

THE NORTHWEST LINGUIST



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WASCLA Summit III

By Susana Saravia-Anibarro
Staff Interpreter
King County District Court

On September 7th and 8th, Central Washington University in Ellensburg was the site of the WASCLA (Washington State Coalition for Language Access) Summit III, sponsored by the Northwest Justice Project, NOTIS and WITS. WASCLA is a cooperative group of service providers and language professionals seeking to improve the provision of interpretation/translation services to immigrants accessing legal services, medical care, and other community services.

The gathering was well attended by interpreters, as well as service providers representing almost twenty organizations. Representatives from Administrative Office of the Courts gave an overview of the Washington State Court Limited English Proficient plans and interpreter funding. These are a result of recent legislation. In my view, an important statement was the following: "Trial Court Funding Task Force: State should partner with local governments in funding trial courts where a clear nexus exists between state mandates and court operations. Example: judicial salaries, representation in dependency cases, indigent defense, and *interpreter costs*" (from slide presentation by AOC Court Services Manager Chris Ruhl—emphasis in original).

"The use of interpreters is not just a nice thing to do, it is the law," stated the keynotes speaker Christine Stoneman from the U.S. Department of Justice on Friday Night. A resource web page was given: Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title VI regulations, Executive Order 13166, issued in 2000 by President Clinton all can be found at the following address: <http://www.lep.gov/faqs/faq.html>. The Executive Order requires federal agencies to examine the services they provide, identify any need for services to LEP persons, and develop and implement a system to provide those services.

The high level of professionalism and dedication of our profession, from presenters as well as attendees, was obvious and also was a source of encouragement, hope, and pride for everyone.

The dialogue between providers and interpreters has started. We, as providers and interpreters are no longer speaking *about* the other side. We are now speaking *to* each other. While there is much work ahead to improve access for LEP individuals, we are working together.

For more information on WASCLA's efforts, visit <http://wascla.org>. ❖

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A chapter of the
American Translators Association

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Our voicemail telephone number is (206) 382-5690.

WITS has a Web page which can be visited at www.witsnet.org.

NOTIS Notes

New Members

Leonard Alvarez	Spanish > English
J. Alejandro Carrillo-Etienne	English > Spanish
Raymond Cheung	Vietnamese > English
	Chinese > English
Gabriela de Castro	
Regina Fabbri-Cosby	
Christopher Field	
Adriana van Dam	

Meeting the Members

By *Katrin Rippel*

Katrin Rippel interviews a NOTIS or WITS member for every issue of The Northwest Linguist. Next month it could be you!

Meeting the Shunras

Port Townsend is a picturesque, vibrant and culturally rich town by the ocean. "It is a town, where people *can* make a change", says Dena Bugel-Shunra and her husband Daniel Bugel-Shunra agrees. They are the owners of Shunra Media, Inc., an international legal translation company, and they should know. Their entire translation careers have been committed to making a difference.

Although born on different continents, Dena and Daniel share the same childhood experience of having adventurous parents who decided to leave the home country to immigrate to Israel.

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CULTURAL CORNER

By *Laura A. Wideburg*

Halloween has come and gone by the time you read this, but what a confusing name for a holiday. Actually, the words holiday and Halloween are related! Halloween comes from All Hallow's Evening (the night before All Saint's Day, November 1st), and even when I was a child, the holiday was spelled with an apostrophe, *Hallowe'en*, to indicate the missing letters from evening. *Hallow* and *Holy* are two different permutations of the same root word. We see this in words like bury and burrow as well. Some medieval English dialects pronounced the sound "ee" (as in holy and bury), while other dialects pronounced the sound "oh" (as in hallow and burrow). With time, the words began to differentiate in meaning. Hallow ceased to be used to mean "holy" and now only makes an appearance in calques (a linguistic term meaning a word that is frozen in an older usage), for instance in the phrase from the Lord's Prayer "hallowed be Thy name" and the name for the holiday that is Halloween, while holy became the word commonly used to refer to the sacred. Hallow, meaning "saint," is now a dead usage, and has been replaced by the word *saint(e)* imported from the Norman French. The word *holiday* is a contraction of *holy day*, which in the Medieval world meant a day free from work to celebrate its religious significance. Meanwhile, bury and burrow both retained the meaning "dig in the earth," but the first word now relates to how people dig in order to lay their loved ones to rest, while the second now relates to animals digging in order to make a home for themselves in the earth. ❖

ANNOUNCEMENT

WA State Administrative Office of the Courts is currently recruiting for the following Olympia-based position:

SENIOR COURT PROGRAM ANALYST—INTERPRETER PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Salary Range: \$53,436 TO \$70,092/year, depending on qualifications

Application deadline: November 16, 2007

For more information regarding the position please view this web page:

<http://www.courts.wa.gov/employ/?fa=employ.detail&employmentid=893>

Letter from the WITS President

By Kenneth Barger

I wish to start this issue's letter with a correction: When I mentioned the founding members of WITS at this year's annual meeting, I neglected to mention some of them. According to the first WITS Newsletter, kindly given to me by Founding President Angela Torres-Henrick, the founding members of our society are Arminda Baade, Adriana Franco Erickson, Sandra Frady, Mary Martí, Betty Merino Strawe, Angela Nine, Susana Stettri Sawrey, Angela Torres-Henrick, and María Elena Tremaine. A thousand pardons to those of you I forgot to mention. It also gives me pleasure to point out that almost all of these founding members are WITS members today. Thank you for all that you have done over the years. I plan to have that first issue scanned and placed on our web site as well, so keep an eye out for that in the Newsletter section of www.witsnet.org.

Since I last wrote to you, we have held several events and kept pretty busy. The WASCLA summit on September 7 and 8 was fascinating, and in my view, a success. It is important to build bridges between interpreters and translators and those who need our services, be they other service providers or people whose English is limited. Please enjoy the information on this event elsewhere in this issue, and keep an eye out for future collaboration with WASCLA.

More recently, on September 22, Jean Leblon gave a fascinating talk on literary translation to mark the occasion of Saint Jerome Day, better known as International Translation Day. Jean is a founding member of NOTIS and a great speaker who provided much insight on the process of translating novels and poetry. His talk was peppered with enlightening examples and colorful anecdotes. Thanks are due to Jean for his thoughtful presentation, and to the NOTIS Programs Committee for taking the lead on this event.

In this issue, you will also find a membership renewal form for both organizations. You'll notice that the boards of both societies have approved the joint membership discount for individual members for another year. If you haven't already renewed your membership, please do so, and consider joining both organizations, as many members did last year.

Now we are getting ready for the December 1 Holiday Party, so mark your calendar, because I hope to see you there and chat a bit. And we'll have to gear up for next year, the 20th anniversary year for both of our organizations. Stay strong out there, and keep up the good work, everybody. ❖

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Dena was born in the US and came to Tel Aviv at the age of 4. Her first translation experience was translating poetry between Hebrew and English. Dana started to study mathematics, but was married off by her parents in an arranged marriage. After escaping that marriage, she had to provide for herself and for her son, and she used her mathematical and engineering background to enter the translation profession.

She translated mostly *Computer How-To* books and operating manuals as freelancer and in companies. She quickly realized, however, that the professional standards and the income of translators were too low to make a decent living, and it became her goal to make changes to raise that standard.

Daniel was born in the Netherlands, where he grew up as a Dutch-German bilingual. His first translation experience was when he was eight years old. He picked up an Italian children's book and an Italian-German dictionary and translated the book. When Daniel was 11 years old, his

parents took him to Israel, where he also learned Hebrew, and, later, English.

Daniel studied history in Jerusalem and in Amsterdam. It was only after dabbling in translation to support his studies that he decided to pursue that profession seriously. He received his M.A. from KVH College in Antwerp, Belgium, and became accredited to courts in the Netherlands and in Belgium. He worked with international law firms and organizations to further specialize in international cases and in projects relating to patents and intellectual property rights.

Daniel and Dena initially met on *Lantra*, a professional online translation community, and later they met in person during a translation conference. After seven years in Europe, Daniel moved to Tel Aviv again, and in 1997 ⌋ due to Israel's racial miscegenation laws - they traveled to Cyprus to get married.

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A provider's account of WASCLA Summit III

By Jessica Sowa-Crowder
International Services Program Specialist
American Red Cross, Seattle

I attended the WASCLA conference in September for the purpose of networking with other service providers and learning about the gaps in services for the LEP community. Attending as a representative of the American Red Cross International Services Program serving King & Kitsap Counties, I walked away with a plethora of information and connections that will help me better serve those who seek our services.

The International Services Program provides services specifically to refugee and immigrant communities and the providers that serve them. We have nearly 400 volunteers who collectively speak more than 75 different languages and dialects. These individuals provide interpretations and translations to individuals and non-profit agencies 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. We also provide referrals during office hours to individuals needing an array of community services such as shelter, food, medical assistance, job training, immigration advice and other services. Since our program works with both interpreters and LEP individuals on a regular basis, this conference highlighted for me the work

that I can do as a service provider to better serve the rapidly growing refugee and immigrant communities.

It is difficult to access services when one does not speak the language of the provider whose services are sought. As a social service provider, I was thankful to learn about the unique needs that trafficking victims have when they are provided with services and interpretation. It is very likely that those who receive service from me have varying pasts. I need to be aware of how that should affect the way I provide service. In addition, this conference gave me more detailed information on the legal requirements for providing interpreters in medical and legal settings and provided a refresher on how to work with interpreters.

The American Red Cross saves lives. When disaster strikes, we respond with food, shelter and hope. When families, co-workers and communities prepare for emergencies, we help them take action. We help all individuals, and this conference demonstrated for me the ways we can make sure that we continue to do that. ❖



Leticia Camacho, of the Northwest Justice Project, introduces members of the Law Enforcement Language Access Panel



Cynthia Roat discusses interpreter training and certification



Attendees networking during one of the refreshment breaks sponsored by Northwest Justice Project



Molly Ertel, Gina Guajardo and Marilyn Littlejohn presented Barriers and Solutions to Developing Written LEP Policies



Sam Mattix, Claudia A'zar and Glenna White discussed techniques, equipment and software for transcription and translation of audio recordings

“Is Translation Literature?”

International Translation Day with Jean Leblon

By Kathryn German

International Translation Day was celebrated this year in the sunny conference room of the Mercer Island Community Center. The luncheon and seminar were co-hosted by NOTIS and WITS through the gracious efforts of many volunteers. This day of recognition for the work of translators around the world, also known as St. Jerome's Day, was founded by the International Federation of Translators (FIT) in 1991, and has become a source of celebration for the local translation and interpretation community as well.

This year's local event consisted of a fascinating lecture by Jean Leblon entitled, “Is Translation Literature?” Not only did the subject itself draw interest, but also the opportunity to hear Jean Leblon's own story as a revered figure in the local, national, and international world of translation. With a Ph.D. in French Philology and Literature from Yale University, Jean Leblon taught at Yale and Vanderbilt University for the longest part of his career, and as chairman of the department, then in 1987 followed that career with a new one in the Seattle area as a French Terminologist, Copy Editor, and Localizer at Microsoft. Feeling the need to share his experiences in translation, and meet with others with similar interests, he co-founded NOTIS, an organization soon to celebrate its 20 year anniversary. Jean Leblon also served as President, Secretary, and Treasurer for the society. He is a former President of the Alliance Française and for an incredible 17 years he served on the ATA's Board of Directors.

Jean Leblon opened his talk with an explanation of the reason for the link between International Translation Day and St. Jerome. St. Jerome was an adept linguist, fluent not only in his Illyrian dialect, but also in Greek and Latin. His myriad travels led him to learn Hebrew, and ultimately to undertake the daunting task of translating the Bible. His work was later to be considered the authentic and authoritative text by the Catholic Church, and Latin became the lingua franca of the Church, and thus a fairly universal language, until Vatican II. St. Jerome, according to Jean, may be considered one of the first literary translators. Like St. Jerome, Jean Leblon also led a life steeped in the study of languages and translation. In his youth he spoke French and Dutch with equal fluency, and studied the classical languages in school. He added German to his growing pool of languages in the 1940's. Following high school he boarded a Merchant Marine ship, and learned English while at sea,

in those moments when, in his words, “he wasn't sick”! His travels subsequently led him to spend 8 months in this country, on a journey of exploration with 3 GI's. Jean decided to put roots down in the state of Kansas, as it seemed the perfect place to “Americanize”. He attended college there, learning Spanish along the way, and finally moving on to graduate studies at Yale.

Literature and translation are closely linked with one another, and an understanding of one invariably enriches the comprehension of the other. In describing his experiences at Yale, Jean Leblon explained that there were various approaches to literary analysis evolved and changed in popularity over time. In the 1950's, literary analysis concentrated on the *explication du texte*; it was believed that to understand literature one had to follow a systematic approach, studying the biography of the author, the historic milieu, and the author's intentions and sources. This formalist theory of interpreting literature dominated the intellectual scene for many years. Yale became the scene of constant discussion between the devotees of this methodical analysis of literature and the enthusiasts of a new form a literary criticism, aptly called the “new criticism”. This new criticism argued that the literary work had an existence of its own, detached from biographical and historical context, and it refocused attention on the work itself. It was considered a fallacy that a reader could impose intentions upon the author. The relationship between author and reader had its own existence. Following World War II, interest was renewed in “structuralism”, another form of literary criticism in which each element in a language system is defined by its relationship with other elements of the sentence. The combination of all these elements formed the “structure”, and reflected the deeper symbolic meanings pertaining to man and society. All of these changes in the ways one read and analyzed literature also affected translation in positive and negative ways.

Is translation literature? In Jean Leblon's viewpoint, the translation of a medical document or operating instructions for a device involves a different process than that involved in the translation of a piece of literature. For the former, a more exact rendition is demanded and interpretation of the text is not required on as many levels. Literature itself is a translation of the formless state of an

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author's mental processes to the written word. The translator, thus, is already working from a translation. This does not, however, give the translator complete freedom; he must fully comprehend the piece he is working from in order to create a new text. He then proceeds to "transfer" meaning, and Jean explained that the term "transfer" literally means "to carry across" or "to ferry."

Robert Wechsler, the author of *Performing without a Stage — the Art of Literary Translation* compares literary translators to writers of a musical score. When he strives for perfection, the musical writer seeks to achieve an invisible performance. This is not an easy achievement. Jean Leblon pointed out that Rosemary Waldrop, a poet and translator, called translation a "wrenching the soul from the body and luring it into another". A translator reads a text closely, analyzing it, critiquing it, and rewriting it all at the same time. The translator, like a lawyer, examines the finer distinction between words, their meaning, tone, and nuance. The literary translator's work is that of making a succession of choices that ultimately create a final product

Jean Leblon went on to state that translators may choose an author to translate out of devotion, and thus may end up in a position too close to the author. He may translate out of devotion, and this may result in an unequal position between translator and author. The best position, according to Jean, is that of affinity. But no matter what the relationship, in literary translation there is always the possibility that something may be lost. Robert Frost felt that "poetry was what gets lost in translation" and W.H Auden, the opposite, argued that "that unique tone of voice" of an author is exactly what survives in translation." James Thurber went one step further when he replied, tongue-in-cheek, to a woman at a party who had told him that she enjoyed his writing even more in French, "Yes, my work tends to lose something in the original!" Thomas Mann did not know Russian well, but desperately wished to read the great Russian authors in their original language, but without a knowledge of the Russian language, he had to be satisfied with German translations, which he deemed feeble approximations. Nevertheless, access to these writers, even in translation was enough to influence his own body of work. Even when perfection in literary translation remains elusive, the world is enriched by the new worlds that translation has opened for the reader.

How does one make a start in literary translation? Jean Leblon explained that a complete command of a language is the first and most essential requirement. Ideally, the

translator should be equally proficient in both languages. The ATA's Literary Division is an excellent source of information about this type of translation. Making a livelihood in literary translation is not an easy undertaking; it is difficult to make a name for oneself, and the pay is even lower than that of mainstream translators. One way to make an inroad into the profession, according to Jean Leblon, is to start with smaller translations, sending them to small, independent papers and publishers. Large works tend to be translated through publishers with a large, established stable of trusted translators at their call.

The final part of Jean Leblon's seminar consisted in a review and discussion of three different texts, all translations of a selection from "Remembrance of Things Past" published by Proust in 1913. He introduced this segment of his talk with a description of Proust, a sickly man, who lived in a cork-walled room and wrote on large sheets of paper, folded and full of scratched-out sentences. Those present at the seminar were asked to examine each of the provided translations and then share their comments. This task made clear to all, the great difficulties faced by the literary translator, the tightrope walk of adhering to the style of the author, while still creating a text comprehensible to the reader. So many nuances, so many considerations... There was no doubt in anyone's mind that literary translation stands as a creation of its own, and yes, as literature in its own right. ❖

Kathryn German is a member of the ATA, NOTIS and NAJIT and currently works full-time in Seattle as a Spanish Translator for Quorum Review, an institutional review board of clinical trials. She has completed the Translation Certificate Program coursework at the T & I Institute at Bellevue Community College, the Cross Cultural Health Program, has an M.A. and B.A. in Spanish Literature and Language, was a Fulbright Fellow to Ecuador, and completed additional studies in Spain, Perú, Paraguay, and Guatemala.

JOKE BOX

Caitlin Walsh has sent the following joke:

Two translators on a sinking ship are talking.

"Can you swim?" asks one.

"No" says the other, "but I can shout for help in nine languages."

NOTIS ELECTION FOR THE BOARD 2007

CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

Enrique Garcia-Ayarviri

I am a free-lance interpreter and translator Spanish-English-Spanish and certified by the State Department of the US Government. My bi-lingual language-skills experience is intimately and inseparably connected with my professional work as a statesperson and international development civil servant. For many years I served with the United Nations Technical Cooperation Secretariat and the Bolivian Government. Chair Member of Bolivian National Science Academy. I am a Member of the Association of Translators and Interpreters of Bolivia.

If elected to the Board of NOTIS I will support the efforts of the Board to enhance opportunities for members to pursue the continuing education requirements for maintaining ATA certification. Further, I will promote the exchange of expertise with other ATA regional chapters and academic institutions, particularly the Departments of Education of Interpreters and Translators, aimed specifically at the improvement of simultaneous interpretation skills among interested members.

Ferdi Nadir



I am a bilingual native, which means I spoke both French and Turkish as soon as I started to talk. We had many foreigners visiting our cities so that I was 9 or 10 when I helped foreigners to communicate with the local people.

My first job was foreign service in a bank. All credit letters, drafts and correspondence were either in English or French. I had to prepare them and also translate/interpret the foreign letters to the bank manager who did not speak any foreign language.

I later on became a sworn translator for Notaries and Courts while in my company I had to translate the sea manifests and make the necessary links between the vessel captains, ship owners and custom authorities.

I am now college certified for interpreting/translating.

My goal, if elected, is to work that our interpreters are well known and the good ones be appreciated. It is very painful for me to hear a patient or customer say "Last time I had to turn down the interpreter sent to me because I could neither understand him nor could he understand me correctly."

Jonas Nicotra

It is a great honor to be running once again for my position as Program/Outreach Co-Chair on the NOTIS Board of Directors.

I am originally from São Paulo-Brazil, and I have been a freelance Portuguese - French translator/interpreter since 1995 in the Seattle area. I have a Master in Education and one in Portuguese Linguistics - Pedagogy as well as a TESL endorsement.

Since I arrived in the Northwest, NOTIS has helped me in many ways - especially in finding clients - and it continues to do so. With great contentment, I have devoted a lot of my time and energy to helping the organization. I have helped the society by promoting and organizing a number of different events and workshops for our members and for the community at large. I have helped in other areas as well (making flyers, postcards, mailing, etc.). I will continue to promote this great organization to the community as well as to help provide continuing education for NOTIS members. Thus, I hope you give me the opportunity to serve this remarkable organization once again. Muito obrigado!

Cristina Paget

During the past two years, I have thoroughly enjoyed being involved with the NOTIS Board serving as Treasurer and Co-Chair of the Medical SIG (Special Interest Group). It has been a pleasure to work with such a dynamic and hard-working group of directors. I wholeheartedly support the NOTIS mission and its objectives. Your vote will allow me to continue collaborating with the Board in our effort to promote professionalism and excellence among interpreters and translators. Thank you very much for your vote.

Respectfully, Cristina Paget.



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Laura A. Wideburg

I would like to return to the NOTIS Board and continue my service to the membership in the capacity of Northwest Linguist Newsletter Editor. During my two-year term, we have encouraged members who have never written for the newsletter before to contribute, and we also started the Meet the Members column by Katrin Rippel, which has proved to be very popular. Professionally I work as a translator from Swedish to English, especially in the field of literature, including mystery novels. I have now completed my third book translation, and the first book, *Good Night, my Darling* by Inger Frimansson was published this past April, while the second book *Shadow in the Water*, by the same author, will appear early 2008. I also speak fluent German, and have a Ph. D. in medieval German languages and literature. Other languages I have studied include French, some Hungarian and presently Mandarin Chinese. It would be a great privilege to continue my service for NOTIS members, and I thank you for your support.

Andrea Brugman

It is an honor to run for a second term as a director for NOTIS. It has been a pleasure to work with such a dedicated and professional board as well as with a great community of translators and interpreters. As the co-chair of the program committee, I have been involved in organizing a wide array of programs for our membership, such as translation tool seminars, an ethics workshop and a talk on literary translation. Since the beginning of 2007, I have also served as the organization's vice-president.



I received my Masters degree in Linguistics and Literature from the University of Regensburg, Germany, as well as the Translator State Certificate for English and German. After finishing my studies in 1998, I relocated to the United States and worked as an in-house and freelance translator as well as an occasional interpreter. For the past few years, I have been engaged in the field of localization.

In my leisure time, I enjoy gardening, reading, hiking and traveling.

VN Hopes to Promote Global Understanding Through Language

The United Nations has proclaimed 2008 the International Year of Languages. The proclamation serves as a recognition of the fact that genuine multilingualism promotes unity in diversity and international understanding.

The General Assembly also recognized that the UN pursues multilingualism as a means of promoting, protecting and preserving diversity of languages and cultures globally and emphasized the paramount importance of the equality of their six official languages. They are Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish.

In that regard, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to ensure that all language services were given equal treatment and were provided with equally favorable working conditions and resources. The Secretary-General was also requested to complete the task of publishing all important older documents on the UN website in all six official languages.

Introducing the resolution, France's representative said the text would ensure a global approach to multilingualism and would promote a reasonable vision of multi-

lingualism at the UN. It would help ensure adherence to the principles of multilingualism in the organization's daily activities and, for the first time, would underline the importance of providing technical assistance and training in the local languages of beneficiary countries.

Speakers, among them the representatives of Tunisia, Andorra, Russian Federation, Romania and Senegal, stressed that multilingualism served to enrich the UN's work. Linguistic diversity is the foundation of cultural diversity. Without appropriate attention to the issue of preserving linguistic diversity, the harmonious integration of a growing number of countries in the UN's practical work would be almost impossible.

The text of the resolution can be found at: <http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=A/61/L.56>. Click on the language in which you wish to read. Naturally, it is available in all six official UN languages! ❖

The Agnese Haury Institute: An Oregon Interpreter's Perspective

By Mitch Wilson

The Agnese Haury Institute is offered through the National Center for Interpretation at the University of Arizona, Tucson. The institute, intended for Spanish/English interpreters, has two tracks—a one-week medical interpreter course, or a three-week court interpreter training.

Like many court interpreters, I had some experience in community interpreting but no formal training specific to the courtroom environment before becoming certified. Additionally, my courtroom experience has been somewhat limited due to the fact that I live in a rural area and the volume of work is relatively low when compared to counties with more dense populations. Having worked with many excellent interpreters around the state, I felt I needed some additional training to help close the gap between my skill level as a “country interpreter” and my more experienced colleagues in larger cities. I was also in somewhat of a panic because I had passed the federal court interpreter written examination in August, 2006, and knew I needed to get into shape for the oral portion of the test that was to be offered in August of this year. Based on the recommendations of a colleague who had attended the Agnese Haury Institute some years ago, I decided to attend the three-week course in July. Below are some of my observations about this worthwhile program for those who may be considering it themselves.

Who would benefit from attending? One of the great aspects about the course is the large amount of diversity of experience among the students. There were seasoned translators, conference interpreters, interpreters for state courts, teachers and attorneys, to mention a few. Many students were preparing to take the oral portion of the Federal Court Interpreter Certification Examination. Background education ranged from high school graduates to Ph.D.s. There were several people who had attended the institute before, some more than once. Nearly everyone that I spoke with was glad that they had attended. I think the experience would be beneficial for nearly everyone except for the most experienced court interpreter who has mastery of both the linguistic and procedural aspects of legal interpreting. And of course, being able to concentrate exclusively on interpreting for three entire weeks without distraction is a rare luxury in itself.

How is the institute organized? The first day, an initial examination is administered to the students. There is a written portion that covers grammar, ethics, comprehen-

sion and vocabulary in both languages. There is also an oral test in simultaneous and consecutive interpretation, as well as sight translation. Based on these test results, students are broken down into language laboratory groups. The typical day begins with simultaneous interpretation practice in those groups, followed by practice sessions in consecutive interpreting and sight translation. Late morning usually includes one of the many interesting lectures on legal procedure, interpretation theory, linguistics, or a host of other topics. After a lunch break, lectures continue until the late afternoon, at which time there is more taped simultaneous practice and a group critique of the recordings. Before I attended the institute, I had envisioned a more high-tech language lab with cubicles, etc. In reality, the language labs are held in regular classrooms with all the students listening to the source tape through headphones and rendering their interpretation as discretely as possible into a small tape recorder. At first I was a little surprised at this method, but I quickly realized that it could be used in a positive way to train oneself to deal with distraction, which abounds in the real world of interpreting. At the end of the course, the initial examination process is repeated to measure one's improvement.

Who are the faculty? All the regular faculty members are federally certified and many of them hold postgraduate degrees in linguistics or other relevant fields such as law. Some work full time in the federal courts, while others are freelance court and conference interpreters. Some of my personal favorites were Washington's own Dr. Susana Stettri-Sawrey, who provided excellent guidance on improving my simultaneous interpretation; Ramón del Villar, J.D., a staff interpreter in the federal courts in Texas who also has law degrees from both Mexico and the United States and who gave lively lectures on federal legal procedure; and Jaime Fatás, an accomplished, ATA-certified translator, who lectured on translation pitfalls and other subjects. Many of the lectures were given in Spanish, which I found especially useful.

Overall, I was very pleased with the institute. Having worked in relative isolation in rural Oregon, the exposure to the very talented faculty gave me a reference point for excellence. It was also a wonderful opportunity to collaborate with other interpreters, which I found very motivating. Finally, the knowledge I obtained about legal proce-

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dure has definitely increased my level of confidence in the courtroom. ❖

For more information about the institute, visit the National Center for Interpretation's website at <http://nci.arizona.edu/>.

Mitch Wilson is a freelance Spanish court interpreter practicing in the area of The Dalles, OR.

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Dena and Daniel's journey continued in Tel Aviv. They trained each other in legal and technical translation respectively, and started a translation and consulting company in Tel Aviv. At that time, much translation in Israel was still done on typewriters on kitchen tables for extremely low rates. With their company, Dena's initiatives on transforming the translation profession became a major goal of both Shunras: Charging three or four times as much as most Israeli translators proved not to be an obstacle: the booming high-tech industry needed multilingual software localization with standards that few people in Israel could provide, and the Shunras found their niche. They introduced and distributed translation memory tools, and organized training seminars for colleagues. Many of those changes were perceived as threatening and were not at all welcomed at first, but when they left Tel Aviv 4 years later, the standard translation rate per word had changed from 3 cents to about 7 cents per word.

Since 2001, Dena and Daniel live with their family in Port Townsend. Their business now focuses on legal translations in Hebrew, Dutch, German and English. Much of their work remains in their original specialization of copyright and patent litigation, but increasingly, the Shunras are in demand for Human Rights-related projects that are shunned by other Hebrew translators. They provide pre-trial services and consulting for the best cultural and language understanding; they write for professional publications as well as Dena's blog *Twisted Tongues* (<http://shunra.net/blog>). Still, above all, they commit to each of their clients, their unique cases and situations. In short: They are helping to make a difference in justice and to people's lives.

Love, family, business and goals are interwoven in Dena's and Daniel's life - most of their colleagues and clients know that Daniel is an avid back-country hiker and amazing photographer and Deana weaves and knits and still translates poetry in her spare time. She says, "Translation is not just a carrier - it's a lifestyle." ❖



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Landmark Audio Technologies Offers Interpreters Improved Listening Assistance Systems

Albany NY, August 2, 2007 - Landmark Audio Technologies has developed a multi-channel transmitter/receiver system for simultaneous language interpreters, greatly improving on the single-channel systems that were the norm until now. With access to a full range of available FM frequencies, the interpreter easily finds and sets a channel that allows clear communication directly to clients. Surprisingly, these versatile multi-channel systems are less expensive than single-channel systems. The transmitters work with existing PA systems or as stand-alone units. "The multi-channel technology is important in situations where conflict with other systems causes interference," says Richard Bamberger, managing partner of Landmark Audio Technologies. "The interpreter chooses the optimal frequency for transmission right at the site. He or she speaks into a small microphone; the sound is transmitted to a radio receiver worn by the client. The client has complete control of the volume."

The transmitters and receivers are unobtrusive, lightweight, and easy to use. Each Landmark Audio customized kit includes an FM transmitter and the required number of receivers in a convenient carrying case.

Landmark Audio Technologies systems are widely in use for language interpretation and listening assistance purposes. All products are FCC certified. To order or to learn more visit their website at www.landmarkfm.com or speak with a company representative toll-free at: 888-677-4387.

Events Calendar

Date	Event	Details	Location
November 9-10, 2007	The Language Door presents Interpreting in the Forensic Environment: Interview, Interrogation and Polygraph with Eve AdelmanWest and C.Donald Weinberg	http://www.thelanguagedoor.net	Beaverton, OR
November 17, 2007	"The English that Cicero Knew," class on Latin used in court proceedings, with Keo Capestany	http://www.witsnet.org/ programs/INDEXcalendar.htm	El Centro de la Raza Seattle, WA
November 16-18, 2007	ACTFL Annual Convention and World Languages Expo	Information: http://www.actfl.org	San Antonio, TX
November 17, 2007	NOTIS Annual Meeting & ATA Recap	+1(206)838-0910 or e-mail info@notisnet.org	BCCNorth 1:00-4:00p.m.
December 1, 2007	NOTIS/WITS Joint Holiday party	11:30 a.m.-4:30p.m.	Waterfront Activities Center, University of Washington, Seattle, WA
December 03, 2007	Interpreter Book Project - Call for Submissions From Our Lips / Nataly Kelly	E-mail: editor@fromourlips.com http://www.fromourlips.com	http://www.fromourlips.com
December 27-30, 2007	Modern Language Association 123rd Annual Convention	Information: www.mla.org/convention	Chicago, IL
January to June 2008	TIP-Lab 17th Distance Spanish Translation/Revision Workshop	www.tip-lab.org or e-mail Alicia Marshall at aliciamarshall@comcast.net	Distance Translation Revision Workshop
May 14-17, 2008	Association of Language Companies 2008 Annual Conference	www.alcus.org	Hotel Nikko, San Francisco, CA

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
NOTIS	December 11, 2007, 6:30 p.m.	Kirkland, WA	infor@notisnet.org
WITS			

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

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