

# NOTIS

# The Northwest Linguist

Issue No. 1 | 2019 | Volume 32

## A Note from the President

Dear Colleagues,

This is my first summer as NOTIS president, and as it turns out, NOTIS doesn't take the summer off. We have so many good things in store this fall that it's difficult to know what to work on next. I'm compensating for a lack of summer vacation by lugging my laptop onto the back deck and wearing my sunglasses while I work.

This issue has lots of treats in store. There's a report by three of our long-time members on their hard work to draft a new Code of Conduct for judiciary interpreters in Washington, including a fascinating discussion of the word "shall" (fascinating for us linguists, anyway). Elena Bell brings us an entertaining essay on language interference and neologisms in her language pair and mine—Russian<>English. And our Northwest Literary Translators are interviewed for the American Literary Translators Association as part of NOTIS's ongoing effort to set a good example for other local translation groups around the world.

Also featured in this issue is plenty of useful information about the NOTIS Annual Conference 2019, to be held at the beautiful Museum of Flight on September 28th and 29th. This is the biggest event we've put on for many years, and the first we've called an Annual Conference since I've been a member of the Board. Featuring five well-regarded speakers from Mexico and across the United States, including keynote speaker Dr. Karen M. Tkaczyk of the American Translators Association, this conference is not to be missed. Bring your business cards to meet potential employers and collaborators at the Language & Job Fair and networking reception on Saturday, then return for a full day of educational sessions for both interpreters and translators on Sunday. Whether you're interested in interpreting for immigration proceedings, subtitling films, becoming a better editor or exploring a new field, you'll find something interesting at the Annual Conference. Check out the program descriptions inside this newsletter and register online to save your spot. And if you represent a translation agency, an educational or nonprofit organization, or any other organization that works with professional linguists, you can reserve a table to exhibit at our Language & Job Fair.

As if the Conference wasn't enough, our fall calendar also features more in the continuing series of topical trainings run by our Community Interpreting Division,

## FEATURES

4

**An Interview with  
The Northwest  
Literary Translators**

8

**A New Code for  
Interpreters**

10

**When *Kegelbahn*  
Becomes *Bowling***

## EVENTS

14

**NOTIS Annual  
Conference 2019**

19

**Translation Tech  
Deep Dive with  
Sameh Ragab**

## ► MEET THE BOARD

a new round of literary translation meetups, and a full-day translation technology workshop with Sameh Ragab, who is stopping by Seattle on his way to the ATA 60th Annual Conference in late October. As usual, the ATA Annual Conference program is full of presentations by NOTIS members, something that we can all be proud of. We'll wrap up the year at our Annual Meeting and holiday party on December 7th.

It's such a delight for me, personally, to help run this organization and support all our colleagues as we continue to make waves both locally and nationally. Be sure to keep in touch – through [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [Twitter](#), our blog and especially by attending events! I look forward to seeing you all soon.



**Shelley Fairweather-Vega**

## Meet the 2019 NOTIS Board of Directors



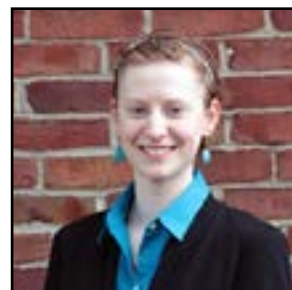
**Lindsay Bentsen**  
Vice President

Webinar Committee Chair



**Shelley Fairweather-Vega**  
President

Translation Division Chair



**Mary McKee**  
Secretary

Marketing Committee Chair



**Melody Winkle**  
Treasurer

## CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

Have a unique idea for a workshop? Know an amazing speaker who might be interested in presenting for NOTIS? Interested in helping to organize opportunities for professional development?

Please contact:

- interpreting workshops- María Luisa Gracia Camón at [graciacamomml@gmail.com](mailto:graciacamomml@gmail.com)
- translation workshops- Shelley Fairweather-Vega at [translation@fairvega.com](mailto:translation@fairvega.com)
- online webinars- Lindsay Bentsen at [lindsayb.translation@gmail.com](mailto:lindsayb.translation@gmail.com)

Have a knack for party planning? Enjoy setting up or tearing down festive get-togethers? To get involved with NOTIS social events, please contact Maria Farmer at [marsmiley@me.com](mailto:marsmiley@me.com).

For more volunteer opportunities and to learn about all of NOTIS's committees and divisions, visit our website at [www.notisnet.org/Committees/Divisions](http://www.notisnet.org/Committees/Divisions).



**María Luisa Gracia Camón**  
Legal Division Chair



**Olga Cuzmanov**



**Maria Farmer**  
Nominating Committee Chair



**Janet Yan He**



**Alicia McNeely**  
*The Northwest Linguist Committee Chair*



**Adrian Bradley**



**Adriana González**



**Pinar Mertan**



**Naomi Uchida**  
Office Manager



Above: Members of the 2019 NOTIS Board of Directors at a meeting in Seattle, January 2019. Back left to right: Mary McKee, Alicia McNeely, Melody Winkle, María Luisa Gracia Camón, Naomi Uchida, Shelley Fairweather-Vega. Front left to right: Maria Farmer, Pinar Mertan, Lindsay Bentsen, Adriana González, Janet Yan He. Missing: Olga Cuzmanov.

## Collective Conversations: An Interview with The Northwest Literary Translators

First published on the ALTA blog at <https://literarytranslators.wordpress.com/2019/04/04/collective-conversations-an-interview-with-the-northwest-literary-translators/>. Copyright April 4, 2019 The American Literary Translators Association. Reprinted with permission.

*While ALTA [the American Literary Translators Association] is proud to serve literary translators all over the USA – not to mention farther afield – local communities are also essential, as these can be more cohesive than is feasible in a nationwide network, particularly in a country this large. Serving this need, a number of translation collectives have sprung up centering on a single city or region; this month, we hear from The Northwest Literary Translators.*

*The interview was conducted by The Smoking Tigers.*

**Please introduce yourselves. What are you “northwest” of? How many are you? What is your primary objective as a group?**

The Northwest Literary Translators are a plucky troop of aspiring and established literary translators living in the Pacific Northwest region of the United States. We have a loosely organized core membership of about ten people, but we’ve been known to gather sixty people at a time for our most popular events.

We like to think of ourselves as a support group for literary translators, with both a social and an educational mission, providing each other with information and inspiration. We share our experiences and discuss both the business and the craft of literary translation, give each other advice, and cheer each other’s successes.

**As they say in the comic book world, what is your origin story?**

The group is the brainchild of two mad translators with dreams of conquering the world (just kidding!). Our first event was a translation reading night in May 2016, inspired by the bilingual reading series at ALTA. Shelley Fairweather-Vega was due to organize a social event for our local chapter of the **American Translators Association**, called NOTIS (the Northwest Translators & Interpreters Society). She thought having a reading in a bar might qualify as a social occasion, and serve her ulterior motive: bringing together some of the local literary translators she had met at ALTA that year and drawing out of seclusion some she hadn’t yet

met. The plan worked, and one of the local translators to fall for it was Katie King, who later proposed that she and Shelley work together to organize a more lasting group for literary translation in Seattle. The rest is history.

**Please walk us through your peer-to-peer translation process.**

Several times a year we devote our monthly meeting to a Feedback Forum. Two or three members volunteer to bring in a work in progress, and discuss any trouble they’re having with it, and we all offer suggestions. With our different languages and areas of expertise, we’ve come up with some very interesting solutions. We’ve discussed all kinds of work, from poetry to screenplays, and all kinds of problems, from translating jokes to translating intimate, confessional narratives.

**It’s clear from Googling your name that you do a lot of outreach work. Can you describe more of what you do in your community in terms of education and promotion?**

Every time we meet—once a month during the academic year—new people attend, alongside our regulars. They include students, practicing translators without experience translating fiction or poetry, writers and avid readers from Folio, the private library where we meet, and scholars we’ve brought in from the University of Washington. Our Facebook group is open to anyone who can demonstrate even a passing interest in literary translation and has a connection to our region, and it has members who have yet to attend one of our events. And we try to advertise the most popular events, like our spring reading night and translation slam, very widely.

**What tips do you have for other translator communities in terms of running outreach?**

Building relationships is vital! We would not be where we are today without NOTIS and Folio. NOTIS provides a budget and all sorts of administrative help – we use their event calendar, member database, blog, and so on to reach our public. And Folio gives us access



Above: The Northwest Literary Translators selling books at a translation conference in Seattle, September 2018. Left to right: Zakiya Hanafi (Italian), Shelley Fairweather-Vega (Russian), Lola Rogers (Finnish), Wendell Ricketts (Italian). Photo: Katie King.

to a beautiful, inspirational meeting space and a diverse community of “book people” in Seattle. They advertise all our events to their members, and they have connections with the local press. Any group that wants to do outreach needs to ensure their events are presented as inclusive, not intimidating, to people who might be a little wary of translation and/or Literature with a capital “L”. We’ve brought in comic-book lovers with our recent session on translating comics, and opera lovers with a talk on translating for opera. And we try to serve refreshments. That helps.

**What are the particular challenges of being a region-based translators’ collective? And what challenges do you face particularly from being in the Northwest?**

Seattle is the most highly educated big city in America, according to a [recent report](#), and it’s a UNESCO City of Literature.<sup>1</sup> It’s also linguistically diverse and growing quickly. Those things help our profession and our group thrive here. Seattle is home to AmazonCrossing, the most prolific publisher of literature in translation in the US for the past several years, and multiple smaller presses who are interested in translation. But it’s not London or New York, and there’s nowhere near the number of publishers or agents that certain other cities enjoy. While we meet in Seattle, we try to cover the same wide swath of the country that NOTIS does: the states of Washington, Oregon, Montana, Alaska and Idaho. That works better on Facebook than it does in person. There’s a newer group in Portland, Oregon that seems to be thriving, and we are cheering them on.

**What aspects of your work do you feel most excited about? (It could be any kind of contribution including specific translated works.)**

As the organizers of the group, we’re most proud of how much we are growing, how new members discover us all the time and seem very happy to have found us. We’re glad we’ve been able to consistently organize new events and draw a crowd. And our members are having individual success, too. Mandy Olson won the Gutekunst Prize of the Friends of Goethe New York in 2017. Zakiya Hanafi was selected to help judge the Italian Literature in Translation Award this year. Tim Gregory finished his MA in literary translation in 2018. Melissa Bowers’ translation of Liv Strömquist’s *Fruit of Knowledge: The Vulva vs. The Patriarchy* appeared on The Guardian’s list of best graphic novels of 2018. Katie King is about to defend her doctoral dissertation on the subject of creating translation hubs on university campuses. I think we get a mention in her text.

**How does one join Northwest Literary Translators?**

Join our [Facebook group](#) and check the [NOTIS event calendar](#) and come meet us the next time you’re in Seattle on a third Thursday. Membership in NOTIS is encouraged, but optional – and at \$45 per year, \$15 for students, it’s a bargain.

**Does Portland really have awesome bookstore owners like Candace and Toni of the Feminist Bookstore in *Portlandia*? If not, what’s the book culture like over there? What’s Folio like?**

In the interest of preserving harmony between our Portland and Seattle factions, we would like to respectfully point out that both cities have extremely awesome bookstores (though, sadly, fewer than before). That *Portlandia* bookstore is real, and Shelley used to shop there for zines when she was a buyer for the public library system in Portland. But the biggest bookstore in Portland is Powell’s

## ► FEATURE

Books, a huge independent, vast enough for its own culture and ecosystem. Seattle has old-fashioned newsstands, bookstores that double as publishers (like Fantagraphics for comics and Chin Music Press for East Asian literature), and independent icons like Elliott Bay Book Company and Third Place.

### What's next for Northwest Literary Translators?

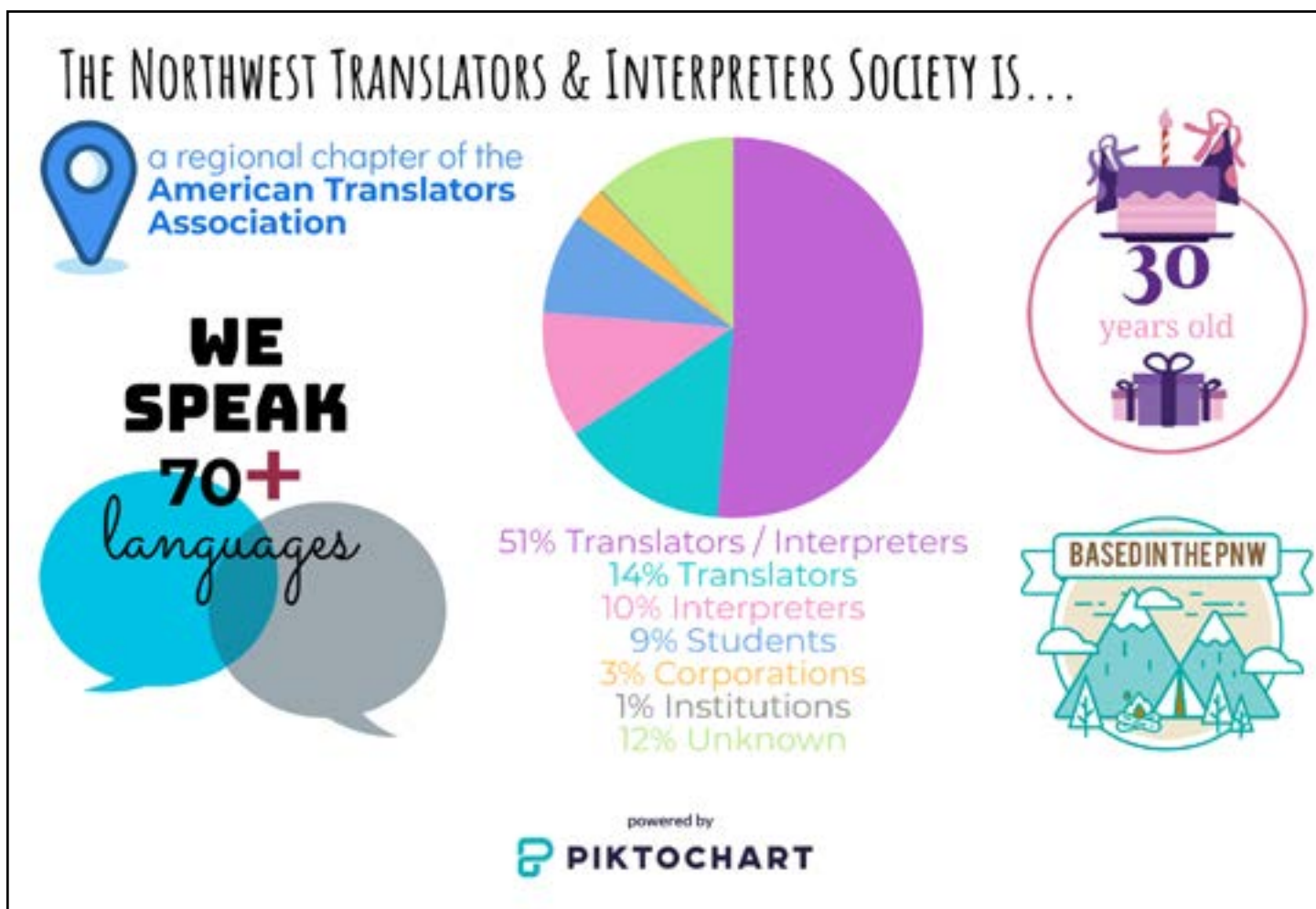
Our April event is a talk by translator Lyn Coffin about her career. Our annual Spotlight Your Work reading night will be in May. In the long run, we'd like to forge even more local relationships, possibly with public libraries. And we'd like to help other regional groups get off the ground, in part by helping literary translators take advantage of the infrastructure already available through local ATA chapters.

For more information about *The Northwest Literary Translators*, visit their [Facebook](#) page.

*Questions by The Smoking Tigers, a complaint of experienced literary translators working from Korean to English. Find out more about them on their [website](#), or connect with them on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#). And read their *Collective Conversations* interview [here](#)!*

### References

1. Balk, Gene. "Seattle is most-educated big U.S. city — and 8 in 10 newcomers have a college degree." *The Seattle Times*. <https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/data/seattle-is-most-educated-big-u-s-city-and-8-in-10-newcomers-have-a-college-degree/>. ▲



## Congratulations 2019 NOTIS Scholarship Winners!

This spring, NOTIS awarded scholarships to three dedicated and hard-working members! Two of these scholarships provide funding for the winners to attend a translation or interpretation conference, and the other scholarship helps to finance tuition for a T&I course.



**Mia Spangenberg** is one of the recipients of a NOTIS conference scholarship! She is a Finnish to English translator with a PhD in Scandinavian Studies from the University of Washington, Seattle. The scholarship will support Ms. Spangenberg as she attends the American Literary Translators Association Conference for the first time this fall in Rochester, New York.

**Natalia Rivera** is the winner of the latest NOTIS tuition scholarship! She is the Chief Executive Manager at Need a Translator Interpreting, LLC, a Washington State Court-Certified Spanish interpreter and a DSHS Certified Medical Spanish and English interpreter, as well as a DSHS Certified English to Spanish translator. Thanks to this scholarship, she attended the University of Arizona's Court Interpreter Training Institute in Tucson, Arizona, this summer.



## Upcoming Scholarship Opportunities

Through our scholarships program, NOTIS aims to support the translation and interpretation community by increasing access to essential training.

We are pleased to announce that NOTIS is offering a second round of scholarships this year!

Have you ever wanted to attend a course or conference to hone your translation or interpretation skills, but simply could not afford it? Are you a NOTIS member in good standing? **Apply for a NOTIS scholarship today!**

**Conference Scholarship:** This scholarship is intended to help NOTIS members attend a translation or interpretation conference of their choice in person.

*Award:* The scholarship will be a maximum set amount of \$1,000 to cover the conference registration fees and also offset some of the applicable travel and lodging costs.

For more information about our conference scholarships and to apply, please visit our website at [www.notisnet.org/Conference-Scholarship](http://www.notisnet.org/Conference-Scholarship).

**Tuition Scholarship:** This scholarship is intended to help NOTIS members take one translation or interpretation course of their choice, either in person or online. This could be at a college, an extension center, an independent training, a webinar, etc.

*Award:* The scholarship will cover 80% of the recipient's tuition costs, with NOTIS paying up to a maximum of \$750 per scholarship.

For more information about our tuition scholarships and to apply, please visit our website at [www.notisnet.org/TuitionScholarship](http://www.notisnet.org/TuitionScholarship).

The deadline for all scholarship applications is **Friday, October 4, 2019**. ▲

## A New Code for Interpreters

By NOTIS Member Emma Garkavi

On March 30, 2019, Milena Calderari-Waldron, Emma Garkavi, and Linda Noble – authors of the new **Code of Professional Responsibility for Judicial Interpreters in Washington State** – gave a presentation on this new Code to a group of 116 court interpreters.<sup>1</sup>

It took the authors 19 months to completely rewrite the previous 30-year-old Code. Here is what they set out to accomplish when they decided to rewrite it:

- remove or reword ambiguous or incorrect statements
- expand the provisions to pertain to sign-language as well as spoken-language interpreters
- clarify that this code applies to all interpreters serving in the judiciary regardless of certification or lack thereof
- provide specific guiding ethical canons
- include extensive commentary which provides users with explicit guidance to aid in appropriately handling issues of interpretation in the complex and multifaceted aspects of legal proceedings
- support interpreters in their efforts to fully and properly execute their professional responsibilities

In October 2018, the new Code was unanimously approved by the Washington State Supreme Court, and in December 2018 it was published as one of the many *Washington State Court Rules of General Application: General Rule 11.2*.

Milena Calderari-Waldron dug deep into the history of the WA Code of Conduct and here are her findings:

**1973** The Washington State legislature passes a law regarding the appointment and payment of court interpreters for impaired persons.

**1978** The **Federal Court Interpreters Act** establishes the right for *any* individual involved in a court proceeding to have a certified or otherwise qualified court interpreter.<sup>2</sup>

**1985** The Washington State Supreme Court creates the *Court Interpreter Task Force* comprised of judges, attorneys, court administrators and one federally certified interpreter.

**1986** The task force proposes a code of conduct modeled after the one drafted by the Registry of

Interpreters for the Deaf.

**1988** The task force, in conjunction with the Superior Court Judges' Association and Board for Judicial Administration, draft legislation which includes a code of conduct.

**1989** The Washington State legislature passes the **Court Interpreter Act** that amends the 1973 law, creates a spoken language interpreter certification program, establishes the court interpreter advisory committee and requires the Supreme Court to adopt a code of conduct for court interpreters.<sup>3</sup>

**1989** (November) The Supreme Court adopts a code of conduct for court interpreters under GR 11.2, but it is a skeleton version of the code originally proposed.

Linda Noble researched the current usage of the verbs “shall,” “must” and “should.” For interpreters and translators, always fascinated by linguistic issues, this part is of special interest. It turns out that the legal community is moving to a strong preference for “must” as the clearest way to express a requirement or obligation.

**“Shall” has three strikes against it:**

1. Lawyers regularly misuse it to mean something other than “has a duty to.” It has become so corrupted by misuse that it has no firm meaning.
2. It breeds litigation. There are 76 pages in **Words and Phrases** (a legal reference) that summarize hundreds of cases interpreting “shall.”<sup>4</sup>
3. Nobody uses “shall” in common speech. It is one more example of unnecessary lawyer talk. Nobody says, “You shall finish the project in a week.”

For all these reasons, “must” is a better choice, and the change has already started to take place. The new **Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure**, for instance, use “must,” not “shall.”<sup>5</sup>

Part of our presentation was dedicated to the *Code of Conduct for Court Interpreters* published in 1548 by Antonio de Mendoza y Pacheco, Viceroy of New Spain. This Code regulated the conduct of court interpreters for indigenous populations in the Spanish colonies. Milena Calderari-Waldron viewed the *Ordenanza of 1548* in the Bodleian Library in Oxford, made a copy



and translated it from XVI century Spanish into modern American English.

The *Ordenanza of 1548* was drafted by the Viceroy of New Spain and classified court interpreters for the Spanish Crown as **officers of the court** together with attorneys, judges, prosecutors, bailiffs, clerks, reporters, etc.

Interpreters had to:

- be duly sworn to perform their task “well and faithfully”
- express the matter before them “clearly and frankly”
- interpret “without hiding or adding anything”
- have the necessary skills and qualities

Interpreters could not hold private meetings with Indian clients or act as advocates for the Indians. They could not accept gifts (not even a drink!) and, under penalty of losing their royal license, they could not advocate.

In reading the current *Code of Professional Responsibility*, you may notice that in almost 500 years, not much has changed regarding ethical values and principles for court interpreters!

## References

1. Washington State Courts. “*Code of Professional Responsibility for Judicial Interpreters in Washington State.*” Last modified March 12, 2019. [https://www.courts.wa.gov/court\\_rules/?fa=court\\_rules.display&group=ga&set=GR&ruleid=gagr11.2](https://www.courts.wa.gov/court_rules/?fa=court_rules.display&group=ga&set=GR&ruleid=gagr11.2).
2. United States Code. “*Section 1827. Interpreters in courts of the United States.*” <http://www.supremelaw.org/uscode/28/usdc/1827.html>.
3. Washington State Legislature. “Washington Laws, 1989.” <http://leg.wa.gov/CodeReviser/documents/sessionlaw/1989c358.pdf?cite=1989%20c%20358%20%2014;>
4. *Word and Phrases*. New York: Thomas Reuters, 2002-2019.
5. The Committee on Judiciary House of Representatives. *Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure*, 115<sup>th</sup> Cong., 2d sess., 2018. [https://www.uscourts.gov/sites/default/files/ap\\_rules\\_eff\\_dec\\_1\\_2018\\_0.pdf](https://www.uscourts.gov/sites/default/files/ap_rules_eff_dec_1_2018_0.pdf). ▲

## CALL FOR PAPERS

*The Northwest Linguist* is the official printed publication of the Northwest Translators & Interpreters Society, designed to share organization and industry news, useful tips and educational pieces with our members.

Ideas for submissions include:

- approaches to translation
- interpreting skills
- legal or business issues for translators and interpreters
- computer assisted translation tools
- summary and advice learned at a recent workshop
- translation and interpreting academic research
- current events relating to translators and interpreters

Submissions should be between 500 and 1,500 words, written in English. Relevant photographs or visual content may also be submitted, alongside or independently of a written piece. If a submission includes a translation or an example in another language, an English back-translation should be included. Copyright notes and source references must also be included, if applicable.

All submissions will be evaluated by *The Northwest Linguist* Committee. Content selected for publication will be subject to editing for content, grammar, style and space limitations.

The deadline for submissions for the winter issue of *The Northwest Linguist* is **Friday, November 8, 2019**.

Please email submissions or any questions to Alicia McNeely at [alicialynn3033@gmail.com](mailto:alicialynn3033@gmail.com).

## When *Kegelbahn* Becomes *Bowling*

By Elena Bell

When did *кегельбан* become *боулинг*? It was probably the end of the 1990s, when people in Russia started to use the transliterated German word *kegelbahn* less and less often, slowly switching to the transliterated English word *bowling*. The Russians, who came to the U.S. at the beginning of the 2000s, smiled when they were offered help to find the closest *kegelbahn*. Today, younger Russians may not even know what that is. My childhood term was completely pushed out by the new, more fashionable, foreigner. It is among the professional duties of language practitioners, including interpreters, translators and Russian language teachers, to stay current on changes and catch the moment when saying *kegelbahn* signals that her speech has become archaic.

When living abroad, it is very hard to keep the language of another country, whether it is your native tongue or a learned one, in an impeccable working condition. As a professional interpreter and translator for the last twenty plus years, I have been diligently fighting back Runglish (Russian+English), which keeps trying to creep into my speech. Unfortunately, here in the U.S., its typical representatives, such as *хайвэй* (from *highway*), are widespread. The English language calques are quite tricky, as well. It is easier to stay away from a construction such as *взять душ* (*to take a shower*) because it sounds equally awkward if reversed: in Russian, one does not *take a shower*, one *accepts a shower*. However, after some time living in the U.S., it becomes much trickier not to lose the awareness that seemingly harmless expressions, such as *absolutely* or *it depends*, do not translate literally as *абсолютно* or *это зависит*.

Runglish, of course, is not the only pitfall for a Russian language native who lives in the States. Native and non-native speakers face the challenge of keeping up with the constantly evolving Russian language. Reading the press, watching the news, and listening to the radio and podcasts are among the many techniques that allow a Russian language practitioner to keep her vocabulary, grammar, slang and idiomatic arsenal current. However, I would like to highlight another invaluable resource: face-to-face interaction with Russian speakers who currently live and work in Russia. Hearing their language is crucial if one does

not want to turn into a linguistic “time capsule,” similar to those in which **Andy Warhol** preserved his era for future generations.<sup>1</sup> Even though language preservation has its value, purpose and place, a professional language practitioner cannot afford to slowly turn into an anachronism.

The linguists of the Higher School of Economics, Nizhny Novgorod branch, conducted a workshop I attended recently which was a part of a “Russian School Abroad” series. They used many English words in their presentation. Perhaps, the Russian linguists felt that while interacting with their English-speaking colleagues they could use Anglicisms as professional jargon. Of course, the elasticity of English often allows for the use of words simpler and shorter than Russian ones. Words such as *outreach* do not have a one-word Russian equivalent and require a longer explanatory translation. Many English words, such as *interface*, enter the professional field simultaneously with a technological tool that comes from the West. In that case, nobody sees the name nor the description of the tool in Russian on paper nor on the computer screen. Nevertheless, it seems that it would not be too hard to reach a bit further and find existing Russian equivalents for *feedback* (*обратная связь, отклик*) or *heritage speakers* (*носители унаследованного языка*).

Listening to the Russians from Russia, I suddenly felt like a linguistic “time capsule.” Just like when *bowling* made me realize that my Russian language of the early 1990s was quickly falling behind the changing modern language, this workshop triggered a similar feeling.

It is understandable that rapid globalization accelerates the process of language transformation tremendously. English words are not just creeping in, they are rushing like floodwaters into the Russian language, evoking controversy in the process. The purists argue for resisting the process, tipping their hats to the famous translator of *The Little Prince*, **Nora Gal**, and her famous book, *The Words Living and the Words Dead*.<sup>2</sup> Those who embrace change support their arguments by citing **Irina Levontina**, a contemporary Russian linguist, who explains and justifies language modernization.<sup>3</sup> Personally, I relate better to the viewpoint of the Russian linguist **Maxim Kronhauz**, though on a slightly different issue. He

describes his position as somewhat “schizophrenic” when he talks about changes happening with word forms. On the one hand, he understands that changes are inevitable. On the other hand, he argues for fighting for using the correct form until it becomes absolutely impossible.<sup>4</sup> I advocate the same approach to fighting the encroachment of Anglicisms into the Russian language.

There is a fine line between losing the battle and losing the language, surrendering – often too easily – beloved native words in favor of trendy foreign invaders. It is hard to find a compromise between feeling satisfied for avoiding the use of *дедлайн* (*deadline*) because *крайний срок выполнения* is the Russian equivalent, while not inspiring IT engineers to laugh at the literal translation of “Raspberry Pi,” *малиновый пирог*. If you have ever listened to or tried to interpret Russian computer specialists, you would know that their speech consists predominantly of English computer terms, which are inflected and conjugated according to Russian grammar, diluted only by native prepositions and exclamations. For better or worse, *девайсы* (*devices*) are now part of Russia’s everyday life and the linguistic reality. Alas! At this point, the IT field is a lost linguistic battlefield.

And yet... there are still many battlefields worth protecting. I would like to believe that it is possible to find the golden middle ground, where the process of language modernization complements the process of language preservation. Events such as “Russian School Abroad” could help to find and strengthen that middle ground. These interactions, besides providing much needed professional support to Russian language specialists who work abroad, grant a chance to all interlocutors to push the familiar and comfortable boundaries of their language world and look at their

speech from a different angle. U.S.-based “time capsules” could use the interactions with Russian language experts as a “tuning fork” to stay current on the evolution of modern Russian. Russia-based linguists, perhaps, would also find it useful to interact with people who preserved the Russian of the late 80s and early-to-mid 90s of the last century. It could be an interesting research project. However, I quietly hope that these interactions could serve another subtle purpose – to be a reality check for the Russian side, a gentle reminder that all these cool English words, too often, too easily and too unjustifiably, are pushing out great Russian words that have been serving us dutifully for so many years.

### References

1. Website: *The Warhol*. Blog, <https://www.warhol.org/category/blog/time-capsules/>.
2. Website: *Revolv*. Nora Gal, <https://www.revolv.com/page/Nora-Gal>.
3. Website: *Институт русского языка им. В. В. Виноградова, Российская Академия наук, Ирина Борисовна Левонтина*, [Institute of Russian Language, Russian Academy of Science. Irina Borisovna Levontina. in Russian] <http://www.ruslang.ru/node/1035>.
4. Shalygina, Lubov. «Мнение лингвиста: Язык должен меняться, когда мир меняется» [“Linguist’s Opinion: Language Should Change When the World is Changing”, in Russian] (September 22, 2013), *YLE UUTISET*, [https://yle.fi/uutiset/osasto/novosti/mnenie\\_lingvista\\_yazyk\\_dolzhen\\_menyatsya\\_kogda\\_mir\\_menyaetsya/6843501](https://yle.fi/uutiset/osasto/novosti/mnenie_lingvista_yazyk_dolzhen_menyatsya_kogda_mir_menyaetsya/6843501). ▲

## JOIN THE NORTHWEST TRANSLATORS & INTERPRETERS SOCIETY

**The Northwest Translators & Interpreters Society (NOTIS)** is a non-profit organization and a regional chapter of the American Translators Association covering the northwest corner of the United States: Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana and Alaska. NOTIS membership is open to students, practitioners, educators and fans of translation and interpretation located in our region.

### Annual Membership Fees

Student: \$15.00  
 Individual: \$45.00  
 Institutional: \$50.00  
 Corporate: \$75.00

For more information, please visit our website at [www.notisnet.org](http://www.notisnet.org).

Or, send us an email at [info@notisnet.org](mailto:info@notisnet.org).

*We look forward to welcoming you!*

## The University of Washington to Create Translation Studies Hub

The **University of Washington** (UW) will launch a Translation Studies Hub in the fall of 2019 to meet growing demand for translation training, scholarship and technological research.

Seattle is ideally situated to become a national leader in the field of translation studies given its status as a UNESCO City of World Literature, HQ to the world's largest fiction-in-translation publisher AmazonCrossing, and as a world-class center of research and development into machine translation technology.

In order to harness and build on this energy, the Hub will serve a community of translation scholars, technologists, business professionals and working translators in Seattle and the Pacific Northwest. Led by UW faculty from multiple departments and funded by the UW Simpson Center for the Humanities, Hub participants will collaborate to map out and develop future degrees and certificates in translation studies. They will also highlight training opportunities and network with Seattle's dynamic professional publishing and translation community. Guest speakers from around the region and around the country will also be invited to speak at regular sessions that will be open to students, scholars and translation professionals.

### The Translation Studies Hub leadership team includes:

**Michael Biggins**, an award-winning translator and translation scholar and professor in the department of Slavic Languages and Literatures. *"There has long been tremendous talent and expertise in both translation studies and practice all across the UW campus, and perennially unmet student demand for formal coursework and mentoring. The Simpson Center's support enables the first, crucial step in bringing these creative forces together,"* Dr. Biggins said. <https://slavic.washington.edu/people/michael-e-biggins>

**Heekyoung Cho**, UW Associate Professor of Korean and translation studies scholar. *"Creating the Translation Studies Hub at the UW is an important first step to prepare infrastructure to develop the translation studies community in the greater Seattle area and promote numerous future collaborations across various fields and sectors,"* Dr. Cho said. <https://asian.washington.edu/people/heekyoung-cho>

**Richard Watts**, UW Associate Professor of French, Director of Canadian Studies and translation studies scholar. *"The Translation Studies Hub will allow faculty, students and Seattle's translation communities to work on common projects, leveraging translation's capacity to bridge cultural divides and complicate [sic] our understanding of who we are,"* Dr. Watts said. <https://jsis.washington.edu/canada/people/richard-watt/>

The Translation Studies Hub will also collaborate closely with the UW Multi-Disciplinary Translation Studies Graduate Research Cluster (GRC). The GRC has been funded for a second year by the Simpson Center in recognition of its success in forging links between communities invested in translation studies both inside and outside the UW in 2018-2019. It was launched in 2018 by then-graduate student **Katie King** who is leaving the UW after successfully defending her dissertation, *Translation 3.0: A Blueprint for Translation Studies in the Digital Age*. King's *Blueprint* provides much of the inspiration and context for the Translation Studies Hub. The 2019-20 graduate student leaders of the Translation GRC are: **Brianna Salinas** (Hispanic Studies), **Maxine Savage** (Scandinavian Studies) and **Frances O'Shaughnessy** (History). "Our goal this year is to harness and amplify the diverse conversations taking place across campus with events on audiovisual translation, translation as a political tool and the intersection of translation and queer theory," Salinas says.

For more information contact:

UW Translation Studies Hub Leadership:

Richard Watts, [rhwatts@uw.edu](mailto:rhwatts@uw.edu); Heekyoung Cho, [hchohcho@uw.edu](mailto:hchohcho@uw.edu); Michael Biggins, [mbiggins@uw.edu](mailto:mbiggins@uw.edu)

UW Multidisciplinary Translation Studies GRC Leadership:

Brianna Salinas, [salinb@uw.edu](mailto:salinb@uw.edu)

UW Simpson Center for the Humanities, Communications Manager:

Denise Grollmus, [grolld@uw.edu](mailto:grolld@uw.edu)

## Upcoming NOTIS Events

| Date            | Event   | Location   |
|-----------------|---|--|
| August 31       | <b><u>Interpreting for Services Related to Autism Spectrum Disorder</u></b><br><i>Instructors: Cindy Roat, Ginger Kwan and James Mancini, MS, CCC-SLP</i>   | Seattle Children's Hospital<br>Seattle, WA         |
| September 14    | <b><u>Interpreting for Cancer Care</u></b><br><i>Instructor: Yuliya Speroff</i>   | Confluence Health<br>Wenatchee, WA                 |
| September 26    | <b><u>Translating Children's Literature</u></b><br><i>Instructor: Mercedes Guhl</i>   | Folio<br>Seattle, WA                               |
| September 28-29 | <b><u>NOTIS Annual Conference 2019</u></b><br><i>see pages 14-18 for more information</i>   | The Museum of Flight<br>Seattle, WA                |
| October 19      | <b><u>Translation Tech Deep Dive with Sameh Ragab</u></b><br><i>see page 19 for more information</i>  | The University of Washington<br>Seattle, WA        |
| October 19      | <b><u>Interpreting for Diabetes Care</u></b><br><i>Instructor: Joe Tein</i>   | Skagit Valley Hospital<br>Mount Vernon, WA         |
| October 23-26   | <b><u>ATA 60th Annual Conference</u></b><br><i>NOTIS Speakers: NOTIS President Shelley Fairweather-Vega, former NOTIS President Kathryn German, and more!<br/>visit <a href="http://www.atanet.org/conf/2019/">www.atanet.org/conf/2019/</a> for more information</i> | Palm Springs Convention Center<br>Palm Springs, CA |
| November 2      | <b><u>Interpreting for Cancer Care</u></b><br><i>Instructor: Yuliya Speroff</i>   | Tacoma General Hospital<br>Tacoma, WA              |
| December 7      | <b>NOTIS Annual Meeting and Holiday Party</b>   | Highland Community Center                          |

For more information and to register for an event, please visit the NOTIS events calendar online at [www.notisnet.org/NOTIS-events](http://www.notisnet.org/NOTIS-events).

## CONNECT WITH NOTIS ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Want to stay up-to-date on everything NOTIS? Connect with us on our social media pages!

NOTIS frequently posts about what is coming up on the calendar and relevant T&I news, as well as shares photos from recent events and showcases our members' brilliant accomplishments.



Facebook: [www.facebook.com/NOTISnet/](http://www.facebook.com/NOTISnet/)



LinkedIn: [www.linkedin.com/groups/1120867/](http://www.linkedin.com/groups/1120867/)



Twitter: [@NOTISnet](https://twitter.com/NOTISnet)

Follow NOTIS online to get involved in a vibrant, virtual network with local translators and interpreters.



# NOTIS Annual Conference

September 28 & 29, 2019 | The Museum of Flight | Seattle, WA

#NOTIS2019

**Are you seeking to improve your skills as a translator or an interpreter?  
Join NOTIS for a weekend of learning and networking with the best in the business!**

## NOTIS Annual Conference 2019 Schedule

### Saturday, September 28th

- 12:00 noon: Registration and light refreshments
- 1:00 PM: Keynote address by Dr. Karen M. Tkaczyk, ATA Board
- 1:30-5:00 PM: NOTIS 2019 Language & Job Fair
  - Breaking Into New Fields panels: translating at 2:00-3:00 PM, interpreting at 3:00-4:00 PM
- 4:00-6:00 PM: Networking reception and cash bar

### Sunday, September 29th

- 7:30 AM: Check in and light breakfast
- 8:00 AM-12:30 PM: Workshop tracks for translators and interpreters
  - Interpreting for Forensic Drug Analysis
  - Interpreting in Immigration Court
  - Enduring the Long Run: Translating Long Projects
  - Introduction to Practical Subtitling
- 12:30-1:30 PM: Complimentary lunch buffet
- 1:30-4:45 PM: Workshop tracks for translators and interpreters
  - Interpreting for Special Education: Parts 1 & 2
  - Editing and Proofreading: A Fresh Look
  - Common Pitfalls in EN<>SP Translation / En la trinchera de la traducción inglés<>español

### Registration Fees

- NOTIS member: \$150.00
- NOTIS student member: \$80.00
- Non-member: \$195.00

For information about continuing education credits and to register, please visit our website at [www.notisnet.org/Annual-Conference](http://www.notisnet.org/Annual-Conference).

Sponsored in part by:



 The Language Group

WASHINGTON STATE COURT INTERPRETER PROGRAM  
WASHINGTON STATE SUPREME COURT INTERPRETER COMMISSION

# NOTIS Annual Conference

## 2019 Featured Session Topics & Speakers

### **Translation Bloopers are Dead: Long Live Abundant New Ways of Showcasing Yourself and our Profession** *Keynote Address by Dr. Karen M. Tkaczyk, ATA Board*

What does it take to raise the profile of an “invisible” profession? Translation fails? Though they serve a purpose as hooks, we can go beyond examples of bloopers (or even costly legal disasters) and use other, more creative and relevant avenues open to us in this connected world. Dr. Tkaczyk will present a spectrum of opportunities for T&I professionals of all kinds, from the obvious to the innovative, and will tackle the thorny topic of finding ways to do this that do not violate non-disclosure agreements.

### **Editing and Proofreading: A Fresh Look** *with Dr. Karen M. Tkaczyk*

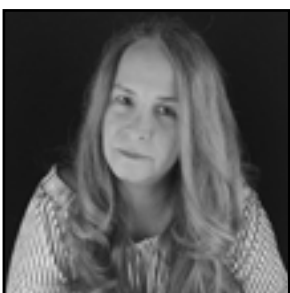
We edit and proofread every day. Becoming more effective in these areas obviously improves quality; sometimes it improves the bottom line as well. Some people love these detail-oriented steps – but what about the rest of us? For everyone who loves the more creative first draft, gets bored with their texts, and is dreaming of moving on to the next challenge, here is a session to give you methods to slow down your eyes or see things differently, and to use technology to your advantage. Dr. Tkaczyk will pass on concrete tips that we can use straightaway in our work—tips that she has applied, built up and practiced for years.



**Dr. Karen McMillan Tkaczyk** first trained as a chemist, then after having children changed course and became a freelance technical translator and editor. She has been translating, editing and proofreading since 2006 and has developed a structured, efficient approach to this work. Dr. Tkaczyk has more than a decade of in-person training and public speaking under her belt. She gives much of her training in two areas: scientific subject-matter expertise for translators, and great scientific and technical writing and editing. Dr. Tkaczyk is originally from the UK and has lived in the US since 1999. She can speak extensively about English dialects and how to localize them, but she can only speak with a lilting Scottish accent. Dr. Tkaczyk is heavily involved in the American Translators Association and currently serves as its Secretary. She tweets as [@ChemXlator](https://twitter.com/ChemXlator).

### **Introduction to Practical Subtitling** *with Deborah Wexler*

Learn how to subtitle your own videos! This presentation will show you the steps to create subtitles using freeware and how to embed them onto a video. From start to finish, learn the fundamentals, format guidelines and jargon of subtitling translation.



**Deborah Wexler** was born and raised in Mexico City and immigrated to the United States in 1999, where she settled in Los Angeles. She is an ATA-certified English-to-Spanish translator and editor with over 20 years of experience, specializing in audiovisual translation and Spanish orthography. She has translated over 6,000 program hours for television, VHS, DVD, Blu-ray, streaming media and the big screen. She works for a media processing company that provides translation services for Hollywood features and series, and independent and art-house films and documentaries. Ms. Wexler is also a freelance audiovisual translator and quality control specialist. She is a frequent speaker at international conferences, and she is an educator who has mentored and trained many translators wanting to get into the subtitling field.

# NOTIS Annual Conference

## **Interpreting for Forensic Drug Analysis** with *Ernest Niño-Murcia*

Forensic chemists who identify and analyze controlled substances seized by law enforcement are among the most common witnesses interpreters will encounter in drug cases. The breadth and depth of terms in disciplines such as chemistry, mathematics and general science presented in a fast-paced question and answer format can challenge even experienced, skilled interpreters. This session first aims to give participants a theoretical overview of the underlying scientific principles and concepts covered by forensic chemists in their testimony. Next, participants will work to identify equivalent terms in their non-English language before putting their new knowledge into action through a simultaneous interpreting exercise involving direct examination of a forensic chemist, which will be thoroughly evaluated.

## **Interpreting for Immigration Court** with *Ernest Niño-Murcia*

Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) proceedings, referred to colloquially as “Immigration Court,” offer court interpreters a unique opportunity to hone their skills in a quasi-judicial setting. This session offers an overview of the procedures and terminology used in this setting, with special attention given to tricky court terms with unique meanings in an immigration context. Participants will build their interpreting skills using this terminology in practice exercises in the three major modes of interpreting as they are employed in EOIR proceedings. Although this workshop is geared towards experienced practitioners, the materials and discussion also benefit interpreters new to the field or those who have court experience but are looking to expand into immigration. Participants will receive reference materials and skill-building exercises for their use in self-directed practice after the session.

**Ernest Niño-Murcia** is a freelance legal interpreter and translator based in Des Moines, Iowa. He graduated from Brown University with a BA in Anthro-Linguistics. As a state and federally-certified court interpreter, he has interpreted legal proceedings and prepared translations, transcriptions and expert witness reports/testimony for clients in the private and public sectors. Outside of court, he has interpreted for public figures such as House Speaker Newt Gingrich, Archbishop Timothy Dolan, Governor George Pataki and Senator Bernie Sanders. He has presented to groups of attorneys, judges and court reporters about court interpreter issues. Additionally, Mr. Niño-Murcia is a former member of the NAJIT Board of Directors and past chair of the Bench and Bar Committee.



## **Interpreting for Special Education: Parts 1 & 2** with *Dr. Holly Silvestri, CLPM<sup>SM</sup>*

A presentation of important information about this specialization and a skill-based practice workshop designed to increase knowledge of the protocols and strategies needed to be successful in these encounters.



**Dr. Holly Silvestri, CLPM<sup>SM</sup>**, is the Senior Coordinator for Translation, Training and Curriculum for NCI. She has experience in the fields of translation and interpretation and is a member of the National Language Service Corps. Her working languages are Spanish, French and English. She also runs her own language service provider business and is currently teaching in the undergraduate program for the Translation and Interpretation major in the University of Arizona Spanish department.



# NOTIS Annual Conference

## Enduring the Long Run: Translating Long Projects *with Mercedes Guhl*

Just as any athlete needs to know the length of a race and the time allowed to run it before competing, a translator needs to get a clear idea of the task ahead. Undertaking a long project demands copious planning in terms of time, energy and stamina (both physical and intellectual) to get to the finish line on time and unscathed. A translator may be able to sprint over 7,000 words in two days, skipping meals and sleep, but can you keep that pace for a long stretch of time and at the same time produce a steady yield of well-crafted sentences? This session will deal with tips and guidelines to plan the time and energy required for each stage of the translation process for a long project (over 20k words).

## Common Pitfalls in EN<>SP Translation / En la trinchera de la traducción inglés<>español *with Mercedes Guhl*

Contact between English and Spanish in the Western hemisphere is frequent. Even for 100% monolingual people in the Americas, the presence of that other language is permanent. That presence can easily turn into interference, like a white noise blurring the lines between both languages and trapping speakers and writers in a sort of no man's land, where linguistic frameworks and rules get mixed. This session aims to address that interference between languages by pointing out differences between them, comparing linguistic details to raise awareness to the unique features of English and Spanish, in an attempt to avoid homogenization of both languages and the way each one of them constructs the world around us. This session will be delivered mostly in Spanish.



**Mercedes Guhl** translates books from English into Spanish. She holds a BA in philosophy and literature and an MA in translation studies from the University of Warwick (UK), and she has over 60 published translations to her name. Ms. Guhl has worked in teaching and training translators at the undergraduate and graduate levels in Colombia and Mexico. From the depths of academic essays to graphic novel and self-help books, she has had the opportunity to explore the wide range of translation challenges posed by books in general. Since 2013, she has been involved mostly in translation of fiction for middle-grade and young adult readers. ▲

## EXHIBITING OPPORTUNITY AT NOTIS LANGUAGE & JOB FAIR 2019

*If you or your organization...*

- hire or contract with translators and interpreters
- work in localization, international marketing, publishing, cross-cultural communication or related fields
- offer educational or advocacy programs aimed at language professionals
- offer volunteer opportunities to linguists

**NOTIS cordially invites you to sign up as an exhibitor at our Language & Job Fair 2019 on Saturday, September 28, 2019.**

Every exhibiting organization receives one FREE registration for a representative to attend the entire conference.

### Registration Fees

Nonprofit or government organization: \$60.00

NOTIS corporate member: \$100.00

Agency or employer - non-NOTIS member: \$150.00

For more information and to register as an exhibitor, please visit our website at

[www.notisnet.org/event-3423783](http://www.notisnet.org/event-3423783).

Please contact [info@notisnet.org](mailto:info@notisnet.org) with any questions.

# NOTIS Annual Conference

## 2019 Sponsorship Opportunities

### Why sponsor NOTIS 2019?

- Your sponsorship is an opportunity to **share your brand, tell your story** and **build personal relationships** with the largest network of language professionals in the region.
- The NOTIS Annual Conference is the premier Northwest conference for language professionals across **all specialties**. NOTIS estimates that up to 200 translators and interpreters will attend the event!
- Our **587 members** (and growing) will see your name in all **conference-related promotional materials, social media posts** and **emails**.

For your sponsorship, you will receive **a table for the entire two-day event, including the Language & Job Fair**, where you can meet with conference attendees and share flyers or promotional gifts.

### Headline Sponsor: \$1,000

- At the conference opening, your own representative may give a speech up to three minutes long and introduce the keynote speaker!
- **TWO** of your representatives may attend the full event for free, with lunch included.
- Your logo, shown larger than all other sponsors' logos, will be included in all email and print announcements, the conference program and the NOTIS online event calendar.
- NOTIS will post your website link and a personalized "Thank You" to your company on our social media pages.
- NOTIS will mention your company in our post-conference blog article and in *The Northwest Linguist* newsletter.

### Gold Sponsor: \$600

- At the conference opening, your sponsorship will be recognized during the welcome speech.
- **TWO** of your representatives may attend the full event for free, with lunch included.
- Your logo, shown larger than the Silver and Bronze sponsors' logos, will be included in all email and print announcements, the conference program and the NOTIS online event calendar.

### Silver Sponsor: \$350

- At the conference opening, your sponsorship will be recognized during the welcome speech.
- One of your representatives may attend the full event for free, with lunch included.
- Your logo, shown larger than the Bronze sponsors' logos, will be included in all email and print announcements, the conference program and the NOTIS online event calendar.

### Bronze Sponsor: \$200

- One of your representatives may attend the full event for free, with lunch included.
- Your logo will be included in all email and print announcements, the conference program and the NOTIS online event calendar.

### Exhibitor Upgrade

Are you already an exhibitor at the Language & Job Fair on September 28th? You can still become a sponsor! Simply pay the difference between your exhibitor registration and your preferred level of sponsorship to upgrade your support for our language community.

If you are ready to become a sponsor, please contact Naomi Uchida at [info@notisnet.org](mailto:info@notisnet.org).

The deadline for all sponsorship submissions is **Friday, September 13, 2019**.

*Thank you for being an integral part of our NOTIS community!*



# NOTIS

## Translation Tech Deep Dive with Sameh Ragab

October 19, 2019

The University of Washington Seattle Campus

Join NOTIS and translation technology expert Sameh Ragab for a **day-long, in-depth** look at smarter ways to make computer technology work for you in every translation project.

Bring your laptop and work **hands-on** as we explore the following topics:

- adding functionality to MS Word
- proper file type handling and guidance to create your own
- enhancing predictive input layers and auto-suggest mechanisms
- web scraping
- “The PDF Syndrome” (all translation-related PDF issues)
- disaster recovery for translators
- cloud backup pros and cons
- developing a rock-solid backup and restore system
- terminology tips and tricks

A social event with NOTIS and Mr. Ragab will follow this exciting day of learning.



**Sameh Ragab** is a lead auditor for International Standards Organization 17100 and a certified translation services provider. He is also a computer assisted translation (CAT) tools and terminology management expert, a registered translation vendor with the United Nations and World Bank and a certified localizer. He has over 28 years of experience in the translation industry. His focus is on Arabic and Middle Eastern language services. He has also trained translators and localizers to use CAT and terminology management tools. As an international speaker and trainer focusing on the technical side of translation, he has given workshops and conference presentations around the world.

For more information and to register, please visit the NOTIS event page online at [www.notisnet.org/event-3407457](http://www.notisnet.org/event-3407457).

*This event is sponsored in part by the University of Washington Translation Studies Hub.*

# Holiday Party 2018 Memories



Pictured: NOTIS members and friends enjoying the food and festivities at our annual holiday party in Seattle, December 2018.



Below, left to right: Past board member Nancy Leveson with present board members María Luisa Gracia Camón and Pinar Mertan.



Above left: Friend of NOTIS Phung Nguyen with board member Janet Yan He. Above center: NOTIS members Trinidad Valenzuela and Kethrin Johnson singing karaoke. Above right: 2018 NOTIS President Elise Kruidenier with 2019 NOTIS President Shelley Fairweather-Vega.