

THE NORTHWEST LINGVIST



Volume 24 No.2, Spring 2010

Letter from the WITS President

By Barbara Robinson

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I am humbled and honored to be the new WITS president.

The year of 2010 marks WITS' 22nd year as an incorporated non-profit court interpreters' organization. Our veteran presidents provided leadership to help WITS become a strong professional organization focused on improving job skills and advancing the careers of our members. WITS has achieved these goals by creating informative and relevant continuing education programs with high caliber speakers from the language and legal fields, and by building a platform for networking and a strong sense of community among our members.

I would like to extend my gratitude to our ex-president Kenneth Barger, who worked so hard for the last six years on the board. I know many of you have had opportunities to interact with Kenny and will agree readily that he is a warm, welcoming and always eager-to-help guy, as well as an excellent Spanish interpreter with many credentials.

My sincere thanks also go to our departing board and committee members, Ferdinand Vélez and Marta Reyes, who have helped extend WITS into Eastern and Central Washington. Our 2009 annual meeting was held in Spokane, mak-

ing it the first time in WITS history that that meeting has been held outside the Greater Seattle area. Claudia A'Zar and the Advocacy Committee she chaired did a tremendous amount of work on behalf of court interpreters, supporting initiatives that improve interpreter's working conditions, and communicating with other parties in the court, including judges, prosecutors, and lawyers, to help them understand and appreciate our profession.

I am lucky to have a very able deputy Vania Haam, and an extremely supportive board. Kenny has graciously agreed to assume the role of Advocacy Chair and has already started to build a strong committee. Our newest board members are Milena Calderari-Waldron and Julia Davidov, who have engaged in committee activities. Susana Sawrey has assumed the co-chair position on the program committee. All board and committee members are volunteers who believe in the importance of our organization. They generously donate their time and efforts so we can maintain high standards and keep WITS growing.

Well into 2010 now, Washington State is still suffering from a slow eco-

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 A chapter of the
American Translators Association

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 WITShasaWeb page which can be visited at www.witsnet.org.

NOTIS Notes

New Members

Mirna Aguillon	English ⇄ Spanish
Adrian Bradley	English ⇄ Chinese
In Hee Ferrick	Korean ⇄ English
Joyce Hodge	Mandarin ⇄ English
Tomoko Jones	English ⇄ Japanese
Jess Kincaid	English ⇄ Spanish
Huyen Martin	English ⇄ Vietnamese
Adriana Nodal-Tarata	English ⇄ Spanish
Suman Ram	Hindi ⇄ English
Charles Searls Ridge	Spanish ⇄ English
Anna Russell	English ⇄ Russian
Zaure Seitenova	English ⇄ Russian English > Kazakh
Eugene Tong	Mandarin ⇄ English Cantonese ⇄ English Toshanese ⇄ English
Martha Valencia	English ⇄ Spanish
Karina Veliz	English ⇄ Spanish

Corporate Members

Divas Interpretation Services
Linguava Interpreters Inc.

Institutional Members

Betsy Aisnworth-Grimm

WITS Rejoining Corporate Members

The Language Exchange, Inc.

WITS Notes

New Members

Sirgut Ashenaffi	Amharic
Marilyse Benyakar	French
Laura Behnke	Spanish
Sandra Bonifield	Indonesian
Anthony Brown	
Luis DeJesus	Spanish
Norma Fender	Spanish
Maria Luisa Gracia Camon	Spanish, French
N. Cyrus Khatibi	Farsi
Younghee Kim	Korean
Trung Le	Vietnamese
Xavier Maipi	Chuukese, Trukese
Ulysses Mangune	Tagalog, Kapampangan Pangasinan
Ross Miller	Spanish
Abdullahi Omar	Somali
Teresa Ost	Spanish
Padam Rizal	Nepali
Khushdev Tiwana	Punjabi, Hindi, Urdu
John (Chia-An) Wan	Mandarin
Zhixiong Zhong	Cantonese

Rejoining Members

Cecilia Maria Amado-Pittle	Spanish
Yiu M. Chan	Cantonese
Sandra Contreras	Spanish
Dorene Cornwell	Russian
Donn Harris	Spanish
Alicia Lanzner	Spanish
Mark A. Rudeen	
Vishaka Smith	Sinhalese
Caitilin Walsh	German, French

Letter from the NOTIS President

By Laura A. Wideburg

As of April 2010, I am no longer the NOTIS President. Due to personal circumstances, the torch has been passed to Faiza Sultan. Our new Vice President is Kathryn German, who was serving as Secretary. Our Treasurer is Ferdi Nadir and our Secretary is now Toby Tusukao Kawahigashi. Other Board Members are Jamie Lucero, Louise Morehead, Renee Palermo and Katrin Rippel.

As you can see from this list, our small Board is seeking new Directors, including Interim Directors, and if you feel called to work on behalf of NOTIS, please contact Office Manager Jonas Nicotra at officemanager@notisnet.org.

He will be able to put you in touch with the Nominating Committee.

I have also resigned as *The Northwest Linguist* NOTIS Editor, and Kathryn German will take over that position.

It has been a great privilege to serve as your President for 16 months, and as a Board Member for the past five and a half years. I ask that you support Faiza as she leads NOTIS into its third decade. Our organization is strong at over 300 members, and the best is yet ahead! Be part of it!

I am looking forward to seeing many of you at the WITS-NOTIS Picnic on June 12th. Let me close by wishing you all the best in your interpreting and translation careers and to thank the many people who have supported me in this difficult time.

Cultural Corner

By Laura A. Wideburg

Two books in translation have topped the New York Times Bestseller list! Both are by the late Swedish author Stieg Larsson. This summer, the last book in his trilogy will be released and the unusual sight of three translated books on the NYT Bestseller list may become a reality.

Why Swedish and why now? At the Annual Conference for the Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Studies, which I attended, the question was taken up by scholars and translators. Sweden is known for being a rational, modern country with unusual neutrality and a peaceful, human-centered way of life. Sweden is one of the five countries topping "The Happiness List." But these books are filled with violence and cruelty – the antithesis of the Swedish face to the world – and may reflect the uncertainty of the present economic times: below the surface of this idyll is an uglier reality, and globalization has its risks as well as its benefits.

The Swedish movies based on the books are also incredibly popular even in the United States, where seeing subtitled movies is an otherwise rare occurrence and normally confined to art houses.

If you are one of those captured by the Swedish thriller movement, try Henning Mankell, Håkan Nesser

or why not Inger Frimansson, whose novels I've translated from Swedish these past three years! The latest Inger Frimansson novel, *The Cat did not Die*, will be published July 2010 by Caraval Books in NYC. You, too, can ponder why a country so high on the happiness scale has become a center of the thriller genre.

...Letter from the WITS President (Continued from page 1) ○○○

...nomic recovery and a high unemployment rate. With more players becoming active in the interpreting world, this changing environment presents challenges and opportunities. Now is the time for us all to broaden our horizons, sharpen our skills and network more.

Where will you start? WITS provides excellent opportunities. Our membership committee, outreach committee, advocacy committee and hospitality committee are all looking for volunteers. Please contact me or any committee chair if you are interested in volunteering your time to make our organization work better for everyone. Information is listed on the inside page of this newsletter and on the WITS website, www.witsnet.org

The ATA Spanish Division Mid-Year Conference

By Kathryn German

Although “Sunny San Diego” wasn’t particularly sunny this time of year, the attendees of the American Translators Association Spanish Division’s Mid-Year Conference were exuberant and enthusiastic about the quality and breadth of the conference program. Most attendees simply wished they could extend the invaluable opportunity to learn from some of the most preeminent Spanish translators.

Dr. Damián Vázquez, a physician from Argentina with over 17 years of medical experience and 11 years in medical translation, presented both an Intensive Seminar in Biomedical Translation and a course in Useful Resources for Biomedical Translation. A translator of numerous medical books, dictionaries, websites and pharmaceutical laboratory materials, Dr. Vázquez has also directed the department of foreign publications and served as editor for *Editorial Médica Panamericana* since 2004.

In Dr. Vázquez’s **Intensive Seminar in Biomedical Translation**, the general characteristics of medical language, false friends in medical terminology, common medical collocations and use of adjectives were discussed, as well as the omnipresent acronyms and abbreviations in English medical texts. He shared the results of his own research on terms that consistently prove difficult for Spanish medical translators. While pointing out that terminology choices in biomedical translation must always be made with the target reader in mind, Dr. Vázquez stressed that the common characteristics of biomedical translation should always be: clarity, preciseness, unambiguity, and simplicity.

In his second presentation, **Useful Resources for Biomedical Translation**, Dr. Vázquez reviewed a variety of reference sources for biomedical translation and noted that it was crucial that every competent medical translator have a certain level of doubt. This slight level of doubt will prompt the translator to perform additional research that in turn will lead to a more precise and accurate translation. One reference source is never sufficient, especially when using Internet resources where translation errors are rampant.

According to Dr. Vázquez, the proper steps for resolving terminological issues are: checking a specialized dictionary, consulting a general or normative dictionary, and noting Internet usage. When faced with a myriad of

choices, it is imperative that the translator first understand the exact meaning of the term in all its nuances. The reference books most valued in his own medical translation practice are: *Navarro’s Diccionario de dudas y dificultades de la medicina*, *Dorland’s Medical Dictionary*, *Stedman’s* (English and bilingual editions), *Terminología anatómica*, the *Diccionario terminológico de ciencias farmacéuticas of the Real Academia Nacional de Farmacia*, and the future *Diccionario de Términos Médicos de la Real Academia de Medicina*. Once it is available, the latter will be particularly valuable since it will be an original work in Spanish and not a translation. The Real Academia Española’s dictionary is not always up-to-date on medical terminology, nor is it always medically correct.

Among the internet resources valued by Dr. Vázquez are: Harrison Medicina Interna (<http://www.harrisonmedicina.com/resourceToc.aspx?resourceID=106>); Dorland’s Medical Dictionary (<http://www.dorlands.com/wsearch.jsp>); Medline Plus (<http://medlineplus.gov/spanish/>), which he warned was not necessarily an example of good translation, but a good starting point for basic information); Stedman’s Dictionary Online (<http://www.medilexicon.com/medicaldictionary.php>); Whonamedit — A Dictionary of medical eponyms (<http://www.whonamedit.com/>); and the World Health Organization (http://whqlibdoc.who.int/druginfo/INN_2008_list59.pdf). He also cited the Tremédica website (<http://medtrad.org/>), an international association for translators and editors in the fields of medicine and science, as a source of numerous resources for Spanish medical translators: forums, glossaries and the *Panacea* magazine.

Álvaro Villegas, an ATA-certified medical translator working in the field since 1997, with extensive experience in various areas of clinical research in both Spain and the U.S., gave a seminar on the **Translation of Documents for Linguistic Validation into Spanish**. According to Villegas, some of the most common documents requiring linguistic validation are Patient Reported Outcomes, tools that allow patients to report on their status according to a variety of subjective parameters (pain, quality or quantity of sleep, feelings, opinions, and preferences). It is important that these tools be accu-

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PURPOSEFUL AND NOT SO PURPOSEFUL AMBIGUITY

By Milena Calderari-Waldron

PURPOSEFUL AMBIGUITY

Argentina has a long tradition of great film making. Throughout the decades, Argentine films are routinely nominated and win prizes all over the world. This year “El Secreto de Sus Ojos” won the Oscar for 2010 Best Foreign Film.

You can view it at the Harvard Exit Theater on Capitol Hill in Seattle starting Friday May 7, 2010. Based on the novel “La Pregunta (Question) de Sus Ojos”, this romantic thriller is set in the criminal justice federal court system against the turbulent argentine political background of the ‘70’s. Like everything Argentine it is deceptively simple. What starts as a whodunit ends up being a story about love, friendship and coming to terms with the past. The dialogue is full of legal lingo that would delight any Spanish court interpreter, notably the Judge’s Clerk’s reference to her unwillingness in revisiting the past: “Mi vida entera fue mirar para adelante; atrás no es mi jurisdicción.” (My entire life was about looking forward; [looking] back is not my jurisdiction.)

With all this buzz there were countless blogs on the Internet about this movie with several unsuccessful attempts to translate its title. “El Secreto de Sus Ojos” can be literally translated into English as “The Secret of His/Her/Their Eyes” In Spanish “sus” is the 3rd person singular possessive pronoun for the male (“his”) and female (“her”) gender as well as the 3rd person plural possessive pronoun for both genders (“their”). And in fact the movie does revolve around the secrets behind several pairs of eyes: the female Judge’s Clerk, the male Court Clerk, the female murder victim, the victim’s husband, and the male murder suspect. Sometimes the secret is in her eyes, other times in his and in the end there are many different secrets in several people’s eyes. The author and the director chose an ambiguous title on purpose. This is definitely a movie about clues in the eyes, because as the main character states, “Los ojos hablan” (eyes speak). So the translator is left pondering on what the best rendering would be. I leave it to the readers to decide which of these versions the best alternative is:

- The Secret of Their Eyes
- The Secret of the Eyes
- The Secret in the Eyes
- The Secret in Their Eyes

NOT SO PURPOSEFUL AMBIGUITY

All court interpreters know that there is never a more stressful time than when they are interpreting witness testimony on the stand. The entire case often hinges on the crucial information conveyed by this Limited English Proficient witness and everybody’s attention in the court room is focused on the interpreter’s words. Spanish interpreters know that “sus” (his, her or their) will sooner or later be part of the equation. Sometimes the interpreter can figure out gender (male or female) or number (singular/plural) by the context. And sometimes it is impossible. Case in point: a man and a woman were in the same room: Attorney: Who did those bags belong to? Witness: *Eran sus bolsas*. They were his/her/their bags. Interpreter: They were ... What is an interpreter to do? First of all, the interpreter must realize that this is a common Spanish >English translation problem. Second, the interpreter must clarify for everybody’s sake who was the owner of the bags. The most appropriate thing to do is to address the court.

Interpreter: Your Honor, the witness has made an ambiguous statement and the interpreter requests clarification.

Interpreter: *Las bolsas eran de él, de ella o de ambos?* The bags were his, hers or theirs? Witness: *De ella*. Hers. Interpreter: They were her bags. Another common problem in Spanish>English translation is the use of the plural male gender when referring to both sexes at once. For example, hermanos can mean either brothers or siblings: LEP: *Somos 7 hermanos*. We are seven brothers/siblings. [Solution: request for clarification] Interpreter: *7 hermanos varones?* Seven male siblings? LEP: *Somos 7 hermanos, 3 hermanas y 4 hermanos*. We are seven siblings, 3 sisters and 4 brothers. Other examples of plural male gender: *Mis tíos me cuidan*. My uncles/uncle and aunt look after me. *Son padres*. They are fathers/parents (as in mother and father). In Russian the word “ruka” can mean hand as well as arm and “noga” can be either leg or foot. During a Personal Injury deposition the distinction between a leg and a foot injury can potentially determine the outcome of the entire case. In Vietnamese “tay” can mean hand as well as arm and “chân” is either leg or foot, unless each word is preceded by a specific article (unique to the Vietnamese language) “bàn” to make it a hand/foot or “cánh” to make it an/a arm/leg.

”Ph/ri” in Vietnamese can mean either the opposite-left direction or being correct (as in the English “to be right”). Case in point: two people driving in a car:

Attorney: “Did you make a left turn?” Passenger: “Ph/ri”. Right. This can mean make a right turn or correct.

Another confusing out-of-context witness reply is “Nó r/ri nhà bu/ri chi/lu”. (He/she/it left the house in the evening). This sentence has two possible confusions for the Vietnamese interpreter. The interpreter can usually rule out by context the “it” portion since that would mean the baby/animal/thing left the house, which is unlikely. However, whether “he or she left the house” is still undecided. The time marker “in the evening” can be misleading as some Vietnamese speakers, still accustomed to

the sunrise-to-sunset notion of time, can understand evening as meaning 2 or 3 pm.

Interpreters are called to solve a communication problem. Interpreters are responsible for a faithful and accurate rendition. They are not expected to assume or guess anything. It is therefore imperative for interpreters to familiarize themselves with their language’s pitfalls and bring these to everybody’s attention when necessary.

Milena Calderari-Waldrón

Spanish > English Interpreter

WA Court and DSHS Medical & Social Services Certified

I want to thank the contributions made to this article by two other WA Court Certified Interpreters: Emma Garkavi (Russian) and David Neathery (Vietnamese).

Meeting Our Founding Members

By Kenneth Barger, Guest Columnist

Katrin Rippel interviews a WITS / NOTIS Member for every issue of *The Northwest Linguist*. Maybe you will be next? She thanks Kenny Barger for this special interview.

Mary Martí was born and raised in Havana, Cuba. She met her future husband, Rubén, in high school. They got married right out of school, then both went to the Universidad de la Habana. He became a doctor of mathematics and physics, while she earned her degree in diplomatic and consular law, with a focus on foreign languages, specifically English and French. But they barely got to graduate.

By the time Mary was near graduation, violence had broken out in Cuba. There were several occasions when students had to evacuate the campus because of shootings. She went to sit for her final exams, but they were postponed due to a fire. A week later, she was able to take her finals. Soon after, the university closed. Hers was to be the last graduating class for several years.

With their studies completed, Mary and Rubén set about to begin promising careers in their respective fields. But fate had other plans for them and for Cuba.

The Cuban Revolution culminated with Fulgencio Batista’s dramatic flight from Havana on January 1, 1959. Fidel Castro’s forces soon entered the capital in triumph, and thus began the Castro era in Cuba.

Many Cubans fled or were exiled in those first months and years, but Mary and Rubén did not leave

right away. He was now teaching theoretical physics at the university. Denise was born to the couple, and Mary stayed at home for a time to care for their baby daughter. Mary and Rubén realized they did not want her to grow up under this new system.

They were more and more dismayed with the regime change they were witnessing. There were executions in the street, loss of liberties, food rationing, and social strife all around. This was when they decided it was time to leave. When Rubén was offered a fellowship in Göttingen, Germany—a world center for theoretical physics—they were able to move there on a visa. A series of moves took them from Germany to Spain, from Spain to New York, and finally to Olympia, Washington, where they have made their home ever since.

Mary took up teaching, first high school and later college, at institutions such as Centralia College and Saint Martin’s College. This was well before there was a major Latino population in that area, and also well before the existence of state certification for court interpreters in Washington. But Mary was well known in the area because of her teaching and other social contacts. So when more Spanish-speaking folks started arriving in the area, she was pressed into service as an ad hoc interpreter more and more often. “The chief of police would knock on my door any time of day or night with drunk drivers who didn’t speak any English.” She was called on to interpret in courts, hospitals, and wherever else the need arose.

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...*The ATA Spanish Division (Continued from page 5)* ○○○

rately translated and tested as they play an important role in ensuring the overall validity of the research study results. At first glance, these surveys appear to be quite simple translations. On deeper analysis, one notes the potential pitfalls. The overall structure of the tool must be respected to the degree it is possible for the translator to do so without creating an over literal translation. Questions and responses must be translated carefully so as to avoid inverting the expected answer. If the author is expecting a negative answer, the translator should not translate a question in such a way that the answer will be positive. Translations must be painstakingly reviewed in order to assure that the author's original concept is not altered. Villegas subsequently examined some of the most difficult concepts and terms encountered by those translating documents specifically for linguistic validation.

What is linguistic validation? Álvaro Villegas explained that linguistic validation is an extensive procedure carried out according to specific guidelines and methods to ensure that translated tools are both consistent, correct, and culturally relevant. The translation is fully evaluated and tested in every aspect so that the final result may be considered an equivalent of the original tool. Poorly translated instruments can threaten the validity of research data and prevent pooling of global research results. Villegas further explained that the process of linguistic validation consists of: 1) Preparation: A team of translators, proofreaders, coordinators, interviewers, and a project manager are chosen. The author of the document is contacted to obtain any necessary authorization needed to carry out the translation, to explain any concepts that are not clear and/or cultural items that may pose translation issues.; 2) Translation: At least two qualified translators work on the project in order to obtain two separate versions; 3) Reconciliation: The individual translations are reviewed in order to arrive at a consensus on a final draft translation; 4) Back-translation: The final draft is translated back into the source language to minimize the possibility of omissions and deviations in meaning. Villegas noted that the difficulty with this step is that many translators, aware of the process, begin to translate specifically with the back-translation in mind; 5) Harmonization: All of the translations are compared and the individual versions act as a control mechanism; 6) Pilot Testing (cognitive debriefing): The final translation is tested on a small group of users in order to determine if there are any terminological, conceptual, or cultural issues that could interfere with comprehension; 7) Finalization: A final review is carried out to eliminate any

remaining problems; 8) Report: The project manager describes the work that has been accomplished in order to avoid known problems in the future; 9) Multinational translation: At times multiple versions are requested to suit the needs of individual Spanish-speaking countries. This ultimately raises the question of whether the variants are truly necessary, and to what degree concepts are universally understood by all Spanish speakers.

Rosalie Wells, a certified ATA translator with 24 years of experience, shared many of her own discoveries for increasing translation production in her presentation on the **Secrets of Productivity**. To discover the best way to open a file with an unknown extension, she utilizes the website www.extensions.org. For dealing with PDFs, Wells tries first to obtain the document in a Word version from the client. If it is not available, she recommends using a PDF converter program such as www.pdfrow.com or www.nitropdf.com, or an OCR program such as Omni Page www.nuance.com/omnipage to extract the text within the PDF. The programs, unfortunately, are not always fool-proof when it comes to correct placement of the extracted text.

Although word counts obtained in Word are the norm in the industry, according to Wells, they can vary by 30%. For more accuracy and ease in determining word counts, she suggests Total Assistant www.surefiresoftware.com, a program capable of counting words in a number of files at once.

Increasing typing speed is another way to easily speed up translation production. Averages for the number of words per minute for typing in general (not for translation) are: a professional level of 65 words per minute; an expedited level of 85 words per minute; an advanced level of 120 words per minute; a record level of 212 words per minute; a typical level of 33 words per minute, and a goal speed of 80 words per minute. Wells pointed out that there are many programs available online for increasing typing speed, such as the Almina Typing Method, Nimble Fingers, or Mavis Beacon.

Shortcuts and macro programs also increase translation speed. The Typing Buddy program (http://www.supernova-soft.com/c5/index.php/products/speed_typing/) described by Wells allows the translator to create his or her own abbreviations that will trigger the placement of much longer phrases. The program works in all applications, including Outlook. (An example of this would be the entry of the brief text "bill" to produce the phrases "Your invoice has been attached. Please acknowledge receipt.")

Rosalie Wells also indicated that voice recognition programs have advanced a great deal, especially Dragon Naturally Speaking (<http://www.nuance.com/naturallyspeaking/>). In addition to speech to text function, the software can also be used to read a translation aloud during the proofreading process.

Using many computers at once can be confusing, but Wells finds that the Synergy program (<http://synergy2.sourceforge.net/>) allows her to use numerous screens and access multiple drives with a single keyboard and mouse.

Many other talented translators spoke at the ATA Spanish Division's Mid-year conference on topics varying from **Tactics and Strategies for Translating Neologisms** and **Making the Most of Your Freelance**

Business to False Cognates in the Field of Contracts. Everyone went home smiling, happy to have reconnected with other ATA Spanish translators and with notes brimming with new information to share and utilize.

Kathryn German is the Vice-President of NOTIS, a member of ATA and serves on the T & I Institute's Advisory Board. She currently works full-time as the Senior Spanish Translator for Quorum Review, an institutional review board of clinical trials, and also co-teaches the Introduction to Translation & Interpretation course at the T & I Institute with Martha Cohen. Kathryn has completed T & I Institute's Translation Certificate Program coursework, two years of online instruction in Spanish-English translation through International House, Barcelona, and the Cross Cultural Health Program. She also holds a M.A. and B.A. in Spanish Literature and Language, was a Fulbright Fellow to Ecuador, and lived and studied in Spain, Perú, Paraguay, and Guatemala.

...Meeting our Founding Members (Continued from page 7) ○○○

When Sandra Frady came and gave a presentation on court interpreting, Mary attended, and there she met Angela Torres-Henrick, Susana Stettri-Sawrey, Mindy Baade, and others who were practicing or interested in practicing court interpretation in its early stages in Washington. They started to see the potential of the field.

At a conference of the Washington Association of Foreign Language Teachers, a major international conference on interpreting was announced for Vancouver, British Columbia. Mary and her colleagues were determined not to miss it. Mary and Mindy shared a room with Betty Merino Strawe and María Elena Tremaine. "Our eyes were opened to what interpreting could be. It was an excellent, world-class conference. We met lots of people and saw how many books and dictionaries there were for interpreters."

This exciting experience was a big part of what led to the genesis of WITS. The first general meeting of interpreters to create the association was held on June 13, 1987. The meeting was attended by Mary, Mindy, Sandra, Angela, Susana, Betty, and María Elena. Other founding members were Angela Nine and Adriana Franco Erickson. Angela took on the presidency, and Susana the vice presidency. Mary was in charge of interpreter training. And

WITS was incorporated and registered with the Washington Secretary of State on August 31, 1988.

One of the first projects they took on was to establish certification in Washington. Once they achieved this important goal, it was the moment of truth, and they had to take their exams. Mary went to the testing site nervous and did her best, but was not sure if she had done well enough or not. After that excruciating wait that many readers know all too well, what a relief it was when the envelope arrived with the good news!

Mary is mostly retired nowadays, though she is sometimes called to court to cover an emergency. When I interviewed her, we were reflecting on how many different activities she's been involved in. I started to ask her a question, but she jumped in right away.

"What do you like most..."

"Interpreting!"


"No, no, I know, but what do you like most about interpreting?"

"Human contact. Helping both parties. Helping one human being try to help another—it doesn't matter if he's a criminal or not."

Events Calendar

Date	Event	Details	Location
April 26-July 9, 2010	Translation Technology: Localization e-Learning Course	http://www3.imperial.ac.uk/cpd/courses/subject/other/localisation	London, UK
May 14-16, 2010	NAJIT 31 st Annual Conference	www.najit.org	Orlando, FL
May 19-22, 2010	Maastricht Session of the 5 th International Maastricht-Lodz Duo Colloquium on “Translation and Meaning”	http://www.translation-and-meaning.nl	Maastricht, The Netherlands
May 19-22, 2010	2010 Annual Conference: It’s All Business	http://www.alcus.org/2010/i_alc_conf_10.pdf	InterContinental Miami Hotel Miami, Florida, USA
May 20, 2010	Localisation Unconference 2010	http://localizationunconference.com/blog/?p=900	VistaTec offices, Dublin, Ireland
May 21-22, 2010	MICATA 2010 Annual Symposium: Looking to the Future: What’s Next for Translators & Interpreters	http://www.ata-micata.org/MICATA%20-%20Symposium.htm	Johnson County Community College, Overland Park, Kansas, USA
May 24-28, 2010	International Terminology Summer School 2010	http://www.termnet.org/english/events/tss_2010/index.php	University of Vienna, Vienna, Austria
May 28-29, 2010	Tradulinguas International Technical Translation Conference	http://www.tradulinguas.com/conf-tech/	Faculty of Social and Human Sciences (Universidade Nova), Lisbon, Portugal
January-June, 2010	TIP-Lab Twentieth Spanish Translation/Revision Workshop	http://www.tip-lab.org/workshops.html	Online
June 7-9, 2010	Localization World Conference and Exhibits	http://www.localizationworld.com	Berlin, Germany
June 11-12, 2010	3 rd Annual Southeast Regional Medical Interpreters Conference	http://web.memberclicks.com/mc/community/eventdetails.do?eventId=252255&orgId=ming&recurringId=0	College of Charleston, Charleston, South Carolina, USA
June 17, 2010	1 st North American Summit on Interpreting	http://www.interpretamerica.net/	Washington, D.C.
June 14-25, 2010	Translation Research Summer School	http://www.researchschool.org/	Centre for Intercultural Studies University College, London (UCL), London, England
June 28-July 1, 2010	The Author-Translator in the European Literary Tradition	http://www.author-translator.net/	Swansea University, Swansea, UK
July-December 2010	TIP-Lab 22 nd Spanish Translation/Revision Workshop	call/fax Alicia Marshall at (847)869-4889 Email: aliciamarshall@comcast.net ; www.tip-lab.org	Seattle

...Calendar (continued from page 10)

Date	Event	Details	Location
August 7, 2010	Annual Picnic	info@notisnet.org	TBD
September 3-5, 2010	2010 IMIA International Conference on Medical Interpreting	http://www.imiaweb.org/conferences/2010conference.asp	Boston, Massachusetts
September 16-19, 2010	Lódz Session of the 5 th International Maastricht-Lódz Duo Colloquium on "Translation and Meaning"	http://www.translation-and-meaning.nl	Lódz, Poland
September 30-Oct1, 2010	TM-Europe 2010 International Translation Management Conference	http://www.tm-europe.org/	Kraków, Poland
October 6-8, 2010	International Conference & Exhibition on Language Transfer in Audiovisual Media	http://www.languages-media.com/	Hotel InterContinental, Berlin, Germany
October 6-8, 2010	Localization World Conference and Exhibits	http://www.localizationworld.com/	Seattle, WA
October 15-16, 2010	2010 WASCLA Summit	www.wascla.org	Shoreline Conference Center 18560 1st Ave NE, Shoreline, WA 98155
October 27-30, 2010	 51 st Annual Conference of The American Translators Association	http://www.atanet.org/conferencesandseminars/annual_conference.php	Hyatt Regency Hotel Denver, Colorado
October 29-30, 2010	Mediterranean Editors and Translators METM10: Facilitating knowledge transfer through editing, translation, coaching	http://www.metmeetings.org/	Universitat Rovirai Virgili, Campus Catalunya, Tarragona, Spain
October 29-31, 2010	IPCITI 2010: International Postgraduate Conference in Translation and Interpreting: From Reflection to Refraction: new perspectives, new settings and new impacts	http://www.ipciti.org.uk/	University of Manchester Manchester, England

For more international, national, and local events, please see: www.notisnet.org, www.witsnet.org, www.atanet.org

NOTIS / WITS Board Meetings:

Organization	Date & Time	Location	Contact
WITS	May 13, 2010, 7:30pm	Conference call	(206) 380-6823
NOTIS	May 14, 2010, 6:30pm	TBD	info@notisnet.org
NOTIS	August 5, 2010, 6:30pm	TBD	info@notisnet.org

All Board Meetings are open to the membership of their respective organizations.

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