

2017 TRANSLATIO

FIT Newsletter

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



In March, the FIT Council met in Ottawa, followed by a visibility visit to Montreal completing one of the stated aims of this mandate, to make FIT more visible in every region of this constantly growing Federation.

Indeed, this is the one but last edition of the ever more popular *Translatio* of this mandate. The Council, its Regional Centres, Standing Committees and Task Forces are all looking forward to and busy preparing for the triennial Statutory Congress.

Each World Congress is unique and full of surprises, highlighting the local issues and achievements whilst bringing the world's best minds under one roof to discuss the most pertinent issues of our profession. In this issue, you will find updates from the new Congress Committee.

Throughout FIT's 60+ year history, we have been very active in supporting academic research. The most enduring testimony is *Babel*, the world's first academic journal dedicated to Translation, Interpreting and Terminology Studies. In the article penned by my predecessor Marion Boers, you will find out about exciting developments: its Standing Committee has prepared for the future with a new co-editor and an increase in pages and features to raise the impact it exerts.

Another aspect which FIT has been almost synonymous with is Literary Translation. In connection with my recent to the UK, you will read about initiatives specific to literary translators, including information on the Quebec Declaration initiated by PEN International, the British Centre for Literary Translation (BCLT) Summer School, with its faculty being members of the Translation Association of the Society of Authors (TASA), and articles on the Buenos Aires International Book Fair and the trans-Atlantic collaboration of our colleagues in Argentina, Colombia, Mexico and Spain. A report of my recent visit to Spain in support of literary translators when ACE launched their *Libro Blanco* with the Minister of Culture in Spain will have to wait for the next issue.

Hand in hand with our literary heritage is FIT's longstanding history with UNESCO. Thanks to a recent intervention under the charismatic leadership of Dominic Michelin of SFT, FIT will be more visible within UNESCO. Another FIT tradition promoting visibility is the annual International Translation Day. This year's theme has been introduced, and I hope all our member associations will start planning special activities to celebrate ITD in conjunction with the International Week of the Deaf (IWD) and International Day for Universal Access. FIT's position as the voice of professional associations of translators, interpreters and terminologists around the world means that we devote our time and attention to global issues. Since 2009, FIT has been one of the founding members of the coalition with Red T and AIIC in support of conflict zone interpreters, and in the Berlin Congress, we reaffirmed our commitment to our colleagues without a voice. Maha El-Metwally has written an article on this topic, expertly handled by our Human Rights Standing Committee. Also featured in this issue is the Research Standing Committee, founded at the beginning of this mandate, with a pertinent position paper on the future of professional translators. This issue also includes news from Brazil, Spain, Quebec-Canada, and the latest from our very active Regional Centre for Latin America

What is left for me to say is to thank the *Translatio* team on behalf of the Federation and the wider profession. And see you in Brisbane-- until then, Happy Reading!

Henry Liu, president@fit-ift.org

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News from FIT Latin America

FIT2017 World Congress Down Under – Register Now!

Every three years, the International Federation of Translators (Fédération Internationale des Traducteurs or FIT), a Category A UNESCO NGO, holds its flagship industry event, and in August this year Brisbane will host the prestigious XXI FIT World Congress 2017.

A global audience of more than 800 delegates from professional, academic and corporate backgrounds will meet at the Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre (BCEC) for three days of immersion in the field of translating and interpreting, cutting edge research, and real life professional experience.

The congress theme of Disruption and Diversification will highlight the impact of advances in technology, globalisation, policy, and economic and social change on the delivery of language services, with dedicated streams for localisation, social media translation trends, globalisation, technology, and creativity. Specific streams for indigenous and sign languages, interpreting in the community and conflict zones, and literary translation will also feature.

Hands-on workshops, thought-provoking discussion panels, posters and presentations will stimulate delegate interaction, along with the 100+ sessions, four keynote addresses, FIT awards ceremony and concurrent trade exhibition. As a platform for international exposure, global networking and latest industry intelligence, this is an unrivalled opportunity.

This international conference is supported by Tourism & Events Queensland (TEQ) and Brisbane Marketing, and is hosted locally by AUSIT, the Australian Institute of Interpreters & Translators, in conjunction with ASLIA. The stunning Rivercity of Brisbane will be the focal point of the over 100,000 professional translators, interpreters and terminologists which FIT represents, as well as high level policymakers in multilingualism, inter-cultural and inter-lingual communications, international literary publishers and international intellectual property and copyrights. Through face



to face engagement, video, social media, traditional marketing, television, radio and print, we intend to raise the profile of the importance of effective language skills, particularly in this globalised, interconnected corporate economy. Event Partners are TEQ, Brisbane Marketing and GTCOM, and NAATI is Platinum Sponsor. Congress Rental is Gold Sponsor, TIS is Bronze Sponsor, SDL is Wi-Fi Sponsor, 2M Language Services is Badge and Lanyard Sponsor, UQ is Delegate Sponsor and Multilingual Magazine is Media Partner. Check out all our exhibitors online on our website. If you are interested in sponsorship opportunities or taking out an exhibitor booth, please visit <http://www.fit2017.org/sponsorship-opportunities/> or contact_sponsorship@fit2017.org

The congress will showcase exceptional speakers, including Australian Professor Anthony Pym, Distinguished Professor of Translation and Intercultural Studies at University Tarragona, Spain; Dr Sarah Kendzior, a highly influential US- journalist with 150,000 Twitter followers who writes on political and social issues, and who is a researcher and consultant with a PhD in anthropology. Dr Kendzior's work mainly focuses on authoritarian states of the former Soviet Union.

Additional confirmed speakers include Dr. Glenn Flores, a Distinguished Chair of Health Policy Research at the Medica Research Institute, with 223 publications on a wide variety of research and policy issues, including language barriers in healthcare; Jemina Napier, Professor & Chair of Intercultural Communication at Edinburgh's Heriot-Watt University, Mi-

chael Cronin, and Professor of Translation Studies at Dublin City University, Ireland. The full conference programme is now online <http://www.fit2017.org/progam/> This is a unique opportunity to experience the FIT World Congress in Australia. We look forward to welcoming you all to Brisbane/Australia in August and encourage you to subscribe to updates www.fit2017.org and to register <http://www.fit2017.org/registration/>

FIT2017 Organising Committee
admin@fit2017.org

FIT2017

AUSIT is pleased to host the XXI World Congress of the International Federation of Translators (FIT) in Brisbane in August 2017 around the theme of

DISRUPTION AND DIVERSIFICATION

which reflects the many new ways to connect with work and with each other, as well as changes in wider global business paradigms that are having a direct impact on our entire profession. Everyone is welcome. All you need is an open mind, curiosity and a willingness to grow. Join us as we step forward and connect with like-minds from across the globe.

REGISTER NOW!

Babel on the Up and Up

Change is in the air as regards FIT's scholarly journal, *Babel*. The publication is continuing to grow in popularity and size: in 2014 the four issues of Volume 60 comprised around 500 pages, in 2015 this increased to 600, and in 2016 to 700 or so. As a result, our publishing house, John Benjamins, proposed bringing out the journal every two months instead of quarterly, and increasing the annual number of pages to 900 from 2017! This is an accomplishment that our editor can be very proud of. The Council has agreed to the change, and so from now on subscribers will receive six issues of *Babel* a year.

This increase naturally has a knock-on effect on the amount of work involved in producing each issue of *Babel*, and Council has therefore also approved the appointment of a second editor to



New Babel co-editor Meifang Zhang

work with Frans De Laet. From this year, *Babel* will be overseen by two joint editors-in-chief. We welcome to this position Prof. Dr Meifang ZHANG from the University of Macau. She is a well-known and recognised scholar in the T&I world, very active as a teacher, trainer, author and event organiser, and a member of various professional translation associations that are very involved in FIT activities.

At the same time, the editorial board is being expanded and a new *Babel* Standing Committee replaces the former Task Force. The editorial board is involved in reviewing articles and deciding which are fit for publication, while the committee members assist the editors with more hands-on production tasks.

Marion Boers, Babel Committee member
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FIT Position Paper on the Future for Professional Translators

What does the future hold for professional translators? FIT, as the voice of associations representing those professionals around the world, would like to draw attention to actual or conceivable developments and indicate what actions are recommendable.

Trends

Thanks to modern technologies the world is increasingly interconnected. This leads to a rapidly growing need for improved communication and access to knowledge across different languages. In addition, more and more companies are seeking an international presence. Consequently, there is a steeply rising demand for translation services, which is further amplified by continuing migration owing to armed conflicts, climate change and other occurrences.

Although volumes are growing, a strong downward pressure on rates is evident. Acquisitions and mergers on the part of big players in the translation world are likely to lead to further market concen-

tration with a corresponding impact on rates. Yet the bulk of all translation work is ultimately done by freelance individual translators, who must be able to make a living commensurate with their high level of education.

Developments like machine translation are gaining ground, though not as fast as expected by some. High-grade systems which are already used in several specialised areas of translation will continue to need a lot of high-quality input, be maintenance-intensive and require constant training of all users.

Some people assume that, at a certain point in the future, computers based on neural networks will outstrip human intelligence. This "singularity" will allegedly render most, if not all, current occupations obsolete. But it remains to be seen whether this vision will become reality. Until such time, professional translators will continue to have an important role to play because machines still lack the creativity and intuition that humans

have. These professionals will not simply act as post-editors of machine-translation output, but above all as translators in their own right who counter the degradation of human language and guarantee a high quality of language.

Actions

In response to these trends and the changing customer requirements, professional translators have to adapt, be creative and develop business models that make the most of the latest technologies. These models could include various types of added value or involve translation services provided as part of a diversified offering. New innovative ideas are needed.

The traditional image of the solitary translator is definitely changing. Specialisation, a team-oriented approach to the work and the willingness to constantly refine the knowledge of tools will be essential for a successful career in the translation industry. In fact, translators should seek to influence the development and

become co-creators of the tools they will be using in the coming decades.

Furthermore, a strong focus on professionalism must be maintained. Standards play an important part as a reliable method of demonstrating and underscoring the quality of the services provided to customers, but the quality of the translation work can only be ensured by trained and experienced professionals.

Professional translators must therefore redouble their efforts to make it clear that they are service providers and counter the commoditisation of their world. Among other things, this may include contemplating fee structures other than those per word, line or page translated, such as charging on an hourly or project basis for their services, as is the case in many other professions. They must continue to strive for greater efficiency and should consider working in teams to handle bigger jobs as well.

Above all, these professionals should act as language services advisors or language consultants, advising their cus-

tomers on the best approach to a particular assignment and explaining the benefits or drawbacks of certain translation methods.

Job profiles themselves are likely to change. In some areas, the roles of translator and interpreter may merge, leading to the emergence of "trans-interpreters". Elsewhere "trans-editor" or "trans-journalist" may become a new job title. Professional translators must therefore be willing to move away from traditional roles and embark on new, rewarding areas of activity as well as defining their personal area of specialisation.

Requirements

- for educational institutions

Universities and institutions that train translators will also have to adapt and refine their curricula in order to prepare their students for this changing environment. They must equip the students with the relevant skills needed for transcreation, localisation and other demanding types of human translation, without neglecting the basic competences needed by translators.

- for professional associations

As the voice of individual translators, the national associations as well as their international umbrella organisations will have to inform both political institutions and the public about the importance and necessity of high-quality translation work. Furthermore, they have to offer their members information and training relating to new market developments.

Conclusion

Given the rapidly changing environment perceived as a threat by many, the future of the translation profession will therefore depend on the ability to transform the trends outlined above into new opportunities. This calls for a strong focus on professionalism and greater specialisation as well as the ability to act as language services advisor and display adaptability and flexibility.

Please also refer to:

FIT Position Paper on Machine Translation

FIT Position Paper on Crowdsourcing

World Day: FIT/UNESCO Partnership

During the FIT Council meeting held in Paris last March under the auspices of/hosted by SFT, we set up a task force aimed at strengthening long-standing links with UNESCO. This task force is made up of representatives from various FIT association members, and over time has become a standing committee dedicated to this project. To re-cap, FIT was founded in 1953 under the aegis of UNESCO with six founding member national associations representing Denmark, France, Italy, Norway, Germany and Turkey. In 1970, UNESCO recognised FIT's status as NGO, which guaranteed that FIT be consulted on any question relating to translation being dealt with by UN bodies.

From 12 to 14 December 2016, UNESCO headquarters in Paris hosted the international conference for non-governmental organisations (ICNGO), a biennial worldwide forum of exchanges and meetings uniting the official NGO partners of the UN: <http://www.ngo-unesco.net/en/>. As

one of the invitees, FIT was represented by its Secretary General Sabine Colombe and by Dominic Michelin. The objective of this conference was to optimise mutual cooperation between organisations and to gather advice and suggestions from NGO partners of UNESCO in the priority areas of its work. On this occasion, the international conference elected a President and an NGO-UNESCO liaison committee, whose main role is to represent the interests of all the NGO partners and to provide an efficient high quality partnership.

During this conference, FIT initiated a major project involving association with UNESCO for reciprocal promotion of the International Day for Universal Access to Information (28 September) and the International Translation Day (30 September), so as to interweave and grow the visibility of these two days simultaneously, and to mention them on their respective communication media. UNESCO will refer to International Translation

Day in the media used by them for the International Day for Universal Access to Information, and FIT will do the same for the International Day for Universal Access to Information on International Translation Day media. To this effect, Mr Henry Liu, FIT President, had made an initial approach by letter to UNESCO in March 2016, highlighting the complementary nature of the two events and the extreme importance of access to information, its diffusion and its perfect understanding.

Furthermore, the conference facilitated the first direct contacts that were indispensable in launching the project. FIT was able to ensure its visibility and present its actions during the "Open Space" session dedicated to NGOs at UNESCO on 13 December 2016. The importance of universal access to reliable information was a particular highlight, given a point in history witnessing an unprecedented level of misinformation or inaccuracy. NGOs

must play their role fully here, and the challenge calls for freely transmissible and perfectly intelligible communication at local level and in the mother tongues involved. Finally and logically, the main outcomes of this conference have caused a renewed focus on the importance of the international days. The liaison committee is committed

to examine all proposals presented by NGOs in this light.

Following this conference, the first meeting called by the newly elected liaison committee took place last February at UNESCO. The new committee presented its action and communication plans. About sixty NGOs were present, including FIT. Interesting contacts and

links were made by FIT directly with the Committee after this meeting and on its fringes. The project for reciprocal communication of the International Days of Translation and of Universal Access to Information is on the right track.

Dominic Michelin,
FIT-UNESCO Committee,
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Danger Zone

Western forces in Afghanistan and Iraq, notably the US and UK troops, used hundreds of interpreters. Those in charge never anticipated that the military would need so many. Yet as both countries shifted into post-invasion stability operations, most combat units increasingly found themselves interfacing with the local civilian population and interpreters became crucial. According to a 2011 Congressional Research Service report, at both conflicts' height of hiring, the United States employed 82,534 Iraqis –including 9,268 interpreters– and 80,725 Afghans, with a similar proportion of interpreters as Iraq. Due to the enormous risks these interpreters were taking, the US was able to recruit them in part by making explicit promises of a path toward earning visas and naturalisation. The UK Government equally

pledged to offer safety to Iraqi and Afghan staff who worked with UK armed forces.

Many of these interpreters assisted foreign troops because they believed that they were helping their countries get rid of extremists and start the reconstruction process. This brave move not only put them at risk during army operations, but also exposed them and their families to retaliatory acts by extremists, since they were seen to be cooperating with the 'infidels'. But despite these harrowing circumstances, resettlement programmes often leave a lot to be desired. Until recently, interpreters in conflict zones did not have any organisations to represent them and publicize their plight. This changed in 2009/2010 when the International Association of Conference Interpreters' (AIIIC) project to help

interpreters in conflict zones was founded in Europe and Red T was formed across the Atlantic to act as the voice of this voiceless group. Red T, the only organisation exclusively dedicated to this cause, advocates worldwide on behalf of translators and interpreters in high-risk settings and seeks policy changes across the globe that promote their safety.

Unlike journalists who also work in conflict zones, linguists do not enjoy protected status. To remedy this omission, Red T, together with its five partner organisations, is seeking a UN resolution that grants protected-person status to civilian linguists in conflict zones.

The entire article is published on the FIT website/Standing Committees/Human Rights Committee/Danger Zone

by Maha El-Metwally

Summer School at British Centre for Literary Translation (Norwich, UK)

One recent stop on FIT President Henry Liu's busy itinerary was the British Centre for Literary Translation at the University of East Anglia in Norwich. BCLT was founded in 1989 by renowned German writer and critic W. G. "Max" Sebald when he was Professor of European Literature at the University. UEA offers the UK's only dedicated MA programme in Literary Translation, and BCLT is the UK's only academic research centre that focuses specifically on literary translation. It runs a lively programme of research activities, such as last December's international workshop conference devoted to "Shakespeare in Translation", or the forthcoming book launch symposium devoted to B. J. Epstein and Robert Gil-



lett's new Routledge collection *Queer in Translation* (3 May). BCLT also organises high-profile public events such as the annual Sebald Lecture at the British Library in London, delivered in February this year by the Irish poet Michael Longley ('Releasing the Lyric: Translating Latin and Greek Poetry'). Each year BCLT runs an International Literary Translation and Creative Writing Summer School in part-

nership with Writers' Centre Norwich, bringing together writers and translators for an intensive, one-week, residential programme of hands-on translation and creative writing practice. This year's Summer School will take place from 23 to 29 July in Norwich, and feature workshops for translators from Bengali, German, Korean, Lithuanian and Spanish into English, plus one English-Spanish workshop and two multilingual groups (Prose and Poetry). The application period is open till 14 May; further details are available on the BCLT website at <http://www.bclt.org.uk/summer-school>.

Duncan Large, Academic Director, BCLT,
Professor of European Literature and
Translation, UEA

International Translation Day Poster Competition

Closing date for submitting a poster for ITD 2017 is 31 July 2017.

The theme for ITD 2017 is Translation and Diversity.

WHAT:

In 2012, the International Federation of Translators introduced a poster competition to promote International Translation Day (ITD), which is celebrated annually on 30 September. Each year member associations and other interested persons around the world will be encouraged to submit posters that promote ITD.

WHY:

FIT's mission is to promote and be the voice of interpreters, translators and terminologists. This competition is one means of accomplishing our mission. The winning poster will be made freely available via the website, and member associations and others can then print it out and use it for their ITD events. The copyright will belong to FIT.

WHO:

Any individual or organisation – whether they are related to a FIT member or not – may participate in the competition. Individual members of any FIT member association or institution may submit a

poster through their association or directly, and member associations or institutions may also commission an artist or an individual member with other special talents to produce an entry on their behalf.

WHEN:

Submissions must be received by 31 July 2017. The submissions will relate to ITD in the current year (in casu 2017). Entries must be submitted to the FIT Secretariat (secretariat@fit-ift.org).

The FIT Council will vote on the best submission. The winners will be notified directly and the result published no later than 1 August 2017. (NOTE: Council members will excuse themselves from the vote if their association or a member from their association submits a poster.)

SPECIFICATIONS for the poster:

- The motif must be linked to the ITD theme for the year in question.
- The ITD theme for the year in question must be included, either in English and French, or with the option of combining one of the FIT official languages with a local language(s).
- The FIT logo and, if appropriate, the logo of the member association or insti-

tution, as well as a copyright indication must be included. The FIT logo to be used for the poster can be downloaded [here](#).

- The poster must be submitted as a high-resolution pdf file that can be published online or printed, as well as in jpg format at 300 dpi and 100 dpi. The dimensions must be suitable for printing in A2 or A3 format.
- The poster must be localisable, i.e. it must either include no text that requires translation or must have all fonts embedded in the file so that the text can be changed as required. This is so that associations can produce the poster with a local language, if desired.
- Designs must accommodate two languages.
- Designs from preceding years can be found online www.fit-ift.org.

PRIZE:

Poster competition winners will receive the FIT ITD Prize, which will be a certificate and/or plaque, and where appropriate, will have their association logo together with the FIT logo on the poster. Winners will be listed in the ITD section of the FIT website.

Translation and Diversity

In our digital world, a product or service is often marketed in many countries, and information appears to flow instantly across most national boundaries. Yet we don't want other societies to impose their way of thinking on us. How does translation relate to the desire to access everything while retaining diversity?

Cultural diversity is closely tied to linguistic diversity. Losing your language means losing a part of your cultural identity. Translation is important both to maintaining and learning from a culture.

Globalisation brings greater international cooperation, but the downside of that can be cultural homogenisation, which in turn threatens diversity. In an effort to access global markets effectively, products and services are often translated

with sensitivity to the target culture, rather than imposing the culture of the source content. This type of translation, called localisation, thus supports diversity.

Language transcends physical barriers of distance, borders and time. Translation of literature and other culture-specific material, such as foreign film through subtitling and dubbing, is different from localisation. In contrast to localisation, this type of translation typically aims to open a window to the source culture, and thus helps share local insights and alternative views of the world, giving the experience of another culture through one's own language.

Both localisation and source-culture-specific translation are challenging intellectual tasks that involve much

more than mechanically matching up the words and phrases of two languages. Only skilled human translators are able to perform these creative types of translation, which help us maintain our own culture and learn from other cultures, respectively.

Each culture in the world should be in control of its destiny. By promoting diversity of cultures and languages, we can hope to create a bright and colourful world, full of possibilities for learning, growing and sharing a peaceful vision for humanity based on mutual respect. We thank translators for their contribution to diversity as we celebrate International Translation Day 2017.

Alan Melby
melbyak@yahoo.com

Council Meeting at Ottawa

On 18 and 19 March the FIT Council held its annual meeting in Ottawa, as invited by the *Conseil des Traducteurs, terminologues et interprètes du Canada* (CTTIC) and the ATIO association, a member of CTTIC.

As usual, the Council received the reports of the President, Treasurer and Secretary General. The new FIT Executive Secretary, Daniel Muller, attended to introduce himself and to assist the Council in taking the minutes. Daniel Muller took up his role on 15 January, and fully manages the Secretariat with Nicola Thayil, his francophone assistant.

A contract is ready to be signed with our colleagues in New Zealand, NZSTI, for the FIT Identity Card, unless a cheaper solution is found in the next four weeks. The translator's identity card is intended for colleagues working in conflict areas or for associations who request it.

FIT's presence on social media is a real challenge in terms of coherence and uniformity, let alone moderation of the blog. The "Digital Communication" task force is going to tackle the question of security, moderation and coherence.

The Council has chosen the theme for International Translators' Day 2017: "Translation and Diversity" (see the official communiqué in this edition).

FIT has some new members! We are pleased to welcome our colleagues from Hungary (MFTE) and Costa Rica (ANTIO, observer status at the moment), Norway (NFT) and Iran (TIAT), and to welcome back the National Association of Judiciary Interpreters and Translators (NAJIT) as members.

Cooperation with DFKI over the project to measure translation quality, a comparison between machine and human translation, has been greatly bolstered by the creation of a task force dedicated to this project. For the record, you will find more information on the FIT website. The blog for engaging in the discussion is also found there ([blog: bit.ly/fitQT21](http://blog.bit.ly/fitQT21), [capitals respected](#)).

FIT has received proposals from five associations for the organisation of FIT Congress 2020. All will be invited to present their offers at Brisbane within a required timeframe.

The Council has received and approved

a number of impressive reports from task forces and Standing Committees. These will be made available on the FIT website. The Council has also adopted changes to the by-laws and regulations within FIT. These changes, which were worked on by an internal Task Force, will be submitted to the Brisbane Statutory Congress in August.

The Quebec PEN Club declaration on literary translation and translators, adopted in 2015 (<http://www.pen-international.org/the-quebec-declaration-on-literary-translation-and-translators/>), has strengthened the relationships maintained with this renowned international organisation. A meeting was held on the premises of OTTIAQ in Montreal, where the FIT Council had been invited to commemorate 25 years of OTTIAQ. The day after the meeting, we had the pleasure of meeting M. Louis Jolicoeur, Secretary General of the PEN Club, who gave a presentation on his organisation and its "Ottawa Declaration on Literary Translation and Translators". Following this, FIT has published this declaration on its website in the Resources area.

Sabine Colombe, sabine@colombetrad.fr

FROM OUR MEMBERS

Literary Translators' Associations Collaborate on both sides of the Atlantic

Following the First Seminar for Literary Translators' Trainers held at Instituto Caro y Cuervo (ICC) in Yerbabuena, Colombia, in October 2016, hosted by the Mexican Association of Literary Translators (AMETLI) and the Colombian Association of Translators, Terminologists and Interpreters (ACTTI), the associations resolved to join forces for the benefit of the profession. They decided to create

a network specifically designed to improve the visibility of translators of literary works into Spanish on both sides of the Atlantic, act as an advocate for the profession, and foster cultural exchange by sharing information, experience and knowledge, based on the promotion of joint efforts. In addition to the Mexican and Colombian associations, the Spanish association ACE Traductores and the Ar-

gentine Association of Translators and Interpreters (AATI) are part of the initiative to create an Ibero-American Network of Literary Translators. The boards of the associations decided to sign a declaration of intent, which was released simultaneously in various countries in April.

Mateo Cardona Vallejo,
mcardona@actti.org
Translated by: Marita Propato

Fourth Literary Translation Seminar at the Buenos Aires Book Fair

With the theme “Translation and Creativity,” the Argentine Association of Translators and Interpreters (AATI) organised its Fourth Literary Translation Seminar on 25–27 April, during the Professional Sessions of the International Book Fair of Buenos Aires, a great showcase of the world’s literature and an extraordinary meeting point for authors, publishers, illustrators, translators, bookstores and other stakeholders of the production of books and culture.

Over three days with a full agenda of round table discussions and presentations by prominent Argentine and international thinkers, translators met to reflect upon the challenges faced and the progress made in the fields of translation copyright, creative writing and translation, translation editing and proof-reading, the education of professional translators, and visibility initiatives. For the first time, there were sections on the translation of technical and scientific texts, and the translation of cartoons and graphic novels.

The Seminar offered great opportunities to learn, network and bring translators a step closer to the publishing industry. Articulating its efforts with academia, AATI planned joint activities with the *Lenguas Vivas* Autumn School of Literary Translation, the Poetry Festival (featuring bilingual readings of poems by celebrated authors), and the Editing Workshop hosted by Goethe Institut and Looren Translation House in partnership with the *Interpres* translation programme of San Martin University. A diversity of language combinations were represented, and major cultural institutions supported the activities.

Speakers included Alberto Manguel, Director of the National Public Library, Cecilia Rossi from the British Centre for Literary



Estela Consigli, Lucila Cordone and Marita Propato (AATI) with Carlos Fortea (ACE Traductores), introducing the Ibero-American Network of Literary Translators

Translation, Catherine Davis from London University Institute for Modern Languages Research, and prestigious writers and translators Carlos Fortea (Spain), Giles Foden (UK), Pablo Ingerberg (Argentina), Lolvé Tillmanns (Switzerland) and Anna Kazumi Stahl (USA).

Marita Propato, AATI President, maritapropato@gmail.com

Photo : AATI

FIT supports PEN’s Quebec Declaration

The Quebec Declaration on Literary Translation and Translators, adopted by PEN International at its World Congress in Quebec City in October 2015, was piloted by the PEN International Quebec Centre, and is the result of a long and fruitful discussion between all the PEN Centres in the world.

At a meeting in Montreal on 20 March with Louis Jolicoeur, one of three people charged with producing the first draft of the declaration, members of FIT Council and representatives of OTTIAQ heard how a wide-ranging consultation process resulted in a concise six-point summary of the principles and objectives that PEN International intends to promote in the area of literary translation.

These principles include the importance of translation in promoting the dignity of all cultures and languages, the need

to draw attention to the conditions required in order to engage in this activity and, above all, the importance of defending the people who make communication possible – literary translators.

FIT Council members listened attentively as author Louis Jolicoeur related how each of the thirty or so translations of the Quebec Declaration on Literary Translation and Translators is a copyrighted work in itself.

Alongside the Recommendation on the legal protection of translators and translations (The Nairobi Charter), and the Translator’s Charter, the Quebec Declaration on Literary Translation and Translators is a pertinent and important document asserting the rights of literary translators worldwide, as well as affirming the respect literary trans-

lators deserve as authors in their own right. For more information, visit the PEN International website (<http://www.pen-international.org/?lang=en>), where you can find the original French version, as well as its translation into some thirty languages.

Kevin M.J. Quirk, kevin.quirk@fit-ift.org



Asetrad - Recent and Future Activities

The Spanish Association of Translators, Interpreters and Editors (Asetrad) firmly believes in the benefits of ongoing training, and has organised an exciting programme of courses for the early part of the year. On 4 March, we held a heavily oversubscribed workshop in Madrid on the finesse of proofreading and editing in Spanish. This was jointly organised and run with the Spanish Association of Editors, in what was a first for Asetrad, but which we hope will not be a one off, dealing with the intricacies of the Spanish language.

Next up on the agenda is a series of weekly legal translation webinars centring on Family Law, starting on 9 March. We begin with "An Introduction to Spanish Family Law" (held in Spanish), moving on to "Cross-Border Family Proceedings between England-Wales and Spain for Legal Translators" (in English); "An Overview of French Family Law" (in French); "Marriage and Divorce in Germany from the Legal Translation Point of View" (in Spanish), and finishing off with

a Round Table. Members of associations which are FIT members can enjoy a discounted rate for these events.

Asetrad doesn't just hold webinars, it also holds on-site events. Pamplona played host to just such an event on 8 April, with a course on the ins and outs of IntelliWebsearch in the morning, and everything you have always wanted to know about XBench in the afternoon.

The highlight of the year must be Asetrad's Annual General Meeting, this year in Cáceres, on 21–23 April. It is not just a meeting, but also the chance to learn something new, and this year is no exception. On the Friday, the opening event is a guided tour of a local vineyard and wine cellars with a talk on oenology for translators and then a presentation/chat about the pastures and ecosystem of Extremadura. The organic ice-cream and wine tasting is also a highlight. On the Saturday, we kick off with a visual education workshop, followed by a round table on work/life balance (because it's not all translating) which are free-of-

charge. The annual event is always a "must" and is open to all.

Another highly anticipated event is the Scientific and Medical Translation Workshops and Seminars to be held in Málaga in June, organised by Asetrad and two other Spanish Associations, and aimed at translators, interpreters, students and other language professionals with a particular interest in scientific and medical translations. There is a packed programme over the three days, and early subscribers can benefit from a good discount.

Asetrad is, of course, delighted to become a member of FIT's Legal Translation and Interpreting Task Force. Moreover, FIT Europe and Asetrad recently sent a joint letter to the Spanish Ministry of Justice regarding its non-compliance with the EU Directive to create a register of court interpreters and translators. We are very grateful to FIT Europe for its support.

Kate Caws (Board of Directors of Asetrad)
kittilina@gmail.com

Give true meaning to your words – do business with a certified translator!

Whatever your reason for having something translated, you want the translated version to read like the original. This is especially true for official documents.

If you have important documents to translate, such as a birth certificate, a diploma, or a divorce ruling, or a corporate document to produce in another language, you need a professional. Certified translators are experts in linguistic transfer processes and tools, they are seasoned communicators, they possess strong writing skills, and they have broad general knowledge.

By calling on a member in good standing of OTTIAQ – Quebec's professional order of certified translators, terminologists, and interpreters – you are protected. OTTIAQ members are required to keep their skills up to date and to have professional liability insurance.

To avoid the pitfalls of trying to do the job yourself or getting only "approximate" results from automatic translation software, entrust your job to a real professional. And don't be misled by imitations – only OTTIAQ members in good standing have the right to call themselves certified translators, certified terminologists, or certified interpreters.

And despite what some people think, certified translators don't just translate books – far from it! Some are self-employed workers, others are salaried workers at translation companies, and still others work for the translation departments of big companies or the government. They acquire expertise in a variety of fields and become skilled at understanding the finest notions of a text and seizing every subtlety – a real added value.

Need more convincing? To become

OTTIAQ

(Ordre des traducteurs, terminologues, et interprètes agréés du Québec) protects the public by granting the titles of certified translator, certified terminologist, and certified interpreter, by ensuring compliance with its code of ethics and professional standards, and by implementing the mechanisms set out in the Professional Code. www.ottiaq.org

CIQ

(Conseil interprofessionnel du Québec) is the voice of Québec's professional orders. It also acts as a consulting agency to the Québec government and serves as a point of reference for the public and for aspiring professionals.

<https://professions-quebec.org>

OTTIAQ members, translators must meet strict criteria. In addition to having a degree in translation, applicants must perform a six-month mentorship or possess at least two years of experience. There are real benefits to doing business with them!

To carry out its mission of protecting the public, OTTIAQ ensures that its members comply with its code of ethics. It also has a mandatory professional inspection process to ensure that certified translators, terminologists and interpreters follow best practices and standards and offer clients top quality service.

To check whether a translator is a member in good standing of OTTIAQ or to find out more, please contact *Ordre des traducteurs, terminologues et interprètes agréés du Québec*.

In January this year, CIQ (*Conseil interprofessionnel du Québec*) launched its “Let’s Talk Public Protection” campaign on social media (Facebook, YouTube, Twitter and LinkedIn).

The aim of the campaign, produced in cooperation with OTTIAQ (*Ordre des traducteurs, terminologues et interprètes agréés du Québec*) and 22 other professional orders, is to introduce the public to professional orders and explain their role. Like all professional orders, OTTIAQ is charged with protecting individuals and businesses that entrust work to its members.

OTTIAQ’s video explains how doing business with a certified translator serves to protect the public, and warns against the harm that translation software can cause.

“To Infinity” – ABRATES 8th International Translation and Interpretation Conference

The ABRATES Conference this year will be held on 25–27 May, at the Reboças Convention Centre, in São Paulo, Brazil’s economic centre and largest venue of events, a vibrant city offering great opportunities for leisure and business.

The topics include Translation Market, Literary Translation, Translation Copyright, Games Translation, Audiovisual Translation, Translator-Client Relationship, Translator Internationalization, and Entrepreneurship. A list of confirmed guest speakers



is available at: <http://abrates.com.br/pal-estranter/>

To encourage participation and exchange in the Latin America region, there is a special category of enrolment for all members of FIT Lat-Am associations, using the promotional code FitLatAm2017. Other FIT associations from around the world are welcome to use the same registration code to take part in our International Conference.

We look forward to meeting you in São Paulo in May!

William Casemiro,
presidente@abrates.com.br

White Book on Translators’ Copyright in the Digital Environment

On 10 March in Madrid ACE Traductores presented the White Book on Translator’s Copyright in the Digital Environment, a comprehensive report including the findings of a survey of literary translators in Spain. FIT President Henry Liu attended the presentation.

The White Book is available in Spanish at: <https://www.dropbox.com/s/u0u4mea-crkeo3vj/LibroBlancoTraducci%C3%B3n%20de%20Derechos%20de%20Autor%20de%20Traductores%20Literarios%20en%20el%20Entorno%20Digital%202016.pdf?dl=0>

FIT President Henry Liu, ACE Traductores President Carlos Fortea, Spanish Secretary of Culture Fernando Benzo Sáinz, award-winning Translator Ana María Bejarano, and Director of the Spanish National Library Ana Santos Aramburo.



News from FIT Latin America

FIT LatAm currently covers 13 countries in the Americas, with 16 member associations in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela. The General Meeting of Members was held on 6 December 2016 in Varadero, Cuba. ABRATES, the Translators' Association from Brazil, was accepted as full member. Two associations recently became observers: CTPSF, *Colegio de Traductores de la 1^{ra} Circunscripción, Provincia de Santa Fe* (Argentina) and ANTIO, *Asociación Nacional de Traductores e Intérpretes Oficiales* (Costa Rica).

Review of activities

Presence in social networks. Besides the active mini-site, LatAm has created its Facebook Fan page and a Twitter account. It also launched a new logo.

New members and FIT. We have continued to develop our relationships with other professional associations. Universidad EAN (Colombia) and Universidad de Montevideo (Uruguay) have applied for membership. The documentation is being reviewed by the Board and the decision will be communicated at next General Meeting.

Events and initiatives. General Meeting and Round Table. On 6 December, 2016, the representatives of Latin American associations gathered for the Seventh General Meeting of FIT LatAm, within the framework of the Tenth Cuba-Québec Symposium on Translation, Termi-



nology and Interpretation organised by ACTI and OTTIAQ in Varadero, Cuba. Our Regional Centre took part in a Round Table to discuss progress made based on the Lima Declaration signed in Peru in 2015. The presentation revolved around the topic of Visibility and how FIT LatAm helps professional associations of translators, terminologists and interpreters become more visible and relevant by promoting local, regional and national initiatives. The highlight of the presentation was the introduction of the regional platform that enabled two region-wide continuous education webinars with extremely high levels of attendance.

Communication. The FIT LatAm EC has held regular meetings via Skype and encouraged all members to take part in the e-learning project and in social media activity. Additionally, the two Google groups created to optimise communication and facilitate planning and decision-making (one for the FIT LatAm EC and one for FIT LatAm Associations) have remained active.

Objectives for the next 12 months

- New webinars. Following the successful webinars of 2016, a schedule of new CE activities will be designed. Platform costs will be paid on a monthly basis and administration will be centralised by the host organization, which will rotate depending on the proposals received. A way to optimise financial administration is being discussed among members and with FIT Council.

- Improvements and changes to the mini-site (contents for FIT-hosted site). Possible inclusion of new sections, and addition of the Spanish version.

- Continuing the objective of approaching and recruiting new professional associations and educational institutions.

- Promotion of FIT LatAm's profile on social networks (Facebook Fan Page, Twitter).

- Organisation of a General Meeting of Members in 2017, as part of one of the international congresses hosted by member associations in LatAm.

FIT LatAm is a dynamic and diverse Regional Centre. The initiatives of member associations inspire us and encourage us to continue on the path of growth.

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Change/Strategies

Future Shock – Technology, Disruption & New Industry Paradigms

Effects/ Responses/Diversification

Creativity and Translation in the Post-Modern World

Literary/Publishing/transcreation

Translating from/to

Minority and Indigenous Languages

Language and Conflict

Conflict zone Interpreting/vicarious trauma/technologies and skills

Community Interpreting and Translation

Emerging Communities/refugees/pedagogy and research

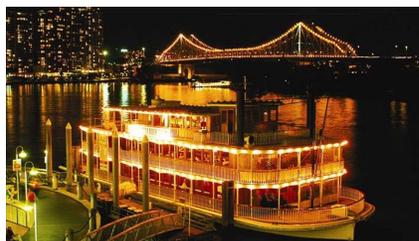
Sign Language Interpreting

Technology/ access politics/markets/future

Freelancing as Reflective Business Practice

Training/ business skills/diversification

Great social program, including



Free Networking
River Cruise on the
Kookaburra River
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evening of
3rd August 2017

Formal Gala
Dinner at the
5-star Rydges
Southbank Hotel,
overlooking
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4th August 2017



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Prof. Anthony Pym



Prof. Michael Cronin



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