



Attend NETA's 27th Annual Conference on April 29

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 page 7 for the schedule and a preview of sessions. Register at netaweb.org/2023-Conference

Celebrate Multilingualism - April 23 is UN English and Spanish Language Day

UNESCO World Book and Copyright Day, Anniversary of the deaths of Miguel de Cervantes, William Shakespeare and Inca Garcilaso de la Vega

"Words, words, words," said Hamlet. Translators and interpreters truly appreciate words and all the endless variation we are able to deal with! I'd suggest that words also are, like our eyes, "the window to our souls."

Our art and task is usually a felicitous journey, though "in order to attain the impossible, one must attempt the absurd" because "it is one thing to praise discipline, and another to submit to it," as the great Cervantes said. Indeed, we strive for the impossible dream, for the perfect target text or piece of speech, which all requires a great amount of discipline.

However, watch out! "Too much sanity may be madness and the maddest of all, to see life as it is and not as it should be."
(Cervantes)

Did you know? It is said that Cervantes and Shakespeare died on St. George's Day in 1616. (In fact, they probably died a week apart.) In parts of Spain it is traditional for a woman to give a book to her beloved on that day, and for him to offer her a rose. (The Guardian)

Laura Rojo MacLeod - From the Editor's desk

Meet the Candidates in NETA's 2023 Election

The 2023 election is now underway for four of the seven seats on NETA's Board of Directors.

Elections of three and four board members, alternately, take place in April or 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 have been sent a link to an online election ballot. You can also vote at the conference on April 29, when votes will be tallied and the winners announced.

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Submissions

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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 costs \$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.

Translators' Alphabet Soup with Diana Rhudick

NETA Monthly Meeting, February 2023 - Reviewed by Ambrosia Noyes

This month's presenter was our own NETA president, Diana Rhudick. Her presentation discussed how to use various features in Trados and the acronyms that go along with them. In addition, she engaged in a broader philosophical discussion of the role of machine translation (MT) in our society of rapidly evolving linguistic technology.

The first part of the presentation was an introduction to many important Trados functions. Diana walked through the steps of creating a new project integrating the Trados neural machine translation (NMT) tool, Language Weaver, to pre-translate a document. Next, she showed us how to add our own file-based translation memory (TM) to a project. These TMs are helpful for maintaining consistent language when you have repeat clients or frequently translate the same type of document. Lastly, Diana walked through how to use DeepL and various plug-ins with Trados, along with some useful keyboard shortcuts.

The second part of this month's presentation was about the use of machine translation from a more philosophical standpoint. Diana presented three contemporary professionals and their work with machine translation: Michael Farrell, who surveyed over 400 translators about their views on MT use, Jost Zetzsche and his presentation on the "right way" to use MT, and Alan Melby and his concept of the different grades of translation and how MT can play a role within those grades.

If Trados is your CAT tool of choice, I highly recommend that you watch the recording for step-by-step instructions from the first part of the presentation. The larger discussion of the role of MT in the translation industry is extremely relevant today, especially as new AI technology continues to be released, and the resources Diana shared on the topic give us food for thought. Members can watch the full recording of the talk at netaweb.org under "Members Only."

Of Words and Meaning, a Translator's Poem

Of words and meaning
a translator must decide,
for the very best translation
so the client's message
can truly come alive!

Words matter, so handle with care
of this message... ALWAYS be aware!

TheWebPoet Project
Marko De La Garza
© TheWebPoet.com

During the initial interview both must consider,
if this is a good fit.
But if you feel you are the right person for the job...
represent yourself well
and be like M.C. Hammer, "too legit to quit."

The client's words must ring true
so the translator must do,
the very best job through research and intuition.
Words of reference and words of rhyme
like everything else, translation takes time!

Careful crafting must be done,
for the client's trust must be won.
The client must know that you have their best
interests at heart,
so you must work diligently and listen intently,
right from the very start.

Do the best job that you can do,
so that you can live with yourself,
because your translation will truly live forever,
in marketing and online
not forgotten over time, on a shelf.



Stability and Change in the Spanish of Boston - A Sociolinguistic Perspective with Daniel Erker

NETA Monthly Meeting, March 2023 - Reviewed by Marian Comenetz

This presentation began with an explanation of what linguists do not do. Our speaker, Daniel Erker, professor of Spanish and Linguistics at Boston University, said there are often misunderstandings about his field. People ask linguists how many languages they know and comment that they should watch their language. Prof. Erker clarified that linguists are not primarily language learners nor are they grammar police. Rather, he provided a long list of the types of questions that linguists explore. Some examples:

- How does language fit into the story of human evolution?
- How does language set us apart from the rest of the animal world?
- How do babies acquire language?
- Are brains different for monolinguals and bilinguals?
- How do people produce, perceive and understand speech?
- How do social factors shape language use?

Today's talk focused largely on this question: How and why do languages change over time?

Prof. Erker asserted that no linguist would ever tell someone how to talk. Rather, linguists are interested in the natural state of human language. As the current director of the federally-funded *Spanish in Boston Project*, Prof. Erker investigates the sociolinguistic behavior of Spanish-speaking Bostonians. He showed attendees a map of the neighborhoods of Boston with the languages spoken in each, with larger font representing the preponderance of each language. Spanish speakers in Boston largely hail from eight countries/areas: Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, El Salvador, Colombia, Mexico, Honduras, Guatemala, and Cuba. One consideration is how contact between speakers of different varieties of Spanish can promote language change. Another is what outcomes of language contact exist between speakers of Spanish and English.

Next, Prof. Erker showed short videos of President Obama being interviewed by Zach Galifianakis (on *Between Two Ferns*) and of an interview with Secretary Hillary Clinton. He isolated from the audios the moments when Obama and Clinton hesitated before answering. In natural speech, such pauses are completely normal. Reasons for them may also be false starts or mistakes. When Obama paused, his utterance was "uh" whereas when Clinton paused, her sound was "ah." This phenomenon is known as a "filled pause." Erker said filled pauses differ between languages. For example, when the former president of Argentina paused, her sound was "eh."

Professor Erker showed attendees some detailed data from the extensive results he has produced during his investigation of what happens with filled pauses. He worked with 192 participants. Among other factors, the participants' age and percent of life in the United States were considered. Analysis revealed that people didn't differ based on sex, country of origin, or social class in their filled pause behavior; rather, the key factor was the percentage of their language use. Participants who spoke only or mainly Spanish after arriving in the United States continued to use "eh" as their filled pause sound whereas the data showed that the "ah" filled pause came into increasing play with participants who arrived in the United States at a younger age and tended to speak more English. The division happened based on age of arrival between those who arrived after age 15.5 versus those who arrived before that age. Thus, more contact with English prompts a subtle reconfiguration of language.

The second hour of this monthly meeting was given over to questions from attendees. The number, variety, and substance of the questions prompted solid response from Professor Erker. Topics included grammatical variation, morphosyntax (ex. use of subject pronouns, pro-drop or non pro-drop languages), effects of tonal versus non-tonal languages, word order flexibility, frequency of optional subjunctive use, use of Anglicisms to lighten the cognitive load of being bilingual, translanguaging, and more.

This meeting allowed attendees to gain a good sense of Prof. Erker's description, in the abstract for his presentation, that "at the heart of the sociolinguistic perspective is an appreciation for the ways in which language use is variable, rather than homogeneous." Another takeaway is that multilinguals are better at executive function and that multilingualism helps against cognitive decline. It's "all positive"!

To get a fuller sense of this presentation, see the video that is posted on our website under Members Only.

The Tucuman Government Palace Translator who guides and enlightens its visitors



Sue Haddad has been working at the Tucuman Government Palace for more than 25 years and knows that building like no one else. The White Room is her home away from home.

Azucena Haddad has even translated her own name. At the Government Palace, she is Sue for everyone. "For foreign people, pronouncing Azucena was very difficult, and since I was young, 'Sue' remained, which is simpler and clearer for everyone." For more than 25 years Sue has been the official guide, translator and interpreter of every tour, meeting, act and ceremony held between the term of Governor Pedro Riera and that of the current governor, Juan Manzur.

"We are in the White Hall of the Government House, where many years ago there was a cabildo. As it was in poor condition, it was demolished. This French-style house was built in 1912. This is where the most important ceremonies are held."

Sue highlights two places in the Government House: "Everything has meaning in this House. This White Room means a lot to me. It has witnessed very significant things for the province, where I have played the role of interpreter to great personalities. And another place is when I enter in the mornings and pass in front of the tomb of Dr. Juan Bautista Alberdi, the father of our national Constitution, where his mortal remains are. I consider it an honor and even something sacred. He was from Tucumán and the mentor of the backbone of the country."

"I am a national public translator, a literary, technical [and] scientific translator. I graduated as a conference interpreter and I did a master's degree in international relations at the Law School at the National University of Tucuman. I think the framework of an interpreter is the field of international relations to better understand how the world works," says Sue, who has witnessed the most important meetings in Tucuman's history of the last quarter of a century.

I am an interlingual mediator. My job is, simply and respectfully, to translate as faithfully and accurately as possible, not only from the point of view of the language and the words chosen, but even the paralinguistic aspects: gestures, mimicry, tone of voice of what the person says so that the other person can understand it with the utmost fidelity and respect. Nobel prizes in medicine, molecular biology, physics, economics, many within the framework of the bicentennial; people from the United Nations, UNICEF; the arts, music, famous violinists--there was no topic left to cover," she emphasizes, and then focuses back on the White Room and points to the ceiling.

"The chandeliers are made of rock crystal and bronze. They were brought from France, as was the furniture. The floor is parquet, and the idea of putting mirrors on the walls was taken from the Hall of Mirrors in the Palace of Versailles. The paintings are all canvases painted and then glued together in 1916. The painter was a Spaniard from Valencia, Julio Vila y Prades."



The Tucuman Government Palace Translator (continued)

A specialist in the symbolism of each work of art, she explains that the sun "represents the birth of a new country," that a path of thistles and thorns "depicts the difficulties, pain and suffering to declare independence," that where laurels appear "it is for its connotation or positive meaning of glory, triumph, victory," and her favorite image: "A woman has a book in her hands with the light blue and white colors. On the cover it says *Historia Argentina*, and next to her there is another woman with a pen in her hand. That is the very important message that the author leaves us: 'History is always being written. History is objective; it records everything: the good and the bad'."

She continues: "An interpreter also has to live by studying. He never knows whose turn it is to interpret. Someone once said: 'The written translator, with all due respect because a comma can change everything, is like a commercial pilot, with all the risks involved, but the simultaneous interpreter is like a fighter pilot because of the risks plus the surprise factor and time, which can be the best ally or the worst enemy. A word cannot come to mind, but you have to see what the concept is. Words are not translated, ideas are translated. That is what has to be clear'."

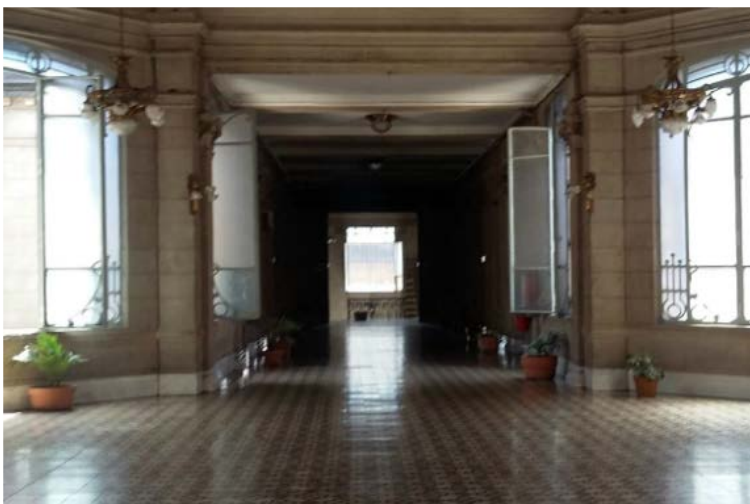
Today, like every day, Sue walked to the Government Palace. "I live nearby. It's the only exercise I do. That and the stairs I walk up and down I don't know how many times a day.



[The] Government House is a very, very important part of my life. I [have] witnessed many changes during these years. From each governor I have learned a lot. All of them have been and are different people, with their own personalities and impressions."

And as a faithful witness of meetings between governors, Sue remarks, "What I see or hear stays with me; it is something I do not share. A translator is a repository of trust. Even the most trivial things are no longer trivial because they take place in an official environment. They must remain there, and that's how they will stay with me."

Interview and photos by
Laura Rojo MacLeod



NETA Annual Conference 2023 - Online April 29 Schedule of Sessions

9:00 - 9:15	Welcome		Diana Rhudick
9:15 - 10:15	Translation in the Age of Artificial Intelligence	KEYNOTE	Lynne Bowker
10:15- 10:25	Break		
10:25 - 11:25	Professional Human Translators in the Age of Artificial Intelligence	TRANSLATION 1	Eduardo Berinstein
	Preparing for Psychoeducational and Speech Evaluations: What Medical Interpreters Need to Know	INTERPRETING 1	Ana Soler
	Getting Started as a Translator	OTHER 1	Daniel Hahn
UMB Panels			
11:25 - 11:35	Break		
11:35 - 12:35	Self-Revision without Self-Recrimination	TRANSLATION 2	Joachim Lépine
	The Different Roles of the Court Interpreter: Juggling Technique, Modalities, Fields and Ethics	INTERPRETING 2	Heidi Cazes
	Getting Started as an Interpreter	OTHER 2	
UMB Panels			
12:35 - 12:45	Break		
12:45 - 1:30	Meet the Candidates Visit our Exhibitors		
1:30 - 2:30	The Fine Art of Saying No: Boundary Setting	TRANSLATION 3	Ann Marie Boulanger
	Keeping Your Eye on the Prize In Ophthalmology as a Specialized Interpreter	INTERPRETING 3	Abby Huber
	Hybrid and Remote Interpreting: What You Don't Know Can Hurt You	INTERPRETING 4	Aimee Benavides
UMB Panels			
2:30 - 2:40	Break		
2:40 - 3:40	Short Film and Discussion - Interpreting in Conflict Areas	ENDNOTE	Eliane Esther Bots
3:40 - 4:00	Closing Remarks		Lesley Andrews & Diego Mansilla

On Continuing Education Credits

ATA Certified Translators can earn up to 5 credits for the day's program

Massachusetts Court Interpreters working with the **Office of Language Access** can earn up to 4 credits

Interpreters Certified by the **CCHI** can earn up to 3 hours of credits

Interpreters Certified by the **IMIA** can earn up to 2 credits (we're negotiating for 3).

The most up-to-date information will be posted on the **NETA website** and the **Conference website**.

On Volunteering for the NETA Conference

We need volunteers to moderate conference sessions and write up what you learned from the sessions you attended for the next edition of the NETA News. Volunteers will be entered into a drawing for one of two free one-year NETA memberships. You can see what is still available at this link: <https://signup.com/go/RJKZDyt>

Annual Conference Preview

Translation in the Age of Artificial Intelligence with Lynne Bowker

Lynne Bowker is full professor at the University of Ottawa's School of Translation and Interpretation, where she teaches and conducts research on computer-aided translation tools and machine translation. During the 2022/2023 academic year, she is a NAWA Visiting Researcher in the Scholarly Communication Research Group at the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poland. She is the author of several books, including "Machine Translation and Global Research" (Emerald, 2019). Her latest book "De-mystifying Translation: Introducing Translation to Non-Translators" (Routledge, 2023) is available in open access format from the publisher's website. She is a certified French-English translator with the Association of Translators and Interpreters of Ontario.

Abstract:

The language industries have been majorly "disrupted" by the introduction of AI-based techniques such as machine learning, which have altered the way that consumers, industries or businesses operate. On the surface, these disruptions may appear to usher in positive changes (e.g. translators can increase their productivity, while end users can choose a product that is fit for purpose and competitively priced). But there is also a darker side. Data-driven models are also data sensitive, and end users without a background in translation may not be fully able to distinguish appropriate machine translation (MT) use cases from riskier ones. In addition, MT is increasingly being used in the background, meaning that people could become passive consumers of machine-translated text without realizing it or having a say in the matter. In a world where new tools continue to emerge and MT-mediated communication is increasing, people must improve their MT literacy to become informed and responsible participants in the process. Join us for a discussion on the ups and downs of translation in the age of AI, and take away some tips for enhancing your own MT literacy and that of your clients.

Objectives:

- Inform participants about how data-driven MT models work
- Raise awareness about the strengths and limitations of data-driven MT
- Introduce the concept of and establish the need for MT literacy
- Encourage reflection on ethical issues and responsible use of MT
- Stimulate discussion among NETA members on all of the above topics

Professional Human Translators in the Age of Artificial Intelligence with Eduardo Berinstein

Eduardo Berinstein is certified as a translator by the American Translators Association and as an interpreter by the U.S. Federal Courts. He worked as a legal, medical, and conference interpreter for more than 20 years, before starting a cooperative translation company in 2006, which offers translation services in 12 languages, and where he has continued to work as an English to Spanish translator.

Eduardo has extensive experience as a trainer of translators and interpreters, having taught at Bentley College, Cambridge College, the National Center for Interpretation at the University of Arizona, and Boston University.

Eduardo was also part of the Massachusetts Medical Interpreters Association's (now IMIA) Committee that developed the first Standards of Practice for Medical Interpreters, adopted by the MMIA in 1995 and later by many professional organizations nationwide.

Abstract:

What does it really mean to interpret and translate, not machinelike, but human-being-like?
What are our superpowers as sentient beings?
What are the superpowers of machines and how can we ensure that we are the ones driving them?
What can we learn from the experience and legacy of previous generations of human translators so we are not at the mercy of our own intuition?
How can it help us wield the new technologies wisely, ethically, and morally?

Objectives:

- How can we, professional—warm-blooded, heart-throbbing—human translators, position ourselves in this new translation ecosystem where we coexist with NLP (Natural Language Processing), AI, NMT and chatbots?
- What new options does the new landscape open up for us?
- What additional skills will we need?
- In what realms will we continue to be necessary, highly desired, and sometimes critical?
- Awareness of the human translator's own "superpowers" and vulnerable spots

Preparing for Psychoeducational and Speech Evaluations: What Medical Interpreters Need to Know with Ana Soler

Ana Soler is the Chairperson of the National Association of Educational Translators and Interpreters of Spoken Languages (NAETISL) and Founder of SeSo, Inc., a source of qualified and trained interpreters, and multicultural family engagement workshops for school districts. She completed her degree in Social Work at Georgia State University, her Master's Degree in Public Health at Emory University, and is a Ph.D. in Special Education student at the University of Georgia. For over a decade, Ana worked with the largest school district in Georgia as the Language Services and Parent Outreach Coordinator, developing, implementing and evaluating professional development opportunities for multilingual personnel, as well as discovering endless opportunities to engage multilingual families in their children's education. Ana has authored interpreter training curricula nationally including the Intercultural Parent and Youth Leadership Program, the Interpretation Academy for Bilingual High School Students, the Arkansas Interpreter in Education Credential Training, a 40-hour course for medical interpreters, and online courses for the University of Georgia, including the Professional Interpreter in Education Certificate course, the Professional Interpreter in Special Education Certificate course, and the Professional Translator in Education course.

Abstract:

Interpreters collaborating with educators must take the steps necessary to prepare for the complex vocabulary and protocols that involve psychoeducational and speech evaluations. Throughout the process of assessment and eligibility for special education, it is imperative that interpretation is accurate, unbiased and complete to ensure that standardized tests provide a valid and true picture of a student's abilities, strengths and areas of concern. This presentation will provide interpreters with an overview of common psychoeducational and speech pathology assessments used in the educational setting, the implications of working with an untrained educational interpreter, and questions that the interpreter must ask during a pre-consultation meeting. Our presentation will conclude with resources to prepare for this type of interpretation assignment and a glossary of terms commonly used in the special education evaluation process.

Objectives:

- Recognize the importance of interpreter preparedness when collaborating with school psychologists, speech-language pathologists and special education teachers.
- Identify practical and relevant resources to support the work of interpreters in education and expand knowledge of terminology and meeting protocols.
- Understand the role of interpreter bias during a student's assessment for special education and its impact on evaluation results.

Self-Revision without Self-Recrimination with Joachim Lépine

Joachim (Joe) Lépine was born in Belgium and grew up in the U.S.A. before moving to Quebec, which he has called home since 2006. Today he is a certified French-to-English translator and the cofounder of liontranslationacademy.com.

In recent years he has trained for the United Nations, Training for Translators (USA), the European Commission, OTTIAQ, Magistrad, Editors Canada, Canada's Translation Bureau, ITI (UK), and many other organizations worldwide.

Joe taught English translation and related courses at the University of Sherbrooke for close to 15 years. He holds degrees from Concordia University, Université de Sherbrooke, and Plymouth State University.

Abstract:

Self-revision is a perennial challenge for translators—yet it has never been as important or as challenging as it is in today’s context of higher-than-ever demands and sometimes bewildering technological changes.

To compound this state of affairs, we translators tend to be a perfectionist bunch. We are often understanding when other people make mistakes, but we find any slip-up on our part utterly unacceptable... and punishable by shame and self-recrimination.

This talk examines the concept of error, in terms of both how to minimize it and how to respond to it more constructively. Among other things, we will discuss some of the ways that error is addressed in other professions, with a view to improving our own outlook and practices.

The talk will cover key self-revision tips but also examine our stance toward error, and challenge a few assumptions that sometimes hold us back from producing our best work.

Objectives:

- Stimulate reflection and debate on how translators and other language professionals respond to errors in their own work, and why it can sometimes be problematic
- Identify more constructive approaches, based on how error is addressed in other fields
- Discuss a few of the top ways to minimize errors in our work
- Tie all of these points together with a few mantras to help us lead more fulfilling careers and hand in better work

The Different Roles of the Court Interpreter: Juggling Technique, Modalities, Fields and Ethics with Heidi Cazes

Heidi Cazes is a translator, interpreter and terminologist. She has a Graduate Diploma in Translation from El Colegio de Mexico and a Master’s in Terminology from Universitat Pompeu Fabra. She has worked in terminology research, as a lecturer in interpreting, translation and terminology. She is a US Federal Court certified interpreter and ATA certified translator. She works for different District Courts, District Attorney’s Offices, and the US Department of State as a translator and Conference Level Interpreter. She is an active member of several professional associations, including ATA, NAJIT, IAPTI. She represents NETA at the Interpreting Standing Committee of FIT.

Abstract:

Interpreting goes beyond orally transferring a message from a source language to a target language. It takes place in different fields and has different modalities; and each one requires that interpreters play a different role and follow different codes and rules in their rendition. Legal interpreting is subject to very succinct rules, guided by a very specific code of ethics, which works clearly in judiciary settings. But when working in other contexts, outside the courtroom, things are not so clearly cut.

This presentation will give an introduction of the different modalities of interpreting in judiciary settings. It will explain the interpreters’ established duties and the canons setting how they perform their work, together with the interpreter code of professional conduct and ethics.

It will then proceed to focus on the roles interpreters have to play depending on where they are interpreting and for whom, while also following their very strict and specific rules. It will suggest how interpreters can remain professional and find a balance in how they work and transmit the message when there is no clear official guidance by using the code of ethics and by understanding of where their duty lies.

Objectives:

- Understand the specifics that differentiate a legal interpreter from interpreters in other fields.
- Understand the different modalities of court interpreting.
- Explain the code of professional responsibility of legal interpreter
- Reflect on different settings, outside the courts, in which a legal interpreter might work, and how to try and solve the specific challenges posed.

The Fine Art of Saying No: Boundary Setting with Ann Marie Boulanger

Ann Marie Boulanger was born in Montreal, Canada, to an anglophone mother and a francophone father. After graduating with a bachelor's degree in translation, she was hired by start-up translation firm Traduction Proteus Inc., which she eventually bought in 2005. The business continues to thrive today. When she's not translating commercial documents and medical texts, Ann Marie is an accomplished translator of fiction and non-fiction for adults and children. Her first literary translation, *The Woman in Valencia*, by Annie Perreault, was named a World Literature Today Notable Translation of 2021.

A lifelong learner, Ann Marie earned an MA in translation in 2018. She is a mentor, a coach, and a part-time lecturer in translation studies at McGill University. Along with her colleague, Joachim Lépine, she co-founded LION Translation Academy, offering business, tech and language training workshops to empower translators to reach new heights.

Abstract:

Do you struggle to say “no” to tight deadlines, unreasonable rates, or work that simply doesn’t “speak” to you or align with your values? If so, you’re not alone!

When it comes to asserting themselves, many translators lack the confidence to “push back” against unrealistic or less-than-ideal clients demands and expectations.

There are a few reasons for this, not the least being the dreaded FOMO! But did you know there can also be a touch of imposter syndrome at play?

This workshop will teach you the fine art of setting boundaries—with confidence and tact—to secure working conditions that will let you thrive, not to mention free up time to pursue the things that really matter to you!

Objectives:

- Recognize client behaviours and demands the “cross the line”
- Have a toolkit of strategies for setting and enforcing firm boundaries
- Know how to say “no” respectfully but firmly
- Have the confidence to set limits and stick to them

Keeping Your Eye on the Prize in Ophthalmology as a Specialized Interpreter with Abby Huber

Abigail Huber is a Certified Healthcare Interpreter(TM) (Spanish) working full-time at LPG Ophthalmology in Providence, Rhode Island. She has been interpreting since 2017 and completed the MIIS Professional Certificate in Spanish Community Interpreting (Medical Track) in 2021. With an MA in International Literatures from the University of Tübingen, Germany, and a BA in History from Wesleyan University, she has worked as a professional translator for 10 years and specializes in both healthcare and handwritten history (family correspondence of Jewish families who fled Europe, including the old German cursive). She is also ATA-certified for German-to-English translation.

Abstract:

What is it like to dive into Ophthalmology full time? From ruptured globes to pterygiums, swollen optic nerves to on-the-job accidents, we'll look at a variety of ophthalmology subspecialties and real-life scenarios. Learn eye-related terminology and the latest tests and treatments, such as lasers, panretinal photocoagulation, the ERG (electroretinogram), blepharoplasty, eye muscle surgery, common patient questions, and more. Being a staff interpreter in a specialty clinic brings opportunities and challenges: How can we maintain the boundary of our role when we're seen as part of a specialized team? How can we manage encounters with multiple parties in the room (attendings, residents, students, assistants, children and parents, or older and visually impaired patients and family members)? We'll take a look at some ways to handle side conversations and technical jargon with appropriate completeness. Participants will take home a list of ophthalmology terms and explanations in English and an English-Spanish glossary.

Objectives:

- Understand ophthalmology subspecialties and the most common eye tests, conditions, and procedures in ophthalmology, as well as some rare ones.
- Consider the needs of elderly visually impaired and hard-of-hearing LEP patients during eye procedures, and how we can help them as interpreters.
- Learn common questions and misunderstandings that arise and common utterances to be prepared for in ophthalmology.
- Learn and share strategies for offering completeness and accuracy as interpreters when multiple parties are in the room in a medical teaching setting using specialized jargon.

Hybrid and Remote Interpreting: What You Don't Know Can Hurt You with Aimee Benavides

Aimee Benavides began her career interpreting within educational contexts as a dual role interpreter in a school district. She has been Court Certified in California since 2003 and federally certified since 2015. She began specializing in focus group interpreting in 2005 and in agricultural meetings and conference as of 2012. She served on the NAJIT Board from 2017-2022, two of those years as Chair. At the beginning of the pandemic, she began to collaborate with colleagues to learn about more opportunities for remote interpreting and that collaboration gave rise to TEA Language Solutions. Additionally, she has partnered with other colleagues as a technical consultant with String & Can Multilingual.

Abstract:

This session will focus on the complexities of remote interpreting and interpreting for hybrid meetings and events. Even if you are not in charge of the technology, what you don't know can hurt you. This session will give an overview of what is needed for successful interpretation when participants are not all at the same location. Many events are moving to in-person events, but organizers have learned they can save some money on booth expenses. The session will then build upon that foundation to give interpreters tools they need to ask the right questions and make sure they have appropriate working conditions to help them shine. The questions is no longer, 'will this event be in person or online'. This session is designed to help interpreters keep up with the evolving marketplace and maintain good quality working conditions and level of services provided.

Objectives:

- Understand what interpreters need to do to be successful in remote interpreting
- Understand what courts and clients need to provide for successful events
- Understand the relationship between professional working conditions on site versus online

Short Film and Discussion - The Impact of Interpreting in the Context of the ICTY (International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia) with Elaine Esther Bots

Eliane Esther Bots, Filmmaker, lecturer and director of 'In Flow of Words'
Alma Imamović, Former ICTY Interpreter
Besmir Fidahić

Abstract:

A screening of short experimental documentary 'In Flow of Words' followed by a conversation with director Eliane Esther Bots and interpreters Alma Imamović and Besmir Fidahić. 'In Flow of Words' follows the narratives of three interpreters of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia in The Hague (NL). They interpreted shocking testimonies from witnesses, victims and perpetrators, without ever allowing their own emotions, feelings and personal histories to be present. Contrary to their position at the tribunal, this film places their voices and experiences center stage.

The focus of the moderated conversation after the film will be the emotional impact the work at the ICTY had on the interpreters, the methods they developed to cope with this and the institutional support which is needed to support interpreters working in these contexts. After the discussion the chat is open for questions from the audience.