

NETA Needs YOU!
Volunteer to make the
conference a success.
Go to [page 11](#) for details.



Attend NETA's 26th Annual Conference on April 30

The NETA conference offers a broad range of presentations by and for translators, interpreters and language students. The conference attracts language professionals from New England and beyond. As a virtual event, distance is no barrier to attendance. The ATA has approved up to five CEUs for this year's conference. Turn to pages 15-16 for the schedule and a preview of sessions. [Register for the conference here.](#)

Meet the Candidates in NETA's 2022 Election

The 2022 election is now underway for three of the seven seats on NETA's Board of Directors. Elections of three and four board members, alternately, take place in May of each year. Any member in good standing may run for office. Directors serve for two years, beginning on June 1 following the election. The board meets four times a year (all on Zoom lately), with occasional extra calls and email exchanges as needed.



Candidate statements are in the *Members Only* section of the NETA website.

All members are being sent via email a link to an online election ballot. You can also vote at the conference on April 30, when votes will be tallied and the winners announced.

NETA Supports the March 2 ATA Statement on the War in Ukraine

A majority of the NETA Board of Directors recently voted to support a statement by the ATA (the American Translators Association) in support of Ukrainian and Russian translators and interpreters. The ATA issued an initial statement, then updated it. It is the second one, released March 2, that NETA's board endorsed. The FIT (the Fédération Internationale des Traducteurs/International Federation of Translators) also released a communication on the war in Ukraine. Both statements appear below.

ATA Statement Supporting Interpreters and Translators Impacted by Russia's Invasion of Ukraine

As the voice of interpreters and translators in the United States, the American Translators Association (ATA) is a professional organization with more than 9,000 members worldwide.

ATA's mission is to promote the recognition of professional translators and interpreters and to advocate on behalf of the professions.

ATA unequivocally condemns the Russian Federation's military invasion of and assault on Ukraine. We want to express our solidarity with and support for our Ukrainian colleagues during this challenging time.

In addition to our colleagues in Ukraine and their families and friends, whose lives will never be the same, we want to acknowledge the citizens of Russia who have taken a stand for peace and justice at great personal

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NETA Officers and Board

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NETA News

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Submissions

Submissions, comments and letters to the editor are welcome. Articles are subject to editing for grammar, punctuation, and space limitations. Upon request, a proof will be sent to you for review.

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Fall issue: Sept. 30, Winter issue: Jan. 15, Spring issue: March 15, Summer issue: June 15. Please send all correspondence, including requests for permission to reprint articles, to newsletter@netaweb.org.

Delivery

Notification of NETA News is e-mailed to all members. It is available at netaweb.org.

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

Look for the NETA Group on [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/company/neta-translators-association/)

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: membership@netaweb.org. Subscription to this newsletter is included with your membership.

Read All About It in the French Review!

by Sybil Gilchrist

Before retiring from the Medford Public Schools as a French teacher, I started planning for life away from the classroom.

Three years later, I completed a certificate in French>English Translation Studies through New York University School of Professional Studies.

About the same time,

I joined NETA and since then, I have become a freelance French>English translator. I currently serve on the 2022 Conference Committee and the NETA Board of Directors.

I am also a member of the American Association of Teachers of French (AATF), which publishes *The French Review*. In the May 2016 issue of the journal, I came across this article: *Global Brands Speak Québécois: Linguistic and Sociocultural Strategies in Quebec Advertising* written by Elizabeth Martin. The following year, Dr. Martin accepted NETA's invitation to present her research at the 2017 Annual Conference. Fortunately for attendees, Prof. Martin will be returning this year to NETA's 26th Annual Conference with her latest research into advertising strategies in international Francophone markets.

Over the years as a member of AATF, I have collected more than 70 issues of *The French Review*. All copies are in very good condition. I would like to donate the entire collection or specific issues to an institution or individuals. The earliest journal dates back to 2000; the latest issue appeared in 2020. The articles are written in English or French. Contact me at sybil18@aol.com for additional information and shipping arrangements.

You may also wish to visit AATF's website, frenchteachers.org.

From the AATF website:

The FRENCH REVIEW is the official journal of the American Association of Teachers of French (AATF) and has the largest circulation of any scholarly journal of French and Francophone studies in the world. As of 2021, the French Review is distributed online and in print by Johns Hopkins University Press. AATF members can access the French Review articles and reviews through <https://frenchteachers.org/french-review>.



NETA Supports the ATA Statement on the War

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risk, as well as many of Ukraine's neighbors, who are working to provide for those who have been forced to flee their homes.

Together we are stronger. We stand in solidarity with our members and colleagues in Ukraine and around the world who oppose the war, and we continue to hope for their safety. Together we are stronger. We stand in solidarity with our members and colleagues in Ukraine and around the world who oppose the war, and we continue to hope for their safety.

Madalena Sánchez Zampaulo
President, American Translators Association
March 2, 2022

FIT Statement on the War in Ukraine

As the situation in Ukraine worsens and the atrocities increase in intensity, the International Federation of Translators (FIT) reaffirms its solidarity, support and deep concern for translators, terminologists and interpreters in Ukraine who are under attack.

FIT urges its member associations to work to provide language help where needed. If any FIT organisation or their members are in a position to help displaced persons with translation or interpreting services, or are even able to offer to house refugees leaving Ukraine, please contact me directly at president@fit-ift.org and I will pass on this information.

FIT Council would also ask that translators and interpreters involved in the conflict have their rights respected and that it be acknowledged that in warfare, translators and interpreters often come under direct threat.

Translators and interpreters deal in words not aggressive actions, and they have always played a key role in connecting nations and in fostering peace, understanding and development (as recognised by the UN General Assembly on 24 May 2017 in UN Resolution A/RES/71/288). We sincerely hope that words and dialogue will swiftly

replace guns and missiles and that translators and interpreters may soon be able to resume the important work they do.

Kevin Quirk
FIT President
March 1, 2022



(Facebook, Tsai Ing-wen photo)

The Language Professional as an Expert Witness

NETA monthly meeting, January 29, 2022

Reviewed by Sarah and Rudy Heller

January's monthly meeting featured two stalwart NETA members, Bruce Popp and Michael O'Laughlin. The topic of how language professionals can serve as expert witnesses for court cases drew engaged attendees who asked many questions and generated lively discussion.

Bruce D. Popp, PhD, an award-winning translator and author, is ATA Certified for French into English. Also, he is a Patent Translation Specialist and a USPTO Registered Patent Agent. He is available as an expert witness on the subject of accuracy of patents translated from French into English. For this presentation, he drew upon his experience as an expert witness in Federal Court.

Bruce began by emphasizing that being an expert witness in language areas is "another beast", as he put it, from being a translator or interpreter. You present yourself as an expert witness but the court makes the decision as to whether they accept that designation. Bruce strongly suggested that as you consider taking on an assignment you discuss with your client the wording of the certification document you will sign because you will want to refuse the assignment if you don't feel comfortable that you meet the qualifications asserted to in the document.

Bruce emphasized the difference between an expert witness and a fact witness. A translator testifying about their own translation is a fact witness. A fact witness talks about their own work but does not draw conclusions, as that is the domain of an expert witness. Care must be taken by the fact witness not to stray over the line into expert witness territory.

Bruce covered a range of pertinent topics, from the wording in certifications to difficulties that might arise before and during any proceedings. He also made available document templates for people to download. In providing comprehensive overview of this highly specialized area of language work, he was very candid and clear about pitfalls. A thought-provoking Q&A period followed the first part of this session.

Michael O'Laughlin, the second speaker, is a professional linguist who holds graduate degrees from Oxford and Harvard. He has studied multiple languages and has over 40 years of professional and personal experience living and teaching in Europe and South America. He is a member of the International Association for Forensic and Legal Linguistics. Michael has testified as an expert witness on language and cultural issues in approximately 200 cases in Massachusetts courts.

Michael started by observing that there were about 100 hundred attendees and he recognized that many are very accomplished professionals. Suggesting that Bruce's talk was probably more geared toward those experienced people, Michael said he would provide a "postscript" with some practical observations for interpreters and translators just starting out.

Michael echoed Bruce's observation that he does not know many other language expert witnesses and that testimony in the courts over language is rare. Michael explained that most of the time that a person is speaking about language in the court, they are fact witnesses and he went on to expand upon the distinction between an expert witness and a fact witness. He pointed out that your bona fides are fundamental when representing yourself as an

expert witness: "You really have to wow them with your credentials because otherwise they are not going to buy what you say."

While primarily speaking about the role of an expert witness, Michael included practical tips for all translators and interpreters:

- **Sight translation** should be avoided because working on the spot and in a hurry can result in errors which may have significant consequences. You are better off telling the Court that you cannot analyze that short text message or that snippet of an audio on the spot. Explain to the court that a sound forensic analysis may be required. You might also point out that forensic work usually implies a delay and an additional cost.

- **Legal interpreters** assigned to the daily schedule in the courtroom should not be called on as expert witnesses. Their duties do not include the expert witness tasks of educating, analyzing and drawing conclusions.

- **During a proceeding**, another interpreter may be called in by one of the three parties in a trial (judge, prosecution or defense). The court interpreter should work with the "guest" interpreter or translator, and together they

- **Fact Witness**
 - What the witness saw, personally
 - The facts and nothing but the facts
- **Expert Witness**
 - Applies expert knowledge, methods and theory to reach a conclusion
 - Study facts, explain, educate, draw conclusions
 - Works closely with legal team
 - Engagement Letter

Slide from Bruce Popp's Presentation

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The Language Professional as an Expert Witness

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should come to an agreement on the language questions at issue.

- **Packaging your translation:** When working on a translation that may be used in court, you should keep in mind that you may have to defend your work. One way to make this easier is to emulate the formatting of the original as much as possible. Michael shared some screen shots of the Spanish original of a birth certificate, followed by the English translation. They were set up so that it was easy to compare one to the other. He uses square brackets, to indicate where he made a comment, added a description or included something that was required to contextualize the translation.

Following the formal presentations, there was a period of thoughtful questions, valuable comments, spirited discussion and many thank you's. A key discussion topic: translators must have competency in the area and languages in which they are working. As was pointed out by attendees, serious errors with legal consequences can result if they do not. This seems painfully obvious, but the difficulty lies in the fact that most of the time interpreters and translators must rely on their own judgment as to whether or not they have the necessary skills to do the job.

Even if you are not interested in being an expert witness, this presentation was very worthwhile as it highlighted some thorny ethical issues that need to be navigated in the language profession, both in and out of the courtroom.

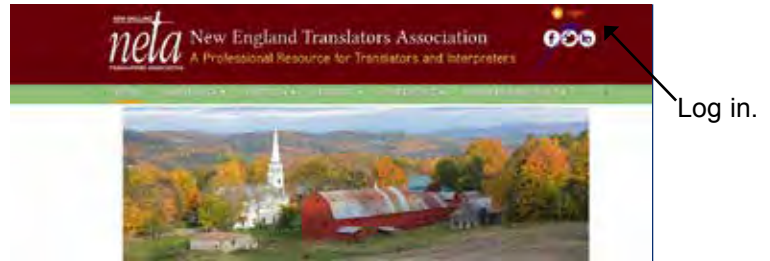
We are fortunate at NETA to have members such as Bruce and Michael who so generously share their experience. And thanks to our tech guru, Lesley Andrews, these monthly meetings are recorded and available in the *Members Only* section of [the NETA website](http://www.neta.org). For this event, Lesley went above and beyond to upload a document an attendee made available that will be useful for translators of legal documents.

Finally, we want to thank NETA's intrepid programming coordinator, Marian Comentz, who works tirelessly to bring us stimulating and relevant monthly meetings such as this one.

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."



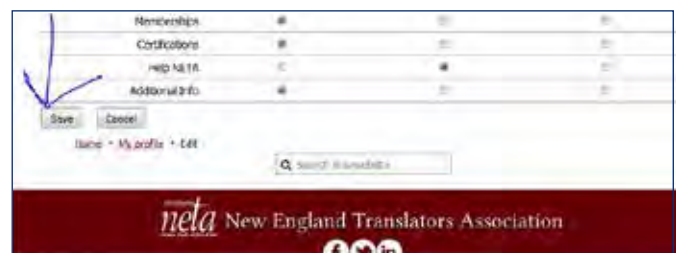
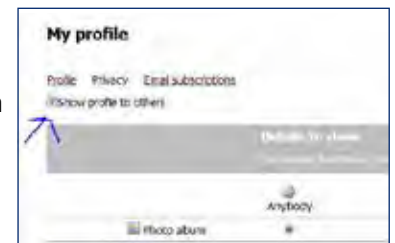
Click on "Privacy," in the middle.

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 e-mail 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.



A Conversation with Professor Francisco Cota Fagundes

On Portuguese language, literary translation & more

Laura Rojo MacLeod: *It is a special personal pleasure for me to present Dr. Francisco Cota Fagundes in our NETA Conversations series. Indeed, very personal as he and my late mother-in-law, Professor Sabra Rogers MacLeod, shared an office at UMass, Amherst, and a vast career in foreign languages. Sabra was a truly brilliant person who influenced my views on language, education, translation, the world, in many rich ways. Our conversations are memorable!*

Professor Fagundes is a well-known scholar of contemporary Portuguese literature, including the literature of the Portuguese North American diaspora. He taught at UMass-Amherst for 42 years. During that time, he taught numerous new courses and edited, co-edited, translated and co-translated more than 30 books, some from Portuguese to English and others from English to Portuguese. Additionally, he has published dozens of chapters and articles in both languages.

I find his amazingly rich oeuvre super important when it comes to the intersection of Portuguese and American-English language and literary studies.

Laura: *Bem-vindo Francisco! Muito obrigada! Francisco, I can't help but start by asking you about the musicality of the Portuguese language. It has such a melodious and mellifluous resonance. Allow me to add that it seems perfect for poetry and music. In fact, when we lived in Montevideo, closer to Brazil (even though this is not the original European Portuguese), we were easily singing and enjoying, you know, popular music, bossa nova, samba, forró, by the great Brazilian composers Milton do Nascimento, Chico Buarque, Elis Regina, Caetano, Gil, Villalobos and Tom Jobim. My father, a guitarist, played them beautifully.*

Can you illuminate us about this poetical musicality of the Portuguese language?

Francisco: The “musicality” you speak of is not just an impression. It exists. The musicality of Portuguese stems, in large measure, from the richness of its vocalicity. The five vowels of Portuguese have twelve sounds, thirteen in the European variant. The Brazilian variant of Portuguese, although it has a vocalic sound fewer than European Portuguese, sounds even more musical. This is due to the fact that Brazilians enunciate the syllables much more slowly than do the Portuguese, who pronounce them much faster – hence making the language seem more consonantal and less vocal. Needless to say, the musicality of any language is also a subjective perception. I'd say that all languages I am aware of and understand or speak a little, are, in their own ways, musical. Who would want to claim that a maternal language is not musical to him or her who grew up with it? It is, in the end, also a matter of knowing a particular language, studying it, appropriating as much as possible of the

culture that language underlies. Know it and you'll love it. Listen to it and it'll be music to your ears.

L: Your completely revised translation of Stormy Isles: An Azorean Tale, provides a rich, vivid portrait of the Azores in the early twentieth century. And it is narrated in realist and poetic language!

The book's original version included the use of several foreign languages (known as heterolingualism), from Latin to French to Spanish, as well as unique whaling terminology. You talked about the challenges you faced during the translation process. Can you expand on that?

F: Literary translation involves much more than conveying the ‘same meanings’ in a different language. It also involves, among many other things, decisions about what words to translate, and, in some cases, even what words to leave in the original. A case in point is precisely the presence of heterolingualism, or the use of several languages in the original text. Does the translator simply translate all these words in different languages into English? Or does he or she also take into account the reasons the author might have had for using those different languages – and then try to honor those reasons by applying them in the work of translation? In a presentation on Stormy Isles: An Azorean Tale, I will speak of the decisions I had to make in my attempt to both understand and honor those reasons without alienating my reader. To give but one example: I translated bullfighting terminology using a process, also used by Hemingway, of original-cum-and-translation, rather than simply translating. This process made it possible for me to convey the meaning in English and still use the original term(s)—for atmosphere, a feeling of the exotic, estrangement, all connotations, I concluded, that the author of the novel wanted to convey. Here is a brief example: “The *espada* or swordsman himself will work with a cape and red cloak on the bulls

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of his choice.... The doors open at 2:00, and the public is welcome to attend the *embolamento* or padding of the bull's horns. The esteemed public is hereby notified that there are no special-discount tickets available. *Olé! Olé! Bring on the matadors!"*

L: Your textbook, Um Passo Mais no Português Moderno: Gramática Avançada, Leituras, Composição e Conversação (UMass, Amherst), is the first intermediate-advanced textbook ever published for the study of Portuguese as a second language. This is quite an achievement, not only for the educational area, but for cultural, social and historical reasons.

F: This textbook is still the only one in existence for the study of advanced Portuguese (third year and beyond): in-depth review of grammar, primer of composition, speaking, vocabulary building. It is also an introduction to Lusophone short fiction. *Um Passo Mais* has gone through two editions, the first in 2004, the second in 2010. Even today, I am told by a number of colleagues that it is still performing well for them. I would like to see it redone, modernized. If anyone has the energy and interest, I'd be willing to consider redoing it.

L: In your experience as a translator of the Portuguese language, what's the outstanding favorite factor?

F: That I can share Portuguese with speakers of other languages. Although Portuguese is one of the most widely spoken languages on Earth, Portuguese is not the second language of choice for most people who study languages. It is, therefore, very gratifying to translate a book – fiction or poetry – to the English language. Translation opens up the possibility of sharing, or reaching out to the Other. Translation is a vehicle for bringing people closer together. To help bring your maternal language into close proximity with people from other languages

and cultures is a joyful experience. I am primarily a teacher and a scholar. Academically, translating is commonly viewed as an activity separate from teaching or scholarship. I happen to believe that it is another component of teaching and scholarship. And, just like the teaching or the studying of literature, translation can also teach you a lot, including about the most nuanced secrets of different languages and the most rewarding intimacies of different cultures.

L: The theory and practice of translation (known as traductology) encompasses the study of the theory and practice of translating and interpreting, especially in an academic context, combining elements of social science and the humanities. This multidisciplinary approach can be daunting.

As per your well-seasoned practice, is there a method, a best practice combo to use for all these aspects or is it the job of each translator to create his own?

F: Both! As there is no substitute for preparation, the translator/interpreter has to be super-prepared. Translate/interpret only from a language you know very well to a language you are a native or near-native of. Make sure you know the subject matter involved. You cannot translate a baseball novel if you do not know the sport. Be humble. Always assume that you know less than you actually know.

As for the theory of translation, it is not always popular among translators. I myself have written unpleasant things about it. However, it is undeniable that the theory of translation, the many theories of translation, are indispensable to know if one wishes to conceptualize and verbalize the experience of translating. It cannot, nor does it aim to, teach the translator how to translate a difficult passage of a novel, or how to linguistically capture that illusive metaphor of a poem, but the translator cannot afford not to know the myriad of concepts involved in translation. He or she will, sooner or later, come upon them in this difficult, but also intellectually rewarding, art called literary translation.

L: I value your perspectives enormously in your title Narrating the Portuguese Diaspora. We travel from literature to identity discourse to biography and autobiography. I like that you connect extra-literary identities at home and abroad; and literary ethnic voices from the North American diaspora and beyond. I can envision a full array of testimony, even subversions, but also peacebuilding. This is powerful.

Please, could you comment on these narratives.

F: I like your travel metaphor. Extending it a little, I'd like to repeat what has often been said – that life itself is a long journey. And within that long journey there are other journeys. In your question, you point to some of these. One of the hardest, which both of us have experienced, is migration itself which, depending on our countries of birth compels us to leave, can turn into a diaspora. Migration,

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especially if not by one's choice, is one of the most painful journeys imaginable. The adult who undertakes it has to experience rebirth into a new language, a new culture; has to struggle to be accepted, to belong, to feel whole. How many migrants after departure from their homelands never feel whole again! But how many carve new lives, find it possible to sculpt new, integrated identities, establish families, find contentment. Depending on what the migrant brings and depending on the people he or she encounters, the voyage can lead to a positive apprenticeship. But how many cases there are of negative, tragic apprenticeships that lead to ruined lives. Communication is key in a positive apprenticeship. Translation and interpreting can, if used to their full and positive potentialities, build bridges or connectors among peoples.

L: Can we help build up a universal language? What's your thought on this concept?

F: The more we study languages, the more we are surprised by the similarities among them. I have often asked myself: How is it that we often find it impossible to understand others when, upon a closer look, we discover so many similarities between languages, and not necessarily languages of the same family, like Portuguese and Italian or English and German? There have always been interpreters and translators, as we all know. Despite the fact that much may indeed be lost in translation, a lot still gets across. If that were not true, human civilization would have been made much more difficult, if not impossible.

I would submit, therefore, that the universal language that we need is a super-language that already exists within all of us if only we want to recognize it and speak it: the universal language of our common humanity, the language that all of us speak without an accent, without a sense of inherent superiority or inferiority vis-à-vis other languages. It's the language of human empathy and compassion. This language, I'd like to point out, is being loudly spoken right now, or loudly mis-spoken right now in what is happening in the Ukraine, and in the actions of men and women throughout the globe. This language is a language so simple that even a child can understand it.

L: You connect stories and history with gusto, please illustrate to us about your view on orality.

F: Having been born and lived till age 18 in an oral culture, I can appreciate the value of orality. I am also a student of immigrant autobiographies and have translated four of these, including my own, from English to Portuguese. I have also studied, and published widely, on the representation of orality in literature. Two things are obvious about orality: Who doesn't like to hear and tell a story? And who hasn't discovered in storytelling, both those we listen to and those we tell, not only storytelling's capacity to enthrall and enlighten, but also its far-reaching therapeutic value? That is why so many thousands of stories of illness (pathographies) get published. But storytelling is not confined to illiterate groups, and agrarian and tribal societies. Storytelling is very much alive today in our super-modern

world. And it is alive because it is an inherent part of being human.

Although I don't subscribe to any social media, I recognize its value as far as storytelling. I wonder how many people use Facebook and other platforms to let out steam with friends, to hear stories from friends, to build relationships, to simply exercise one of the most fundamental of human needs: to socialize. All forms of art – from literature to music, from ballet to painting and sculpture, are so many forms of storytelling, of building bridges, of socializing, of seeking therapy.

L: As we were saying before, folk and traditional songs are part of the popular wisdom. This type of musical manifestation is transmitted by oral tradition; here is the stronghold narrative to build up an identity. What's your perspective on the power of translation to construct cultural identities?

F: I believe that some of my answers above touch on this subject. I would add here that music, from popular to semi-erudite to classical music, are so many forms of spreading the wisdom you refer to in your question. It is when music insists too much on its nationality that I get a little suspicious and cautious. We should see popular music as human music, tinged by the local color of this or that culture. To insist on the uniqueness, or superiority of this or that can lead to exacerbated nationalism, the latter to jingoism, the latter to bloated nationalism, and the latter to fascism. Haven't we all seen this before? Let's all create art, less sophisticated or erudite; Both are needed; let's impart to it the spontaneous accent of our individual cultures. But let's stop at the point where we are ready to do battle to defend its primacy and its superiority just because it's ours.

L: The protection of nature has always been my passion and pain. Since the 1980s, I have had a dream: global environmental ethics in decision makers. My longtime environmental view on translation strengthens a systemic ecological approach on language similar to Nature ecosystems. All connected in this unique thread of life that cries for protection. I truly believe that as language

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professionals we can, we should, apply our skills to help out Nature by strengthening a strong environmental language identity in our communities. Today the most underserved communities lack this; here social justice underscores environmental justice, it's a vis-a-vis relationship.

Thinking of the extensive and quality corpus on ecological matters that could be deployed in local languages to help challenging communities, do you see an opportunity -perhaps a must- for translation to (re)mediate between historical studies and social studies leading to actions for the planet?

How do you look at this timely issue from the art & task of language? How would you, as a translator, incorporate this present-day problem to make it stronger leading to actions for the planet?

F: The most recent novel I translated, *Stormy Isles: An Azorean Tale*, invests much energy in what may be called eco-consciousness. It does so in the representation of place (the Islands of the Azores and their fauna and flora). The novel is particularly notable for the depiction of whaling, both pelagic and coastal. My presentation on the novel addresses this point somewhat, although because it focuses on the theme of heterolingualism, the issue of eco-consciousness and eco-responsibility could not be treated with the attention it deserves.

In the choice of works that he or she accepts to translate, the translator can exert some influence on how to share the heightened consciousness we need to develop to help save our environment and the creatures who inhabit our world with us. It is as individuals, however, and in all aspects of life that we must become, not just cognizant but very much concerned, with the preservation of our world and all its inhabitants, human and animal.

L: I'm curious about your memoir Hard Knocks: An Azorean American Odyssey.

F: I can give you a copy of the English version, published in 1998. If you wish, we can someday have an interview on immigrant autobiographies, including mine. Actually, I

have two autobiographies: the immigrant one and a pathography: *Viagem pela Escuridão (Memórias de uma Doença) – a Journey Through Darkness: An Illness Narrative*. This auto/biography is both the story of a father (and mother) who suffered through the illness of their son, and the biography of that son who, at age 17, was diagnosed with a brain tumor (a medulloblastoma), underwent treatments, physically survived but emotionally never recovered.

L: Finally, a piece of advice for our art and task?

F: Translating is the best thing to do if you have the desire but don't have the courage and the skill to write your own novel, collection of short stories, or a book of poems. Who knows? By translating you may actually be compelled to, putting fear and pride aside, try a hand at creative writing. It happened to me!

Francisco Cota Fagundes,

Professor of Portuguese (Emeritus) at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, has authored, edited and co-edited, translated and co-translated more than thirty books. Translator and creative writer, he has translated from English to Portuguese and from Portuguese to English.

Francisco was born in Agualva, Terceira, Azores, and emigrated to the United States in 1963. He spent three and a half years milking cows in the San Joaquin Valley, California. Having completed the fourth grade in his native country and never having attended a secondary school either in Portugal or the U.S., Francisco Fagundes attended Los Angeles Valley Junior College (1967-1970; magna cum laude), the University of California, Los Angeles where he earned a double B. A. (1972: summa cum laude), an M.A. in Luso-Brazilian Studies (1973) and a Ph.D. in Hispanic Languages and Literatures (1976).

umass.edu/spanport/member/francisco-cota-fagunde

Transcription 101+

NETA monthly meeting, February 26, 2022

Reviewed by *Marian Comenetz*

Several months ago, two highly experienced NETAns, Rudy Heller and Antje Ruppert, eagerly offered to address issues prompted by a query that arose on NETA's groups.io discussion group: what and how to charge for transcribing and translating some videos. Subsequent cogitations resulted in NETA's February monthly meeting.

Rudy began by defining transcription as the production of a written copy of spoken or hand-written material that may or may not contain more than one language. In his introduction he described four scenarios where recordings for eventual transcription originate, ranging from excellent to horrible. In scenario A the speakers use individual microphones as they enunciate clearly and speak in full sentences without interruption. Scenario B might involve an interviewer and an interviewee using omnidirectional mics close to their mouths; they speak clearly and don't step on each other, but applause may punctuate their remarks. Scenario C is decidedly less ideal. It may consist of a recorded telephone call where the speakers speak normally, interrupting each other and talking over each other; background noises are common, from the sound of a TV or a barking dog. The venues for Scenario D might be a cavernous bus terminal or a food court in a mall; unrelated conversations, the sound of traffic and music are typical, and to make matters worse, speakers wear body mics inside their jackets that pick up extraneous sounds. Clearly, the conditions underlying the production of a valid transcription vary hugely.

Emphasize to clients that translation and transcription are two separate tasks which must be paid for separately.

Antje provided some fundamental pointers related to transcription.

- Know whether you are being asked to transcribe only, or whether translation is part of a particular assignment. Emphasize to clients that these are two separate tasks which must be paid for separately.
- Are you being asked to add time codes to a transcription? Beware! Adding time codes indicating when each utterance begins and ends is extremely time-consuming and should prompt significant additional compensation. (An attendee later referenced [Descript software](#) for automating time-stamping; there's a monthly charge but it's a great time-saver.)
- Determine the quality of the recording in advance (A-D, above); ask to listen to segments of the recording you are being asked to transcribe before accepting any assignment.
- How many speakers are in the recording in question, and are they native speakers of the source language? Non-native speakers can be extremely difficult to understand. Antje recounted

an experience she had with transcribing a solid number of experts who nonetheless spoke over each other. Only one of them was a native English speaker. That assignment was memorably difficult.

- Special tools may be required for some transcription, ranging from foot pedals to dedicated software.

Transcription work can be exciting, Antje said, and it can be a good way to use language skills. However, transcription work is also intense and may necessitate research, plus other challenges may arise. For example, Antje referenced a marketing job where the English

text was "super pompous" in a way that simply didn't work in German. She requested a conference call with the project manager and the client to explain cultural differences in marketing so as to make clear why what she had been asked to do simply wasn't possible. The client then understood, and the issue was revisited.

On one occasion Antje agreed to take on a job that was paid by the word rather than by the hour. She quickly learned that only hourly pay is acceptable for transcription work. Agencies generally offer extremely low rates (\$0.75-\$4.00 per audio minute!) for transcription work. Antje referenced a general metric according to which 10 minutes of audio/video material yield one hour of work. That hardly ever works, and as a result, Antje hasn't done all that much transcription work. She emphasized pointedly that we transcribers and translators have the power. LSPs and clients depend fully on us. We need to say we won't put up with low pay. We need to step up and educate agencies and end clients as to what it takes to produce a decent transcription. They need to pay us what we are worth!

Rudy echoed a number of Antje's points and then added some of his own:

- Use AutoCorrect to quickly produce certain phrases that are used frequently: [not intelligible], [speaker unclear], [extraneous sounds], [undefined noise].

Continued on page 11

Transcription 101+

Continued from page 10

- Make sure you have good headphones and have comfortable ones because you'll be listening many, many hours and will listen to each segment many, many times.
- Don't let agencies pressure you into accepting shorter delivery dates; this work is very time-consuming.
- Be patient: if possible, have someone else help you to discern difficult passages.
- Do this job very well, not only to get paid but to snag subsequent jobs.

Rudy records the audio in Notes on his phone which converts it to text. The result is not perfect, of course, and it must be revisited, but the approach is highly efficient. He also uses QuickTime to slow down or speed up recordings. Audacity software is also a useful audio editor and recorder.

Then Rudy sends the text to his Mac via Airdrop and inserts it in a Word doc. He described the four-column format he uses for transcriptions. It's a table in Microsoft Word.

>Column 1 for numbers (in 24-point type) and names of speakers (in 12-point type). The large type is so the client can refer to each segment easily.

>Column 2 for the source text (in 9-point type). The source text is only provided in case the client wishes to verify what is in Column 3.

>Column 3 for his translation (in 14-point type). His clients are monolingual in English. They make decisions based on the English text. The transcription of the source is often used to produce subtitles in bilingual marketing or training videos.

>Column 4 for comments, as necessary.

In contrast to the general metric Antje mentioned, Rudy finds that one minute of audio material takes 15 minutes to transcribe, and he charges accordingly. Most material is produced in scenarios B, C or D. One has to go back over it many times. Careful editing then follows. Rudy charges \$100/hour. The client can decide whether to accept it or not. If the client asks if he can adjust his rate, he agrees to adjust it upward! Clients always can find people to do any given job for less. Rudy will even recommend people, if the client likes. But Rudy himself won't relent on pricing. He has found that once clients see one job done,

they don't question his rate anymore.

At this point the format of the meeting switched to Q & A. Many attendees raised their Zoom hands to pose questions, offer further suggestions, and corroborate the points covered by Antje and Rudy. Discussion was still ongoing at 4 pm. The bottom line:

- Transcription is very time-consuming and requires a lot more work than clients generally realize.
- It is separate from translation, and those two tasks need to be billed separately.
- Accuracy is essential.
- Be honest. Explain what is involved and say that you cannot sustain working at low rates. Don't fall for "ridiculous offers."

Good spirits prevailed from start to finish. Attendees offered well-deserved and effusive thanks to our two fine speakers.



CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

Volunteer to help with our April 30 annual conference

Volunteering for the conference is an excellent way to get involved in our language community. Every year, we count on participant volunteers to help make things go smoothly throughout the day, and this year is no exception! We need volunteer monitors for the virtual presentation sessions and writers to write an article or short summary of presentations for the NETA newsletter.

Volunteer with us and have some fun behind the scenes while helping to make our 26th annual conference a success.

QUESTIONS about volunteering for the conference?
Email: conference@netaweb.org

To volunteer for the 26th annual NETA conference, Simply check the volunteer box when registering and we will follow up with our volunteer information.

We look forward to meeting you and hope that those who have volunteered in the past will join us again this year!

The NETA Green Wave

by Laura Rojo MacLeod

We invite all NETAns to join the green journey to help the planet, the community, and your profession!

This is your green forum/column in the newsletter where members can give tips, advertise events that have to do with green issues, share what they learn through translation or interpreting assignments that have to do with green practices and more!

Climate change affects us all, and having a unified response is essential. NETA already works pretty much in a green mode and can do more with your help! For example, for a long time NETA has been offering its monthly meetings remotely and more recently, the annual conference as well.

Our immediate goal is to publicize the many ways in which NETA and our members already implement green practices and hope you will share the things you do in the newsletter, our [FaceBook](#) page and the [NETA listserv](#).

You may find other ways to contribute by:

- Looking into the UN's Sustainable Development Goals for 2030
- Adding to the green lexicon in your field of work and sharing with colleagues
- Creating a calendar for green news and events
- Inviting other T&I organizations to join in the effort
- Promoting green awards for members and sponsors
- Encouraging members to organize a *No Impact Week* at work or in other associations
- Staying informed and sharing.

Your voice and actions as language professionals are very important. There are possibilities in every area you work in. You could, for example, share your knowledge of organizations expressing environmental concern leading to action in any field, especially if you are acquainted with the particular organization because of your language work. In this regard, we have started a general green lexicon for NETA members to add to.

Some green information and tips we have already received from our members:

- Alejandra Karamanian suggested adding a green action to your signature. Thank you!
- Diana Rhudick posted the link to Earth Hour in the listserv.
- Helen Eby shared that in the state of Oregon, being able to show how green your business is helps to place you among the top bidders. As independent contractors, we can explore whether the request for proposal (RFP) process followed by the state or a private client takes our green bona fides into account. We can help offer NETAns some guidance on this issue to better compete in the market.
- Laura MacLeod offers her 10 BYOGT (*Bring your own green translator*): green dimensions in translation practical activity stations to help internalize concepts and practice.

We look forward to hearing from you! Let's ride on and spread the wave!

The NETA Green Wave team

amherstbilingual@gmail.com

NCIHC Begins Crafting a Strategic Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Plan



National Council on
Interpreting in Health Care

Board of Directors of the National Council on Interpreting in Health Care (NCIHC) has announced it has begun creating a strategic diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) plan. The goal is to ensure that diversity is promoted among the organization leadership and membership.

NCIHC members will have several opportunities to participate in the assessment. A nation-wide survey of members will be conducted to examine their DEI preferences and priorities for organizational action. Members will also have an opportunity to share their views directly during the Language Access Café listening session, [NCIHC and DEI – Charting a Path Forward](#), as part of their upcoming [Annual Membership Meeting](#) April 29th and 30th.

NCIHC has retained BCT Partners to assist in the process. BCT Partners is a national consulting firm with a mission to provide insights about diverse people that lead to equity.

The process will include an organization-wide review of current DEI policies and practices, including interviews with past and incoming Board members and volunteers.

The assessment will culminate in a written report highlighting current NCIHC DEI strengths and challenges, with recommendations for improvement that are consistent with emerging national best practices.

The Top 100 Most Prescribed Drugs

NETA monthly meeting, March 26, 2022

Reviewed by Marian Comenetz

What a prodigious presentation this was! Our speaker, **Tom Carey**, for 39 years a professor of Allied Health at Berkshire Community College, set forth to review the indications and uses of the 100 most common prescribed drugs, including the pathological conditions which those drugs are used to treat as well as their potential adverse effects. And he did just that, with over 100 carefully devised PowerPoint slides to guide that effort. Beginning with Abilify, Adderall, Advair, and Ativan, he took close to 100 attendees through to Zithromax, Zocor, Zofran, and Zoloft, referencing Cardizem, Glucophage, Lasix, Nexium, Percocet, Spiriva, and Vesicare along the way—and so many more!

Proceeding clearly and at an astounding pace, he elaborated in some detail about drugs for conditions such as epilepsy, COPD, ADHD, diabetes, hypertension, hypercholesterolemia (LDL, HDL), depression, hypothyroidism, and opioid addiction. Tom's adeptness at presenting the ins and outs of each and every drug was impressive.

Tom began his career as a respiratory therapist and over time, became fascinated by how patients responded to various treatments. He began to compile information, which then formed the core of one of his classes.

In presenting at NETA's monthly meeting, he considered the attendees to be students, assuring them at the outset that he intended to keep them on their toes. He peppered his remarks with questions, anecdotes and information that he said he hoped would be useful both professionally and personally. Just a few of his general points follow, in no particular order:

- When possible, try to deal with some conditions without drugs first, for example, hypertension or prediabetes.
- Every medication has risks and benefits to be weighed.

- Read the label three times!
- Watch for side effects!
- Eat healthy.
 - The [DASH](#) diet (Dietary Approaches to Stop Hypertension) is to be recommended "It's a flexible and balanced eating plan that helps create a heart-healthy eating style for life."
 - Another option is the [Mediterranean Diet](#).
 - Choose [low glycemic foods](#).
- Heart disease, rather than breast cancer, is the leading cause of death in women; one should pay particular attention to cholesterol levels.
- Penicillin was discovered by accident by Alexander Fleming.
- Being overweight can readily lead to Type 2 diabetes. (Among other things, Tom explained the differences between Type 1 and Type 2).
- Sitting too much can wreck your body. People with sitting jobs have twice the rate of cardiovascular disease as people with standing jobs. If you have to sit for your work, be sure to get up periodically and move about.
- Five ways to boost your brain health:
 - 1) Exercise,
 - 2) Eat healthy,
 - 3) Relax,
 - 4) Sleep, and
 - 5) Keep your mind active (puzzles, word games, workshops, even enroll in a college course).
- Get CPR certified! This can be done through the Red Cross or the American Heart Association (www.heart.org). Consider taking the Heartsaver course or Basic Life Support (BLS) for Healthcare Providers. Part of the training is done online and the rest at local hospitals. One never knows when CPR can come into play.

**Translators take note:
Sitting too much can wreck your body. People with sitting jobs have twice the rate of cardiovascular disease as people with standing jobs.**

Tom recommended one particular website as a good internet resource: Drugs.com.

True to his word, Tom's perky style and rapid pace kept attendees fully engaged throughout the session. He managed to cover all of his extensive material effectively in about 90 minutes, leaving time for questions and comments from attendees. At the end of the meeting, compliments and thanks from attendees were readily forthcoming.

Do You Know About the North American Academy of the Spanish Language (ANLE)?

Caminante no hay camino, se hace camino al andar

—Antonio Machado's poem sung by Joan Manuel Serrat

by Alejandra P. Karamanian

I am happy to share with my colleagues some notes about the North American Academy of the Spanish Language ([Academia Norteamericana de la Lengua Española](#)) and the fellowship election process held last year. ANLE is an institution made up of Spanish-language linguists who live and work in the United States as well as Spanish-speaking countries worldwide, including writers, poets, professors, educators, translators, editors, and proofreaders. Its mission is to support and promote the study and correct usage of Spanish in the United States. Established in New York City in 1973, ANLE is

a corresponding member of the Royal Spanish Academy ([Real Academia Española](#)) and a member of the Association of Academies of the Spanish Language ([Asociación de Academias de la Lengua Española](#)).

It has a website with a statement of its mission, newsletters, description of its members, activities and events, access links to government sites such as [usa.gov](#) or [digital.com](#), and useful and informative glossaries and documents for our translations.

The academy fellowship is composed of full members, corresponding members, and honorary fellows. The board of directors is chaired by Carlos E. Paldao, PhD in Language and Literature of George Washington University, and current ANLE president.

While the academy has been up and running since 1973, I only discovered it in 2014. When I learned about the conference to celebrate its 40th anniversary, I did not hesitate to contact its organizers and submit a paper. Why? Because, needless to say, the United States is one of the most important markets in a translator's career. I presented a paper about *Estadounidismos* versus lexico-syntactic interferences in English-Spanish translation. When translating for the United States, I consider it extremely important to include specific lexical and syntactic units, typically used in the US Spanish linguistic variety. That was the starting point for getting in touch with the academy. Subsequently, I was appointed as a collaborator and participated in some projects such as "*La Lengua Viva en Yahoo! en Español*," under the direction of Jorge I. Covarrubias, current ANLE vice-president.



ANLE's board of directors began the election process for the fellowship to the North American Academy of the Spanish Language on September 15, 2021. They took the following steps:

- Selected potential candidates.
- Invited the selected candidates to consent to their names being considered.
- Required the selected candidates to submit a resumé, a narrative inquiry, and a summary of their contributions to the academy.
- Conducted a secret ballot to carry out a preselection of the candidates for the final full and corresponding fellowship as applicable.
- Carried out an exacting and rigorous process to evaluate candidates' professional and academic records.
- Held a final session where the new full and corresponding fellows were elected.

On December 10, 2021, the board notified me that I was elected as one of the new corresponding fellows of the Academia Norteamericana de la Lengua Española.

I hope I can keep on contributing from the translation, editing, or corpus linguistics disciplines to support and consolidate U.S. Spanish, one of 23 varieties of Spanish recognized around the globe.

Alejandra P. Karamanian

Certified Translator/Proofreader.
MA in Teaching Spanish

Corresponding Member of the North American Academy of the Spanish Language

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Saturday, April 30, 2022

26th Annual NETA Conference

Learn, Network and Earn Continuing Education Credits!

Time	Title	Format	Speakers
9:00 – 9:15	Welcome		Diana Rhudick
9:15 – 10:15	Language Work and Trauma: Connecting the Dots	Keynote	Ester Serra Luque
10:15 – 10:25	Break		
10:25 – 11:25	Session 1		
	Translating Heterolingualism... An Azorean Tale	Translation	Francisco Cota Fagundes
	Consecutive Refresher: Interpret with your 5 senses (Part 1)	Interpreting	Darinka Mangino
	Getting Started as a Translator	Other	
	UMass Boston Panel	Academic	
	UMass Boston Panel	Academic	
	UMass Boston Panel	Academic	
11:25 – 11:35	Break		
11:35 – 12:35	Session 2		
	Editing Negative Transfers from English into Spanish	Translation	Alejandra Karamanian
	Consecutive Refresher: Interpret with your 5 senses (Part 2)	Interpreting	Darinka Mangino
	Getting Started as an Interpreter	Other	
	UMass Boston Panel	Academic	
	UMass Boston Panel	Academic	
	UMass Boston Panel	Academic	
12:35 – 12:45	Break		
12:45 – 1:30	Meet the Candidates for NETA Board of Directors Visit our Exhibitors		
1:30 – 2:30	Session 3		
	Challenges in translating for the advertising industry	Translation	Elizabeth Martin
	Team Interpreting in the Remote Simultaneous Age	Interpreting	Salo Salman
	Running Translation? Services (During a Pandemic)	Other	Andy Jones Bersaluce
	UMass Boston Panel	Academic	
	UMass Boston Panel	Academic	
	UMass Boston Panel	Academic	
2:30 – 2:40	Break		
2:40 – 3:40	Back to the Future: An interpreter's very late career change and how to stay calm amid chaos	Endnote	Diana Clark
3:40 – 4:00	Closing Remarks		Lesley Andrews Diego Mansilla

2022 NETA Conference Preview

Go to netaweb.org for more and to register for our virtual conference on April 30.

9:15 - 10:05 KEYNOTE

Language Work and Trauma: Connecting the Dots

Language is not only a tool for communication, but also an expression of culture and identity very much linked to personal and historical trauma and resilience. That is true for the interpreter and translator as much as for the parties involved. In this workshop we will learn about trauma and vicarious trauma in connection to professional standards and best practices when doing language work. We will also share tips for minimizing vicarious trauma for interpreters and translators.



Ester Serra Luque

Interpreter and Language Justice Activist

Ester Serra Luque is a community and court interpreter and translator. She is also director of community services at Transition House, an organization that supports survivors of domestic violence and provides technical assistance and training on issues of trauma and violence prevention.

2:40 - 3:40 ENDNOTE

Back to the Future: An Interpreter's Very Late Career Change and How to Stay Calm Amid Chaos

Language is not only a tool for communication, but also an expression of culture and identity very much linked to personal and historical trauma and resilience. That is true for the interpreter and translator as much as for the parties involved. In this workshop we will learn about trauma and vicarious trauma in connection to professional standards and best practices when doing language work. We will also share tips for minimizing vicarious trauma for interpreters and translators.



Diana Clark

Independent French to English interpreter

Diana Clark was born, raised and educated in England. She became a US citizen in 1976. Her credentials include a BA from the University of London-Bedford College, MBA studies at NYU, as well as 40 years in middle management: book publishing, banking, law & CPA firm management.

10:25 - 11:25 SESSION

Translating Heterolingualism and Coastal Whaling: Stormy Isles: An Azorean Tale

Professor Fagundes will discuss his translation to English of Vitorino Nemésio's *Mau Tempo no Canal: Stormy Isles: An Azorean Tale*. He will cover some aspects of the relationship between the US and the Azores, the novel's debt to American literature, as well as elements

of the novel's plot and its heterolingualism as contexts for the understanding of key aspects of the philosophy of translation that guided it.

Francisco Cota Fagundes has translated and co-translated fiction and poetry from Portuguese to English and translated four immigrant autobiographies, including his own, from English to Portuguese.

11:35 - 12:35 SESSION

Editing Negative Transfers from English into Spanish Translation

This presentation will cover some negative syntax, lexical and typographical transfers arising, mainly when translating into Spanish for the United States due to two languages being in constant contact. It will include the use of style manuals and a discussion of guidelines for clear writing.

Alejandra P. Karamanian is a certified legal translator, proofreader/copyeditor, and post-editor. She works as a freelancer for national and international corporations and individuals, specializing in the areas of legal, business, humanities, technology, and subtitling.

1:30 - 2:30 SESSION

Challenges in Translating for the Advertising Industry: The Case of Belgium, France, Luxembourg and Switzerland

This presentation addresses the challenges of translating advertisements with a particular focus on francophone Europe. A recent study of advertising across media in Belgium, France, Luxembourg and Switzerland reveals how global brands are dealing with the cultural and linguistic specificities of these countries as well as cross-cultural differences in the use of English borrowings.

Elizabeth Martin is Professor of French at California State University – San Bernardino. She formerly held faculty positions at Georgetown University, George Washington University, and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Minuto NETA con el español

Hello, dear NETA community!

*In this edition, we are pleased to present **Minuto NETA con el español**, a space to address different aspects of Spanish translation. This initiative stems from the fascinating fact that the substantial Spanish-speaking community in the United States needs our professional services. Therefore, we will discuss various items, such as language resources, website recommendations, glossaries and corpus, specific topics of syntax and lexicon, varieties of Spanish, and any other aspect of translating into Spanish that our members would like to contribute to **Minuto NETA with Spanish**.*

*Welcome to **Minuto NETA con el español!**
So delighted to get started... Alejandra*

¡Hola, querida comunidad NETA!

En esta edición, nos complace presentar **Minuto Neta con el español**, un espacio para abordar distintos aspectos de la traducción al español. Esta iniciativa surge del fascinante hecho de la enorme comunidad hispanohablante de los Estados Unidos que necesita de nuestros servicios profesionales. Aquí trataremos diversos ítems, tales como recursos idiomáticos, recomendaciones de sitios web, glosarios y corpus, temas puntuales de sintaxis y léxico, variedades del español, y todo lo que nuestros miembros quieran aportar a Minuto NETA con el español.

Así enriquecemos nuestro acervo idiomático a través de los intercambios ¡que tanto nos gustan! Y esos intercambios responden a que, como sabemos, en la lengua, en general, y en la traducción, en particular, no hay absolutismos sino opciones que elegimos según un universo de variables discursivas y de la vivencia que experimentamos al traducir. Y un ejemplo es el colorido espectro de las veintitrés variedades del español que, en el caso específico de los Estados Unidos, viven y conviven en este territorio.

¡Sean, pues muy bienvenidos! Los invitamos a participar de este espacio con lo que les gustaría compartir en relación con la traducción al español. ¡Los esperamos, aquí estamos!

Nos unimos a la NETA Green Wave

Iniciamos esta sección conectando la traducción con el medioambiente y el cuidado de la Tierra. Podrán preguntarse, ¿y cuál es la relación con la lengua? La lengua es transversal, porque todas las áreas de conocimiento se valen de ella para expresarse.

En el caso que nos ocupa hoy, el medio ambiente, si, por ejemplo, traducimos consejos para su preservación, comunicaremos el mensaje de una manera más eficaz al elegir las voces apropiadas. Y, lo que es aún más importante, lograremos generar una mayor concientización ambiental. Para más información, por favor contactar amherstbilingual@gmail.com. Aquí una muestra de sitios oficiales de algunos países de América Latina para su consulta.

[Agencia de Protección Ambiental Estados Unidos:](#)

[Chile](#)

[Costa Rica](#)

[Gobierno de Argentina](#)

[Gobierno de Colombia](#)

[Gobierno de Ecuador:](#)

[Gobierno de México](#)

[Gobierno del Perú](#)

[Uruguay](#)

Traduciendo colores

Para nosotros, traductores apasionados, cualquier aspecto de la lengua nos resulta fascinante. Y uno de esos aspectos es buscar, reactivar o tratar de lograr el mismo sentido, color y fuerza en el trasvase de las voces, frases hechas, expresiones idiomáticas y proverbios.

Detrás de cada forma de decir hay una comunidad hablante que expresa su cultura, sus tradiciones, sus maneras de ver el mundo. En esta oportunidad, seleccionamos cómo nos expresamos a través de los colores.

Elegimos, en esta oportunidad, el azul y, por supuesto, el verde, en consonancia con la NETA Green Wave.

Azul como nuestro planeta

- **blue pencil**, lápiz rojo: con el rojo se corrige en las escuelas y, por supuesto, se censura en español.
- **blue blood**, sangre azul: aquí coincidimos con la nobleza.
- **feel blue**, sentirse deprimido, triste: si hay un color que podría ser es el negro, porque son en esos momentos en que vemos todo negro.
- **out of the blue**, inesperadamente: parece que no tenemos un color que pueda transmitir un suceso inesperado; entonces, podemos recurrir a un adverbio. Y sí... no es la misma imagen que se nos representa con el color.

continúa en la página 18

Minuto NETA con el español

continuación de la página 17

- **blue collar**, trabajadores, obreros: otra vez, nos falta ese color si bien podríamos hacer alguna remisión al marrón, por el mameluco de los obreros que usaban en alguna época en las fábricas.
- **once in a blue moon**, cada muerte de obispo: interesante cómo la expresión inglesa remite a la naturaleza y en español recurrimos a la religión.

Verde que te quiero verde

- **to give someone the green light**, dar a alguien luz verde: esta frase quizás sea internacional porque los semáforos los compartimos en todo el mundo.
- **to have a green thumb**, tener dedo o dedos verdes: parece que en español no especificamos qué dedo y ¡hasta usamos todos los dedos para nuestras tareas jardineras!
- **to be green with envy**, estar verde de envidia: coincidimos.
- **to be green**, estar verde: sí, coincidimos, estamos verde porque aún no maduramos ni en inglés ni en español.
- **the grass is always greener on the other side of the fence**, el césped / pasto es siempre más verde o está siempre más alto del otro lado de la cerca / del cerco: y seguramente muchas otras opciones más en nuestras distintas formas de decir en español.
- **to go green**, estar en la onda verde: algo así como lo que proponemos... ¡en todos los idiomas!

El arte en palabras

Hoy compartimos este poema que nos sumerge en un mundo de colores... nuestra Tierra.

Colores

*Hay una música
cromática
iluminando el aire
surgiendo viva
azulada y ondina
desde el seno forestal
colorada y verdellada
en estelas naturales
en amarillos y naranjas
al son melódico ventral
de la madre Tierra
valiente simiente
al tono celeste
del alma creadora.*

*Hay un arco iris de luz
en sueños vespertinos
ojos en juegos eleuterios
pintando el mundo
de alegrías coloridas
sutil paleta sin fin
en rosa, blanco y carmín
acuarelas de vida
pesares en gris
por el minuto interminable
del tiempo mariposa
en diáfano vuelo
colorista interior.*

Colección 'Poemas & poems II'
Laura Rojo MacLeod
<https://laurarojomacleod.com/>

Recomendaciones

Y aquí **Minuto NETA con el español** con algunas recomendaciones de recursos en línea de la lengua general.

- [Buscado de ideas fines](#): sitio de ideas, palabras, términos y conceptos relacionados.
- [Diccionario etimológico castellano en línea](#): un recorrido por los orígenes de las palabras.
- [Significado y origen de expresiones famosas](#): listado de frases, axiomas, sentencias y dichos populares con sus correspondientes usos, significados y orígenes.
- [Sinónimos online](#): listado de significados muy parecidos.
- [Las 500 dudas más frecuentes del español](#): ayuda para resolver algunas de los miles de millones de dudas que se nos presentan al traducir.

En las próximas ediciones, recomendaremos también libros de estilo, glosarios, entre otros recursos que siempre vienen muy bien a la hora de esa experiencia única e irreplicable con la traducción de nuestros textos.

Sin más y una vez más, ¡bienvenidos a **Minuto NETA con el español!**

Alejandra P. Karamanian

Certified Translator/Proofreader.
MA in Teaching Spanish

Corresponding Member of the North American
Academy of the Spanish Language

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NETA Board Meeting Minutes, January 22, 2022

10 a.m. Virtual

Submitted by Stephanie Newton

Board Members Present: Lesley Andrews, Inés Fusco, Steve Sanford, Sybil Gilchrist, Stephanie Newton, Rokhaya Smith

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

Absent: Crystal Zhong, Treasurer; Laura Rojo Macleod

Quorum present? Yes

AGENDA

Conference

- Fees
 - Lesley shared a spreadsheet showing potential conference fees for this year. Last year we charged very low fees and had a large net loss (about \$7,000). The proposal for this year includes increased fees for the 2022 remote conference
 - Factors to consider:
 - How much this year's conference will cost us
 - Online burnout - people may be less likely to attend online events due to burnout
 - Attendees will be saving money on travel and lodging, so this is a perk of attending
 - We need to factor in the cost of last year's remote conference, as well as the cost of in-person conferences in previous years
 - Usually we lose a little bit of money with the conference. When Elena ran it, there was a profit because of increased marketing and more attendees.
 - The board voted yes on the proposal for conference fees:
 - Students: \$25
 - Senior member: \$50
 - Member early: \$90
 - Member regular: \$120
 - Nonmember early: \$120
 - Nonmember regular: \$150
 - Sponsor 1 - Logo placement: \$150
 - Sponsor 2 - Featured session: \$300
 - Sponsor 3 - Exhibitor booth: \$450
 - With estimated attendance, this will bring us to \$17,800
- Lesley bought gift certificates for the survey drawing, Diana approved the reimbursement; it was submitted to Crystal and we're waiting to hear from her.
- We need to notify people who have submitted proposals that the conference will be online.
- Presenters
 - We are still searching for presenters - there are a few slots left.
 - Rudy, Antje, and Pilar are doing a monthly meeting on transcription. Antje offered a conference presentation on a similar topic. Yes, we would like this!
 - We could use more medical- and legal interpretation-related sessions for the conference, as well as translation-related sessions.
 - Steve will ask the legal interpreters to make sure their sessions have practical application, so they may be approved for CEUs
- Exhibitors/sponsors
 - There is some interest so far. The UMass T&I program is interested, Kristen will talk with them.
 - We need to check how many ticketing options will be available to us before knowing whether we can offer different levels of sponsorship.
- Keynote and endnote speaker
 - This is a priority!
 - The keynote and endnote have to appeal to both interpreters and translators. However, the person doesn't necessarily have to work in the T&I industry, as long as their topic is relevant.
- Service award
 - Criteria: someone who has done a lot of volunteer work for NETA
 - Board members will consider if there are any other potential candidates, then the board will vote.
- Volunteering
 - Inés will reach out to Diego about whether his students can help with conference volunteering this year.

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Board Meeting Minutes January 22, 2022

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Treasurer's report

- We will be moving to e-checks and possibly Zelle
 - There is sometimes a cost for e-checks, sometimes not, it depends on various factors.
- Tax forms have not been received yet
 - There was a mail issue previously. It would be beneficial to scan and email tax forms before putting them in the mail. Diana will ask Crystal if 1099s have gone out yet.

Membership

- 283 current members, 278 are active
- Membership always hovers between 250 - 280
- Antje cleared out the backlog
- Wild Apricot
 - The automation process has made things a lot smoother, despite the occasional glitch
 - There are still some issues:
 - When people are lapsing, they don't always go right into archives
 - It doesn't always send an automatic outgoing message when it's supposed to.
- Currently there are 2 checks that need to be sent to Crystal.
- The board agreed to give Frank Geoffrion a lifetime membership to NETA.
 - Diana will let him know about this decision.
 - Lesley will ask him if he wants to be keynote speaker for the conference.

Election

- It's time to nominate candidates for the board.
 - Up for renewal:
 - Lesley: will renew
 - Rokhaya: stepping down, unless we need her to run again
 - Laura: will renew
 - Candidate ideas were proposed.
 - We will put out a call among members to see if anyone else is interested.
- Deadline for candidates to send in headshot, candidate statement, and bio is March 10.
- Steph will receive submissions and results, since Lesley, as one of the candidates, can't look at it.
- There will be a meet-the-candidate session at the conference.

Website

- Wild Apricot merged with Personify and is saying that "new products and services" are available:
 - Creating emails is more user-friendly
 - Payment system will have the option of direct refunds, saving credit cards, and recurring donations.
- WA fees are going up this year to \$2,244 (from \$1,836)
 - We buy for 2 years to lock in this price.

Merchandise

- WA has an online store that we could use if we want to sell merchandise.
- Board decided not to pursue the creation and sale of merchandise right now:
 - It doesn't make sense since we don't have an in-person conference this year
 - We would need to check into laws around non-profits selling things
 - We would rather spend that money on advertising for the conference and for NETA membership

Monthly programming

- Ask Me Anything meeting
 - Do we want to have another one?
 - Only 2-3 people attended
 - We can do this as a survey instead of as an event, and can post FAQs and answers on NETA website
- Should NETA charge nonmembers for monthly meetings? How about for CEU certificates?
 - Questions that came up:
 - How would we keep track of who is a member?
 - Would we need to update our Zoom account?
 - There are various ways we could do this
 - We could charge nonmembers for attending the meetings
 - We could charge a fee for getting a CEU certificate
 - We could do a combination of both.

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Board Meeting Minutes January 22, 2022

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- Board agreed on charging all nonmembers a \$10 fee (which includes receiving a CEU certificate if they need it)
 - Need to put up a disclaimer saying that they need to attend a certain % of the meeting to get the certificate
- Zoom keeps track of this automatically
 - Registration for the event would go through WA instead of Zoom, allowing us to charge
 - Diana will look into this on WA
- Have people attended the monthly meetings or joined NETA who found out about it through FIT?
 - We have people attending from all over the world, but we don't really have a way of knowing if they came through FIT
- Upcoming monthly programming:
 - January: Michael O'Laughlin will join in with Bruce Popp
 - February: Rudy, Antje, and Pilar will present on transcription, translation, and pricing
 - March: Elena had to back out. There will be a medical interpreting session by Tom Cary(?).
- On the registration link for monthly meetings, we will put the link to become a member of NETA, to encourage people to sign up (with the benefit of attending the monthly programming for free)

NETA News

- The next NETA News will include an article encouraging translators and interpreters to be aware of environment
 - "Green Wave" initiative
 - The biggest thing orgs can do to reduce carbon footprint is take events online - an upside of not being in person!

Social media

- On NETA's facebook page, the "Join now" link connected to NETA's 2016 conference - this is now fixed.

Afghan refugees

- Inés will ask Erika if she is ready to post on Facebook the list of orgs to support Afghan refugees.

- The board decided that we can share information on ways to help, but it's outside our parameters to directly offer help to people resettling. In the future, an idea is to offer to connect members to people needing support, so that the help is coming from members directly as individuals, and not from the board.

FIT

- First year cost \$700, now it costs \$930
- Does FIT provide a membership discount for the ATA conference?
 - Rokhaya will check with FIT/ATA to confirm this

Attracting new members

- Talk more about this next meeting when we talk about membership!
- Marketing
 - Idea from Rokhaya: reach out to other T&I orgs, as well as T&I schools, to share about events and monthly meetings
 - We will send a list of ATA T&I affiliates to Kristen to include as part of the marketing plan (for the conference)

Jobs

- Board will review this topic regularly at board meetings.
- Jobs still come through once in a while, in particular for medical and legal interpreting, and Inés disseminates the information.
- We are wondering if members have gotten jobs from this. Inés will send out an email to ask.

Other

- Sybil has a collection of French Review Journals, published by the American Association of Teachers of French (AATF). If anyone would like them, they can email her directly.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45pm. The next board meeting will be virtual on March 19, 2022 at 10:00am, and the final meeting of the year will be June 18, with a back-up date of June 25.



NETA Board Meeting Minutes, March 19, 2022

10 a.m. Virtual

Submitted by Stephanie Newton

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

Others present: Marian Comenetz, programming coordinator; Diana Rhudick, president; Antje Ruppert, membership coordinator; Alejandra Karamanian; Deloude Rock

Absent: Crystal Zhong, Treasurer

Quorum present? Yes

AGENDA

Treasurer's second quarter report and conference accounting

- Reviewed second quarter report
- There are currently three uncleared checks, all recently sent
 - Bruce, Rudy, Antje
 - Antje will deposit hers; the others will be contacted with a reminder to deposit checks
- Why do we have Bank of America fees?
 - There's a monthly maintenance fee because it's a business account
 - Can we ask them to waive the fee since we're a nonprofit?
- Have Sarah, Crystal, Kristin, and Inés received their forms for 2021?
 - Inés did receive the 1099 form
- Electronic payments
 - Zelle didn't work for Lesley because her name is on the B of A account
 - We may try electronic checks
 - We don't know yet if there's a cost for doing electronic payments
 - Wiring for international payments costs a lot, so this option is not ideal
 - ACH - Account Clearinghouse - this could be an option
 - We can use PayPal, but it charges high fees

Election 2022-23

- Lesley, Rokhaya, and Laura are up for reelection
- We have one additional person running - Ambrosia Noyes, a relatively new translator
- Ines will monitor the Meet-the-Candidates session at the conference

Membership

- There were a few members who started renewal but didn't finish, Antje emailed them, hasn't heard from them
- List of expirees - Antje emailed all of them, 7 people responded
- 285 members currently
 - 277 are active
 - 9 renewals overdue, but very recent, so we will give them a little more time
 - 215 of these are regular members
 - 70 are student/senior members
- There were some technology glitches
 - Antje didn't receive some emails that went to membership, but Diana fixed that and it's resolved
 - When someone pays by check, the welcome email doesn't always go out
 - Antje will monitor this next time someone pays by check, will work with Lesley to attempt to resolve it
- Kristin Healey has been set as a permanent member so she can stay in the loop - she had received an automatic notification saying she needed to renew
- Antje is saving the welcome emails that have been sent out
 - It was determined that we don't need to keep these; can clear them out after each year
- Email templates are in NETA messages documents - we need back-ups of those
 - At some point we need to finalize procedures documents
 - Will do this after the conference
- Frank Geoffrion
 - Didn't hear back from him after notifying him of lifetime membership
 - Diana will contact him regarding honoring him at the conference
 - Can acknowledge him in the newsletter, too

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Board Meeting Minutes March 19, 2022

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Attracting new members

- 6/26/21: Rokhaya prepared a list of ideas to grow NETA membership,
 - Should we create a subcommittee to talk through these ideas?
 - Discuss over email before next meeting
 - We talked through some of the ideas:
 - Bring a new member, get 50% discount on your membership fees
 - That might be a challenge logistically with WA
 - Instead of a discount, a gift card?
 - Or instead of a discount, an honorable mention in the newsletter
 - Reach out to T & I graduates through T&I schools
 - Offer language-specific or specialization divisions as NETA sub-groups
 - Study and/or goal-setting groups
 - Organize regular virtual or in-person networking sessions
 - Share newsletter w/ academic institutions language departments & T&I schools
 - Offer training sessions (CAT tools, DTP, reviewing, resume writing, reviewing)
 - Organize translation games – awards may include free memberships, free attendance to paid events or to select conference sessions)
 - Invite members to blog/write articles and offer awards at conference for most prolific blogger, most active member on organizing networking/inviting new members to join
 - Set up the mentoring program
 - Ask members on groups.io on best practices for building website, accounting, billing/invoicing, time management, etc.

Website

- Domains have been successfully renewed
- Certain buttons on the website are written in yellow font which makes them difficult to see

- Diana is working on fixing this; it's difficult to find where the font for this section is coded
- Antje gets a lot of questions about where on the website to join NETA
 - It seems like it's confusing or somewhat hidden for new members, so the board decided to move the "Join NETA" link on the "Details on Joining and Renewing" page to the top of the page instead of where it is now at the bottom of the page

Monthly programming

- Cost
 - Last board meeting we talked about charging \$10 to non-members for monthly programming; it will continue to be free for members
 - This will hopefully encourage more people to join as members
 - Board felt that \$10 might be too low based on what other organizations charge, and because it might not make joining NETA worth it
 - A quorum agreed with charging \$25 per meeting for nonmembers
 - Certificates of attendance
 - Everyone (who attends the whole session) will receive a certificate of attendance
 - Easiest option for certificates: send everyone a certificate, rather than having people request one if they need it. People end up waiting a long time before requesting one.
 - Diana started looking into the logistics of charging people through Wild Apricot, but hasn't figured it out yet
 - Goal is to implement this new payment procedure starting with the Translation Bash in the spring, and we will work on getting everything set up for it in the summer
 - Soon, we should start to let people know that nonmembers will be charged
- 1/29: Trouble in Paradise: The contention that arose at our January monthly meeting prompted a good deal of email discussion among board members, with more than one person proposing rules of civility for monthly meetings. For the February meeting, we added wording in Marian's verbal welcome saying that attendees should ask questions via the chat, that they will not be able to unmute themselves until the discussion or Q&A, and they will be removed if they become disruptive. We also made clear that we sincerely hope not to have to remove anyone.
 - 2/10: Erika sent this wording from CCCS:
 - Disruptive Behavior Policy: In order to uphold the collaborative nature of our online training programs,

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Board Meeting Minutes March 19, 2022

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Cross-Cultural Communications reserves the right to remove any participant for abusive or aggressive behavior, spoken or written, towards CCC staff, trainers or other participants. We recognize that the past year has been difficult for everyone. However, our participants, trainers and staff have the right to a safe and respectful learning and working environment. We thank you for your understanding.

- o In the most recent monthly meeting, we started by muting everyone, but ended up unmuting to allow questions
- o The board decided that posting the above statement would be putting too much focus on this. We believe this was an isolated incident that doesn't warrant policy changes.
- o If something like this happens again, the meeting organizer can remove people individually
- o This won't be an issue for the conference because it's in webinar format so people are not able to talk out loud
- 2021-22 monthly meeting dates (all programming is virtual for now):
 - o 9/18: 16th annual translation bash
 - o 10/23: Dr. Cesar Muedas: Ethics, Conduct, Reputation and Judgment in the Interpreting Profession
 - o 11/20: Athena Matilsky: Consecutive Skills-building Training for Court (and Other) Interpreters
 - o December: holiday event (at Tapani's house)
 - o 1/29: Bruce P. joined by Michael O'Laughlin: Translator as Expert Witness
 - o 2/26: Rudy and Antje: Transcription 101+
 - o 3/26: Tom Carey: The Top 100 Most Prescribed Drugs
 - o 4/16: Konstantin Lakshin: The Human Dimension of Machine Translation: Fight-or-Flight vs Tend-and-Befriend
- 2021-22 board meeting dates
 - o 9/25
 - o 1/22
 - o 3/19
 - o 6/18 (or 6/25) - will likely be 6/18
 - o Board meetings will continue to be virtual, including the June meeting

Newsletter

- Alejandra is interested in opening a "Spanish corner" in the newsletter and collaborating in general to support the newsletter
- One idea is to highlight how things are said differently in Spanish in different parts of the world
 - o Could expand this to different languages, too

- Board felt that this was a great idea

Conference

- 4/30 is our 2022 conference date.

CEUs

- 3/1: Lesley has secured CEUs from the ATA and has applied for them with IMIA/CMI, CCHI, and OLA.
- CCHI has a fee for applying for CEUs - \$150 / year to register plus \$105 to submit 5 sessions (tried to get clarification on whether it is necessary to register every year, no response to repeated contacts), but CEUs were approved very quickly once application submitted
- Many people were upset that Susanna approved only 2 CEUs for the conference
- There is hope that she will reconsider, because we believe that other sessions do have practical application, and similar topics have been approved previously.
- Lesley is working on writing down procedure to get CEUs

Conference - financial

- Early bird registration will continue for the month of March; regular registration will be in available in April
- Acelevents gave us a discounted price
 - o Breakdown of the cost:
 - Event Fee: \$500
 - Attendee Fee: \$3/per person for all who attend – pd tix & free
 - Ticket fee: 9% of ticket cost (up to \$19.95)
 - Credit Card Processing Fee: 2.9% plus 30 cents per transaction – can pass on to attendees
- We're keeping the same budget as we have for past years
- We have one exhibitor, one sponsor so far
- Will be meeting with Diego this upcoming week
- 1/22/22: Kristin and Lesley will set things up so that no payment is involved at time of registration. After the conference, we

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provide UMB with names of students who actually attended, and UMB pays. UMA pays for its students. We need to inform Diego and Regina in advance that registration procedures have changed.

Speakers

- Inés is organizing 2 panels - 1 for interpreters and 1 for translators
- Inés is working on reaching out to vendors
- 2/21: Based on contributions from all minigroup members who had been in frequent touch since mid-October, Lesley provided her newly devised schedule for conference day, with 60-minute time slots and speakers/topics displayed clearly. NB: Because we changed from 50-minute to 60-minute presentations, there is one less time slot than in the past.) Keynote and endnote speakers have been selected. And as always, there are Getting Started panels for both translators and interpreters.

Volunteers

- Inés set up volunteering website and sent pertinent info to Diego

Service award

- Skipping for now
- *Who will prepare the certificate, purchase the gift card, notify awardee?

Survey

- We will do a post-conference survey again
- Prizes
 - Free membership to NETA
 - Free admission to conference
 - Bookshop.org gift cards (a group of independent bookstores who collaborate so that you can buy books online from bookstores near you)

Debriefing

- Don't have a date yet

Recordings

- All sessions will be recorded

- Lesley has recordings saved from last year but they're not currently posted

NETA News

- We can put info about the conference in the newsletter
- Upcoming articles:
 - NETA conversations with Professor Fagundes
 - Sybil on French day and her magazines
 - Alejandra K's write-up
 - Conference publicity/coverage
 - Monthly meeting write-ups
- 2 new volunteers for the newsletter: Alejandra and Vicky

Green wave initiative

- Signed by Montserrat, Eduardo, Maiyim, Peter Wilner, and Helen Eby
- Some content has been included in the newsletter
- The proposal is to form a committee on NETA and the environment
- Question from Inés: What is the benefit of associating with NETA, rather than getting together to do their own initiative?
 - Board would have some decision-making power if the committee is associated with NETA
- Ideas presented by Montserrat & Laura:
 - An acknowledgement by NETA of what NETA does already that's "green"
 - Putting things in the newsletter, such as tips on being green
 - Making small changes in our language, highlighting what we already do
 - Not meant to be lots of additional work for board members
 - Can include information on the website
 - Can invite other associations
 - It's about taking care with the language that we use, which is related to our field
- Board members do not feel prepared to vote on initiative at this moment

neta@groups.io, social media, other initiatives

- Groups.io is not very active
- As of 3/4/22 we had 1434 Facebook likes.
- Haven't been doing much with YouTube
 - Challenges: privacy and advertising
 - We've been using Vimeo for meeting videos to ensure

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privacy, turns out that the fact because there's no advertising is a bonus compared to YT

ATA exam sittings

- Soon will be on-demand test-taking
- NETA doesn't have the capacity to get involved in/offer this at the moment

Job postings

- No recent postings

Other

Afghan refugees

- Diana posted on the website a list of organizations that are helping Afghan refugees, both with resettlement and with material needs.
- 1/24, Lesley: We had a request from a group of Afghan translators who would like to present at the conference. April 30 falls during Ramadan. Should we change the date?
 - o 1/25: Discussion ensued. It was decided not to change the date. Might Haidar and colleagues consider video-taping themselves?
 - o During the conference introduction we can say Ramadan Mubarak as a small acknowledgement of the holiday.
 - o Next steps?
 - No next steps needed right now - the group was informed that we can't change the conference date. They are not able to record a video for the conference or present at a monthly meeting at the moment because they do not have computers. Unless they reach out to us again, no further action is necessary.

Ukraine

- 3/4: The ATA put out a (second) statement expressing support for Ukraine in the face of the unspeakable Russian assault on that country. Diana asked for and secured endorsement from a majority of the board. She then notified our membership and the ATA.
- Over email, board members discussed posting links to support Ukrainians
- For various reasons, including that it is out of our scope as an Interpreter and Translator organization, we haven't done the research to endorse each of the organizations, and people aren't likely to look to us to learn where to donate money, the Board decided no to include a list of organizations on the NETA website

NETA's membership in FIT

- Nothing right now - will come back to this another time
- Diana attended a FIT leadership meeting
- Steve successfully used the FIT discount for an ATA meeting, with the discount code FIT-MEMBER

The meeting was adjourned at 1:20pm. The next board meeting will be the final meeting of the season and will be virtual on June 18, 2022 at 10:00am.

Thank You to NETA 2022 Conference Sponsors

