



2-3²⁰¹³ TRANSLATIO

FIT Newsletter



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

On our way to this year's Council meeting in Oslo in March, FIT vice-president Henry Liu and I visited various sister organisations and European institutions as part of our role of strengthening relationships for the betterment of the profession. Last year's membership survey clearly indicated that representation at an international and regional level is one of the services members value most from FIT. Henry and I were accompanied by the FIT Europe steering committee member with the portfolio of European institutional relations, Doris Grollman.

There is not enough space here to report on these visits in detail, but members will receive feedback shortly. What struck us was the openness of all those we met and their keenness to cooperate with FIT. In each case we learnt about the current priorities and interesting developments in our partners and identified ways that we could continue working together.

Among those we visited was the European Union of Associations of Translation Companies (EUATC). As a major concern of European freelance translators at least is a perceived move by translation companies and agencies to force freelancers to accept lower and lower rates of payment, we discussed this openly with the EUATC representative and were repaid with equal frankness on his side. It was heartening that he acknowledged that the issue of pricing needs discussion and both sides agreed that forums for exchanging information and points of view would help mutual understanding and good working relationships.

Among the European institutions FIT has not had much contact with in the past are the Translation and Interpreting sections of the European Court of Justice and the Translation Directorate of the European Parliament. These visits were eye-opening, as was that to the Court of Auditors. The Translation Centre for the Bodies of the European Union gave us new insight into just how wide-ranging the translation component of the EU's work is.

In addition to these institutions, we furthered our relationships with TermNet and AIIC and initiated contact with Translators Without Borders and TAUS. These organisations all do very worthwhile work and we can all benefit from an exchange of information and sharing of expertise. As this is an integral part of FIT's mission, we will certainly be building on these contacts.

*Marion Boers
President*

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FIT is celebrating!

Sixty celebrations for FIT's 60th anniversary

FIT is celebrating its 60th anniversary. FIT's founding meeting took place in December 1953 and the organisation was registered in March 1954. We are therefore extending our period of celebration right up to our XXth congress in Berlin in August 2014. FIT's official celebrations will take place at the FIT Asian Translators' Forum in Malaysia in August 2013 (<http://ppa14atf.usm.my/>), at the Congress in Berlin in August 2014 (www.fit2014.org) and at events to be organised by the FIT regional centres.

FIT members have been urged to mark this anniversary and take pride in it, under the theme *Sixty celebrations for FIT's 60th anniversary*. There will therefore be celebrations all over the world. FIT's anniversary triennial Congress in Berlin in August 2014 will be hosted by the BDÜ, one of FIT's six founder members, which will also be celebrating its 60th anniversary. We thank all those who submitted entries in the

competition for FIT's anniversary logo and congratulate Jaroslav Soltys, who designed the winning entry.



FIT Council meets in Oslo

The FIT Council and the Executive Director met in Oslo, Norway, between 1 and 3 March at the invitation of the Norwegian Association of Literary Translators (NO) and the Norwegian Non-Fiction Writers and Translators Association (NFF). Some 18 observers from all over Europe attended the meeting. The meetings took place at NO's offices in a historic Oslo building and were held in association with three days of translation-related events at Oslo's House of Literature.

The meetings were also the occasion to launch the Federation's 60th anniversary, as NO was a founding member. FIT President Marion Boers said a few words in this regard at the end of a presentation at the Literature House and on opening the meeting, and a toast was raised to FIT at a dinner for the Council members hosted by NO and NFF in a historic restaurant set above Oslo.

Reports and administration

Reports from the president, secretary general, treasurer and executive director gave an overview of work within the Federation over the 10 months since the last Council meeting. It was felt that reasonable progress had been made, and the next 18 months would concentrate on finalising the various projects.



Participants at the FIT Council Meeting in Oslo

The organisers of the 2014 FIT Congress made a presentation of the progress to date and their future programme. The meeting

participants were enthusiastic about the plans. The Congress contract was signed at the meeting.

Regional centres and committees

Representatives of each of the three regional centres were present and reported on their activities. Council welcomed the reconstitution of the North American regional centre.

The workplans of FIT's committees were considered and approved. The ambitious plans will further the mission of FIT in various domains. Details of the workplans are available on the FIT website.

The Awards Committee will soon be announcing several new awards to be made at the Congress in Berlin in August 2014. Nominations will open soon – keep an eye open, so that you can nominate your members!

The need to modernise some of our systems and procedures identified at the 2011 Congress had been taken up by the Organisational Development Committee, whose initial report was discussed in detail at the meeting. Membership input will be requested to support further proposals.

Projects and visibility

The FIT ID card project had been thoroughly analysed and with regret Council came to the conclusion that the project is not currently viable and should therefore be discontinued.

The various items on the Council's action plan for 2011 – 2014 were discussed. These cover a wide range of activities largely related to communication and awareness-raising and work will proceed on them in the coming months.

The entries for the FIT 60th Anniversary logo competition were analysed and a winner selected. Plans for celebrations at the FIT Asian Forum in Malaysia in August 2013 were discussed.

Marion Boers and Henry Liu had visited a range of organisations and European institutions on their way to the Coun-

cil meeting and reported that they had been warmly received and all parties agreed on the need for continued interaction and communication.

Work with Red T and AICC on a *Guide for Interpreters in Conflict Zones* has progressed, with the Guide now available in five languages. FIT will be encouraging members to volunteer further translations and to assist in promoting its use.

An exciting development is progress with the social media plan: FIT now has a presence on Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter and YouTube! Join us and help raise awareness about FIT, the profession and the Berlin Congress.

Forthcoming meetings

The next meeting of the Council will take place in Johannesburg, South Africa, in March 2014. The FIT Executive Commit-

tee will meet at the FIT Asian Translators Forum in Malaysia in late August 2013, but will also continue their monthly e-meetings.

The following new members were welcomed to the FIT family at the last Council meeting:

- The Department of Translation and Interpretation at Atilim University, Turkey
- The Legal Translation Section of the Supreme Judiciary Council of the State of Qatar
- The Azerbaijan Youth Translators Association
- The Ordre des traducteurs, terminologues et interprètes agréés du Québec (OTTIAQ)

FIT contributes to UNESCO conference

Débora Farji-Haguet and Rupert Swyer represented FIT at UNESCO's International Conference of NGOs on 13 and 14 December 2012. The Conference theme was "Culture and cultures: reconciling universality and diversity".

NGOs from all parts of the world, reflecting a vast array of contemporary concerns, attended the conference¹, fully justifying the presence of the International Federation of Translators in this forum. In attending the conference, FIT sought to raise both its own profile and that of translators in general.

The representatives had some success in this, securing adoption by the conference of a proposed change in the draft contribution to the preparation for UNESCO's strategic thinking for the coming years, with particular reference to two of its key documents, 37 C/4 (Draft medium-term strategy for the period 2014–2021) and 37 C/5 (Draft programme and budget of the organisation for 2014–2017). They submitted the following motion to the Resolution Committee:

"The International Translators' Federation (IFT) notes that no explicit mention is made of linguistic aspects in the draft Contribu-

tion and would like the question of linguistic diversity and multilingualism to be clearly mentioned. FIT wishes to emphasise the key role UNESCO could play, through its different programmes, in promoting linguistic diversity and multilingualism, with particular reference to the learning of foreign languages, translation from and to less widely disseminated languages.

We [the IFT] therefore propose to add the following paragraph, after the paragraph on "Culture", worded as follows:

Languages:

The International Conference considers that UNESCO should continue to promote linguistic diversity and multilingualism as essential factors in reconciling universality and diversity.

Although the conference decided not to devote a specific paragraph to the question of languages as requested, the sentence itself was adopted as such at the end of the paragraph on "Culture".

FIT voted in the elections to renew the Liaison

Committee and the new Chairman of the International Conference of NGOs, held on this occasion.

Moreover, leaflets supplied by the Secretariat and several copies of FIT's history, *FIT over 50 Years*, were made available to conference delegates.

¹ See http://portal.unesco.org/en/ev.php-URL_ID=49027&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html for full details of the conference and its conclusions

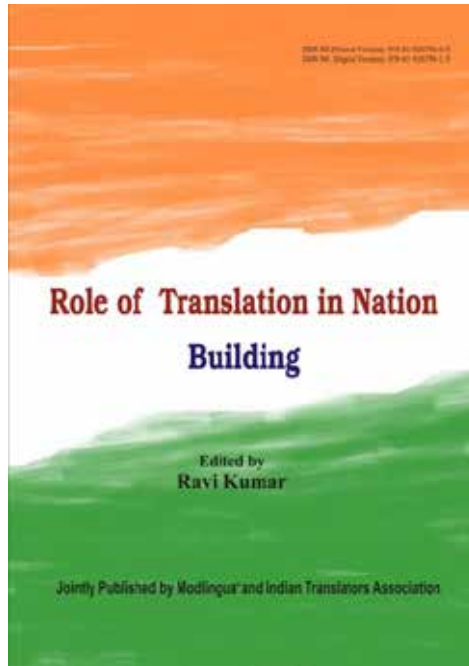
*Report by Rupert Swyer (SFT)
Photo by Rupert Swyer*



Rupert Swyer and Débora Farji-Haguet at the UNESCO conference

Indian translators launch book on translation in nation building

Jointly published by Modlingua and the Indian Translators Association, the book *Role of Translation in Nation Building* (edited by Ravi Kumar) looks at how translators have always played a pivotal role in social and cultural change in society and how they continue to play a major role in dissemination of the ever-expanding amounts knowledge and information available today. In our globalized world the demand for translation and language-related services has increased manifold and translation is not only needed for the creation of national identity but has also become an essential tool for keeping pace with the processes of globalization and localization. Many times we take for granted the translator's crucial role at the (intra) national level and we are less aware of their equally pivotal place as mediators at the international level and, potentially, in the creation of the even larger and comprehensive global supra-national identities that seem destined to follow in the future.



The book also covers “how translation has played a crucial role in shaping nations not only in the Indian/Asian context but also in the context of Europe, Canada, Africa, Australia and the Arab world”. Hence, in a way, the range of the

book encompasses the entire globe. The book also attempts to answer questions like: What role has translation played in nation building in the Indian as well as a global context? How easy or difficult is it to view translation and nation building as a well-gelling couple? Did translation play a role in Turkish modernism movements and the country's accession to the European Union? Do national conflicts and language politics impact on literary works and translations? How can the media play an effective part in bringing about social change by means of translations? How has translation impacted on the discourse on nationalism and globalization in the Arab world?

The book can be utilized as a reference tool/textbook by students of language learning and its theory, translation studies and literature as well as researchers in areas related to translation, nationalism, globalization, international studies, etc. and teachers of these subjects.

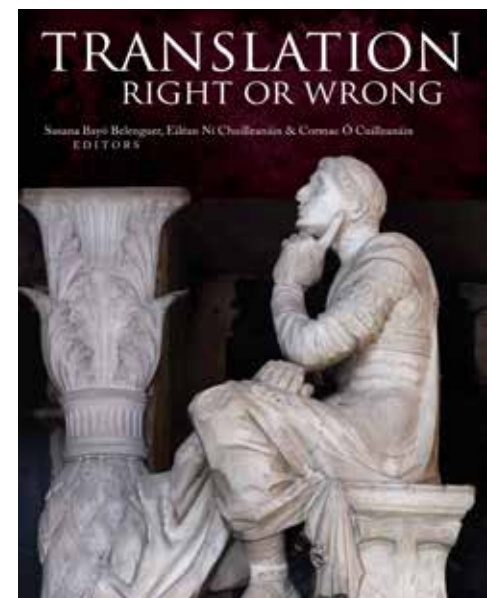
Article by Ravi Kumar, President, Indian Translators Association

News from Dublin: *Translation Right or Wrong*

A new book on translation studies entitled *Translation Right or Wrong* was recently published (editors: Susana Bayó Belenguier, Eiléan Ní Chuilleanáin, & Cormac Ó Cuilleánáin, assisted by Guilia Zuodar). Although academic discussions of translations have been radically reshaped by recent theoretical developments, question of ‘right or wrong’ and ‘better or worse’ continue obstinately to crop up, especially in cultural settings where there is room for opinion and debate. This timely collection, which brings together celebrated translators, eminent figures from translation studies and new researchers, offers an interlocking range of contexts, purposes, focuses and media within which general claims of

translation quality can be re-examined. The book covers several related areas, including a strong focus on the translator as a writer and as a person; a critique of translators' moral and political choices; an exploration of historical forces that impinge on the translation process; accounts of new developments in technical translation, audience reactions, new technologies; and some ingenious ways of handling profane and taboo language. For more information, visit the following webpage:

<http://www.fourcourtspress.ie/product.php?intProductID=1095>



National Certification comes to Indonesia

I do not know what the situation is in other countries, but there is unfortunately no legislation on translators and interpreters in my country of Indonesia. So, any Tom, Dick and Harry – or in this case Slamet, Untung and Bejo – who can say “Good morning!” and “How are you today?” can call himself a translator or interpreter.



HPI President Eddie Notowidigdo (left) congratulates Hendarto Setiadi, former HPI President (2007–2010) and TSN Committee Chairman, on the successful completion of the Translators National Certification Test

This situation is certainly not conducive to developing a healthy translation industry in the country. Users of translation services find it difficult to identify qualified translators, while professional translators face unhealthy competition from unqualified translators who offer their services at ridiculously low rates.

Up to 2010 the regional government of Jakarta organized exams for people to become sworn translators once a year. Every year the governor of Jakarta would issue an instruction to Universitas Indonesia to administer these tests, and those who passed would be sworn in during a solemn ceremony by the governor. The exam tested participants' competence in translating legal texts. Those registering for these tests run into the hundreds, but on average only 10 to 15 people passed.

Subsequently, the public only knows that there are sworn translators and non-sworn translators, and their percep-

tion is of course that a sworn translator is better than a non-sworn translator, but they are oblivious of the fact that sworn translators have only passed a test for translation of legal texts. We then encounter situations where a user insists that his manual for a household mixer or lawnmower be translated by a sworn translator to ensure that the translation is correct.

Under these circumstances, the Association of Indonesian Translators (Himpunan Penerjemah Indonesia – commonly known by its acronym HPI) felt compelled to introduce a National Certification Test (Tes Sertifikasi Nasional – TSN) providing its members with the opportunity to obtain a certificate issued by a professional body. An independent committee, with full autonomy in its design and implementation, was set up to administer the test.

Unlike the sworn translator test, in which anybody can participate, the TSN was only open to full members of HPI. Full members are professional translators who have met the association's stringent requirements for admission. The first TSN took place in 2010 administered by the committee, chaired by the then president of the association himself, and tested areas such as accuracy, fluency, naturalness, grammar, etc. Even though the participants were all experienced

professional translators, on average only 50% of the participants passed the test and were allowed to represent themselves as HPI Certified Translators.



Anna Wiksmadhara, Association Secretary, receiving her TSN Certificate from the TSN Committee Chairman, Hendarto Setiadi

So far the TSN committee has administered these tests once a year, in 2010, 2011 and 2012; and only in two language pairs, i.e. English-Indonesian and Indonesian-English. The committee is planning also to administer the test in other languages such as French, German, Dutch, Japanese and Arabic, which are the most popular foreign languages among Indonesian translators. This year the committee intends to administer tests in general translation, legal translation and interpreting.

*Article and photos by D Rahadi
"Eddie" Notowidigdo*



HPI Certified Translators with their TSN certificates at an official ceremony

AATI at the 2013 Buenos Aires Book Fair: Translators on the agenda of the publishing industry

One thought was on the minds of the AATI (Argentine Association of Translators and Interpreters) team on the afternoon of 9 May, as we took the elevators to the first floor of the Professional Conference Centre at the 2013 Buenos Aires International Book Fair: *We finally made it to the Fair!* Indeed, it is a true milestone for an Argentine translators' association to be invited to take part in the high-profile panels organized by the *Feria del Libro de Buenos Aires* for authors, publishers and other professionals in the book industry. Every year the Professional Sessions feature well-known speakers engaging in discussions and workshops designed to advance the publishing business. This year, CADRA, the Argentine Collective Rights Management Centre, invited AATI to join its Eleventh Copyright Seminar.



The speakers: Argentine translator residing in Barcelona Andrés Ehrenhaus with Estela Consigli and Lucila Cordone from AATI

And the AATI panel lived up to expectations. Translators Estela Consigli (French/Spanish) and Lucila Cordone (English/Spanish) prepared an outstanding presentation about the intellectual property rights of translators, based on a thorough review of copyright legislation in European countries and a contrastive analysis with the situation in Argentina. The presentation also included a detailed account of the initiatives that AATI is driving in this area. Prominent writer and translator Andrés Ehrenhaus added an international perspective on the moral and monetary rights vested in

translators working for publishing houses, and talked about the legislation that is required to enforce those rights in Argentina. Philosopher Javier Riera, director of publishing house Biblos, acted as facilitator and shared some interesting best practices in the hiring of translators.

The audience comprised translators, writers, publishers and lawyers specialising in the field of intellectual property rights. Some of the thoughts shared by the panel sparked an interesting debate: "Translators, authors and publishers are all part of the same team. Success for one of them means success for all," said publisher Riera. Estela Consigli added: "Improving the publishing business, and therefore broadening universal access to the spiritual assets of humankind, means building bridges that will help us understand each other in spite of our individual differences."

"We were honoured by CADRA's invitation to join in the debate at the Book Fair. AATI has long been advocating the rights of translators of published works, but our progress until now had been little noted. We are now making our voice heard in specialised forums," said Alejandra Jorge, AATI President. "How do we go on from here? Making sure that we demonstrate that our claims are fair, and that new legislation is required to provide recognition for our work. We are having meetings with lawyers, government officials and colleagues from other parts of the world. Everybody who wants to cooperate is welcome to join us."

A quote from Book Fair Director Gabriela Adamo in the *PEN/IRL Report on the International Situation of Literary Translators* (Argentine Section) illustrates the state of translators working for publishing houses in our region: "The situation is even more serious when it comes to working conditions. In general, translators are very badly paid, they do not sign contracts with their publishers or, if they do, they must accept very tough con-

ditions such as ceding author's rights. This means that the publisher can reprint the translation as often as deemed necessary, or sell it to be used in other countries or in other formats without the translator receiving any payment at all."



Members of the AATI team

Winds of change are blowing, as different groups are working hard to reverse that mindset. Translator Lucila Cordone had words of hope in her closing remarks: "Coincidentally, with the motto selected by the Book Fair this year, *Books as Bridges*, and our Association's own motto, *Puente de Puentes* (Bridge of Bridges), we believe this conference has been a great start, and we look forward to expanding the presence of translators at future book fairs and forums."

In *Why Translation Matters*, acclaimed translator Edith Grossman stated, "Wherever literature exists, translation exists." That is why AATI was present at the Book Fair. It was an almost magical experience to live the 2013 Fair so closely. The voice of translators is rising. AATI and CADRA, the debates organized by *Club de Traductores Literarios de Buenos Aires*, and *Café Amsterdam*, an innovative café organized by the Dutch Foundation for Literature featuring translators presenting side-by-side with authors, are tokens of the increased visibility translators are gaining at leading industry forums.

Article and photos by Marita Propato

Communication between China and Argentina in the spotlight

On 11 April 2013, the Argentine Association of Translators and Interpreters (AATI) organised its Second Intercultural Communication Seminar on *Chinese Culture and Protocol* in Buenos Aires, following a very successful initial lecture in 2012. The activity was part of AATI's efforts to raise awareness of the importance of intercultural skills for translators and interpreters, who are often faced with situations requiring them to act as mediators between two diverse cultures as part of business and government interactions.



Some attendees at the AATI's ICC Seminar

The agenda covered regional, generational, business and political profiles; verbal communication, communication barriers and common interpreting errors; thought patterns and conversational styles; ideological and moral background; culture clashes; perceptions and stereotypes; and non-verbal communication in Chinese culture.

Prof. Alejandra Conconi, a specialist in Asian cultures and societies, is the coordinator of the Chinese Studies Centre at Universidad Nacional de La Plata and a professor at Universidad del Salvador. In her presentation, she pointed out, "In China, intercultural communication comprises a set of skills that is typically included in the university curriculum ... As students approach the universe of beliefs, thoughts and values that is behind the learning of English, they understand the necessity to learn much more than a foreign language to accomplish successful communication ... Argentina will be increasingly exposed to exchanges and direct interactions with people coming from China. With a background in Chinese society and culture, I have seen many misunderstandings arising from cultural prejudice. This has encouraged me to continue raising awareness through education, so that communication between Chinese and Argentine people will be greatly enhanced in the future."

AATI was honoured to have a highly engaged audience, including translators and students, as well as members of the Institute of Higher Education for Chinese Interpreters (ISIIC), who attended the seminar together with ISIIC Director, Professor Roxana I Hua Huang.

Feedback from the audience was very positive. "It was an excellent seminar,

and it was set in a very friendly atmosphere ... the organizers made us feel at home," said translator María Elisa Favre. Sponsored by the Confucius Institute, the activity was organised by AATI's Vice-President, María Laura Ramos, and Continuing Education Director, María Fajerman.



Audience at AATI's Intercultural Communication Seminar held in Buenos Aires on 11 April 2013

With the motto 'Bridge of Bridges', AATI is leading a range of initiatives to broaden the horizons for the T&I profession, extending into such fields as intercultural communication, minority and indigenous languages and cultures, sign-language interpreting and audiovisual accessibility. At the core of AATI's diversity efforts is the desire to advocate for the role of translators and interpreters as key drivers of effective communication.

Article and photos by Marita Propato

JubilaTion 25: AUSIT's Silver Jubilee

The Australian Institute of Interpreters and Translators (AUSIT) celebrated its Silver Jubilee with an international conference in Sydney last December. In the leafy surrounds of Macquarie University, 300 delegates gathered for a stimulating three days of presentations, discussion and networking. AUSIT has nearly 600 members, who were well represented at the conference together with local and international academics and language service providers.

The biennial conference was again organised by a dedicated committee of volunteers. Plenary presentations addressed public language, literary translation, standards and training, audio-description and audio-subtitling, and the future of the profession. Forty diverse presentations, workshops and panel discussions ran in four parallel streams, including community interpreting (legal and health), translation theory and pedagogy, technology and machine trans-



The audience at a plenary session

lation, subtitling and language-specific sessions. The full programme can be accessed at <http://ausitconference.org/Programme.php>.



Adolfo Gentile cuts AUSIT's 25th birthday cake

A highlight of the 25th birthday celebration was Adolfo Gentile's nomination as a Fellow of AUSIT. Adolfo, a foundation member of the Institute who also served as FIT President (1999–2002), was Aus-

tralia's first professor of interpreting and translation. Our second, Professor Sandra Hale, presented another highlight of the weekend in the annual Jill Blewett Memorial Lecture. Her presentation, "Are we there yet? Taking stock of where we are up to and where we are heading", traced her journey from migration with her family to Australia aged 12, speaking no English, to her current position as a leading international scholar and researcher in interpreting, pausing at intervals to look at the accompanying stages in the development of our profession in Australia (see the full lecture at <http://bit.ly/Y3kN8p>).

The occasion was also marked by the release of the updated AUSIT Code of Ethics, following two years of research and hard work. It will be shared by NZSTI in what may be the first example of a transnational ethics code for our profession.

As one delegate noted, an important aspect of a conference for an academic is the unplanned opportunity to network outside your own area of expertise, see where research is heading, and learn



[From left] National President Annamaria Arnall with previous presidents Mary Gurgone, Yveline Piller, Uli Priester, Luciano Ginori and Bob Filipovich

how other institutions are coping with the globalisation of the profession and market demands. "It is vital that as trainers we keep in touch with these changes and brainstorm about how we prepare translators and interpreters for the current and future environment."

Article by Terry Chesher and Barbara McGilvray

Photos by Stephen Houston

FTIM and FIT TCC members at 10th Cross-Strait Translation Forum

The 10th *Cross-Strait Translation Forum* was held at the Graduate Institute of Interpretation and Translation (GIIT), Shanghai International Studies University, on 24 and 25 April 2013. Presidents, deans, directors and scholars from over 30 translation and interpretation studies organisations and institutions from mainland China, Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan participated in this forum. Mr Huang Youyi, Deputy Head and Editor-in-Chief of the China Foreign Languages Publishing Administration and Vice-President of the Translators Association of China (TAC), attended the opening ceremony and delivered a welcome speech. Prof. Chai Mingjiong, Dean of GIIT, and Prof. Xie Tianzhen, Director of the Centre for Translation Studies at GIIT, also made speeches on behalf of the host institution.

FTIM and FIT TCC members Prof. Mao Sihui, Prof. Zhang Meifang and Prof. Sun Yifeng attended the Forum and shared their views on and experience in running translation studies programmes in different educational, social and cultural contexts. They also joined two special sessions organized by GIIT, one on the academic achievements and disciplinary development of literary translation studies spearheaded by Xie Tianzhen, the other on the editorial policies, achievements and future directions

of *East Journal of Translation*, an increasingly popular journal on translation and interpreting studies from interdisciplinary perspectives.

Article by Mao Sihui

Photo by Mu Lei



[From left] Mao Sihui, Zhang Meifang, Sun Yifeng

OMT's 17th Annual International Conference "San Jerónimo" 2013

The Western Chapter of the Mexican Translators Association (OMT) will hold its 17th Annual International Conference, Translation: A Bridge between



St Jerome

Cultures, during the Guadalajara International Book Fair (FIL) at Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico on 30 November and 1 December 2013.

Since its beginnings, the goal of the congress has been to serve as a forum for interpreters and translators, in a two-day conference where they can come together to update and hone their skills while reflecting on cultural and practical issues involved in their professional field. As one of the many parallel events to FIL, the conference also provides an opportunity to network and explore professional fields through the Book Fair's activities and setting. Every attendee gets free access to the most important Spanish-language book fair.

The theme of the congress, "Translation: A Bridge between Cultures", is aimed at encouraging discussion and debate on issues such as identity, contact and interaction between cultures, dealing with stereotypes, prejudice and censorship in translation, the "Other" through translation, majority and minority languages, tools to assist translation, the history of translation, and translation and interpreting for specific fields, among others.

For more information, contact congreso.OMT.FIL@gmail.com.

Translators feature in European Day of Languages in Greece

On 17 October 2012, the Panhellenic Association of Professional Translators and Graduates of the Ionian University (PEEMPIP) co-organised the one-day event "Bridges between Cultures: The Profession of Translator" as part of the celebrations for the European Day of Languages 2012, at the European Parliament Office in Athens. The event was hosted by the Directorate-General for Translation and the Representation of the European Commission in Athens and other co-organisers included the Panhellenic Association of Translators, the National University of Athens and the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki.

Over 450 people, most of whom were students and translators, attended the event in Athens or participated via teleconference from Brussels, Thessaloniki, Corfu, Nicosia and Luxembourg. For the first time in Greece, the meeting gathered key players in the field of translation, such as educational institutions, professional associations, publishers and public institutions. The role of the translator in different settings was explored through different perspectives, highlighting the strengths as well as the problems the industry is facing today.



The meeting included two core sessions – Translators and Publishers, and Translators and Translation Agencies – further divided into six thematic:

- The translator and the publishing industry
- Publications and universities
- Book translations
- Institutional clients of a translator
- Translation office models
- Translation agencies and translators

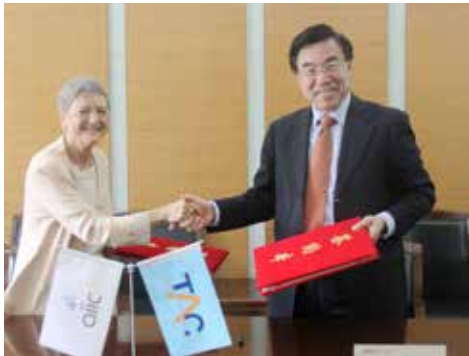
Twenty-five speakers shared their knowledge, experiences and expertise with the audience, who engaged in fruitful conversations at the conclusion of each thematic. The results of this marathon event were more than productive and all translation experts agreed that the need to work together, communicate, share experiences and exchange opinions is nowadays more imperative than ever.

Article by Maria Leridi

Photo by Maria Polychronopoulou

Agreement on interpreter training signed between AIIC and TAC

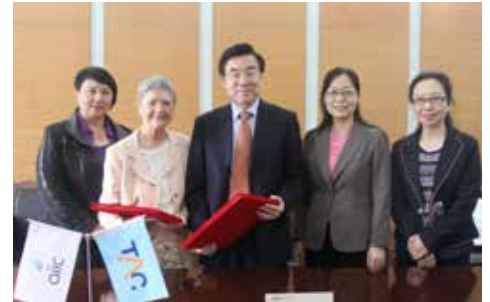
The International Association of Conference Interpreters (AIIC) and the Translators Association of China (TAC) signed an agreement on interpreter training on 27 April 2013. Linda Fitchett, President of AIIC, and Huang Youyi, Vice-President and Secretary-General of



Linda Fitchett and Huang Youyi at the signing ceremony

TAC, signed the agreement on behalf of their respective associations. With the agreement, both parties expressed greater commitment to and joint efforts in improving the quality of interpretation, especially conference interpretation, by combining the experience of both associations and striving to meet the interpretation market needs for both Chinese and foreign languages. They also seriously considered cooperation on other aspects of interpretation, including interpreting studies.

Huang Changqi, Assistant to the President of TAC, Yang Ping, Deputy Secretary-General of TAC, and Lynette Shi, Director of Conference Interpreters Asian Pacific, a network of AIIC members in the Asian-Pacific region, witnessed the sign-



[From left] Lynette Shi, Linda Fitchett, Huang Youyi, Huang Changqi and Yang Ping

ing ceremony. During her stay, President Fitchett also paid a visit to the Secretariat of TAC and had a brief session with some trainees in TAC's ongoing training programme on translation and localization technology and project management.

Article by Huang Changqi

Photos by TAC

FIT TCC members feature in intercultural communication conference

Co-organised by Macao Polytechnic Institute and Xinjiang Normal University, the 4th International Conference on *English, Discourse and Intercultural Communication* was successfully held in Macao (Part I) and Urumqi, Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, China (Part

II), from 4 to 10 June 2013. During the conference, which featured 14 keynote/plenary presentations and over 40 parallel sessions, 12 leading international scholars from Australia, Belgium, the UK, the USA, China, Hong Kong and Macao were invited to give keynote and plenary

presentations. Among them, two FITTCC (Translation and Culture Committee) members, Prof. Sun Yifeng and Prof. Mao Sihui, delivered plenary and keynote addresses at the two conference venues. In his talk "Translating Chinese Modernity", Prof. Sun argued that the Chinese lan-



The 4th EDIC International Conference (Macao)

guage and culture have been enriched by borrowed tropes from foreign sources, but yearnings for and the pursuit of modernity are fraught with problems. Modernity represents an idealized future for China, and in its relentless pur-

international community. He argued that when we critique Western-based discourses, which are increasingly shaping the cultural formations of non-Western societies, we must see the urgent need to enhance the power, vision and effectiveness of Chinese media while opening more channels of communication with the international community that are seen as objective, trustworthy and fair-minded.

Over 300 scholars with different disciplinary backgrounds, ELT and T/I profes-

sionals from the UK, the USA, Australia, New Zealand, Belgium, Chile, Poland, Russia, the Republic of Korea, Japan, Turkey, Nigeria, Iran, Thailand, Malaysia, the Philippines, Vietnam, China's mainland, Hong Kong, Taiwan as well as Macao participated in this exciting conference in two places of great geographical and cultural interest.

Article by Mao Sihui, President of FTIM

Photos by PR Office of Macao Polytechnic Institute



Prof. Sun Yifeng delivering his speech
suit translation has been and will always be a major part of this arduous and tantalizing process. Prof. Mao Sihui (President of FTIM and Chair of the FIT TCC) focused on China's media challenges in the digital age: the popular demand for open access to information and freedom of expression within the domains of China and the urgency for China to get its message of "peaceful rise" across in the



Prof. Mao Sihui giving his address

Passing of Florence Herbulot

It was with great sadness that we learnt of the passing away on 26 May 2013 of our colleague Florence Herbulot, a FIT honorary advisor and former FIT president.

Florence has a long history of working for and promoting the translation profession. She joined the FIT Council at the 1990 congress, where she was elected vice-president. She maintained that position in 1993 and in 1996 was elected president. In 1999 she was awarded FIT's Pierre-François Caillé Memorial Medal for service to the profession at an international level.

Prior to becoming involved in FIT, Florence had worked energetically for the profession as part of the executive com-

mittee of the Société française des traducteurs (French Translators' Association – SFT) for a period of over 15 years, serving successively as assistant treasurer, secretary-general, vice-president and president.

As a practising translator, Florence had over 150 books to her name, many related to the sea and shipping. She also lectured at the École Supérieure d'Interprètes et de Traducteurs (Higher School for Interpreters and Translators – ESIT) in Paris, and was held in high esteem throughout the world.

Photo by Sheryl Hinkkanen



In memory of Florence Herbulot, former FIT president

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FIT TCC members feature in intercultural communication conference

Passing of Florence Herbulot



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Editor: Mao Sihui
translatio@fit-ift.org

French editor: Marc Orlando

Translation: Marie-Jeanne Boisacq, Yves Drolet

Art director: Jaroslav Soltys

Photos: Reinoud Boers p. 1; Changqi Huang p. 2

Registered Office: REGUS, 57 rue d'Amsterdam, 75008 Paris, France

Secretariat: Aeschenvorstadt 71, 4051 Basel, Switzerland

Tel. : +41 (0)61 225 42 10

Fax : +41 (0)61 225 44 10

www.fit-ift.org, secretariat@fit-ift.org

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translatio@fit-ift.org

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Siège social : REGUS, 57 rue d'Amsterdam, 75008 Paris, France

Secrétariat : Aeschenvorstadt 71, 4051 Bâle, Suisse

Tél. : +41 (0)61 225 42 10

Fax : +41 (0)61 225 44 10

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