

ATA CHRONICLE

A large crowd of diverse people, seen from above, forms the shape of a question mark. The people are of various ages, ethnicities, and are wearing colorful clothing. They are standing on a light-colored, reflective surface. The question mark shape is composed of many small groups of people, with some individuals standing alone around the perimeter.

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SUBTLY SEXIST SOURCES: WHAT'S A WOKE TRANSLATOR TO DO?

10 PRACTICAL POINTERS
FOR INTO-ENGLISH TRANSLATORS

ata American Translators Association
The Voice of Interpreters and Translators

Contents

January/February 2022 • Volume 51, Number 1

16



19



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-  <http://bit.ly/ChannelATA>
-  <http://bit.ly/ATA-Pinterest>

See more from this issue at
www.ata-chronicle.online.

Features

9

Call for Nominations: ATA Directors

Do you know someone who would make a good potential candidate for ATA's Board of Directors? If so, ATA's Nominating and Leadership Development Committee would like to hear from you. Any ATA member may make a nomination. Here's your chance to help shape the future of the Association!

16

Subtly Sexist Sources: What's a Woke Translator to Do? 10 Practical Pointers for into-English Translators

Amidst far-reaching societal change, language is evolving. Unfortunately, not all our clients are keeping pace, and their source texts sometimes smack of sexism in the form of worn-out stereotypes, passé gender roles, and problematic language. Translators should feel empowered to stray from the source when necessary and draw on their expertise to educate their clients. Here are 10 takeaways on incorporating gender-neutral writing into your English translations.

19

Reflections on Running a Micro-Internship: Making a Difference by Starting Small

Given how few translation training programs exist in the U.S., internships can be a great way for freelance translators to contribute to the next generation of our profession while also getting something in return.

22

The Orange County Department of Education Multilingual Consortium: A Clearinghouse for Educational Interpreters

California's Orange County Department of Education has spearheaded efforts to provide continuous professional learning opportunities for bilingual staff in educational settings nationwide. Learn how a robust language services program strategically addressed the challenges and effectively capitalized on the opportunities presented by the pandemic.

25

2021 Honors and Awards Recipients

ATA and the American Foundation for Translation and Interpretation present annual and biennial awards to encourage, reward, and publicize outstanding work done by both seasoned professionals and students of our craft.

30

Profile of ATA's 2021 School Outreach Contest Winner: Majlinda Mulla-Everett

When Majlinda Mulla-Everett taught a summer class on interpreting skills to high school students in Portland, Maine, her objective was to make sure they understood the value of being bilingual and that they can turn that skill into something to help the community where they live.

Columns

4

From the President

6

From the President-Elect

7

From the Executive Director

33

Entrepreneurial Linguist

36

GeekSpeak

37

Resource Review

Looking for Member News and Humor and Translation? These columns are found in the Chronicle-Online edition: www.ata-chronicle.online!

10

TREASURER'S REPORT

This annual report reviews ATA's financial performance and provides a good indication of current trends.



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Looking Back with an Eye on the Future

At the start of every new year, I find myself reflecting on the past year and focusing on what lies ahead. During the last months of 2021, after coming together (both in person and virtually) in Minneapolis for our Annual Conference, there were a few events that felt significant for us all as translation and interpreting professionals and ATA members.

Advocacy for Pennsylvania Court Interpreters:

One of these events represented an important win for advocacy. Earlier in 2021, under President Ted Wozniak, ATA joined the Tri-State Language Access Coalition (TSLAC) to advocate for interpreters, as the Administrative Offices of the Pennsylvania Courts (AOPC) announced a 50% reduction in pay for remote interpreters. ATA sent a letter to AOPC supporting TSLAC, stating that the pay cut was unacceptable and noting that remote interpreting is neither cheaper nor easier to perform than on-site interpreting. On November 22, TSLAC announced that the Pennsylvania courts had reversed their decision and would adopt new compensation standards to improve the “quality and professionalism of language services in the justice system.” To find out more information, see the links in the sidebar on page 5.

Advocacy for Translators in the Entertainment

Industry: You may have also heard about ATA’s open

letter calling for fair working conditions for translators in the entertainment industry. Our letter was picked up by dozens of media outlets, including Apple News, *The Boston Herald*, Google News, Yahoo! Finance, The Associated Press, and many more. ATA also sent the letter directly to executives at various networks and studios like Apple+, BBC, Disney, HBO, NBCUniversal, Netflix, Sony, ViacomCBS, and others. We’ll continue to follow this issue and advocate on behalf of professionals who work in this area of translation and subtitling.

Mourning the Loss of ATA’s Certification Committee Chair:

We received some very sad news at the end of 2021. Our esteemed colleague and dear friend, Michèle Hansen, chair of ATA’s Certification Committee, passed away after a sudden cancer diagnosis. We’re all mourning this significant loss. Michèle was such a bright light and a true example of selflessness, volunteering without hesitation and contributing

to several areas of ATA. We’ll miss her dearly and send our deepest condolences to her family. Please look for the tribute to Michèle in this issue on page 8 and pass on your memories and condolences to her family on her tribute page (see sidebar).

The Membership Committee will be sharing a new membership survey, so please be sure to fill it out and let us know what benefits you enjoy and what improvements we can make to our programs.

Looking Ahead

Here are a few things to watch for in 2022:

Professional Development and Membership Benefits:

This year, you can expect to see more professional development offerings

from our Professional Development Committee, so watch for upcoming webinars, workshops, and courses to help you in various areas of your professional work. In addition, our Membership Committee will be sharing a new membership survey, so please be sure to fill it out and let us know what benefits you enjoy and what improvements we can make to our programs.

Working to refine and improve our member benefits will be an ongoing effort, and I will continue to look to you to offer feedback and ideas.

Advocacy: Our Advocacy Committee continues to find ways to support professional translators and interpreters, working diligently behind the scenes. You can expect to see more from this group to help you effectively communicate with your local legislators and advocate for professional translators and interpreters at both local and national levels.

ATA Annual Conference: We're already in full conference-planning mode for ATA's 63rd Annual Conference in Los Angeles, October 12-15, 2022! We'll hold a conference site visit immediately before the winter Board meeting in Los Angeles in February. Please see President-Elect Veronika

USEFUL LINKS

Advocacy in Pennsylvania: Court Interpreters Win Fair Compensation
<https://bit.ly/Advocacy-Pennsylvania>


ATA Calls for Fair Working Conditions for Translators in the Entertainment Industry
<https://bit.ly/ATAopenletter>

ATA63 Conference Proposal Form
<https://bit.ly/ATA63-speakers>

How to Write a Winning ATA Conference Proposal
<https://bit.ly/ATA63-submit>

Michèle Hansen Tribute Page
<https://bit.ly/Hansen-tribute>

Demichelis' column on page 6 for more information about the call for session proposals and a new video on how to submit a winning proposal. I'm already looking forward to welcoming you to my sunny Southern California this year!

Finally, as we all look forward to what's to come in 2022, I would like to personally thank every volunteer who contributes time and expertise to our many valued programs. Without your help, we would not be able to enjoy so many benefits as ATA members. I would also like to thank our staff at ATA Headquarters for implementing the many ideas and projects we come up with as ambitious volunteers! It truly is a team effort. 



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ATA63: Looking Forward to Meeting In Person Again

One of the highlights of 2021 for me was ATA's 62nd Annual Conference in Minneapolis. It was wonderful to see old friends and colleagues and meet new ones—both in person and virtually. A huge thanks to ATA President and ATA62 Conference Organizer Madalena Sánchez Zampaulo, ATA Headquarters staff, and volunteers for pulling off a very successful conference and dealing with the logistical challenges of a hybrid event.

When past conference organizers say that planning for next year's conference starts during the current year's conference, they aren't joking!

I'm very glad that ATA was able to make the conference accessible to virtual attendees, with all 120 sessions being live-streamed and recorded, and networking opportunities available online. Talking to conference attendees, it was clear to me that while the online conference experience was great, it was not the same as the in-person conference—for obvious reasons. From surprise encounters with old friends in the lobby to friendly chatter during coffee breaks or meeting new people over breakfast—there's no replicating these things that we all know and love from past ATA conferences.

It's safe to say that the Minneapolis conference was very special to all who attended. We've all missed seeing each other in person, and the conference felt like a big reunion. It was a safe, fun, rewarding, and uplifting experience that left us all with a much-needed feeling of optimism and excitement to meet again at the next conference.

It's my pleasure to serve as the conference organizer for ATA's 63rd and 64th Annual Conferences.

When past conference organizers say that planning for next year's conference starts during the current year's conference, they aren't joking! Preparations for ATA63 are in full swing and I look forward to seeing everyone in Los Angeles. We'll be visiting the conference hotel soon, and I'll be sharing updates as they become available.


In the meantime, I hope you'll consider submitting a proposal to

give a presentation at the conference. Sharing your knowledge and experience with colleagues is an excellent way to build your reputation and résumé, widen your networking circle, and position yourself as an expert in your field! The call for proposals for ATA's 63rd Annual Conference is now available online:

<https://bit.ly/ATA63-speakers>.

President Sánchez Zampaulo and I have recorded a short video on how to submit a successful conference proposal. In this video we share expectations for conference speakers, the process and timeline for selecting proposals, and tips on how to ensure that your proposal stands out. The video is available at **<https://bit.ly/ATA63-submit>**.

If you have any questions about submitting a conference proposal, please contact Adrian Aleckna, ATA's Professional Development Manager, at **adrian@atanet.org**.

I look forward to seeing you in Los Angeles, October 12–15, 2022! 

USEFUL LINKS

ATA62 Video Recap
<https://bit.ly/AT62recap>

ATA63 Promo Video
<https://bit.ly/ATA63promo>

ATA63 Conference Proposal Form
<https://bit.ly/ATA63-speakers>

How to Write a Winning ATA Conference Proposal
<https://bit.ly/ATA63-submit>

Invest in Yourself: Renew Your Membership

Don't miss out on the value of ATA membership, including the online *Language Services Directory* to market your services, the full gamut of professional development opportunities, and much more. In all my years of sharing the benefits of ATA membership, the following have remained constant year after year:

- One job from ATA's *Language Services Directory*, from a connection made at the Annual Conference, or from a division list job posting more than pays for your membership.
- The online *Language Services Directory* markets your services 24/7/365, including expanded options for interpreter services. (Be sure to keep your profile up to date and fresh.')
- One new shortcut, website, or tool you learn about through our professional development offerings can increase your efficiency, putting more money in your pocket. Plus, there are real savings on member discounts for tools.
- ATA membership also saves you money on continuing education and training. ATA members get discounted rates on our professional development events. Last year, ATA offered over 50 webinars. In addition, ATA members have access to free monthly webinars. (See *Newsbriefs* for the upcoming webinars and the link to the free monthly webinar.) We added Back to Business Basics webinars, focusing on various aspects of translation and interpreting. We also added a new series to *The ATA Podcast*, Inside Specialization, where experienced translators and interpreters provide insights about their niche, how they got started, and what it takes to succeed.
- ATA offers valuable networking opportunities—from the Annual Conference, the premier event in the T&I professions, to the new Business Practices Education Committee's online Brainstorm Networking events to division communities (discussion lists, happy hours, and meet-ups).
- ATA offers relevant and timely information that you can readily access as an ATA member—from sessions at the Annual Conference to articles in *The ATA Chronicle* to *Newsbriefs* to division newsletters and blogs.
- By supporting ATA, you are supporting yourself and the T&I professions. ATA's advocacy and public relations efforts create greater awareness of the value of your skills with campaigns to promote the recognition of professional translators and interpreters. Last year, ATA called for appropriate compensation for interpreters in Pennsylvania courts, fair working conditions for translators in the entertainment industry, and exemptions from restrictive labor laws for freelancers to support your bottom line.
- Your affiliation with ATA reflects your professionalism. Promote your membership by downloading and displaying the ATA logo on your website and in your marketing materials.
- Finally, if you are a professional translator or interpreter, ATA is the place for you. Belonging to a community of colleagues who are facing the same challenges as you has never been more important. ATA members are there for each other. Don't go it alone!

The value of ATA membership has never been stronger. Whether taking advantage of our growing number of professional development opportunities or



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increasing your market reach through a listing in our online *Language Services Directory*, ATA membership helps you become better at what you do. That's why renewing your membership is a smart business decision and an investment in yourself. Thank you for your support in 2021, and we look forward to serving you in 2022! 

The Loss of ATA's Certification Committee Chair: Michèle Hansen

As President Sánchez Zampaulo mentioned in her column, we are mourning the loss of Michèle Hansen, ATA's Certification Committee chair, who died after a short battle with cancer. Some of you saw her at the conference in Minneapolis. She was upbeat and unflappable as always. Michèle was respected by all and will definitely be missed. Read more about Michèle's many contributions to ATA and to the T&I professions on page 8.

NOTE

¹ Bodeux, Eve. "Getting the Most from Your ATA *Language Services Directory* Profile," *The ATA Chronicle* (November–December 2021), 12, <https://bit.ly/ATA-directory>.



Michèle Hansen

By Larry Bogoslaw, deputy ATA Certification Committee chair,
and Corinne McKay, ATA past president (2017–2019)

We are sad to inform you of the passing of ATA Certification Committee Chair Michèle Hansen. Michèle, a devoted member for 33 years, died on December 5 after a short battle with cancer.

Michèle spent her early life in Hinsdale, Illinois, then moved to Jakarta, Indonesia, where she graduated from the Jakarta International School. She then attended the University of Wisconsin–Madison, earning a BA in French and Chinese. During her undergraduate studies, Michèle spent her junior year in the south of France. After graduation, she earned a certificate in medical writing from the University of Chicago, a certificate in pharmaceutical writing from the American Medical Writers Association, and her ATA certification (French>English).

Michèle applied her knowledge of medical topics

to projects in international development and global health for national and international health and public health agencies as well as non-governmental organizations. These projects included health policy, epidemiology, and public health programs in sub-Saharan Africa and Haiti, with a focus on malaria, HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, vaccine-preventable diseases, and immunization campaigns. Related translations for sustainable development and “One Health” included agricultural and veterinary research.

Michèle had significant experience with documentation for the pharmaceutical industry. Her clients included many of the major pharmaceutical and biotech companies.

Michèle was also an adjunct instructor of French>English medical translation at the New York University School of Professional and Continuing

Studies and taught French>English medical translation at the University of Chicago Graham School. Michèle loved to share her passion for lifelong learning, and her students consistently remarked on the thought and care she put into preparing her courses. They described her as “An excellent instructor and a continuing education ambassador” and “An expert translator who is also clear, approachable, and funny.” One student even remarked, “I would take any class she teaches, just for the pleasure of learning from her.”


Michèle went above and beyond in her service to ATA. A longtime member of the French Language Division (FLD), she served as assistant administrator and then division administrator. She was known in the FLD as a valued editing partner and as a colleague who could always be counted on for advice and support. She was a frequent presenter at ATA conferences, covering topics ranging from how to prepare for ATA’s certification exam to translating for the international development sector. In 2014, Michèle joined the Certification Committee, where her energy and initiative helped effect some of the program’s most major changes in decades: first, the computerized certification exam (where candidates bring their own computers to public sittings) and, more recently, the online exam (where candidates complete and submit their translations from home).

Michèle will long be remembered as a treasured

colleague who was also a genuinely kind and generous person. Every interaction with Michèle had a human touch, whether it was her efforts to keep her dog from barking at the UPS truck during online presentations, or her plans for a spontaneous trip to stomp grapes during the wine harvest in southern France. (“Why not?” was Michèle’s explanation!)

Her volunteer endeavors were imbued with a spirit of collaboration, purposefulness, and good cheer. When faced with setbacks and difficult questions, she often responded with a joke, and always with optimism and industrious effort. Michèle was a resourceful colleague and leader who was not only great to work with but fun to be around.

Michèle was also much cherished outside of ATA. Her obituary reads, in part: “Michèle raised two wonderful daughters who are committed to keeping her spirit alive. Michèle enjoyed walking her dogs with friends, crossword puzzles, international travel, jazz music, archery, and hosting dinner parties. Michèle was generous to the extreme with her time and resources, often helping others in need. She supported Tibetan refugees as a young adult and donated to many charities throughout her life.”

Michèle will be greatly missed by the ATA community. To honor her memory, her family suggests a donation to Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières. 

Call for Nominations: ATA Directors

The 2022 Nominating and Leadership Development Committee is pleased to announce the call for nominations from ATA's membership to fill four directors' positions (three normal vacancies, each for a three-year term, and one appointed director with a remaining term of one-year). Elections will be held at the Annual Meeting of Voting Members during ATA's 63rd Annual Conference in Los Angeles, October 12–15, 2022!

Under ATA's Bylaws, all Active members of ATA are eligible to run for elected office. Active members are those who have passed an ATA certification exam or who are established as having achieved professional status through an Active Membership Review (see the box below for more information on this process), or through the Credentialed Interpreter program (<http://bit.ly/ATA-CI-designation>). Active members must be citizens or permanent residents of the U.S. Other member categories are not eligible to serve as officers or directors. However, any member may submit a nomination. Members of the Nominating and Leadership Development Committee are not eligible to run for elected office. Self-nominations are permitted.

If you plan to put names forward for nomination, please contact the potential nominees first, explaining your intention and the fact that a nomination does not guarantee a formal invitation to run for office. If a nomination is not put forward by the Nominating and Leadership Development Committee to ATA's Board of Directors, an Active member may petition to be added to the slate of candidates by submitting the nomination in writing along with the signatures of at least 60 Voting members endorsing the nomination. The petitions must be received by the Nominating and Leadership Development Committee no later than 30 calendar days after first publication by the Board of Directors of the names of the candidates proposed by the committee.


2022 NOMINATING FORM ONLINE

Members may make a nomination
using the form online:

www.atanet.org/elections

Nominations should be submitted as early as possible
so that the Nominating and Leadership Development
Committee can fully consider proposed candidates.
The deadline is March 1, 2022.

**If you plan to put names forward for nomination,
please contact the potential nominees first.**

All ATA officers and directors serve on a volunteer basis: please do not nominate colleagues who express serious concerns about service, or who have conflicting priorities. 

**BECOME AN ATA
VOTING MEMBER!
Apply for Active
Membership Review**

Who is eligible to become a Voting member?
ATA Associate members who can demonstrate that they are professionally engaged in translation, interpreting, or closely related fields may be eligible for Voting membership. The qualification process, called Active Membership Review, is free and online!

Why should I become a Voting member?
Voting membership opens doors to your participation in the Association—take part in ATA elections, volunteer for Division and Committee roles, and increase your professional networking possibilities. Check it out at www.atanet.org/membership/memb_review_online.php.



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Treasurer's Annual Report for FY2020–21 (through May 2021)

While the pandemic and its knock-on effects have had a major impact on ATA's revenue and expenses, the Association remains on fairly solid financial ground as a whole.

This annual report reviews ATA's financial performance from July 2020 to May 2021. While not directly comparable with previous fiscal years (which end in June), it does provide a good indication of current trends. The results herein are preliminary and will be reviewed by independent auditors. To get a sense of how the Association is doing over time, we begin with a comparison of headline figures. (See the table below.)

At the organizational level, ATA has been doing a pretty good job of adapting to the new normal, all things considered. Starting with membership, we were able to weather the worst of the past 18 months without suffering a major decline. That's a

significant accomplishment, given concerns a year ago about the effects of the pandemic-induced economic crisis. Peak numbers have continued to fall year-on-year but are far from catastrophic.

Likewise, at this time last year, we were about to host our first-ever fully virtual conference. The impacts of that decision appear throughout this report. The Annual Conference is a major component of the Association's financial success, normally generating about one-third of our revenue, covering a significant portion of overhead at ATA Headquarters. While it was a much smaller affair, bringing in just \$490,914 in revenue, compared to the \$833,861 we

generated in Palm Springs, the hard work of staff and volunteers resulted in a much less expensive event, with total costs cut nearly in half. Those efforts should be applauded.

Overall, right now, we are looking at less total revenue and lower expenses for the fiscal year. Both are examined in more detail below.

Revenue and Expenses

During the most recent fiscal year,¹ ATA booked \$2.21 million in Total Revenue, while incurring \$2.23 million in Total Expenses. The result was a slightly negative Change in Net Assets (before investment activities) of **(-\$13,351)**.² (See Figure 1.) This bottom-line figure was an

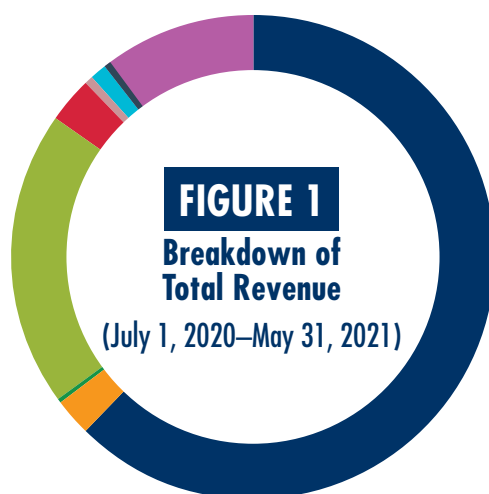
Year-on-Year Review	2018–2019	2019–2020	2020–2021 (May)
Membership (Current membership is presented first, with peak numbers during the respective fiscal year in parentheses.)	9,210 (10,004)	8,831 (9,802)	8,880 (9,418)
Total Revenue	\$3.08 million	\$2.94 million	\$2.21 million
Total Expenses	\$3.20 million	\$3.04 million	\$2.23 million
Change in Net Assets (Before investment activities.)	(-\$121,302)	(-\$99,796)	(-\$13,351)
Total Assets	\$2.86 million	\$2.73 million	\$3.33 million
Total Liabilities	\$1.44 million	\$1.29 million	\$1.81 million
Conference Attendance (Final registration from Palm Springs, the virtual event in 2020, and from Minneapolis in 2021.)	1,377	1,503 (virtual)	1,026 (hybrid)

improvement year-on-year, as certain expenses were kept in check by the pandemic.

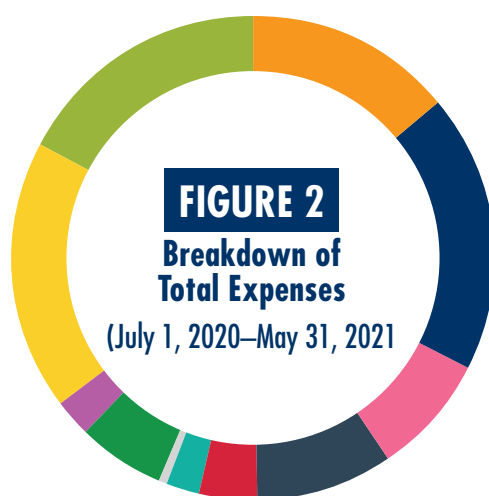
As mentioned at the outset, Membership dues (\$1.56 million) remained the main source of revenue, though they were down somewhat (-5.2%) from a year before. The fully virtual Annual Conference generated significantly less revenue (-\$342,947) than the event in Palm Springs, but its lower cost enabled us more or less to break even. Another major decline was revenue from Certification (\$63,050), down (-67%) year-on-year as a result of almost no exam sittings during this period. Nearly all revenue came from certification practice exams. One bright spot was revenue from Webinars (\$75,410), which tripled from a year earlier, with more webinars offered and higher average attendance. We are on track to record a 162% improvement in this program's performance over June 2020.

Other good news is that Total Expenses were significantly lower (-20.4%) for many of these same reasons. (See Figure 2.) The majority of ATA's spending (62%) went to Program Services (\$1.39 million) after overhead allocations.³ Spending on the various programs was much lower (-27.9%) mainly because the virtual Annual Conference (\$411,018) cost so much less than a conventional event. In addition, Certification program expenses (\$178,519) were down quite a bit (-33.4%), as fewer exams had to be graded.

Supporting Services accounted for the



■ Membership: 1,558,262 • 62%	□ PD — Seminars: 0 • 0%
■ Conference: 490,914 • 20%	■ Dividend/Interest: 28,131 • 1%
■ Certification: 63,050 • 3%	■ Gain/(Loss) Investment: 257,044 • 10%
■ Chronicle: 4,689 • 0%	■ Other Revenue: 17,055 • 1%
■ Publications: 2,905 • 0%	
■ PD — Webinar/Podcast: 75,410 • 3%	



■ Membership: 313,884 • 14%	■ Divisions: 132,105 • 6%
■ Conference: 411,018 • 19%	■ PR/Officers/Governance: 53,038 • 2%
■ Certification: 178,519 • 8%	■ Salaries: 400,721 • 18%
■ Chronicle: 205,197 • 9%	■ General & Administrative: 381,396 • 17%
■ Publications: 87,273 • 4%	
■ PD — Webinar: 48,769 • 2%	
■ PD — Seminars: 13,715 • 1%	

Association's next biggest expenditure, at \$835,155, and they were also kept in check (-6.1%). These services include staff salaries/benefits, general and administrative expenses, Board meetings, public relations, marketing, etc.

Figure 2 shows how ATA spent its money over the first 11 months of the fiscal year.

Major Program Results

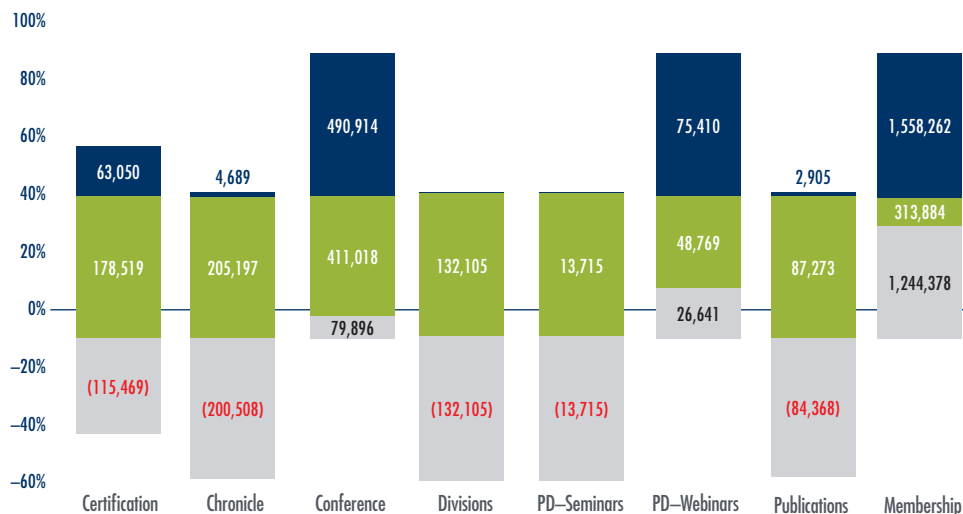
Individual ATA programs tend to run at a loss, meaning they are not self-sustaining and require membership dues to finance them. Figure 3 on page 12 shows the revenue (blue), expenses (green), and net gain or loss (gray) for each program. For instance, the gray section of Membership shows the positive net funds available (\$1.24 million) from dues, after deducting overhead. Whereas the column next to it, Publications, contains a negative figure (-84,368), meaning that this program is in the red and needs dues to operate. Note that individual columns are not to scale, in terms of comparing figures from one with another.

Certain programs, such as the Chronicle, Divisions, and Seminars, were almost entirely subsidized by dues. Other programs, including the Conference and Certification, generate some revenue that helps offset their costs.

So far this fiscal year, two programs are in the black: the Conference and Webinars, which have brought in enough revenue to cover their respective expenses.

FIGURE 3 Financial Results for ATA Programs
(Rounded to the Nearest Thousand)

■ Revenue ■ Expenses ■ Net Gain or Loss



Assets, Liabilities, and Net Assets

While the pandemic and its knock-on effects have had a major impact on ATA's revenue and expenses, the Association remains on fairly solid financial ground as a whole. The headline figure from our Statement of Financial Position (i.e., balance sheet) as of May 31, 2021, is a positive change (16.6%) in Total Assets from \$2.86 million a year ago to \$3.33 million this year. (The statement can be found on page 14.) While having more assets is a good thing, it's important to point out that the main reasons they grew so much during this period were actually due to improvements in Cash, in large part as a result of receiving a (forgivable) Paycheck Protection Program loan, and our Investments (up 25.7% year-on-year), rather than the performance of our operations.

Total Liabilities also rose during this same period (28.3%), from \$1.41 million to \$1.81 million, with an increase in Deferred Accounts accounting for nearly this entire change.

With both total assets and total liabilities increasing during this period, the key item to keep an eye on is the change in Net Assets—Unrestricted, which was up slightly (5.2%), from \$1.45 million a year ago to \$1.52 million this May. That positive figure means that the Association's net worth is moving in the right direction.

Annual Conference

The financial performance of the 2020 Annual Conference was in doubt from the day it became clear that ATA could not hold a traditional in-person event in Boston. Going fully virtual came with quite a few challenges, not just technically and operationally, but in terms of

planning and budgeting for something the Association had never done before. We knew that it was going to be smaller and bring in less revenue, but a year ago it was unclear as to whether it could be profitable, or, at the very least, not lose money. Well, now we know.

The figures, at this point, look encouraging. The two pie charts in Figures 4 and 5 on page 13 show where the conference generated its revenue and how that money was spent.⁴

As seen in Figure 4, Registration was obviously the main source of revenue (\$431,134), but ATA also brought in some money from Advanced Skills and Training (AST) courses, sponsorship, and exhibitors.

On the other side of the ledger, the virtual aspect of this conference resulted in new spending patterns. As can be seen in Figure 5, Audiovisual costs accounted for nearly half of all outlays. That makes sense for a fully virtual event. Overhead at ATA Headquarters is the next largest slice, but bear in mind that the staff works on the conference year-round to make it happen. And then things diverge significantly from a typical year.

We would normally expect to spend around \$250,000 on the hotel/meeting venue, which would include food, beverages, physical space, and travel. Instead, our next biggest cost was Experient (now Maritz), our event planning partner, whose fees are usually rolled into the venue expense. There would also be another \$100,000 or so

spent on items such as in-person division activities, clerical work, equipment rental, insurance, and the like. Hosting an online event eliminated them all, which is why our overall expenses were so much lower.

The upshot is that the virtual conference generated \$490,194 in revenue, while incurring only \$184,220 in direct costs. In short, it more than paid for itself. Plus, this surplus has covered most of the allocated overhead. Once the figures from June 2021 are final, the expectation is that the event will have at least broken even and may have made a slight profit.

Turning our sights on this year's conference in Minneapolis, the biggest financial concern has been planning and budgeting for yet another unprecedented event. We learned a lot from the 2020 virtual conference, but unfortunately, hosting an in-person event with a virtual component is essentially a new undertaking.

For starters, we not only have all the normal in-person expenses mentioned above but also a set of additional costs related to streaming this content to virtual attendees. In addition, with the uncertainty caused by the pandemic, it has been unclear how many people would actually register to attend in person, how many would watch from home, and how many might choose to skip this year's event entirely. As it turns out, this last variable has proven to be the hardest to estimate and the most significant for ATA's bottom line.



- Registration: 431,134 • 88%
- AST: 36,469 • 7%
- Corporate Sponsor: 14,000 • 3%
- Exhibit: 8,205 • 2%
- Virtual Conference: 1,106 • 0%



- Overhead Expense: 51,513 • 22%
- Audio Visual: 106,222 • 45%
- Experient: 24,500 • 10%
- Conference Mgt Software: 20,000 • 9%
- Honorarium: 8,480 • 4%
- Division Activities: 7,800 • 3%
- Travel and Lodging: 7,352 • 3%
- Miscellaneous: 3,800 • 2%
- Postage: 2,619 • 1%
- Preliminary Program: 1,352 • 1%

At the organizational level, ATA has been doing a pretty good job of adapting to the new normal, all things considered.

For years, we have noted that when an Annual Conference does well financially, ATA does well as a whole. This year is no different. We know that attendance is down and expenses are up. That's not a recipe for financial success. But the Association prudently manages and invests its money for just this type of scenario, where so many factors are out of our control. We will likely take a hit from this year's conference, but once again, ATA will learn from the experience, which should be helpful in planning future events.


The Budget and Beyond

ATA has an annual operating budget of roughly \$3 million. It varies somewhat from year to year, but that figure is what the Association needs to operate in its current form. Membership dues are budgeted to provide the lion's share (61%) of these funds, with the Annual Conference (26%) and Certification Program (10%) making up much of the rest.

Like many membership-based organizations, ATA's total membership has been slowly declining over the past 10 years. Efforts have been (and continue to be) made to reverse this trend. In fact,

the Association's retention rate with existing members has been north of 80%, an enviable achievement. But the data indicate that we are becoming a smaller organization overall.

At the same time, we have seen declining attendance at conferences. Granted, last year and this year are outliers because of the pandemic, and the venue locations in both 2018 and 2019 were in smaller cities (New Orleans and Palm Springs, respectively). Nonetheless, attendance has been down, and until we see more people showing up (possibly in Los Angeles this year), we should assume from a financial standpoint that the Association will generate less revenue from these events in the near term.

I mention these two points—declining membership and smaller conferences—as a segue to the drum that I have been beating for the past few years: the need to rethink and restructure ATA for our new reality. Restructuring is both an organizational and financial imperative. ATA Headquarters has been leading the way, with staff already working in a hybrid remote/in-person situation, while exploring various avenues for cutting overhead costs and shrinking the size of the office footprint. Every ATA member involved in a division or a committee can likewise help by thinking of ways to streamline interactions and operations. This collective effort will enable us to create a financially healthy and sustainable organization. 

Preliminary Consolidated Statement of Financial Position as of May 31, 2021

ASSETS

	2021	2020	YOY Change	YOY Change %
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$1,583,816	\$1,400,288	\$183,528	13.1%
Accounts Receivable	—	35,000	(35,000)	100.0%
Prepaid Expenses	79,715	74,852	4,863	6.5%
Total Current Assets	1,663,531	1,510,140	153,391	10.2%

INVESTMENTS

Mutual Funds:

Equity	544,714	571,606	(26,892)	−4.7%
Fixed Income	939,621	697,669	241,952	34.7%
Alternative	111,115	—	111,115	0.0%
Total Investments	1,595,450	1,269,275	326,175	25.7%

PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

Property and Equipment	604,558	582,698	21,859	3.8%
Less accumulated depreciation	(543,753)	(515,744)	(28,009)	5.4%
Net property and equipment	60,805	66,955	(6,149)	−9.2%

OTHER ASSETS

Deposits	13,016	13,016	—	0.0%
TOTAL ASSETS	\$3,332,802	\$2,859,386	\$473,416	16.6%

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

CURRENT LIABILITIES

Short-term Payables	8,450	7,950	500	6.3%
Deferred Accounts	1,755,447	1,335,740	419,706	31.4%
Total Current Liabilities	1,763,897	1,343,690	420,206	31.3%

DEFERRED RENT—NONCURRENT

Total NonCurrent Liabilities	45,449	66,938	(21,490)	−32.1%
Total Liabilities	1,809,346	1,410,629	398,717	28.3%

COMMITMENTS

NET ASSETS—UNRESTRICTED	1,523,457	1,448,757	74,700	5.2%
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$3,332,802	\$2,859,386	\$473,416	16.6%

Preliminary Consolidated Statement of Activities (with overhead distribution)
July 1, 2020 to May 31, 2021

	2021	2020	YOY Change	YOY Change %
REVENUE				
Membership	\$1,558,262	\$1,642,913	\$(84,651)	-5.2%
Certification	63,050	190,836	(127,786)	-67.0%
Chronicle	4,689	9,048	(4,359)	-48.2%
Conference	490,914	833,861	(342,947)	-41.1%
Prof. Dev — Seminars	—	—	—	0.0%
Prof. Dev — Webinars	75,410	28,310	47,100	166.4%
Publications	2,905	3,117	(212)	-6.8%
Other Revenue	17,055	25,821	(8,767)	-34.0%
Total Revenue	2,212,285	2,733,906	(521,621)	-19.1%
EXPENSES				
Program Services:				
Certification	178,519	268,212	(89,693)	-33.4%
Chronicle	205,197	201,378	3,819	1.9%
Conference	411,018	803,810	(392,792)	-48.9%
Divisions	132,105	136,885	(4,780)	-3.5%
Membership Services	312,052	355,574	(43,522)	-12.2%
Prof. Dev — Seminars	13,715	13,684	31	0.2%
Prof. Dev — Webinars	50,602	39,644	10,958	27.6%
Publications	87,273	88,467	(1,194)	-1.3%
Total Program Services	1,390,481	1,907,654	(517,173)	-27.1%
Supporting Services:				
Salaries & Benefits	400,721	399,804	917	0.2%
General & Administrative	381,396	349,404	31,992	9.2%
PR/Marketing	30,008	48,785	(18,777)	-38.5%
Officers & Directors	6,462	70,978	(64,516)	-90.9%
Volunteers & Governance	16,568	20,016	(3,448)	-17.2%
Total Supporting Services	835,155	888,987	(53,832)	-6.1%
Total Expenses	2,225,636	2,796,641	(571,005)	-20.4%
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS BEFORE INVESTMENT ACTIVITY	(13,351)	(62,735)	49,384	78.7%
Nonoperating Activities:				
Dividend/Interest	28,131	26,012	2,119	8.1%
Realized (Loss) Gain on Investments	(5,794)	—	(5,794)	—
Unrealized (Loss) Gain on Investments	262,838	(14,053)	276,891	1970.4%
Total Nonoperating Activities	285,175	11,959	273,216	2284.6%
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	271,823	(50,776)	322,599	635.3%
NET ASSETS—JULY 1, 2020, 2019	1,424,380	1,499,534	(75,154)	-5.0%
NET ASSETS—MAY 31, 2021, 2020	\$1,696,203	\$1,448,758	247,445	17.1%

NOTES

- ¹ July 2020–May 2021, a month short of a full fiscal year, owing to pandemic-related backlogs in accounting.
- ² As a nonprofit organization, ATA's change in net assets indicates earnings or losses during the fiscal year.
- ³ ATA allocates part of its overhead to programs, such as the conference, certification, and divisions, based on the number of hours that Headquarters staff spend working on them. This allocation provides a more accurate view of their actual cost.
- ⁴ The charts, graphs, and figures included in this report were prepared by ATA's much-appreciated accounting and finance manager, Kirk Lawson.

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Subtly Sexist Sources: What's a Woke Translator to Do?

10 Practical Pointers for into-English Translators

By Rachel Pierce

First things first: *everyone* is sexist. According to a 2020 gender study by the United Nations Development Programme, “close to 90% of men and women hold some sort of bias against women.”¹ Sticking people into neat categories is a subconscious strategy that served our ancient ancestors in the survival-of-the-fittest scenarios they faced. But the world is evolving, and we should be too.

Societal expectations around gender are codified in different languages in barely perceptible ways. And the documents we translate were written by people, with all their flaws and preconceived ideas. So, when

gender bias reveals itself in a source text, what's a woke² translator to do?

The subtle sexism we usually encounter in our work isn't mean-spirited, it's lazy. But just because your client didn't bother to think outside the gender box doesn't mean you should follow suit. This is actually an area where translators can add great value. The line between lazy and offensive is very thin, and your nuanced understanding of the source and target languages might just save your client—from themselves.

“Fortunately,” subtle sexism follows certain patterns, and once you see them you can't unsee them (sorry, not sorry!). Here I break down the 10 most common ones you're likely to run across in your work, color-coded by severity to help you decide what, if anything, to tell your client.

Green Light: The Coast Is Clear

The first four examples aren't sexism per se—they're linguistic pain points in the source language, usually because of gender markers for which English has easy workarounds. There's no need to draw your client's attention to these issues.

1. **Embrace the singular “they.”** “There's a new CEO. I heard *they* start Monday.” Grammar sticklers may balk, but the fact is there's no longer a need for *he* or *she* or, worse still, *s/he*, when a person's gender is unknown or irrelevant. The singular *they* is a deft solution long used in everyday speech. With the

exception of a few partial holdouts (we're looking at you, *Chicago Manual of Style*!), all the major style guides and dictionaries now endorse it because it essentially takes gender out of the equation.

2. **Let the ladies lead now and again.** Writers in most languages tend to mention men first except in situations involving chivalry (*ladies and gentlemen*) or presumed maternal instincts (*mothers and fathers* gets roughly twice the Google hits as *fathers and mothers*). Translating a paragraph about a crack team of financial planners made up of women and men? Make your writing more engaging by alternating the order in which they're introduced.
3. **What's good for the goose is good for the gander.** Even if it's clear from the source language that a woman is married, always, always, always use Ms. (or Dr. or Professor, if applicable) when translating her title into English, unless you know her preferred form of address. Because marital status shouldn't matter, period.
4. **Be aware of the grammatical gender gap.** One of the advantages of English is that it's a *natural gender* language, meaning gender distinctions are only made in pronouns. But in Romance languages, for example, animate and inanimate objects have gender and the adjectives used to describe them

have to agree in gender. When the source is laden with gender information, translating it is tempting—but often unnecessary. Ask yourself: What's gender got to do with it in English? If the answer is “nothing,” leave it out.

Yellow Light: Proceed with Caution

The next three subtle sexism patterns affect the source and the target and may need to be brought to your client's attention, depending on the nature of the project, your relationship with your client, the deadline, and other real-world factors. Whether you raise the flag to your client or not, you should feel empowered to move away from the sexism you see in the source.

5. **Watch for weak verbs.** Many writers save powerful, task-oriented verbs for men and weaker, people-oriented verbs for women. Just because she's *taking care* and he's *taking charge*⁴ in the source doesn't mean you have to replicate it in the target. This is another good reason to use strong verbs in your translations across the board.
6. **Watch for loaded adjectives.** Similarly, adjectives can be a real minefield. Don't use descriptors that fit only one gender. Have you ever heard a man described as *wearing something revealing*, or being *bossy* or *emotional*? On the flip side, adjectives like *assertive* and *confident* are

compliments for men but thinly veiled insults for women. Women are also more likely to be saddled with adjectives bestowing faint praise, like *helpful* and *conscientious*, which certainly don't scream “star performer deserving of a raise!” Stick with strong adjectives that aren't gender-charged, carry the same connotation, and actually convey meaningful information.

7. **Watch for non-neutral nouns.** The generic *he* is a thing of the past, so avoid using gender-specific nouns to refer to all humans and don't assume certain occupations are held by people of a certain gender. Think *chairperson* (not *chairman*), *flight attendant* (not *stewardess*), and *housekeeper* (not *cleaning lady*). English has plenty of neutral nouns to draw on instead.
One caveat: Sometimes it's a good idea to make gender *more* visible. For instance, in a job description for a traditionally male-dominated position, consider using *his or her* (or why not *her or his*?) instead of the singular *they* to encourage female applicants. (“The faculty chair will fulfill *his or her* role by....”) Hopefully this more inclusive wording will resonate with non-binary candidates as well. And a word to the wise: If you ever need to write or translate a job description in English, run it through the Gender Decoder⁵ to make sure

it doesn't inadvertently sound sexist.

Red light: Danger Ahead

The last three are not-so-subtle examples of sexism that could potentially alienate or even offend the target audience, so they warrant an explanatory comment or email to your client every time.

8. **Ditch the dichotomy.** Be on high alert for stereotypes slipping in any time a woman and a man are mentioned in the same sentence or paragraph (a sister and brother, a father and mother, female/male coworkers). We tend to think of men and women in opposition, even though studies have shown we're more alike than different.⁶
This is all too common in marketing contexts. As early as our toddler years, we're indoctrinated to believe that girls like certain toys (pink aisle) and boys like others (blue aisle), and never the twain shall meet. Marketing aimed at adults often draws on trite stereotypes in the division of labor, with women stuck inside (cleaning products, child rearing) and men outside (tools, cars).⁷
But gender “norms” are a social construct, so if you have the poetic license—maybe you're translating a fictional training scenario or a creative marketing piece—switch up the gender roles and leave your client a note explaining why.

9. **Nix wording that sexualizes or infantilizes women.**

Two recent translation projects come to mind. The first was a corporate dress code that frowned on spaghetti straps and low-cut blouses. Simply put, this is formalized gender discrimination. We changed the wording to something less inflammatory (“Dress professionally” did the trick!) and let our client know.

The other was a branding piece that described a veterinarian’s social media presence as *feminine*. Tracking down their Facebook posts to get a visual, we found photos of adorable pets (picture an inspirational “Hang in There” poster). We opted for *cute and cuddly* and included a note to the client patiently explaining that *feminine* could be controversial and distract from their message.

10. **Speak up—again and again and again.** I’m a firm believer in client education. Typo in the source text? Let the client know. Vague wording? Let the client know. Problematic language that makes them sound tone-deaf—or worse? *Let the client know.*

Companies operate as closed systems. They have their own culture and parlance, so you may find that some are more prone to using non-neutral, non-inclusive language because they can no longer objectively hear what they sound like. They may even

be resistant to constructive criticism coming from the outside.

When you take the time to insert a comment in your translation or type up an explanatory email, don’t expect an immediate response. As we all know, being a translator sometimes feels like being stranded on a desert island. Think of every comment and every email like a message in a bottle. Keep on sending them, and eventually someone out there will hear you.


Bottom Line

The bottom line is that translators have agency over their work and should make it as gender-neutral and inclusive as possible without impacting readability or undermining the author’s intention. Ask yourself how egregious the error is (play Red Light, Green Light). If it comes from gender marking in the source language, keep moving. If it’s a subtlety that could be improved in the source as well, consider letting the client know (especially if that particular client is a repeat offender). And if it’s a verbal misstep that could have far-reaching consequences, definitely don’t let it slide.

We’re witnessing social progress on an unparalleled scale. What we (and our clients) say and how we say it has never mattered more. As Amanda Ruggeri, senior editor of *BBC Future*, mentioned in a 2019 editorial: “Mirroring gender imbalance [...] isn’t a benign act. It perpetuates the problem.”⁸ Accustomed to playing a supporting role, professional linguists have an unprecedented opportunity to

leverage our insight and skills in unobtrusive yet impactful ways. After all, how many other occupations consume, process, and rephrase *thousands* of words a day? We have a considerable amount of control over those words,

and we have the ear of clients large and small, across every industry. We can and should be champions for change.

Have you found sexism or questionable language in a source text (or MT/AI context)? Email me! 

NOTES

- ¹ “Almost 90% of Men/Women Globally Are Biased Against Women,” United Nations Development Programme website (March 5, 2020), <https://bit.ly/UNDP-bias>.
- ² My definition of “woke” is being aware that we all carry unconscious bias and making a concerted effort to mindfully combat it whenever possible.
- ³ To read *The Chicago Manual of Style*’s stance on the use of the singular “they,” see: <https://bit.ly/CMS-pronouns>.
- ⁴ “Women ‘Take Care,’ Men ‘Take Charge’: Stereotyping of U.S. Business Leaders Exposed,” Catalyst (2005), <https://bit.ly/Catalyst-stereotyping>.
- ⁵ Gender Decoder, <http://gender-decoder.katmatfield.com>.
- ⁶ “Men and Women: No Big Difference,” American Psychological Association, www.apa.org/research/action/difference.
- ⁷ For more on the pitfalls of marketing to the sexes, watch the “Why Gender-Based Marketing Is Bad for Business” TED Talk by Gaby Barrios: <https://bit.ly/Gaby-Barrios>.
- ⁸ Ruggeri, Amanda, “How We’re Tackling Gender Imbalance,” *BBC Future* (January 17, 2019), <https://bbc.in/3zknAOC>.

ADDITIONAL READING

Berger, Miriam. “A Guide to How Gender-Neutral Language Is Developing Around the World,” *The Washington Post* (December 15, 2019), <https://wapo.st/3eSKMcR>.

American Psychological Association Bias-Free Language Guidelines, <https://bit.ly/APA-bias-free>.

List of Sexist Adjectives (Sacraparental), <https://bit.ly/Sacraparental>.



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For the past eight years, she has worked as an in-house translator at Anglocom, now a division of TRSB. She has a master’s degree in French studies and a translation certificate from American University and a bachelor’s degree in French language and literature from the University of Mary Washington. She has a lifelong interest in improving the gender balance at work and at home. gendersities@gmail.com

REFLECTIONS ON RUNNING A MICRO- INTERNSHIP: Making a Difference by Starting Small

Even after completing an approved training program, new translators often still lack the necessary experience and expertise to be able to compete in the industry. This is where internships can help!



By Mary McKee

Note: I would like to thank my colleague Jamie Hartz for her contributions to this article.

Every well-informed translation buyer wants to work with an experienced linguist. And who can blame them? Even the least savvy client wouldn't want a newcomer after reading page 15 of the translation buyer's guide *Translation: Getting it Right*, which stresses how "risky" it is to hire a student translator, asking the reader:

Q: Would you approve of medical students performing minor operations to pay their way through medical school? (Would you describe your brochure/ letter/ annual report/speech as "minor"?) Would you have your company's financial statements prepared by business students to save money?

Even after completing an approved training program, new translators often still lack the necessary experience and expertise to be able to compete in the industry. Given how few translation training programs exist in the U.S., and how intense the competition can be in the global marketplace, it's not surprising that few translation internships exist, let alone paid internships. This makes it extremely difficult for new translators to get the real-world experience they need.

The Problem

In my experience as a graduate of the Kent State University master's program in Spanish>English translation, many of my classmates and graduating students from other language programs trained to become translators but

ended up going into project management. Some of them, I'm sure, intended to do so from the beginning, or determined during the course of their degree program that project management was more suited to their desires and talents. But anecdotal evidence and my own experience starting out suggests that the difficulty of breaking into the industry and the inherent instability of the freelance lifestyle pushes many people to seek more stable and salaried jobs in the industry even if they would have preferred to work as a translator.

I wanted to do something about this, but it seemed more like a systemic and industry-wide problem that only large companies could change, by finding the goodness in their hearts to help develop the human resources that they will need in the future.

Translation experience won't be as valuable to the intern if they don't also receive some feedback.

Starting Small to Find a Solution

The Black Squirrel Translator Collective (BSTC), of which I'm a co-founder and member, is a working group that provides many tangible and intangible benefits, including helping each other avoid burnout. BSTC is currently made up of four women translators who graduated from the Kent State University master's program in Spanish>English translation.² When we were students, we were fortunate enough to land well-compensated translation internships made available through our professors and leads sent to the translation student organization. This provided invaluable experience in the real world with supervision and the opportunity to use a real company name on our CVs.

After the pandemic struck our industry hard and further decreased opportunities for new translators, I wanted to do something to help. With BSTC having gained some name recognition and after the launch of our new website, I realized that we had become a "real" entity with the "authority" to offer an internship position. I approached fellow BSTC members Jamie Hartz, Hannah Sampson, and Victoria Chavez-Kruse about taking on a paid student intern during the summer of 2021. Although we couldn't offer a full-time internship, we could offer some paid work, which is a start!

Since our collective is focused on women, we wanted to offer our mentorship to a female student. We also wanted to

continue our connection to Kent State University, so we contacted Kelly Washbourne, a professor of Spanish translation at Kent State, who connected us with Nancy Cabrera, a second-year student in the MA program.

Structure

The structure of the internship was relatively informal. We wrote up a simple document describing what we envisioned for the internship program and chatted with Nancy over Zoom to answer her questions and see whether she seemed like a good fit for our team. We also contacted our clients and let them know a team member would be joining us for the summer. This allowed Nancy to sign applicable documents to allow her to work as a contractor with us for our regular clients.

We offered Nancy at least two paid minimum-rate projects (for us, that's usually 200-400 words) per week for the duration of the summer. For each project she was offered, one BSTC member would be in charge of mentoring and managing the project, providing feedback and guidance along the way. Nancy usually completed the translation step while one of us completed the editing step. Roughly once a week, one of us would also meet with Nancy over Zoom to review her work and discuss any questions. These meetings were also a chance to network and discuss our careers, provide mentoring and referrals to contacts that might be of interest, and generally discuss the translation industry.



Outcomes

Since founding BSTC in 2016, my colleagues and I have found that despite our best efforts, our workflow through the seasons remains unpredictable. At the beginning of last summer, we anticipated that we wouldn't be busy. But by the time Nancy joined us, however, we had already scheduled many conferences, large jobs, and other events that made us as a group less able to take on the amount of work from our clients that we usually do. Having another translator whose background and education we were familiar with and who we could count on to help us with some projects was extremely valuable.

When I spoke with Nancy to get her thoughts for this article, she said she felt the experience was valuable for building her

real-world skills and that she would recommend it to another student if we were to offer the position again. Nancy said that prior to the internship, she really didn't have a sense of what a freelance life would entail, but this internship gave her a good idea of what to expect. Nancy also felt that the compensation we offered was reasonable for the amount of work she put in.

Future Improvements

Nancy wished we had provided more information and a more thorough walk-through of our project flow and expectations at the beginning of the internship. Being a few years out of school, my colleagues and I had forgotten how steep the learning curve is when you begin paid work. We provided Nancy with the types of materials that our



clients usually provide us and expected her to read and absorb them on her own. If we offer this internship again, we'll definitely do more of a walk-through at the beginning.

Final Thoughts

On the whole, this internship was a win-win for both the intern and our collective. We all gained insight, Nancy got some experience, and BSTC was able to distribute our work during a time that was very busy for us. My colleagues and I at BSTC feel strongly that internships can be a great way for freelance translators to contribute to the next generation of our profession while also getting something in return. If other translators or groups of translators were to offer a similar experience to student

translators, we could make a huge difference to those starting out while also building connections across professionals in our industry of different experience levels.

How You Can Help

If you or a group of your colleagues are interested in implementing your own micro-internship, we offer these considerations for pursuing a similar arrangement:

Look for an intern: Contact professors you know or academic programs you have a connection with to get recommendations for students with aptitude for translation and freelance work. If you don't have contacts, consider reaching out to any of the translation and interpreting education programs listed on ATA's website.²

Communicate parameters:


Create a written record of how the internship will work. How much will the student be paid? How long will the internship last? What will be expected of them? What will be expected of you?

Provide feedback: Translation experience won't be as valuable to the intern if they don't also receive some feedback. You'll need to carve out time during the internship to provide clear, honest, meaningful feedback to the student so they can learn and grow. (Chances are you will too!)

Make time for small talk:

Having a weekly chat with Nancy allowed our team to freely discuss topics we might not have otherwise brought up. She asked great questions about how we had gotten into the field, and we learned about her interests and goals. We shared resources and tips that were helpful to us.

Be open to learning:

Whether you began translating last year or 30 years ago, we all have something to learn from each other! You're the primary teacher in this relationship, but you may have things to learn from the intern as well. 

NOTES

- ¹ *Translation, Getting it Right—A Guide to Buying Translation*, http://bit.ly/Getting_it_right.
- ² To learn more about BSTC, see: McKee, Mary. "The Benefits of a Translator Collective: Staying Sane as a Freelance Translator," *The ATA Chronicle* (September/October 2018), <https://bit.ly/McKee-collective>.
- ³ List of Translation and Interpreting Courses, <https://bit.ly/translationcourses>.



Mary McKee, CT is a freelance ATA-certified Spanish>English translator based in Seattle, Washington, specializing in life sciences translations. She is the owner and lead translator at McKee Translation and is a founding member of the Black Squirrel Translator Collective. She studied in the U.S., Cuba, Spain, and Brazil and has an MA in translation from Kent State University. Previously, she served on the Editorial Board for *The ATA Chronicle* and on the board of the Northwest Translators and Interpreters Society (an ATA chapter). mary@mckeetranslation.com



Jamie Hartz, CT is an ATA director and ATA-certified Spanish>English translator specializing in legal and commercial translation. She completed an MA in Spanish translation at Kent State University in 2015. In 2013, she was one of three ATA volunteers who established *The Savvy Newcomer* blog, and she is a frequent contributor and editor. She is also a member of the Delaware Valley Translators Association (an ATA chapter). jamie@tildelanguage.com



The Orange County Department of Education Multilingual Consortium: A Clearinghouse for Educational Interpreters

This is the story of how a multilingual consortium fostered professional virtual relationships and transformed a challenge into an opportunity by creating an international forum of interpreters from an array of backgrounds all with the same goal: to provide equal access to services to our respective students, families, teachers, and communities.

By Natalia Abarca

No one could have predicted that March 2020 would have such a profound impact on the lives of people across the world. Had a tarot reader advised me to prepare for such an event, I would have scoffed at the very idea. The pandemic has definitely

made us rethink how we see the world.

In 2014, the Orange County Department of Education (OCDE) in Southern California created the OCDE Multilingual Consortium, a professional network that supports high-quality translation and interpreting

services for school districts and charter schools across Orange County. The network serves as a repository distribution point for language resources that draws from the collective knowledge and expertise from the field.

When the Consortium was first created, there was an apparent need for such support. As an organization, we were responsive to the needs of our stakeholders and consequently forged a meaningful partnership with paraprofessionals, community liaisons, and other bilingual support staff who were asked to translate, interpret, and provide language access to students and families. Collectively, as a group, we engaged in relevant discussions, shared effective practices, and created a strategic and accountable system where ideas were turned into projects. Overall, there was buy-in from district and school leaders who were heartened by our shared efforts.

When COVID-19 hit, our schools were faced with managing a learning environment filled with much uncertainty. The teachers, staff, and parents who supported remote learning environments had little understanding of how to integrate digital technology into the classroom. There were no systems in place and opportunities to train staff and parents were few and far between. In the midst of increasing COVID-19 cases and with public health guidelines in flux, the OCDE Multilingual Consortium became a virtual haven,

where bilingual staff shared their failures and successes, vented, learned to cope, and, most importantly, came together online to support each other.

Serving some of the largest school districts in California, it was a natural transition for the Consortium to become a clearinghouse for bilingual staff challenged by the uncertainty of the pandemic. The virtual platforms at our disposal allowed us to invite colleagues nationwide as we synchronously addressed the educational challenges and opportunities of this new reality. Nationally and internationally recognized colleagues in the field shared their knowledge, and our partnerships with members of the interpreting community became stronger since we were all in this together, and all equally vulnerable.

Biggest Challenges Faced in Schools during the Pandemic

After stay-at-home orders were put in place, school employees started to set up home offices, with multiple electronic devices, office supplies, and high-speed internet. Nevertheless, this was not enough, as school staff began to identify some unanticipated challenges, including:

- How do we provide remote simultaneous interpreting?
- What virtual platforms are we allowed to use in schools?
- Do we have the proper equipment? What about headsets, laptops, hot spots, microphones, and iPads or tablets?

- Do we have adequate space to provide and receive services?
- Are our parents trained on the use of these virtual platforms/technology?
- What steps are in place to provide the support needed?
- Is the school providing Chrome books, laptops, and hot spots to students in need?
- What types of meetings are we covering? Board meetings, expulsion hearings, inter-district transfer appeals, special education meetings?
- How can we manage body language and emotions?
- Are we going to be able to receive documents ahead of time?
- Are administrators going to share their screen so we can see the documents?
- Do we need to do translations? If so, what type of software is available?
- Are there specific glossaries for terminology related to COVID-19?
- Does the school have a scheduling system in place to assign interpreters?
- Does the school have a language access plan implemented?

There were still so many questions to be answered and so little time to assess our collective needs and determine the best actions to take. Simply put, it was a daunting endeavor!

When COVID-19 hit, our schools were faced with managing a learning environment filled with much uncertainty.

The OCDE Multilingual Consortium regularly and consistently addressed the aforementioned challenges by meeting virtually with staff interpreters from school districts across California. These interpreters were given the opportunity to share their challenges and successes providing language services for board meetings, individualized education program meetings, parent teacher conferences, and community forums. Together, we learned about the use of the Zoom interpreting feature. In time, we became experts, training meeting hosts and preparing scripts to be shared in chats, waiting rooms, and email communications. In addition, we learned how to provide remote simultaneous interpreting while using other virtual platforms such as Google Meets, Webex, and Microsoft Teams. Freelance interpreters also provided tips and shared experiences based on their prior practices, and language services providers offered assistance at no cost, especially to cover assignments involving the least spoken languages.

We requested equipment and tools to perform successfully. We improvised mobile offices in our homes, backyards, garages, and

even our cars, many times using our own personal devices. We reached out to all our respective networks. Our social media contacts became our first source of information. We fostered professional virtual relationships and transformed a challenge into an opportunity by creating an international forum of interpreters from an array of backgrounds all with the same goal: to provide equal access to services to our respective students, families, teachers, and communities.

Before the pandemic, the OCDE Multilingual Consortium met regularly with Orange County School District's bilingual staff. During the pandemic, the virtual environment allowed us to open our doors to bilingual staff from across the state and the U.S. We engaged with thousands of colleagues from all fields of interpreting, creating a unique forum for interpreters serving students in the K-12 system.

What's It Like to Work as Bilingual Staff, as an Interpreter, or as a Translator in Schools?

According to a new report from the U.S. Department of Education, English-language-learner enrollment in K-12 schools has increased by more than one million students since 2000.¹ Thus, language access has earned a front-row seat in our educational system.

Bilingual personnel who work in U.S. schools wear multiple hats with varying job titles and scopes of work. Regardless of whether they refer to themselves as

bilingual secretaries, parent advocates, community liaisons, family engagement coordinators, or program coordinators, they all have one common denominator: interpreting and translating are part of the job responsibilities.

It's important to understand each role to work collaboratively with school staff to ensure accurate language access to our respective students, families, and communities. Staff members also need to understand how the educational system works, how student academic progress is measured, what academic assessments are implemented, and what federal, state, and local educational frameworks are being utilized.

To engage families and parents in their student's education in meaningful ways, schools need to provide language access in the classrooms and in different educational settings. Schools are not required to have certified interpreters or translators, but having trained multilingual staff is imperative.

The lack of a national certification, standards of practices, and guidelines to work as an interpreter in schools is a big challenge for educational leaders. The need to provide language access is vital, but we need to create white papers and develop policies to protect our work and ensure accuracy and transparency as dictated by ethical principles.

Moving Forward

The OCDE Multilingual Consortium surveyed those who attended its meetings from April 2020–December 2021 and received the following feedback:

- 92 % were satisfied with the topics presented.
- 97.5 % were extremely satisfied with the meetings and will continue to attend.
- 97.5 % responded that they would recommend our meetings to their peers.


There's still work to do, staff to train, topics to explore, and relevant frameworks to create. Based on our data collection, bilingual staff working in K–12 settings are eager to learn more about:

- Computer-assisted translation tools to streamline translation projects
- Note-taking systems to support consecutive interpreting
- Team interpreting in school settings
- Translating multilingual documents
- Honing skills on the use of technology for virtual meetings
- Advancing technical vocabulary in different areas, such as mental health topics
- Trainings for teachers and administrators on how to work with interpreters and

the importance of working with trained bilingual staff

- Self-care for interpreters
- Supporting parent involvement in their student educational journey

Reflecting on the past two years, I feel humbled. We've grown so much as a community as we keep moving forward toward the professionalization of interpreters working in K–12 settings. My big dilemma: Should we continue providing equal opportunities for learning to all bilingual staff working in the educational system in person? Or should we continue with virtual offerings? Or should we create a hybrid model to provide access to all?

With no right or wrong answer, and even with the uncertainty still looming, we're starting to feel a sense of normalcy. Some of us are back in our office environments, but others are still working remotely. With this in mind, things will never be the same. We learned to be flexible and adaptable. We learned to be empathetic with others. We learned to be mindful of our daily practices, but overall, we learned how to be grateful. Interpreters are more visible than ever, and we're so extremely proud of your incredible job during this unprecedented time in history. 

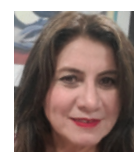
ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

California Department of Education
Information on Public School Districts
<https://bit.ly/CA-districts>

U.S. Department of Education,
Office of English Language Acquisition:
English Learners Demographic Trends
<https://bit.ly/English-learners>

Orange County Department of Education
<https://bit.ly/OCDE-about>

World Atlas Largest School Districts in the U.S.
<https://bit.ly/atlas-schools>



Natalia Abarca
manages the Orange County Department

of Education Multilingual Consortium, a professional network established to support high-quality translation and interpreting services in schools. A medical interpreter, she is a licensed trainer for The Community Interpreter International training program. She facilitates the implementation of networks and leadership development. She hosts the annual OCDE Interpreters and Translators Conference in Education. A founding member of the American Association for Interpreters and Translators in Education, she serves on the board as committee coordinator. She is also a member of ATA's Interpreters Division blog team and a past member of the division's leadership council.
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NOTE

- ¹ U.S. Department of Education, Office of English Language Acquisition: English Learners Demographic Trends, <https://bit.ly/English-learners>.

ATA HONORS AND AWARDS



InterpretAmerica cofounders Katharine Allen and Barry Slaughter Olsen accept the Alexander Gode Medal on behalf of InterpretAmerica during ATA's 62nd Annual Conference.

Alexander Gode Medal

InterpretAmerica

ATA Past President David Rumsey delivered the following remarks during ATA's 62nd Annual Conference. InterpretAmerica cofounders Katharine Allen and Barry Slaughter Olsen were present to accept the award.

The American Translators Association awarded the 2021 Alexander Gode Medal to InterpretAmerica for its outstanding contributions to the field of interpreting and translation. ATA also recognized cofounders Katharine Allen and Barry Slaughter Olsen for their roles leading InterpretAmerica through a transformational decade for the profession.

InterpretAmerica was established in 2009 to raise the profile and reach of the interpreting profession.

Through national and international conferences, webinars, publications, and other activities, InterpretAmerica sought to facilitate the sharing of information and resources, provide networking opportunities, and support the critical work of professional associations, vendors, academic institutions, and researchers across the field.

Until it ceased operation in 2020, InterpretAmerica provided a place where interpreters could come

together, be counted, and focus on innovative and effective ways to support the craft of interpreting. During its 11-year existence, mutual awareness, understanding, and collaboration blossomed among a wide variety of interpreting stakeholders.

The increasingly unique and public profile of interpreting is not just due to a more interconnected world with a growing demand for language services, but also from the increasing awareness and self-confidence among

interpreters in understanding the critical role they play for society as a whole. Through its activities, InterpretAmerica had an impact on this transformation.

"We started InterpretAmerica when Barry was in his second year of teaching in the MA in Translation and Interpretation degree program at the Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey and I was just graduating from the program," said Allen, a community and conference interpreter with over three decades of experience interpreting, training, and designing curricula. "For me, those 10 years were completely transformational."

"I hope InterpretAmerica's legacy will be that we were able to see what was coming and help rally people together to create connection, envisage the future, and then mobilize and inspire them to move," Olsen said. "We didn't change the world, but I think we were able to empower people and inspire them to go out and make a difference in the profession."

The Alexander Gode Medal, ATA's highest honor, is named for ATA's founder and guiding spirit, who was the first recipient. The medalists represent a record of achievement in a variety of linguistic fields, including not only translators and interpreters, but also lexicographers, theorists, association leaders, and institutions. This award may be given annually.



Rising Star Award Céline Browning

Céline Browning is the recipient of the 2021 ATA Rising Star Award, which recognizes an early-career translator, interpreter, or entity that has already “made a mark” on ATA and is seen as having great potential to positively impact ATA and the language professions in the future.

Browning has played a leadership role in ATA’s Japanese Language Division (JLD) for the past five years, most recently as the division’s administrator. Despite having an incredibly heavy workload as a highly sought-after interpreter, she has worked tirelessly to offer division members opportunities to meet, connect, support each other, and grow together. She has organized regular webinars and virtual coffee hours and reached out to other translation organizations to cross-pollinate and build connections. Her efforts have truly made a mark on the division, our Association, and our professional community.

Browning has a master’s degree in conference interpreting from the Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey. Browning provides translation, interpreting, and cultural consulting for all matters involving the Japanese language. She is also a contract interpreter with the U.S. Department of State.



Dynamo Award Shymaa Ebrahim

Shymaa Ebrahim is the recipient of the 2021 ATA Dynamo Award, which recognizes a person or entity that has worked in a particularly energetic way to benefit ATA and/or the language professions.

Ebrahim is committed to supporting and promoting ATA’s Arabic Language Division (ALD) through a wide range of activities. She is the social media coordinator on ALD’s Leadership Council, managing the division’s social media platforms on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram. Every month, she creates a social media calendar with posts that she reviews with the division’s administrator. The goal of these posts is to raise awareness about ATA’s role as a professional entity for professional translators and interpreters, encouraging more Arabic professional translators and interpreters to join ATA, and highlighting enrichment and development opportunities available in ATA for members and non-members. Her goal is to make the calendar fun, informative, and inspiring for beginners and professionals alike.

And she does all this while holding down a full-time job as a cultural affairs specialist at the U.S. Embassy in Kuwait, managing professional and academic exchange programs for professionals, academics, and students. She also has an impressive track record interpreting for U.S. government officials.



Mentoring Award Ibrahim Alkhalidi

Ibrahim Alkhalidi is the recipient of the 2021 ATA Mentoring Award, which recognizes a person or entity that has provided outstanding mentoring to the next generation of translators and interpreters, either through ATA’s Mentoring Program or another channel.

Alkhalidi is a professional translator, interpreter, and linguist who has worked in the U.S., China, France, the United Arab Emirates, and more than 40 other countries. He is an ATA-certified English>Arabic translator and is certified by the Certification Commission for Healthcare Interpreters. He is an experienced international conference, trade show, and meeting planner. He has a BA in the arts.

Alkhalidi dedicates much of his time to help other colleagues, whether it’s answering questions about ethics in the medical field or helping solve a complex translation issue. His passion for improving and learning makes him a great professional capable of understanding, appreciating, and interacting with people from cultures or belief systems different from his own. He understands the importance of sharing his knowledge. Only then, he says, can we demand better work conditions and find our real value among clients.

2021 American Foundation for Translation and Interpretation

First-Time ATA Conference Attendance Scholarships

The American Foundation for Translation and Interpretation (AFTI) offers a limited number of \$500 scholarships to students/recent graduates of translation or interpreting studies programs or related fields to help defray the cost of attending ATA's Annual Conference. The scholarships are partially funded from donations made in the name of Edith Losa, who served ATA as president-elect and then president from 1991 to 1995. The 2021 recipients are:



Yasmin Alkashef, CT is an ATA-certified Arabic>English translator, certified health care interpreter, registered court interpreter, and conference

interpreter. She has an MA and PhD in translation and interpreting studies from Ain Shams University. She taught translation and English as a second language at Ain Shams University and the American University in Cairo.



Anees Gharzita is a medical device professional turned French>English translator. She specializes in the translation of medical devices and

regulatory documentation. She has bachelor's degrees in biology and French with a mathematics minor and is currently a master's candidate in translation and interpreting at New York University.



Gabrielle Colonna is a freelance French>English translator with over 14 years of experience in French. She specializes in literature, social sciences,

and international development. She has an MA in translation and interpreting studies and an MA in French linguistics from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.



Marisa Irwin is a freelance German>English and Russian>English translator. Her work includes translating and editing advertising,

historical, and personal documents. She also provides subtitling and captioning for clients in the food production technology sectors. She has an MA in translation and interpreting from the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee and a BA in German, Russian, and history from the University of Wisconsin–Madison.

Applicants interested in applying for first-time attendee scholarships in 2022 must be full-time or part-time students at the undergraduate or graduate level. All students must be enrolled at a two-year or four-year college or university in a program in translation, interpreting, or both, or a related field (e.g., terminology management, translation project management, etc.) leading to an academic degree or certificate. Recent graduates must have completed their program within 12 months of the starting date of the 2022 ATA Conference. For more information, visit: www.afti.org.

If you would like to donate to AFTI's scholarship program, simply go to www.AFTI.org and click on the Donate button. You can also donate to AFTI when you renew your ATA membership.

Founded in 1997, AFTI is a 501(c)(3) foundation affiliated with the American Translators Association. AFTI—ATA's charitable arm—supports activities, education, and research in support of the translation and interpreting professions. AFTI promotes this objective by bestowing awards and scholarships, as well as sponsoring conference attendance and presentations.



Philip Boehm

Ungar German Translation Award

Philip Boehm

Philip Boehm was awarded the 2021 Ungar German Translation Award for his translation of Arthur Koestler's *Darkness at Noon*. This is the third time Boehm has received the award, having won in 2013 for his translation of Herta Müller's 2009 Nobel Prize-winning novel, *The Hunger Angel*, and in 2007 for his translation of *A Woman in Berlin*, written by an anonymous journalist.

Darkness at Noon is a powerful and haunting portrait of a Communist revolutionary caught in the vicious fray of the Moscow show trials of the late 1930s. Published in Great Britain in 1940, it was praised by George Orwell and went on to be translated into 30 languages. And yet

the novel's worldwide reputation has, for over 70 years, been based on the first English translation, hastily completed alongside the original, just before the German occupation of Paris in 1940, when both Arthur Koestler and the translator had to flee. The original manuscript was lost in the upheaval...until it was recently rediscovered in a Swiss archive. As it turns out, this document, equipped with Koestler's corrections, departs in several places from the first English edition.

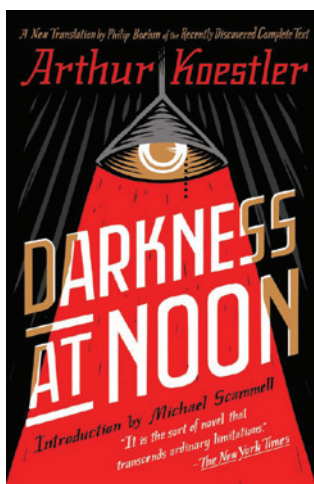
Arthur Koestler (1905–1983) was a Hungarian-British author and journalist who immersed himself in the major ideological and social conflicts of his time. In 1931 Koestler joined

the Communist Party of Germany until, disillusioned by Stalinism, he resigned in 1938. Over the course of his life, Koestler espoused many political causes. His novels, reportage, autobiographical works, and political and cultural writings established him as an important commentator on the dilemmas of the 20th century.

Philip Boehm is a translator, playwright, and theater director whose career zigzags across languages and borders, artistic disciplines, and cultural divides. He has translated more than 30 novels and plays mostly by German and Polish writers, including Herta Müller, Ingeborg Bachmann, and Hanna Krall. He has received numerous awards, including fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts and the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation. As a theater director and playwright, he has staged dozens of professional productions at theaters in the U.S., Poland, and Slovakia. Boehm is also the founding artistic director of Upstream Theater in St. Louis, a leading producer of new international work.

Boehm is grateful to the Ungar jurors, as well as to the American Translators Association for all they do to advance the art and practice of translation.

The Ungar German Translation Award may be bestowed biennially in odd-numbered years for a distinguished literary translation from German into English that has been published in the U.S.





Marian S. Greenfield Financial Translation Presentation Award

Liming Pals

Liming Pals is the recipient of the 2021 Marian S. Greenfield Financial Translation Presentation Award. The award is given by the American Foundation for Translation and Interpretation to recognize an outstanding presenter of a financial translation session during ATA's Annual Conference.

Liming presented one intermediate session (International Mergers and Acquisitions and Common Translation Pitfalls) at ATA's 62nd Annual Conference in Minnesota. She discussed the important role translators and interpreters play in the success of cross-border and multinational mergers and acquisitions. These transactions rely on effective understanding and communication across all parties, no matter the country or spoken language of the companies involved. As a legal and financial translator, Pals provided attendees with an overview of the general legal framework for international mergers and acquisitions before discussing the various agreements involved. She used some translation pitfalls as examples to explain key terminology.

Liming Pals is an ATA-certified English<->Chinese translator with over 12 years of experience in legal and financial translations. She has a master's degree in international law from China's Northwest University of Political Science and Law. She graduated from Iowa State University with a dual degree (Master of Finance and MBA) in December 2021. She has worked on projects for global financial institutions and international law firms and has extensive experience translating documents related to mergers and acquisitions.

Marian S. Greenfield served as president of ATA (2005–2007), the New York Circle of Translators, and the American Foundation for Translation and Interpretation. She has worked in the translation industry for over 40 years. A translator in New York's Financial District for 20 years, she is the former manager of translation services at JP Morgan.

2022 Honors and Awards Now Open!

ATA and the American Foundation for Translation and Interpretation (AFTI) present annual and biennial awards to encourage, reward, and publicize outstanding work by both seasoned professionals and students. Awards and scholarships for 2022 include:

The Alexander Gode Medal, ATA's most prestigious award, is presented to an individual or institution for outstanding service to the translating and interpreting professions. Nominations are solicited from the membership at large.

Alicia Gordon Award for Word Artistry in Translation is presented by AFTI for a translation (from French or Spanish into English, or from English into French or Spanish) in any subject that demonstrates the highest level of creativity in solving a particularly knotty translation problem. Open to ATA members in good standing.

ATA Advocacy Award recognizes a person or entity that has demonstrated outstanding advocacy for the language professions in general, for the importance of professional translators and interpreters, and/or for the greater societal understanding of the value of professional translators and interpreters.

ATA Impact Award recognizes a person or entity that has demonstrated outstanding leadership having an impact with ATA through work on a specific project or initiative. This award differs from ATA Honorary Membership in that it is presented for a specific project or initiative, rather than for lifetime achievement.

ATA Innovation Award recognizes a person or entity that has worked in a particularly innovative way to benefit ATA and/or the language professions.

Lewis Galantière Award is presented biennially for a distinguished book-length literary translation from any language, except German, into English.

S. Edmund Berger Prize is presented by AFTI to recognize excellence in scientific and technical translation by an ATA member.

Marian S. Greenfield Financial Translation Presentation Award is offered by AFTI to recognize an outstanding presenter of a financial translation session during ATA's Annual Conference.

Student Translation Award is presented to any graduate or undergraduate student, or group of students, for a literary or sci-tech translation or translation-related project.

For complete entry information and deadlines, visit www.atanet.org/about-us/honors-awards-program.



From left: School Outreach Program volunteer Anne Connor, School Outreach Program volunteer Molly Yurick, ATA School Outreach winner Majlinda Mulla-Everett, and School Outreach Program Coordinator Meghan Konkol at ATA's 62nd Annual Conference in Minneapolis.

Profile of ATA's 2021 School Outreach Contest Winner: Majlinda Mulla-Everett

This year's ATA School Outreach Contest winner gave a weeklong summer class on interpreting skills in Portland, Maine.

By Molly Yurick

Majlinda Mulla-Everett, an ATA member from Saco, Maine, won a free registration to ATA's 62nd Annual Conference in Minneapolis through ATA's 2021 School Outreach Contest. Majlinda won for submitting a story and accompanying photo she took with students at a weeklong interpreter training summer class she taught at Portland High School.

Teaching In-Depth Interpreting Skills to Multilingual Students

Majlinda worked hard to prepare materials to teach students in Portland High School's Exploring Interpretation as a Career summer class, which ran four hours a day for one week. All students were high schoolers from 9th to 12th grade and spoke Arabic, French, Lingala,

Portuguese, and Spanish. "It was a great opportunity to give the students a chance to learn how they can use their language skills," she said.

Majlinda started by visiting ATA's School Outreach resources page (<https://bit.ly/school-presentations>) to get ideas for the class and then built her materials off her real-life experiences working in Maine. "My aspiration was to provide students with all the tips and knowledge I have. I wanted to make sure they understood how valuable it is to be bilingual and how to turn that skill into something that can help the community where they live and potentially make a living out of it," she said.

Majlinda covered a wide range of topics, including understanding the difference between an interpreter and a translator, the languages that are utilized in Maine, the principles and ethics of interpreting, misinterpretations, funny translations, remote interpreting during the pandemic, decision-making, and certification.

"With the variety of topics covered during those days, I wanted to give students a sense of the real deal of the business. From community to medical to

court interpreting, the students found each of the settings to be intriguing,” Majlinda said. “I invited different interpreters as my guest speakers to share the firsthand experiences they’ve had during their professional lives.”

Majlinda said the best part was seeing how the students started exchanging their language knowledge with each other. “One of the funny moments was when we were doing a role-play exercise that took place in a hypothetical medical setting and they were unaware of the medical term ‘stool.’ Once they received a definition, they burst out laughing.” As the week progressed, Majlinda said the students would ask each other for opinions on different words to make sure they were providing accurate interpretations.

“When we played a memory game, I showed them the importance of practicing,” Majlinda said. “We did three rounds of the same case. By the third round, they would interpret without any omissions. It was great to see the impression and excitement on their faces.”

At the end of the week, Majlinda received lots of positive feedback from students. “Students were thankful for the opportunity to learn from a real-life interpreter. I loved working with these compassionate students.”

Inspiration for the Winning Photo and Story

Majlinda said she has attended hundreds of trainings and conferences

throughout her professional life and loves taking photos at them to preserve her positive memories and experiences. “When I noticed how the students were getting closer to each other and working together during role-plays, I thought that was an important moment to catch.”

“I wanted to make sure the students understood how valuable it is to be bilingual and how to turn that skill into something that can help the community where they live and potentially make a living out of it.”

Majlinda admitted that she almost didn’t submit her photo and story to the contest because she assumed she wouldn’t win. “I started jumping up and down when I read the email with the news,” she laughed.

How Majlinda Got the Gig

Majlinda works as a medical and legal interpreter and interpreter scheduler at House of Languages, a company that provides language services in Maine for over 30 languages. She is also a Maine State Notary Public.

House of Languages works with many schools in Maine, including Portland Public Schools (PPS). There are 61 languages

currently spoken in PPS, where 34% of students come from families that speak languages other than English at home. The school district was also the first in Maine to offer the Seal of Biliteracy. In collaboration with various community organizations and language access advocates, PPS started offering Interpreting as a Career Opportunity classes for high school students 20 years ago. Currently, they have an Exploring Interpretation as a Career class at each of their high schools.

Last spring, Portland High School’s extended learning opportunities coordinator reached out to House of Languages to see if they could teach a summer class on interpreting skills. The company’s president thought Majlinda would be a good fit, and she was thrilled to take on the challenge.

A Language Career that Started with Telenovelas

Majlinda was born in Pistina, Republic of Kosovo, and grew up in a multilingual home. “My father’s primary language is Albanian and my mother’s was Montenegrin.” Majlinda learned the importance of language inclusion from a very young age and has been passionate about interpreting for as long as she can remember.

“When I was growing up in Kosovo, there wasn’t much TV content in my native language, Albanian. My mom and I would watch Spanish telenovelas subtitled in Albanian together, but my mom didn’t speak Albanian,” Majlinda explained. “I would

simultaneously interpret the Albanian subtitles into Montenegrin to her. I developed a fast interpreting pace and even learned a bit of Spanish.” This is when Majlinda started to think about becoming an interpreter one day.

Majlinda also received a multilingual education. Classes were taught in Albanian at Majlinda’s elementary school, in Bosnian at her high school, and in Albanian at the University of Prishtina, where she earned a BS in political science.

“Because my mother’s native language was Montenegrin, I easily learned Bosnian, Croatian, and Serbian. I’ve learned English and Macedonian throughout the years,” she explained.

When asked what she enjoys most about her work, Majlinda said she likes the quick decision-making interpreting requires. “Producing an accurate interpretation provides me with deep happiness and satisfaction,” she said. “Seeing the client receive an interpreted message with ease makes me fall in love with languages more. Interpreting is part of my daily life and it’s impossible to imagine my day without it.”

Majlinda knows the importance of maintaining her interpreting skills. She has completed a 12-hour basic skills of interpreting course and a 50-hour introduction to medical interpreting course. She has also attended many Cross-Cultural Communications webinars, conferences hosted by the New England Translators Association and



Majlinda Mulla-Everett (front row) posing with Exploring Interpretation as a Career summer class students at Portland High School in Maine in June 2021.

Don't miss your opportunity to make a difference—join our efforts! The 2022 School Outreach Contest is now open, and the winner will receive a free registration to ATA's 63rd Annual Conference in Los Angeles, California, October 12–15, 2022. We accept submissions of photos and stories from presentations to any age group in any educational setting, from pre-school to college to adult education. School presentations may be made in person or virtually. The deadline is July 22, 2022. For more information, visit www.atanet.org/career-education/school-outreach/contest.

the National Council on Interpreting in Health Care, and various legal trainings on different topics.


Majlinda moved to Maine in 2015 to marry her husband and currently lives in the city of Saco, where she is raising her daughter in a multilingual environment. On top of her work at House of Languages, she also serves on the

Intercultural Competency and Awareness Ad-Hoc Committee at the City of Saco Municipality. "The purpose of this committee is to bring together the members of the community, councilors, and staff to address inequality and bias issues in our community," Majlinda said. She is also an associate member of Saco's Historic Preservation Commission.

Majlinda said she was thrilled to have received free registration for winning the School Outreach Contest, especially because

it was her first ATA conference. "What a great way to visit Minneapolis, get educated, network, socialize, and on top of it all become an ATA School Outreach Contest winner," she said. "This is proof that if you want to thrive in your life, you cannot just sit and think about it. It has to be done. The ATA62 Conference has brought me so many great memories to take back with me and cherish them until next year's conference."

Getting Involved in the School Outreach Effort

ATA launched the School Outreach Program in 2004 to educate students about translation and interpreting and to spark interest in these rewarding career fields. Through the program, professional linguists speak to students at all levels, highlighting the career benefits of learning another language and the increasing potential for exciting work for those with language skills. Using a variety of model presentations and activities available on ATA's website, presenters outline the requirements for becoming a professional translator or interpreter, emphasizing that these careers demand far more than simply being bilingual. For more information, visit www.atanet.org/ata_school. 



Molly Yurick is a Spanish>English translator, subtitle, and copywriter based in northern Spain. Specializing in tourism and hospitality translation, her subtitles can be found on the world's largest streaming service. In addition to participating in ATA's School Outreach Program, she serves as deputy chair of ATA's Public Relations (PR) Committee and is a member of its PR Writers Group. molly@yuricktranslations.com



Creating Interpreting Price Quotes for the New Normal

There's no doubt that 2021 was a difficult year—a difficult almost two years, actually. Every profession has been affected by the pandemic in a significant way, and interpreting is no exception. We're lucky, in a way, that technology has allowed us to continue our work as legal, conference, court, and community interpreters. I say lucky because I'm painfully aware that many other professions were not in the relatively privileged position to shift work online and simply disappeared or were decimated. So, while technology isn't always what we want it to be, it certainly has been a lifesaver for interpreters as courts, conferences, and everything in between shut down for in-person events and moved online.

The transition was relatively easy for some and more challenging for others, mostly depending on technology skills and perhaps interest and age. It made me very happy to once again see our worldwide community of interpreters

come together to teach each other about new technologies and share tips and tricks. In fact, I learned most of what I know about remote simultaneous interpreting on Zoom from my colleagues Ernest Niño-Murcia, Aimee Benavides, and Tamber Hilton

of TEA Solutions, with whom I did a group training session early on in the pandemic.

Now that our interpreting work is—and might continue to be—online, we need to take a look at the fee structure agreements, or price quotes, or contracts for services (there are many terms that are used) that we issue to potential clients to make sure we account for this new work situation. As a profession, we don't have all the answers yet, but we're learning along the way and sharing tips and best practices, which I'm happy to do here. In October 2021, I had the pleasure of giving a session about this very topic at ATA's 62nd Annual Conference in Minneapolis, and we had plenty of colleagues in attendance both in person and online. This column is based on that session and I hope you find it helpful.

Why Do You Need a Price Quote in the First Place?

First things first. I'm not a lawyer, even though I'm married to one, so none of what follows is legal advice. Now that I've got this out of the way, let's go back to why price quotes are so important, especially for new clients.

Simply put, in my 20 years in the profession, I would anecdotally say that the most frequent complaint I've heard from colleagues is that a client hasn't paid them, which is both disappointing and infuriating. When I ask whether they had this client sign a price quote (which becomes a contract once

We're lucky, in a way, that technology has allowed us to continue our work as legal, conference, court, and community interpreters.

both parties have signed it), the answer is usually "no." Now having a signed contract doesn't guarantee that you'll get paid, but it makes it much more likely, and you'll have a much stronger case if you ever need to litigate. ATA has sample contracts on its website¹, so be sure to review them. You don't have to start yours from scratch since I know that can be intimidating, so use the templates provided by ATA instead.

A price quote also doesn't have to be fancy nor complicated. Mine is a simple two-page document converted into a PDF (to make sure no numbers can be edited, at least in theory!) containing all the details of the interpreting assignment the client is booking. I've had to update this quote to adjust it to our new normal situation of online interpreting, and here are the key new elements I believe you need to put some thought into. Remember that there are no right or wrong answers, but these elements should be incorporated into your quote one way or another.

Technology, Internet, and More

Unfortunately, this column would be too long if I went into every detail that needs to be considered under this section, so here are the top ones I believe you must define. I know this is a lot of information, but don't let it intimidate you. Usually the more information you include the better, and since you should create a template, you only have to create it once and then slightly update it for every assignment.

Online Platform and Related Topics:

- Who will pay for the platform? Which one will be used?
- Does the client have experience using the platform? If not, how will they acquire this knowledge? If the interpreter teaches the client how to use it, how will compensation be structured?
- If it's a simultaneous interpreting session, who will be in charge of assigning the interpreting booths?
- Who will be the host of the session?
- At what time should the interpreter(s) log in?
- Is there a separate rehearsal/tech check? How will it be billed? How long will it last?
- Who's responsible for tech support? (Ideally, this should be a dedicated person—who can be a tech-savvy interpreter, but not the active interpreter.)
- Who's responsible for malfunctions/internet failure? How will billing work if the client's internet is down and the event starts one hour later than planned?
- Mainly for conference and community assignments: How will typed questions from the audience be handled? Do the organizers want the interpreters to sight-translate the questions into the target language, or do a

translation of the text and post it into the chat box?

- Do the organizers want the interpreters on camera or not? Which virtual backgrounds, if any, should be used?
- What's the minimum internet speed that's required of organizers, speakers, and interpreters?

Headsets and Audio:

- All presenters and speakers should wear a wired headset or use a high-quality external microphone. (Yes, I know, this often doesn't happen.)
- Some colleagues include minimum audio requirements/maximum decibel information to ensure our hearing doesn't get damaged. It's definitely worth considering, although enforcing these standards does get difficult.
- Both the interpreter and the speakers should be in a quiet room, although all kinds of things can happen (Hello, speaker's cat! Hello, organizer's gardener's lawnmower! You just need to go with it).

Recording Fees, Minimum Charge, Cancellation Fee Schedule:

- Interpreting services are usually delivered in real time and one-time only. If the client records your intellectual property and wants to use it beyond the one-time use that you're selling it for, you should bill for it. My current fee structure is 30% on top



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of interpreting fees, but I've seen colleagues bill up to 50%.

- I'm a big fan of billing at least a half day for interpreting work, and now is the time to insist on high standards rather than lowering them. But the other side of the coin is that online work has allowed us to interpret events that otherwise would not get interpreted due to cost (think small nonprofit meetings, etc.). So, you might want to design a fee structure that allows you to serve smaller organizations. One option would be to allow for a lower minimum for nonprofits, which is my approach. But I would strongly suggest that we don't fall into the trap of billing by unreasonable segments. (I've even seen by-the-minute billing, which should be avoided at all costs.)
- Cancellation fees have always been part of interpreting services price quotes, but they are now more important than ever. What happens if the event is cancelled because the speaker can't connect properly? Who gets billed if the participants can't receive the live stream for technical reasons?


Keep in Mind

While this short checklist is by no means comprehensive, I hope it gets you to start thinking about some of these new elements that, for better or for worse, are part of our online interpreting world. One quick note about

technology in general. Technology per se is not necessarily good or bad, although there's plenty of subpar technology. As a profession, I think it's key for us to separate technology from business practices. As I mentioned earlier, now is not the time to relax our standards or make concessions. We have an unprecedented opportunity to work with clients who may not have worked with interpreters before, so it's good to explain the standards to them if necessary. Interestingly enough, none of my new online interpreting clients have questioned team interpreting for events that exceed 30 minutes.

And finally, remember that you do have an ethical and professional obligation to know the technology that you'll be using to deliver the services the client is requesting. If you don't have a good handle on the technical side of the platform that will be used, you should decline the

assignment, recommend a colleague who is proficient at it, and learn the technology so you can use it next time. Luckily, our community is always there to help and there are plenty of free and low-cost

trainings available. On my end, I paid my free Zoom training forward with my colleague Anabella Tidona. We trained (both for free and for a small fee) more than 100 colleagues, which felt great. 

NOTE

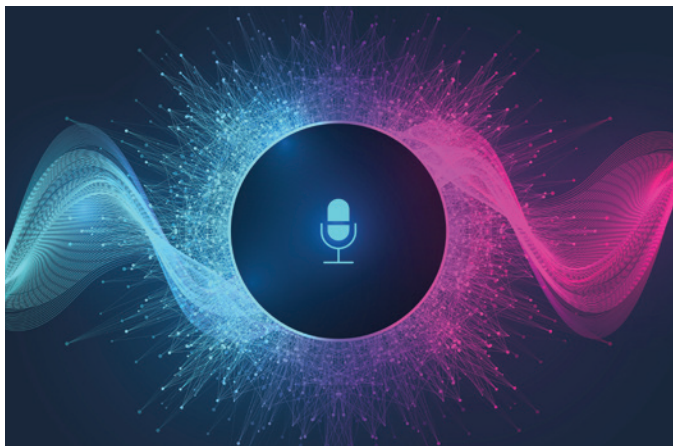
- ¹ ATA Translation Job Model Contract, <http://bit.ly/ATA-model-contract>.



Judy Jenner is a Spanish and German business and legal translator and a federally certified Spanish court interpreter. She has an MBA in marketing and runs her boutique translation and interpreting business, Twin Translations, with her twin sister Dagmar. She was born in Austria and grew up in Mexico City. She is a former in-house translation department manager. She writes the blog *Translation Times* and the "Entrepreneurial Linguist" column for *The ATA Chronicle*, serves as one of ATA's spokespersons, and is a frequent conference speaker. She is the co-author of *The Entrepreneurial Linguist: The Business-School Approach to Freelance Translation*. judy.jenner@twintranslations.com

This column is not intended to constitute legal, financial, or other business advice. Each individual or company should make its own independent business decisions and consult its own legal, financial, or other advisors as appropriate. The views expressed here are not necessarily those of ATA or its Board of Directors. Ideas and questions should be directed to judy.jenner@twintranslations.com.





Voice Recognition in Windows 11

Operating systems have become increasingly less important now that so much has moved to the cloud and so many browser-based applications don't care whether you run them on Windows, macOS/iOS, Linux, or Android.

On the other hand, there are still plenty of applications that depend either completely or mostly on the operating system, including many of the translation environment tools we use. I say this, of course, because Windows 11, a major new operating system version, has officially been released, and you likely have already been prodded to upgrade or at least check whether your computer's hardware is compatible. (Assuming, of course, that you use Windows in the first place.)

I'm always excited to look at each new version of Windows. Not so much because of the new and widely touted features (most

of which are really lame in this version, if you ask me), but to find out what new multilingual features are available—such as newly translated versions, new kinds of keyboards, or new voice recognition languages. I was disappointed to discover that this version of Windows is localized into exactly the same number of languages as version 10, and I was unable to find anything relating to additional keyboard layouts.

But the “voice typing” options have gone from seven languages to...a LOT. Specifically, the following languages are now supported: Bulgarian, Chinese (China, Hong Kong, Taiwan), Croatian, Czech, Danish, Dutch (Netherlands), English

(Australia, Canada, India, New Zealand, U.K., U.S.), Estonian, Finnish, French (Canada and France), German, Gujarati, Hindi, Hungarian, Irish, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Latvian, Lithuanian, Maltese, Marathi, Norwegian, Polish, Portuguese (Brazil and Portugal), Romanian, Russian, Slovak, Slovenian, Spanish (Mexico and Spain), Swedish, Tamil, Telugu, Thai, Turkish, and Vietnamese.

To me, this is really great news. While it was possible to dictate in most of these languages on a Mac or with a rather convoluted system via a cell phone and an automatic transferal to a PC, things will become much easier for translators into the newly supported languages. To be clear, this refers to the Windows internal “voice typing” (which, by the way, you install alongside the keyboard of the language in question), so it's not as advanced as Dragon voice recognition. This means that there are no customized commands and no training or incremental

improvement, *but* it's still really quite good. I can personally speak only for English and German, but my sense is that most of these languages will be more or less supported with the same level of accuracy. My assumption is reinforced because punctuation is also now available in each of the respective languages rather than only in English. (See the list of dictation-language-specific voice commands at the link at the end of this article.')

So, congrats to all you Bulgarian, Croatian, Czech, Danish, Estonian, Finnish, Gujarati, Hindi, Hungarian, Irish, Japanese, Korean, Latvian, Lithuanian, Maltese, Marathi, Norwegian, Polish, Romanian, Russian, Slovak, Slovenian, Swedish, Tamil, Telugu, Thai, Turkish, and Vietnamese speakers!

My tips to those who have never tried voice recognition: Don't translate in single words but in longer fragments or even sentences. Use your regular voice rather than a special dictation voice. And be aware that there is a little learning curve. ATA

NOTE

- ¹ “Use Voice Typing to Talk Instead of Type on Your PC” (Microsoft Support Page), <https://bit.ly/voice-Windows11>.



Jost Zetzsche is chair of ATA's Translation and Interpreting Resources Committee. He is the author of *Characters with Character: 50 Ways to Rekindle Your Love Affair with Language*. jzetzsche@internationalwriters.com

This column has two goals: to inform the community about technological advances and encourage the use and appreciation of technology among translation professionals.



The New Espacenet Tools for Patents Translation

Originally, the Espacenet interface (now called classic Espacenet) was available in the three official languages of the hosting European Patent Office (EPO) site: English, French, and German. The new Espacenet interface is now accessible in *all the national languages* of the patent offices connected to the database. In other words, the patent offices of the 38 states that are members of the European Patent Organization. An Arab-Pat¹ interface in Arabic also exists, as well as accessibility to LatIPat² and the Eurasian Patent Organization³. For translators, this means availability of parallel official translations of the Espacenet interface in their source or target languages, depending on the direction of translation. Here are some details on selected features of the new Espacenet interface, highlighted for their relevance to translation work.

PatentTranslate

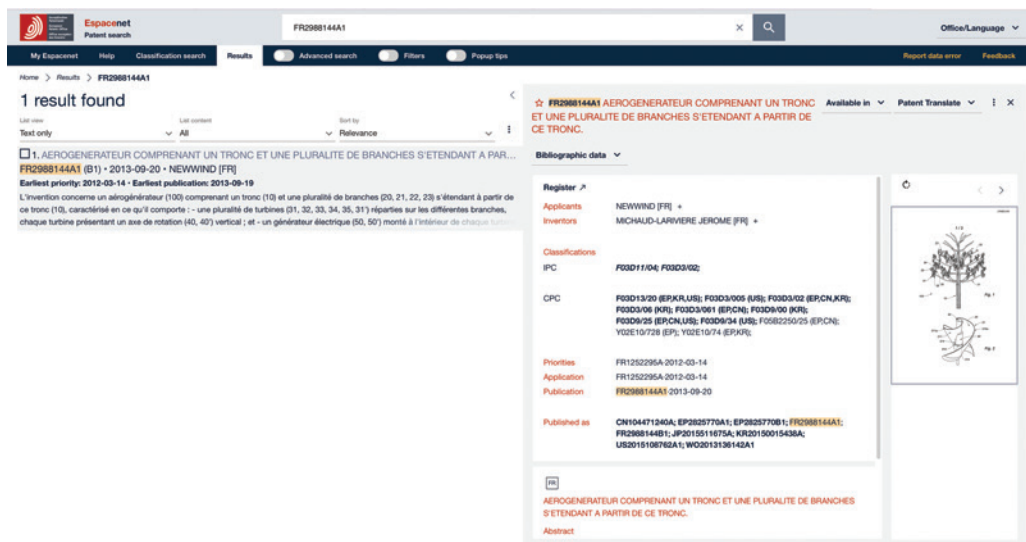
PatentTranslate is the EPO's translation engine, powered by Google's neural network technology and the EPO's corpus of 120 million patent documents. The new Espacenet has increased the number of languages translated: from translations from/into the three official EPO languages (English, French, and German) to translations from/into approximately 32 European and Asian languages, depending on the source patent. PatentTranslate also includes user evaluation and commenting forms for improving engine performance. PatentTranslate has a hovering function that brings up the source in a textbox next to the target for convenient verifications of the translations online.

PatentTranslate is very useful when existing translations are available. In this case, the engine works like a super translation memory. Serious limitations exist, however, thus requiring particularly careful examination of the output translations. This is crucial because when PatentTranslate is generating translations, the engine is always proceeding without the understanding necessary to avoid nonsense, especially subtle nonsense.

The New Espacenet Split-Screen Display

A sweeping transformative change from the classic version to new Espacenet interface appears in the split-screen display of information, comprised

FIGURE 1 The new Espacenet split-screen display showing three panels: 1) a list of patent search results; 2) bibliographic information of one patent on the list; and 3) a page of one of the drawings for the selected patent.



of panels that can be independently navigated online. Thus, the split screen now provides unprecedented flexibility and speed in the online manipulation of patents. For example, translators can:

- Preview a patent in one panel while still being able to view the full list where it was selected in another panel.
- Preview the significant sections of a patent (e.g., bibliographic data, description, claims, drawings), or the complete original document, in one panel while still being able to work from a list displaying a selected patent in another panel. (See Figure 1.)
- Work on one section of a patent (e.g., claims or description) while scrolling through and using another section of the patent (e.g., drawings) displayed in a separate panel. In other words, the new Espacenet interface allows side-by-side viewing of patent sections, which is otherwise impossible to do when scrolling through the single screen display of a patent.
- Rotate drawings in one panel while retaining the patent description, claims, or abstract in another panel. This function is invaluable, considering that tables and drawings are often inserted in patents in landscape mode, which cannot be read in portrait mode online.

The new flexibility of online document manipulation means no longer having to print original documents, whether it's to access the drawings for side-by-side viewing, the description for documentation, the claims section for a claims-only translation, or both claims and description to verify the

terminology. The absence of lengthy downloads and printouts really accelerates the entire consultation process.

Multi-Platform Hosting

The new Espacenet interface tools, including the split-screen display, are viewable and usable on mobile phone, tablet, desktop, and laptop platforms. The availability of multi-platform hosting means convenient, on-the-go, wireless consultation of patents during translation assignments such as depositions and hearings.

"Sticky" Searching

Sticky searching is a function that memorizes the parameters of the search that you just launched, thus reducing the number of steps for similar types of searches and saving time. Imagine turning off your computer and being able to restart exactly where you left off, without

having to relaunch previously active programs or reopening dozens of desktop files. In Espacenet, you can search for a patent, for example, when you are translating abstracts only. In this case, you might be searching the patent description to better understand the invention abstracted, or to find matches with a "brief description of the invention," or even possibly to access the specified definitions of some of the terminology. In any event, the sticky search function will remember you searched for a description. In turn, for all the patents you subsequently open in connection to your stack of abstract-only translations, the sticky search will call up the pertinent patent descriptions. This means that each time you want to access a patent description, you will not have to return to, and click past, the standard bibliographic data page for a new patent search.

Menu and Toolbar Access to Patent Sections, plus an "Available in" Language Option

The highlight of the classic (original) Espacenet interface was a toolbar on the left enabling direct access to the various significant sections of a patent, such as claims, description, bibliographic information with abstract, original document, drawings (previously called mosaics), legal events, and patent family. In the new Espacenet interface, the versatility of these functions has been significantly augmented. These functions are now accessible via dropdown

menus and horizontal toolbars to independently populate and/or inform one, or several, panels of the split-screen interface.

While you could previously call up just one patent section on the screen (e.g., claims, description, or drawings), it's now possible to consult two patent sections at the same time. Using the split-screen display, you can call up the claims and drawings of a patent, or the description and drawings, at the same time in panels that are independently navigated. (See Figure 2.) If you need to refer to the claims section, description, or abstract of any invention to search them, cite from them, or consult or verify information, this sort of flexible access to patent sections, together with the drawings section, is invaluable. The fact that such access is also happening online, without requiring downloads or printing, is also really convenient.

Finally, the functions offering direct access to the significant sections of a patent, such as the claims or description, can now be combined with an “Available in” menu function, designed to return a list of patent family members according to language availability. Thus, you can now immediately see in which languages your patent is officially available and then call up another language version of your patent directly from the “Available in” menu. (See Figure 2 showing the “Available in” dropdown menu with a list of English-language patent

FIGURE 2 Split screen showing a patent claims section and drawings in separate panels along with a dropdown menu of patent family members available in English.

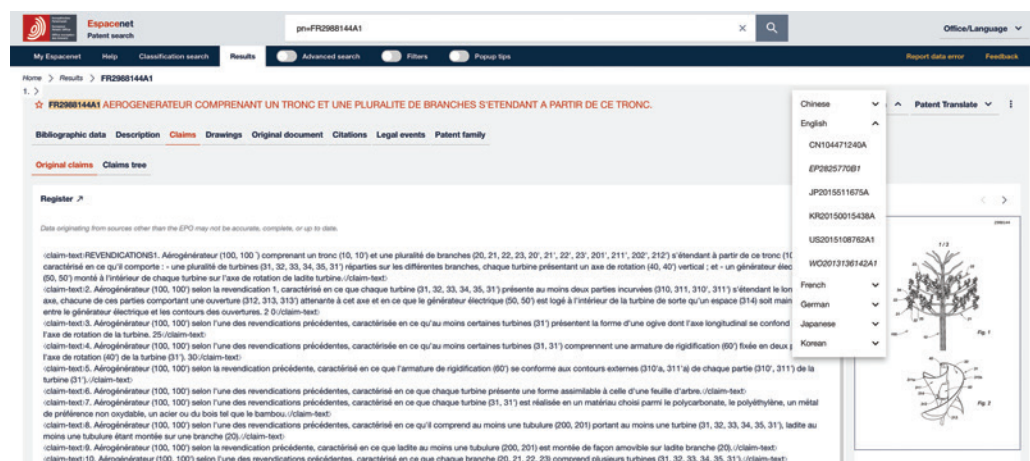
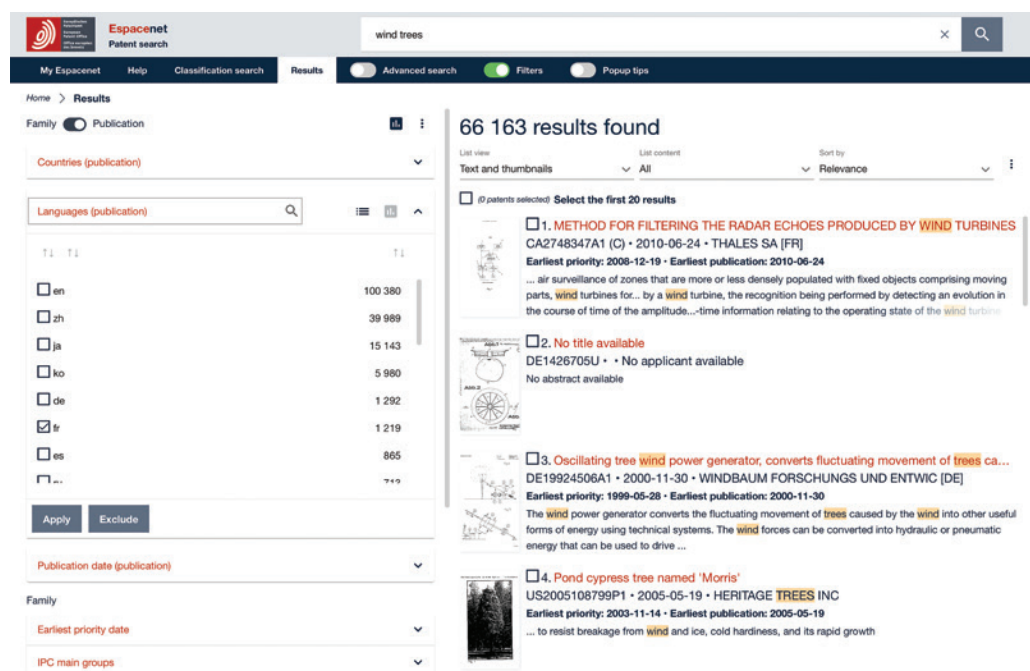


FIGURE 3 French patent filter comprising 1,219 patents, selected for application to a list of 66,163 hits.



family members.) In turn, the “Available in” function will open your selected patent family member as a claims or description section, or as an original document, depending on the sort of document you have

opened previously, per the principle of sticky searching.

Filters

The new Espacenet filters enable you to dramatically reduce the results of a large list of patent search hits. For

example, if you are doing a search on “wind trees” for documentation or lexical purposes, you will be able to reduce a list of over 66,000 patent result hits to about 1,200 hits by simply applying an FR (French patent) filter.

FIGURE 4 Enabling the Pop-Up Tips allows you to click for information on any item of the interface indexed with a small question mark

The screenshot shows the Espacenet Patent search interface. At the top, the search term 'wind trees' is entered. Below the search bar, there are tabs for 'My Espacenet', 'Help', 'Classification search', 'Results', 'Advanced search', 'Filters', and 'Popup tips'. The 'Popup tips' tab is selected, and a red arrow points to a question mark icon next to it. Below the tabs, the search results are displayed. The first result is '1. METHOD FOR FILTERING THE RADAR ECHOES PRODUCED BY WIND TURBINES' with a thumbnail and a question mark icon. The second result is '2. No title available' with a thumbnail and a question mark icon. The third result is '3. Oscillating tree wind power generator, converts fluctuating movement of trees caused by wind ...' with a thumbnail and a question mark icon. The fourth result is '4. Pond cypress tree named 'Morris'' with a thumbnail and a question mark icon.

Doing so will return only the FR patents in your list. (See Figure 3 on page 39.)

Another significant advantage of the new filters in Espacenet is that they are front-ended with natural language, so that you “Apply” or “Exclude” filtering criteria. In other words, you are no longer manipulating Boolean operators (e.g., *and*, *or*, *not*, or *and not*) according to complicated syntax that includes special punctuation rules for slashes, parentheses, colons, semicolons, and commas to

narrow your search results. Instead, you are simply checking boxes to “Apply” or “Exclude” filters on your search results. For example, for the “wind trees” search, you could check “Exclude” 87,649 EN (*English-language*) patents from the list to reduce the number of results.

Pop-Up Tips

When you enable the Pop-Up Tips menu option at the top by sliding the toggle button, you will be able to click for information on any item of the interface indexed with a small

question mark. (See Figure 4.) The detailed Pop-Up Tips provided by Espacenet are substantial enough to clearly differentiate such items as, for example, inventor, applicant, and assignee. The Pop-Up Tips are also immensely useful for abbreviations such as IPC (International Patent Classification) and CPC (Cooperative Patent Classification), which are linked to a glossary that provides a detailed explanation that goes beyond a simple expansion of the abbreviations. The Pop-Up Tips enable you to bypass

the need to search the branches of an online help tree. Alternatively, these tips prevent novice translators from getting lost in the large amount of patent information appearing on the database interface.

Multiple Options for Viewing Search Results

Four options exist for displaying patent search results: Text Only, Drawings Only, Text and Thumbnails, and Compact. (See Figure 5.) One of the advantages of multiple viewing options is the increased ease of identifying search results. For example, if you are specifically searching for the patents covering various pieces of the “serpenti” Bulgari jewelry collection, and the Compact list of hits only supplies you with patent title information such as “Jewelry article,” “Earrings,” “Bracelet,” “Ring,” or “Timepiece,” you will immediately be able to identify the type of “Jewelry article” in the Text and Thumbnail view, as well as the “serpenti” collection pieces in the magnified “Drawings Only” view mode of the results. Conversely, if you are searching for patents on a specific topic for background information on your source, you might set the results to “Text Only” so you can preview as much abstract information as possible in the results list, when such information is available.

My Espacenet

The My Espacenet menu option is immensely useful to store the results of your patent searches for current


and future translation needs. My Espacenet was also immensely useful when preparing this article, since I could store all the specific patents referenced and cited without relaunching a new search. To store individual patents, just select/deselect the red stars (as seen in Figure 1 on page 38) preceding the patent number links. You can also use the dropdown menu accessible via three vertical dots on the interface in the search results panel (after selecting the patents returned in the search list you would like to save to your Espacenet). The actual search field terms that you input are also automatically stored in a tab designated “My queries,” which you can also “rerun” or delete.

Download, Print, and Share

Previously, only patent download and print functions

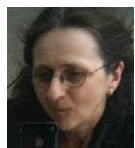
existed in the classic version of Espacenet. Now, however, a direct access link to patents (or parts thereof) can also be generated and shared via email or copied to your clipboard. The share function has the advantage of speeding up information flow, since you can bypass downloading and/or printing and instead upload directly to an email, server, or drive, for sharing purposes.

Espacenet: A Congenial Mediator

If patents are indeed the best source of information for patent translation, and access to this information requires digital mediation, especially considering the vastness of global patent information, then the EPO Espacenet tools are certainly congenial mediators, ready for translators to befriend. 

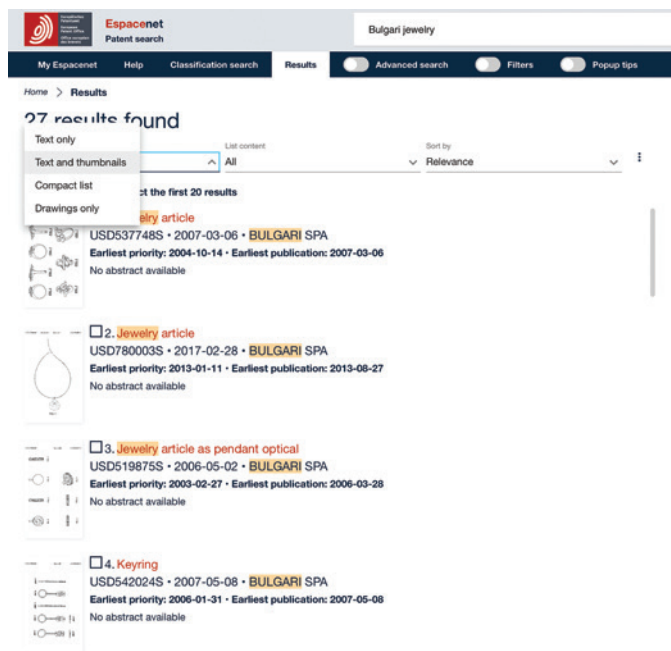
NOTES

- ¹ ArabPat is a patent information dissemination platform that offers access to patent data from Egypt, Morocco, Jordan, and Tunisia, with provisions for all Arab countries to participate.
- ² LatiPat is a search interface used to search for technical information in Spanish and Portuguese in patent documents from Latin American countries and Spain.
- ³ The Eurasian Patent Organization was established for states party to the Eurasian Patent Convention ratified in Moscow in 1994, enabling member states to file for Eurasian patents.



Françoise Herrmann is a freelance translator and interpreter (French and English) specializing in medical and patent translation. She has taught patent, medical, and technical translation at the Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey and New York University. She maintains a blog, *Patents on the Soles of Your Shoes*, to keep in touch with her students, and has published two collections of patent reviews based on posts from the blog. Currently, she is teaching and conducting research at San Jose State University, where she also blogs for her students in French. fherrmann@igc.org

FIGURE 5 Options for viewing search results set to the Text and Thumbnails display mode



USEFUL LINKS

ArabPat

www.arabpat.com/?lang=en

Espacenet Pocket Guide

<https://tinyurl.com/y44pf5ro>

YouTube Espacenet Webinars

www.youtube.com/results?search_query=Espacenet+webinars

Espacenet Forum

<https://forums.epo.org/espacenet-107>

Eurasian Patent Organization

<https://www.eapo.org/en/>

Eurasian Patent Organization

(States party to the Convention)

<https://www.eapo.org/en/members.html>

LatiPat

https://lp.espacenet.com/?locale=en_LP

Searching for Patents—New Espacenet—Search Now!

www.epo.org/searching-for-patents.html

Remember, if you have any ideas and/or suggestions regarding helpful resources or tools you would like to see featured, please e-mail Jost Zetzsche at jzetzsche@internationalwriters.com.

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Created by the engineers and language experts who built interpreting infrastructure and linguist teams for the United Nations and some of the most significant global summits and meetings, KUDO is a multilingual meeting SaaS company built around a B2B managed marketplace powered by the largest network of professional conference interpreters.

Meridian Linguistics • www.meridianlinguistics.com

Meridian Linguistics leverages human language expertise to help build tomorrow's multilingual artificial intelligence. Meridian also offers training. Through Meridian Courses, language professionals can learn to future-proof their freelance career by adding competitive skills related to language and technology.

SUPPORTING

Brand the Interpreter Podcast

www.brandtheinterpreter.com

UMass Amherst—Online Certificate in Professional Translation and Interpreting

www.umass.edu/lc/online-certificate-translation-interpreting

MEDIA

MultiLingual

<https://multilingual.com>

MultiLingual has been serving as the world's source of information for the language industry for more than 30 years. Through our magazine, newsletter, website, and social media platforms you will find anything you need to know about industry-related events, news, development, and opportunities.

Exhibitors

A. Calvin Design LLC

www.acalvindesign.com/design-for-translators-and-interpreters

Alliant Insurance Services, Inc.

<http://ata.alliant.com>

Coalition of Practicing Translators and Interpreters of CA (CoPTIC)

www.coalitionptic.org

Cross-Cultural Communications, LLC

www.cultureandlanguage.net

Fluent Audio

<https://fluentaudio.com>

Hunter College MA in Translation & Interpreting

<https://hunter.cuny.edu/mati>

memoQ

www.memoq.com

Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey

www.middlebury.edu/institute

Mindlink Resources, LLC

<https://lp.mindlinkresources.com/ata>

National Association of Judiciary Interpreters & Translators

www.najit.org

National Board of Certification for Medical Interpreters

www.certifiedmedicalinterpreters.org

National Language Service Corps

<https://www.nlscorps.org>

Plunet Inc.

www.plunet.com

Supertext USA, Inc.

www.supertext.com

SWITS, Ltd.

<https://swits.us>

TranZynergy

<https://beta.tranzynergy.com>

U.S. Department of State - Office of Language Services

<http://bit.ly/state-gov-language-services>

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Program in Translation and Interpreting Studies

<https://translation.illinois.edu>

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Coverage for a Broad Definition of Translation/Interpreting Services

Covers nearly all activities relevant to a translator or interpreter, such as editing, publishing, proofreading, printing, and computer software localization. Also covers the transcription and editing of documents that has been translated by another translator.

Coverage for Contingent Bodily Injury and/or Property Damage

Covers errors in rendering translation/interpreting services that result in bodily injury and/or property damage. These types of claims are typically excluded by generic professional liability policies.

Coverage for Fines and Penalties Associated with HIPAA/HITECH Violations

Cover fines and penalties as specified in the HIPAA/HITECH Act assessed against third parties who make a claim against you for indemnification or contribution for such fines or penalties.

We also have options for a stand-alone cyber liability and general liability (GL) policy. We make the process of finding the right professional liability insurance coverage as quick and easy as possible.



Better than ever

What does it mean that Trados now comes to you from RWS? Simply that we're in an even stronger and more stable position to bring you the innovation you expect.

Our mission remains the same

We'll continue to develop the market's leading translation technology. From desktop to cloud, Trados will give you the flexibility to work the way you want. But more than that, we'll help you make the most of the technology.

With you every step of the way

Our people – our greatest asset – are dedicated to helping you meet the challenging demands of a digital-first world. We've been supporting the translation industry for more than 35 years, and our commitment to doing so is as strong as ever.

**Have questions?
Then why not get in touch:**

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