



4²⁰¹⁷ TRANSLATIO

FIT Newsletter

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Everyone who was present at the XXI FIT World Congress in Brisbane in August will know what a resounding success it was! For those of you who were not there, you can read more about it in this issue of Translatio. Our gratitude goes to the entire AUSIT team who worked so hard to bring everything together. As I said at the closing ceremony: 'AUSIT have done themselves proud and they have done FIT proud too!' Thank you, AUSIT!

I am honoured to have been elected as the 14th FIT President in Brisbane, and I promise to serve FIT to the best of my ability throughout this mandate, which will end with the XXII FIT World Congress in Varadero, Cuba in December 2020.

In my inaugural speech/poem, I mentioned that my focus during this mandate will be on talking and working together and on looking forward. The newly elected and highly enthusiastic FIT Council – which I am convinced has the makings of a dream team – lost no time in convening during congress, and I am pleased that we are already in a position to issue a call for nominations for participation on a variety of Standing Committees and Task Forces. These will consist of experts nominated by member associations from across the world, who will be mandated to tackle problems and address issues pertaining to their areas of interest. Remember your participation in these groups is critical in ensuring that the Federation reflects and represents the views and concerns of translators, terminologists and interpreters across the globe, including the remotest regions where FIT reaches.

By the time this edition of Translatio reaches you, it is likely you will already have celebrated International Translation Day 2017. This year marks a historic milestone after the 71st Session of the United Nations General Assembly unanimously adopted Resolution A/RES/71/288 recognising the role of professional translation in connecting nations, and fostering peace, understanding and development. In the same resolution, the United Nations General Assembly declared 30 September to be UN International Translation Day, celebrated across the entire UN network.

This mandate, FIT Council will renew its commitment to and ongoing advocacy on behalf of our colleagues working in conflict zones, in conjunction with AIIC, Red T, IAPTI, Critical Link and WASLI. Now that the United Nations has recognised the important role played by translators and interpreters, the next step will be to work for a UN resolution to protect conflict zone translators and interpreters, similar to the UN resolution passed two years ago protecting journalists in areas of conflict. In this connection, I would ask those who have not done so to consider signing the petition at <https://www.change.org/p/urge-the-un-to-protect-translators-and-interpreters-worldwide>.

During this mandate, FIT will endeavour to achieve greater visibility in more places and across more domains. If you know of any event at which FIT should be present, please contact me directly.

Kevin Quirk, president@fit-ift.org

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Continuing Education Platform takes off in LATAM

FIT World Congress 2020 in Cuba (30 November – 4 December 2020)

The Cuban Association of Translators and Interpreters (ACTI) will host the 2020 International Federation of Translators World Congress with the motto *For A World without Barriers: The Professionals of Languages at the Service of Peace and Understanding between Peoples and Cultures*.

In Brisbane, the largest Cuban delegation in history attended the FIT Congress, with Luis Alberto González Moreno, ACTI President, Iris Gretchen González Nieto, ACTI Vice President, Estela Díaz Barbazán, ACTI Public Relations, also representing the Translators and Interpreters Services Team (ESTI), and Jesus Ismael Írsula Peña, President of the Literary Translators Section of the Cuban Writers Association, UNEAC.

The second day of the Statutory Congress began with the presentation of candidatures to organize next FIT World Congress in 2020. The candidate cities for hosting were Moscow, represented by the Association of Translators of Russia; Montreal, represented by the Order of Translators, Terminologists and Interpreters of Quebec (OTTIAQ); and Varadero, represented by ACTI. Belgrade and Ottawa had previously withdrawn their candidatures. The delegates voted: the 2020 International Federation of Translators World Congress will be hosted by ACTI in Varadero, Cuba.

After the excellent and luxurious presentations of Russia and Canada representatives, it was the turn of the Cuban delegation. In their presentation, Iris Gretchen and Luis Alberto presented the benefits of Cuba as a tourist destination. They also highlighted the achievements of their country in health, education, culture, and science. Above all, they emphasized ACTI work since its inception, and its subsequent incorporation as FIT full member, with ACTI holding one of the vice-presidencies and the chair of its Regional Center for Latin America (FIT Lat-Am). They also mentioned that in its 60 years of existence, FIT has never held its congress in any Latin American country, so a vote for Cuba would be an act of justice towards Latin America. After voting, the following results were announced: Russia 8 votes, Canada 20 votes, Cuba 34 votes.



Subsequently, during the Open Congress, this information was publicly announced, and the FIT flag was handed over to the Cuban delegation.

The Cuban delegation was congratulated and participants expressed their admiration for the work done and the visibility achieved by ACTI, a small and humble association that works hard to give Cuban language professionals the place they deserve, recognising their quality and prestige.

It will be the first FIT Congress in Latin America. ACTI invites you all to join efforts to make the XXII FIT 2020 World Congress the best ever in the history of our Federation.

CONGRATULATIONS, CUBANS!

New Council member Iris Gretchen Gonzalez Nieto presented the arguments in favor of Cuba, and convinced the Statutory Congress participants.

Why Cuba?

Latin America has never hosted a FIT World Congress. Cuba is a safe and politically stable country with no risk of war, terrorism or civil strikes. ACTI has the full support of the Cuban government, and is experienced in running events for profit. Cuba has a National System for Translation and Interpreting supporting initiatives for the training of interpreters. More than 300 Cuban language professionals and students participate regularly at the annual Forum of exchange for all translators and interpreters who benefit from the government's financial and material support.

Being a country of music par excellence, its cultural richness and touristic attractions are well known as are the kindness and the great sense of solidarity of its warm and friendly population. Cuba has a good reputation for high level education and dance. Three FIT Prize winners in 2011 and 2014 came from Cuba.

Congress participants will find in Varadero affordable All-Inclusive Resorts in an ideal climate at the end of November.



The Cuban delegation received the FIT flag

"The most beautiful land human eyes have ever seen." (Christopher Columbus)

Pristine waters, exotic wildlife, spectacular scenery, soaring architecture and exuberant nightlife are among the touristic highlights of Cuba. In addition, a distinctive parade of vintage automobiles will welcome tourists.

The strong and experienced Congress Committee is covering a wide panel of domains, including Universities and private sector, government, medical translation, literary translation and telecommunication companies.

Its members are:

- Luis Alberto González, ACTI President, Chair
- Iris Gretchen González, ACTI Vice-President,
- Rodolfo Alpizar, ACTI-Vice-President, FIT Prize Winner 2011
- Estela Díaz, ACTI Public Relations, Government representative
- Gisela Odio, former ACTI President
- Roberto Espí, former Dean, School of Foreign Languages, University of Havana
- Jesús Ismael Irsula, President Literary Translators

At the Statutory Congress, some financial details were announced. Registration Packages for members will be about US\$

500 for 3 days and US\$ 150 for 1 day, with reduced prices for speakers and students.

Venue: Varadero, Cuba

The Statutory Congress will be at Melia Varadero Hotel, which offers all necessary technical equipment and simultaneous interpretation booths for six languages. It has local and international communications and full Internet service.

The Open Congress will be at Plaza America Convention Centre, offering the most modern audio technology and simultaneous interpreting, full internet, modern and multifunctional rooms, offices, galleries and other spaces for exhibitions and fairs. It has its own multidisciplinary professional staff, including professional fair, exhibition and congress organisers. Participants will find next to the Convention Centre a mall with restaurants, a bank and pubs.

Why Varadero?

Hundreds of major and challenging events are held in Varadero's hotels and at the Plaza America Convention Center.

Varadero has one of the world's most beautiful coastlines, with 20 km of white sandy beaches.

It is a quiet place combining excellent conference halls and the possibility to enjoy our natural beauties with lots of

All-Inclusive 5-Star Hotels, and plenty of opportunities for local excursions, including Ecotourism options at Varahicacos ecological reserve with its colorful array of exotic birds.

In November and December, the tropical climate has moderate daily temperature of around 21 degrees Celsius, ideal for pre and post tours and social and leisure activities. Serene waters are always inviting for sailing, scuba diving, snorkeling, boating and fishing. A Golf resort is nearby.

Varadero Airport operates international and domestic flights. Air France, Air Canada, Copa, Iberia, Condor, American Airlines, Jet Blue, Delta and many other airlines connect Varadero with the rest of the world. The transfer from the airport to the hotels takes about 30 minutes. The airport operates 24/7, offering customised services for visitors and ensuring a smooth and warm welcome to Cuba.

In Varadero, participants will find affordable and accessible accommodation and convention area with around 70 hotels and more than 15,000 rooms. Additionally, 20 hotels are within 2km or short walking distance from the venue. Prices in the Meliá All-inclusive 5 Star Hotels are
Single room: US\$150.00 to US\$250.00 per pax/night

Double room: US\$100.00 to US\$120.00 per pax/night

Local Transport: Varadero beach is 22 km long so it is very easy to get from one point to another. The transport network is efficient, cheap and easily accessible, and it allows visiting Havana.

Cuba's Capital attracts over one million tourists annually. It is a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1982, with some of the most diverse styles of architecture in the world. Havana is not only a popular health tourism destination but is also known for its International Film and Jazz Festivals.

Why Varadero, Cuba? The answer is evident: It is simply the perfect location to combine professional activities and vacations with one of the most beautiful beaches in the world.

Iris Gretchen González Nieto, ACTI Vice President, gretchen@infomed.sld.cu



Presentation of Varadero, Cuba to host the XXII FIT World Congress in 2020. From left: Henry Liu, FIT President, Luis Alberto González, ACTI President, and Iris Gretchen González, presenting the convincing arguments in favor of Cuba

XXI FIT World Congress 2017 in Brisbane

The opening of the industry's flagship event, the FIT World Congress, couldn't have been more spectacular. All eyes were on the stage, where the South East Queensland Indigenous locals performed a breathtaking "Welcome to Country" spectacle and took over 800 international, interstate and Queensland delegates on a journey through the sacred Aboriginal dances, songs and stories.



What a start!

Thought leaders, translators & interpreters, academics, researchers, language service providers and other industry professionals from around the world were welcomed Down Under on the banks of the Brisbane River by a proud Australasian language industry community.

Lord Mayor Graham Quirk opened the conference together with AUSIT President Prof. Sandra Hale and FIT President Henry Liu. It was my enormous pleasure to MC the conference as the FIT World Congress Chair, and to start by highlighting both the importance of our ecosystem and that all players are vital to drive innovation and professionalism in our language industry. Knowledge sharing rather than knowledge transfer is the key here. Therefore, I encouraged everyone to throw any misconceptions or prejudices they might have right at the start into the serpentine Brisbane River outside, and to be open to what colleagues, peers, technology providers, corporates and academics had to say, and to NAATI's new certification system.

The first keynoter was Colleen Rosas, with her team from NT AIS (Northern Territory Aboriginal Interpreter Service), who showcased the harsh realities of Aboriginal interpreters' professional lives. Few eyes stayed dry during the powerful presentation.

Every three years, the International Federation of Translators (Fédération Internationale des Traducteurs or FIT), a UNESCO NGO, hosts the conference. Three years ago in Berlin, Brisbane won the honour of hosting the prestigious XXI FIT World Congress 2017. And so they did, and very successfully. The next one will take place in Cuba.

The global community of the language industry gathered for more than 3 days at the Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre (BCEC), immersing themselves in the field of translating and interpreting, cutting-edge research and real-life professional experience.

Disruption and Diversification

The theme was Disruption and Diversification, highlighting the impact of advances in technology, globalisation, policy, and economic and social change on the delivery of language services, with dedicated streams for localisation, social media translation trends, globalisation, technology and creativity. Specific streams for indigenous and sign languages, interpreting in the community and conflict zones, and literary translation were also a feature.

Hands-on workshops, thought-provoking discussion panels, posters, and presentations stimulated delegate interaction, along with the 70+ sessions, four keynote addresses, FIT World Congress awards ceremony and concurrent trade exhibition. As a platform for international exposure, global networking and latest industry intelligence, this was the place to be in Australasia and the Stakeholder Panel on the afternoon of the first day featured that as well. The "Knowledge Fest" panel included Jesper Sandberg, Chair of GALA; Hagen Issel, Vice Chair of AALC; Paul Filkin, SDL; Jeremy Ducklin, Congress Rental; Mark Paintin, CEO NAATI; Chris Durban, Translator; James Powell, Vendor Manager of TransPerfect; and myself, Tea Dietterich, as President of AALC/GALA Board/CEO 2M.

Exceptional line-up of industry professionals

This international conference was supported by Tourism & Events Queensland (TEQ) and Brisbane Marketing. The Australian Institute of Interpreters & Translators (AUSIT) did a fantastic job on local organisation. Brisbane was the focal point for the over 100,000 professional translators, interpreters and terminologists that FIT represents, as well as for high level policymakers in multilingualism, inter-cultural and inter-lingual communications, international literary publishers and international intellectual property and copyrights.

The exceptional speakers included Australian Professor Anthony Pym, Distinguished Professor of Translation and Intercultural Studies at University Tarragona, Spain; Jemina Napier, Professor & Chair of Intercultural Communication at Edinburgh's Heriot-Watt University; and Michael Cronin, Professor of Translation Studies at Dublin City University, Ireland.



Tea C. Dietterich, Chair of the XXI FIT World Congress 2017

New NAATI certification system

The FIT World Congress conference also provided a great opportunity for Australian translators and interpreters to find out details about NAATI's new certification system, which comes into effect in 2018. Rather than fear the change, Australian language professionals were able to get the true facts on how to transition to certification and the opportunities that come with it.

Keynotes and Conferences

The FIT World Congress 2017 with the theme "Disruption and Diversification" addressed the fast pace of technological change within the industry, and the current challenges it poses for practitioners and clients alike. It also highlighted opportunities for diversification.

With over 300 abstracts received, the Congress aroused significant interest in the industry. After the long process of blind-peer reviews, the Programme Committee led by AUSIT President Prof. Sandra Hale selected over 150 thought-provoking and hands-on papers, discussion panels, workshops, and posters.



Prof. Sandra Hale

The theme highlighted the impact of changes in technology, globalisation, policy, and economic and social change on the delivery of translation and interpreting services, with dedicated streams for localisation, social media translation trends, globalisation, technology, community translation and interpreting, interpreting in conflict zones, and literary translation. The Congress also included dedicated streams for indigenous and sign languages.



Prof. Jemina Napier

The Australasian Association of Language Companies (AALC) sponsored the session with Jost Zetzsche about the future of the translator, by bringing him in via videoconferencing link from Oregon through Redback Conferencing facilities.

Tea C. Dietterich, Chair of the XXI FIT World Congress 2017, tea.dietterich@2m.com.au



Prof. Anthony Pym

In his keynote address 'Translators do more than translate', well-known scholar Prof. Anthony Pym reminded delegates that translators sell more than words-- we sell trust and communicative effect.



Dr Glenn Flores

Paediatrician and researcher Dr Glenn Flores in his plenary address emphasised the critical role of professional healthcare interpreters in medical settings.

The most topical keynote address 'Dissent and Dictatorship in the Digital Age,' from very influential Twitter commentator Dr Sarah Kendzior, recommended caution regarding automation and reliance on digital media in our disrupted world, taking the example of Uzbekistan.



Dr. Sarah Kendzior



Dr Vanda Nissen

Michael Cronin delivered the keynote 'Why Translation Should Not Cost the Earth: Towards Geocentric Translation Studies,' and highlighted the fact that in a world of digital cosmopolitanism, translators are the supreme examples of cultural mediators.



Prof.Cronin and Ass.Prof.Stern



S.Berner

Australian presenters and AUSIT members covered the whole range of topics including legal interpreting (AUSIT President Prof. S. Hale, Ass. Prof. L. Stern, J. Saba), subtitling (J. Han), business intelligence (S. Berner and J. Beagley), community interpreting (A. Gentile and M.Gurgone, P.Avila), professional development (Dr. E. Gonzalez, H.Glass and U.Ozolins), localisation (S. Harries, T. Dietterich and T. van Beukering), literary translation (Dr. V.Nissen, G.Brescia) and many others. Australian indigenous interpreters also delivered a presentation on indigenous language interpreting in Australia with personal statements, describing how and why they work to keep their communities well informed, and above all to ensure the survival of their respective languages.



Adolfo Gentile



S.Harries



G.Brescia



Maggie Napurrula Burns, Nadyezhda Pozzana, Theresa Napurrula Ross



J.Beagley, Dr. Gonzalez, R. Zayed, M.Toma

Dr Vanda Nissen, Vice-Chair of the OC, FIT 2017, vanda@kaskelot.eu

Photo credit: Olga Raevskaya

Exhibitors and Sponsors

How did we involve sponsors in the FIT2017 Conference? All this sounded like our daily client prospecting as T&I professionals, with a similar diversity in the outcome. We thought about contacting a wide range of organisations we knew of, then we heard about a perhaps wider range of organisations we did not think about, and we tried and contacted them all, or nearly all. As of 2016, a detailed 32-page prospectus was circulated, and we started building a substantial database of our contacts. Within our joint AUSIT-ASLIA Organising Committee, some of us were already well advanced in such an exercise. The magic word: networking. It helped a lot to harvest sponsorships rapidly from the onset of our preparations. It also helped a lot that organisations and individuals

were already aware, interested, and proactive: they enthusiastically joined us and swiftly finalised the entire registration process, some in a couple emails. A lot of goodwill on both sides, the movement spun off with advertising on social media and in the end, it was extremely positive. The Conference received the generous financial contribution of 27 sponsors, including 18 exhibitors*. We cannot thank them enough. And after months of intense activity on the cyberspace, finally meeting our sponsors the old fashion way, as real persons, was another immense reward.

Dr Max de Montaigne, FIT 2017 Sponsorship Officer, french@antipode.com.au

* By alphabetical order, a special word of thanks to everyone at:

2M Languages; Able Australia; Advanced International Translations; Australian Institute of Interpreters and Translators (AUSIT); Australian Sign Language Interpreters Association (ASLIA); BestEasy Translations Corporation; Cochlear; Congress Rentals; Global Tone Communication Technology Co.; International Committee of the Red Cross; Macquarie University; Monash University; Multicultural New South Wales; Multilingual; National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters (NAATI); Oncall Language Services; Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology University (RMIT); Software and Documentation Localization (SDL); Technical and Further Education South Australia (TAFE SA); Televic; The University of Western Australia (UWA); Tourism and Events Queensland; Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS National); Translationz; Transperfect; University of New South Wales (UNSW); University of Queensland (UQ); Wordfast.

Precious: Our Wonderful Volunteers

FIT Volunteer recruitment started in earlier 2017. The Organising Committee maintained active communication channels with the University of Queensland as well as with AUSLAN. In June, the Committee interviewed 25 students from the Master of Japanese Interpreting and Translation and the Master of Chinese Translation and Interpreting, and decided to engage a total of 24. In the lead up to the FIT Congress, the Committee successfully engaged 36 volunteers from the University of Queensland, AUSLAN, and the AUSIT QLD branch.

All volunteers provided important administrative and logistic support for the Congress. They played a significant role in making this event successful.

Zhen Guan, zhen.guan@broadlingual.com,
FIT Congress 2017, Volunteer Coordinator



Sign Language Interpreting in the focus

The FIT 2017 World Congress was special for many reasons. Its success was due to the huge amount of work and planning that took place in the months leading up to the event.

The Congress was particularly special because it was the first time at any FIT World Congress where a Keynote presentation was delivered in a sign language. Professor Jemina Napier delivered her keynote in Auslan, the national sign language of Australia.

I was a member of the Congress Organising Committee, representing the Australian Sign Language Interpreter Association (ASLIA), advising on and undertaking the tasks necessary for sign language interpreter provision at Congress. I shared this role with Kahli Bennett (ASLIA) and Cindy Cave, representing the World Association of Sign Language Interpreters (WASLI), and the 3 of us worked with the other members of the Organising Committee so that in the end we put in place a transparent process to source and select the best interpreters for the event.

The President of WASLI, Deb Russell, and Henry Liu, Outgoing FIT President, signed a MOU forging stronger ties between the spoken language and the signed language communities.

Deb Russell and the President of the World Federation of the Deaf (WFD), Mr. Colin Allen, presented at Conference in International Sign Language, so we ad-

vised on the need to contract WFD/WASLI Accredited IS interpreters.

Finally, it was positive to see Deaf people being able to participate at Congress, either as a delegate, a volunteer, a presenter, a facilitator of a panel, a Chair, or a Keynote presenter.

*Zane Hema, OC member, ASLIA,
zane@zanehema.com*



Photos with Zane Hema, Kahli Bennett, Cindy Cave, Deb Russell, Colin Allen, Henry Liu

Networking

The two most spectacular networking opportunities in Brisbane were on board of the Kookaburra Queen paddle wheelers, and at the Gala Dinner at the Rydges Hotel.

Just under 600 delegates were treated to a free cruise on the Brisbane river on board of one of three paddle wheelers chartered for the event. They were able to relax under the stars, sample the delicious buffet and complementary drinks, and enjoy Brisbane's best sights, including the beautiful botanic gardens, Kangaroo Point cliffs, Maritime museum, Southbank precinct, the Story Bridge, and many more of this city's sensational attractions.

At the FIT2017 Gala Dinner, around 200 delegates gathered on the Level 12 Rooftop at the Rydges Hotel, a stunning private venue with 180-degree panoramic views of Brisbane's skyline. The Rydges Hotel is conveniently situated di-

rectly adjacent to the Convention Centre where the Congress was held. More than 200 guests were able to enjoy a sumptuous meal, stimulating conversation, music and dance late into the night.

Many of the attendees had never been

to Australia before, and we are delighted that they were able to experience first-class Aussie hospitality as part of FIT2017.

*Elisabeth Kissel, AUSIT member,
FIT Congress 2017, Secretary*



FIT Awards

To encourage excellence in translation and interpretation, FIT has long offered prizes to members of its associations who demonstrate exceptional skill in the exercise of their profession.

This year, the first day of its triennial Congress in Brisbane, eight prizes were awarded, as well as four honorable mentions. The prize winners were selected by a diverse group of experienced judges.

As a rule, the prizes offer winners a monetary reward of between 300 and 1,000 euros, as well as a plaque. Three FIT prizes are funded by trusts established for this purpose by member associations. This year, to supplement the interest earnings of several of the trusts, the Norwegian Non-fiction Writers and Translators Association (NFF) added 1,000 euros to the Aurora Borealis Prize for Translation of Non-Fiction Literature. The Norwegian Association of Literary Translators (NO) added 1,000 euros to the Aurora Borealis Prize for Translation of Fiction Literature.

A relatively new prize, the FIT prize for excellence in scientific and technical translation was awarded this year for the second time. The prize offers a stipend of 300 pounds and a plaque. It is supported by a generous donation from Pamela Mayorcas, who is a Fellow member of the Institute of Translation and Interpreting (FITI) in the United Kingdom. The FIT Prize for Interpreting Excellence was sponsored this year by the Italian Association of Translators and Interpreters, known as AITI from its initials in Italian.

The Czech Literary Translators Guild underwrites the Karel Capek Medal, named for an outstanding Czech author of the last century. The award was first granted at the FIT Congress in 1990 marking the 100th anniversary of Capek's birth in the former Czechoslovakia.

Winners of the prizes for best periodical and best website this year received CHF 500 and a plaque. In past years, winners of these prizes were entitled only to a certificate of merit. The four honorable mention recipients received cash awards of CHF 250 each.



From left to right: David Rumsey, Francesca Novajra, Ralf Lemster, Dr. Juraj Šebesta, Dr. Kevin Kindle, Réal Paquette

The winners of this year's Fit prizes were: **Astrid Lindgren Prize**

Ms Francesca Novajra, nominated by the Italian Association of Translators and Interpreters (AITI), received this prize for children literature, funded more than 35 years ago by a personal donation of Astrid Lindgren.

"Aurora Borealis" Prize for Outstanding Translation of Fiction Literature

Dr Martin Pollack, nominated by the Austrian Association of Literary and Scientific Translators (AALST), with Honourable Mentions going to Samouil Bissaras, nominated by the Panhellenic Association of Translators (PEM), and Pablo Ingberg, nominated by the Argentine Association of Translators and Interpreters (AATI).

"Aurora Borealis" Prize for Outstanding Translation of Non-fiction Literature

Dr Kevin McNeil Windle, nominated by the Australian Institute of Interpreters and Translators (AUSIT).

Karel Čapek Medal

Mr György Buda, nominated by the Austrian Association of Literary and Scientific Translators (AALST).

FIT Prize for Excellence in Scientific and Technical Translation

Dr. Juraj Šebesta, PhD, nominated by the Slovak Society of Translators of Scientific and Technical Literature (SSPOL).

FIT Prize for Interpreting Excellence

Dr. Zoi Resta, nominated by the Panhellenic Association of Professional Translators Graduates of the Ionian University (PEEMPIP).

FIT Prize for Best Periodical

ATA Chronicle, published by the American Translators Association, with an Honourable Mention going to Asociación Panameña de Traductores e Interpretes' (APTI) newsletter La Voz de APTI.

FIT Prize for Best Website

Awarded to www.bdue.de, the website of the Bundesverband der Dolmetscher und Übersetzer (Germany), with an Honourable Mention to www.ottiaq.org, the website of the Ordre des traducteurs, terminologues et interprètes agréés du Québec (Canada).

*Reina de Bettendorf, Chair-Awards Committee, FIT Vice-President,
reinabettendorf@hotmail.com*

FIT STATUTORY CONGRESS 2017

The XXI FIT Statutory Congress saw participation from 65 regular members, represented either by their delegations or through proxies, in Brisbane, on 1 and 2 August 2017. As per custom, the retiring Council held its final meeting the day before the Congress, and the new Council, a brief inaugural meeting the morning after.

A full report on the Congress will be made available to members as soon as possible, but it is fair to say the Congress discussed a wide range of pressing issues, and approached the task of finding solutions in a spirit of collaboration with the collective will to develop a sound, shared future for the Federation and the profession.

Membership

We proudly welcome the following members ratified as new additions to the FIT Family:

Regular members:

- National Association of Judiciary Interpreters and Translators (NAJIT)
- Translators' and Interpreters' Association of Georgia (TIAMTA)
- Association des Interprètes, Switzerland (AIT)
- Asociación Colombiana de Traductores, Terminólogos e Intérpretes (ACTTI)
- Fan Noli - Albania
- Korean Association of Translators & Interpreters (KATI)
- Associació Professional de Traductors i Intèrprets de Catalunya – APTIC Catalunya
- Israel Translators Association (ITA)
- Associazione Nazionale Italiana Traduttori Interpreti (ANITI)
- Association des professionnels de la traduction et de l'interprétation du Cameroun (APTIC Cameroun)
- Malaysian Translators Association (MTA)
- Hellenic Association of Conference Interpreters (SYDISE)
- Association of Hungarian Translators and Interpreters (MFTE)
- Translators and Interpreters' Association of Tehran (TIAT)



- Norwegian Association of Interpreters (NTF)
- Associação Portuguesa de Tradutores (APT)
- Iranian Translators and Interpreters Association (ITIA)
- Association of Sworn Court Interpreters and Legal Translators of Slovenia (SCIT)
- Deutscher Verband der freien Übersetzer und Dolmetscher e. V. (DVÜD)

Associate members:

- Centre for Translation Studies, University College London (CenTraS)
- Guangdong University of Foreign Studies (GDUFS)
- Colegio Mexicano de Intérpretes de Conferencias, A.C. (CMIC)
- Holy Spirit University of Kaslik (USEK)

The membership of the following observer members was noted:

- Chartered Institute of Linguists – UK (CIOL)
- Asociación Nacional de Traductores e Intérpretes Oficiales – Costa Rica (AN-TIO)
- Associação Portuguesa de Tradutores e Intérpretes (APTRAD)

In addition, the Federation welcomed one new Honorary Advisor, Past President Henry Liu.

Looking Forward

The Congress considered proposals to amend the by-laws and rules of procedure

made by Council and member organisations, some of which were passed after lengthy debate. Council has been charged by Statutory Congress with developing a new strategic vision document to guide the Council's work during the next mandate.

A highlight of proceedings was the ratification of a Memorandum of Understanding with WASLI (World Association of Sign Language Interpreters) during Statutory Congress, and a Memorandum of Understanding was signed with WIPO (World Intellectual Property Organization) during the FIT Celebration Dinner. Two additional memoranda of understanding, with CEATL (Conseil Européen des Traducteurs Littéraires) and PEN International, were ratified by Statutory Congress for signing by the respective parties.

Council 2017 – 2020

The members of the 2017–2020 FIT Council, elected to serve FIT up to the next Congress, are:

- Kevin Quirk, NFF – Norwegian Association of Non-fiction Writers and Translators (Norway), President
- Alison Rodriguez, NZSTI – New Zealand Society of Translators and Interpreters (New Zealand), Vice-President
- Alan Melby, ATA – American Translators Association (United States), Vice-President

- Reina de Bettendorf, APTI – Association of Translators and Interpreters (Panama), Vice-President
- Réal Paquette, OTTIAQ – Ordre des traducteurs, terminologues et interprètes agréés du Québec (Canada), Secretary General
- Sandra Bertolini, AITI – Associazione Italiana Traduttori e Interpreti (Italy), Treasurer
- Eleanor Cornelius, SATI – South African Translators' Institute (South Africa)
- Iwan Davies, ITI – Institute of Translation & Interpreting (UK)
- Olga Egorova, UTR – Union of Translators of Russia (Russia)
- Pia von Essen, SKTL – Finnish Association of Translators and Interpreters (Finland)
- Iris Gretchen Gonzalez, ACTI – Asociación Cubana de Traductores e Intérpretes (Cuba)
- Reiner Heard, ATICOM – Fachverband der Berufsübersetzer und Berufsdolmetscher e.V. (Germany)
- Alexandra Jantscher-Karlhuber, UNIVERSITAS (Austria)
- Alejandra Jorge, AATI – Argentine Association of Translators and Interpreters (Argentina)
- Joong-chol Kwak, KATI –Korean Association of Translators & Interpreters (South Korea)
- Marta Morros, APTIC – Association of Professional Translators and Interpreters of Catalonia (Spain)
- Ping Yang, TAC – Translators Association of China (China)

Congress 2020

Start wearing in your Salsa shoes: the next FIT Congress will be held in Cuba in Nov 2020!

Congratulations to ACTI on presenting the winning bid. We look forward to seeing you there.

FIT Prizes 2017

The FIT Prizes were awarded during the open congress this year. We thank all our member associations who made nominations, those who served as members of the various juries (all volunteers), the members of the FIT Awards Committee (Reina de Bettendorf – chair, Maria Mousafiri, Gangyi Wang and Sandra Ber-

tolini), and Reina de Bettendorf, Sandra Bertolini and FIT Executive Secretary Daniel Muller for presiding over the awards ceremony.

World Congress

Almost 750 delegates attended a thoroughly enjoyable Open Congress, which included four stellar keynote presentations including a historic signed keynote, a riverside cruise and a gala dinner. Presentations covered a wide range of relevant, interesting topics around the embedded theme of Disruption, and were accompanied by a trade exhibition. Thank you to the keynote speakers, presenters, our sign language colleagues, interpreters, organisers (AUSIT), sponsors, exhibitors, and everyone who came to make the Open Congress a celebration of FIT solidarity.

For more photographs from the Statutory Congress and XXI FIT World Congress, please visit FIT Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/FIT-International-Federation-of-Translators-395420590553230/> and <http://www.fit-ift.org/fit17-in-brisbane-visually-seen/>

Kevin Quirk, president@fit-ift.org



The members of the 2017 – 2020 FIT Council

New FIT Standing Committees and Task Forces – Call for Participation

While FIT Council is the governing body between congresses, it has sometimes been said that it is the Federation's Standing Committees and Task Forces that provide the real content for each mandate. These groups are not only a formidable source of information, their activities also help drive FIT forward. All regular and associate FIT members in good standing can nominate members to participate in FIT Standing Committees and Task Forces. The final decision on who serves on these rests with FIT Council.

If you would like to nominate a member of your association to take part in a particular FIT Standing Committee or Task Force listed below, please do so via the link on the FIT website at www.fit-ift.org/sctf/. The deadline for submitting nominations has been set at 10 November 2017.

Standing Committees

Standing Committees have the function of enabling FIT Council to handle specific areas of work on a continuous basis. They generally deal with internal FIT affairs, have no budget and their term of office is from one congress to the next. The following FIT Standing Committees will be proposed.

Awards Management: Constituting juries and following up on their task of determining who will receive one of the many prestigious FIT prizes and awards at the next FIT World Congress have become very complex tasks. The Awards Management Standing Committee will require efficient project management all the way through to the XXII FIT World Congress in 2020.

Congress Management: This Standing Committee will be mandated to review the previous FIT World Congress, support work on the next congress in Varadero, Cuba in 2020, and to develop a new approach and procedure for reviewing bids for subsequent congresses, following on from new bid guidelines.

External Partnerships: FIT has already signed Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with several key players in the world of translation and interpretation

(CIUTI, EULITA, WASLI and WIPO), and additional MoU's are ready for signing once they have been ratified by the other parties (CEATL and PEN International). FIT has also been granted consultative status with UNESCO. Furthermore, FIT is involved in a coalition with AIIC, Red T, IAPTI, Critical Link and WASLI concerning the protection of linguists in conflict zones. This Standing Committee will oversee these and possibly additional partnerships.

Human rights: FIT is committed to show solidarity with translators and interpreters in peril, and the FIT Human Rights Standing Committee works to raise awareness of the plight of linguists in conflict zones and to petition the UN to adopt a resolution giving protected status for linguists working in conflict zones.

Solidarity Fund: The Solidarity Fund Standing Committee examines applications for assistance from member associations in accordance with the Solidarity Fund Bylaws and then submits proposals to the FIT Council for a final decision.

Translatio: FIT's quarterly online newsletter is a key channel of communication between FIT and its member organisations and other interested parties and its readership is growing, thanks to the new Translatio app and the dedication of a hard-working group of volunteer editors and designers. The current content and production planning team needs to be reinforced.

No nominations may be made for two existing FIT Standing Committees, Babel and ISO, as they already have the members they require.

Task Forces

FIT Task Forces have a defined objective and a limited term of office (typically between six months and one year, although their mandate may be renewed more than once by a Council decision). FIT Council proposes the establishment of the following FIT Task Forces.

Association Development and Engagement: In the previous mandate, this Task Force produced an excellent guide to

creating associations. The role of the FIT Association Development and Engagement Task Force will be to move up to a level of active promotion and association formation assistance, and to expand and promote FIT membership.

Audiovisual Translation: Audiovisual translation is no longer confined to subtitling in our increasingly multimedia world. The FIT Audiovisual Task Force will address specific issues pertinent to audiovisual translators and help raise the profile of audiovisual translators and translation throughout the world.

Communications: FIT has a definite need to revise and update the way it communicates both internally and externally. The work of the FIT Communications Task Force will be to draft a new communications strategy and to implement improvements to FIT communications (through Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, Twitter, YouTube and the FIT website).

Education and Professional Development: This group will continue the work it began during the previous mandate, when it began to collect and disseminate data from around the world on university-level courses and qualifications in the field of interpreting and translation. The FIT Education and Professional Development Task Force will also develop cooperation with CIUTI within the framework of the Memorandum of Understanding signed in Berlin.

Legal Translation and Interpreting: The FIT Legal Translation and Interpreting Task Force is entrusted with organising the 13th International Forum in Bonn, Germany in September 2018. This group also offers remarkable opportunities for sharing, learning and inspiring actionable ideas.

Literary Translation and Copyright: Literary Translation and Copyright are an integral part of FIT's heritage and FIT remains the only global voice for literary translators. A key task for the FIT Literary Translation and Copyright Task Force during this mandate will be to raise the profile of literary translators and translation. In addition, it is hoped that this

group will be able to organise a copyright seminar during this mandate.

Procedural: The FIT Procedural Task Force will be entrusted with reviewing FIT Bylaws, Rules of Procedure and the Rules of Financial Procedure and with identifying an appropriate set of rules of procedure within the Federation.

Research: This Task Force will continue to draft carefully researched FIT position papers on topical and/or our controversial issues as well as new developments in the world of translation, interpreting and terminology work.

Strategy: As mandated by Statutory Congress, FIT Council has been given the task of producing by August 2018 a strategic plan for this mandate. Such a plan should be both achievable and measurable. FIT Council has already discussed and revised its Strategic Plan 2017, which was part of the bundle of Statutory Congress documents, and further revisions to this plan will be entrusted to the Strategy Task Force. Once this work has been completed, the revised plan will be sent out to member organisations for comments and proposals for amendments.

In the future, the results of the work achieved by the various Standing Committees and Task Forces will be more prominent, and published in *Translatio* and on the website. FIT Council will also consider establishing other task forces if this is considered necessary. New Task Forces may be established at any time during this mandate.

Please submit your nominations through the FIT website at www.fit-ift.org/sctf/ no later than 10 November 2017.

Kevin Quirk, president@fit-ift.org

Celebrate International Translation Day 2017!

2017 marks a historical milestone for all professional translators, interpreters and terminologists, with the 71st Session of the United Nations General Assembly unanimously adopting Resolution A/RES/71/288, recognising the role of professional translation in connecting nations, and fostering peace, understanding and development. In the same resolution, the United Nations General Assembly declared 30 September to be UN International Translation Day, celebrated across the entire UN network. The International Federation of Translators (FIT) is proud to announce the poster for the International Translation Day 2017 theme, 'Translation and Diversity'.

The poster design was commissioned for this one-off momentous occasion and professionally created by Veva Graphics and Design. We thank them for their contribution.

Representing a celebration of language as an expression of our diversity and humanity, the design includes key words from the UN resolution translated in indigenous languages. Highlighting the need for translation in maintaining accessibility and visibility of indigenous languages, this also heralds the upcoming UN Year of Indigenous Languages to be celebrated in 2019. Cultural diversity is closely tied to linguistic diversity. Losing your language means losing a part of your cultural identity. Translation is important both to maintaining and learning from a culture. Globalisation brings greater international cooperation, but the downside of that can



International Translation Day
30 September 2017

Journée mondiale de la traduction
30 septembre 2017

Recognised by UN General Assembly Resolution A/RES/71/288
Reconnue dans la résolution de l'Assemblée générale de l'ONU A/RES/71/288



be cultural homogenisation, which in turn threatens diversity. In an effort to access global markets effectively, products and services are often translated

with sensitivity to the target culture, rather than imposing the culture of the source content. This type of translation, called localisation, thus supports diversi-

ty. Each culture in the world should be in control of its destiny. By promoting diversity of cultures and languages, we can hope to create a world full of possibilities for learning, growing and sharing a peaceful vision for humanity based on mutual understanding and respect. We thank translators for their contribution to diversity as we celebrate International Translation Day 2017.

Please join FIT, and our supporting counterparts WASLI (World Association of Sign Language Interpreters, WFD (World Federation of the Deaf), The European Commission, CEATL (Conseil Européen des Associations de Traducteurs Littéraires), UNESCO Director General, Irina Bokova, and the United Nations in celebrating Translation and Diversity on International Translation Day, 30 September 2017.

Interested in inviting the FIT Council or the FIT Executive Committee to your country?

All FIT member associations agree that two of the priorities of this mandate are to increase the visibility of FIT and the member associations' support to FIT. One of the key actions towards accomplishing both is through FIT presence across the globe. In the last mandate, FIT was seen in Europe, Africa, North America, South America and Asia. The FIT Council meets once a year and the FIT Executive Council meets at least once a year. I believe that these are perfect opportunities for FIT members to see that the Federation does not live in an international vacuum and to give visibility and wider coverage to local events and associations. The FIT calendar is filling up. So if you are organising an event at which you wish FIT to be present, please contact me directly at president@fit-ift.org. Priorities will be given especially to events and locations which FIT has not previously visited.

FROM OUR MEMBERS

The European North-South divide in translation

"Bonjour,

Il est effectivement bien connu que les tarifs des traducteurs du nord sont beaucoup plus élevés par rapport à ceux de leurs collègues du sud.

Cette différence, due au coût de la vie spécifique à chaque pays, est également connue par nos clients, qui ne payent donc pas le même prix pour un même document à traduire du français vers le suédois et du français vers le grec.

Nous ne pouvons donc pas vous proposer un tarif que nous acceptons avec un traducteur de langue scandinave, ou allemande..."

"Hello,

It is well known that the rates of translators in the North are much higher than those of their colleagues in the South.

Our clients are also aware of this difference, which is due to the cost of living in each country; therefore, they pay different rates for the same document to have it translated from e.g. French into Swedish and from French into Greek.

We cannot offer you a rate that we accept for a translator of Scandinavian or German languages..."

This is the reply a colleague received from a French agency when she quoted a rate of 8 cents/word for French-Greek, which is an average-to-low rate in the industry. The French project manager claimed a difference in the cost of living between North and South to justify rejecting the quoted rate. Unfortunately, translation companies across Europe seem to use the North-South divide to drive rates down for specific languages, disregarding traditional rate determinants, such as language combination, type of document, field of expertise, tim-

ing, etc. The above reply is contradictory in itself, since the project manager bases his argument on languages and not the place of establishment, as if for instance all translators for German resided in Germany, and all translators for Greek resided in Greece.

The North-South divide refers to the difference in wealth between the "rich" countries in the North and the "poor" countries in the South. It is not uncommon for the translation industry to repeat this stereotypical-bordering-socially-racist-view, despite the fact there has

been a convergence between North and South in terms of economies and social indicators, albeit at different speeds at different sectors.

The recent financial crisis in a number of EU countries meant the imposition of severe austerity measures that shrunk disposable income and annihilated purchasing power, without freelance translators being able to adjust their rates in order to offset this loss in income, namely due to the inelastic nature of the translation industry, which is accentuated by the wave of mergers and acquisitions witnessed in recent years, and the outsourcing of large translation contracts based on purely economic criteria. It has also reinforced the misconception that weaker economies must mean weaker rates. The translation industry was quick to jump on the bandwagon of exploiting professionals in those hard hit countries. Trapped between the Scylla of increased financial burdens and the Charybdis of blackmailing translation agencies, faced with the psychological angst created by those conditions of financial insecurity, freelance translators in the South were left totally unprotected to fend off an attack on their livelihood and professionalism.

Apart from the fact that populism in political discourse seems to spill into the professional sphere, the above project manager also perpetuates another misconception. That he is actually the one setting the rates, and therefore his attitude stems from an ill-perceived sense of authority, of him being the employer and the freelancer being the employee. Let's set the record straight. A freelancer by definition sets his/her own rates, business hours and place of work. This

means great flexibility in terms of work models, e.g. part-time or full-time single or multiple contract work, business owner or 100% work from home, etc. It also means that when your rates are not accepted, you can pitch your offer to the next interested client and stay clear of those who do not appreciate your service offering. As a professional and a freelancer, do not allow yourself to be conditioned that you are not in control of your work. Freelance translators

need to resist this commoditization and highlight the unique properties of their services. They also need to denounce practices like the above-mentioned and show solidarity with their struggling colleagues. Next time someone attempts to play the North-South divide card, don't just dismiss it. State your ground, defend your work, and defend your profession.

Dimitra Stafilia, FIT Europe Treasurer, PEEMPIP President, info@fit-europe.org

TIAT – a new hopeful horizon for Iranian Translators and Interpreters

Translation in Iran has an old and brilliant history, with a successful relationship with other civilizations and cultures. Many books have been translated by Iranian translators from several languages into Persian and vice versa.

The Translators and Interpreters' Association of Tehran (TIAT) was founded to support Iranian T&I in several fields, including social security, applied and professional training, translator authentication, translation business expansion, social dignity improvement, and legal support.

In this regard, TIAT has held more than 80 workshops, meetings and seminars in different areas of translation and interpretation, including Translation & Technology workshops focusing on SDL

Trados, MemoQ and Xbench, Simultaneous Interpretation, Rules and Laws for T&I focusing on the Berne Convention and contracts, Literary Translation in Eng<>Persian and French<>Persian, and Translation Business Strategies, among others.

In addition, TIAT has begun to make the largest parallel corpus in Iran, with more than 180 million words using the most professional team in this field.

TIAT, as Iran's major translation association, held the first International Translation Day Ceremony in Iran in 2015. The ceremony programme usually includes presenting the most successful literary translators, entrepreneurs, researchers and managers of the Translation indus-

try. The 3rd ceremony will be held on Friday, 15 September 2017.

Moreover, TIAT has facilitated publishing new books by Iranian translators through a cooperation with publishers.

One of the most important missions of TIAT is to extend and improve translation technologies based on cloud computing, by developing online translation markets, iOS and Android applications, etc.

Furthermore, TIAT believes that it is necessary for translators and interpreters to have international connections with their colleagues all over the world, which is possible through FIT membership. We expect to hold international workshops, seminars and congresses next year.

Mohammadreza Arbabi, Chairman of TIAT, info.tiat@gmail.com

NEWS FROM THE REGIONAL CENTRES

FIT Europe General Meeting

On 10–12 November, the General Meeting of FIT Europe will take place in Barcelona. All European FIT member associations are invited to participate. The programme, venue and accommodation details were announced in the second convening letter sent on 5 September.

The programme starts Friday with a conference called "The Role of Translators and Interpreters in a Changing World". New FIT President Kevin Quirk, FIT Europe President Natacha Dalügge-Momme, and Paola Tormo, President of the host association APTIC, will deliver welcome speeches. DGT Field Officer John



Evans is keynote speaker on "The Future of English in the EU Post-Brexit", "How English is (mis)used in the EU", and "What the Rise of Globish Means for Translators and Interpreters".

The programme will cover other topics including the impact of technology; internal and external communication for interpreters and translators and their associations; online privacy, and data pro-

tection for linguists. Filip Majcen (DGI) will present a Knowledge Centre for Interpreters, and Michal Staša will talk about the related Interpreting Platform project.

On Saturday, the General Assembly will take place, with access only for association delegates discussing future orientation and activities.

On Sunday, a three-hour guided tour around Barcelona will close the event.

Natacha Dalügge-Momme, FIT Europe President, ndm@translanguages.de

Max de Brouwer, FIT Europe Secretary, debrouwer@gmail.com

FIT Europe – APTIC Conference

What role can translators and interpreters play in a world where globalization is on the rise? How does technological progress affect our profession? What steps should we take to prepare ourselves for an ever-changing world?

On 10 November 2017, the International Federation of Translators (FIT Europe) and the Association of Professional Translators and Interpreters of Catalonia (APTIC) will meet in Barcelona to tackle these questions – and many more. The conference, entitled “The Role of Translators and Interpreters in a Changing World”, will feature presentations and workshops by leading European language and technology experts, who will help to shed light on the future of our dynamic industry.

John Evans (Staff translator, European Commission) will get the ball rolling with a keynote presentation discussing the role of English (and Globish) as an international language of communication. Later, he will be joined for a roundtable on the impact of technology on the translation and interpreting profession featuring Alexander Drechsel (Staff interpreter, European Commission), Joshua Goldsmith (Geneva-based conference interpreter and trainer) and Pilar

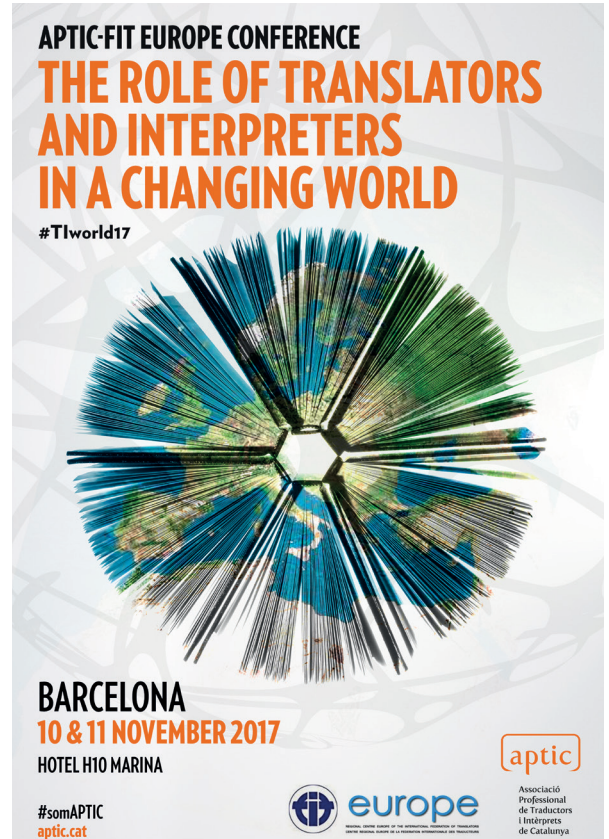
Sánchez Gijón (Director, Translation and Interpreting Department, Autonomous University of Barcelona). Subsequently, Joshua Goldsmith will run a workshop on communications and social media for translators, interpreters and associations, and Alexander Drechsel will tackle the topic of online privacy and data protection for linguists. The conference will conclude with a presentation by Filip Majcen (Director, Provision of Interpretation, European Commission) on the Knowledge Centre for Interpretation, and Michal Staša will talk about the related Interpreting Platform project. The full programme and registration form are available at <http://www.aptic.cat/en/activitat/aptic-fit-europe-conference/>

On Saturday 11, the General Assembly will take place, with access only for association delegates discussing future orientation and activities. The programme, venue and accommodation details were announced in the second convening letter sent on 5 September.

Finally, on Sunday, a three-hour guided tour around Barcelona will close the event.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Marta Morros, marta.morros@gmail.com



APTIC-FIT EUROPE CONFERENCE
THE ROLE OF TRANSLATORS AND INTERPRETERS IN A CHANGING WORLD
#Tlworld17

BARCELONA
10 & 11 NOVEMBER 2017
HOTEL H10 MARINA

#somAPTIC
[aptic.cat](http://www.aptic.cat)

aptic
Associació Professional de Traductors i Intèrprets de Catalunya

europa
EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF TRANSLATORS AND INTERPRETERS

Fourth Cotich Congress

The Fourth Congress for Translators and Interpreters organised by CO-TICH (the Chilean Translators and Interpreters Association) took place on July 7th and 8th, 2017, with the attendance of a wide range of translation and interpretation professionals from both Chile and different Latin American countries.

The event was carried out on the premises of the School of Literature of Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, on the San Joaquín Campus in Santiago, Chile.

The main theme of the Congress was continuing professional development. Consequently, participants attended a range of presentations relating to the labour market, professional success, copyright, sleep physiology, legal translation, marketing, interpreting practice, postgraduate training opportunities,

transcreation, terminology, and linguistic policies.

Additionally, the Congress hosted a presentation of the Latin American Regional Centre of FIT. Alejandra Jorge, and Dagmar Ford, Vice-President and Secretary of FIT Lat-Am respectively, shared with participants the progress and projects led by the Regional Centre for the benefit of professionals in the region.

The event in general was widely praised for the pertinence and quality of the presentations, and for its focus

on the most deeply felt needs of practitioners.

Maria Eugenia Poblete
Presidencia.cotich@gmail.com



Sergio Gaymer (Cotich), Dagmar Ford (Conalti), María Eugenia Poblete (Cotich), Hans Grof (Cotich), Lidia Jeansalle (CTPCBA), Alejandra Jorge (AATI) and Denise Rugo (CTPU) in Santiago, Chile.

New Challenges in Times of Change

The Sworn Translators' Association of Uruguay (CTPU) organized its second International Congress on 9–11 September, a three-day event packed with interesting presentations on the prospects for the profession. Lecturers addressed a number of challenges and proposed solutions in the fields of professional practice, academic, mentoring and continuing education programs, the development of translator and interpreter linguistic, cultural and social skills, terminology, new technologies, and the advocacy work of associations in the region. The opening ceremony was chaired by the Minister of Culture, who declared the Congress of cultural interest for the country, officially recognising translators, interpreters and terminologists as essential links in the value chain of culture. Mirna Lorente, President of CTPU, invited Alejandra Jorge, FIT LatAm Vice-President and FIT Council Member, to deliver the opening remarks. Alejandra spoke about the progress made in the region by T&I associations working for the improvement of the profession, and read an inspiring message from FIT President Kevin Quirk. The keynote speakers in-

cluded renowned researcher and lecturer Dr. Amparo Hurtado Albir from Spain, and other remarkable translators, interpreters and educators from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Uruguay and Switzerland. An association panel was held for the presentation of regional and local programs, with the participation of the following associations: FIT LatAm, AATI,

ABRATES, ACOTIP, ACTTI, ATIESP, COTICH, CTPCBA, CTPSF 1C, and CTPU.

The International Translation and Interpretation Congress of Montevideo was a great occasion to meet and exchange with colleagues, to learn and share, and to engage in exciting discussions about our dynamic profession in times of change.

Alejandra Jorge, alethomas07@gmail.com



Continuing Education Platform takes off in LATAM

With the goal to resume the online training activities for the Latin America region, the Zoom webinar platform subscription has been renewed. The platform is now active and available for training events and meetings. A call for proposals has been launched for member associations to submit continuing education programs, covering a range of topics that are of interest for translators, terminologists and interpreters in the region, including professional practice, technology tools, working for international organisations, standards, and more.

The Regional Centre expects to host four webinars before the end of the year, which will hopefully lead the way for a broader spectrum of proposals in 2018. Due to the restrictions in transferring tuition proceeds among the countries, FIT LatAm Council, in consultation with FIT Treasurer, decided that for the time be-

ing the webinars will be free of charge for members in good standing of FIT LatAm associations. The annual subscription and the instructors' fees will be paid out of the budget allocated by FIT to the Regional Centre.

FIT LatAm is proud to re-ignite this initiative that is based on the new technologies and the engagement of all member associations, provides an excellent opportunity to give visibility to our profession, and makes available insightful sessions by renowned speakers far and wide on our vast continent.

This project was first imagined at the FIT Forum in Lima in 2015, when the unmet continuing education needs of certain countries in the region was recognized, and a spirit of solidarity and collaboration triggered the Lima Declaration to promote the training of T&I professionals. It was then piloted in 2016, with two highly successful webinars that aroused



intense interest in the region, but the unresolved issue of cross-border wire transfers and distribution of proceeds soon halted the initiative. After the last LatAm Council meeting in Santiago, Chile, in July 2017, the project was redesigned into what we believe will be a truly democratic training platform that will come to life with diverse contributions from all members in the region.

Marita Propato, presidenta@aati.org.ar

Training Future Generations of T & I Professionals comes to the Fore

The University of Buenos Aires (UBA) School of Law organised the first Congress on Training Translators and Interpreters on 6–7 September. The first event of its kind in Argentina, the Congress gathered representatives from most of the educational institutions in the country, who shared their perspective on the challenging task ahead. Topics covered included curricula, training in new technologies, methodology, materials and activities, teaching techniques to better develop the required transla-

tion and interpreting competencies, and evaluation and assessment. Also, train-the-trainer opportunities were presented and discussed.

The opening ceremony was chaired by Beatriz Rodriguez, Head of the Sworn Translation Programme of Studies, Gabriela Urthiague, Coordinator of the Sworn Translation Department, and Alejandra Jorge, FIT LatAm Vice-President and FIT Liaison Officer for LatAm, who declared the Congress open and talked about the relevance of training in the

light of the new paradigms for our T&I profession. She also read a message from FIT President Kevin Quirk, highlighting the importance of LatAm associations within FIT. The keynote speakers included renowned researcher and lecturer Dr. Amparo Hurtado Albir, and Translator Manuel Valderrama, both from Spain, and other remarkable translators, interpreters and educators from Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay, and Germany.

Alejandra Jorge, alethomas07@gmail.com

A Region Brimming with Opportunities for Exchange

In addition to the Uruguay Congress, colleagues from various LatAm associations have participated as attendees, speakers or instructors at a number of conferences, seminars and meetings in the region.

In August, colleagues from AATI and ABRATES met at the Translated in Argentina (TinA) Congress in Cordoba, Argentina, hosted by the T&I industry. An event mostly focusing on translation companies, it also opened the door for exchange and collaboration with individual professionals and associations.

In September, the I International Translation, Interpretation and Cognition Congress was held in Mendoza, Argentina, showcasing the deep connections between the T&I profession and cognitive research. The Congress was held at Universidad del Aconcagua, and included a series of continuing education workshops on the side, on the topics of Transductology, Transcreation and Sign Language Interpreting.

The prestigious University of Buenos Aires School of Law was the venue for the I University Congress on Training Translators and Interpreters, with the motto: 'From a solid education to a dignified and respected profession'.

Several associations have prepared seminars and meetings to celebrate International Translation Day. ACTTI and

Universidad de Antioquia in Colombia are hosting their V International Colloquium, on Professional Translation and Society Building, contributing to the discussion on the role of professional translators in building peace, dialog and development.

Marita Propato, presidenta@aati.org.ar



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