 at the University of Ottawa on Thursday 27 September. Invited guests and speakers gathered for the unveiling of a much-anticipated new product created by the Canadian Translation Bureau. The participants had an opportunity to mingle and chat with translators, industry professionals, managers and students.

The evening began with a short speech by ATIO's president, Barbara Collishaw, introducing the Translation Bureau's CEO, Donna Achimov. Ms Achimov sees the coming year as a "year of exploration" and stated that the Translation Bureau is pushing the envelope of technology as a way of serving Canadians better. Three years have already passed since the Translation Bureau launched the Language Portal ([www.noslangues-our-languages.gc.ca](http://www.noslangues-our-languages.gc.ca)), a website where Canadians can access dictionaries, quizzes, and French and English language tools, as well the Government of Canada's terminology databank, Termium Plus. Ms Achimov unveiled the Translation Bureau's first mobile linguistic application: *ourlanguages.gc.ca on the go!* It is a free app for Blackberry and iPhone that allows Canadians to access over four million terms from Termium Plus. In her closing statements, Ms Achimov stressed the need to strengthen relationships with associations, universities and the private sector.



Barbara Collishaw informed the audience that ATIO is extending certification to include community and medical interpreters. She also shared that she attended the 2012 Ontario Francophonie award ceremonies, where she learned that September 25 is officially Franco-Ontarian Day.

Ms Dorothy Charbonneau (ATIO) read a letter from Premier Dalton McGuinty, congratulating translators on ITD and touching on the 2012 theme of **Translation as Intercultural Communication**. Mr McGuinty stated that "Ontario is blessed with a harmony of different cultures and languages. Thanks to their skills and professionalism, our province's translators, terminologists and interpreters do much to build bridges of understanding between people and cultures."

André Montgiraud (OTTIAQ) then presented the "Prix Excellence OTTIAQ" to Christine Fournier, a translation graduate of the Université du Québec en Outaouais. In addition, Anie Richer received the "Prix Relève OTTIAQ" and Pierre Etienne Lavigne received the Creighton Douglas Scholarship.

*By Veronica Cappella, C. Tran.  
Director, Salaried Translators*

## ITD at Glendon, Canada

On 27 September 2012 the School of Translation at Glendon College celebrated International Translation Day. Professor Marie-Christine Aubin, Director of the School, hosted approximately 100 people – students, alumni and professionals – at this annual event organized jointly with the Association of Translators and Interpreters of Ontario (ATIO).

Each year, ATIO presents an award for academic excellence. The 2011-2012 recipient was Caitlyn Kinnear, who is continuing her studies at the School of Translation. Ms. Aubin also congratulated the winners of scholarships given by York University.

Marco Fiola, President of the Canadian Association for Translation Studies (CATS), presented the Vinay and Darbelnet Award in recognition of "the best paper presented at the Association's annu-

al conference" to Tanja Collet, Professor at the University of Windsor. The article by Ms Collet will appear soon in the journal TTR.

Terminologist and Professor Nelida Chan awarded the Denis Perreault Terminology Memorial Award to scholarship student Stephanie Audet-Brzeau. Mr Perreault, who died in July 2011, worked as a terminologist in the Ontario government and gave courses at the School of Translation for a number of years. This unique scholarship was established by his friends and colleagues.

Professor Andrew Clifford then gave an overview of the Master's programme in Conference Interpreting, recently launched at Glendon College. The high point of the evening was the speech by the guest of honour, Professor Marco Fiola of Ryerson University and Glendon College, who spoke on "Translation: The Vector of Intercultural Communication". He emphasized the need to avoid confusing the terms cross-cultural and intercultural, pointing out that the former implies a one-way exchange, whereas the latter refers to a dialogue. Professor Fiola invited participants to question the role the translator plays in such a dialogue.

After the official activities, the participants took advantage of the evening to network, reconnect with former classmates and re-establish contact with professors.

*Report by Lyse Hébert, Assistant Professor,  
School of Translation Glendon College,  
York University*

*English translation by Susanne Garmsen,  
C. Tran.*

## LATIN AMERICA

### AATI: "A wonderful day!"

That's how a participant commented on the 2012 conference *Translation, Diversity and Inclusion* organized by the Argentine Association of Translators and Interpreters (AATI, established in Buenos Aires in 1982). Designed to be a two-fold celebration of International Translation Day (ITD) and the Association's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, the conference was held at

Universidad del Museo Social Argentino (UMSA) in Buenos Aires on 29 September 2012.



AATI 30 Years Logo

The conference gathered a group of prominent experts, T & I professionals, sign language interpreters and students.

Following the opening speeches by UMSA Dean of the School of Modern Languages Cristina Ortúzar and AATI President Alejandra Jorge, the morning panel featured Rosana Famularo, Argentine President's Sign Language Interpreter, who lectured on *The Visibility of Sign Language Interpreting*, Professor Cecilia Pfister, on *Translation in the Visual Era*, and UBA Professor Claudia D'Angelo, on *Subtitling for the Deaf and Closed Captions: Facilitating Audiovisual Accessibility*. In the afternoon, a team of Google professionals and Professor Paula López Cano addressed the innovative *Endangered Languages Project*.



Members of the AATI team

Alicia María Zorrilla, President of Literae Foundation, delighted attendees with her presentation on *Translators and Spanish: Giving in to Foreign Languages?* In the grand finale, Vitu Barraza, translator and professor of native language Quichua, proposed *Rescuing an Identity through Language*, and treated the audience to fine folklore music. In the final

toast to AATI's 30th Anniversary, generations of members paid homage to past achievements, and celebrated the Association's continued efforts.

As part of the celebrations, AATI created a special issue of its *Calidoscopio* newsletter, featuring articles by the Association's founding members. Additionally, it designed a new logo, adopted the "Bridge of Bridges" motto, and updated its webpage, offering better services to both members and non-members.

*Article by Marita Propato*

## Festivities in Buenos Aires

On the evening of Friday 30 September 2011, translators and interpreters from Buenos Aires gathered at the CTPCBA (Colegio de Traductores Públicos de la Ciudad de Buenos Aires) offices to celebrate International Translation Day.

In a spirit of cooperation with partner institutions, the Colegio organised the celebration together with the Argentinian Association of Translators and Interpreters (AATI) and the Association of Conference Interpreters of the Argentine Republic (ADICA).

The event kicked off with a videoconference with the writer Martin Hadis, a specialist in the works of Jorge Luis Borges, who talked about his latest book, *Siete guerreros nortumbrios*. Enigmas y secretos en la lápida de Jorge Luis Borges, which had recently been released.

After this, the Executive Committee of the Colegio accompanied the family of a recently deceased colleague to unveil a plaque with their name on it on the door of the technology centre. This was an emotion-filled moment for both the family and other participants.

Next, a sign-language expert explained the most important features of work in this field.

As always, the Colegio was pleased to present commemorative medals to members celebrating the 25th and 50th anniversaries of their joining the CTPCBA. The winners of the Julio Cortázar Literary Competition, an event organised annually by the Colegio for the past 12 years, were also announced.

Two translators who are experts in the Quechua language explained the work involved in translating Don Quixote into this language. A former ADICA president talked about working as a professor of interpreting in the United States, ending the evening with an interesting series of professional anecdotes.

The harmony between the associations and the positive atmosphere reflected the participants' pride in their profession and their pleasure in rendering homage to all translators around the world.

## Chilean celebrations of ITD 2012

### Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile

In addition to a very interesting round table related to terminology databases that took place on 27 September, the Annual Translation Award was presented to Andrée Goreux, member of COTICH (Colegio de Traductores e Intérpretes de Chile – Chilean Association of Translators and Interpreters), in recognition of her extensive professional career. Hans Grof, vice-president of COTICH, made the presentation.

### Universidad INACAP Temuco Campus

María Eugenia Poblete, president of COTICH, travelled to Temuco on Friday 28 September to take part in the celebrations with future translation professionals. She made a presentation on the *Profile of translators in the XXI century, their fields of work and improvement, and the relevance of networking*.

### Universidad UCINF

On Saturday 6 October, this university held its annual celebration, at which María Eugenia Poblete gave a presentation on *Ethics: utopia or relativity?* Another COTICH member, Johanna Angulo, also made a presentation, on *Translation market: Trends and opportunities*.

### Universidad INACAP Pérez Rosales Campus

On Wednesday 10 October, COTICH board member Katty Kauffman made a presentation on the opportunities and challenges facing translation studies graduates.

### Universidad UNIACC

The annual celebration here took place on 15 October, with COTICH member

María Isabel Dieguez making a presentation on *Constructive methodologies in the training of translators*. Another member, José Bocic, presented on *Internet resources for the translator*. COTICH's president, María Eugenia Poblete, received the Outstanding Translator Award for the 2012 academic year.

*Report from COTICH*

## "Traduttore – Traditore, Revealer of Secrets"

A colloquium entitled *Traduttore – Traditore, Revealer of Secrets* was held in the city of Bogotá on 8 and 9 October 2012, exploring three main themes: the epistemology of translation, translator training in Colombia, and translation and ethics. The colloquium was organized by ACTI (La Asociación Colombiana de Traductores e Intérpretes – the Colombian Association of Translators and Interpreters), in collaboration with Universidad del Rosario and the French Embassy. The different presentations can be accessed in the History section of ACTI's website: [www.TraductoresColombia.com](http://www.TraductoresColombia.com).



Participants at the colloquium in Bogotá

The Colloquium was attended by approximately 250 people, including university students and teachers from ten prestigious Colombian universities, representatives of translation and interpreting companies, as well as teachers and administrators from the Universidad Central de Venezuela.

Given the success of the colloquium, ACTI plans to hold the event annually on a date that coincides with the celebration of ITD. The next colloquium will address the theme of *Translation and Anthropology*.

*Report from ACTI*



## 2012 ITD celebrations in Ecuador

The board of Directors of ATIEC (Asociación de Traductores e Intérpretes del Ecuador – Association of Translators and Interpreters of Ecuador) invited all members to celebrate ITD on 30 September 2012. One of the members offered her house as the venue for a BBQ party. Members were invited with their families for a social gathering. A local singer provided a cultural element, which elicited spontaneous contributions by some guests who were good at telling jokes (*cachos*), playing guitar and singing. It was a positive time to strengthen relationships, chat in a friendly atmosphere and get to know new members, since usually the only contact translators have is through the Internet.

*By Patricia Williams, ATIEC Secretary*

## SEMAGIT 2012 – ITD in Guatemala

The Guatemala Association of Translators and Interpreters (Asociación Guatemalteca de Intérpretes y Traductores – AGIT) maintains a continuing education programme, holding conferences and master classes throughout the year. One of the most important annual activities is the celebration of International Translation Day.

SEMAGIT is a conference held at the end of September each year. The 2012 event at the Grand Tikal Futura Hotel in Guatemala City showcased linguists, translators, writers and experts from diverse fields. The programme included master classes, scholarly papers, a workshop with a panel discussion on T&I training and education, and a vendor exhibit.

The keynote speaker was Dr Manuel Ramiro Valderrama from Buenos Aires, Argentina. Other special guests spoke on ethics in translation, contracts for translation services, the translator and effective writing, and community translation. There was also a workshop and panel discussion on social networking sites.

The post-conference Master Session by Dr Manuel Ramiro Valderrama, held at the Alliance Française Guatemala, provided attendees with a chance to network and to develop referral sources.

*Report by AGIT*

## APTI celebrates 2012 ITD

Ever since the construction of the Panama canal, which saw an influx of foreign workers and their families, Panama has had one of the most culturally diverse populations in Latin America, providing us with a rich source of opportunities to learn from many cultures and languages.



APTI members celebrating International Translation Day at Miraflores Locks, Panama

APTI, the Panamanian Association of Translators and Interpreters, decided to celebrate International Translation Day 2012 at Miraflores Locks ([www.panacanal.com/eng/photo/camera-java.html](http://www.panacanal.com/eng/photo/camera-java.html)). We started our day by visiting the Canal museum. The visitors centre has been completely refurbished to showcase Canal operations. Then, at Miraflores Locks Restaurant, our President, Dr De Antoniadis, gave an insightful presentation on the year's theme *Translation as Intercultural Communication*. Each member received a 2013 calendar, and invited guest Gisela Lammerts van Buren from the Panama Canal delivered an inspiring speech on motivation.



Our colleague, Marcelle Bethancourt, providing her interpretation services for the Lion Sights of California humanitarian programme

The week preceding the celebration of ITD on 30 September, four APTI members – Judith De Leon, Raquel Atencio,

Marcelle Bethancourt, and Sheila See – on behalf of APTI, provided their interpretation services free of charge to the Lions in Sight of California and Nevada Foundation during their humanitarian assistance programme in Panama.

A very popular radio programme gave FIT Council member Reina Bettendorf the opportunity to talk about the meaning of our day and the responsibilities of translators and interpreters in Panama.

*By Reina Bettendorf & Maria Ana Antoniadis*

## Continuing the Venezuelan ITD Tradition

The Venezuelan Association of Translators and Interpreters (CONALTI) celebrated International Translation Day 2012 with two activities which have already become a tradition: a social meeting that allows us to meet with colleagues outside the working environment while getting to know a local place of interest and an academic meeting that allows us to share with professors, colleagues and students.

The social meeting was an "Arquitour" around Chacao, an important commercial and residential area of Caracas: a guided tour with the aim of learning about and discovering places of outstanding architectural value in this area of our capital city. This informative walk gave us a new perspective of the city.

The second activity was a series of lectures and workshops organized by the Universidad Central de Venezuela in the framework of the Tenth Translation and Interpretation Week, an academic congress that brings together professionals, professors, lecturers and students from various local and foreign universities. CONALTI participated with the workshop *Teleworking: A real alternative for translators in Venezuela* presented by CONALTI's Editorial Committee member Patricia Torres. Sessions favoured a useful exchange of experience, knowledge and real-life anecdotes that benefitted all participants.

*Report from CONALTI*

## Third international conference in India

The 3<sup>rd</sup> *International Conference on Translation, Technology and Globalization in Multilingual Context*, organized by the Indian Translators Association and Linguanda in close cooperation with Punjab Technical University and Instituto Cervantes, took place on 23–26 June 2012 in New Delhi. It was attended by over 200 language professionals, academics and translators from across the globe.

The inaugural session of the conference formed part of the Spanish Day celebrations organized by Instituto Cervantes, the official cultural centre of the Embassy of Spain in India. The guest of honour, Mr Juan Alfredo Pinto Saavedra, Ambassador of Colombia, inaugurated the conference along with the host, Dr Oscar Pujol, Director of Instituto Cervantes. Other speakers at the inaugural session were Dr Prabhjot Kaur, representative of Vice-Chancellor Dr Rajneesh Arora, Punjab Technical University; Dr Braj Kishore Kuthiala, Vice-Chancellor, Makhanlal Chaturvedi National University of Journalism and Communication; Dr Jancy James, Vice-Chancellor, Central University of Kerala; Shri Atul Kohari, National Secretary, Shiksha Sanskriti Utthan Nyas;

and Shri Ravi Kumar, Founder President, Indian Translators Association.

This session stressed the importance of translation to the social and economic growth of the nation. Dr Prabhjot Kaur of Punjab Technical University announced the launch of BSc and postgraduate degrees in technical translation and interpretation at Punjab Technical University. In a moment of pride for the Indian Translators Association, the book *Role of Translation in Nation Building*, edited by Ravi Kumar, was released. The book was well received and may be used as a textbook for translation studies in India.

There were three keynote speakers: Dr Moses Nyongwa of Canada spoke about the translation industry of Canada, the address of Shri Purnendra Kishore of India focused on translation as a key enabler for making India a Skills Superpower by 2022, and Dr Maneerat Sawasdiwat of Thailand announced the formation of the Asian Association of the Translation Industry.

More than 100 experts presented papers and shared their views on various themes: globalization, internationalization, localization and translation; gov-

ernment policies towards translation and languages, channels of communication and the mass media; teaching and training in translation and interpreting; theoretical approaches to translation; pedagogic challenges in translation; translation of specialized texts (scientific, technical, medical, etc.); quality standards in translation; terminology management and project management in translation; the publishing industry and translation; machine and memory tools in translation; and technology and innovation in translation.

A dedicated workshop on *Project Management and Technology Integration in Translation* was held on the closing day. The issues considered included the basics of project management, quality control and technological integration in translation services and achieving customer satisfaction.

There was consensus among the conference delegates on the urgent need to take steps to accord professional status to translators and formulate course modules in translation studies that fill the gap between academia and industry.



Participants at the ITA International Conference



# Highlights from Turkey

The Turkish Translators' Association celebrated ITD 2012 together with the Union of Translation Studies Students. Events kicked off with a collective walk to the celebration venue, where there were dance and live music performances, an exhibition about translation and stalls selling T-shirts, stickers, etc. designed by students and featuring witty phrases and sentences about translation and translators. The association provided some finance for the T-shirts, which featured our logo.

Our association has actively participated in the preparation of the Turkish Professional Proficiency Standards for translation and interpreting. These have been organized by the State Institution of Professional Proficiency Standards, which involved relevant stakeholders from all over Turkey. As an association we are

represented at the committee meetings and also hold internal workshops and discussions among our members and with other associations to provide feedback to the national committee. We attach great importance to these activities, as these standards will form the basis of a sound institutionalization in our profession and industry. The Institution also finds it important to hear what we as an association say, as we represent a wide range of participants in the industry.

Other activities in 2012 included amendments to our membership structure (introducing candidate members and consultant members), having our charter officially approved by the authorities, participating in a platform meeting organized by the Ministry of EU Affairs that gathered together all parties of the translation industry in Turkey – one

of our Executive Board Member, Mr Osman Kaya, was one of the main panelists at this meeting – and organizing a joint panel with the Turkish Association of Translation Companies looking at the Rights and Responsibilities of Translators and Translation Companies. The latter was a full-day event and was very productive in terms of the questions asked and the subjects discussed.

A major activity, initiated in 2011, is for our association to be represented at the Istanbul TUYAP Book Fair, Turkey's largest and most prestigious, gathering all the relevant players in the publishing, literary, language and intellectual sectors. The fair lasts for two weeks and our association has a stand where we display different data about our association and FIT and expand our membership base.

*By Esra Ozkaya Saltoglu, Istanbul*

## IN THE NEWS

### The first AGTA conference: ITD in Azerbaijan

On 28 September 2012 Azerbaijan Youth Translators Association (AGTA) organized a conference on *Translation as an Intercultural Communication Tool* to celebrate its first anniversary and International Translation Day (ITD). Attended by over 100 translators, linguists, writers, journalists and public figures, the conference started with a video clip portraying the activities of the organization, followed by an opening speech

by AGTA Chairman Ismayil Jabrayilov, who briefed the participants about the mission of the organization to facilitate communication among translators operating in Azerbaijan, to shape public opinion about the true value of translators' work in Azerbaijan and to represent translators' rights and interests.

Three panels were conducted, on "Translation as intercultural communication", "Translator training in Azerbaijan" and

"Literary translation". The conference received great media coverage by both the press and broadcast media. Celebrated for the first time in Azerbaijan on this scale, ITD, under FIT (the International Federation of Translators), is now more popular, thanks to the efforts of AGTA, the only translators' association in this small post-Soviet country.

*Report by Ismayil Jabrayilov, Chairman of Azerbaijan Youth Translators Association*



Ismayil Jabrayilov addressing the participants at the first AGTA conference in Azerbaijan

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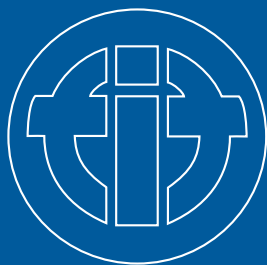
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