

2016 TRANSLATIO

FIT Newsletter

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



In this issue of *Translatio* in 2016, you will find the promised article on MT@Work from Daniel Kluvanec and Elisabetta Degiampietro of the European Commission. This Conference –which I attended in Brussels late last year amidst the tense ambience of the lockdown after the atrocities in Paris– is one of the flagship events organised by the European Commission. It is with tremendous regret that I am now writing to you as Brussels suffers. It is evident that translators, interpreters and terminologists promote better understanding between people of different languages and cultures, in diverse domains. But let us not forget that we have a role to play not only as a pillar of prosperity but also custodians of security, especially in the era of Big Data. To our colleagues and members of the Belgian Chamber and all translators, interpreters and terminologists working in EU institutions, FIT extends our profound sympathy and undeterred solidarity. We stand with you.

FIT is indeed about solidarity – bringing international translation, interpreting and terminology experts together – working to improve the situation of colleagues worldwide, and to provide visibility to our profession. Since the last issue, a number of your council members have attended events promoting FIT and collaborating with our stakeholders. In this issue, Prof. Olga Egorova tells us what happened at this year's CIUTI Forum, an annual highlight of educational excellence in translation and interpreting championed by Hannelore Lee-Jahrke, CIUTI Honorary President.

The Council has just met in Paris – the seat of the Federation. You will find a short report in this issue to complement the recent Press Release. FIT also worked to raise the profile of SFT, our French colleagues during this visit. It is important that FIT work together with our local associations. We look forward to working with TAC for our upcoming visit to Xi'an, where the rebranded APTIF8 will take place.

A number of international collaborations have produced fine results and you will find them in the articles from our Association Building and Development Task Force, from the ISO Committee, and from the Research Task Force. You will also find a summary of activities of the various Task Forces in this issue.

Another important way to promote the viability and the roles we translators, interpreters and terminologists play is through our annual International Translators' Day celebration, now in its 25th year. In this issue, we reveal the winner of the poster competition; this entry, from Argentina, complements the contemporary theme from ATA for this ITD silver anniversary.

You will also find highlights from across the Federation: from Austria, Greece, the Slovak Republic, Indonesia, Panama and Argentina, and of course, our hard-working team of the FIT European Regional Centre.

Finally, starting with this issue, you will be able to enjoy reading the latest news from across the Federation four times a year on the dedicated app. My thanks to the team, led by your Secretary General, Sabine Colombe, for making this happen. Happy reading wherever you are!

Henry Liu, president@fit-ift.org

NEW!

**TRANSLATIO ON
ANDROID DEVICES!**

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Eighth Asia-Pacific Translation and Interpreting Forum

FIT's Task Force Points the Way! Development and Association-Building

At its meeting in Baku, Azerbaijan in 2015, the FIT Council decided to create a number of new task forces. The Development and Association-Building Task Force (DABTF) is one of these. Its mandate was to compile a "How to" guide for establishing new translation and interpreting associations and for principles of good governance. The DABTF indicated that it needed one year to fulfill its mandate and planned to present the final version of the guide to the FIT Council by June 2016.

The task force started its work on 10 September 2015. The following people were elected to serve on it: Ismayil Jabrayilov (from AGTA), Eleanor Cornelius (SATI), Wolf Baur (BDÚ), Marion Boers (SATI) and Leticia Martinez (CTPCBA), who unfortunately had to withdraw from the task force in late 2015. The task force met regularly in cyberspace and quickly made good progress with the manual. Work was equitably divided amongst Task Force members according to their specific expertise, knowledge and experience of particular aspects of association work. The final manual was completed way ahead of schedule and presented to the FIT Council in mid-February 2016!

The manual includes a wide range of topics that are extremely relevant to people who plan to establish a new TI association. A feature of the manual is its use of clear and accessible language. Moreover, the manual includes textboxes with hints and links to relevant websites throughout. Eight important aspects relating to setting up a new TI association are covered in individual chapters:

- Setting the focus of an association: includes information on defining a mission statement and identifying a target group.
- Setting admission criteria for membership: includes helpful information on potential categories of membership.
- Deciding on a constitution or governing structures: highlights the importance of a solid structure and documentation governing an association's operation.
- Human resources in association building: shares ideas about bringing people together to work for a common cause and recruiting volunteers to contribute to the work of the association.
- Benefits associations offer their members: people usually want to know why

they should belong to an association and what advantages they will derive from it; here, some benefits of association membership are listed and discussed.

- Managing financial resources: an association needs to ensure that its finances are healthy and carefully managed. This chapter provides guidance on how to achieve sound financial management in an association.
- Codes of ethics: focuses on the need for an association to ensure its members behave professionally and are protected from malpractice.
- Building relationships: the final chapter points to the benefits of building up relations with other associations and bodies, and shares useful tips to achieve such relationships.

The DABTF encourages all FIT member associations and their members to distribute this handy manual to relevant people in locations where TI associations do not yet exist and could be established to fill a particular gap. The manual can be downloaded free of charge from the FIT website/Resources.

Eleanor Cornelius, eleanorc@uj.ac.za

FIT Task Forces and Standing Committees

Since the last edition of *Translatio* in January, much work has been done by FIT task forces and standing committees, some of which presented their results to the FIT Council during the annual meeting in March.

The *Association Building and Development* Task Force has completed the drafting of their guide for setting up new T&I associations. It is a 23-page document which covers not only recommendations for structure and management, objectives and membership criteria, but also the benefits that associations generally offer to their members, and – of

particular importance – the codes of ethics adopted by organisations. This guide is available for download from the "Resources" section of the FIT website.

The *Research* Task Force, in charge of developing FIT's view on various current affairs, presented their conclusions on "crowdsourcing" and machine translation. These are to be sent to members for comment before being published on the FIT website. In the wake of this work, other subjects are to be studied: the relationship between translators and translation companies, the future of the profession, the fundamental role of FIT, and more.

The first part of the *Survey of Standards and Codes of Ethics* in force within our member associations, prepared by the name-sake Task Force, will be sent to our associations in the coming days. We would like to get a large response to this survey, as it will serve as reference for all matters relating to the ethics of translators and interpreters in general.

The next edition of *Translatio* will present results from other task forces and committees. In the meantime, they will be posted on relevant sections of the FIT website as soon as they become available.

*Sabine Colombe
secretarygeneral@fit-ift.org*

ISO 17100: The Way Forward

Since its establishment in late 2015, the FIT ISO Standards Committee has focused on a single urgent issue – section 3.1.4 “Translator qualifications”, of ISO 17100 “Translation services – Requirements for translation services”. Although ISO 17100 was published in May 2015, the intervening months have seen an attempt to remove the guidance notes that expand on the requirements for translator qualifications. This would create a new standard that would supersede the version that is now in widespread use worldwide.

The first note expands the scope of the term “graduate qualification in translation” to include equivalent degrees. The second note clarifies that “graduate” can mean either first or higher degrees. The third note states specifically that “full-time professional experience means full-time or equivalent”.

The FIT ISO Committee deliberated

these issues at length, and adopted a position paper. This states clearly its position that the notes to section 3.1.4 of ISO 17100 should be retained, as the standard would otherwise “fail the reality test”. The position paper was then circulated for discussion and comment, and the Committee’s position was endorsed by the overwhelming majority of respondents.

In February 2016, the secretariat of the ISO committee responsible for ISO 17100 published a document entitled “Guidance on the way forward for ISO 17100”, containing proposals to retain the notes to section 3.1.4 in modified form. The FIT ISO Committee welcomes these proposals, although it believes that there is a need for certain editorial amendments in order to eliminate potential ambiguities. This process is still ongoing.

*Robin Bonthrone, r.bonthrone@gmail.com
Ilya Mishchenko, genuine.iljich@gmail.com*

The FIT ISO Standards Committee (in alphabetical order):

Robin Bonthrone

Co-chair (ITI, UK)

Lidia Jeansalle

(CTPCBA, Argentina)

Claudia Koch-McQuillan

(AUSIT, Australia)

Gladys Martell Hurtado

(CTP, Peru)

Alan K. Melby

FIT Council liaison member (ATA, USA)

Ilya Mishchenko

Co-chair (UTR, Russia)

Zhang Xuetao

(TAC, China)

Izabel Souza

(non-voting member), liaison between FIT and ISO TC37/SC5

New FIT Position Papers

Crowdsourcing and machine translation are two increasingly important subjects in the world of translation. The FIT Research Task Force has therefore drawn up a position paper on both aspects to make it clear where FIT stands. Each paper is accompanied by a set of questions and answers as a guide for professional translators in their interaction with clients.

The task force's aim was to produce papers that are not too long or academic,

and reflect an open-minded, constructive attitude towards new developments. Following Council approval, the documents are to be posted on the FIT website and distributed to all members for any feedback.

Various subjects are being considered for the next papers to be drafted, such as: the future for professional translators, interpreters and terminologists; the global translation market; the relationship between translators and translation

service companies; the benefits of translation and interpreting standards. If you would like to join us, or wish to make comments or suggest topics, please email us at FIT-Positionpapers@fit-ift.org

The current members of the Research Task Force are: Reiner Heard, chair (ATICOM), Reina de Bettendorf (APTI Panama), Lidia Jeansalle (CTPCBA), Norma Keßler (BDÜ), Alan Melby (ATA) and Joanna Miler-Cassino (TEPIS).

Reiner Heard, reiner.heard@gmx.de

Translatio survey results

In our January edition the *Translatio* team asked you to reply to several questions on your reading habits and your profile. Overall the survey returned no major surprises: of about fifty replies, a third came from committee members, leaders of our member associations, other FIT entities or language networks. *Translatio* is read at management level, and by salaried employees.

However, we were surprised to see that *Translatio* is read by those who are not association members. Generally the time spent reading it was only about a quarter of an hour. This will be reflected upon by the editorial team. Most of our readers read *Translatio* outside of work hours and while travelling. So the soon-to-be operational app allowing it to be read on smartphones and tablets makes good sense.

There was little difference in the preferences amongst the topics: FIT activities are top of the tree, followed by information from our members, International Translation Day (ITD) and Council news.

Thanks to all our readers who gave their time to this survey!

Sabine Colombe for the Translatio team.
translation@fit-ift.org

Annual FIT Council Meeting

On 12 and 13 March, the FIT Council met in smiling sunshine in Paris following an invitation from SFT. Key points from the meeting: exchange of information with FIT Europe and other regional centres, results from Task Forces and Committees, budget issues, and necessary changes to the By-laws and Rules of Procedure to be submitted to Congress in Brisbane in 2017.

President of the organising committee for Congress 2017 in Brisbane, Alison Rodriguez, presented a very detailed schedule of events: the Congress website will be online and the call for papers will come out soon.

Fifteen or so observers from member associations from Europe, Canada, Algeria and China followed the discussions over two days. The minutes of this meeting will be available for members in the members' section of the FIT website.

Sabine Colombe, secretarygeneral@fit-ift.org



CIUTI Forum 2016 – Equitable Education and Blended Learning

Equitable Education through Intercultural Communication: Role and Responsibility for Non-State Actors was the topic of the annual CIUTI Forum held 14-15 January 2016 in Geneva. The Forum is a platform where trainers, market players, international organisations and institutions can easily exchange views and define new challenges. The most urgent problems addressed were closer cooperation and coordination between employers, governments and educational institutions; educational challenges on a micro- and macro-level; and new areas for translators (which means new areas

for training institutions). The participants also talked about innovative solutions to ever-changing complex challenges, and research in times of frugal innovation. Multi-polar geopolitical problems were discussed from the African, Asian, European and Latin-American viewpoints, as well as from the perspective of international organisations and institutions. Olga Egorova represented the FIT Council at the Forum, and gave a presentation entitled "Blended learning as a way to provide equitable professional expertise: FIT and CIUTI - market needs versus university training". She is also Chair of

the FIT Education Task Force and liaison between FIT and CIUTI.

In his official letter to the Forum, FIT President, Henry Liu stressed that equitable education is critical and topical not just as an ideal we aspire to; it is also through providing opportunities, opening minds and raising standards that we can enjoy a more stable, secure and prosperous world.

Olga Egorova
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MT@Work 2015 – Machine Translation in Translation Practice

Opinions ranging from a 'happy post-editor is an oxymoron' to a 'translator and post-editor is one and the same job' were seen during the annual MT@Work user conference, held on 4 December 2015 in Brussels and this time aimed at professional translators.

The warm welcome address by Rytis Martikonis, Director General for Translation at the European Commission, and a thought-provoking keynote speech by

Henry Liu, FIT President, framed the day perfectly and led into many insights on the inevitable coexistence between machine- and human translation.

On the one hand, nobody seems to believe that machines could replace human translators anytime soon in situations where fluency and accuracy are a must. On the other hand, the ever-growing appetite for multilingual information should be tackled in a reasonable way. If

mankind aspired to having all information available on this planet translated into all languages by real people, we would need several other planets populated solely by translators. Since this is impossible, machine translation is the way to go!

The conference covered topics ranging from university research on post-editing, human factors in machine translation and evaluation methodologies; through

case studies from the United Nations, EU institutions, public administrations and commercial providers; to the need for more high quality translation data to support the technology.

It was concluded that since translation is an integral part of the European project, machine translation is here to stay, though it should only be used by trained professional translators, as a useful tool in their toolbox. Thus, the famous title of the XXth FIT Congress in 2014 in Berlin, 'Man vs Machine' might now become 'Man with Machine'.



The full conference materials are still available online:

http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/translation/translationresources/machine_translation/index_en.htm

Looking ahead

Machine translation and a number of other translation technologies will be discussed at the Translating Europe Forum (TEF) on 27-28 October 2016 in Brussels. A call for presentations is now open, until 15 April 2016:

http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/translation/programmes/translating_europe/forum/index_en.htm

Henri Liu, president@fit-ift.org

ITD 2016 Poster Competition

This year, FIT received seven different high-quality entries for the ITD Poster Competition. The Council is now pleased to announce the winner:

Colegio de Traductores Públicos de la Ciudad de Buenos Aires (CTPCBA)

Graphic designer: *Lic. Micaela Karaman*
Graphic Designer of the Department of Publicaciones y Diseño of the CTPCBA.

<http://be.net/micakaraman>

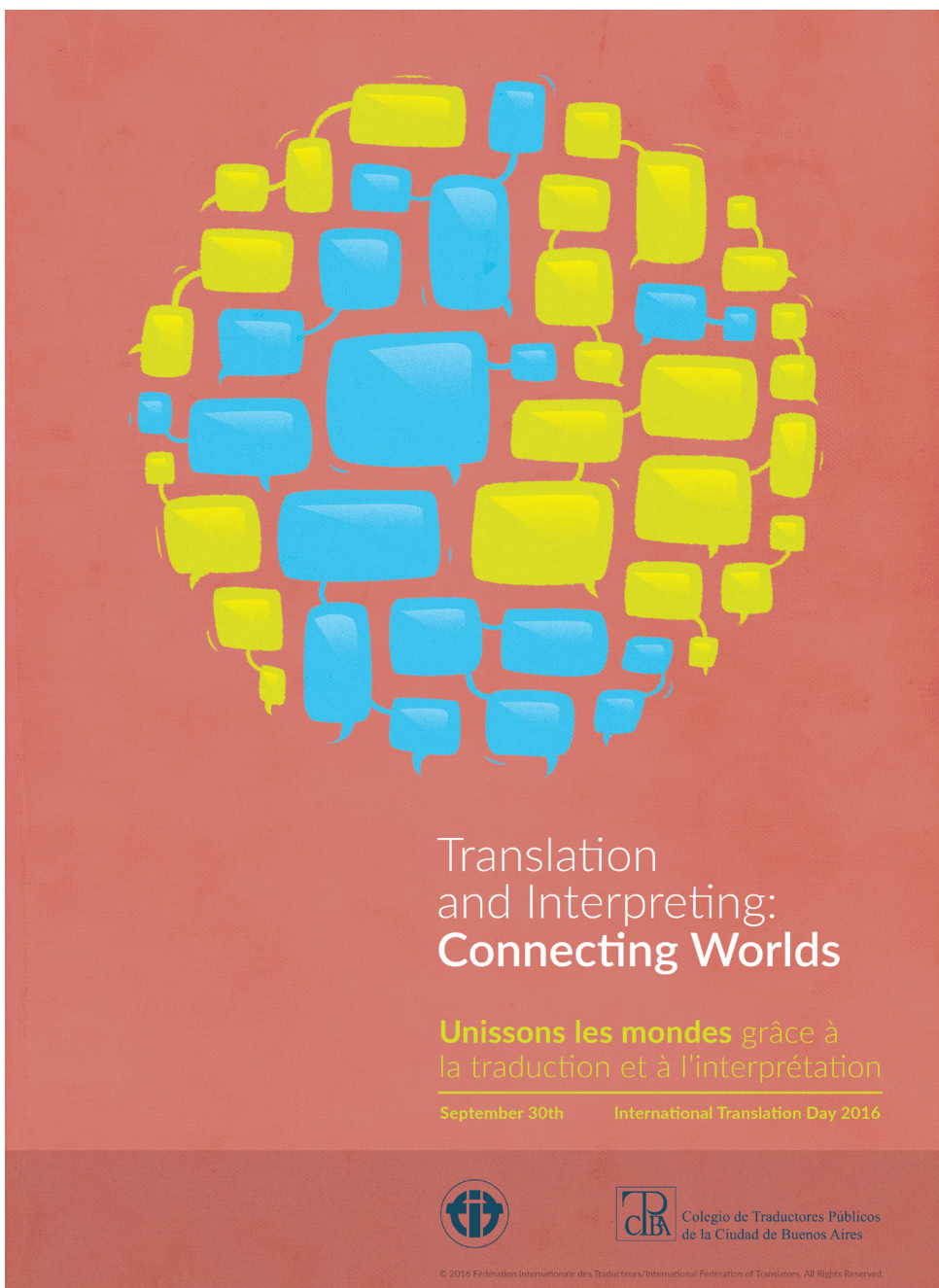
Congratulations

The theme for International Translation Day 2016 is *Translation and Interpreting: Connecting Worlds*



Designer Lic. Micaela Karaman

Translation and interpreting are two professions dedicated to a single goal: facilitating communication between people. As the world becomes more integrated, fostering understanding among the multitude of speakers is more critical



than ever, whether it concerns writing or speech. Interpreters and translators are at the junction point that impacts the development of business, science, medicine, technology, international law, politics and a host of other areas. We provide opportunities for each of these worlds to learn from each other, to the benefit of society as a whole. The role of translators

and interpreters in connecting worlds is to open up the whole world to all of us. FIT's mission is to promote interpreters, translators and terminologists and to be their voice. This competition, which is open to all FIT member organisations as well as individuals across the globe, is one means of accomplishing our mission. The winning poster is freely avail-

able via the website, for member associations and others to print out along with the communiqué on this year's theme. We encourage you to use it for your ITD events. The copyright will belong to FIT. FIT would also like to thank the other participants for their time and effort. We regret that unfortunately there can only be one winner!

FROM OUR MEMBERS

Literary Translators at Buenos Aires Book Fair

The Argentine Association of Translators and Interpreters (AATI) will host its annual Literary Translators' Seminar at the Buenos Aires International Book Fair as part of the Book Fair's Professional Sessions.

The third edition of the seminar will be held on April 19-21, alongside seminars for writers, illustrators, publishing houses and bookstore owners. The programme will cover a wide range of topics of interest for various stakeholders in the book value chain, with translators of copyright works at centre stage. There will be a panel on Translation of Children and Young Readers' Fiction, focusing on emerging and inclusive formats, such as books in Braille and video-books with sign language interpreting, followed by a discussion by a writer, translator and publisher on the dynamic landscape of this genre. Other panels will address Translation of Academic Works for university publishing houses, and Translator Networking and Professionalization. Additionally, there will be a panel on the status of the Translation Copyright Bill, and two workshops for translators, which will be led by international speakers and experts: "Translating Art and Culture for the World - The French Case Study", and "Translation Contracts - Best Practices."

The opening and closing ceremonies will feature renowned translators and writers of translated books from Argentina and foreign countries, contributing a global view of the challenges and opportunities faced by professionals specialising in the translation of copyright works. As on previous occasions, there will be

plenty of opportunities for networking with colleagues and visiting the Book Fair on those special days when it can be enjoyed exclusively by professionals, before the bustle of the grand opening to the public.

The Literary Translation Seminar at the Book Fair has become a classic: every year an increasing number of language professionals gather to listen to prominent speakers, take part in workshops, and network with peers. The presence of Translators at such a major cultural event is considered a true achievement that encourages organisers to continue proposing relevant and innovative activities for participants.

Translators in the limelight

As a prelude to the Book Fair Seminar, AATI was present at another major cultural event in Buenos Aires City, bringing visibility to the translation profession:



"The Night of Bookstores." On Saturday, March 12, AATI sponsored two activities accessible to the public as part of a wider programme organized by City authorities: A lively performance of Shakespeare comedy acts by two translator-actresses (Natalia Barry and Salomé Boustani) on an outdoor stage, and a recital of original prose pieces and their translated versions by well-known authors and their translators, in a cultural centre. The author-translator duets were: Pablo Ingborg and Daniela Bentancur (English), Léonce Lupette and Martina Fernández Polcuch (German), and Silvia Kederian and Gabriel Torem (Quechua). The venue was Corrientes Avenue, the epicentre of bookstores, theatres and night entertainment, against the backdrop of the illuminated Obelisk, a true hallmark of the city's vibrant social life.

Marita Propato
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Amalgam of Experience and Youth in Panama

Working full steam, the new board of the Panamanian Association of Translators and Interpreters, APTI, with Matilde V. de De la Victoria as president, is combining the views of the more experienced members with the fresh innovative ideas of the newer generation, an amalgam of experience and youth. The goal: to build strong and lasting relationships with our members, consolidate membership, encourage communication, integrate innovative practices and activities to actively contribute to the professional development of our colleagues, and ensure that APTI maintains a visible pres-



ence at a national and international level. Establishing a technical certification council for translators and interpreters in

Panama is part of the effort to meet the demands of the technological era. This will involve amending Decree Law No. 472 of 2014, which regulates our profession. Another battle is to streamline the number of committees and to share the workload more efficiently.

In addition, we can count on the expertise of Berta Alicia Chen, author of several books, as Editor-in-Chief of the APTI Bulletin.

We are looking forward to the next two years of hard work, with the hope that they will be enlightening and entertaining for all APTI members!

Matilde De la Victoria

95 Years of ÖVGD

The Trautson Palace, a Baroque building that accommodates Austria's Federal Ministry of Justice, was the setting for the 95th anniversary of the Austrian Association of Court Interpreters (ÖVGD). The fact that the Ministry opened its doors so that Austria's court interpreters/translators could celebrate this memorable event demonstrates the close links that the association maintains with the judiciary as well as with the other judicial stakeholders. Of course, as with any long-standing relationship, the ties between ÖVGD and the Ministry are not always rosy and calm. Things can also get rougher – especially when ÖVGD members remind the Ministry (usually to no effect) that the index-linked fees for court interpreting and translation services should be raised. Nevertheless, on occasions like a 95th anniversary, only the good times are remembered.

The celebrations held on 15 October 2015 began with a formal sitting, followed by a buffet lunch. Christine Springer, the long-time president of ÖVGD, welcomed participants and moderated the session. Senior Ministry officials, representatives from a number of higher courts in Austria, and the president of ÖRAK, the Federal Bar Association, attended the gathering and conveyed their congratulations. The vice-president of the Federal Association of Court Experts (which has particularly close ties with court interpreters/translators in Austria, as both are covered by the same piece of federal

legislation) referred to the many experiences shared with ÖVGD over the years, particularly when defending a common stand vis-à-vis judicial authorities.

The main lecture was delivered by Dr. Ronald Kunst, a senior judge in Vienna who has contributed to ÖVGD activities in many different functions over several decades. He also served, amongst other things, as chairperson of one of the examination boards which certify interpreter/translators. He gave a detailed and most enlightening outline of the ÖVGD history. His paper will be published in the next issue of the ÖVGD bulletin "Mitteilungsblatt", which goes to press in May.

A video message from FIT President Henry Liu was the last item on the agen-

da. In his statement, he underlined the contributions of ÖVGD members to FIT activities, in particular to the former FIT Committee for Legal Interpreting and Translation.

There are about 800 certified court interpreters/translators in Austria, and approximately half of them have joined ÖVGD as full members. A respectable cross-section of the ÖVGD membership attended the 95-year celebrations and exchanged fond and sad memories over food and drinks. The general tenor of the conversations was: "We all look forward to celebrating 100 years of ÖVGD!"

Liese Katschinka, former ÖVGD Vice-President

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HPI Nurtures its Members

Recently, we have seen a surge of enthusiasm, with more and more freelance and in-house translators in Indonesia joining HPI.

As a fast-growing professional association, HPI has been holding regular activities on a monthly basis since the beginning of 2014. The board organizes an annual meeting in January to set an agenda of activities for the whole year. The 2016 agenda is available in Indonesian at <http://www.hpi.or.id/kegiatan>.

The activities consist mainly of training sessions and talks given by the most competent trainers and experts. Training subjects and talk topics are decided based on input and feedback from our members.

This year, our training subjects cover the translation of literary texts, fantasy literature, and legal documents. Training on editing, proofreading, and revising translated texts will also be held for those working mainly as editors, proof-readers, and revisers. In addition, there will also be a training course on simultaneous interpreting in September 2016.

In our talks, the latest issues relating to translation and interpretation are discussed in depth. Our first event this year was a talk on 20 February 2016 about the 2015 Frankfurt Book Fair, where Indonesia was selected as the guest of honour. The principal aim of the discussion was to determine how we can prepare our-

selves better in the future to perform to the greater satisfaction of all parties involved. On the same occasion, we also had a simple celebration of HPI's 42nd anniversary, which actually falls on the 5th of February.

As HPI's aim is to support the improvement of our members' translation and interpreting knowledge and skills consistently, we believe that organising such training sessions and talks is essential. By catering to our members' needs and hosting innovative programs, we expect to help our members raise their quality and competitiveness.

Rosmeilan Siagian, HPI Secretary
rosmeilan.siagian@gmail.com



The management board, supervisory board, and full and junior members of HPI

Maximising the Audience: Translation Slams & the Greek Arena

"My idea is to share with you some initiatives that you can use as soon as you leave this meeting". Those were some of the first words spoken by our dear colleague and translation "guru" Chris Durban during her talk about frugality and prosperity in October 2014 in Athens, Greece. Chris was a guest speaker at the "Shaping our Common Future" event, hosted by the Panhellenic Association of Professional Translators Graduates of the Ionian University (PEEMPIP). You said it,

Chris, and that is exactly what we did: we sprang into action.

"Translation Slam": Just two out of the thousands of words Chris used in her inspirational speech. And most probably no one in the Greek audience had ever heard those two words before, at least not together. Still, a translator's middle name is always "Research" and, thanks to Google, the mystery shrouding the term "Translation Slam" was instantly solved. The idea is as brilliant as it is simple: two

translators, each on his/her own, translate the same piece of (usually) literary text. Next, they get up from behind their lonely desks and sit live in front of an audience, where they expose their work in all its translated glory, discuss their choices with the audience, compare the two translations phrase by phrase, describing the intricacies of translating, deciphering the author's meaning, agreeing or arguing on the use of "petty stuff" (such as humble commas).

What a splendid idea getting the unsuspecting readership to catch a glimpse of the work of translators! All it takes is two “gladiators” willing to cross pens, a “referee” brave enough to throw the net of reason over them, and a source text. Right? Well, trust us! We tried it and it works! Since October 2014, PEEMPIP has extended its outreach by introducing the “Translation Slamming” trend to Greece and organising three Translation Slams: Two from Spanish into Greek in Thessaloniki and Athens, respectively; and one from English into Greek, in Athens. Over 100 people attended and participated in each event, including translation students, fellow translators, as well as a fair mix of book lovers and “innocent bystanders”. We are happy to report that everybody loved the experience, and to our amazement most of the participants in this fascinating kind of workshop would be more than willing to spend another couple of hours chatting about translation and comparing notes! Wait! There’s more! A few months ago, Violetta Tsitsiliani, a fellow translator and



PEEMPIP member, inspired by the Translation Slams hosted by PEEMPIP, submitted a proposal to the StART Programme, which is supported by the R. Bosch Foundation, and was offered a grant in order to set up her very own series of

translation-focused activities in Athens, Corfu, and Thessaloniki. The initiative is known as “THE LANGUAGE PROJECT”, and aims at promoting the profession of the translator and translation studies. It is also geared towards showcasing intercultural communication through art among the young. The project includes translation slams, collective translation and subtitling workshops, live translation of comics and more!

PEEMPIP is currently honing its upcoming series of Translation Slams, to be held throughout Greece, in various language combinations. If you haven’t tried the “slamming” experience yet, we highly recommend it. *Translation Slamming* is as fun as it is educational. It is one of the most practical ways of explaining the hard work and the gratifying moments all we translators experience during our daily grind.

So, Chris, this one’s for you! Ευχαριστούμε πολύ!

Kleopatra Elaiotrivari, Vice-President of PEEMPIP
info@peempip.gr

Translation and Languages of Lesser Diffusion

The main objective of the conference held in November 2015 in Bratislava, Slovakia was to provide opportunity for networking among different players in the language services market. These included institutional players such as the Slo-

vak Republic Ministry of Culture, the European Commission, the Literary Fund, and the Literary Centre; representatives from educational institutions such as Comenius University in Bratislava, University of Constantine the Philosopher in Nitra (EMT University), Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra, Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica, University of Vienna (Austria), University of Tampere (Finland), Palacky University in Olomouc (Czech Republic), Charles University in Prague (Czech Republic); professional associations such as SSPOL, SSPUL, SAPT, HDZTP, and the International Federation of Translators (FIT) represented by the president of FIT Europe; translation and interpreting service agencies represented by Heureka-KPT Translation, s.r.o.; and a publishing house represented by Vydavateľstvo Tatran, spol. s.r.o. The IT workshop presented practical hints for terminology work.

All these players were given the floor to present their expertise and opinions, enabling the participants to become better acquainted with each body. The SSPOL thanks FIT for supporting the idea of the conference from the very beginning. It also thanks the Ministry of Culture of Slovakia, the European Commission, and the Literary Fund for their financial support.

Ľubica Medvecká, SSPOL President
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Photo taken by Jana Záhorcová



Prof. Jana Rakšányiová, PhD., Comenius University in Bratislava, Faculty of Arts, a scientific guarantor of the conference. Natacha Dalugge-Momme is in this picture as well.



europa

FIT Europe Board Report, February 2016

Members of the Board

Max de Brouwer

Natacha Dalügge-Momme (President),
Eyvor Fogarty

Dagmar Sanjath (Secretary General)

Annette Schiller (Vice-President)

Dimitra Stafilia (Treasurer)

Michal Staša (Vice-President)

The Board has held an e-meeting every month, when projects are reviewed, news and information shared, the treasurer (Dimitra Stafilia) gives an update on finances and procedures, and the secretary general (Dagmar Sanjath) keeps track of decisions and policy discussions.

FIT Europe projects

Conference interpreter platform

This project was launched by Michal Staša, with a start-up letter sent to all members, through the egroup. A follow-up has been sent. This project is still running as member associations are still sending in their responses. (Natacha Dalügge-Momme)

Admissions Criteria Survey

This project has been re-launched and sent to the associations, together with the minutes of the Annual Meeting in Brussels.

Translation houses

This is an ongoing project. A list had been provided by the German association VDÜ containing not only the Translations houses, but also loans etc. on an international level. The complete information has been available since January

2016 and is awaiting translation. The former President of SFT Graham MacLachlan has volunteered to deal with the translation into French.

Working group on professional development

The Working Group has started work, putting aims in place and proposals for a seminar in 2016. (Eyvor Fogarty)

European platform on self-employment

Work is progressing on producing an information leaflet and seminar on business conditions for selfemployed translators. (Eyvor Fogarty)

Tracking European projects

Translating Europe Forum

At this year's Translating Europe Forum, organised by Directorate General Translation in Brussels, FIT Europe had a presentation stand and was able to introduce delegates to its members' role in mentoring new translators into employability. FIT Europe distributed a brochure in English, urging new translators and interpreters to join professional associations. A draft French version has also been prepared and is ready for printing (translation provided by the Board).

This event offers ongoing publicity for FIT Europe as it is webstreamed (http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/translation/programmes/translating_europe/forum/index_en.htm)

Translating Europe Workshops

DGT has held various workshops over the past year in several EU countries. Annette Schiller represented FIT Europe in Opatija and Brussels, and Nata-

cha Dalügge-Momme in Brussels and Bratislava, and will go to Paris etc.

ESCO (European Skills, Competences, Qualifications and Occupations – an EU organization)

A first definition for our occupations (translator, interpreter, sign language interpreter, post-editor etc.) has been under discussion with ESCO (<https://ec.europa.eu/esco/portal/home>). Natacha Dalügge-Momme had a meeting with the person responsible in Brussels and several Board members contributed to the required information. Our suggestions were well received and formed the basis for the job descriptions.

MIME (Mobility and Inclusion in Multilingual Europe)

The Board of FIT Europe is being represented in this project (<http://www.mime-project.org/>). Eyvor Fogarty was invited to give a talk and take part in a panel discussion, and was able to promote the role of translators and interpreters.

TRANSCERT

This project is not being continued for the moment.

TESC

Natacha Dalügge-Momme has requested regular information from TESC.

Funding issues

A funding letter was sent out to all the associations. The Board is pleased to announce that so far four associations have donated and looks forward to more contributions. A reminder will be sent within the next couple of months. There have been some difficulties with the transfer

of the banking codes for the French account, but the treasurer is confident of smooth banking flow in the future. (Dimitra Stafilia)

Monitoring and Lobbying

Entry in the Transparency register:

FIT Europe has been listed on the Transparency Register for some years. Natacha Dalügge-Momme took steps to ensure FIT Europe is properly registered and informed. Given current policy at the European Commission on transparency it is now imperative that FIT Europe is listed on the Register, not simply because of any information available through it, but because all organisations that seek to influence policymaking, policy implementation and/or decision making in the EU institutions whether directly or indirectly ought to be registered.

Monitoring

The Monitoring Project (sponsored by the BDÜ) is carried out by Dr. Koch Consulting e.K., with regular information on the monitoring of future EU projects and directives.

Publications and Social

Media TTIP position paper. Natacha Dalügge-Momme spoke with Caitlin Walsh, USA (President ATA) and Denis Bousquet, Canada (former FIT Council member and

person responsible for North America liaison). Max de Brouwer and Natacha Dalügge-Momme have prepared a position paper, outlining FIT Europe's response to the current negotiations. The position paper was sent to the European associations and appreciated.

Open Letter to the European Commission on Language Technology and the Digital Single Market sent to the European associations and appreciated.

Letter in support of Afghan translators, also published in *Translatio*.

Position paper on the right to translation and interpretation in criminal proceedings sent to the European associations and appreciated.

A new FIT Europe page has been created on Facebook, as well as a new Twitter account, with the aim of enhancing visibility and increasing the regional centre's reach within the European region. The Page and the account are already followed by member associations, professionals and relevant interest groups.

Dialogue with EUATC

Natacha Dalügge-Momme is in contact with Rudy Tirry (EUATC / BQTA Belgium). There have been discussions about translating a guide, in German, on how to work with TSPs, agencies and translators. This will be pursued.

Contact with EULITA

As part of the Memorandum of Understanding, FIT Europe and EULITA continue to keep each other informed of their activities. Members of the Board will attend the EULITA meeting in Strasbourg (France).

Meetings with member associations

Bremer Runde in Berlin

Natacha Dalügge-Momme attended, at the invitation of the BDÜ, a meeting of the German-speaking associations (Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Italy and Belgium) and will attend the next meeting in Vienna (Austria).

FIT Matters

International Translation Day

FIT Europe was invited to celebrate International Translation Day with the Chambre Belge des Traducteurs et Interprètes (CBTI-BKVT), on the occasion of its sixtieth anniversary. This year's ITD slogan is The Changing Face of Translating and Interpreting. The poster was produced by the Finnish association SKTL.

FIT Council

FIT Europe continues to be heard at FIT Council meetings, through the Council member responsible for liaison, Reiner Heard.

FIT Europe Board March 2016

ESCO

ESCO is the organization for the multilingual classification of European Skills, Competences, Qualifications and Occupations. It identifies and categorises skills, competences, qualifications and occupations relevant for the EU labour market, education and training - in 24 European languages.

[Information on ESCO can be viewed at: https://ocp.escportal.eu/](https://ocp.escportal.eu/)

Specifications for jobs are published online. Job seekers can match up their CVs/resumés to them, and see any gaps in their portfolios that would need to be filled in, and any professional development that would need to be undertaken. (For classification purposes, there is a difference between an *occupation* and a *job*. The system works with preferred



ESCO European Classification of Skills/Competences, Qualifications and Occupations

terms [the occupation] and non-preferred terms [the job], and links are set up in the mapping to help job seekers find job vacancies that match their CVs in many countries.)

Last year, ESCO profiled occupations in the translation/interpreting industry. FIT Europe had a major role in defining long-established *occupations* and in identifying viable new ones. As a result, the number of occupations listed in the

system has increased from three to six, and there will be many links to *job* descriptions.

Given that the information will be available on a multilingual platform, an exciting spin-off in this is that work has also been created for translators and terminologists, both on the staff and under contract, in developing the descriptions for the ESCO digital platform.

Eyvor Fogarty, FIT Europe Board

Eighth Asia-Pacific Translation and Interpreting Forum (APTIF)



Join us on June 17-18, 2016 Xi'an, China

Eighth Asia-Pacific Translation and Interpreting Forum

The Eighth Asia-Pacific Translation and Interpreting Forum (APTIF8), co-hosted by FIT and the Translators Association of China (TAC), and organized by Xi'an International Studies University (XISU), will be held in Xi'an, China, on 17-18 June 2016. The forum will be graced by the presence of FIT Executive Committee members, who will hold an EC meeting just before the forum.

The abstract review phase is complete. Some 150 out of 491 abstracts submitted were accepted as presentations, and

another batch of papers were selected as posters. Selected papers will be published in time for the forum.

At the preparatory meeting of the APTIF organising committee held in Xi'an on 18 January 2016, Zhuang Changxing, Vice Governor of Shaanxi province, warmly welcomed the convening of APTIF8 and the FIT EC meeting in Xi'an, and pledged the full support of the provincial government for both events. Wang Gangyi (Executive Vice President and Secretary General of TAC) and Wang

Junzhe (President of XISU), among other members of the organising committee, were in attendance.

Among the numerous cultural relics in Xi'an, there is a shrine of translation: the Dayan (Goose) Pagoda where voluminous Buddhist scriptures were translated from Sanskrit into Chinese in the 7th century. And it is only a 10 minutes' walk from the forum venue! Don't miss the chance to network with colleagues and explore the great city of Xi'an!

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