23rd Annual NETA Conference

Innovation from Within: Interpreters and Translators Shaping the Present and Future of the Field

MAY 4, 2019 • UMASS BOSTON

Attend • Participate • Learn

Each year, the New England Translators Association holds the largest annual translation and interpreting conference in the region, bringing together translators, interpreters, project managers, and other language professionals. Register today on the NETA website where you can also get detailed information about conference sessions. Also check the NETA Facebook page and Twitter for updated information. In addition, there will be announcements by email and in the Spring issue of NETA News.

The event provides an opportunity to interact face-to-face with the most active and committed T&I professionals in New England, allowing you to expand your business contacts and develop lasting professional relationships.

In addition to attending, you can reach out to conference attendees by becoming a conference sponsor or exhibitor.

Preview of Conference Sessions

There will be sessions for Interpreters, Translators and Academics during each time slot. Below are short summaries of some of the presentations to give you a small preview of what the conference has to offer.

INTERPRETING

Rosanna Balistreri, The Art of Advocacy

Whether to advocate or not continues to be one the most challenging decision-making processes for interpreters in healthcare. This workshop will explore the conundrum between the traditional definition of advocacy in healthcare and advocacy in healthcare interpreting, and it will introduce

Calling all NETA Published Translators and/or Authors

Come showcase your published work in our NETA retrospective at our annual conference. All NETA members are invited to display their publications at the Book Exhibit on May 4. Don't miss the opportunity to publicize your work! Please contact Milena Vitali-Charewicz to submit the names of your titles and for further details.

Note to all conference attendees - The books displayed are desk copies, they are NOT free to be removed or taken!

NETA Book Display from the 2015 Conference

NETA Officers

PRESIDENT
Diana Rhudick
drhudick1@gmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT
Lesley Andrews

SECRETARY
Erika Schulz

TREASURER
Crystal Zhong

ACADEMIC DIVISION
Diego Mansilla
diego.mansilla@umb.edu

MEMBERSHIP
Membership@netaweb.org
Antje Ruppert

2019 CONFERENCE COMMITTEE
ConferenceInformation@netaweb.org *Members to be determined.*

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Board@netaweb.org

Lesley Andrews

Rokhaya Smith

Diego Mansilla

Antje Ruppert

Maiyim Baron

Alice Wolfe

Erika Schulz

Joseph Brockway *(alternate)*

PROGRAM COMMITTEE
Programs@netaweb.org
Marian Comenetz

Register now

NETA's Annual Conference May 4, 2019

In this issue...

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.

Preview of 2019 NETA Conference Sessions

INTERPRETING (continued)

a decision-making guide that interpreters can use when in doubt. The session will also explore a few real-life scenarios to practice the decision-making process using the guide.

Maha El-Metwally, Increase your Interpreting Productivity with Technology

Interpreting has come late in the adoption of computer-assisted tools and the use of artificial intelligence compared to the tools that translators use in their work. This presentation will update participants on the use of technologies to make interpreting services more efficient.

Participants will review how much technology they use as part of their professional service and will identify areas where technology could help save time and extend the scope of their services in a globalized T&I Market.

Darinka Mangino, Stress & Interpreting: Coping Strategies for Conference, Court and Conflict Zone Interpreters

Many interpreters have to cope with stress. The factors that trigger stress, however, change from person to person. In this one-hour talk, interpreters will be introduced to the most common sources of stress in conference, court and conflict zones. Examples will highlight the benefits of stress awareness, preparation and individual stress-coping strategies.

TRANSLATION

Bruce D. Popp, Long- and Short-Range Connections

Translators and linguists are familiar with things like subject and verb agreement and agreement between nouns and modifiers that involve words that are adjacent or only a few words apart. I refer to these things as short-range connections. Sentence by sentence translation leads to a focus on considerations driven by short-range connections. There are other connections within paragraphs, documents, specialized subjects and so on. Failure to consider these different ranges while translating can lead to errors of meaning, consistency and cohesion. An analogy with numerical modeling is offered and a weakness of machine translation is discussed.

Human translators are encouraged to look for and correct, or avoid errors involving medium-range and long-range connections.

Alejandra Patricia Karamanian, The Act of Translation Revisited: Copyediting and Proofreading

This presentation concerns the challenge of 21st-century translators in being nonstop learners of new skills, to be ready to succeed in an increasingly competitive, demanding present-day society with an extraordinary production of documents. This time it is the turn of copyediting and proofreading translated texts: two different though extremely interconnected stages inserted in the act of translating. We are going to seek to answer the following questions: What do copyediting and proofreading stand for? Are we aware of how important it is to revise our translation thoughtfully and, most importantly, be prepared to back up our choices from a knowledgeable point of view? Which competencies to succeed in this task? Which reference material to use? Which are some possible copyediting levels? Finally, some conclusions will be drawn to support the idea that innovation is also in revisiting the act of translation.

Cecilia Weddell, Editing Literary Translations

How do editors at literary magazines prepare translations for publication? How much room for "strangeness" is a translation offered? Do the answers to these questions depend on the editor's own experience with translation, as a reader or translator themselves? Considering different types of periodical publications—academic, literary, and translation-focused—this presentation aims to present the many forms of editorial treatment a literary translation might receive and the reasons for it, providing commentary and advice as given via interview by editors at various publications, including Harvard Review and Exchanges.

OTHER

Megan A. Kregel, The Importance of Professionalism in Resumes and LinkedIn

All too often in my job as a recruiter I receive incomplete resumes, resumes with unprofessional email addresses, and ones that are full of typos and incorrect formatting. This isn't just from new interpreters either, but linguists who have been in the field for years. It always gives me pause when I see someone has 2 years + interpreting experience and yet they still have an email address that's along the lines of *princessgirl214@yahoo.com*. I'd like to be given the opportunity to present the importance of having a professional sounding email address, how to correctly label a CV when submitting to an LSP, and to go over some helpful tips and tricks for using LinkedIn. LinkedIn is an excellent resource and I'd love to see more interpreters listed, and it would not only help them when applying for jobs, but also for networking purposes as well.

Please visit the NETA website *for summaries of all conference sessions.*

In Memoriam: Jane Kjærgaard Kjems 1938 - 2019

by Hanne Rask Sonderborg

Our Danish translator colleague and friend, Jane Kjems, has passed.

Over the past two decades, I have known Jane as a gifted translator, journalist, writer, language teacher, and event planner. She was "Mom Denmark" to countless Danes of all ages in the New England area.

Jane was able to translate into many languages: Danish, Swedish, Norwegian, English, German, French, and Italian. Her parents spoke Danish and German in the Copenhagen home and they had family in Norway. She lost her father to leukemia at age 12 after the war ended. He was in the Danish Resistance and helped Jewish people escape to Sweden. He had to go underground by pretending to be a patient in a Copenhagen hospital. The doctors gave him an x-ray because not even the nurses were allowed to know his true identity, and at that time, the doctors did not understand the danger of excessive x-rays.

Jane was good at math and physics and went to teachers college. She moved to Paris in her youth and studied at the Sorbonne. When she met her future husband, they moved to Italy. They later moved to the United States and had four children. She earned an MBA in marketing and a master's in linguistics from Clark University. When she divorced, Jane was an immigrant, who became a single mom, caring for 4 children in the home in Auburn, MA. She was a secretary, a real estate agent, and a rock mama arranging concerts!

When she decided to become a translator, she built a good business with loyal customers. She was ATA-certified French to English, but mostly worked in the Scandinavian languages. In recent years, her customers cared less if she did not master the latest translation software program; they told me they were unhappy when she could not work anymore, she was such a reliable translator and sunny person to work with. A tough act to follow!

Jane was one of the old timers, who started NETA back in the day. She also worked in the Scandinavian Library in the Scandinavian Living Center in West Newton, she was on the board of the Danish Society of MA, and she was active in Danes Worldwide. She wrote articles for the Danish Pioneer, the oldest Danish community newspaper in North America.

She was past 75 years old, when she decided to go on a road trip in her little car. She drove across the country with her friend, who was about the same age, until they arrived at the home of a Danish translator colleague in California. Always full steam ahead, she never stopped travelling, her last cross-country trip was in December.

Jane is one of the warmest and most generous people I have ever known. In recent years, she said her ambition was to each day make somebody smile! She will be dearly missed, but I feel lucky to have known her.

Upcoming March Monthly Meeting

Mental Health Treatment: Trauma and Implications for the Medical Interpreting Process

March 16, 2 - 4 pm

Boston University
750 Commonwealth Avenue
(classroom EPC204), Boston

This workshop will explore how trauma and related emotions manifest during the medical interpreting process, affecting not only the clinical encounter but also the medical interpreter. Acculturation and its implications for assessment and treatment will be emphasized.

2018 Holiday Party!

by Marian Comenetz

We did it again: no RSVPs. No food sign-ups. This streamlined logistical approach, which last year was an organizational experiment, worked perfectly again this year, so from now on we'll consider it a given. A very nice group of NETAns gathered at Lesley Andrews's mother's attractive and expansive condo for the fifth year in a row for our annual holiday party. Both long-standing and brand-new NETAns arrived bearing a variety of tasty, generous food offerings, an item for our traditional Yankee swap, and groceries for NETA's contribution to a local food bank. Then everything unfolded beautifully, with active conversation and positive energy in the air.

This year's Yankee Swap again had people focusing on what might emerge from the wrapped packages, and who might claim what from whom. The 2018 iteration of this exchange again yielded a remarkable variety of gifts, from candles to picture frames, from an elegant handbag to a striking Pashmina shawl, from a box of books to a hand-knitted scarf, from an iTunes gift card to a large jar of home-made apple sauce, and more. Why, there was even a Veggetti!

Photos by Diego Mansilla

Interpreter Training to be Held May 5 in Boston

The East Coast edition of a training course for interpreters titled "Long Consec Techniques and Technology" will be held on May 5 in Boston the day after the NETA conference. The details on how to sign up are available at tech-for-terps. webnode.com.

Long consecutive is a mode that comes in handy in many settings. One major advantage is that it prevents interruptions of speakers. With the right preparation and techniques, accuracy and precision can be observed even when the interpreter is required to translate long accounts.

In this one-day course, interpreters will be introduced to the long consecutive mode, techniques and exercises to hone their short-long consecutive skills. In addition, technology relevant to consecutive will be shared to augment skills and present an alternative to traditional methods.

Participants will:

- review techniques needed to perform in long consec mode
- practice targeted drills to hone consec subskills
- use smartpens to augment their memory capacity
- explore the use of tablets as a paperless notepad

This training earns you the following accreditation:

- 6 CIMCE credits

- 6 CCHI CEUs

- 6 CEPs from ATA

Long Consec Techniques & Technology

Boston, 5 May 2019

Participation Fee

Early Bird $200
Till April 5th, 2019

Regular Rate $250
Starting April 6th, 2019

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.

Log in.

Click on your name to show the menu.
Click on "View profile."

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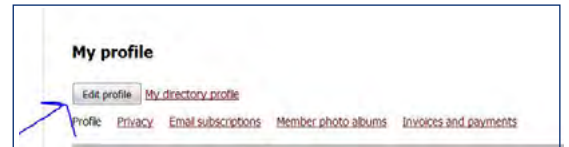
Click on "Privacy," in the middle.

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

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

The email field is about 9 down on the list. You can select "No access" for it.
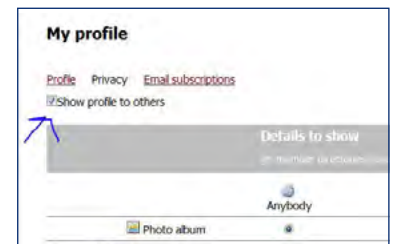
To save changes and exit, click "Save" at the bottom.

Aligning Bilingual Reference Material with Trados

NETA Monthly Meeting, January 2019

By Marian Comenetz

This monthly meeting was the next in an ongoing annual series of talks by Bruce Popp, who among many other talents, uses technology in translation with extreme adeptness and manages to gear any given tech topic to his audience, too.

In the context of CAT tools, alignment refers to the process of lining up a target text with a source text for the purpose of creating accurate segments for use in future translations. Before beginning a project, you need to create a TM, or translation memory. (Bruce has one TM for each project.) Only then does alignment come into consideration. Without a TM, Trados wouldn't know where to put the alignment. Alignments can be added to TMs to help you save time when working on a new translation. The basis of each alignment is a source and a target file.

Source and target files can derive from a document you worked on previously, from a reference document that you expect to use more than once, or from an already-translated document on the same or a similar topic that someone might recommend to you. If you believe such material might be useful as you undertake a new project, you might consider doing alignment.

You can align one file (most common) or several files, or you can open an existing alignment to work on when you select Align Documents in Trados.

Bruce's illustrations

Everything at the European patent office is in three languages, English, French and German. You could just download the English to see how given material has been dealt with in the past. For far more thorough treatment, though, you could download the trilingual document and reduce it to two languages–in Bruce's case, by creating a French source document and an English target document. Or in the case of an article or rule from the European Patent Convention, you could highlight the material in French and in English and then copy & paste it into separate Word documents. In the latter case, though, in order to be sure that alignments will be proper, it is necessary to get rid of carriage returns and split lines, using Find & Replace. Once you have a source and a target text, you can use Trados to open those two files and attempt to align them. Bruce guided attendees through these processes.

> **In the context of CAT tools, alignment refers to the process of lining up a target text with a source text for the purpose of creating accurate segments for use in future translations.**

Three hints

• Trados works with segments and looks for periods to end each one. Abbreviations can thus be problematic. Trados comes with a long list of abbreviations built in, but you can add your own, too, in the form of a "language resource."

• You can add fields to an alignment. One example: You can give any given project a number to identify it.

• It is good to keep the title of a project with the article that follows.

Once you have the alignment, you will see that red symbols linking segments are those that need attention; when you confirm those segments, the red turns to green. If something is connected incorrectly, you can disconnect it by clicking on the segment number and then Disconnect on the menu bar, or by right-clicking and choosing Disconnect from the contact menu. You can then connect one or two segments on the left side, for example, with one or two on the right side by holding the Control key when you click to select the segments and then clicking on Connect from the menu bar or context menu. You can clean up isolated spots; then if you do Realign, Trados will work around what you have already done and approved yourself. Or you can do Connect All. Be sure to do Save; Trados will propose a name for the alignment. After saving the alignment, you can open it later to resume working on it. Once you're done, you import the alignment into a TM. (Note that the TM doesn't import repetitions.) If you don't confirm something yourself, it will be confirmed when the alignment is imported into the TM. Then when you open the TM,

Aligning With Trados

its editors can see what you just aligned. The best alignments (100%) are likely the ones you worked on manually.

The question was asked: Can translation memories be edited? The answer was yes. In that case, however, you don't Save; rather, you should do Commit Changes.

Anything you can open to be translated in Trados can be opened for alignment. Bruce has even done alignment with spreadsheets. In the case of scanned documents, they produce an image PDF, and you have to use OCR* to get the document into editable form. For that Bruce uses Omnipage Ultimate; others might use ABBYY FineReader. Bruce readily aligns text PDFs; image PDFs that have been converted with OCR may not work all too well.

As Bruce indicated at the beginning, in the middle and at the end of his talk, the question is always whether alignment will, in fact, be useful. Alignment takes time and can be a painstaking process. You have to go through everything. It may be "too much of a mess" to make it worthwhile. It is clear, though, that for some projects, alignment can be just the thing to make translation of a new document more efficient than it would otherwise be.

*Optical Character Recognition—the process to convert the scanned image of a page into editable text.

Links to Language News

NETA's Yahoo Group http://groups.yahoo.com/group/NETA

Facebook Page www.facebook.com/Netaweb

Twitter twitter.com/NETAtrans

Translation Events Everywhere!

Many thanks to NETA member Anna Sandstrom for this link to a Google Doc **that contains an extensive list of language-oriented conferences throughout the world.**

keepmecurrent.com **Schools rethink translation, interpretation services** *Westbrook ME currently uses Catholic Charities of Maine for interpretation services and sends documents to a third party to be translated. Westbrook also uses a language line that connects parents to on-demand interpreting.*

publishersweekly.com **The Plight of Book Translations In America** *2018 was the second year in a row when the total number of new translations published in the U.S. declined, despite the appearance of a number of new translation-centric presses over the past few years... Translations by language: Spanish (101), French (97), German (53), Japanese (47), Italian (33), Norwegian (23), Chinese (22), Swedish (21), Russian (19), and Arabic (18).*

cbsnews.com **Reverso.com offers anti-Semitic, racist, sexist explanations of words** *Translating "Jew" into Italian brought up, "We will knock on the door of the mosques with Jewish skulls," while a search in German on "Muslim" threw up the result, "A good Muslim always keeps his mouth shut."*

thehindu.com **A blog has archived Russian children's books in translation** *A generation in Calcutta grew up reading Russian books in Bengali. The books live again in this blog. It is one of the quirks of history that most Bengali children of the Leftist decades of the 70s and 80s had their imaginative world made up of Russians plodding through snow...*

From Both Sides Now: Working as Both a Freelance Translator and a Translation Project Manager

NETA Monthly Meeting, February 2019

By Marian Comenetz

Diana Rhudick's wide-ranging presentation covered a host of issues related to freelancer-agency interactions while affording ample opportunity for give-and-take with attendees. She began by referencing a quote from the FIT about the sometimes-strained relationship between freelancers and translation agencies. Ideally trust and respect would prevail between those two parties. Freelancers would appreciate agencies as a regular source of good projects, and agencies would advocate for freelancers with end clients, educating them as regards both pay and realistic deadlines. Regrettably, things don't always play out this way. Freelancers may have expertise, but companies have clout.

Diana's Professional Experience

Diana shared a summary of her professional experience. Since 1990 she has been freelancing from home but about a year ago, began working part-time as a PM for Wellesley-based Language Consultants. She described that agency's work process. When a translator turns in her draft, an editor reviews the content thoroughly, after which the translator considers those comments. (In some cases, a given translator and editor form a pair and always work together.) There follows another review by the agency before the end product is submitted to the client. For the most part, the translator has the final word. This smallish agency has regular long-term clients and a regular set of translators it works with, depending on the project to be undertaken. Should a given translator not be available, the agency owner will ask him for referrals as well as consulting the list of ATA-certified translators.

Independent Contractor Determination

At this point Diana paused to highlight a distinction elucidated by a CPA who spoke at an earlier NETA monthly meeting. In Massachusetts there is a three-pronged test to determine who is an independent contractor. The employer has to show that work is done

1) without the direction and control of the employer;

2) outside the usual course of the employer's business; and

3) by someone who has their own, independent business or trade doing that kind of work.

> **Ideally trust and respect would prevail between freelancers and agencies. Regrettably, things don't always play out this way. Freelancers may have expertise, but companies have clout.**

Both Sides Discussion

The bulk of what followed was a presentation and discussion of a lengthy series of gripes, seen from two perspectives. Some examples, with occasional elaboration from Diana and/or attendees in italics:

Translator gripes about agencies

- Many clients don't listen to a reasonable explanation. *Here the freelancer sees herself as higher than the agency. This is not conducive to mutual respect.*

- PMs are usually young girls who know nothing about languages. They are overworked and burn out quickly. *Sometimes true, especially in big box agencies. But not true of all PMs.*

- The PM tells you it's a rush job, but the work is due much later than they say. *This can be legitimate, but time does have to be built in for editing and tech review. Agencies shouldn't pressure translators unnecessarily.*

- Agencies charge clients two or three times what they pay us. *Yes, but agencies have business expenses for their own employees, office space, tech, etc.*

- Agencies hire idiots to edit translations. *The quality of editing varies greatly (as it does for translation). Editing and proofing are special skills unto themselves.*

- Editors just make edits to do so. *Hopefully that is not the case. Also, no two editors will ever agree on a given point. Good editors are often found by word of mouth. Some translators don't want to edit.*

- Agencies send out cattle calls for jobs; if you don't answer quickly enough, tough! *Again, this can be true of some big box agencies. Agencies can avoid that approach by building relationships with their*

Are you following NETA's Twitter account yet?

If not, Below are just a few recent tweets so you can see what you are missing.

NETA
@NETAtrans

NETA @NETAtrans · Feb 20
Nerdy Jobs: The artist who translates anime for an American audience

Nerdy Jobs: The artist who translates anime for an …
Reina Scully has translated Japanese anime and dramas since high school, a passion that has blossomed into a very unique career.
syfy.com

🗨 1   ⟲ 1   ♡ 1   ✉

NETA @NETAtrans · Feb 5
We couldn't hold the New England Translators Association annual conference without the support of generous sponsors and exhibitors. Register today to connect with conference attendees on May 4th in Boston -…
nneta.wildapricot.org/Exhibitor-and-…

🗨   ⟲ 2   ♡ 1   ✉

NETA @NETAtrans · Feb 1
Translating Roberto Bolaño into English
⊙ Translate Tweet

Translating Roberto Bolaño into English
How translator Natasha Wimmer brought Roberto Bolaño posthumous fame.
pri.org

🗨 1   ⟲ 1   ♡ 2   ✉

NETA @NETAtrans · Jan 19
Marie Kondo's brilliant interpreter is the unsung hero of the KonMari phenomenon

Marie Kondo's brilliant interpreter is the unsung hero of the KonMari …
"It's honestly amazing how well she catches all the nuances of the Japanese language."
qz.com

🗨   ⟲   ♡ 2   ✉

From Both Sides Now

translators. Diana referenced a prediction that AI will soon be able to assign projects without human input!

• You have to use the agency portal to submit work and invoices. Yet again, this is truer of big box agencies than smaller ones. There can certainly be glitches.

Agency gripes about translators

• Translators submitting their work without changing the file name. You need to add your initials, an abbreviation for the target language, or some indication of what stage the work is at.

• Translators not knowing the basics of Word (ex. how to insert a text box or a TOC, or how to do Track changes). Ask a colleague, look online, take an online webinar. Diana offered a series of tech tips: Be able to convert PDFs; get a CAT tool (Wordfast is Mac-compatible); add value by learning how to format; have an invoicing system that reliably tracks jobs (Zoho, Quickbooks, etc.).

• Translators committing to a deadline and not informing the agency if they are "running a little behind." Stay up late or ask a colleague to help out. End clients will not view this favorably. It puts the agency at a significant disadvantage!

• Translators not answering emails or not using vacation responders. Monitoring emails and phone calls is essential!

• Translators submitting invoices called [name of company] without including their name. This lack of clarity makes the PM's job unnecessarily difficult.

Some words of advice

In general, don't be a diva! Each of us knows we are the best translator around, but there's no need to emphasize how good we are. There's no need either to complain about the quality of the source text. Just do the job. Even if you think ill of a colleague, find a diplomatic way to indicate your sense of things to the PM. Educate without offending.

The goal is for both parties to work together constructively.

From start to finish, Diana set the perfect tone for her talk. Very good spirits prevailed throughout.