In this issue:

ATA School Outreach Time
The Translation Project Cycle
Note Taking for Consecutive Interpreting
Terminology: A New Challenge
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www.sdl.com/atachronicle
School Outreach Profile: Jonathan Hine
By Lillian Clementi
ATA member Jonathan Hine gained unexpected prominence after speaking to high school students.

The Life Cycle of a Translation Project
By George Rimalower
From inception to delivery, the translation process involves multiple steps and the participation of numerous linguists and experts to create an accurate, linguistically correct, and culturally appropriate translation.

Note Taking for Consecutive Interpreting
By Hana Laurenzo
This article contains some practical tips, information, and suggestions for further reading and practice to make the most out of your note taking experience.

Terminology: A New Challenge for the Information Industry
By Kara Warburton
Terminology data can enhance a wide range of applications and can be exchanged between users, provided that its structure adheres to an international standard such as TermBase eXchange.

Translating and Interpreting: Careers for the 21st Century
By Cindy Hazelton
Ohio teachers learn about translation and interpreting career opportunities for their students at a seminar co-sponsored by the Northeast Ohio Translators Association and by Kent State University’s Institute for Applied Linguistics.
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Lillian Clementi is a member of ATA’s Public Relations Committee. As managing principal of LinguaLegal, a translation firm based in Arlington, Virginia, she works from French and German into English, providing translation and document review to clients in law and business. Contact: Lillian@LinguaLegal.com.

Cindy Hazelton is a freelance French—English legal translator and attorney. She has a JD from the University of Akron School of Law, an MA in French from Middlebury College, and an MA in translation from Kent State University. She is a board member of the French-American Chamber of Commerce (Northern Ohio Chapter). She is also a part-time instructor of French legal and commercial translation at Kent State University. Contact: clh@apk.net.

Hana Laurenzo, a Czech—English translator, is the founder and operations director of Teneo Linguistics Company in Fort Worth, Texas. She also teaches a class on the fundamentals of foreign language interpreting at Texas Christian University, Fort Worth. She is a former interpreter to the European Commission in Brussels. She has a master’s degree in translation and interpreting from Charles University, Prague. Contact: hana@tlctranslation.com.

George Rimalower is the president and chief executive officer of ISI Language Services in Los Angeles, which he founded in 1981. He developed the Interpreter Training and Assessment Program, a language assessment and training program used by health care organizations to enable effective communication with the non-English-speaking population. He is a native Spanish-speaker who was educated in the U.S. and Argentina. He is certified as an interpreter by the State of California. He is fluent in English, Spanish, and German. Contact: grimalower@isitrans.com.

Kara Warburton has an MA in terminology and a BA in translation from Laval University in Canada. She has held various positions as a technical writer, translator, and terminologist. For nearly 10 years, she has spearheaded the implementation of a terminology management strategy within IBM, and has been involved in the development of standards (including TermBase eXchange) and best practices. She teaches terminology management at York University, Toronto. Contact: kara@ca.ibm.com.

It’s time to attend the 49th Annual Conference
American Translators Association
Orlando, Florida
November 5 – 8, 2008
Visit www.atanet.org/conf/2008 for all the latest details!
The sixth and last objective of ATA's bylaws is to “promote professional and social relations among its members.” The upcoming ATA Annual Conference in Orlando is a great opportunity to do just that. Traditionally the largest gathering of translators and interpreters in the world, the conference provides a unique opportunity to network with your peers and existing or potential clients, to meet old friends and make new ones, and to get away from the computer screen and socialize.

This year’s conference will provide ample networking opportunities. Start off with the Opening Reception on Wednesday, and make sure to attend the Network Nibble on Thursday by one of the hotel’s two pools, where you can enjoy drinks, great food, and a big crowd of fellow members. Just bring your business cards and a good attitude. For the reclusive among us, this event is a challenge to our social skills and our natural tendency to enjoy solitude. LinkedIn, MySpace, and other social networks are great networking tools, but no substitute for schmoozing. It is very different to meet people in person. Here are some tips on how to schmooze successfully:

- Schmoozing is a contact sport. You have to get out there and talk and (more importantly) listen to people.

- Ask a question and stop talking. Listen. Good conversationalists do not talk a lot; they give others the opportunity to talk.

- Do not talk shop only. Find out what you have in common with your conversation partner. Share your passions.

- Make it easy to follow up—exchange business cards. Write notes on the business cards you receive to help you remember the conversations you had.

- Give—and return—favors. Help others. Networking is not about what others can do for you, but what you can do for others.

- Be positive. Do not speak ill of the competition. Do not criticize the food, other people, or services. A networking reception is not a complaint fest.

- Leave your BlackBerry or cell phone in your hotel room.

- Meet new people. Get out of your comfort zone and do not just talk to people you already know.

- Watch the interpreters—they are usually good schmoozers.

- Have fun!

There will be plenty of opportunities to meet people besides the Opening Reception and Network Nibble. Attend division events. The Translation Company Division (TCD) has organized the TCD Dessert Reception, immediately following the Opening Reception. Think this is for company owners only? Think again! If you are a freelancer, where else can you meet so many potential clients in the same room? Many other divisions have their events on Thursday and Friday, so attend as many as you can. By the time the Closing Reception comes around, you should be a professional schmoozer. And do not forget to network outside of organized events. Talk to people at breakfast and during breaks. Say hello to people on the elevator.

ATA’s Annual Conference is not the only opportunity to network and schmooze. Divisions and local chapters organize events throughout the year, as do our sister organizations. Check out ATA’s Calendar of Events to see what is going on (www.atanet.org/calendar). Get involved. You will like it. It is good for you and your business.
At its July meeting in Washington, DC, ATA’s Board of Directors approved the 2008-2009 operating budget in the amount of $2,822,898. ATA’s fiscal year runs from July 1 to June 30. As you may recall, I requested that the Board approve a working budget at the meeting preceding the Board meeting at which the final budget is approved. The Board approved this request at the beginning of my present tour of duty as your treasurer. This interval allows for discussion of the proposed budget and for changes. However, there were only a few changes this year; in particular, it is important to note that many members of ATA requested that the strong support for *The ATA Chronicle* be maintained. The charts below give you an indication of how ATA plans to gain and spend its funds during the 2008-2009 fiscal year.

At the present time, the CPA firm of LarsonAllen is beginning the process of auditing ATA’s financial position for the fiscal year from July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008. Last year, we received this CPA firm’s highest rating for the quality of our financial operation, and I am confident we will match that performance again in this audit.

As always in the past, I appreciate ATA Accounting Manager Kirk Lawson’s and ATA Executive Director Walter Bacak’s support and your suggestions, particularly as they pertain to budget items you believe should be considered for the 2009-2010 budget.

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### Budget Summary FY 2008-09

**Revenue (in thousands)**

- *The ATA Chronicle*: $146
- Certification: $200
- Conference: $646
- Professional Development: $80
- Membership: $1,707
- Conference: $646
- Total Operating Revenues: $2,822,898

**Expenses (in thousands)**

- *The ATA Chronicle*: $534
- Certification: $146
- Conference: $201
- Professional Development: $88
- Publications: $88
- Divisions: $201
- Officers & Directors: $55
- Volunteers & Governance: $376
- Committees: $49
- Mentor: $3
- Members & Directors: $233
- Administrative: $486
- General: $534
- Total Operating Expenses: $2,756,430

*Overhead was distributed across program services.

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**Check out the ATA Job Bank!**

Find the perfect job. Make the perfect hire.

Check out this easy-to-use online service designed to help connect translators, interpreters, and project managers to new employment opportunities. Visit [www.atanet.org/jobbank](http://www.atanet.org/jobbank)!
The ATA 49th Annual Conference in Orlando, November 5-8, is upon us. When you attend an ATA Annual Conference you will learn from some of the most knowledgeable and experienced presenters. You will network. You will test drive the latest time-saving translation tools. And, you will see where the jobs are.

Last year’s ATA Annual Conference in San Francisco set an attendance record. Given the turbulent economic times, it is no surprise that registration for this year’s conference in Orlando is down. The natural response for many of us has been to curtail spending. Do not lose focus on the bigger picture. There is a real need to continue to invest in your business and stay informed. Knowing what others are doing, where the jobs are, which marketing techniques work, and how to maximize efficiency is crucial to your success, and ATA is the information source for your profession.

For independent contractors and company owners alike, ATA membership is not a discretionary expense. It is essential to success in this market. If you are unable to attend this year’s conference in Orlando, you can still benefit educationally from the meeting through the conference DVD, which includes the audio of many conference presentations and the accompanying handouts. The Conference Proceedings is also available. You can take advantage of your ATA membership by ordering them at discounted ATA-member rates. (Please see www.atanet.org/conf/2008 for more information.)

Thank you for being an ATA member.

ATA Election Reminder

This year, four directors’ positions and several proposed bylaw revisions are on the ballot. The proxy materials have been mailed to all ATA voting members. You can vote either in person at the Annual Conference in Orlando or by proxy. Voting instructions are provided in the proxy materials. For all the election information, please check out www.atanet.org/membership/election2008.php. Thank you for voting.

Happy Anniversary!

Congratulations to the following organizations on reaching these milestones this fall.

• The ATA Translation Company Division is celebrating its 10th anniversary.
• The Northwest Translators and Interpreters Society is celebrating its 20th anniversary.
• The Northern California Translators Association is celebrating its 30th anniversary.

Thanks to all the volunteers who have helped these organizations over the years.
ATA Recruiting Volunteers for Red Cross
ATA—American Red Cross Partnership for Preparedness

In partnership with the American Red Cross (ARC), ATA is recruiting volunteers from its membership to serve as interpreters during disaster relief operations. ATA participating volunteers have the opportunity to serve in a variety of positions: some will serve regionally in response to local emergencies, while others will work as part of a team deploying to major disasters, such as hurricanes. All volunteers receive training in disaster services/community relations.

The ATA-ARC partnership is a special opportunity for ATA interpreters and translators to use their professional skills for the greater good. To learn more about becoming a volunteer for the Red Cross, visit www.atanet.org/red_cross.

Don’t get hung out to dry
Tips for cleaning up your online profile

A listing in ATA’s online Directory of Translation and Interpreting Services or the Directory of Language Services Companies can be one of your most valuable member benefits. With more than two-million plus hits in 2007, consumers and businesses have clearly learned to look at ATA’s directories first when shopping for professional translation and interpreting services.

Six Tips to Help You Make Contact

1. Check spelling, grammar, and punctuation.
2. Update your contact information, especially your e-mail address and phone numbers.
3. Use the “Additional Information” field, noting education and career experiences, unusual specialties, and any dialects you can handle. By using a “keyword” search, clients can find your services based on a set of very specific skills and experience.
4. List your areas of specialization.
5. Review your listing monthly to experiment with different wording or add new information that may set you apart from others.
6. List non-English-to-non-English language combinations, such as Portuguese into Spanish and French into Italian.

Make those updates online at www.atanet.org/onlinedirectories/update_profile.php.
Henry Fischbach, co-founder, charter member, and honorary member of the American Translators Association and the last surviving signatory of its Articles of Incorporation, passed away on September 25, 2008.

Born in Vienna, Austria, Henry moved to the U.S. with his family at the age of seven, only to return to Europe a few years later. He attended French Lycée in Belgium and, upon moving back to the U.S., earned a degree in comparative linguistics and pre-med studies from Columbia University. He was involved with scientific and technical translation for over 50 years, including several years with the U.S. government during World War II in its overseas news operations.

Upon his return to the U.S. after the war, he joined Lewis Bertrand Languages in 1947, where he attained the position of general manager before he left in 1950 to establish his own translation bureau, The Language Service.

Henry served as president (1965-1967) and vice-president of ATA, as a director for over 25 years, as vice-president of the American Foundation for Translation and Interpretation, and as ATA’s representative to the Fédération Internationale des Traducteurs (FIT). He also served as FIT’s vice-president and chairman of its Technical and Scientific Translators Committee.

Henry was certified by ATA for translation from French, German, Spanish, and Portuguese into English, and was equally competent in Italian and Dutch. He initiated or spearheaded many of ATA’s important programs and undertakings, essentially shaping the Association as it exists today. He was instrumental in establishing ATA’s Accreditation (now Certification) Program, in writing ATA’s Bylaws and Ethics Code, and in organizing and promoting its conferences. He chaired countless committees and presented sessions on medical translation, translators’ business practices, and other topics.

Henry was the recipient of ATA’s Alexander Gode Medal for service to the profession and the Goldene Ehrennadel for “exceptional merit” from BDÜ (the German Association of Translators and Interpreters). He was a member of the American Chemical Society and the American Medical Writers Association, as well as one of the founders and two-term president of the Interlingua Institute.

Henry was a prolific author of articles on medical translation and a frequent presenter, moderator, or panelist on medical and scientific translation. In 1998, he was guest editor of Volume X: Translation and Medicine in the ATA Scholarly Monograph Series. His articles were published in the Bulletin of the Medical Library Association, Advances in Chemistry Series, and other professional journals. He contributed to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization compendium on sci-tech translations and to the official discussions preparatory to the adoption of the Nairobi Recommendation to promote translator rights and qualifications.

Henry was a mentor and role model to a generation of translators. He was a principled advocate of translators’ rights and promoter of the highest standards of professionalism. He not only employed translators, but educated and nurtured them. Upon learning about his death, several “old-timers” came forward to share their reminiscences about him. They were unanimous in mentioning his uncompromising quality standards as a translator and editor, known for not only pointing out errors and inelegancies in translations submitted to him, but also for generously praising a well-turned phrase or a creative solution to a difficult translation problem. They also remember him as the perfect gentleman of the old European tradition, always courteous and soft-spoken, even when fiercely defending a principle or an important project.

As a leader in translation compensation in the U.S., Henry’s bureau, The Language Service, was able to recruit the best medical-pharmaceutical translators and to charge premium prices for its translations. By the time of Henry’s retirement in 2005, The Language Service was the oldest translation bureau in the U.S. operated by its original translator owner, with an impeccable reputation as a provider of quality and service among its clients and as a fair and generous, albeit demanding, client among translators.

Henry was predeceased by his wife of 62 years, Stefi, and is survived by their daughter Monica and her partner Stephanie, son Peter, daughter-in-law Pattawan, and two granddaughters, Chalalai and Saranya.

I am indebted for the biographical data to Cristina Márquez Arroyo, whose interview with Henry Fischbach was published in the online journal Panace@ (http://tremedica.org/panacea/IndiceGeneral/n25_semblanzas-marquez.pdf), and to numerous colleagues who contributed to this article with their reminiscences (in alphabetical order): Verónica Albin, Bernie Bierman, Helge Guenther, Nicholas Hartmann, Judy Langley, Muriel Jérôme-O’Keeffe, and Meeri Yule.

—Gabe Bokor
SDL TRADOS 2007 Freelance is the world’s leading translation memory software, delivering industry standard technology to accelerate translation project creation, editing, review and delivery. Translation jobs can now be completed faster, allowing you to earn more business than ever before.

What is SDL TRADOS Technologies and what is translation memory?
SDL TRADOS Technologies develops Computer-Aided Translation (CAT) software tools. CAT is a form of translation where a human translator translates texts using computer software designed to support and facilitate the translation process. Translation memory is at the heart of our technology.

Translation memories can aid the localization process by storing all of your previous translations for future reuse. The result is that the same sentence never needs to be translated twice, improving efficiency and allowing you to accept more work and increase your revenue.

We have created the SDL Trados 2007 Freelance Return-on-Investment (ROI) Calculator to show the financial benefits of using translation memory technology. Visit our exclusive page forreaders of The ATA Chronicle, www.sdl.com/atachronicle, and try the ROI Calculator for a personalized estimation of how much SDL Trados 2007 Freelance could be worth to you! You can also view the new SDL Trados 2007 Freelance flash demo from this page for a four minute overview of the key applications in the software.

NEW! Project preparation, management and tracking made easy
SDL Trados 2007 Freelance includes the new SDL Trados Synergy dashboard, which helps to automate project tasks and control deadlines.

The dashboard is a powerful application beneficial to both translators and project managers. It considerably reduces translation project preparation time, file review and project scheduling.

With the SDL TRADOS Synergy dashboard, all projects, languages, files, and deadlines can be managed from one centralized location.

Some of the key innovations include:

- Automated project preparation with multiple files and languages processed simultaneously via a quick and easy-to-use wizard, thus cutting the time it takes to set-up new projects.
- A comprehensive dashboard displaying up-to-the-minute information on customer projects, including key milestones and current project status information, allowing you to deliver your projects on time.
- Automated quality assurance checks on batches of files.
- Sequencing multiple translation memories to increase the flexibility, performance, and quality of your translation projects.

SDL Trados Synergy brings the ability to work seamlessly and efficiently with your customers and other translators through SDL Package technology. Additionally, full support for SDL TMS guarantees compatibility with the translation supply chain of over 170,000 users without the risk of losing any information, translation asset leveraging, tagging or formatting.

How does SDL Trados 2007 Freelance work?
As well as the central dashboard, SDL Trados 2007 Freelance combines the latest versions of SDL Trados applications to create a flexible and powerful translation environment.
Translator’s Workbench: A sophisticated database built around translation memory—the method of capturing, storing and reusing translations. It supports interactive translation through editing environments, such as TagEditor, and works with SDL MultiTerm to provide direct access to terminology.

TagEditor: The key format-independent editing environment, which supports all of the leading file formats, including Office 2007 file formats (DOCX/XLSX/ PPTX), XML, HTML and Adobe InDesign CS3. During translation, TagEditor protects file structure and formatting, allowing the translator to focus solely on the text for translation.

SDLX: An alternative translation environment providing side-by-side editing. SDLX is an easy-to-use translation tool that contains all the functionality required to accelerate completion of high quality projects.

SDL MultiTerm: The terminology management tool within SDL Trados 2007 Freelance. It interacts with Translator’s Workbench to automatically populate translations with the correct terminology to ensure consistency and quality. It is also possible to add terminology to SDL MultiTerm during the translation process.

WinAlign: Leverages previously translated material to quickly build new translation memories by “aligning” old translated files with their equivalent source files.

Guaranteed translation quality: The new quality assurance functionality of SDL Trados 2007 Freelance is set to change the quality checking standards within the translation memory arena. New built-in translation and terminology checks have been added and any number of user-defined checks can be set up to search for particular quality criteria.

SDL Trados, offering more than just a product
SDL TRADOS Technologies is committed to supporting continuous professional development in the translation community. Our extensive and varied range of free educational webinars includes sessions on how to use SDL TRADOS tools and presentations hosted by industry experts on a variety of translation topics.

In addition, SDL TRADOS® Certification, the industry’s premier technology-based professional training program, has been created to develop and validate expertise in the use of SDL TRADOS translation software. Over 90 universities worldwide have included SDL TRADOS Certification in their curriculums to build their students’ knowledge in SDL Trados 2007 Freelance, as well as increase their marketability in the workplace after graduation. Hundreds of students all over the world continue to study for this professional training program that has been hailed as an established standard in the translation industry.

As part of our commitment to improving your experience with SDL TRADOS solutions, a suggestions portal, http://ideas.sdltrados.com, has been created so that customers can suggest and vote for new product features. Please visit http://ideas.sdltrados.com today to help shape future releases!

Finally, if you would like to learn more about SDL TRADOS Technologies, you can visit our exclusive page: www.sdl.com/atachronicle. Here you will find a flash demo and ROI Calculator so you can see for yourself how SDL Trados 2007 could save time and help you earn more money. You will also find further information about our products, training courses, SDL TRADOS Certification, and a special offer for readers of The ATA Chronicle!

“As a freelance translator, I’m thrilled that SDL TRADOS has developed ideas.sdltrados.com. This website provides us with the opportunity and proper forum to make certain that our ideas on the software are heard.”

Klaus Kurre
Jonathan Hine is best known to readers of The ATA Chronicle for his many conference sessions on business skills for translators, but a 2006 school outreach presentation recently made him a local television celebrity.

Translating Latin During Vatican II
A full-time translator since 1985, Hine translated his first book in 1962. As an adolescent altar boy, he translated Latin for American bishops attending Vatican Council II in Rome, and later used his French and Italian skills during a career in the U.S. Navy.

Now at Scriptor Services, LLC in Charlottesville, Virginia, Hine works with his colleague Hillary Hall, translating from Italian and French into English and specializing in finance and law. They also work as consultants, evaluating translator and interpreter training programs and intercultural business activity. An active member of ATA, Hine has presented at numerous conferences and has become an energetic advocate for language careers in local schools.

Golden Opportunity
In 2005 and 2006, Hine and his Scriptor Services colleagues staffed a table at Charlottesville’s Seventh...
Grade Career Fair, providing information on translation and interpreting careers to 2,500-5,000 students each time. In November 2006, the local vocational-technical center invited Hine to tape a school outreach presentation in its television studio as part of a longer program on a variety of careers. Intended for one-time broadcast on public access television in January 2007, the program was also slated for transfer to DVD and distribution to middle and high school guidance counselors in Charlottesville and the surrounding counties. It was a golden opportunity to reach a large audience through a single presentation, and Hine jumped at the chance.

“I downloaded Barbara Bell’s slides from ATA’s School Outreach website. I used that as the basic framework and supplemented it with material I had assembled for other local presentations,” he said. “Although there were only 10 students in the television audience, it was never meant to stop there.” It didn’t.

“I saw you on TV”

Once the lively 40-minute presentation had been recorded, it ran on the local public access television channel. And ran. And ran. “The TV station accost me with ‘I saw you on TV the other day.’”

So many people saw the presentation that Hine has become a local translation and interpreting resource, and the Charlottesville Chamber of Commerce has recently added a new category for translation and interpreting to its online directory.

Hine’s vo-tech appearance has led to even more school outreach opportunities. In January 2007, the Virginia Education Career Foundation (VECF) asked him to participate in Commonwealth Scholars, an eighth-grade outreach program that encourages students to broaden their career opportunities by choosing the most demanding high school courses—including languages. Sponsored by the VECF and the U.S. Department of Education, the program reaches more than 800 Virginia eighth graders annually.

Suddenly the Lights Come On

“In Fall 2008, we expect to repeat the Seventh Grade Career Fair and the Commonwealth Scholars program,” says Hine. “When we participate in these larger programs, that lets the teachers know I’m available as a resource. Then I can do what I really like, which is getting into the classroom and talking to the students directly.” He clearly finds the contact rewarding. “I tell bilingual stu-
School Outreach Profile: Jonathan Hine Continued

...dents they have an edge, and suddenly the lights come on.”

“It’s good exposure for ATA and the profession,” Hine continues. “Students who want to pursue language-oriented careers will be looking for translation and interpreting programs. This will put pressure on schools to deliver what students want. Eventually, demand will drive supply. But even if they don’t wind up as translators or interpreters, I want them to understand the value of being able to work in two languages.”

Hine will be making two presentations at this year’s ATA Annual Conference in Orlando. See the conference program and visit www.atanet.org/conf/2008 for details.

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Now Open

2008–2009

ATA School Outreach Contest

Make a School Outreach presentation this year, and you could win free registration to ATA’s 50th Annual Conference in New York City, October 28 – 31, 2009. Here’s how to enter.


2. Click on Presentation Resource Materials and choose the age level you like the best. Download a presentation, or use the resources on the School Outreach website to round out your own material.

3. Make a presentation on translation and/or interpreting careers at a school or university anywhere in the world between August 18, 2008 and July 20, 2009.

4. Get someone to take a picture of you in the classroom. For tips on getting a winning shot, visit the School Outreach Photo Gallery on ATA’s website at www.atanet.org/ata_school/photo_gallery.php.

5. Send your picture electronically to pr@atanet.org using the subject line “School Outreach Contest,” or mail your entry to ATA, 225 Reinekers Lane, Suite 590, Alexandria, VA 22314. Please include: your name and contact information; the date of your presentation; the school’s name and location; and a brief description of the class. You may submit multiple entries.

The deadline for submissions is midnight on July 20, 2009.

The winner will be contacted no later than August 17, 2009. You must be a member of ATA or an ATA-affiliated organization to enter.
What’s New?

Check out ATA’s Translator Earnings Calculator on ATA’s website ...


For the latest information about ATA’s 49th Annual Conference, visit
www.atanet.org/conf/2008

Synch View

www.star-transit.net

Looking for a business partner in Japanese translation?

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American Translators Association
49th Annual Conference
Orlando, FL
www.atanet.org/conf/2008

November 21-23, 2008
American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages
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www.acflt.org

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Gerald Geiger
Chevalier de la Legion d’Honneur
Chevy Chase, Maryland
Translation is not simply a matter of transcribing text from a source language into a target language. From inception to delivery, it is a complex process of multiple steps involving numerous professionals. Linguists and other specialists are tasked with providing accurate, linguistically correct, and culturally appropriate translations. Clients who understand this process can help ensure that translated documents successfully communicate their message to their target audience.

The Translation Team

Whether 500 words or five million words, the translation project should pass through a number of experts as it is checked, double checked, and triple checked on its way to the client. These experts include a project manager, translators, editors, terminology managers, desktop publishing support, and proofreaders.

A project’s life begins when it is assigned to a project manager. A project manager is much like an orchestra conductor. The conductor must effectively communicate the notes, music, and tempo of any given piece to orchestra members. Project managers do the same with their team members. They must not only communicate clearly with other team members, but with clients and sales staff as well.

Project managers must analyze how the source document is presented (e.g., InDesign, FrameMaker, HTML) and pay close attention to such specifications as content, volume, target languages, matches from the translation memory, subject matter, formatting requirements, target audience, and turnaround time. Based on an initial analysis, the project manager creates a quote for the client’s approval. Upon client approval, the project manager selects the members of the project team. It is crucial that the project analysis be precise to ensure the accuracy of the cost estimate and the schedule. The project manager’s ability to pick the right team members, understand client needs, create realistic deadlines, and price a job correctly is critical to the success of the project.

Ideally, project managers should hold advanced degrees in project management or language sciences. They should be bilingual, not necessarily because they will be translating projects themselves, but because their multilingual experience will provide them with a certain sensitivity to bilingual documentation. Project managers need to be flexible because project hitches are part of the business. Other attributes of a successful project manager include being a team leader, technology savvy and a detail-oriented perfectionist.

The Life Cycle of a Translation Project

By George Rimalower
Linguists

Linguists’ skills must always be tested for language competency. This is a priority, especially when adding to a company’s translator pool. Ideally, linguists should have a degree and be native speakers of a target language. For example, if the target audience is Spanish speakers, the translator’s native language should be Spanish. If the target audience is comprised of English speakers, the translator’s native language should be English.

It is common for linguists to have advanced degrees in engineering, law, medicine, or other disciplines and to specialize in those fields. Specialization is invaluable. For example, if a health care document needs to be translated into simplified Chinese, the project manager should be able to select a linguist who has a background in medical documentation and who can translate Chinese into the localized terminology of the target audience.

Advances in translation industry technology often require linguists to be skilled in desktop publishing tools such as QuarkXpress, InDesign, and PageMaker. Additionally, experience with translation management systems and computer-aided translation tools is a crucial prerequisite.

Translation companies will often give a linguist a mix of translating, editing, and proofreading projects so that their focus remains fresh. Translators and editors, however, play a different role in the process.

Translations

The second stop for the translation project is the translator. Translators are experts in grammar, terminology, punctuation, hyphenation, syntax, and spelling in both the source and target languages. Translators know subject-specific vocabulary and how to confront the linguistic challenges presented by colloquialisms and slang.

Many times, a source document is not created with translation in mind. Translators must be able to address words or phrases that cannot be translated literally. In other cases, the translator will notice a flaw in the source language—a typo or poor punctuation that could result in an ambiguous translation. The translator must share these observations with the project manager, who will, in turn, share them with the client.

Every detail of the project must be discussed. For example, the team needs to decide how measurements, currencies, colors, graphics, icons, and dates will be displayed. If the target audience is in the U.S., clients will often ask the translator to adhere to U.S. rules of usage, regardless of whether the target language uses a different format.

Industries have their own highly stylized jargon and acronyms. For a faster translation process, clients should provide a glossary of industry jargon, company-specific terminology, and a list of acronyms with phrases or names spelled out.

Editors

The third stop in a project’s life cycle is the editor’s desk. Editors review the translator’s work to give it a linguistic fine-tuning. Editors check for appropriate cultural adaptations and seek to strengthen the document’s integrity and text flow. The editor also compares the source document with the target document to make sure there are no omissions.

Editors should always work using a “track changes” feature, such as the one available in MS Word. That way, project managers know what changes have been made so they can compare the editor’s changes with the translator’s copy. The translator and editor should work independently of each other. Any communication between the two should go through the project manager so that the project manager can keep any bruised egos caused by editorial changes at bay.

Terminology Management

The fourth stop for the translation project is the technology department. Translation management software (TMS) is especially helpful with ongoing clients. Once a translation is as perfect as it can be, it is fed into the TMS tool. For example, after a translator has completed the translation of a 200-page evidence of coverage document for a health care plan and the document has been edited, reviewed, and proofread, it is then entered into the TMS database. If, in the future, the client updates any part of the document, the TMS software automatically identifies segments requiring new translation and finds matches for previously translated segments, thus saving the client time and maintaining quality and consistency. The software also includes the ability to create a client-specific glossary of frequently translated acronyms and industry terminology for faster and more accurate translations.

A project manager is much like an orchestra conductor.
Desktop Publishing

The fifth stop for the project is to a member of the desktop publishing team. His or her job is to mirror the source document design, which often includes finding solutions to tricky design issues. For example, a common translation problem is text expansion. An English source document expands by 25% when it is translated into Spanish; and as much as 30% when it is translated into Vietnamese. Sometimes the client needs to keep the translated document to one page (often required by law). In these cases, desktop team members must be creative. They may reduce kerning, font size, and decrease margins so the document can fit. If a client knows the document will be translated, they can create the source language document in a font that can be reduced, if necessary, or create more white space around the text to allow for text expansion.

Proofreader

The proofreader is the last stop on the project’s journey. Proofreaders look for dropped diacriticals such as accent marks and make sure word-wraps are correct. In other words, proofreaders

It is crucial that the project analysis be precise to ensure the accuracy of the cost estimate and the schedule.
dot the i’s and cross the t’s before the project is delivered to the client.

**Ensuring Successful Translations**

The life cycle of a translation project may seem time consuming and redundant, but failing to follow the proper steps may result in a host of problems, including:

- Failure to capture the connotative meaning of the original text.
- Awkward translations.
- Insensitive translations that offend the target audience.
- Literal translations that fail to convey the intended information to a confused reader.
- Improper translation of data, giving the client inaccurate information.

We all have seen translation disasters—installation instructions, product warnings, and signage. At best, they are confusing (sometimes comical), but as translation companies translate more and more critical documents, there can be no margin for error. By following these steps and using a strong translation team, costly mistakes for both the translation company as well as the client can be avoided.

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Your reference material now has even more value. Dual Fuzzy logic in Transit NXT not only takes account of the source text when searching for translation suggestions, it now also looks at the target text.

Transit NXT suggests sentences from existing translations. The innovation here is the Dual Fuzzy principle, which means that Transit NXT searches both the source and the target language for similar sentences. This means that two sentences which have the same basic meaning but are differently formulated can be assigned a single translation. If no matches are found in the source text, Transit NXT searches the target text for similar sentences while the translation is being entered.

In accordance with the new concept of colour coding in Transit NXT, these suggestions appear in the red Fuzzy target window. You can view the translation suggestion in its context at any time with a single click.

From a translator’s viewpoint, this means that you get the maximum benefit from your reference material and do not produce new sentences with the same content.

With the Dual Fuzzy principle, you can benefit from an increase in the consistency and quality of your translations, which is also profitable.
Notes, as an external storage mechanism of our memory, are present in many areas of human activity, from simple shopping lists to sophisticated business note taking systems. Despite this, note taking is sort of a neglected stepchild of consecutive interpreting. As interpreters, we learn early on that taking notes is beneficial, even crucial, to the overall success of our performance and optimal quality of our work for the benefit of the customer, but we are seldom introduced to the various techniques available. Granted, note taking styles differ from person to person. In the absence of any standards or typical schemes to follow, individuals develop their own technique and style. The problem with this is that we tend to develop habits that might make our interpreting more difficult and less effective, and, in some cases, nearly impossible. The main problems we typically see include:

- Writing too much.
- Writing unstructured notes.
- Noting words instead of ideas.
- Using nonstandard abbreviations, which are difficult to decipher when we look at our notes later.
- Taking notes on random or loose pieces of paper.

This article, although by no means exhaustive, includes some basic information and tips to better your note taking technique.

**The Basics**

Structured note taking is suitable for any consecutive interpreting scenario. Although we may have an
Taking notes shows your client that you are doing everything you can to deliver the message in the target language accurately and completely.

Chances are one or two of them will not work, so you will need a backup.

Notes Are Not Everything
Do not rely solely on your notes. An interpreter should first and foremost rely on his or her memory, the capacity of which can be strengthened through the use of proper visualization techniques. (See the links on page 29 for more information on memory training techniques.) Let us remember that, to a certain degree, note taking interferes with listening. Active listening, of course, is the cornerstone of proper interpreting. You must first hear and understand the message within a specific context to be able to interpret it effectively. Therefore, writing a minimum amount of notes as opposed to writing almost everything is key.

To maximize the success of your interpreting performance and to minimize the need for taking notes, request background materials from the client so you can study them ahead of time and research the topic. Aside from being able to do a better job overall, you will enjoy a boost in your confidence and the feeling of having things under control. It is also a good idea to try to have a short conversation with the speaker before the start of the event. This is an excellent way to “tune” your ear to the speaker’s accent and intonation to enhance your listening experience, while finding out more about the speaker’s message.

The Language of Our Notes
Most interpreters prefer writing notes in the target language. Writing notes in the original language works just as well for others. Just avoid mixing the languages and using both, which, in an already stressful situation, can cause you to forget which language you are interpreting into.

Find Out What Suits You
There is no unified note taking system to suit everyone’s needs. Since everybody’s memory works differently, has varied capacity, and stores information using different methods, it would be impossible to come up with a one-size-fits-all approach. Every interpreter eventually comes up with his or her own system, solidified through practice and experience, and finds out what impulses trigger retrieval of stored information from memory.

Notes Are Just for You
Contrary to popular belief, the notes you write are not intended for use by other interpreters or clients. Notes are written in a personalized way and are often illegible to others, and that is just fine. As long as you can read and understand them, there is no need for anyone else to be able to decipher your writing.

Why Take Notes?
Interpreting works best when we let the speaker deliver a mean-
Note Taking for Consecutive Interpreting Continued

ingful chunk of speech, preferably two or more sentences. As interpreters, we need enough material to work with, to recognize context, and to be able to deliver the message properly in the target language. The longer the chunks of speech, the bigger the need for taking notes. Taking notes also helps the conversation flow with the least possible disruption.

At the same time, you should not fixate on using notes. When you take notes but feel you can deliver without them, do not use them. On the other hand, take notes when you interpret about a subject that is new to you. Memory associates with prior experience and knowledge. The fewer associations there are, the more difficult it is to remember and the more notes you will need to take.

Note Taking Structure

The most widely used note taking structure is based on the work of Jean Francois Rozan. His method abstracts the source-language message into a symbolic form. Very few words are written down, and the focus is on ideas, or concepts, rather than words. This way, key words are identified, which will eventually trigger the memory of the entire concept. The most important techniques used in this method are:

- To write down key concepts and words diagonally across the page, from left to right.
- To use indentation, spacing, and vertical organization of words and symbols.

Notes written this way:

- Are easier to read as our eyes move naturally from left to right.
- Have an at-a-glance, simple to follow structure.
- Place the beginning of each concept on the left, where we will see it first.
- Eliminate syntactic interference in the target language (frequently the result of horizontal notes).
- Provide space for additional notes.

For example, the sentence “The police arrested a drug smuggler,” noted diagonally across the page, would look like Figure 1.

Notice how easy it would be to expand on the sentence and include more notes when this diagonal structure is used. If our sentence changed to “The Police, together with the Port Authority, arrested drug smugglers, thieves, and suspected terrorists,” the notes would look like Figure 2.

Similar “skeleton” sentences are typically all you need to keep track of what is being said. For easier orientation, the individual concepts can be separated on the page using a horizontal line, as shown in Figure 3 on page 27.

Link Words

Logical connectors, called “links,” connect and clarify individual concepts or ideas. It is a good idea to draw a vertical line about an inch from the left side of your notepad and write such link words to the left of the line, while noting the subject-verb-object (S-V-O) concepts to the right of it. For example, typical link words, in their abbreviated form, include:

- COS because
- THO although, despite
- TO (in order) to, so that
- Eg for example
- + in addition, not only, also
- B but, however, in spite of this
- _ consequently, this means that, the result is

Figure 4 on page 27 shows an example of using link word abbreviations.

Using Symbols

Symbols are pictures, letters, and words that represent something. Rather than individual words, symbols typically represent ideas or concepts. Symbols are quick and easy to write. On a page with notes, they are easy to see and easy to read. Symbols can be used instead of verbs, nouns,
and recurring ideas. Examples include:

Verbs

♥ (want, desire)
>> (suggest, propose)

Nouns

O (world, planet)
$ (money)
→ (consequence, result)

For example, to represent recurring ideas in a speech about Rotary Clubs in Texas, the interpreter could come up with two simple symbols, such as RC and TX, to save time when writing notes. Limited to one particular speech, the RC symbol will not be confused with anything else, while TX can be used at any time to denote Texas.

One of the most versatile symbols is the arrow, which is used more frequently than most other symbols. Some examples of its use include:

↑ (increase, rise, grow, etc.)
↓ (decrease, fall, decline, drop, etc.)
⇒ (leads to, consequence of, therefore)
⇐ (return, come back, reverse)

You must first hear and understand the message within a specific context to be able to interpret effectively.

The arrow can modify meaning in many different scenarios. Figure 5 on page 28 uses examples taken from Jean Francois Rozan’s pivotal work, *Note-taking in Consecutive Interpreting*. (Note: The word the arrow designates appears in bold.)

Figure 6 in page 28 shows more symbols you can use for various concepts.

Take-home Tips

Here is a rundown of some basic tips highlighting the areas covered in this article.

Use Symbols

1. Figure out which symbols work for you and practice using them in advance of the assignment. Never improvise during the speech.

2. Symbols must be clear and easy to draw.

3. Be consistent when using symbols. If “I” denotes “industry,” do not use “I” somewhere else in your notes to stand for “international.”

4. Symbols create associations in your mind, so have a set of symbols that you have made your own. Since we are all unique, with different educational backgrounds and life experiences, no one’s system will be exactly alike.

5. Note the degrees of importance of the symbols you use through underlining. For example:
Note Taking for Consecutive Interpreting Continued

Figure 5

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>a country’s development</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>duties</td>
<td>an increase in duties</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>science</td>
<td>scientific progress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>patient</td>
<td>the patient’s recovery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>salaries</td>
<td>a rise in salaries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>living stand</td>
<td>an improvement in the standard of living</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>prices</td>
<td>Inflated prices</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

increase

sharp increase, jump (for instance in prices)

dramatic rise, skyrocket

. . . faltering, unsteady rise

Write Down the Most Important Items
1. Title of the speech (if any).
2. Ideas and concepts, rather than words.
3. Link words.
4. Modal words and verb tenses.
5. Who the speaker is, proper names, numbers, dates, and lists.
6. Terms and words about which you are unsure (and that you might be able to decode from further context).
7. The last sentence (punch line).

Figure 6

People:

😊 (Pleased, happy)
😊 (Annoyed, unhappy)
😊 (Very unhappy, disgusted)

Mathematics:

+ (addition to)
- (less)
% (percentage)
< (less than)
> (greater than)
= (equal to)

Geography:

N (North)
S (South)
E (East)
W (West)

Currencies:

$ (dollars)
£ (pounds)
Rs (rupees)
€ (euros)

Keyboard:

@ (at)
# (number)
& (and)
% (percent)
© (copyright)
® (trademark)

Country codes:

D (Germany)
UK (United Kingdom)
F (France)
PL (Poland)
DA (Denmark)
CH (China)
CAN (Canada)

Currency codes:

SFR (Swiss franc)
USD (U.S. dollar)
DEM (German mark)
AUD (Australian dollar)
GBP (pound sterling)
JPY (yen)
CZK (Czech koruna)

Text message shorthand:

RU (are you)
OK
2 (to)
U (you)
4ever (forever)
B/C (because)
b4 (before)

Chemical symbols:

CO (carbon monoxide)
H₂O (water)
Na (sodium)
Fe (iron)
CO₂ (carbon dioxide)

Use Effective Note Taking Techniques
1. Practice on written text first, getting your mind used to noting the S-V-O structure.
2. Make a deliberate effort to locate parts of the speech that you will be able to recall fairly easily using minimal notes.
3. Review your notes and decide
which parts you could have omitted to still get the same result.

4. Listen to a recorded speech or have someone read a story aloud and take notes, and then try to put the notes aside and see how much you can recall just from your memory. This is a difficult task, but it illustrates how much writing actually interferes with listening.

5. Listen to a different recorded speech and take more notes, making sure to use the correct S-V-O structure, symbols (if applicable), and link words.

I hope that the information provided here will give you a better idea of the note taking process, and that you can use it to organize a system that works best for you.

Notes
1. Rozan, Jean Francois. La prise de notes en interprétation consécutive (Geneva: Georg, 1956), 32.

A frequent theme at information-related conferences and events, such as those hosted by the Localization Industry Standards Association (LISA) and the Society for Technical Communication (STC), is the need to improve the way we manage information in order to optimize its use in the computer medium that is so ubiquitous today. One only has to look at the topics presented at these conferences to find frequent keywords that were rare 10 years ago, such as usability, retrievability, portability, knowledge management, controlled authoring, modular documentation, globalization, localization, repurposing, componentization, on-demand translation, interoperability, consumability, and user experience. Is the information industry rising to meet these challenges?

Although largely ignored by mainstream information professionals, terminology data can play an important role in addressing many of the issues above. XML standards specifically designed for terminology data are needed to support our ability to manage and process terminology itself.

A Changing Work Environment

The changing dynamics of the work environment for communicators is impacting the way we create and manage information. We work in virtual teams and through Web applications, yet we are still expected to “scrum” together to produce “agile help” (or more accurately, “agile user assistance”). More and more people work from a home office, rarely seeing their colleagues. Screencasts, e-meetings, wikis, and blogs are now widely used for collaborating and distributing information. We are also facing new paradigms such as social networking, folksonomies, and crowdsourcing that are changing the

Terminology: A New Challenge for the Information Industry

By Kara Warburton
People’s jobs have changed in response. Technical writers have become “information developers.” In many companies, this role has shifted further, and an information developer is now considered a type of “software developer” or “Web developer.” Translators have become known as “localizers” and even “localization engineers.” New job titles have been coined, such as “information architect” and “user-centered designer,” or the flamboyant “consumability champion.” These shifts did not come about without expectations. Today, technical writers, translators, and other information professionals are required to be highly skilled in information technology.

The Need for a Standard

Information must have two basic properties in order to meet current and future demands. It must be: a) logically structured, and b) machine-readable. The latter is dependent on the former: no information is machine-readable unless it is logically structured. In order for information to be machine-readable, however, its structure must also be predictable. “Granularity” of the structure (how detailed it is) is also important. What is required is a standard “markup format,” a logical “language” for marking up content so that it can be understood and processed by a computer. XML has emerged to address this need, but XML is a machine-readable language for creating standard markup languages; it is not a standard markup language itself.

Once XML became available, information technology professionals quickly defined XML-based standard markup languages for all kinds of different content types. One can well understand that various types of content require different types of markup languages, by virtue of the inherent differences in the nature and structure of the content: invoices, books, online help, contracts, marketing material, financial and personnel records, educational course materials, and so forth.

For authoring, one such markup language is the Darwin Information Typing Architecture (DITA), which was initially developed by IBM and is now an OASIS standard (Organization for the Advancement of Structured Information Standards). For translation, where “translation memories” are recorded in databases to avoid retranslating the same sentences over and over again, we have Translation Memory Exchange (TMX), developed by LISA. (For more information on these standards, please see the links provided on page 34.)

**DITA and TMX**

The DITA and TMX formats are examples of what is typical in the content management industry. They permit content to be structured at the topic and sentence level, with some additional sub-sentence level markup elements to identify “special” pieces of text such as proper names (names of products, services, organizations, publications, etc.), presentational features (bold, italics, etc.), acronyms and abbreviations, non-textual elements such as program code or substitution variables, and words to be indexed. But with markup languages such as these, what is available to ensure that the words and other short expressions people use when developing content are correct and consistent? Almost nothing. Translation memories are only effective for checking the consistency and accuracy of full sentences or sentence fragments such as items in a list (which are sometimes called segments). The content authoring formats are designed for structuring information at the topic, paragraph, or sentence level.

The Need for Consistency

Is consistency and accuracy at the word level even important? Absolutely. Consistency of language (terms and expressions) is recognized by most information professionals as one of the key factors in information clarity and usability. For example, if the name of a product feature on product labeling is different from how it appears in user interfaces or the online help or documentation or marketing material, the user becomes disoriented. If an abbreviation or acronym is used without being spelled out, the message being conveyed to the user can be lost.

Terminology consistency also has an impact on information retrievability through indices, navigation bars, and search engines. Users need to
know what terms to search for to find the information they want. Consistent terminology in the content itself helps to get those key terms imprinted in the user’s head. Furthermore, the terms in the index, navigation bar, and glossary have to be consistent with the terms in the text. In cases where inconsistencies may be unavoidable, such as when two or more synonymous terms are already in use, search engines can be programmed to recognize all synonymous words so that the right content is retrieved regardless of the chosen search term. (This function, called query expansion, requires machine-readable information about synonyms.)

Skeptics concerned about protecting their budget may challenge the scope of this problem. Is it really that much of an issue? Indeed, terminology inconsistencies often go unnoticed or seem to have little impact, particularly in the source language (such as English) of a global company. But studies have shown that terminology inconsistencies multiply in translated texts compared with source-language texts. In some industries, such as the automotive world, terminology inconsistencies and other terminology errors are the most frequently occurring translation errors. In some industries, such as the automotive world, terminology inconsistencies and other terminology errors are the most frequently occurring translation errors. It is common for a single English term to be translated in many different ways. For example, if a concept is expressed inconsistently by two different English terms in a source text, the translated text may have four or more different terms for this same concept. No wonder aspects such as usability, retrievability, and so forth always seem worse in translated information and products compared with the original version. In high-risk industries such as health sciences, engineering, national defense, and law, problems of ambiguity, inconsistency, or imprecision can have serious or disastrous consequences.

In the translation industry, terminology consistency affects not only information quality, but also the bottom line of both the client and the service provider. If two sentences are identical in every respect, except that one uses a different word to express the same concept, what could have been an exact match in the translation memory is now a fuzzy match that requires retranslation and repayment. In industries like software development, the newly translated segment may have to be retested. All this adds cost and can delay the release of the product to the target market.

Driving Consistency Through Terminology

To improve terminology consistency in content authoring and translation, information professionals need to embrace terminology management practices and tools. Developers of XML-based authoring tools are just beginning to look at adding terminology consistency checkers, and an enhancement to DITA for representing terminology is already in the queue at OASIS. Most computer-assisted translation (CAT) tools already have internal functions designed to help improve terminology consistency. However, any function designed to improve and control the use of terminology requires machine-readable data to “teach” the function what is a correct term and what is not.

In some industries, such as the automotive world, terminology inconsistencies and other terminology errors are the most frequently occurring translation errors.

Take controlled authoring as an example. The range of functions required today is much larger than in the past. There was a time when an organization was lucky if it could add its own terms to the spell-checking function within word processors. This was needed to prevent false positives (reporting an error when there was no error). For example, the term “Qshell” is a valid term in the computing industry, but most if not all off-the-shelf spell-checkers would flag it as an error. Many terms that are valid in specialized terminology-rich domains are simply not included in the spell-checkers that are shipped with software applications. Users of standard spell-checkers who work in such domains can experience so many false positives that they find the spell-checking totally unreliable and decide not to use it at all.

Furthermore, standard spell-checkers do not take context into account. For example, IBM has a product called the IBM® WebSphere® Portal Server.1 If someone mistakenly refers to this product as “WebSphere Postal Server,” this error will go undetected by most spell-checkers, even if the
The term “WebSphere Portal Server” is in the spell-checking dictionary, since “postal” is a valid word. Therefore, the functions need to be improved to take context, that is, the surrounding words, into account (e.g., between “WebSphere” and “Server,” the word “Postal” is an error).

A more readily recognized instance of this problem occurs when the spell-checker misses spelling errors that are dependent upon grammar, as in the phrase “The screw is lose.” The problem is that the spell-checker cannot detect that “lose” is a verb and not an adjective, and that this sentence requires an adjective (“loose”). Both words are valid spellings in certain contexts. Most parents have seen this happen when their children use spell-checkers and their writing still contains errors.

Today, controlled authoring is moving beyond spell-checking, and some of the more advanced controlled authoring tools already offer additional functions such as term harvesting, synonym checking, and abbreviation expansion. These functions require some form of grammatical and lexical analysis in addition to back-end terminology dictionaries. Grammatical analysis is required to differentiate among nouns, verbs, and other parts of speech to make the functions effective. Lexical analysis is needed to map inflected forms (such as plural nouns) to their base form. In term harvesting, the software identifies terms in the text. In synonym checking, the software identifies “deprecated” terms and suggests their preferred alternatives. For abbreviation expansion, the software identifies abbreviations, reminds the user

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**Quick Glossary**

**Componentization:** The development of software from reusable components in a standards-based service interface, which allows components to be reused outside their native framework.

**Consumability:** The ease with which a product is embraced by consumers. Consumability combines factors such as usability, appeal, and appropriateness to the target market and consumer needs.

**Controlled authoring:** Authoring according to predefined rules of style and vocabulary.

**Crowd-sourcing:** The act of taking a task traditionally performed by an employee or contractor and outsourcing it to an undefined, generally large group of people in the form of an open call.

**Folksonomy:** A taxonomy, spontaneously generated by a network of users, that is used to organize content.

**Interoperability:** The ability of diverse systems and organizations to work together (inter-operate).

**Knowledge management:** The technologies involved in creating, disseminating, and utilizing knowledge.

**Modular documentation:** Documentation that is comprised of modules that can be assembled into finished documents in different formats such as Web tutorials, online help systems, and printed manuals.

**Repurposing:** The use of content for multiple purposes.

**Social networking:** Communicating through a social structure made of nodes (which are generally individuals or organizations) that are tied by one or more specific type of interdependency, such as values, visions, ideas, financial exchange, friendship, kinship, dislike, conflict, or trade.
to provide the full form, and offers a list of possible full forms for each abbreviation.

The scope of changes in functionality in CAT tools, both current and in progress, has been equally wide-ranging. For example, users of CAT tools need sophisticated functions to check the consistency of terminology across translation memories, an activity that IBM calls “term mining.” Global search-and-replace operations need to be carried out, but with more advanced algorithms and conditions to avoid mis-replacements.

Portability

Today, terminology data also needs to be much more portable than in the past. Years ago, industries and organizations operated in relative silos compared to today, where information is expected to flow seamlessly between not only different computing environments and software applications, but also various suppliers, business partners, and other internal and external stakeholders. Mergers and acquisitions are also creating an immediate need to share information with an organization that was not even part of the picture yesterday. The two aforementioned applications of terminology, controlled authoring and translation, need to react quickly to these changes in the business environment. If an acquired company has rules about terminology in any language, the speed with which the host company can integrate those rules into its environment can make the difference between gaining or losing market share.

There is also a trend toward sharing terminology through community-based portals, such as the Microsoft® Language Portal, or consolidating ter-

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In the translation industry, terminology consistency affects not only information quality, but also the bottom line of both the client and the service provider.

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Want to Learn More?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Darwin Information Typing Architecture</th>
<th>Microsoft Language Portal</th>
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<tr>
<td>EuroTermBank</td>
<td>Society for Technical Communication</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.eurotermbank.com">www.eurotermbank.com</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.stc.org">www.stc.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Organization for the Advancement of Structured Information Standards</td>
<td>TermBase eXchange</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.oasis-open.org/home/index.php">www.oasis-open.org/home/index.php</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.lisa.org/Term-Base-eXchange.32.0.html">www.lisa.org/Term-Base-eXchange.32.0.html</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Localization Industry Standards Association</td>
<td>Translation Memory Exchange</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.lisa.org">www.lisa.org</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.lisa.org/Translation-Memory-e.34.0.html">www.lisa.org/Translation-Memory-e.34.0.html</a></td>
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minology into a “federated system,” where discrete physical databases appear as one virtual database (e.g., EuroTermBank3). These types of initiatives require a common interchange format, and they are expected to become more widespread.

All of these diverse users and applications of terminology require terminology data, and sometimes the demands for data can seem contradictory. For instance, including synonyms with status indicators (preferred, deprecated, etc.) in the source language is obviously essential for controlled authoring applications, but may seem irrelevant to translators and their applications. Therefore, in an enterprise environment, it is essential to adopt a terminology data model that is capable of addressing all of the identified needs.

The Need for a Standard

Terminology data required to support these functions is typically collected over a period of time within an organization, and is stored and managed in a terminology database. The terminology data must be machine-readable in order to be usable. Terminology data coming from various sources will not be interchangeable unless its structure is standardized and predictable. Therefore, a markup language specifically designed for terminology data is needed. The markup language, if founded on recognized principles and standards, can also serve as a data model.

In 2002, LISA published an XML-based terminology markup language (TML) called TermBase eXchange (TBX). TBX has its roots in other standards published by ISO Technical Committee 37. In 2008, it was revised and submitted for approval as an ISO standard (ISO 30042). Already supported by a number of CAT tools, TBX has just been approved by ISO, and is expected to become more widely adopted as an interchange format and as a model for terminology data. It would be beneficial to the information industry at large if TBX served as a catalyst for the development of much needed software functions to support terminology management and consistency checking.

The new version of TBX supports modern XML modeling languages such as RelaxNG and Schematron, allowing for rich data representation capabilities in one integrated schema. Furthermore, such a schema enables a TBX file to be automatically checked by using open source XML validators. TBX is modular because it allows the definition of customized TMLs based on TBX itself. This flexibility addresses the reality that no two terminological databases are alike, while optimizing their common features through fixing the core structure and providing a machine-readable formalism for representing their differences.

What can TBX bring to the information industry? It is an XML format for terminology that is appropriate as a data model for a multipurpose database. It can encapsulate most of the data types demanded by diverse applications (and it can be extended to cover more). Its primary purpose is to facilitate the interchange of terminology between applications and users. Thus, it can be a catalyst in the development of innovative solutions for improving the use of terminology, and it can help to increase the movement of terminology across barriers.

Notes

1. IBM and WebSphere are registered trademarks of International Business Machines in the U.S., other countries, or both. Microsoft is a trademark of Microsoft Corporation in the U.S., other countries, or both. Other company, product, or service names may be trademarks or service marks of others.


3. EuroTermBank (www.eurotermbank.com)
On May 16, 2008, the Northeast Ohio Translators Association (NOTA) and the Institute for Applied Linguistics (IAL) at Kent State University demonstrated that a successful joint community outreach initiative is possible with a lot of planning and volunteer support. Co-sponsored by NOTA and IAL, the one-day workshop, entitled “Translating and Interpreting: Careers for the 21st Century,” was designed to inform teachers and guidance counselors about exciting career possibilities in the fields of translating and interpreting so they could share the information with their students. Thirty-five high school teachers and guidance counselors from school districts throughout Ohio accepted the invitation that was sent out to all the public school systems in the state. The program, which took place in one of IAL’s state-of-the-art computer laboratories, certainly did not disappoint attendees, with six speakers discussing training opportunities and the skills necessary to be successful language professionals in today’s global environment.

Professional Overview

Corinne McKay opened the seminar with an overview of the translation industry and discussed how high school teachers and counselors can get involved. McKay explained that being bilingual is not a sufficient enough qualification to translate or interpret. She emphasized that students, as well as foreign language teachers who may be interested in moving to a new career in the language industry, must first be trained in the craft of translation and interpreting. McKay discussed the demands of the language professions, including the importance of knowing how to conduct research to gain subject area knowledge before beginning any translation. She also touched upon
industry standards regarding certification. Seminar participants left the session with an exhaustive list of resources for additional reading and contact information, some of which are listed in the box on page 39.

**Outreach**

During the next session, ATA School Outreach Program Coordinator Lillian Clementi gave the attendees a tour of the School Outreach resources on ATA’s website. These educators will now be able to use ATA’s website as a resource for students who are interested in language careers. Clementi highlighted the following core concepts:

- Translation and interpreting are two different skills.

- Being bilingual is not enough. Competent translators and interpreters need specialized training and skills.

- Translation is much more than word substitution.

- Computer translation will not replace human translators any time soon.

- Foreign language skills pay off in the workplace, including hospitals, courts, social services, and international law and business.

To emphasize these points, Clementi led attendees through a hands-on exercise comparing a computer-translated article in English with its original French version. As part of her presentation, Clementi distributed a handout that attendees could use in their school districts to illustrate the critical shortage of competent linguists in the U.S. and to underscore the importance of foreign language education. Among the news items on the list were:

- “Translation is one of the hottest jobs in the U.S., with incomes ranging from $43,000 to $100,000. The need for translators is expected to grow 26% by 2014” *(PARADE: What People Earn 2007)*.

- In his 2007 State of the Judiciary Address, the chief justice of the Ohio State Supreme Court gave court interpreting its own subsection, noting that a Supreme Court survey identified 60 languages spoken in Ohio courts each year. He also quoted a court official who described the onslaught of foreign languages as “an explosion of people coming before the courts who do not speak English” *(The Supreme Court of Ohio)*.

- “Today, we learned there are only 10 Americans at the U.S. embassy in Baghdad who have at least a moderate ability to speak and read Arabic. That’s 10 out of the roughly 1,000 Americans who work at the embassy. As pathetic as that number is, it’s actually an improvement. When the Iraq Study Group report was released last fall, only six U.S. employees of [the] embassy spoke Arabic” *(Senior National Security Correspondent Jonathan Karl, ABC News Blog: June 19, 2007)*.

- Almost four years after 9/11, an audit by the U.S. Justice Department’s Inspector General found that—despite significant progress—the FBI was still unable to keep pace with counterterrorism and counterintelligence material in foreign languages. “Key deficiencies remain in the FBI’s foreign language translation program, including a continuing backlog of unreviewed material…and continued challenges in meeting linguist hiring goals and target staffing levels” *(U.S. Department of Justice, Office of the Inspector General, July 2005)*.

- Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee overwhelmingly approved legislation by Senator Herb Kohl (Democrat-Wisconsin) that would create a federal grant program to ensure state court interpreter services are available to individuals testifying in court. “The shortage of qualified interpreters has become a national problem, and it has serious consequences that can unfairly alter legal decisions and affect lives,” Kohl says. Testifying before the Senate Judiciary Committee last year, Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy said the current lack of qualified court interpreters creates a significant threat to the nation’s judicial system *(U.S. Senate, April 24, 2008)*.

**Training**

Following a round-table discussion during which attendees were able to ask questions regarding translation careers, IAL Director Françoise Massardier-Kenney, spoke on the critical need for translators and inter-
preters and IAL’s three translation degree programs.

She explained that students in the bachelor’s degree program in translation are encouraged to combine their translation major with another subject area specialty, such as business, law, finance, or computer science, as a means of developing their knowledge and terminology in an area that will facilitate their translation careers. Students must also take courses in business, foreign language, and translation theory and practice.

Massardier-Kenney went on to explain that students entering the MA program are expected to be fully fluent in at least two languages, as no language acquisition is taught at this level. The goal of the program is to teach students translation theory, advanced research skills, specialized translation techniques, and the use of translation software. Students also learn software localization and project management skills.

To conclude, she explained that students in the PhD program are being trained to teach the next generation of translators. They study translation pedagogy, methods and research, applied linguistics, translation informatics, and multilingual document management. Doctoral students specialize in either translation studies or translation tools and informatics.

Competent translators and interpreters need specialized education and excellent vocabulary, grammar, and writing skills.

translate and interpret and related many interesting anecdotes from his experiences. Shaklee stressed that the role of an interpreter is to facilitate communication and to bring the foreign language speaker to the same level as the English speaker. He pointed out that an interpreter’s role is not to be an advocate for one side or the other, but to relay accurately what both speakers are saying.

Shaklee then explained the difference between simultaneous and consecutive interpreting. As an exercise, he asked attendees to pair up and practice both types of interpreting. After distributing the Code of Ethics and Professional Responsibility from the National Association of Judiciary Interpreters and Translators, attendees were presented with scenarios and asked what they should do under the code.

Cross-cultural Training

Shaklee was followed by Natasha Curtis, a judicial and medical Spanish translator and interpreter who is also employed as a culture and language consultant for Chipotle Mexican Grill, Inc. Curtis gave an entertaining and informative presentation on the importance of cross-cultural training for businesses. She highlighted the fact that most human communication is nonverbal, and that while some cultures, such as in the U.S. and Canada, tend to put relatively less emphasis on nonverbal communication, for other cultures, such as in Japan or Colombia, it is highly important. Curtis explained that having cultural competence is critical for businesses with multicultural clients, since a cultural misunderstanding can break a deal. She then presented this cultural competence checklist for success:

- Make the environment more welcoming and attractive based on the client’s cultural background.
- Avoid stereotyping and misapplication of scientific knowledge.
- Include community input at the planning and development stage.
- Use educational materials that will capture the attention of your intended audience.
- Find ways for the community to take the lead.
- Be an advocate and strike a balance between community priorities and the agency’s mission.
- Understand that there is no recipe for success.
- Hire staff that reflects your client population.
- Understand that cultural competence is continuously evolving.
Check These Out!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>A Day in the Life of a Translator/Interpreter</strong></th>
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<th><strong>International Association of Conference Interpreters</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>A brief video profiling the working lives of Iciar and Andrea, two young women from Spain who work as professional translator/interpreters in Washington, DC. The video highlights the difference between interpreting and translating, and why this is an increasingly important profession in today’s world.</td>
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<td><strong>National Association of Judiciary Interpreters and Translators</strong></td>
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<td><strong>ATA Mentoring Program</strong></td>
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<td><strong>National Center for State Courts: State Certification</strong></td>
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<td><strong>ATA School Outreach Resource Page</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Northeast Ohio Translators Association</strong></td>
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<td>Click on the link for the age group you want to reach. The website is designed for working translators and interpreters, but there is a wealth of material that teachers can use.</td>
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<td><strong>Supreme Court of Ohio Interpreter Services Program</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Careers in Translation and Interpreting</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Community and Court Interpreters of the Ohio Valley</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Translation and Interpreting Training Program Listings</strong></td>
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<td><a href="http://www.ccio.org">www.ccio.org</a></td>
<td></td>
<td>The websites for ATA and the National Center for State Courts both list colleges and universities offering courses in translation and interpreting.</td>
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<td><strong>Contacts for State and Federal Certification Programs</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Cultural Competence and Business</strong></td>
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<td><strong>University of Arizona National Center for Interpretation</strong></td>
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<td><a href="http://www.businessweek.com/adsections/diversity/diversecompet.htm">www.businessweek.com/adsections/diversity/diversecompet.htm</a></td>
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<td><a href="http://www.nci.arizona.edu">www.nci.arizona.edu</a></td>
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<td><strong>Institute for Applied Linguistics at Kent State University</strong></td>
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- Be creative in finding ways to communicate with groups that have limited-English-speaking proficiency.

Curtis concluded her presentation by saying that although interpreters should try to become transparent in the communication process between two speakers, cross-cultural communication is also important. The interpreter’s goal is to make the foreign language speaker feel understood and respected.

**Terminology Management**

The closing speaker was Sue Ellen Wright, a professor at IAL who teaches computer applications for translators and German-to-English technical translation. She spoke on the importance of terminology management in the translation and localization fields. The presentation included a demonstration of how translation and localization software is used to improve the consistency of a document being translated by several individuals.

**Educating the Community One Group at a Time**

The teachers and guidance counselors left the seminar with a great deal of knowledge to pass on to their students about translating and interpreting career opportunities. NOTA and IAL were pleased with the turnout and hope to offer this seminar again.
Did you know

that one of the benefits of joining an ATA division is the opportunity to participate on its listerv?

Chinese Language Division
www.ata-divisions.org/CLD
Listserv:
http://finance.groups.yahoo.com/group/CLDlistserv

French Language Division
www.ata-divisions.org/FLD
Listserv:
www.ata-divisions.org/FLD/listserv_info.htm

German Language Division
www.ata-divisions.org/GLD
Listserv:
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/gldlist

Interpreters Division
www.ata-divisions.org/ID
Listserv:
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/e-voice4ATA-ID

Italian Language Division
www.ata-divisions.org/ILD
Listserv:
www.ata-divisions.org/ILD/mailinglist.html

Japanese Language Division
www.ata-divisions.org/JLD
Listserv:
http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/jld-list

Korean Language Division
www.ata-divisions.org/KLD
Listserv:
http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/ataKorean/

Language Technology Division
www.ata-divisions.org/LTD
Listserv:
http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/ataLTD

Medical Division
www.ata-divisions.org/MD
Listserv:
http://finance.groups.yahoo.com/group/ATA_MedDiv

Portuguese Language Division
www.ata-divisions.org/PLD
Listserv:
http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/PLData-Online

Slavic Languages Division
www.ata-divisions.org/SLD
Listserv:
http://groups.google.com/group/ata-divisions-sld-slavfile

Spanish Language Division
www.ata-divisions.org/SPD
Listserv:
http://espanol.groups.yahoo.com/group/espalista

Translation Company Division
www.ata-divisions.org/TCD
Listserv:
http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/ataTCD

Division membership is included in your ATA annual dues.
Visit www.atanet.org/divisions/division_admin.php to join any or all ATA divisions without additional fees.
Upcoming Events

November 5-8, 2008
American Translators Association
49th Annual Conference
Orlando, FL
www.atanet.org/conf/2008

November 21-23, 2008
American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages
2008 Convention and World Languages Expo
Orlando, FL
www.actfl.org

November 29-30, 2008
Organización Mexicana de Traductores
XII International Congress of Translation and Interpretation
San Jerónimo 2008
Guadalajara, Mexico
www.omt.org.mx/general.htm

December 4-7, 2008
National University of Singapore Centre for Language Studies
3rd International Conference
www.fas.nus.edu.sg/cls/clic2008

December 8-12, 2008
Localization Industry Standards Association
LISA Forum Europe 2008
“The Business Impact of Operating Without Standards”
Dublin, Ireland
www.lisa.org/Dublin.613.0.html

December 27-30, 2008
Modern Language Association
124th Annual Convention
San Francisco, CA
www.mla.org

March 13-15, 2009
Mid-America Chapter of ATA
2009 Symposium
Overland Park, KS
www.ata-micata.org

May 13-16, 2009
Association of Language Companies
7th Annual Conference
Austin, TX
www.alcus.org

May 15-17, 2009
National Association of Judiciary Interpreters and Translators
30th Annual Conference
Scottsdale, AZ
www.najit.org
Rising costs and inflation can be sources of concern to small business owners, especially when the economy is not doing well. This column looks at ways to assess a freelancer’s financial situation and recommends specific approaches to financial evaluation.

Dear Business Smarts,

Looking at translation prices in online forums and surveys these days drives me to despair. In spite of high inflation and price increases almost everywhere you look, the earnings of translators have remained stagnant. In my language combination, English-to-Spanish, prices are even lower than they used to be. If this keeps up, translators will not be able to support themselves with their earnings!

Worried

Dear Worried,

There is no denying that competitors who live and work in countries where the cost of living is lower will be able to undercut U.S. rates. This trend is by no means limited to our industry, and affects our economy as a whole.

But the lowest price on offer—based, for example, on translation projects posted at online auction sites—is not necessarily a true reflection of current market rates, and is not the best guide for determining the prices you need to charge for your own work. Instead, set aside an hour or an afternoon and carefully analyze your own business situation. Pull out your tax records from past years and look at your actual net business earnings for each period. As a translator who charges by the word, you can calculate your annual gross (pre-tax) earnings on the basis of your daily output and current rate. To help you with these calculations, ATA has set up a new gross earnings calculator on its website, which can be found at [www.atanet.org/business_practices/earnings_calculator.php](http://www.atanet.org/business_practices/earnings_calculator.php). Enter the average number of words you can translate in a typical day, your rate, and the number of days you work in a month. Be sure to enter realistic data so that you get useful results. The calculator will show only potential gross earnings: you will need to deduct your business expenses, such as the cost of equipment, software, insurance, rent, and office upkeep, from that figure in order to arrive at the actual profit your business makes. Nevertheless, this calculation is an excellent starting point for evaluating your financial position. The calculator also is a useful tool for playing out different scenarios. For example, if you decide to increase your rates you may see a temporary drop in the number of assignments, which in turn would be reflected in a lower daily output.

Your past tax records also provide information about your business expenses. If you determine that you are not making enough money to cover your costs, you need to consider both sides of the equation: how to cut your expenses and how to increase your income. Use your accounting software to analyze where your money goes, and look for ways to decrease costs. At the same time, go through your list of clients and determine your most profitable accounts. As always, consider eliminating clients who are unwilling to pay for the quality you provide, which will give you the capacity you need to earn better profits elsewhere.

The information in this column was compiled by members of ATA’s Business Practices Education Committee for the benefit of ATA members. This column is not intended to constitute legal, financial, or other business advice. Each individual or company should make its own independent business decisions and consult its own legal, financial, or other advisors as appropriate. The views expressed here are not necessarily those of ATA or its Board of Directors. Send your questions about the business of translation and interpreting to The ATA Chronicle—BPEC Q&A, 225 Reinekers Lane, Suite 590, Alexandria, VA 22314 USA; Fax: +1-703-683-6122; E-mail: businesspractices@atanet.org. Questions must be accompanied by a complete name and address, but will be published anonymously or pseudonymously upon request.

Comments?

ATA members can discuss business issues online at the following Yahoo! group: [http://finance.groups.yahoo.com/group/ata_business_practices](http://finance.groups.yahoo.com/group/ata_business_practices). You will need to register with Yahoo! (at no charge) if you have not already done so, and provide your full name and ATA member number in order to join the group.

Don’t Miss

For more information, visit [www.atanet.org/calendar](http://www.atanet.org/calendar)

March 13-15, 2009
Mid America Chapter of ATA
2009 Symposium
Overland Park, KS
www.atamicata.org

May 13-16, 2009
Association of Language Companies
7th Annual Conference
Austin, TX
www.alcus.org

May 15-17, 2009
National Association of Judiciary Interpreters and Translators
30th Annual Conference
www.najit.org
All right, how is this for a novel fee schedule: effective immediately, translators will be paid by the degree that technology supports their language.

Let me explain. There would be three different levels of languages. Level 1 languages would include languages with full support in areas like voice recognition, optical character recognition, seamless support by translation environment tools, support by major online dictionaries and/or other language resources, and spell-and grammar-checkers. Level 2 languages would include those that are missing one or two of the tools listed above, and Level 3 languages would be those that are lacking more than two of those same enablers.

The fee scale would be calculated in the following manner. If you translate between two different Level 1 languages, you would earn 10% less per word than if you had a Level 2 language involved. With two Level 2 languages, you would make yet another 10% per word, and this would be the same as what a translator between a Level 1 and a Level 3 language would make… You get the point.

Can you imagine the rejoicing among our colleagues who translate Level 3 languages like Amharic, Indic languages, Inuktitut, Creole, or many other technically less-supported languages? Even translators of Level 2 languages like Arabic, Urdu, or Hebrew probably would not mind such a system. Only folks like me, who translate between two Level 1 languages—English and German—would be left in the dust.

Of course, this suggestion is not meant to be taken too seriously. However, it is designed to illustrate how the different levels of technological support among languages make it all the harder for translators of less-supported languages to achieve the same productivity enjoyed by their colleagues in highly supported languages.

How can we remedy this situation? How can, say, Amharic translators get access to the tools that would allow them to convert PDFs or scanned documents into computer-processable text, dictate text, or spell-check their documents with high-quality spell-checkers? While I do not have a ready-made answer, it seems that the only way to make any headway would be for those language groups to come together and demand it. A national organization for translators working in an under-supported language would be a good platform to begin a conversation with developers. Otherwise, large organizations such as ATA might also serve as a good starting point for coming up with creative solutions for developing tools.

Here are some ideas for what these solutions might entail:

- First of all, make sure that you truly know what is out there for your language. Sites like the Language Technology Resource Center (http://ltrc.mitre.org/Tools/reports/index.pl) list many more resources and tools for languages such as Arabic, Urdu, or Pashto than many translators in those languages might know about.

- Educate colleagues who work in the same language about what technology offers for your language today, or about such things as using Unicode rather than legacy fonts.

- Contact organizations such as RIFAL (www.rifal.org) that engage in developing conversions between legacy fonts and Unicode.

- Contact independent developers of existing tools and ask them what it would take to add support for your language.

- Find out what kind of grants might be available to support private development activities.

I am writing this column while sitting in the San Francisco airport, waiting for my flight to North Bend, Oregon, on a commercial flight that was established just a few weeks ago. North Bend is a mere 20-minute drive away from my home. Just six months ago, I never would have believed that there would be flights to my local area—for years I have been driving two hours to get reasonable flights from the next larger airport in Eugene. However, this local connection was made possible by local businesses from my area guaranteeing United Airlines a certain number of passengers, and promising to reimburse them for any discrepancy.

I am not sure that there is a direct correlation between my North Bend flight and the under-supported languages, but it is a good example of how businesses—and as translation agencies or freelance translators, we are businesses—can find creative solutions to change something that otherwise prevents greater productivity and tends to make folks just throw up their arms in despair. Let’s use those arms to do something about situations that can be changed.

contact
• **Michele M. Aynesworth** was among the recipients of the 2009 National Endowment for the Arts Literary Translation Awards. Aynesworth received $20,000 to support the translation from French of *In So Corrupt an Age*, the war journal of Charles Rist.

• **CETRA, Inc.**, of Elkins Park, Pennsylvania, has been ranked as one of 2008’s top 100 fastest growing, privately held businesses in the Philadelphia region by the Philadelphia 100, a joint project of the Wharton Small Business Development Center, the Entrepreneurs Forum of Greater Philadelphia, and the *Philadelphia Business Journal*.

• **Choice Translating, Inc.**, of Charlotte, North Carolina, was profiled in the July/August 2008 issue of *FSB* (*Forbes Small Business*), in an article entitled “Watch Your Language: How a Small Translation Company Helps Big Brands Avoid Global Mishaps,” by Malika Zouhal-Worrall.

• **Marian Schwartz** was interviewed about her translation of Yuri Olesha’s *Envy* (New York Review Books Classics) on “Underappreciated Writers,” a weekly feature on the Leonard Lopate Show series on WNYC 93.9 FM, New York’s public radio station. The interview can be downloaded at www.wnyc.org/shows/lopate/underappreciated.html. Schwartz was also interviewed on Public Radio International’s World Books podcast, a spotlight on international literary news, trends, and authors. The interview focused on her new translation of Mikhail Bulgakov’s *White Guard* (Yale University Press). The interview can be downloaded at www.the-world.org/?q=aggregator/sources/61.

• **Liliana Valenzuela** was interviewed on Univision as part of a segment called “Latin Pride/Orgullo latino,” which honors a distinguished member of the community every week. Valenzuela was asked about her accomplishments, her inspiration, and her thoughts on education and the community. The interview can be viewed on YouTube at www.youtube.com/watch?v=6h1LiQVsooY. Another clip on YouTube shows Carmen Tafolla, a San Antonio writer, reading one of Valenzuela's bilingual poems (www.youtube.com/watch?v=_qBQNHm4K2Q).

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**Call For Papers | Inaugural Issue | Translation & Interpreting**

*Translation & Interpreting* is a new, refereed international journal seeking to create cross-fertilization among research, training, and professional practice. It will publish original research-based articles highlighting the applications of research results to the improvement of translator and interpreter training and practice. Scholars at all levels are invited to submit.

This free online journal, hosted by the University of Western Sydney’s Interpreting and Translation Research Node, will be accessible to all researchers, educators, students, and practitioners of interpreting and translation, as well as to others interested in the discipline. It will be published twice a year.

**Submission Deadline: December 15, 2008**

For more information, please contact Sandra Hale at s.hale@trans-int.org or Ignacio Garcia at editor@trans-int.org, or visit http://trans-int.org/index/index.php/newjourn/index.
ATA Certification Exam Information

Upcoming Exams

**Florida**
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November 8, 2008
Registration Deadline: October 24, 2008

**Minnesota**
Minneapolis
January 25, 2009
Registration Deadline: January 9, 2009

All candidates applying for ATA certification must provide proof that they meet the certification program eligibility requirements. Please direct all inquiries regarding general certification information to ATA Headquarters at +1-703-683-6100. Registration for all certification exams should be made through ATA Headquarters. All sittings have a maximum capacity and admission is based on the order in which registrations are received. Forms are available from ATA’s website or from Headquarters.

New Certified Members

Congratulations! The following people have successfully passed ATA’s certification exam:

- **English into German**
  - Thomas Bosch
    - Eugene, OR

- **English into Portuguese**
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    - Astoria, NY
  - Gabriela S. Rangel
    - Greely, Ontario, Canada

- **English into Spanish**
  - Ana C. Bardi
    - Miramar, FL
  - Sonia Claro
    - Durham, NC
  - Helena de la Vega
    - Brossard, Quebec, Canada
  - Mariana de la Vega
    - Mexico City, Mexico
  - Laura Eastment
    - Arlington, MA

- **French into English**
  - Angelo Gentile
    - Fort Myers, FL

- **German into English**
  - Michael J. Engley
    - Louisville, KY
  - Tamara L. Wood
    - Dover, NH

- **Spanish into English**
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Active and Corresponding Membership Review

Congratulations! The Active Membership Review Committee is pleased to grant active or corresponding status to:

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  - Casalecchio di Reno, Bologna, Italy

- Thelma D. Gomez-Ferry
  - El Paso, TX

- Patty Pai
  - Monterey, CA

- Christina Zubelli
  - Seattle, WA

**Corresponding**

- Reynaldo J. Pagura
  - Sao Paulo, Brazil
The Association for Machine Translation in the Americas (AMTA) is dedicated to anyone interested in machine translation (MT). The association brings together users, commercial system developers, researchers, sponsors, and others for the purpose of studying, evaluating, and understanding the science of this technology. AMTA also strives to educate the public about the important scientific techniques and principles of MT.

AMTA has members in the U.S., Canada, and Latin America. It is the regional component of a worldwide network headed by the International Association for Machine Translation (IAMT). The two sister organizations are the Asian-Pacific Association for Machine Translation and the European Association for Machine Translation. Individuals, institutions, and corporations may join any of the three regional associations and automatically become part of the IAMT network.

Mission

- Sharing knowledge about the science and technology of MT through the collection, compilation, exchange, and dissemination of information.
- Sponsoring and supporting workshops, symposia, and conferences on MT and related technologies and applications.
- Developing appropriate training materials and programs.
- Facilitating access by researchers to machine readable corpora and cooperating in the exchange of formats and text encoding conventions.
- Discussing and establishing reference criteria for the evaluation of MT technology.

Benefits

- Free online access to *MT Compendium*, a guide to MT systems worldwide.
- Discounts on AMTA publications.
- Discounted registration for AMTA-sponsored events, including the biennial conference.

Activities

AMTA organizes and supports workshops, seminars, and symposia on MT, to which members receive discounted rates. The biennial AMTA conferences bring together MT users, system developers, companies, researchers, and translation professionals to share ideas and compare systems. AMTA’s 2008 conference, being held October 21-25 in Waikiki, Hawaii, includes sessions on how to adapt machine translation to translators’ needs.

Additional Information

For complete information on what AMTA has to offer, please visit www.amtaweb.org.

ATA’s chapters and its affiliates, along with other groups, serve translators and interpreters, providing them with industry information, networking opportunities, and support services. This column is designed to serve as a quick resource highlighting the valuable contributions these organizations are making to the profession.

Stay in Touch with ATA’s Divisions

ATA’s 15 professional-interest divisions provide specialty- and language-specific information to assist their members in today’s competitive marketplace. They offer a wide variety of benefits and services, all organized by division volunteers. So, what are ATA Divisions up to now? For the latest news and events, visit www.atanet.org/divisions/division_news.php.
A late-afternoon raid on the Le Royal de Chine restaurant in eastern France on July 25, 2008 led to the arrest of five undocumented employees—illegal immigrants from China, say police—before they had time to duck into specially designed bolt-holes inside the eatery. The five have been sent to a detention center while their cases are considered, and will likely be ordered to leave France.

During the sweep, a cook and the restaurant manager were also detained, both described as members of a criminal network bringing illegal immigrants into the country.

Yet what appeared at first as an open-and-shut case spluttered to a halt and was finally postponed when the courts were unable to locate a qualified interpreter.

There was no language problem for the manager, a Chinese immigrant who arrived in France at age 11 and spoke fluent French. But it was a different kettle of fish for the cook. Despite 10 years in the country, his grasp of the language was described as “uneven,” and in any case insufficient to appear in court, according to his lawyer, Jean-Luc Brami.

Whence the need for a person able to translate reliably from French into Chinese—and back—in the courtroom. With no certified court interpreters in that language combination on its books, the local court turned to unofficial options.

First up was a local Chinese resident who gave private language lessons. The session got off to a rocky start when she misunderstood the process whereby the presiding judge swore her in for temporary duty as a court interpreter. With some assistance, she nonetheless took the oath, only to throw in the towel minutes later. “I don’t want to translate, this is scary,” she told the judge.

Court was adjourned for an hour while another Chinese speaker—this time a sales clerk in a local store—was located. Once again the swearing-in process was “laborious,” said observers, and when the first charge was read out, number two hesitated before admitting “I don’t understand very well.” He too withdrew.

At which point the judge drew the line: no qualified interpreter, no trial.

The cook’s lawyer then pointed out that the two Chinese-speakers who had made brief appearances in court as interpreters were the same ones who had “handled” language issues when the defendants were first taken into police custody and questioned. He asked that the transcript of these sessions be excluded.

The prosecution called for the case to be postponed while a qualified interpreter was located, but insisted that both the manager and the cook be held in jail until then.

This proposal found favor with a lawyer representing the national family benefits authority URSSAF, who described the defendants as slave-traders who had held the five illegal aliens captive and shamefully exploited them.

The defense disagreed. Rather than imprison the manager and cook, the state should apologize for not providing a proper interpreter, said Mr. Brami. With reports of further investigations in progress against the restaurant, reliable information was of the essence. And without a qualified interpreter—a professional up to speed on court procedures, and trained to relay information completely and accurately from one language to the other—this was simply not available.

The judge agreed and postponed the trial, setting aside the interrogation record and releasing both the cook and the restaurant manager. The conclusion was clear: if you want a professional job, hire a professional.

Meanwhile, Back in Iowa...

As the French courts struggled to find a competent interpreter, immigration and language issues hit the headlines in the U.S., too, in a thoughtful essay by U.S.-based court interpreter Erik Camayd-Freixas.

The essay has launched a vigorous debate among professional linguists—not over qualifications and credentials, but ethics, more specifically interpreters’ obligation to remain impartial, abstaining from comment on cases in which they serve, and respecting confidentiality toward their clients.

These requirements are described in Canons 2 and 3 of the Code of Ethics and Professional Responsibilities published by the National Association of Judiciary Interpreters and Translators (NAJIT, www.najit.org). There is also a reference to confidentiality in Article 1C of ATA’s Code of Professional Conduct and Business Practices.

But what happens when translators or interpreters, in the course of an assignment, observe what they see as a violation of human rights or miscarriage of justice? Should they speak up and out, and if so, to whom and how?

Camayd-Freixas is an experienced, federally certified court interpreter who teaches Spanish at Florida International University. From May 13 to May 22, he served as one of 26 interpreters at court hearings in Iowa at which 297 undocumented workers arrested at a local slaughterhouse and meat-packing plant were “fast-tracked” through legal proceed-
ings that saw them imprisoned prior to deportation.

Like other interpreters, he was unaware of the nature of the assignment until he arrived on site. The Immigration and Customs Enforcement authorities feared leaks that might compromise their upcoming raid on Agriprocessors Inc.

But once the arrests were made and hearings began, Camayd-Freixas became convinced that the defendants—nearly 300 largely illiterate Guatemalan peasants, many of Mayan origin—understood neither the charges brought against them nor their rights under the U.S. legal system.

As he explained to the House Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship, Refugees, Border Security and International Law at a hearing in Washington, DC, on July 24, “the court failed to provide a level playing field for the (centralized) prosecution and the (fragmented) defense.”

Nor, said Camayd-Freixas, did defendants understand the meaning and consequences of waiving their right to be indicted by a grand jury. Many apparently insisted they were in jail for being in the country illegally (and not for the document fraud or identity theft they were charged with, for those who had purchased false IDs). They insisted, too, that they had no rights. Many had no idea what a Social Security number was or indeed what purpose it served, Camayd-Freixas reported, arguing that their ignorance rendered a critical “intent” element of the charges against them void. (For Camayd-Freixas’s full statement and essay, see http://judiciary.house.gov/hearings/pdf/Camayd-Freixas080724.pdf.)

Under U.S. law, a court interpreter is both an officer of the court and the court’s expert witness. In Postville, Iowa, writes Camayd-Freixas, interpreters were the only officers of the court present from start to finish—including initial appearances, plea hearings, and sentencing hearings, not to mention individual interviews in jail to which the various magistrates and judges involved had no access at all.

Since the raid and hearings at Postville were a pilot operation by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and likely to be replicated nationwide, Camayd-Freixas felt a moral imperative to summarize the “irregularities” that he says he observed. This he did in a report for circulation to the court and to the other interpreters on the case, which he completed on June 13, i.e., once the cases had all been settled.

Camayd-Freixas maintains that waiting until the cases had been settled allowed him to fulfill his obligation of impartiality as an interpreter and officer of the court, even as he raised essential questions regarding how justice was administered.

But his essay soon reached a wider circle of readers, and on July 11 gave rise to a front-page article in The New York Times.

With immigration a political hot potato in the U.S., interest in the case and in alleged irregularities is running high. As NAJIT’s code of ethics makes clear, there are many grey areas in legal interpreting. The association has not taken a position on the Camayd-Freixas essay, nor has ATA, and opinion is sharply divided in professional circles.

For some interpreters, there is no doubt that Camayd-Freixas violated the letter if not the spirit of the code—interpreters or translators cannot morph into investigative journalists midway into an assignment, say these observers. He should have disqualified himself.

Other linguists counter that the situation becomes more complicated when abuse of power is linked directly to information that is available to language professionals through their work, but is unknown to other key officials. The right to a fair trial is an integral part of the U.S. legal system, or should be, this group argues, and in extreme cases interpreters have a moral obligation to shine a light.

Lessons Learned?

In the French case, it is clear that relying on unqualified individuals pressed into service as “interpreters” out of desperation—in a complicated legal environment, to boot—is a recipe for disaster. But in Iowa, there is no consensus in sight. If anything, a professional interpreter’s sober account of justice as administered is a timely reminder that this language business is not black and white but grey. And definitely, passionately human.
Get the latest scoop on division activities and stay current with language- and specialty-specific information pertinent to your field. How? Just download the latest batch of division newsletters from 2008:

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**MONTEREY INSTITUTE**
MONTEREY INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES  
an affiliate of Middlebury College  
Monterey, CA, USA
At first glance, this textbook/handbook hybrid, sprinkled with glossaries, does nothing to excite the lexophile’s palate. It comes off as a print-on-demand affair whose cover appears to be a word processor template.

Scope

Even as the introduction states that it was written primarily to aid lawyers practicing business law in Hungary deal with their Anglo-American clients, this dictionary’s focus is so narrow that it does not merit the boldly ambitious title—also belied by the meager 362 pages—of *Anglo-American Legal Language*. The cover’s other offerings—“Terms Prevalent in Anglo-American Law, Explanations and Sample Contracts,” “Contractual and Business Organization Topics,” “Copyright, Arbitration,” “Accounting, Auditing, Taxation”—also promise more than they deliver. Not only would one look in vain here for any terms prevalent in Anglo-American criminal or constitutional law, for example, but one might also find precious little on auditing. When it comes to the explanations of terms, they are embedded in introductory articles that are thoroughly independent of glossary entries. In the absence of any kind of index, it is left to Lady Luck to find the explanation one needs speedily under the cloud of a looming deadline.

The target audience is most definitely not translators, a fact underscored by the authors’ categorical statement in the foreword that they have broken with the tradition of actually translating terms. Instead, they have opted to present English-language documents that demonstrate proper usage and to juxtapose these with Hungarian documents of a similar ilk to highlight differences, but without providing pairings of equivalent expressions. Such an approach is of limited usefulness to translators.

The book is billed as the second, revised and expanded, edition; however, the Hungarian authors’ online biography pages give 1998 as the publication date for the second edition, so this must be a reprint of that. Of the four authors, two teach and practice law in Austria, while the two Hungarian authors teach and specialize in commercial law in Hungary. Supplementing their perspective, and peppering the text at random intervals, are some short excerpts from articles and books by other authors, Austrian, Irish, and American. Unfortunately, there is no bibliography, nor even a page of acknowledgements that might aid the reader in pursuing further research.

Chapters

The book focuses on certain areas of business law, namely: contracts (106 pages); business organizations (82 pages); insurance (26 pages); arbitration (16 pages); tax law (52 pages); accounting (34 pages); and intellectual property law (23 pages). The chapters are divided into three sections: an introductory segment, followed by sample documents, rounded out by a glossary section.

1. Introduction: Each introduction is divided into an English-language part and a Hungarian-language part, aiming to provide British, American, and Hungarian perspectives on the field in question, citing specific practices and the legal codes on which those practices are based. Sometimes this part consists of very useful in-depth articles on a particular aspect of the field under discussion. The problem is that the amount and type of information, as well as the structure of
that information, varies from chapter to chapter. In some cases, the line between British and American practice is completely blurred.

In some chapters (e.g., contracts), both the English text and the Hungarian translation are accompanied by extracted terms in the margin, in English. In other chapters, the English-language text is accompanied by Hungarian equivalents of the terms, while the Hungarian pages feature English-language phrases in the margin (e.g., insurance). This makes for a chaotic impression, and it is very difficult to know what to expect from chapter to chapter. All the same, this is the most important contribution of this book, and if one has the patience to peruse it, one can find useful background material. Alas, there are many errors (more on these below) that call into question the accuracy of the information provided.

2. Sample documents: The second part of most, but not all, chapters provides British and/or American sample documents, at times followed by Hungarian equivalents, the latter in both languages. Some chapters, such as contract law, have a section of generic English-language opening and closing phrases sandwiched between samples—the so-called “Cut and Paste” section. For anyone in the position of having to draft an English-language contract from scratch, this is a very useful resource, and the skillful translator can mine it for terminology as well.

3. Glossaries: The third and final section of each chapter consists of two glossaries: Hungarian-into-English followed by English-into-Hungarian. (Note that this order is reversed in the chapter on accounting.) The glossaries run a few pages each, specifically: in the chapter on contracts, nine pages of 40 Hungarian entries per page and almost 12 pages of mixed English-language phrases (about 800 terms altogether for the entire chapter); about the same amount in the chapter on business organizations; about 320 terms in the chapter on insurance; 400 terms in the chapter on arbitration; 600 terms in tax law; 440 in accounting; and a little over 400 terms in the chapter on intellectual property law. The chapter on accounting is followed by eight pages of balance sheet terms (20 per page) broken down into columns for Hungarian, U.S., and British terms. This seems like a very useful feature and one wishes the same thing had been done elsewhere in the book.

In summary, the glossaries provide roughly 3,500 entries (compared with the 22,000 entries of the English-Hungarian Banking and Finance Dictionary, published by the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, that probably contains all the business terminology included in the book under discussion). To illustrate the irrelevance of some of the entries, I found “Christmas bonus” in the contracts glossary (and “death” and “video-tapes” elsewhere), but not “escrow” or “indemnification.” To be fair, “indemnification” appears in the text margin of the introduction and “escrow fund” appears in the arbitration glossary, but if “furnished” made it into the contracts glossary, then these two should have as well. “Certified public accountant” takes up two entries, one under “CPA (certified public accountant)” and one under “certified public accountant (CPA).” This repetition occurs with all acronyms, reducing the number of useful entries. On the other hand, the contents of the Hungarian-into-English glossaries do not match the items in the other direction. This swells the number of word pairs, increasing the chances of hits for translators with good guessing skills. “Flat” and “apartment” are properly distinguished as being British and U.S. terms, respectively, but this is marred by the fact that “apartment” is spelled as “apart ment” in the English-into-Hungarian glossary. “License” and “licence” are not distinguished at all. There are severe grammatical errors, as well: “incumbent” is cited as a verb, while the misspelled “incumbment” does service as the “holder of an office.”

More Imperfections

Given the fact that this is not a dictionary but a handbook with disparate chapters on various branches of business law, it would be very helpful to have an index, but, as mentioned before, there is none, thus making it extremely cumbersome to look up a term that actually did receive a translation. With some entries, such as “now therefore” or “whereas,” one is directed to the “Cut and Paste” section with no Hungarian equivalent provided. The authors’ penchant for assigning a single meaning to most terms in the glossaries requires the context to be sleuthed out of the maze of documents in the sample section. The carefree choices about meanings produce offerings like “janitor” as a U.S. entry for what amounts to “apartment manager” or “super,” which is not very reassuring.

There are also the inexcusably frequent, gross spelling errors: “Statue of Frauds” (a.k.a. “Statute of Frauds”) takes the crown, but the reader will also encounter “in the pesence of,” “right of regusal,” “godd condition,” and “now therefor.” Sometimes the authors seem to be unable to make up their minds about spelling (“boiler-plate” versus “boiler plate”). Jarring turns of phrase
Dictionary Review Continued

(“The Law of Contract”) make the inner grammarian flinch. Sadly, the translations following some English-language articles also might not have been fully proofread, as attested to by the same predicate occurring in two places in the same sentence in at least one instance. Titles of legal sources are sometimes distorted (e.g., A Restatement [Second] of the Law of Contracts is rendered as A Restatement of Contracts Second). This inevitably also makes one wonder about the accuracy of the factual content.

Overall Evaluation

Although I would not recommend this book as a dictionary, there is useful reference material here, as long as it is approached with caution.

Kornelia DeKorne is a freelance, ATA-certified English—Hungarian translator. She is also a member of ATA’s Dictionary Review Committee. Contact: bagoly@hawaiiantel.net.

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<td>1,607</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Paid Distribution by Other Classes of Mail Through the USPS</td>
<td>—0—</td>
<td>—0—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Total Paid Distribution (Sum of 15b (1), (2), (3), and (4))</td>
<td>9,976</td>
<td>10,218</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (By Mail and Outside the Mail)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Free or Nominal Rate Outside-County Copies Included on PS Form 3541</td>
<td>—0—</td>
<td>—0—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Free or Nominal Rate In-County Copies Included on PS Form 3541</td>
<td>—0—</td>
<td>—0—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Free or Nominal Rate Copies Mailed at Other Classes Through the USPS (e.g. First-Class Mail)</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)</td>
<td>216</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Sum of 15d (1), (2), (3), and (4))</td>
<td>353</td>
<td>86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15e)</td>
<td>10,329</td>
<td>10,304</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G. Copies Not Distributed</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H. Total (Sum of 15f and g)</td>
<td>10,427</td>
<td>10,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I. Percent Paid (15c divided by 15f times 100)</td>
<td>96.6%</td>
<td>99.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. (Signed) Walter Bacak, Publisher and Executive Director.

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I am sorry that I will not be able to see so many of you who are my most faithful contributors in Orlando this November. I signed my life away for a big project, largely as an editor, for 19 weeks that will include that period in November. I have happy memories of Orlando in September 2000, and I know that the event will be rewarding for everybody. I wish you Godspeed, safe travels, and a productive time in Florida!

New Queries
(E-I 10-08/1) A ProZer found “Airfoil threaders,” which apparently have nothing to do with aerodynamics. Rather, they are part of the threading system in a paper manufacturing process. What are they exactly, and how do you accurately render them into Italian?

(E-N 10-08/2) From a ProZer working into Norwegian, this query is medical in nature. In a set of instructions, she discovered “clamping tube,” and provided two context sentences: “Tighten the clamping tube,” and “Clamping before the inner needle retracts may cause hazardous situations such as clamping tube damage by the inner needle tip…” Anyone want to try?

(E-Pt 10-08/3) From www.dentcraft.com comes a whole set of relatively new terms for devices and techniques to do paintless dent repair. No, no objections! This is not an advertisement for that firm! I merely set the stage for two queries about terms from this technology: (3.a) “side panel hook set” and (3.b) “aluminum knockdowns.” The former ought to be easier to translate into Portuguese, since it is well known that a side panel is a major automobile component. But overall, this is a difficult matter, in the judgment of the Translation Inquirer.

(E-R 10-08/4) What on earth, in the field of petroleum regulations, does “stamp requirement” mean? A ProZer encountered this term in the following paragraph: “The external pressure check shall be made according to the rules of Section UG-28 of ASME, Section VIII, Div. 1, independently of the stamp requirement unless the application of other calculation codes requires specific external pressure testing methods.” Hey, this is oil and gas material, so there must be some wise heads out there with an answer to this one, as well as people who can suggest the Russian.

(F-E 10-08/5) A Lantra-L member had a problem with religiologique in the following context: Et, à cet égard [“the difficulty of defining religion”], même les grilles phénoméno- logiques ou religiologiques, qui se veulent «neutres» par ailleurs, comportent des thèses impliquées qui exigent, tôt ou tard, définition et justification. What is it?

(F-E 10-08/6) From an appraisal of the market value of a property, a ProZ denizen found Beitrags- und Abgabenzustand. What might this be in business English?

(F-E 10-08/7) The context in the query above is identical to this one, with Alterschließung being the problem term: Das Bewertungsgrundstück besitzt augenscheinlich eine Altersschließung (z.B. historische Straße). What might that be?

(F-E 10-08/8) In news reporting in the economic and financial sector, apparently the phrase Das verhindert auch ohne gläserne Depots eine eigen nützige Berichterstattung refers to the fact that two reporters are assigned to every news story to prevent self-aggrandizing reporting. In this context, the word Depots might be accounts, depositories, security accounts, etc. What is being discussed here in the bold-print term?

(G-E 10-08/9) Is the Spurführung, which was found by a ProZ member, related (as she supposed) to decisions on where to locate a new railway line, or does the meaning lean more toward “guiding device, guidance,” as stated in the latest trilingual Union of Railways Dictionary?

(G-E 10-08/10) In the field of public relations, asks a ProZ user, what does Sistema de recompensas en función del grado de acierto mean, and what is good English for it?

(G-E 10-08/11) Apologizing for the relative lack of context, a ProZer found this list of vehicle parts sold by a company. The one in bold print stumped her: Venta de partes de vehículos y en especial de barras de dirección empestillada, barras de dirección roscada, varillas de cajas de cambios y tirantes estabilizadores. What about that solitary rogue word?
(Sp-E 10-08/12) Lee Wright has noticed that on many occasions when translating correspondence written in Spanish, he finds that the letter’s inside address only includes the name of the addressee and perhaps the city’s name, but no specific street or other mailing address. Instead, the last line of the inside address merely says En su despacho or something similar. This is particularly true of formal correspondence from a person in one government agency to another government agency. A literal rendering of the Spanish phrase (“in your office” or perhaps just “your office”) tends to be meaningless for an English-speaking reader, primarily because this is not normal practice for the inside address of a letter written in English. What is a valid English counterpart for the Spanish phrase?

Replies to Old Queries

(E-G 7-08/3) (These are, therefore, intended...) [Full text on page 54 of the July issue]: Angela Leihis suggests Diese sind dafür bestimmt, die vorhergehende Lehre zu definieren und werden von Fachleuten durch die allgemeine Bezugnahme auf den vorhergehenden Stand der Technik in diese eingeschlossen.

(E-Pt 8-08/2) (untabulate): Given that un– means, among other things, reversing the action of a verb, one interpretation here, says Gonzalo Ordóñez, could be that untabulate means to go from a graph to the table from which that graph originated. A possible rendition in Portuguese could be para ir do gráfico a sua tabela: 1) Seleccionar o botão Untabulate.

(G-I [E] 7-08/7) (gibt sich bescheiden): Jeannette Ringold admits that her native language is Dutch, but thinks she might be close to an answer. In this context, it might be “is not showy,” referring in this case to a sports car. Angela Leihis likes “acts unpretentious.”

(G-R [E] 7-08/8) (Eintopfsonntage): For Angela Leihis, the best translation for this would be “hot-pot Sundays.” For Karin Isbell, it is “Sundays’ one-pot stew,” which is something she remembers well.

(R-E 8-08/9) (ВЫПИРАЮТ В ДИКУЮ ПОЛЮ): David Goldman provided a translation of the entire sentence, found on pages 44-45 of the August issue: “The Antelope-Gnu car broke loose into the field headlong into an aviation fuel drum.” This is from the famous novel The Golden Calf.

(Sp-E 5-08/11) (su voluptuosa plástica y refracción artificial): Alma Flores would have liked to have come into this discussion at an earlier stage, but is in time to disagree with the renderings of Gonzalo Ordóñez and Mercedes Pellet, provided on page 56 of the July issue. According to her dictionary, plástica has two meanings: 1. (arte) Arte y técnica de plasmar o modelar cosas de barro, yeso u otro material. 2. Calidad de las cosas de expresar y comunicar gráficamente ideas o sensaciones: esa fotografía tiene una plástica impactante. In Alma’s opinion, Mercedes took the first entry and disregarded the second one, while Gonzalo’s translation is too literal. Plástica refers to the aesthetic impression or to the expressive power of a work of art; and with this in mind, Alma translates it as follows: “Its voluptuous aesthetics and artificial refraction.”

(Sp-E 6-08/11) (plurinacionalidad): Derived from two nouns meaning “many nationalities,” this word is reminiscent of: pluripartidismo, a system prevailing in a nation with more than one political party; plurivalente, meaning having more than one value or use; and pluriempleado, a word referring to a person holding more than one job. All this according to Leonor Guidici. Peter Christensen offers “multiple citizenship” for plurinacionalidad.

(Sp-E 7-08/10) (haces de caballeros): Gonzalo Ordóñez says that the haces here is poetically used to mean “groups,” “divisions,” or “bundles.” So, haces de caballeros could mean “knight bundles.” These were directed so as to be able to launch waves of attacks, riding very tightly, hurling themselves upon the enemy formation en masse.

(Sp-E 8-08/10) (quejebra): Rudi Theis says there is a single English equivalent word, “breakdown.” His suggestion: “We are conscious that our responses to the environmental security breakdown will have an impact on peace.” He says that seguridad means puzzle in the given context, and perhaps the English should be “environmental order breakdown.” Selma Benjamin’s suggested rendering: “infractions of environmental security.” Gonzalo Ordóñez says that the text calls for the use of a stronger word than “damage,” perhaps “collapse.”

Thanks to the contributors in the “Replies” section!

This column is solely intended as a means of facilitating a general discussion regarding terminology choices. For feedback regarding pressing terminology questions, please try one of these online forums: Lantra-L (www.geocities.com/athens/7110/lantra.htm), ProZ.com (www.proz.com), or Translators Café (http://translatorscafe.com).

Address your queries and responses to The Translation Inquirer, 112 Ardmoor Avenue, Danville, Pennsylvania 17821, or fax them to (570) 275-1477. E-mail address: jdockec@aplink.net. Please make your submissions by the first of each month to be included in the next issue.

Generous assistance from Per Dohler, proofreader, is gratefully acknowledged.
Once again Arthur Graham has submitted a multilingual poem, this one dating from 2004, in French, English, German, Italian, Yiddish, and Hebrew. He writes:

Seth Wolitz, professor of French, professor of Judaic studies [at the University of Texas at Austin], and expert in music and many other fields was a very positive influence in my academic research and service. Further, he encouraged my hobby printing activities.

I wrote this limerick for him. The doggerel makes little sense, but it does rhyme.

The author supplied a Preface and a translation. I have combined them, with some additions, into the following:

FOR SETH W.
1) French: There was an accursed poet [Paul Verlaine (1844-96), French poet who wrote the critical study Les Poètes maudits (The Accursed Poets) in 1884].
2) English: And how did he die? A drug overdose.
3) German: With Bacchus and Eve
4) Italian: He drank absinthe.
5a) Yiddish: They used to sing
5b) Hebrew: “L’kho dodi.” [The first two words of a well-known Sabbath Evening (i.e., Friday Night) hymn, sung during Jewish religious services, dating from the sixteenth century, and translated by Arthur Graham as “Come, my beloved, with chorus of praise, / Welcome Bride Sabbath, the Queen of the days.”]

Here is the limerick, as printed by Arthur Graham:

À SETH W.
C’était un poète maudit.
And how did he die? OD.
Mit Bacchus und Eva
Assenzio beveva.

�프로질 빌푸른 “לבך דורי.”

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National White Collar Crime Center
The Internet Crime Complaint Center
www.ic3.gov

Security Fix
Brian Krebs on Computer Security
http:/// blog.
washingtonpost.com/securityfix

Herman is a librettist and translator. Submit items for future columns via e-mail to hermanapter@cmsinter.net or via snail mail to Mark Herman, 1409 E Gaylord Street, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858-3626. Discussions of the translation of humor and examples thereof are preferred, but humorous anecdotes about translators, translations, and mistranslations are also welcome. Include copyright information and permission if relevant.
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