

Fall Greetings Dear NETA Members!

No escape from the inspiration of the beautiful fall season in NE. This poem was born some time ago during one of my nature hikes.

At this point in time, by a variety of thoughtful ways and lifestyles, we are in total awe and awareness of our vital connection with the natural world. This fragile and beautiful unity, mankind's silver lining in full unity here!

As professional language workers, translators and interpreters can draw a vital analogy: a correspondence between Nature and the target text or discourse to be translated or interpreted. We are the qualified bridges between cultures, and every community depends on their healthy compromise with nature for survival. Then this whole process entails a further realization that calls for deeper insights, a richer comprehensive text or discourse analysis and, in the case of Nature, effective actions to protect our unique blue spaceship.

As we are one with Nature, we are one with our brothers and sisters all over the world. It is in the shared effort as engaged language workers that we are united in translation. The communication process to render a text or a conversation in the target language now entails a gargantuan task for the translator and interpreter working on the front lines of conflict areas. NETA extends its sincere support to our Afghan colleagues at this challenging hour. We are united in translation across borders of all kinds, translators work at the risk of their own lives. We raise our voices in admiration for them!

We also send our heartfelt thoughts for a better situation for all refugees and their families as they undertake a new journey in different countries. It is an unbelievably difficult journey but we hope for the best. NETA's main action to help Afghan immigrants is to spread word of the various organizations



helping them with food, household items, and information. Huge thanks to these organizations! We have posted this list of aid groups on Facebook, LinkedIn, and our newsletter, and sent an email to all NETA members with the information. We are in communication with the FIT Council regarding ways to approach this issue as well. Organizations helping Afghan refugees are listed on page 6 of this issue.

I remember I wrote an article in our newsletter (Fall 2020) about a former Afghan interpreter who moved to Mass. with his family.

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NETA News

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Fall 2021

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To subscribe to a forum, you must be a current member.

Look for the NETA Group on LinkedIn at:

<http://tinyurl.com/ovehyp>

Membership information NETA accepts individual members only. A one-year membership is \$50. NETA offers a \$30 membership for students of translation and/or interpreting and individuals aged 65 or older. If you need a membership application or have other membership questions, contact: Subscription to this newsletter is included with your membership.

Fall Greetings from the Editor

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Fortunately, they are doing well, and expecting other families to arrive as well. We look forward to a better life journey for them here!

We are one, we are united in translation! In total solidarity with our Afghan colleagues, refugees and their families.

Also on unity, I'd like to encourage our members to feel they really are part of the FIT family. Check the [FIT website](#), the resources, the connections, the variety of possibilities for all. Link to their September newsletter [here](#). NETA shares the mission and values of the organization. Last month, we received the FIT Strategic Plan, with its core values of visibility, community and progress for our profession plus action points ahead. Quote from FIT: "OUR VISION. A united, sustainable, recognized profession to fulfil the expanding global need for translation. OUR VALUES. The values underpinning FIT processes, actions and interactions are: *Visibility: professionalism, fairness, accountability and transparency. Community: commitment to community and collaboration in a spirit of diversity and respect. Progress: sustainability in all its senses; human, professional and ecological.*"

Finally, I'm delighted to briefly mention Carolina Bellino, from San Juan, Argentina, the graphic designer who won the 2021 FIT design. *¡Felicitaciones compatriota!*

"United in translation" is her art piece and she loves all art; she feels like a translator: she translates ideas into design. Quote: "I was inspired by the theme 'United in translation' and the FIT logo itself to create the structure for the main design. The letters in the logo were transformed into people – translators, interpreters and terminologists – holding the principal element that represents translation: a rounded speech bubble consisting of arrows symbolizing source and



FIT 2021 Poster "United in Translation" by Graphic Designer Carolina Bellino

target languages and the process of translation with the bubble containing the continents of the Earth on the left and the horizontal lines on the right representing the written or oral text created as a result of the translation."

Last but not least, special good vibes of unity and care to colleagues working in the field of indigenous languages and to our native nations, Nature first super defenders!

My sincere warm wishes for your well-being as the new season unfolds. We are one in this journey, together we win.

Now for your happy NETA hour, please check the important content of our conference write-ups and the Super Summer Bash delights! Enjoy!

Laura

From the editor's desk

Happy New Fall Season Calling YOU, NETA Member!

We want your Happy T&I Favorite Story!



Send your favorite experience as a translator or interpreter. Tell us why in 500 words, add a pic!
Please send it to newsletter@netaweb.org.

NETA's 2021 Translation Bash

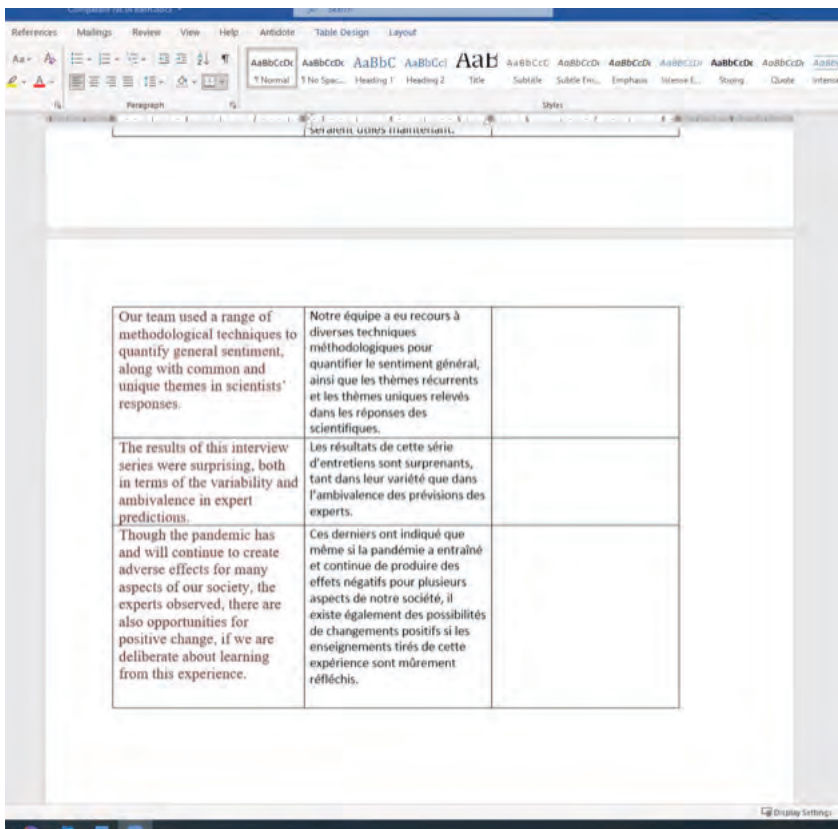
NETA's Monthly Meeting, September 18, 2021

Reviewed by Marian Comenetz

St. Jerome, the bible translator and patron saint of translators and interpreters, was born on September 30. Beginning in 1953, when the International Federation of Translators (FIT) was established, St. Jerome's Day—as September 30 was then called—was marked in ad hoc fashion. In 1991, the Public Relations Committee of FIT launched the idea of an International Translation Day to promote the translation field. In May 2017 the United Nations passed a draft resolution declaring September 30 International Translation Day.

For the past 16 years, NETA has been celebrating International Translation Day with a workshop that we call a “translation bash.”

“How Life Could Get Better (or Worse) After Covid”: Such was the title of the source text considered by three of the four groups (Eng>Fr, Eng>Port, Eng>Sp) at this year's iteration of NETA's translation bash. The topic was utterly germane to our times. The text itself presented myriad challenges that were energetically debated with full concentration for the two core hours of this event, after which certain



highlights were singled out for consideration when the groups reconvened to display their final versions via screen sharing. It is always worthwhile to compare the output of each group working in a different Romance language. To round things out, the Sp>Eng group, which worked with a Spanish source text on the same topic that group leader Andy Klatt had identified, encountered its own set of challenges, a few of which were shared for all to hear.

This was our second year running the bash via Zoom. Our president, Diana Rhudick, welcomed the participants. Then as always, Lesley Andrews, NETA's vice president, handled the tech side of things with supreme competence. After starting us up as a whole group, she assigned participants by language to Zoom rooms for the heavy-duty discussion, and then brought us back together two hours later. Lesley and I visited each room more than once during the course of the proceedings. We both found participants fully focused and engrossed in discussion. This was true not only for the larger groups, but of the two-person Eng>Port pair, consisting of one native and one non-native speaker,

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NETA's 2021 Translation Bash

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who engaged in their translation with striking geniality. Our group leaders, Erika Schulz, Rokhaya Smith, and Andy Klatt, had researched key elements of the source texts, thus adding further substance to the unfolding debates. In written practice, is “Covid” masculine or feminine, or for that matter, is the use of an article warranted at all? Where did the so-called Spanish flu originate? Is that phrase used in Spain and/or Latin America, or might that scourge be referred to as “the 1918 flu”? Not researched, but vigorously discussed, were matters of verb tense (use of historic present), register (is “*épiphénomène*,” which seemed like the *mot juste* for “side show,” appropriate for a text for the general public?), and liberty: just how much leeway can one take to add flow to a translation?

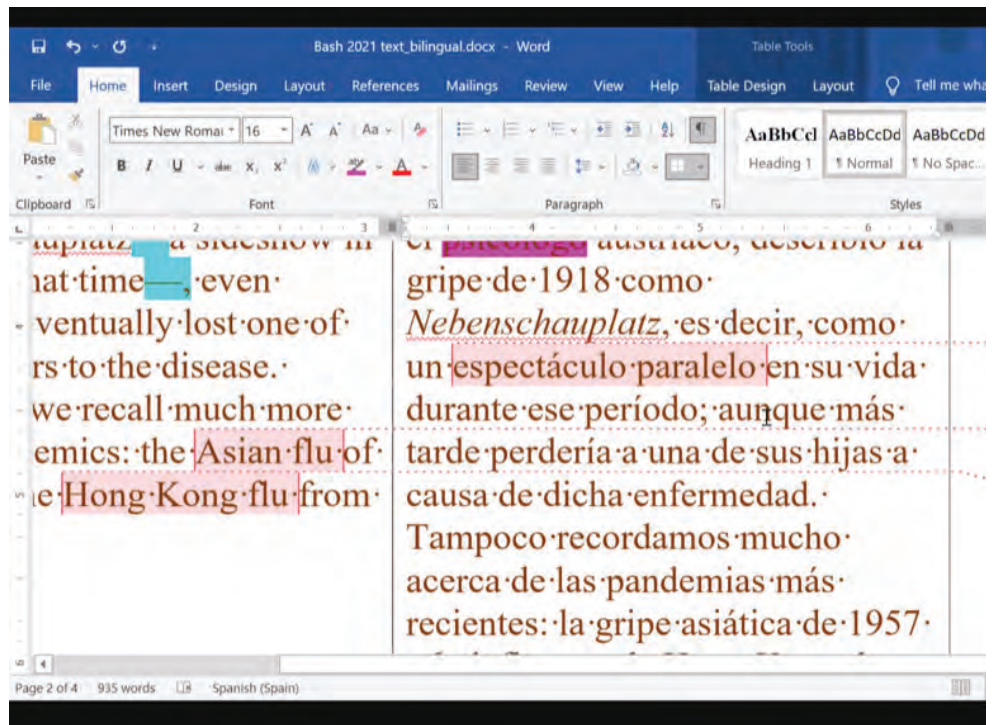
We have now learned from experience that the bash can be successfully run via Zoom, and that in fact, there are distinct advantages of running it that way. Aside from saving participants the time for commuting and dealing with the vagaries of traffic and weather, we can welcome people from far and wide. This year, for example, the bash was alluded to in the ATA's French Language Division discussion list, yielding a couple more participants than we have had in the past. More broadly, people can join in from afar (Miami, Seattle, and even Cape Town, South Africa!). Then, too, as always, NETA monthly meeting attendees originally hailed from many countries, this time ranging from Argentina to Senegal and from Switzerland to Paraguay, and any number of points in between.

One final matter bears mention: At the start of this year's bash, we again welcomed past board member and conference academic division head Diego Mansilla. He and his wife, Adel, met at the bash several



years ago, and their son, Adrian, was born on bash day four years ago—truly our “NETA baby”!

All in all, thanks to the yeoman efforts of our group leaders and Lesley, and judging from the engagement and enthusiasm of our attendees, NETA's 16th annual translation bash can justifiably be deemed a great success.



Help for Afghan Refugees

List compiled by Diana Rhudick

Special Immigrant Visa (SIV) holders

The Afghan Special Immigrant Visa (SIV) program was created by Congress to provide permanent protection to Afghans affiliated with US missions such as translators and interpreters. Those eligible can apply for a visa for themselves, as well as for their spouse and any unmarried children under 21. United States has not released a specific number of SIVs at this time but is making space for at least 20-22,000 people. The [New York Times](#) reported as of Sept. 14, about 64,000 evacuees from Afghanistan had arrived in the US. Most are still on military bases waiting to complete the procedures that will allow them to be resettled.

No One Left Behind

The focus of this nonprofit organization is twofold: They seek to revamp the State Department's 14-step process for SIVs and to also ease the transition for those who have been resettled in the US. They are focusing efforts on helping Afghans in the process of getting an SIV. The group has resources to help people navigate the process as well as recommendations for other groups that can assist. They are accepting donations, and report that \$0.76 of every dollar goes directly to the SIV families. Visit their [website](#). They can also be reached at info@nooneleft.org.

Keeping Our Promise

This organization provides resettlement assistance to "endangered wartime allies who served US interests in conflict and war zones." Individuals and groups can donate money or time, and their audited financials are available on their [website](#).

Evacuate Our Allies

[Evacuate Our Allies](#) is a coalition of groups working together to evacuate and resettle Afghan allies who are in the Special Immigrant Visa process and other vulnerable Afghans. The international human rights organization provides information and resources on how to contact your representatives to urge them to take action. They report that one issue they are having is housing Afghan refugees that have made it to the United States, so if you would like to volunteer in any way to include housing families, email list@evacuateourallies.org and somebody will contact you.

International Refugee Assistance Project

IRAP provides legal assistance to refugees to help them navigate through the process of relocating, whether it be via SIV or other means. Their [website](#) is filled with resources for those wishing to help refugees and their families.

Seth Moulton, Congressman

Massachusetts Representative Seth Moulton is a Marine Corps veteran who has been advocating for Afghans for months and has

set up a [form on Google Docs for people to request assistance](#) for a specific Afghan family.

UNHCR

UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, is providing displaced Afghans with emergency shelter, water, food and healthcare. You can learn more and donate [here](#).

International Rescue Committee

The International Rescue Committee is working to help displaced people in Afghanistan with various types of aid, including emergency cash assistance and protection services. They are also helping Afghan refugees resettle in the United States. You can donate [here](#).

AfghanAid

[AfghanAid](#) is providing emergency cash assistance, food and hygiene kits to displaced families.

Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services

[Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services](#) is helping Afghan refugees to resettle. Their [Neighbors in Need: Afghan Allies Fund](#) provides food, housing assistance, clothing, and other basic needs for Afghans.

Ascentria Care Alliance

[Ascentria Care Alliance](#) is resettling Afghan families throughout Massachusetts, as well as in New Hampshire areas. They also are training people in a community to become a Neighborhood Support Group.

International Institute of New England

[IINE](#) creates opportunities for refugees and immigrants to succeed through resettlement, education, career advancement and pathways to citizenship. They have offices in Manchester, NH. They are forming volunteer teams focused on specific activities such as airport pickup, apartment setup, and food distribution. After you sign up to volunteer, you will be asked for your interest area and availability.

Instructions on How to Increase Your NETA Online Privacy

by Diana Rhudick

If your name and contact information are included in NETA's online directory, be aware that these may be harvested by anyone using the web. The instructions below explain how to hide specific fields in your profile, which will of course also become hidden to potential clients.

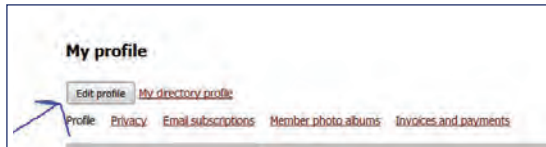


Click on your name to show the menu.

Click on "View profile."



Click on the gray box to left, "Edit profile."



Click on "Privacy," in the middle.

This page lists each field of your profile, and gives you the option to make each field visible to anybody, members only, or nobody, (No access).

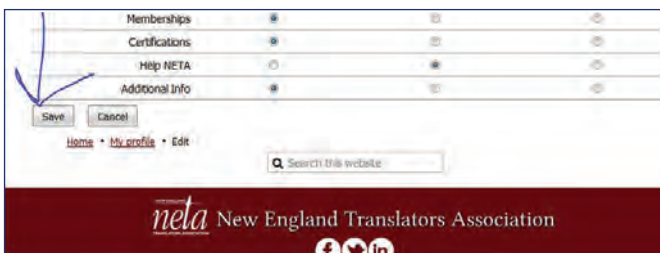


You can also click or unclick "Show profile to others" near the top.

The email field is about 9 down on the list. You can select "No access" for it.



To save changes and exit, click "Save" at the bottom.



Latinx vs. Latino vs. Hispanic: An Ongoing Controversy

Compiled by Sarah Heller

Hispanic Heritage Month has just ended in the U.S. (Sept 15 - Oct 15). As the media struggled to identify it without offending anyone, the controversy over the use of "Latinx" was brought to the forefront.

Below are links to some recent articles in popular media about this language-ethnicity issue.

What's the difference between Hispanic, Latino and Latinx?
UniversityofCalifornia.edu, October 6, 2021

The debate on Latino vs. Latinx vs. Hispanic is the song that never ends
VirginiaMercury.com, October 6, 2021

We are often many things at the same time. Hispanic, Latino/a, Latinx, or Latine?
NewsObserver.com, October 5, 2021

Latino or Latinx? The Journey of Self-Identity
ABC10.com, September 30, 2021

Who is Hispanic?
PewResearch.org, September 23, 2021

How Latinos, Latinx, Hispanics, Chicanos and Mexicans self-identify
CBS8.com, September 23, 2021

Yes, We're Calling It Hispanic Heritage Month and We Know It Makes Some of You Cringe
NPR.org, September 17, 2021

Why we say Latinx
TeachforAmerica.org, September 15, 2021

What Does "Latinx" Mean, Exactly?
Opradaily.com, September 13, 2021

What does 'Latinx' mean and why would you use it?
wfla.com, August 30, 2021



25th Annual NETA Conference

Held Virtually May 1, 2021



Below and on the following pages is the second half of the 2021 conference reviews written by fellow NETAns. The summer issue of NETA News contains the first half of the reviews. Thanks to all the participants in the 25th Annual NETA Conference— presenters, organizers, sponsors, exhibitors, reviewers, and of course, attendees! Please consider helping with next year's conference. Email netaconference@netaweb.org to find out more.

Introduction to Voice Movement Therapy for Interpreters

2021 Conference Presentation by Mali Sastri, VMT-R. Composer, Songwriter and Vocalist

Reviewed by Stephanie Newton

Mali Sastri gave us a thorough introduction to Voice Movement Therapy (VMT) through a combination biology class, history lesson, exercise workshop, and coaching session all wrapped up into one.

Mali began her highly interactive session with a reminder of the importance of the voice: besides our faces, our voices are our most recognizable feature. From her perspective, VMT is a type of expressive arts therapy, like dance therapy, and it is vital for individuals who use their voices for a living. Hello, interpreters!

We learned that much of VMT is based on the work of Alfred Wolfsohn, a German Jew who was a medic during World War I. Post-war, Wolfsohn suffered from auditory hallucinations, and when traditional treatments didn't work, he reproduced with his own voice the sounds of suffering he was hearing repetitively in his head. By so doing, his vocal range and timbre expanded greatly.

Mali also gave us an anatomy lesson so we could understand our vocal structure. The sounds of our voice are made from air rushing past the vocal cords, also called "vocal folds." The vocal tract is a tube, and for our voices to be resonant, we need to keep the tube relaxed, open, and loose, rather than pinched. Being in a fight-or-flight state causes us to breathe with our chests, to provide quick oxygen to our body—a state that is not ideal for talking, which you will have experienced if you've ever tried talking after being chased by an angry rhino.

To train our bodies to get to a state ideal for using our voice, Mali taught us belly breathing, and we all did the exercises and breathed along with her. First we all stood up together (I assume, since we couldn't see each other) and stretched, then used our fingers to move our jaws around and loosen them up. Then she walked us

through the belly breathing technique. Here's what to do if you'd like to try it now: put one hand on your stomach and one on your chest. When you breathe in, push into the hand on your stomach so you feel your belly expanding out, and when you exhale, it should contract.

She also helped us feel the resonance of our own voices. Hum to yourself, and pay attention: where do you feel the vibration of the hum? In your lips, or in your nose? Then make a different noise: say "momomomom." Do you feel the vibration elsewhere?

Mali taught us a few other ways to take care of our voices. Overuse or incorrect use can actually form a callus on the vocal cords, a "vocal node," which makes it impossible to make certain sounds. Staying hydrated is also key, so drink lots of water, and use a

humidifier if needed! Also, sleep can affect our voice, so rest is really important.

Mali reminded us that while many people don't like their own voices (have you ever cringed when hearing yourself in a recording?), it's important to 1) accept what your voice is, and 2) know that growth is possible.

Excuse me while I go talk to myself now.

The vocal tract is a tube, and for our voices to be resonant, we need to keep the tube relaxed, open, and loose, rather than pinched.

Começando como Tradutor

Painel de discussão da Conferência 2021:

Petra Schweitzer, Tapani Ronni, Diana Rhudick e Eduardo Berinstein

Recapitulado por Solange Medeiros

Esta sessão foi apresentada por uma equipe de tradutores altamente experientes. Petra trabalha entre o inglês e o alemão, Tapani entre o inglês e o finlandês, Diana trabalha com textos em francês e espanhol para o inglês, e Eduardo – diretor da empresa *ebtranslations* – trabalha entre o inglês e o espanhol. Juntos, apresentaram quatro aspectos da tradução freelance. A sessão começou com cada um falando por cinco minutos. Depois a moderadora, Stephanie Newton, abriu para perguntas do público.

Petra falou sobre especialização. As vantagens são: obter traduções muito mais eficientes; fornecer traduções de maior qualidade; estabelecer preços mais altos e direcionar seu marketing para um público específico. É difícil competir no mercado se você não puder oferecer uma especialidade para seus clientes. Para escolher uma especialização, Petra recomenda pensar em suas paixões. Você vai passar um tempo considerável nesse assunto, portanto, escolha algo que mantenha seu interesse. Outro aspecto é se especializar em algo que lhe permitirá pagar suas contas – nem toda área de tradução oferece essa possibilidade.

Além disso, é importante pensar na área em qual você não quer se especializar. Petra, por exemplo, não faz traduções sobre finanças. Ela tem mestrado em Literatura Inglesa, porém traduz documentos de engenharia automotiva altamente especializados, demonstrando que é possível ser autodidata e se tornar especialista em uma área na qual você não se formou. Petra assistiu aulas em uma faculdade local, fez muitos cursos online, leu publicações, blogs em ambos os idiomas, e participou de conferências. Outra boa maneira de escolher sua especialização é encontrar tradutores experientes para orientá-lo.

Petra encerrou suas considerações lembrando aos participantes que este é um processo gradual e que, lentamente, adquirindo conhecimento e se aprofundando no assunto, você ficará surpreso com a rapidez com que pode aprender algo.

Tapani falou sobre dinheiro e a importância de entender os fundamentos se você quiser sobreviver como tradutor freelancer. Você começa devagar, mantém seu trabalho até ter economias suficientes para começar como freelancer em tempo integral, e mantém separado o dinheiro empresarial do pessoal porque misturá-los tornará a contabilidade difícil. Portanto, você precisa de uma conta empresarial. Se você quiser um salário, pode fazer algo chamado *owner's draw*, transferindo dinheiro da sua conta empresarial para sua conta pessoal. Se você é um empresário independente, você precisa enviar faturas

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Getting Started as a Translator

2021 Conference Panel discussion:

Petra Schweitzer, Tapani Ronni, Diana Rhudick and Eduardo Berinstein

Reviewed by Solange Medeiros

This conference session was presented by a team of highly experienced translators. Petra works in the English/German language pair; Tapani in English and Finnish. Diana translates French and Spanish texts into English. Eduardo runs a company called *ebtranslations* and works in the English/Spanish language pair. The panelists presented four different aspects of freelance translating. The session started with each one speaking for five minutes, then the moderator, Stephanie Newton, opened a lively Q&A with the audience.

Petra spoke about specialization. The advantages are: you can get much more efficient translations; provide higher quality translations; set higher rates and target your marketing towards a specific audience. It's difficult to compete in the market if you can't offer expertise to your clients. To choose a specialization, Petra recommends thinking about your passions because you will be spending a considerable amount of time on that subject, so choose something that holds your interest. Another aspect is picking a subject that will allow you to pay your bills; not every subject that you like will do that.

Also, it's important to think about what you don't want to specialize in. Petra, for example, doesn't touch finance translations. She has a master's degree in English literature and translates highly specialized automotive engineering documents, so it's possible to self-educate and become an expert in a field you did not get a degree in. She took classes at a community college, took many online courses, read publications, blogs in both languages, and participated in conferences. Another good way to find your footing is to get experienced translators to mentor you.

Petra closed her remarks by reminding the participants that this is a gradual process and that by slowly adding to your knowledge and getting deeper into the subject matter, you would be surprised at how fast you can learn something.

Tapani discussed money, and the importance of understanding fundamentals if you want to survive as a freelancer translator. You start slowly, keep your job until you have enough savings to jump into full-time freelancing, and keep business and personal money separated because mixing them will make accounting difficult. You will need a business account. If you want a salary, you can do an *owner's draw*, which is moving money from your business account into your personal account. If you're an independent contractor you have to send invoices out and it's important to send them

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Começando como Tradutor

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prontamente após o término de um trabalho. Também é importante acrescentar uma nota em seu sistema contábil indicando que você foi pago pontualmente. Monitorar seu fluxo de caixa, assegurar que você tenha dinheiro suficiente entrando e manter seus livros em ordem são essenciais, portanto, você precisa ter pelo menos um arquivo Excel para entrada de dados, mas é preferível que você contrate um técnico em contabilidade; use um software como o QuickBooks ou contrate um contador certificado. Também, não esqueça de pagar seu imposto de renda, guardando dinheiro para pagá-lo pontualmente. Além disso, você precisa investir em si mesmo com educação continuada e em um bom software. Tapani menciona que os freelancers devem evitar a “cultura da pobreza”, ou seja, reclamar dos preços, dos clientes ou de outras pessoas. Seja profissional e espere o mesmo dos outros.

Concluindo, Tapani fala sobre o “princípio de Pareto” que afirma que 80% de seu dinheiro vem de 20% de seus clientes, consequentemente você deve cuidar bem de seus melhores clientes.

Diana falou sobre marketing, especificamente websites, perfis no LinkedIn e networking. Seu website é o componente pull do que é chamado de push and pull marketing, você está puxando os seus clientes para seu website sem contactá-los. Se você quiser construir seu próprio website, procure por Wix, Duda, GoDaddy, HostGator, WordPress e Squarespace. Deve ter: suas informações de contato, combinação de idiomas e especializações. É bom ter: exemplos de traduções, citações de clientes dizendo o quanto gostaram de seu trabalho, e uma descrição de seus serviços.

- **LinkedIn:** há duas formas principais de utilizá-lo. A primeira é juntar-se a grupos de discussão onde estão seus clientes potenciais, seguindo empresas e pessoas de interesse na área em que você se especializou ou gostaria de se especializar. A segunda maneira é usá-la para fazer pesquisas e encontrar o cliente com o qual você deseja trabalhar, assim você constrói sua lista de conexões. O LinkedIn está demonstrando ser popular para conseguir emprego em praticamente qualquer área e é mais ativo do que o que você faz no seu website.
- **Networking:** trata-se de cultivar a atitude correta; não se trata mais de vender a si mesmo. Quando você vai a conferências, você deve perguntar a outras pessoas o que elas fazem e ouvi-las, trocar informações e conversar sobre a indústria. Diana concluiu recomendando que os novos tradutores tenham calma consigo mesmos, porque networking também significa ir para conferências, webinars e participar desses eventos.

Eduardo ecoou a importância de dominar a tecnologia. As máquinas podem traduzir com diferentes graus de sucesso e, em vez de ter uma

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Getting Started as a Translator

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promptly when you finish a job. Also important is adding a note in your accounting system indicating that you were paid on time. Monitoring your cash flow, ensuring that you have enough cash coming in, and keeping your books in order are essential, so, you should have at least an Excel data-entry file, but hiring a bookkeeper is preferable; use software such as QuickBooks or hire a certified accountant. Also, don't forget to pay your quarterly estimated taxes, putting money away to pay them on time. Moreover, you need to invest in yourself with continuing education and getting good software. Tapani mentions that freelancers should avoid the “culture of poverty,” that is, complaining about prices, customers, or other people. Always be professional and expect the same from others.

Finally, Tapani talked about the “Pareto principle” which states that 80% of your money comes from 20% of your clients, consequently you should take good care of your best clients.

Diana spoke about marketing, specifically websites, LinkedIn profiles, and networking. Your website is the pull component of what is called push and pull marketing, you're pulling in customers to your website without actually contacting them. If you want to build your own website, look into Wix, Duda, GoDaddy, HostGator, WordPress, and Squarespace. Must-haves: your contact info, language combination, and specializations. Nice to have: sample translations, client quotes saying how much they liked your work, and a description of your services.

- **LinkedIn:** there are two main ways to use it. The first one is joining discussion groups where your potential clients are, following companies and people of interest in the area you specialize in or would like to specialize in. The second way is to use it to do research and find the client you want to work with, so you build up your list of connections. LinkedIn is proving to be very popular for getting a job in just about any career field. This is more active than what you do on your website.
- **Networking:** it's about cultivating the right attitude; it's not about selling yourself anymore. When you go to conferences, you should ask other people what they do and listen to them, exchanging information and talking about the industry. Diana concluded by recommending that new translators to go easy on themselves, because networking also means attending conferences, webinars, and participating in those events.

Eduardo echoed the importance of mastering technology. Machines can translate between human languages with different degrees of success and instead of having an inimical relationship with technology we

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Começando como Tradutor

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relação inimiga com a tecnologia, podemos aproveitar o que ela tem a oferecer, enquanto ainda estamos no comando e continuamos sendo os autores de nosso trabalho. As máquinas podem transpor palavras, frases e sentenças; entretanto, podemos fazer mais do que apenas traduzir. Podemos ajustar, reformular, reescrever, adaptar os textos para um público específico, e ser mediadores interculturais eficazes, tudo o que as máquinas não podem fazer. A tecnologia é algo que qualquer novo tradutor, independentemente da área de especialização, precisa aprender. Você precisa aprender a usar software de memória de tradução; gerenciamento de terminologia; dispositivos que convertem voz para texto e aqueles que convertem texto para áudio. Finalizando, Eduardo diz que a tradução automática por máquinas está aqui para ficar, é uma ferramenta que é complicada de usar, mas pode ser útil, desde que você seja responsável pela tradução e use a ferramenta como um auxílio e não como um substituto para seu julgamento profissional.

Esta foi uma apresentação muito proveitosa e muito útil para aqueles que estão começando como tradutor.

Getting Started as a Translator

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can benefit from what it has to offer while still being in charge and still being the authors of our work. Machines can transpose words, phrases, and sentences; however, we can do more than just translate, we can tweak, we can reformulate, we can rewrite, tailor, adapt things to a specific audience, and be effective interlingual-intercultural mediators, all of which machines can't do. Technology is something that any new translator regardless of the field of expertise needs to learn. You need to learn translation memory software; terminology management; dictation and speech recognition programs. Finally, the new issue of machine translation is here to stay; it's a tool that is tricky to use, but it can be useful as long as you're in charge of the translation and use the tool as an aid not as a substitute for your professional judgment.

This was a very worthwhile presentation, very useful for those who are getting started as a translator.

The Medical Interpreter, an Essential Part of the Care Team

2021 Conference Presentation by Luciana Canestraro, CMI-Spanish

Reviewed by Monica Rooney

Because medical interpreters are the fundamental link between providers and LEP patients, they should be considered part of the care team. Unfortunately, though, interpreters are often placed in the lower ranks of the medical hierarchy. The objectives of this presentation were first, to understand the current landscape and the status of interpreters within the medical hierarchy, and second, to underline the importance of their becoming active members of the care team.

In the current landscape Interpreters are viewed as passive and invisible, and as "tools" or "instruments." There is concrete data showing that there is a disconnect between the role of interpreters and providers' views and expectations of the interpreters. This utilitarian view shows a hierarchical structure and unidirectional communication between providers and interpreters, with interpreters being seen as information gatekeepers and provider proxies. Interpreters are often conflicted about the appropriateness in providing emotional support in health care settings.

It's important for interpreters to become active members of the care team. Their crucial understanding of the patient's culture would enhance the relationship between patient and provider, treatment and compliance, and increased confidence within the team would result in better care.

Medical interpreters need to keep alerting the medical staff to their mission as long as the professional boundaries are maintained at all times.

Effective culture change would have to come from the "top down." For example, medical school curricula would ideally include ongoing training on the patient's cultural and linguistic needs and best practices on how to collaborate with interpreters. This would allow interpreters to feel confident with their training and knowledge without compromising the professional values and ethics in order to accommodate the expectations of others.

It's crucial for interpreters to educate providers about their profession and about their four main roles as conduit, followed by clarifier, cultural broker and advocate. Interpreters also need to be assertive by politely explaining their roles and boundaries whenever necessary, educating anyone they have interaction with, and exchanging the word "use," when referring to interpreters, with more appropriate terms like "work," "collaborate" or "partner". If possible, interpreters should suggest formal training to providers and staff, and they should always strive to be well-rounded professionals by staying current with any changes in their industry.

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Using Email and LinkedIn to Market to Direct Clients

2021 Conference Address by Corinne McKay, ATA-certified translator and Colorado court-certified interpreter

Reviewed by Stephanie Newton

Corinne McKay delivered an excellent workshop packed with examples and practical tips regarding how to use email and LinkedIn to find and reach out to clients.

Why would we want to use “cold” emails and LinkedIn messaging when we could meet potential clients directly at client-side conferences, you may ask? Well, Corinne pointed out that conferences are expensive, whereas email and LinkedIn are free tools that we are already familiar with.

Corinne shared with us an example of an email she had sent to a prospect (which led to two book contracts!) so we could get an idea of what content to include. Key suggestions based on that email:

- Use a direct, clear subject line
- Focus on the prospect’s needs, NOT your life story
- Mention how you found them
- Give a specific example of what you can do for them
- Ask a question to keep the conversation going, such as “Are you the correct person to talk to?”

She also reminded us, much to our (my) relief, that the email doesn’t have to be perfect! The biggest mistake people make is not doing enough. If you end up with one new client for every 100 contacts you make, that’s a good rate, so DO MORE! Be aware, though: Corinne has learned through her experience working with clients in various countries that there are cultural differences regarding email marketing. For example, email marketing is not well received in France.

As for the use of LinkedIn for prospecting, to start, brush up your profile: customize your domain name and banner, add your language pair to your headline, and focus on the client’s needs in your “About” section. To reach out to companies, search for the title of someone who would do the hiring or contracting for the work you do. Send a connection request with a note (similar to the one for email, above) and if they accept, you can follow up two weeks later. Make a spreadsheet to keep track of everyone you’ve contacted.

The moral of the story is twofold: there’s no need to be perfect, and keep trying.

Interpreting for Special Education

2021 Conference Address by Dr. Holly A. Silvestri, Senior Coordinator of Translation, Training & Curriculum at the National Center for Interpretation

Reviewed by Abby Huber

As Dr. Silvestri explained in her presentation, interpreting in special education presents a quandary. There is no national code of ethics for it. It falls somewhere between community, medical, and legal interpreting, yet it's a complex and important field with many legal ramifications.

I will note that there is a lot of demand for interpreters in special ed, and many kinds of people are called in to interpret, including bilingual school employees, medical interpreters asked to make forays into education, and interpreters specializing in education.

As Dr. Silvestri pointed out, no one involved in these meetings tends to earn big bucks. Yet as this session emphasized, the special ed setting calls for a broad and polished skill set that only highly qualified professional interpreters will have. A special ed interpreter should ideally:

- Be a generalist, yet master specialized terminology
- Be strong in all modes (consecutive, simultaneous, sight translation)
- Know how to establish parameters for a complex meeting with far-reaching educational and legal implications (I will add: One meeting may involve four teachers, three specialists, a school principal, a parent, a sibling, a student, and one interpreter.)
- Use critical thinking skills to decide which code of ethics may apply to a given encounter

Fortunately, Dr. Silvestri provided us with actionable ways to responsibly navigate this setting—even if we are called in to fill a need that would ideally be met by a broader skill set or someone with more experience in this area.

The legal framework for special education

Interpreters may be familiar with 504 plans, which refer to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation

Act of 1973, which established the right to participate in major life activities, including learning, without discrimination on the basis of a disability. Then came Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, in 1990, which, per Dr. Silvestri's slide, "extends protection against discrimination to the full range of state and local government services, programs, and activities including public schools regardless of whether they receive any Federal financial assistance." Lastly, IDEA (2004) is the most recent update of the Equal Education of Handicapped Children Act (EHA) of

1975. Under it, "Infants and toddlers, birth through age 2, with disabilities and their families receive early intervention services under IDEA Part C. Children and youth ages 3 through 21 receive special education and related services under IDEA Part B."

Each of these laws provides for specific options for dispute resolution, including complaints, hearings, and lawsuits. All this is to say that special ed services are regulated by law, have legal implications, and sometimes lead to legal disputes. Interpreting

services in IEP or 504 meetings therefore also have legal implications and could lead to legal disputes.

(I wonder if some people are unconcerned at the mention of liability and the threat of litigation, such as those translators who believe that no translator has ever been sued. I will insert myself here to encourage anyone who is not legally minded to pay attention. Interpreters have been sued before. And these laws are in place to ensure that children with disabilities receive the education that they have a right to.)

How can we ensure we are being ethical if there is no national code of ethics for special education interpreting?

Most community interpreters go by the medical code of ethics, which is designed for more of a collaborative setting, but special education is a legal process in the US. This puts interpreters in a complicated middle ground between the collaborative setting and the adversarial setting.

Using several scenarios from a school setting, Dr. Silvestri asked us, What type of interpreting will this situation be? Is it medical, legal, educational, or a combination? What code of ethics applies to this situation? I encourage everyone to access the recording or attend another presentation by Dr. Silvestri to try their hand at categorizing these scenarios.

Interpreting for Special Ed places interpreters in a complicated middle ground between the collaborative setting and the adversarial setting.

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Interpreting for Special Education

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What if a student with a 504 plan for a health problem is frequently missing the beginning of class for health-related reasons and falling behind, and teacher and parents meet to discuss the situation: Is this collaborative? Legal? Medical?

Key Steps for Approaching Special Ed

...as I understood them from the presentation:

- Decide what kind of interpreting the encounter constitutes: Legal? Medical? Community? Collaborative? Then decide which code of ethics best applies.
- Decide whether you can truly handle the modes and terminology required, and/or request any needed modifications so that the modes and terms are kept within the scope of your skill set and knowledge.
 - o If need be, withdraw.
 - o If you cannot withdraw, ask for modifications such as consecutive mode only or simplified terminology—ideally, in advance, and be sure to make this point to the school officials first and to the other parties next.
- Set parameters for the meeting in advance of the meeting and/or in your interpreter introduction so that you will be able to interpret effectively.
- Be clear and open about your qualifications and abilities before the encounter begins and give the parties a chance to decide whether they prefer to work with a different interpreter instead.
 - o Consider putting it in writing that the parties involved are choosing to work with you in spite of the limitations of your skills and qualifications.
- Get interpreting insurance.
- Don't practice law without a license: Do not offer your opinion regarding special education matters, even if asked. Do not "go over" an IEP with a family to "save time" if asked to do so. This constitutes preparing or expressing legal opinions without a license.
 - o Only intervene in an encounter if necessary for linguistic mediation.
 - o If you need to insert yourself for linguistic mediation purposes, interrupt with a gesture, interpret the last thing said, and address the school official first. Return to interpreting as soon as the parties begin speaking again.

Let me offer some words of encouragement to anyone who feels this will be a steep hill to climb. Taking a new or revised approach can seem daunting. You may be wondering if you have violated a code of ethics in the past without realizing it, or if you should stop interpreting in schools until all of your modes and terminology are perfect. Regardless of any concerns you may have, the solutions proposed here are actionable for a wide range of circumstances. If anyone asks you why you are changing your practices now, just explain that you learned new information about best practices and ethics at the 2021 NETA conference.

Alternative Review Methods for Better Accuracy

2021 Conference Presentation by Helen Eby, Certified Spanish Translator and Interpreter at Gaucha Translations

Reviewed by Joyce Nan

Helen Eby, an ATA certified Spanish>English and English>Spanish translator as well as the founder of Gaucha Translations, highlighted the importance of reviewing translations in order to improve accuracy. To that end, Helen provided a number of useful techniques to be applied both while undertaking a translation and while reviewing their translation in an efficient way. For example, translators should check the completeness of their work to avoid skipping important parts in a source document, thus changing the meaning of that text.

Helen also talked about the importance of accuracy and consistency in the use of appropriate language, terminology, punctuation, and tone for the target audience to which he/she is directing his/her translation and the importance of avoiding common mistakes during the review and proofreading processes.

Finally, Helen talked about issues that might arise as the translator applies these techniques in his/her work, the goal being to ensure readability of the translated document.

Helen provided these guidelines with the dual purpose of making translators more aware of the importance of the correctness in their work and of heightening their focus on the needs and requirements of their target audience.

November NETA Meeting Consecutive Skills-Building Training For Court (and other) Interpreters

Saturday, November 20, 2 – 4 p.m.

via Zoom

The meeting is free and open to all interested parties. [Sign up](#) by Nov 18. You will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Questions? Email [Marian](#).

NETA Board Meeting Minutes, September 25, 2021

10 a.m. Virtual

Submitted by Stephanie Newton

Board Members Present: Lesley Andrews, Laura Rojo MacLeod, Inés Fusco, Steve Sanford, Sybil Gilchrist, Stephanie Newton

Others present: Marian Comenetz, programming coordinator; Diana Rhudick, president

Absent: Crystal Zhong, Treasurer; Rokhaya Smith

Quorum present? Yes

AGENDA

Treasurer's fourth quarter report

- We looked at the Profit & Loss statement; expenses are fairly stable.
- 2020 - 2021: we had reduced membership, reduced rates on membership, and spent more on conference all likely due to COVID
- In past years when we've talked about increasing conference fee, board has voted not to, because we want conference to be as affordable as possible.
- Lesley answered the question about where the second \$500 charge came from: There was just one \$500 charge, not two. Accevents changed their pricing method and there ended up being a duplicate charge in our account; they fixed it and refunded us.
- Lesley used NETA debit card so reimbursement is not required.
- There are still some uncashed checks - Zarita and Andrew. They didn't receive their checks; checks were reissued; waiting for confirmation that they've received them
- Thought: move towards an e-payment method, like Deluxe, so we don't have to use paper checks? Board agrees that this would be a good idea. Follow up next time
- Discrepancy between \$3,900 and \$4,200 - still unexplained but consensus is to move towards e-checks.
- There is a fee we were charged through Stripe, we are unsure if it was for Stripe fees, or if it was Accevents billing us. We need to talk to Accevents to make sure they invoice us ASAP for whatever else we owe them, if they haven't already.

- Conference overall estimate: spent \$12,000 and brought in \$8,000.

Membership

- We went back to regular fees (which we had reduced due to pandemic)
- Expired members
 - They have not been removed from the list yet - Lesley has had a lot going on in personal life. Lesley needs an intern.

Website

- Lesley resolved website problems while on vacation. Probably needs to take another vacation.
- We pay \$43 / year for our domain name
- Security certificate
 - Certain browsers, like Chrome, are tightening their security requirements, and people weren't able to get into the website, such as the Bash registration
 - Wild Apricot had a way to get a free certificate
 - We have a free certificate now, this resolved website issues
- Marian and Diana have a list of technical questions about website to ask Scott
- Question: Security certificate just applies to netaweb.org, or nmeta.wildapricot too?
 - Does this even matter?
 - DNS warning "Invalid DKIM setup" - Scott doesn't want to address this

Monthly Programming

- This will continue online
- We will start asking for feedback after each monthly meeting
- Monthly meeting dates - all lined up for the year, except for April
- Lesley will make a feedback form

Conference

- Date is set
- Organizer is set
- Paid down payment
- We need to get a schedule from our last in-person conference to put together an outline
- What might our budget be for this year?
 - Usually are short about 1-2K, but financially, this is ok

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Board Meeting Minutes September 25, 2021

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- Hoping to go back to an in-person conference this year?
- Fees for 2021 were lower than usual, so we'll have to go back to normal numbers
- Can we do a hybrid conference?
 - Would need tech support from UMass Boston
 - Had bandwidth problems in the past, but maybe UMass Boston has improved this given the pandemic and going online
 - Would this actually be a positive experience for attendees?
- Did we gain any members from the conference?
 - Cross check between member list before, after, and conference list
- What fees to charge for this year?
 - Comparable to previous in-person conferences
 - Should we increase fees this year?
 - We will draft two possible pricing structures, one for in-person conference and one for online conference, just in case
 - What are our prices compared to other organizations of similar size? (MATI is smaller than us, ATA is bigger)
 - Last year, 255 people registered (not all were paying regular price)
- COVID safety - in-person or online?
 - If in person, we could ask people to show their vaccination card
 - Have a table at registration? Or have people upload their vax cards with registration?
 - Will it be safe to have an in-person conference at the end of April?
 - Projected winter surge, logistics of verifying vaccine, variants
 - Talk with Kristen
 - What are UMass's requirements for in-person events?
 - When to make the decision to go virtual or not?
- Speakers committee
 - Lesley will send committees some information
 - Review speakers list and pick top 5-10
 - Sybil suggestion: invite an Afghan interpreter to speak - Haidar al-Sara knows Sabib
 - Once we start contacting people to be presenters, we'll find out how they feel about being in-person vs remote
- Volunteers
 - Ines will take care of this
- CEUs
 - Are we going to change our process of creating certificates so it's less burdensome?
 - When people register, it asks who they're certified by, so we know who needs certificates
 - We can also give out general certificates to everyone
- NETA intern: Could we actually do this?
 - BU alum list, or someone from UMass?
 - Would this actually be helpful for Lesley?
- Results of conference survey
 - <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1zHzBGGcexu4esPTwRbBGwfTE7fRXH2xutxNd3JkVepRA/edit?ts=614f47da#responses>
- Session length
 - We came to a consensus to do 1 hour sessions (as opposed to 50 min) - it will even out the number of CEUs we can award
 - One hour will include Q&A
- Speaker schedules - we need to do this as ahead of time as possible, for Kristen
 - Ask Kristen about deadline for finalizing speaker schedules
 - Deadline for speaker submissions - December?
 - Student schedules always take longer and are more complicated
 - How to register UMass Amherst and UMass Boston students
 - This year, we will ask Diego and Regina to tell students they need to register on their own, at least 1 week before the conference. They will receive a registration code and won't have to pay, and UMass Boston and Amherst will pay afterwards
 - We can run a report based on the code to see how many students registered
 - Last year we were charged \$3 per student, due to Acelevents platform fee

Other

- 2021-22 Board meeting dates
 - Virtual board meetings are working out well
 - This year we'll trial having the June meeting in person, with outgoing and incoming people, and the rest of the meetings will be virtual
 - Dates are now finalized: 1/22, 3/19, 6/18
- Newsletter
 - Laura loves editing the newsletter!
 - September 30 deadline to put together articles, will include Bash

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Board Meeting Minutes September 25, 2021

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- Will include editor's note about FIT design win
- Would like to include something about Afghan situation
- Members are invited to share translation/interpretation stories. Everyone is welcome to contribute
- neta@groups.io, social media, other initiatives
- Scams
 - Information about scams is already on our website
 - Maybe we can include a note about it in the newsletter - the "hall of shame"
 - We won't put it into groups.io - if it's something static that people have to find, it won't be as effective
 - Facebook
 - Twitter
 - Not currently active
 - LinkedIn
 - Diana put up a list of aid organizations for Afghanistan on LinkedIn

Lesley's costs and reimbursement

- Has spent ~\$500 per year for 3 years
- Board voted for Lesley to be reimbursed
- Volunteer position - last year this position was paid \$1,000. This year it was agreed to pay \$500 for the position

NETA's membership in FIT

- It's been almost one year with our membership in FIT, so it's time to re-evaluate and decide if we want to continue
- Are NETA members participating with FIT membership?
 - Diana will ask on groups.io whether anyone has participated in any talks
- This past year, the membership was \$700
 - The cost is calculated by the number of our members
- The people who came to our conference from abroad - did they come because of FIT?

- Benefits
 - We can attend their webinars
 - They also list talks and events for their members (so they can post NETA events)
 - What is Rokhaya's perspective? She was a proponent of joining

Attracting new members

- Maybe we could create some NETA merchandise

Moderated discussion between NETA members and the board

- There is interest in having an online discussion as a monthly meeting, where NETA members can ask board members questions
- Have people send their questions ahead of time
- Could Elena moderate?
 - Someone to moderate who's not part of the board
 - Diana will write to Elena with some potential dates
- To take place on a weekday evening

Found in Translation

- They thanked us for NETA's donation.
- Steve does workshops with them sometimes, so he can put in a plug for NETA membership

Adjournment and Next Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 22 at 10 a.m. It will be virtual.

NETA's first "Ask Me Anything" session

On Tuesday evening, October 19, NETA held its first virtual *Ask Me Anything* session between members and the board of directors to get to know our association a bit better. It was the brainchild of session host and NETA member Elena Langdon. All participants seemed pleased by the results, so look for more of these exchanges in the future.