

MEDICAL TERMINOLOGY FOR INTERPRETERS AND TRANSLATORS

By Lisa Jaffee

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On Saturday, January 26th, 2013, NOTIS MedSIG Board Members joined forces with the Seattle Children's Hospital Interpreter Services Program to present an intensive workshop called *Medical Terminology for Medical Interpreters and Translators*. This six-hour professional training proved to be very popular—over 150 people were in attendance at the Wright Auditorium, mostly local but several from other states and Canada. Each attendee received a Certificate of Presence and 6 CE credits from ATA.

This workshop was designed and presented by Linda Golley, Interpreter Services Program Manager at the University of Washington Medical Center and an experienced trainer of nurses and healthcare interpreters. She has managed Interpreter Services at Harborview Hospital, the University of Washington Medical Center, and Community Health Centers of King County. She is dedicated to improving language access in order to provide quality care for underserved communities with high medical needs (inner-city communities of color, diverse immigrant groups, disabled and Deaf clients, and low-income patients). Linda is a dynamic and entertaining speaker/trainer, and she has extensive and current knowledge of topics and materials essential to professional Medical Interpreters/Translators.

Linda presented an impressive amount of material in six hours! The workshop was divided into several detailed segments, covering medical terminology and acronyms in anatomy,

physiology, pathology, treatment/procedures and specialty areas/providers. We were reminded of the fact that most medical terms are compound words with Greek and Latin roots, and that they can easily be “deciphered” if we understand the meaning of each of their parts. Also we can read the term *backwards* for clearest understanding—for example, “Nephrologist”: “ist” (specialist in) + “logia” (the study of) + “nephron/nephros” (relating to the kidneys).

She provided everyone with very clear and informative handouts, packed with all of the terms and diagrams included in her presentation (and even more material than that which she had time to present!), and these will definitely continue to serve as valuable professional reference materials (and pique our interest in researching/discovering more terminology). There was also a table full of reference books, terminology glossaries, colorful diagrams, and other useful materials, mostly samples of items available for sale through CCHCP (The Cross-Cultural Health Care Program) and other professional organizations.

Attendees were asked to provide helpful feedback regarding the workshop, both to Linda Golley and to Cindy Roat (NOTIS MedSIG Chair), and to submit their suggestions of potential topics for future NOTIS MedSIG-sponsored presentations and workshops of interest to Medical Interpreters and Translators. Readers may also send their suggestions to Cindy Roat at: programs@notisnet.org



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A Chapter of the American Translators Association

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NOTIS ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES

Individual:	\$45.00
Student (without directory listing):	\$15.00
Institutional:	\$50.00
Corporate:	\$75.00

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NEW MEMBERS

Nina Oseguera	N/A
Rosa Paredes	English<>Spanish German>English French> English French>Spanish
Shukri Odol	N/A
Daniel Ruiz	English<>Spanish
Karen Schmucker	Russian<English
Monica Shelden	N/A
Galina Shogren	N/A
Negar Shojeai	Farsi<>English
Jennifer Truluck	French<English
Cheryl Van Donge	English<Spanish
Nancy Wickward	N/A
Thei Zervaki	English<Greek

STUDENT MEMBERS

Kari Blankenship
Nina Lehtinen
Amy Morris
Kimberly Nieves
Gabriel Oseguera
Marcela Pérez
Emily Smith
Caroline Strelitz
Aleksandr Yeremeyev

Sven Brecht—Divas Interpretation Services
Robert Crockett—ASL Interpreter Network
Lucas Eaton—Foundation for International Services, Inc.



Washington Interpreters and Translators Society (WITS)

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WITS ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES

Individual & Institutional:	\$45.00
Student:	\$15.00
Individual NOTIS member discount:	\$40.00
Corporate:	\$90.00

To join WITS, renew membership, or update your online directory listing, visit the WITS web page at www.witsnet.org or write to:

WITS
PO Box 1012
Seattle, WA 98111-1012.

NEW MEMBERS

Christine Clay	French
César García	Spanish
Premchand Gupta	Hindi
Hiroko Maletesta	Japanese
(Frank) A. Peters	Samoan

REJOINING MEMBERS

Takashi Hashimoto	Japanese
Licia Shinzato-Fischer	Portuguese
Angelique Wiegand	Vietnamese

STUDENT MEMBERS

Kseniya Aminova	Russian
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CORPORATE MEMBERS

Eduardo Zaldibar (E-Interpreters, Inc.)

A MESSAGE FROM THE NOTIS PRESIDENT

By Kathryn German

Give and get back! Volunteering is something that benefits you at the same time it benefits the community. Volunteering with NOTIS is a wonderful way to meet more translators and interpreters in the community, to learn more about your career, to develop new skills, to make connections that benefit your professional life, and to simply have fun. Whatever your special talents are, there is a way you can contribute! Are you artistic? Help us with marketing materials and The Northwest Linguist! Technologically savvy? Help us with our workshops or give one yourself! Great with numbers? Assist NOTIS with workshop finances or reports! Renowned for your parties? Join our Programs Committee! I know we all feel we have too little time...as a single mother of six with more than one job, I can attest to this. Nevertheless, I have found through experience that sometimes the more we have to do, the more we accomplish—we become better organized, more focused, and ultimately find that time has expanded just a little bit more to fit the new activity. We would love to have you become more involved with NOTIS!

Our new Office Manager, Naomi Uchida, is doing a fabulous job and we are very lucky to have her. She created and sent out our new membership cards before we had a chance to blink! A new acting board member, Saori Sampa, has joined us, and three new volunteers for our Programs Committee have come forward as well: Loretta Lo, Kira Bohm, and Christy Stanton. Recently, Dulce Carrillo and Norma Candia offered to assist Nancy Leveson, Diana Meredith and me as volunteers for the hands-on training at the WITS/NOTIS Trados workshop in May.

NOTIS owes a very big thanks to Jean Leblon who for many, many years has acted as NOTIS' Liaison to the ATA, and who both organized the Seattle ATA Certification Exam every year and proctored it as well. He will now be stepping down from this position and we will truly miss him! Norma Candia, an ATA English into Spanish certified translator in Spanish, will replace Jean Leblon after the ATA Certification Exam is held here on June 1st. If you'd like to take the exam, now is the time to register. Details and registration forms can be found on the ATA website: www.atanet.org.



At present, we are searching hard for volunteers from Oregon and Eastern Washington to assist us as board members or as Programs Committee members. As members of the board or committee members, there is often no need to travel—most of our meetings are also held online. We would very much like to extend NOTIS' trainings to these areas, but we need representatives in those areas to help us with our searches for workshop sites, to assist with developing local mailing lists, and simply to inform us what kind of training would be most useful and appropriate in that area. Our Medical Terminology Workshop at the beginning of the year was a huge success, and the presenter has already agreed to give the workshop in other locations, if we only make the arrangements.

Last year, a number of NOTIS members informed us that they really wanted more technology training and to that end we convinced Jamie Lucero to offer his wonderful Wordfast Studio Workshop. We have been working with WITS to host a hands-on Trados Studio Workshop in May with the well-known Trados expert, Tuomas Kostianen. The response was so enthusiastic that we are sure to offer this again soon. Let us know if you would like to be on a waiting list for the next Trados workshop.

By now you should all have received an email questionnaire from us, asking about the types of trainings that most interest you. If you have not already done so, please take the time to fill this out and return it to our Office Manager. We are here to serve you, and the best way to do so is by becoming familiar with your preferences! We'd love to have great speakers at our International Translation Day event and our annual meeting, so it's important to hear from you!

I'd also like to encourage you to send in articles for the Northwest Linguist on topics of interest to translators and interpreters. The more contributors we have, the more interesting our newsletter will become!

Thank you for your dedication to the work you do and for your contributions to NOTIS! We appreciate you!

A MESSAGE FROM THE WITS PRESIDENT

By Nancy Leveson

I recently had the pleasure and honor of helping with the day of training and swearing-in for Washington State's newest batch of certified court interpreters. It's always inspiring to me to meet these groups, and this time was no exception. The portion of the class that I taught was in the morning, but this was the first time that my schedule allowed me to stay around for the rest of the day as well. This turned out to be a great opportunity for me, because it gave me a chance to talk with many of these interpreters individually over the course of the day. It was encouraging to see interpreters from around the state in attendance, and it was interesting to learn about the variety of backgrounds they brought with them. Not surprisingly, there were interpreters with many years of experience in medical and social services interpreting, but there were also interpreters coming from backgrounds much more focused on translation. Once again, I was reminded about what a wide variety of unique paths we all take over time in our careers as translators and interpreters, and how much we can all learn from one another. Although in the morning I was one of "the teachers," sharing tips based on my own court interpreting experience, over lunch I found myself in the student role, as I hung on every word while one of the newly certified interpreters talked about her experience using SDL Trados and translating between Spanish and English. (Spanish into English happens to be my own translation language pair, so I'm always interested to hear what kind of work others are doing in that same pair.)

The enthusiasm in the air was contagious, and one attendee, Coby Ingram, was even inspired to answer my call for a volunteer to write an article for the Northwest Linguist. It's not always easy to find newsletter contributors, so I really thank Coby for stepping up, especially since it's always nice to have articles with a new voice and fresh perspective on things. Check out Coby's article in this issue to learn more about the events of the day and to learn about the Targeted Court Interpreter Training Initiative (TCITI), an interesting program that was spearheaded by Katrin Johnson.

On another training topic, in the not-so-distant past you may have seen notices about the upcoming SDL Trados workshop that WITS and NOTIS will be holding at the beginning of May. I'm happy to report that the response to this workshop has been outstanding, with the workshop



reaching maximum capacity soon after registration opened. It is very encouraging to see this kind of response and to confirm the feasibility of holding this kind of program with a topic expert brought in from another part of the country. This is a great example of a program where WITS and NOTIS were able to offer something of value to both of our memberships by working together. Key in making the whole thing happen, however, were the untiring efforts of Diana Meredith.

Many of you may know Diana (or at least recognize her name) from interpreting courses that she has taught in the past. Her resulting strong knowledge about workshop logistics planning, coupled with her own burning desire to attend an SDL Trados hands-on workshop locally, made her not only a champion for the "let's-hold-an-SDL Trados-workshop!" cause, but also an unstoppable force in making it reality. She very clearly demonstrated how one individual's focused efforts on a specific task can really help us at WITS and NOTIS to accomplish things that we might otherwise not have the manpower to coordinate. Many thanks, Diana!

On a WITS-specific front, plans are underway for our annual meeting and workshop, scheduled for June 29. This year the event will be held in Tacoma. We're hoping this will be a nice change of pace for our members who live further south, providing them an offering a bit closer to home. The most exciting part of the day will not be the location, however, but rather our speaker. We will have none other than Katrin Johnson joining us to help us understand the ins and outs of RCWs and how the elements of crimes come into play in the prosecution process. Although she is no longer with us in her prior AOC role, she is proving that she has not abandoned us, and we are eagerly anticipating this return appearance! Anyone who has ever dealt with Katrin will certainly realize what a treat this will be, so once registration information is released, don't delay—I'm sure the available spots will fill up quickly. Keep an eye out for details as plans are finalized.

These are just a few of the things that will be going on here in the Pacific Northwest during May and June. Check the calendar listings in this issue, and I hope to see you at one of the upcoming events!

MEET OUR MEMBERS: DIANE SCHNEIDER

By Edward Wung

Service—especially public service—forms a huge chapter of Diane Schneider's life. Diane has worked for many governmental agencies as a probation and parole officer with the Washington State Department of Corrections, and with the Department of Social and Health Services (previously known as the Department of Public Assistance). She has also worked for the US Department of Justice's Community Relations Service, a racial conflict resolution agency created under the 1964 Civil Rights Act. She has served as a board member for the Washington Coalition for Language Access, as Washington State President for the National Latino Peace Officers Association, and as a member of the Washington State Minority and Justice Commission. She is also a life-long member of the American Translators Association.



especially Greece, so she returned a few years later for a longer stay.

On her second trip to Europe, she ended up in Greece. She was offered several small contracts. First, she helped the British Hellenic Institute administer the Cambridge examination for competency in English. During that time, she administered the test to a man who was a very close associate of the Prime Minister of the Regime of the Colonels, and she flunked him

because he couldn't understand a word Diane said when she asked him to close the door before the exam was administered. Diane was very fortunate to survive the later political turbulence, in which violent protests took place and many people "were disappeared."

From that extensive and impressive list, it is evident that Diane is dedicated to serving the public and committed to helping minority communities. Another extraordinary example of this dedication is her service as a board member of the Chinese Information and Service Center (CISC) even though she is an active, certified Spanish interpreter! According to the Chinese Information and Service Center's website, its mission statement is "bridging cultures, communities, and generations. Creating opportunities for Chinese immigrants and their families to succeed." One need not speak Chinese to do that, but simply have the heart to serve. Diane explained that her great aunt spent years in China at the turn of the century and her stories instilled in her a great interest in the concerns of the Chinese people.

What first drew my attention to Diane's profile on the WITS directory is that she also speaks Greek. There were two Greek restaurants in Seattle where you could do Greek folk dancing, which Diane used to do frequently. She picked up some Greek there and also studied linguistics in college. When Diane completed her undergraduate degree, travelling to Europe was something everyone did, so she found a special rate through Icelandic Airways. She bought a European railway pass. She traveled across Canada, and took off from New York on a propjet, flying first to Iceland and then to Luxemburg. That tour was an eye opener for her and she became deeply fascinated with Europe,

Diane was also offered contracts to administer the TOEFL exam through the Institute of American Studies, and later she was asked to teach English there. That meant she had to go through a great deal of red tape because she had entered Greece on a tourist visa. Among the hurdles she had to cross, Diane was confronted by one Labor Department officer who asked her, "What makes you think that you could just come to this country as a tourist and then start to work while others have to go through...?" Diane knew that bribery was the easy way out of this, but she would not budge. Instead, she replied, in Greek, "I think it would be improper for someone like me who speaks very little Greek to come seeking a work permit without first taking the time to learn more about the language and culture here." Somehow that answer made a remarkable impression on the officer and got her the visa to work in Greece.

In her free time Diane has explored numerous museums and has continued her travels. Has she been to Asia? Of course she has! She traveled to Turkey and crossed the Bosphorus while there, making sure she touched ground in the Asian part of Turkey. One more item on the must-visit list checked off.

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MEET OUR MEMBERS: DIANE SCHNEIDER (cont.)

Describing her travel experience and professional careers with the government, Diane is a walking book.

She doubled as an interpreter during the resettlement efforts of the Mariel Boatlift in the 1980s. She was deployed by FEMA to assist in disaster efforts after several emergencies. She first went to Los Angeles during the Rodney King Riot in 1992. Then she was sent to New York City to assist with the rescue mission after the 9-11 terrorist attack in 2001. She was also sent to Mississippi after Hurricane Katrina in 2005. While there, they found that even though there was a large group of Vietnamese hurricane victims, there were no Vietnamese interpreters. FEMA asked her to train some Vietnamese civilians to be emergency interpreters. She presented them with basic information such as the code of conduct, and the concepts of confidentiality and impartiality. She performed research on a glossary of entitlement terminology from the Center for Disease Control which she shared with others. She met resistance trying to convince participants that they should use consistent terminology so that those victims who might be resettled would not confuse interpreters in other areas when performing follow-up.

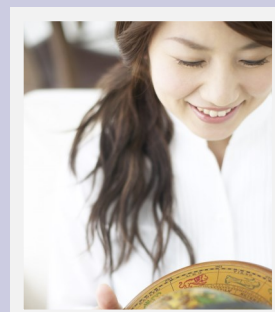
While she was occupied with disaster recovery and interpreter training, she received a call and was told that her house in Washington State had burned down! She quickly returned to deal with the insurance company, and then asked to return to the disaster area to finish her job. She went back to finish her job. The fire consumed many of her valuable personal items, including a wonderful collection of rare dictionaries and furniture handed down through three generations.

She experienced some of what those disaster survivors were going through. Back in Mississippi, living conditions were Spartan. She even drove through tornadoes and witnessed many things she will never forget.

During her early life Diane was around many people who spoke Spanish. Her friend's father came to her elementary school to talk about his job as a Spanish teacher. She was a voracious reader and she noted many books had Spanish phrases, so she thought that the Spanish language was pretty cool. When she was a child on her grandparents' farm, Diane spent one full school year and frequent summers there, where she enjoyed listening to a Spanish language radio station that would play after dark. There were some government programs and there were many Spanish workers around. She then took some Spanish during high school and majored in it in college. She also attended the Institute of Court Interpretation at the University of Arizona. She later repeated that program because she benefited from it greatly.

Now Diane lives on a ranch where she raises horses and Black Angus cattle. There are two Douglas fir trees, so she named the ranch Rancho Dos Árboles, meaning "Two Trees Ranch" in Spanish. At this stage of her life, she enjoys twin professions of interpreter and translator, and the opportunity to build a bridge between diverse languages and cultures. Diane also says she would like to be called up to work as a Reservist for FEMA, in order to have the opportunity to respond to disaster areas and assist in ensuring equal access to disaster assistance. Diane continues to give her 110%.

Translators and interpreters connect a multilingual, multicultural world to extend understanding, to safeguard rights, to assist in disaster relief, and to create a more welcoming world.



AN ENCOURAGING SEND-OFF

By Coby Ingram

*Interpreters
are critical
to justice—
not just for
the person
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and ideas.*

“Congratulations on passing your exams and welcome to the profession. We value your work.” I sat with fifteen other court interpreter candidates in the high-ceilinged, white-walled Jury Room of Seattle Municipal Court, looking out over West Seattle and Puget Sound. It was a bit of a surprise that Justice Steve González was there to swear us in, and that it was happening already. But, after all, we didn't know what to expect.

“How appropriate,” I remember thinking, as Justice González was introduced. Caught up in my preparations for the test, I hadn't noticed that he had been named to lead Washington State's court Interpreter commission back in September. His Hispanic and European Jewish heritage suits him admirably for the job. I felt privileged that we were being sworn in by someone who wasn't just a good manager, and who didn't just share a common cultural background with us, but one who truly cares about the issues we care about, and is working hard to lead on them.

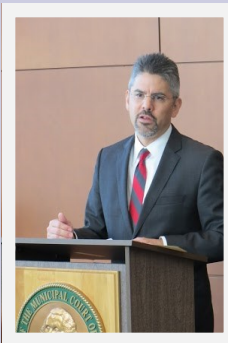
“Interpreters are critical to justice—not just for the person who does not speak the language, but for all of us, because our system of justice requires accurate communication of information and ideas.” He went on to say that without language access, there is no access to justice. He reminded us that we stand in an important, pivotal position that requires skill, stamina, and the courage to insist on accurate interpretation. It was good to hear a judge say that we need to ask people to slow down as they speak, and make sure proper breaks are taken. And when a person of that stature addresses you, and says “ hi” to Spanish and Mandarin interpreters in their own language, and then tells you it matters to show professionalism and to keep educating yourself, it kind of grabs you.

Most people would have counted the interpreters from different languages. I did, too, of course, as we went around and introduced ourselves. One—no, two Mandarin Chinese, one Korean, and one Vietnamese. One of the Mandarin interpreters was from out of state, just needing certification to work on certain cases. A Samoan interpreter graced us with her dignified presence, and two certified Russian interpreters, and the rest of us were Spanish. But what stood out to me was this: only three of us were from the east side of the state. I felt a twinge of loss for all the nice people I met at the written test and the workshop out at Big Bend Community College. None of them were there to see this day.

It was great to see Kenny Barger back at this training. I recognized him from the workshop. As a new court interpreter, just beginning to join this crowd, I was captivated by his sense of humor and his enthusiasm for learning, for ethics, and for collecting certifications. Later on in the program, during a skit, he was supposed to be showing us how to ask for a pause when a witness goes on too long. Instead, he tickled all of us rookies by hunching over his chicken-scratch notes and repeating the whole paragraph verbatim.

We went to a couple of morning training sessions on courtroom protocol, got to know one another over scooted-together lunch tables in the food court, and then had a session with a panel of court administrators in the afternoon, and a longer one on ethics. For me, the best part of the training was being able to watch experienced interpreters at work, each with unique strengths and specializations.

I will always remember Emma Garkavi's kind dignity, and Nancy Leveson's encouraging smile, and
(Continued on page 9)



AN ENCOURAGING SEND-OFF (cont.)

Martha Cohen's principled shout out for "people to people" scheduling, and Susana Stettri Sawrey's pithy phrases that cut through ethical dilemmas like Gordian knots. "An interpreter is the voice of the parties," and "You need three people to interpret. If there are two, nothing happens."

After the training, we had a surprise visit from Katrin Johnson and Ine-Marie van Dam; some of the students stayed after to wait for their arrival. Katrin and Ine had personally coached six of the new interpreters there (seven total) into the winner's circle. I found out that they had put together a special class for candidates who had almost passed the oral test in 2011. They had hand-picked them based on scores, and on language and geographic diversity.

Katrin explained to me why she developed the grant for the Targeted Court Interpreter Training Initiative (TCITI). "Over the years," she said, "I saw that there was a disconnect between the training we had been offering, and interpreter performance on the exams." Despite investments of time, resources, and funds for interpreter training, "we weren't seeing the payoff." She was looking for a new approach that would address not only the candidates' lack of language and interpreting skills, but also the need to motivate them to study and practice.



Ine was Katrin's choice for instructor and she recalls her interview in a restaurant. "Katrin," she said, "there are those who would say that my teaching methods are not conventional." Johnson shot back, "We've tried conventional methods." So in addition to the usual subjects, the course brought in Marti MacEwan, a mental health counselor, to talk about dealing with anxiety, and Martha Cohen, to help expose these students to the court system. The meat of the course, though, was wrapped up in Ine's teaching methods. Her experience is in conference interpreting. Her objective was not to focus on vocabulary or passing the test, but to give students a personalized toolkit for dealing with the unpredictable and uncontrolled situations that are the daily bread of interpreting.



The TCITI was a six-month course: three weekend workshops and nine two-hour webinars. Seven of the sixteen TCITI graduates who took the oral test passed. Ine noticed there was a "strong correlation" between passing scores and the students' dedication to homework. Two hours for every hour of class time were required. The students watched videos, recorded themselves interpreting, and matched their performance with professionals. César García, one of the class participants, agreed. "I guess all that I hoped for was knowing what I was doing wrong in my studies. It was the process of discovering this that I think helped me in the end."

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(Continued on page 10)

AN ENCOURAGING SEND-OFF (cont.)

Learning to listen was a unique and important part of the curriculum. I know that for myself, of all the things I've been trained in and taught and told, the most effective and valuable has been seeing a skilled interpreter at work. And the best part of a very pleasant day, even with all the invaluable lessons passed on to us, was meeting other interpreters, especially seasoned ones, and feeling a part of something that was—what did Steve González call it? He told us that it was a profession deserving of great respect. It's a lonely road, and it's good to know you are in good company. The TCITI graduates showed it. They were the ones with a sparkle in their eyes, more comfortable and vocal than most. It was an encouraging send-off.

Coby Ingram lives at the extreme north end of Mexico, "muy tranquilo" Omak, Washington. He works as a medical and substitute court interpreter. People ask him, "Where did you learn your Spanish," and he usually says, "Oh, around." The truth is, he took Spanish in high school and college, and went on several trips to Latin America, before he started working as an interpreter about 12 years ago."

WITS ANNUAL MEETING AND WORKSHOP

**Washington State Court Interpreters & Translators Society (WITS)
Annual Meeting & Workshop Saturday - June 29, 2013
Bates Technical College - South Campus, Tacoma
South Campus Auditorium, 2201 S. 78th Street, Tacoma, WA 98409**

Full day workshop * WITS Annual Meeting * Special Recognitions

Guest Speaker: Ms. Katrin Johnson, former Court Interpreter Program Coordinator for the Washington State Administrative Office for the Courts (AOC). Katrin will share some of her ample knowledge in the natural units of meaning that constitute the elements of a crime. Her presentation will include:

- How to read a statute and draw out those elements
- How these elements constitute the building blocks of direct and cross examination, closing statements, and jury instructions
- Identifying the natural units of meaning within statutes, thus making them more natural to interpret

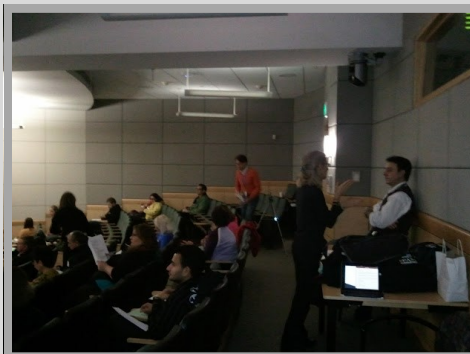
There will be language-neutral and language-specific work groups on topics such as:

- Distilling the elements prior to interpreting at a trial
- Helping the interpreter anticipate what to expect
- Reviewing fact patterns to determine with which offense a suspect can be charged

We will not forget the terms that appear commonly in statutes. Attendees may find they want to begin building a glossary with more specific ideas on how to interpret the terms and statutes presented. Watch the WITS website for more information, coming soon. Registration will open during the month of May.

www.witsnet.org

MEDICAL TERMINOLOGY WORKSHOP (cont.)



NOTIS/MedSIG is looking for volunteers in Eastern Washington, Oregon, and Idaho to help us bring programs like this Medical Terminology Workshop to the other areas NOTIS serves.

Let us know if you are interested! Contact:
info@notisnet.org or translationskg@comcast.net

ASK US: CAT TOOL CLUES

By Toby Kawahigashi

*Welcome to
our new
column!*

*Please feel free
to send us
your
CAT Tool
and
translation
technology
questions
and we will
reply in
our next
issue*



Information technology is advancing continuously and its reach now encompasses various aspects of translation and interpretation. These advances have opened up numerous possibilities for IT companies to come up with new applications which may help translators be more productive.

This column will deal with common questions that translators may have about translation technology and hopefully will also provide some useful tips to translators.

Q: What is the most common type of software used to increase the productivity of translators? What does it do?

A: The most common type of software among the translators is translation memory. This software allows the translator to create his/her own bilingual database that can be used over and over for other translation projects. This translation memory is not a dictionary. It automatically stores pairs of sentences, called segments, in the source language and in the target language in a database format.

You may wonder why stored sentences will help you become more productive. In many translation projects, it is very common to have the same sentence appear in multiple places in a single document. For instance, you can easily imagine that a sentence such as "Click OK to save the file" might appear multiple times in a manual for a computer application. If you use translation memory software, you don't have to translate the same sentence again once you translate it the first time. The application will automatically find it in your translation memory database for you. All you have to do is click a button to accept it.

As an example, let's say that the first sentence you need to translate has six words. Your second sentence also has six words. Between these two sentences, you will notice that four out of six words are identical. This would be what is called a 66% match, or a "fuzzy" match.

Translation memory software takes advantage of this type of similarity between sentences. It automatically extracts the translation corresponding to the similar sentence from the database. All you have to do is just modify the similar sentence which has been translated by you so that the differences are correctly reflected in the final translation.

Q: How much more productive can you become by using translation memory software?

A: This really depends on the type of translation projects you do. Of course, when you first start translating a project using the software, the database is empty. Gradually, the database becomes richer and richer as you go along translating documents.

If the project is to upgrade the translation of an existing manual, it might be possible that 80% of the text does not need translation. This means that for a 2000-word project, you would only be translating 400 words! This is a rare case, but if you work on manuals or other texts with a large amount of repetitive text, this occasionally happens.

(Continued on page 13)

ASK US: CAT TOOL CLUES (cont.)

About 10 to 15% is the same even for a document with very few repetitive expressions such as a quarterly financial reports. This means you would be able to shorten your work time by 10 to 15%.

Q: I hear many people using translation memory software mention "Analysis." What is it?

A: Before you start translating the document, the translation memory software allows you to analyze it using the database. The results you receive are often organized in the form of a table that looks something like this:

Perfect Match	
Context Match	
Repetitions	
Cross-file Repetitions	
100%	
95% - 99%	
85% - 94%	
75% - 84%	
50% - 74%	
New	
Total	

This tells you how many new words/characters you have to translate and how many words/characters you have to modify. This information helps you set up your schedule for the project much more accurately than just counting the total number of words involved. Some agencies are now paying different rates based upon these analyses, so you may wish to take this into account when setting your rate schedule.

Have questions for this column? Have technology-related tips you would like to share with others?

Send them to the editor of The Northwest Linguist at translationskg@comcast.net and we will include them in our upcoming issue!

COMING SOON!

Check the **WITS** website frequently for news about the upcoming WITS annual meeting to be held on June 29, 2013 in Tacoma, Washington. This meeting will include not only annual news of interest to members but also a workshop by Katrin Johnson.

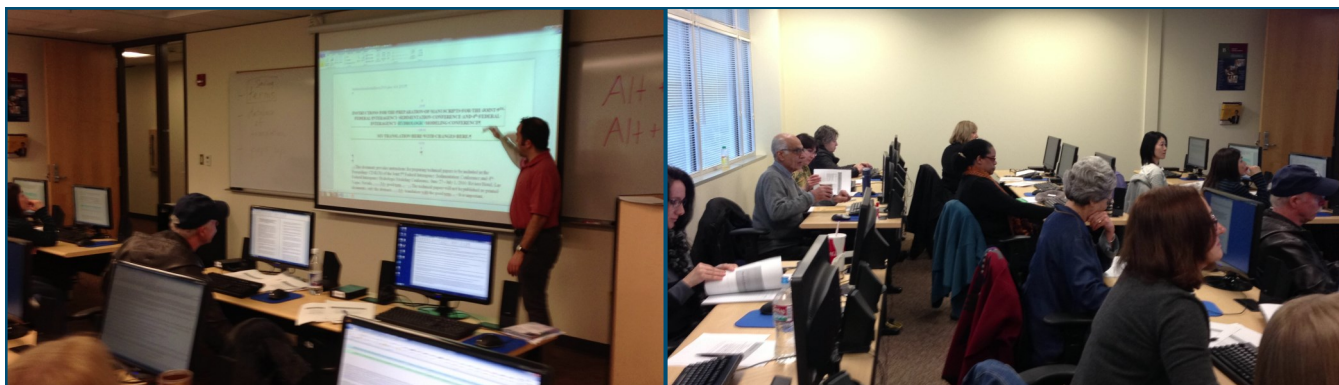
www.witsnet.org

Check the **NOTIS** website for more in-depth news about the upcoming MedSIG Workshop for Medical Interpreters, to be held immediately following the National Council on Interpreting in Healthcare Meeting in Seattle, with their support. The workshop will be held from 3:30 to 5:30 on June 8, 2013 at the same venue as the NCIHC conference.

www.notisnet.org

WORDFAST STUDIO WORKSHOP

By Kathryn German



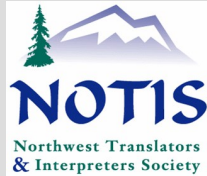
On Saturday, April 6th, Jamie Lucero of Bellevue College's Translation and Interpreting Program, offered his long-awaited and well-appreciated **Wordfast Studio Workshop**. The workshop was extremely well-attended and both translators and interpreters spent six hours using two Wordfast products: Wordfast Classic and Wordfast Professional. The course was designed for newcomers to computer assisted translation tools, but even those of us who have been using similar tools for a long time, including Wordfast products, learned new tricks and more proficient ways to use them.

Jamie began his presentation with a review of the ten-step process of translation which Bellevue College emphasizes throughout their program: Text Analysis, Research, Glossary Creation, Translation, Style Editing, Formatting, Accuracy Editing, Proofreading, Delivery, and Feedback. He went on to define Translation Memory and clearly differentiate it from Machine Translation. Translation memory tools help the translator translate more quickly, efficiently, and consistently by remembering what the translator has translated before, storing these translations as bilingual segments (usually sentences), and then offering them again as complete or partial matches when similar text is encountered in a new translation. The software does not translate for you, you create the translation, and you control the quality of that translation. This is what differentiates these tools from machine translation programs (what you encounter when you use Google translate and similar programs online), which process the text as a whole.

Wordfast Studio is a package of three different tools, two of which were used in the workshop: **Wordfast Classic** and **Wordfast Professional**. Wordfast Classic operates within the Microsoft Word program, so the interface is familiar and easy to use. Once you have set up your Translation Memory into Source and Target Languages and installed the program, a Wordfast Toolbar will appear in Word, and to make using the tool even easier, every command has an equivalent shortcut. Wordfast Professional is a stand-alone program, into which files to be translated are loaded and converted into special Wordfast file form. This enables the translator to translate many different types of files, whether or not the translator owns those programs. Wordfast Professional simply converts the completed file back into its original format as the last stage of the translation process. Wordfast Professional is a tool that agencies like to use with freelance translators because they are able to send a project-based translation memory in the form of a text file, which the translator can use for the duration of a particular project. Once the project is completed, the memory can no longer be accessed. Like Wordfast Classic, Wordfast Professional has short-cut keys for all functions, and the interface is clean and easy to understand.

Both programs have a terminology management function, and the translator can upload their own personal glossaries in Excel form to easily access them while translating.

It was a wonderful experience to learn about Wordfast and to have the ability to actually use the tools during the class!



The Northwest Linguist is a quarterly publication published jointly by NOTIS and WITS.

The Northwest Linguist is published in February, May, August, and November. **We want to hear from you!** Have you written an article, a review, a poem, or a letter that you would like to share with the Translation and Interpretation community of the Pacific Northwest? Letters to the Editor, short articles of interest, and information for the calendar and other sections are invited.

Articles are limited to 1,000 words.

Please send submissions to Kathryn German, Editor, at: translationskg@comcast.net Please note that all submissions become the property of *The Northwest Linguist* and are subject to editing unless otherwise agreed in advance. Opinions expressed are solely those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views of the Editor, the Societies, or their Boards.

The Northwest Linguist also accepts advertising. Detailed advertising rates are available at: www.notisnet.org/nwl_Northwest_Linguist_Advertising_Rates.pdf

Deadline for Summer Issue of The Northwest Linguist:
July 7, 2013

Submissions to: **Kathryn German, Editor**, translationskg@comcast.net

Register Soon!
ATA CERTIFICATION EXAM
Saturday, June 1, 2013, 1:00-4:00 PM
University of Washington Campus

For more details and to register, see:
<http://www.atanet.org/certification/upcoming.php>



FACEBOOK

Remember to check the Facebook and LinkedIn pages for NOTIS and the ATA on a regular basis to keep up with national news in the fields of translation and interpreting, and with all the latest events and opportunities for training. www.facebook.com/NOTISnet

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American Translators Association
54TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
SAN ANTONIO TEXAS
Marriott Rivercenter November 6-9, 2013

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www.atanet.org/conf/2013



NOTIS AND WITS EVENTS CALENDAR

DATE	EVENT	DETAILS	LOCATION
April 27, 2013	Society of Translators & Interpreters of British Columbia Sixth Annual Japanese/English Translation and Interpreting Workshop	Facebook.com/stibc-japanese. Sites.google.com/site/stibcjapanese	Vancouver, British Columbia
April 27, 2013	Carolina Association of Translators and Interpreters—2013 Annual Conference	http://www.catiweb.org/	Wilmington, North Carolina
April 30, 2013	Customizing Texts in Russian into English Translation	http://www.atanet.org/webinars/ataWebinar124_russian_text.php	ATA Webinar Online
May 2-4, 2013	European Language Association (ELIA) Networking Days	www.elia-association.org	Munich, Germany
May 3-4, 2013	WASCLA 2013 Language Access Summit “Ensuring Meaningful Language Access in Unsure Economic Times”	www.wascla.org	Wenatchee, Washington
May 4-5, 2013	Colorado Translators Association—3rd Annual Conference	http://cta-web.org/2013-annual-conference/	Boulder, Colorado
May 4, 2012	New England Translators Association Conference	http://www.netaweb.org/cms2/conference	Boston, Massachusetts
May 11-12, 2013	Trados Workshop with Tuomas Kostianen	www.notisnet.org/events	Des Moines, Washington
May 15-18, 2013	Association of Language Companies (ALC) 2013 Annual Conference	www.alcus.org/about/calendar.cfm	Boston, Massachusetts
May 17-19, 2013	NAJIT Annual Conference	www.najit.org	St. Louis, Missouri
May 17-19, 2013	Institution of Translation & Interpreting (ITI) Conference 2013	www.iti.org.uk	Gatwick, United Kingdom
May 18, 2013	Bilingual Power: Workshop on Ethics and Protocol and Workshop on Etymology	www.notisnet.org/events/ethics_ethymology.pdf	Ellensburg, Washington
May 28-June 1, 2013	Monterey Institute of International Studies: Advanced Techniques for Court Interpreters	http://www.miis.edu/academics/short/translation-interpretation/advanced-techniques?	Monterey, California

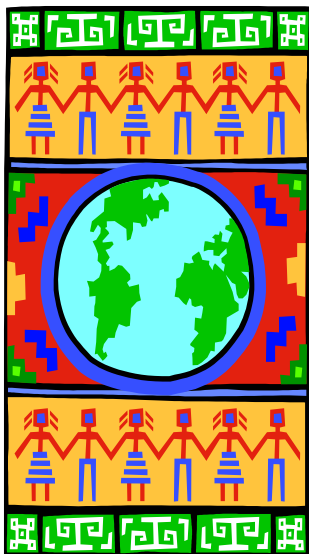
NOTIS AND WITS EVENTS CALENDAR

DATE	EVENT	DETAILS	LOCATION
May 31-June 2, 2013	JAT's International Japanese English Translation Conference	www.jat.org	Honolulu, Hawaii
June 1, 2013	ATA Certification Exam	http://www.atanet.org/certification/upcoming.php	Seattle, Washington
June 3-5, 2013	26th Conference of the Canadian Association for Translation Studies (CATS)	www.acts-cats.ca	Victoria, British Columbia
June 7-8, 2013	7th Annual National Council on Interpreting in Healthcare Membership Meeting	http://www.ncihc.org/2007-membership-meeting	Seattle, Washington
June 8, 2013	NOTIS MedSIG Medical Interpretation Workshop with support of NCIHC	www.notisnet.org	Seattle, Washington
June 7-8, 2013	Second Annual Pacific Northwest Court Interpreter Conference	www.marriott.com/pdxnh	Portland Oregon
June 8-9, 2013	2013 ProZ.com International Conference "New Demands on the Translation Industry"	www.proz.com	Porto, Portugal
June 14-15, 2013	InterpretAmerica—4th Annual North American Summit	www.interpretamerica.net	Reston, Virginia
June 14-15, 2013	Localization World Conference	www.localizationworld	London, United Kingdom
June 29, 2013	WITS Annual Meeting and Workshop with Katrin Johnson	www.witsnet.org	Tacoma, Washington
July 29-August 2, 2013	Monterey Institute of International Studies: Training of Trainers for the Healthcare Interpreting Profession	http://www.miis.edu/academics/short/translation-interpretation/training?	Monterey, California
September 27-29, 2013	2013 New Mexico Interpreters Conference "Enhancing Your Career, Advancing Our Profession"	www.nmcourts.com	Albuquerque, New Mexico
November 6-9, 2013	ATA Annual Conference	www.atanet.org	San Antonio, Texas

NOTIS AND WITS BOARD MEETINGS

DATE	EVENTS	DETAILS	LOCATION
 	May 10, 2013	WITS Board Meeting www.witsnet.org	TBD—contact nancy@levesonlanguage.com for more details
	May 22, 2013	NOTIS Board Meeting www.notisnet.org	Online only —contact translationskg@comcast.net for more details.
	June 28, 2013	NOTIS Board Meeting www.notisnet.org	Home of Toby Kawahigashi or online. Contact translationskg@comcast.net for more details.

WASHINGTON STATE COALITION FOR LANGUAGE ACCESS 2013 LANGUAGE ACCESS SUMMIT



Ensuring Language Access in Unsure Economic Times

Friday, May 3rd, 2013 9:30 a.m.—5:30 p.m.
And
Saturday, May 4th, 2013 9:00 a.m—4:45 P.M.

Wenatchee Convention Center
121 N. Wenatchee Ave., Wenatchee, WA 98801

For more information, see: www.wascla.org
Registration is available at: <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/358604>

This two-day conference brings together individuals working in legal, educational, medical, and social services sectors each working to improve services and to remove barriers for limited English proficient and deaf individuals through collaborative efforts. WASCLA is an organization consisting of legal professionals, advocates, law enforcement personnel, interpreters/translators, educators, medical providers, those working in the healthcare field, and court staff who are dedicated to assisting state and local agencies within the state to understand and comply with their obligations under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

2013

Hosted by



JLIG

日本語関係者有志
Japanese Language Interest Group

Sponsored by

STIBC and
Greater Vancouver
JCCA Nihongo Committee

Sixth Annual

Translation & Interpreting Workshop

Japanese/English translators and interpreters working in Greater Vancouver have once again volunteered their time to hold a workshop for professional and aspiring translators and interpreters!

Date & Time: April 27, 2013 (Saturday) 13:00 ~ 16:30
Place: Kaede Room at Nikkei Centre (6688 Southoaks Crescent, Burnaby, BC)
Registration Fee: Members of STIBC/JCCA - \$20 Non-Members - \$30
Start of Registration: March 15, 2013 (Friday)

Program:

- (1) Try your hand at translating difficult-to-translate Japanese • English expressions
- (2) Networking • Tea Break
- (3) Requirements for doing translation work and for registering with a translation agency

The objective of this workshop is to learn from each other by working on an actual translation. This will provide an opportunity for translation pros to share trade secrets with other pros and translation students to get an inside edge from the pros which may not necessarily be taught in school. This workshop is perfect for those who have translation/interpreting experience (regardless of years of experience, member of STIBC or not); those who are able to take on the challenge of translating at the newspaper article level; those who want to get out of a rut; those who are too busy to take a course; and those who want to speak with someone who is involved in the field of translation and interpreting. Participants will get the most out of this workshop if they prepare the translation beforehand.

To register or to inquire about the workshop, please send your name, address and whether you are a STIBC • JCCA member to JLIG.vancouver@gmail.com. If you are a STIBC • JCCA member, please include your membership number. We will respond to your email but please allow up to 4 - 5 days for our response. There is a limit to the number of participants so register early to avoid disappointment! Withdrawal from the workshop will not be accepted after April 13. Please mail the registration fee as a cheque or money order to arrive at the specified address within 5 business days of receiving the confirmation email. We will provide details such as where to send the registration fee in the confirmation email. We will cancel your registration without notice if we do not receive payment from you. We will not accept payment on the day of the workshop.

This workshop is run entirely by volunteers. We ask for your cooperation in keeping the administration process simple.


JLIG.vancouver@gmail.com

sites.google.com/site/stibcjapanese/

facebook.com/stibc.japanese



National Council on
Interpreting in Health Care

www.ncihc.org

7TH ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

June 7th and 8th, 2013 • Hospital tour June 6th, 2013

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1635 8th Avenue
Seattle, Washington, 98101

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