

S U M M E R 2 0 0 7

From the Administration 2

My Interpretation of a Conference 3

Do You Really Know
What the Consortium Is? 4

Legislative Update 5

Interpreting in the Real World 6

Meditation on Terminology 7

2006 Membership Meeting 9

Membership Meeting Agenda &
Election Information 10

Riverboat Photo Album 13

*If you are reading
this as a PDF document,
items in Table of Contents, as
well as e-mail addresses and
web sites (indicated in red)
are hyperlinks.*

**See you in
San Francisco!**

for more conference
information visit:

www.atanet.org/conf/2007

Dear Colleagues

From my viewpoint, I have to count the conference in New Orleans this year a success. No, I was not able to attend again, due to family commitments, but by the photos and reports I'm receiving, it seems that everyone had a good time, the annual ID meeting was productive, and the seminars were informative. I am very sorry I missed out on the riverboat cruise!

This issue is very exciting, since we have new authors bringing fresh viewpoints to our forum. Anamaría Thomas, a first-timer at the conference, was kind enough to write a summary of her experience for the rest of us. Don Schinske brings us a legislative update from California, and Gio poses this question: Do you know what the Consortium is? Marla Sanchez writes about a seminar on conference interpreting that she attended last spring and her insights regarding the lessons she learned. We have a summary of this year's division meeting, where many ideas and pieces of information were exchanged. And Peter Romney, currently a student at MIIS, ponders

terminology, especially the metaphorical type.

My thanks to everyone who contributed, especially you photographers out there! There are so many photos of the conference, I feel that I did not miss a thing! Keep up the great work.

Now I would like to address all of you language professionals who have not yet contributed to our newsletter. There is something going on in your area, regarding your particular specialty within the field, or your geographical location, your local or state government, or needs within your community that we ought to know about. Maybe you would like to tell us your experiences as a seasoned veteran or a relative newcomer. Send us your thoughts, comments, articles and letters. Don't worry too much about your written English language skills, we can clean it up for you. The important thing is that you have something to contribute, and we look forward to hearing from you. ■

Until next time,

Toby S. McLellan

Editor, *Interpreters Voice*



ADMINISTRATOR

Giovanna L. Lester
giolester@gmail.com

ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR

Katharine Allen
sierraskyit@gmail.com

EDITOR

Toby McLellan
tobym@wi.rr.com

LAYOUT DESIGNER

Cindy Gresham
illustrator@cgresham.com

CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE

Izumi Suzuki
Izumi.suzuki@suzukimyrs.com

WEBMASTER

Margareta Ugander
Margareta@ugander.com

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT:

www.ata-divisions.org/ID

**Have you joined our Yahoo! Groups?
 Come and check it out:**

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/e-voice4ATA-ID/>
<http://tinyurl.com/4gdwt>

MAILING ADDRESS:

American Translators Association
 225 Reineker Lane, suite 590
 Alexandria, VA 22314



Phone: 703-683-6100
 Fax: 703-683-6122
 E-mail: ID@ata-divisions.org

REGARDING SUBMISSIONS

Your submissions are what keep the Voice ringing, so do send them to our Assistant Administrator, Katharine Allen (sierraskyit@gmail.com) and they will be forwarded to the editor.

Articles should include the author's name, a short biography and a photo, any appropriate copyright notes and other observations.

DISCLAIMER

Opinions expressed here are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the Editor, the Interpreters Division or the American Translators Association.

From the Administration



Katharine and I want to once again thank all who attended last year's annual meeting. The energy you brought in resulted in a very productive meeting that allowed us to start working on newsletter themes and subjects, conference sessions plans and the election schedule.

We are happy to report that the River Cruise was a success. Our colleagues from the Portuguese Language Division and the Japanese Language Division—the ones with the largest contingent of representatives—made everyone feel right at home. We danced, some ventured singing, no one threatened to pick up an instrument, though. The Dukes of Dixieland were wonderful and we all had a great time.

Those who could not be at the conference can get a taste of what happened in the events above by reading the minutes of the meeting and checking out the pictures our friends made available and which are published at the end of this newsletter. The agenda of the meeting and guidelines for the election are on [page 10](#).

Neither Katharine nor I will be able to continue at the helm of the Division. We are looking forward to assisting the new Administrator and Assistant Administrator as they ease into their roles, bringing new energy and direction to our Division. ■

— Gio



Gio with Clarissa Surek-Clark, administrator of the Portuguese Language Division

Advertisements:

Advertising in *The Interpreters Voice* is \$80 per page; \$40 per half page, \$20 per quarter page, and \$10 per one eighth page (business card size). Submit ads to appropriate editors cited above.

Submission Guidelines:

Please email articles in Word 97 or text format to appropriate editors.

Submissions are limited to 1,000 words and are published on a space-available basis. They may be edited for brevity and clarity.

Articles appearing in *The Interpreters Voice* may also appear in other ATA media, such as its website. All copyrights revert back to the author after publication.

Membership in the Interpreters Division is open to all ATA members in good standing. Just go to the Members Only section of our website (www.ATANet.org), sign on and click on the link "Join an ATA Division."

My Interpretation of a Conference



by Anamaría Thomas

I was a newcomer at the 47th Annual ATA conference, so I felt a bit lost at first. However, the warmth and camaraderie of my colleagues quickly changed that. What a wonderful group of people! The conference started with some lively traditional jazz, played by the Storyville Stompers, which immediately made the atmosphere upbeat and contagious.

New Orleans, the venue chosen for this ATA conference, also offered great entertainment, lots of things to do and very good restaurants. Fortunately, Katrina did not affect the French Quarter or Vieux Carré much, since it sits on higher ground. I arrived in New Orleans on Halloween and took a walking Historical and Ghost tour of the old quarter. Besides learning about all the people that died or disappeared in this or that house, it was entertaining to watch all the costumed locals parading in the streets.

I was very impressed with the large turnout at the conference and how well organized it was. Every event flowed nicely and there were plenty of activities planned for us. Nevertheless, the conference was not targeted to conference interpreting. So I was very encouraged by a session held by AIIC members who were

It was refreshing to see our work valued and our place in conferences finally recognized: we are the voices of experts, not simple-minded parrots or talking dictionaries.

trying to educate conference interpreters regarding the value and importance of the work we perform so that we do not underestimate our work. The type of interpretation we do is widely confused, both by clients and the interpreters themselves who work in legal, court or healthcare settings. The interpretation we render is usually carried out at a very high level. At this level one is communicating information peer to peer or expert to expert; our listeners could be physicians, surgeons, lawyers, executives, engineers or even blue collar workers, who also have their own specific vocabulary and expertise.

As a Simultaneous Conference Interpreter myself, I feel we are “birds of another feather.” Our working environment is incredibly dynamic; it requires fast thinking and an excellent command of both languages. The interpreter has to

have an innate ability to do this work but also needs nerves of steel and a significant amount of training and practice - but at one's own expense, not the client's!

Because our obligation is to render quality work, we require the proper equipment and support to help us deliver the expected excellence. We must obtain substantial and sufficient documentation on the subject matter we will be interpreting. We must work paired with a qualified colleague and work periods of 20 to 30 minutes - to stay alert and with a fresh mind. These, among other points, are standards in our field of work. It is also critical that we do not undervalue our work by accepting below standard fees. Frequently, the client is too busy and often relies on an assistant or may want to penny-pinch, not realizing the importance of interpretation, which may end up being the weakest link in a costly conference.

It was refreshing to see our work valued and our place in conferences finally recognized: we are the voices of experts, not simple-minded parrots or talking dictionaries.

I will definitely try to go to San Francisco next year—another great venue! ■



Anamaría Thomas has been a Simultaneous Conference Interpreter since 1978, with extensive experience in medical fields, banking, finance, trade, environment, conservation and international conferences. She is an active member of ATA-FLATA, NAJIT, and AIIC.

E-Mail: nvthomas@alum.mit.edu; a.thomas@aiic.net
Cell: 786 488 4824 Ph: 305 666.1470 Fax: 305 666 5291

Do You Really Know What the Consortium Is?



by Giovanna L. Lester

The National Center for State Courts conducted research from 1992 through 1995 and found that “establishing an interstate authority with the capacity to coordinate test development efforts and investments on a national scale was both desirable and feasible.” What was the subject of that research? Interpreter services in courts around the nation. That “interstate authority” is the Consortium for State Court Interpreter Certification.

As of June 2006, 36 states are consortium members, but some of them have no defined certification process, others require a criminal background check from candidates, others only written and oral portions of the exam, and some offer reciprocity of certification status. These differences in criteria are possible because Consortium members are not mandated to develop a certification program that meets specific requirements.

According to the “Agreements for Consortium Organization and Operation,” 1.0 - CONSORTIUM ROLE - *The functions of the Consortium shall be to facilitate court interpretation test development and administration standards, to provide testing materials, to develop educational programs and standards, and to facilitate communication among the member*

Your Consortium IQ:

1. When was the Consortium founded?
2. What are the names of the original Consortium founding states?
3. Which states' tests were used as quality parameters for the development of a standard?
4. In what languages are oral competency tests currently offered?
5. Which were the last states to join the Consortium and when?

see answers on page 11

states and entities, in order that individual member states and entities may have the necessary tools and guidance to implement certification programs. (http://www.ncsconline.org/wc/publications/Res_CtInte_ConsortAgree2005Pub.pdf—page 3) The Consortium is not a regulatory entity and its members are in different stages of developing their own interpreter certification processes. By joining the Consortium, members take advantage of a collective knowledge base and reduce costs in the development of tests and educational programs, among other benefits. Learn more about the Consortium at: http://www.ncsconline.org/D_Research/CourtInterp/CICourtConsort.html.

Why are we bringing this subject up right now? Because during our Conference in New Orleans some members questioned why the proposal for active membership status presented to the ATA Board earlier this year made a distinction between Federal and State Certification. Until consensus is reached about what constitutes a sufficient degree of professionalism, training, performance, ethics and minimum requirements, state certifications cannot be accepted across the board.

And just who is going to determine which state certification will or will not warrant active membership status within ATA? The Administration of the Interpreters Division would like to form an Advisory Council to work together with proponents of the revision to ATA's Member Review process. This Advisory Council would study criteria to be used in the identification of states whose certification process is sufficiently rigorous to



Giovanna (Gio) Lester is the current Administrator of the Interpreters Division. She has been working in the T&I field since 1980, and holds ATA certification for Portuguese into English translation. She can be reached at giolester@gmail.com

allow for granting active membership status to interpreter members of ATA, prepare this list, and submit it to the Board for review.

The proposal to grant federally certified interpreters active membership status represents a great benefit for our colleagues who work in languages not included for ATA translation certification, or for interpreters to whom the translator certification exam does not apply. We believe the same benefits would be

enjoyed by interpreter members who are state certified, as long as the certification process and criteria used by different states are analyzed and found to be sufficiently rigorous. It behooves the Interpreters Division to be proactive in assisting ATA in identifying states whose certification could be used for granting active membership status to members who have said certification.

This proposed Advisory Council would be composed of ATA/ID

members who are state certified legal interpreters and who represent each of the Consortium member states with a certification or licensing process in place. If you are interested in being a part of this project, please join us on the listserv and let's start brainstorming.

The Interpreters Division can only go as far as its members will take it. We can make a difference if we try and this is an opportunity to help ourselves grow professionally. ■

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE, WINTER 2007

California Convenes Task Force on Interpreting Payment

by Don Schinkse

Executive Director, California Healthcare Interpreting Association

Last December, the California State Department of Health Services launched a task force to develop recommendations on how to provide payment for interpreting services in Medi-Cal, the state's Medicaid program that provides care to 6.5 million low-income Californians. The Medi-Cal Language Access Services Taskforce was created following the failure of legislation that Governor Schwarzenegger indicated he would not sign. "We realized that legislation was not needed to have a task force," explained Medi-Cal Director Sandra Shewry at the group's first meeting. "We can do the work without it."

The lack of a reimbursement mechanism for language services has long been an impediment to the provision of adequate language assistance for Medi-Cal beneficiaries and enrollees. Thirteen other states—none as large and diverse as California—have mechanisms to pay for at least

some forms of language services in their own Medicaid programs, which like Medi-Cal are funded with combined state and federal dollars.

The California Healthcare Interpreting Association holds one of 22 seats on the task force, which includes government agencies, medical provider organizations, and consumer health groups. The group has a year to develop recommendations to the state on implementing a payment system. Among the areas to be addressed include the recommended levels and types of payment, mechanisms for drawing down federal matching funds, means of delivery, and creating solutions for the various Medi-Cal programs and systems, which include both Medi-Cal managed care and fee-for-service programs, safety net programs (Federally Qualified Health Centers and Disproportionate Share Hospitals), mental health, in-home health services, and long-term care. ■

Interpreting in the Real World



An intense (and intensive) seminar for conference interpreters

by Marla Sanchez

Argentina's President Kirchner is blazing forward in his remarks before the UN General Assembly at lightning speed. Actually, he is probably talking at the speed of light. Given the signal that he only has two minutes left, Kirchner really warms up and actually pierces the sound barrier. All eleven of us sitting around the table watching the huge screen with our earphones on are trying desperately to keep up with our renditions into English.

I'm in the hot seat and interpreting aloud to be critiqued later by the professor and my colleagues. At a certain juncture, I offer the very literal:

"Argentina, which in the past endured systematic violations of human rights, characterized by the systematic use of torture, forced 'disappearance' and extra-judicial execution of its citizens."

The instructor stops the tape and once again urges me to cut the fluff and pare the message down to something more manageable. "You can say all that with:"

"In the past, Argentina endured human rights violations featuring systematic torture, disappearances, and extra-judicial executions."

"That's the only way to keep up and move on to his next sentence." As he explained several times, at the inordinate speeds speeches are given at the United Nations (UN), an interpreter must reduce the number of words and syllables not only to avoid errors of meaning and language, but also to avoid errors of enunciation.

Such was the tone of a five-day training for conference interpreters held in Glen Cove, New York in April 2006, taught by a 27-year UN veteran. I immediately signed up for the week of intensive exercises into

"Conciseness" was one of the week's mantras, as was "Three synonyms!" referring to how an interpreter's tool kit should always include three synonyms for key words, the less syllables the better. "Catastrophe" (four syllables), thus became "tragedy" (three) and even "blow" in reference to whatever calamity was under discussion.

Another habit we caught on to was to assign certain words a monetary value, as in "that's a two dollar word, now give me a ten dollar word!" For example, "establish" is fine when

Given the signal that he only has two minutes left, Kirchner really warms up and actually pierces the sound barrier.

English from French and Spanish when I learned that James Nolan, the author of *Interpretation: Techniques and Exercises* was the instructor. It is absolutely the most useful book I have run across on what really happens in the booth.

We interpreted countless speeches a day given in the wide variety of African accents in French (my personal Achilles heel) and all flavors of Latin American and continental Spanish.

referring to an alliance, but "frame" and "forge" is better and shorter.

Mr. Nolan pushed us constantly to convert adequate phrasing, i.e., "this crisis we are going through" to more elegant wording such as "the crisis now afflicting us." Also, it is always better to "address" problems as opposed to "dealing with" them, and "deplorable conditions" somehow makes extreme poverty sound more wretched than "their awful situation."

Unlike other seminars that are necessarily more general and geared to beginners, this session was limited to experienced conference interpreters. I greatly benefited from the high rank and depth of experience of its participants, which included the director of the Venezuelan translation school, a former staff interpreter for the Free Trade Agreement for the Americas, a Canadian government staff interpreter, and

"Interpretation: Techniques and Exercises" by **James Nolan** can be purchased from the editor "Professional Interpreting in the Real World, Multilingual Matters, LTD" or on Amazon for about \$45.00. Mr. Nolan holds seminars on a regular basis and can be reached at j.nolan@aiic.net.

Marla Sanchez is a free-lance interpreter (AIIC member) and ATA-certified translator (Spanish > English + Italian > English) currently based in South Africa. She divides her time between interpreting for international organizations and translating legal and business documents. She can be reached at marla.sanchez@aiic.net



several free-lance interpreters with many years of experience.

On the first morning we were a bit reticent with the set-up and having our course-mates evaluate our performances, but after just the second round of each participant taking a turn interpreting a speech, right away we felt free to make suggestions to each other and looked forward to comments and alternative versions of the speech. It is rare to have such instant and honest feedback from colleagues and the criticism was always constructive.

The goody bag for the week included a binder full of actual speeches and their respective recordings on cassette. Though not as diligently as I would have hoped, I do find myself turning regularly to practicing with the course materials to hone my skills at home.

Conveying concepts and not words is often stated as a principle of simultaneous interpretation, but

taking the time to put this into practice over an entire week was enormously beneficial. Dividing my time between translation and interpretation, I can sometimes get obsessed while interpreting to find the exact word and turn of phrase. It was quite liberating to put these concerns aside in the search for better delivery, the transmission of emotions, and conciseness.

Since the course, my “déalage” has definitely gotten longer as I am more confident in allowing speakers to complete their sentences until I can grasp their real meaning before I start interpreting. Previously I would start interpreting almost as soon as the speaker opened his or her mouth out of fear that I was going to leave something out. At best that often leads to awkward syntax, at worst, a misunderstanding of the speaker’s intended message.

Perhaps the most useful part of the week was not on the original

agenda, but consisted of Mr. Nolan’s generous offer to conduct a mock test simulating the UN interpretation exam and offering to send us an evaluation with pointers a few weeks later. Most of us signed up for this option, and approached our appointment almost as nervously as if it were the real thing.

The mock test, the six hours a day exclusively devoted to simultaneous interpreting, and the wealth of materials given out resulted in a very enriching and instructive week. Almost as didactic as the time spent in the interpreting lab, were all the anecdotes we traded over glasses of wine about our worst gaffes in the booth and other comic tales. Our multi-language bantering seemed to amuse the mostly Spanish-speaking wait staff who was always lingering around our table in the evenings to eavesdrop and laugh at tall stories from many lands. ■

Meditation on Terminology: From Missionary to Interpreting Student



by Peter Romney

I had the opportunity to live in Mexico City for two years serving as a religious missionary. Occasionally, an official from my church would visit the area and need interpretation, for which I was all too

glad to volunteer. Little did I know what I was getting into, for I had no prior experience in the field. The situations in which I interpreted were various. On some occasions I would be in a doctor’s office, though most

times the visiting official would speak before a large audience. These opportunities benefited me in two ways: they provided me my first exposure in the world of interpretation, eventually leading me here, to the Monterey Institute of International Studies; in addition they provided me an insight into the two-sided nature of interpretation and the training involved.

I learned the hard way what all trained interpreters know, that it is



Peter Romney is a second year student at MIIS where he is studying translation and interpretation in English and Spanish. He is a Utah native, where he received his BA in Romance Linguistics from the University of Utah. He also speaks Italian and French. He loves languages, plays the cello, and enjoys anything that can be done out of doors. He can be reached at napalmbrain@gmail.com

essential for the interpreter to have at the ready the vocabulary appropriate for the job at hand. This may require intense study, and there is no guarantee that the vocabulary learned will be transferable to other fields of specialization.

This is one part of the training an interpreter must undertake, but

Job” is another, more complex example. If one does not know the story of Job and the period of extreme difficulty he went through as a trial of his faith, this phrase means little.

Imagine the complexity of interpreting a speech given by someone who is so accustomed to studying religious material that they aren’t

as the “Quorum of the Seventy,” or an “Auxiliary Presidency.” I had even done enough research to know their equivalents in Spanish, but in order to communicate these ideas to an audience that had no idea what it was to “bear solemn testimony,” I was forced to throw my preparation aside and summarize, summarize, summarize.

Cultural background is the driving force behind language and in many cases, a word or phrase is so culturally bound that it forces the interpreter into a corner.

terminology alone is not sufficient. Cultural background is the driving force behind language and in many cases, a word or phrase is so culturally bound that it forces the interpreter into a corner: do you take the time to explain the term, or see if you can simply translate the phrase word for word in hopes that the intended audience will understand? Familiarity with the culture of an intended audience will certainly give any interpreter an advantage.

When asked to interpret for Church officials, the task at hand was always daunting. Take a moment and think about phrases in any language that are tied with religion. They are short, but they can call up a wealth of imagery (I use below examples from the Bible; examples from any other religion are just as meaningful). For instance: it is easy enough to understand the phrase, “doubting Thomas,” as referring to someone who doesn’t believe something told to them. However, the origins of this phrase relate a story of a man who would not believe things told to him *until he saw the proof*. It is a subtle difference, but one that is important enough to consider when interpreting for an audience that is not familiar with the story. “The trials of

even aware of the level to which religious symbolism has permeated their language. Nearly every sentence had reference to Christian literature, relating the meaning behind every biblical metaphor became a daunting

Nearly every sentence had reference to Christian literature, and relating the meaning behind every biblical metaphor became a daunting task.

task. At the end of most speeches I would usually return to the small crowd of my missionary peers whose faces, though kind, immediately made me aware that the job I had done was sub-par.

Beyond symbolism, however, I would consistently run into problems related to doctrinal language and the organization of authority within that religion. Granted, I was a missionary interpreting for officials of my same religion, and in that aspect I had an advantage, for I was accustomed to hearing such phrases as, “keeping our first estate,” “taking out the endowment,” or “bear solemn testimony,” or when the speaker referred to church organizations such

I have just completed my first year as a graduate student in translation and interpretation. Throughout all the hardship, the late-night study sessions, the constant practice, practice, practice, there is one immutable constant: I will never know it all.

And so I return to that two-sided aspect of interpretation that I spoke of earlier. On the one hand, an interpreter must have at the ready the vocabulary necessary to

communicate the message into the target language. On the other hand, the interpreter must know when to step back from the specific words and understand the general idea, and be able to express it.

We must go beyond the spoken words and reach deeply into what is being said, into the very mind of the speaker, and attempt to extract the core of each sentence so that we can be ready, when the time comes, to abandon our lists of memorized terms and choose a new path that will lead more directly to the goal of mutual understanding. In short, it is the interpreter’s job to know when to “shoot from the hip.” Say, that’s not from the Bible, is it? ■

Interpreters Division 2006 Membership Meeting



November 4, 2006, New Orleans, LA

The Interpreters Division 2006 Annual Meeting was held at the tail end of the New Orleans conference.

While attendance was low, participation was lively and extremely positive. We generated no less than 10 flipchart pages of ideas for this year's conference and the Division in general!

Giovanna Lester, Division Administrator, led the meeting with help from Assistant Administrator Katharine Allen. Despite full personal and professional lives, they were happy to be able to report considerable progress made towards Division Goals for 2006. The full text of the minutes will be uploaded to the Interpreters Division website. A summary of the meeting is provided on the following page.

First, Giovanna and Katharine made an important announcement that needs highlighting. Their two-year terms as Division Administrator and Assistant Administrator come to an end at this year's conference and both will be stepping down from their respective leadership positions. They are both honored and feel incredibly fortunate to have been given the opportunity to help in the ongoing process of building the Division into a more functional and proactive body. As of last count, the Interpreter's Division had 2,561 members. It represents one of the largest organized groups of interpreters in the country, with many international members. There is much work left to be done to continue to build internal structures as well as lifting the profile of interpreting within and outside of the ATA.

To grow and thrive, the Division needs your help. Consider running for office, writing an article, helping out on a committee, or posting on the listserv. The size of the contribution doesn't matter, only that you do contribute.

Meeting Summary

In 2005, a new service for members was added to the Online Translator and Interpreter Registry: the ability to make a **Voice File** for prospective clients to listen to. The **Red Cross community service project** continued apace with a new Red Cross field representative stepping in to the program. The **Interpreters Voice** is maturing into a regular and professional newsletter,

are paired with a much easier content management system that will allow us to update our site more efficiently—for both legacy and new content. Finally, a new policy initiative spearheaded by former ATA President Ann Macfarlane and former Board Member Tim Yuan has led to ATA members who are **Certified Federal Legal Interpreters** being accepted into active membership. A review of how to include those with state certifications is underway.

New Business discussed included Giovanna and Katharine's announcement that they will be stepping down at the end of their terms in November. Members received the job

New Business discussed included Giovanna and Katharine's announcement that they will be stepping down at the end of their terms in November.

thanks to the content and help provided by many division members and other professionals in the field. Slow but sure progress is being made on the **Interpreting Booklet**, intended as a sister publication to **Translation: Getting it Right**, with final review and publication anticipated in 2007. The Division web site's needs are slowly being met. Mary David has lent us her time and talents to help create a new look and technological framework, which has resulted in a beta web site at: <http://www.ata-divisions.org/ID/IDTestSite/index.html>. The change in appearance and ease of navigation

descriptions and responsibilities for division administrators, which are also included in this newsletter. Also discussed at length were plans for this year's conference, to be held in San Francisco from October 31st to November 3rd. The group brainstormed a long list of great ideas for topics. See sidebar. (Thank you to all who submitted presentations this Spring). Members also decided that it was premature for the Interpreters Division to plan a Mid-year Conference, preferring instead to support other division mid-year conferences to include sessions on interpreting in their programming. ■

INTERPRETERS DIVISION ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

- Call to order
- Acceptance of agenda
- Approval of minutes of last year's meeting
- Overview of 2006
 1. ID Special Projects - Update
 - Voice files* – Marketing
 - Red Cross* – Community Service
 - The Interpreters Voice* – Professional Development, Education
 - Interpreting Booklet* – Client Education
 - Active Membership* – Professional Development
 - Interpreter Certification* – Professional Recognition
 2. ID Website – New Design
- New Business for 2007
 1. 2007 Elections
 2. ATA's 48th Annual Conference (San Francisco)
 3. Division Mid-Year Conference (The PLD invited us to join them)
 4. Other division plans for coming year
- Adjournment

How to sign up for the ID listserv:

1. Go to www.ata-divisions.org/ID
2. From links on the left, choose "Articles of Interest"
3. Follow link to Yahooogroups
4. Click to join
5. Moderator will add your name to the listserv
6. Set your preferences to desired mode of receiving messages (individual, daily bundled, on website, etc.)

How to Upload a Voice File:

1. Go to ATA's Main Page at www.atanet.org
2. Login (at top of page)
3. Click on "Change your name, address, telephone numbers, email, Websites, etc. in the ATA database"
4. Click on "Enter/Edit Your Listing Information"
5. Click on "Add/Edit sample Voice File(s)"
6. Use interface to upload your file(s)

Important URLs:

Interpreter Division Website:

www.ata-divisions.org/ID

Interpreter Division Testsite:

www.ata-divisions.org/ID/IDTestsite/index.html

INTERPRETERS DIVISION 2007 ELECTION

Successful candidates will have the following characteristics:

- Commitment, dedication, and a willingness to get the job done.
- Vision, a sense of what should be done, and a sense of direction.
- The ability to involve others and delegate responsibilities.
- The ability to listen, to accept good advice from all sources, and balance it against one's own judgment and vision for the good of the Division.
- Any other characteristics you think will make a good ID administrator or assistant administrator.

The job descriptions, according to the Bylaws are as follows:

- **Administrator**
 - Performs the duties of the presiding officer of the Division
 - Keeps all Division records and is responsible for financial matters.
 - Submits an annual report and financial statement to Division members and to the Board of Directors of the Association.
 - Is the principal representative of the Division in relations with other organizations.
 - Serves as the communications link between the Division and the Association.
 - Appoints the committees.
 - May delegate any of the above duties to eligible members of the Division.
- **Assistant Administrator**
 - Assists the administrator as required.
 - Takes an active interest in activities of the Division.
 - Replaces the administrator in his or her absence or in the event that the administrator is incapacitated until elections are held, if necessary.
 - Appoints a nominating committee. ■

Your
advertisement
here.

See guidelines on
[page 2](#) for
submitting your ad.

SUGGESTIONS FOR SESSION TOPICS FOR ATA'S 2007 CONFERENCE:

- Research on language—Johanna Klemm's work on how language is stored and used in interpreting in the brain
- Cultural Competency in Interpreting for users and providers. This could be a panel session
- Skill-building workshops on note-taking, consecutive interpreting and sight translation
- The differences in difficulties in interpreting across languages
- The interpreter's ability to self-assess performance
- The maintenance of interpreting skills across the board
- Self assessment and performance: a language-neutral model
- Integrating critical thinking and interpreter ethics: i.e., how to apply interpreter ethics in the field
- Telephonic interpreting—new protocols in Oregon
- Advanced training sessions for conference interpreters in ethics and best practices

- Leadership/management for language assistance programs in medical settings
- Legislation relating to language access
- Interpreter training programs—panel on different models structured like CAT Tools panel
- Video Medical Interpreting (VMI)
- Interpreting Panel—best practices update, comparative ethics
- Indigenous languages and relay interpreting (Navajo, Hmong, Mixteca)

OTHER ACTIVITIES:

- Combine ID event with other divisions
- Wine tasting in Napa Valley/China Town/Fisherman's Wharf
- Visit Federal/State courts
- Visit hospital interpreter training programs
- A day at MIIS (Monterey Institute for International Studies)
- Coffee klatch social event for interpreters across languages
- Outreach to Mexico's T and I institutions

Wireless Equipment for Interpreters

For less than \$100, interpreters can now have their own set of wireless transmitter and receiver, including microphone and earphone

TN Communications offers dependable, long-lasting wireless equipment that easily fits in a shirt pocket.

All equipment comes with a one-year warranty



Single-channel equipment

In addition to our single-channel equipment, multi-channel transmitters and receivers are now available

Optional headset microphones and headphones are also available

Please visit www.tncommunications.com for product specifications and availability. For more information, contact us at info@tncommunications.com or call 1-888-371-9005

Answers: Your Consortium IQ (page 4):

1. July 1995
2. Minnesota, New Jersey, Oregon and Washington
3. New Jersey's and Washington's
4. Arabic, Cantonese, Haitian Creole, Hmong, Korean, Laotian, Mandarin, Portuguese, Russian, Serbian (in development), Somali, Spanish and Vietnamese
5. Mississippi and New York, 2006

MANIFEST OF PASSENGERS

SS. *Natchez* SAILING FROM THE PORT OF *New Orleans*
ON THE *2nd of November, 2006*

<i>Akiko Summers</i>	<i>Gloria Barrangan</i>	<i>Marie Claire Pascutini</i>
<i>Alicia Nin</i>	<i>Helena El Masri</i>	<i>Marjory Bancroft</i>
<i>Ana Lorena Lefebvre</i>	<i>Kiroko Moling</i>	<i>Martha Judith Garcia</i>
<i>Ana Regina Firminac</i>	<i>Kiromi Fujii</i>	<i>Masako Mc.Millan</i>
<i>Arlene Kelly</i>	<i>Ines Reynal</i>	<i>Maynard Hogg</i>
<i>Boris Silversteyn</i>	<i>Ivelissa Escalera</i>	<i>Michelle Lambeau</i>
<i>Bozena Gilewska</i>	<i>James A. Clark</i>	<i>Milagros Giacosa</i>
<i>Catalina Natalini</i>	<i>Javier Labrador</i>	<i>Nelson Laterman</i>
<i>Clarissa Surek-Clark</i>	<i>Jeremy Sachs</i>	<i>Odile Legeay</i>
<i>Dee Shields</i>	<i>Jisu Kim</i>	<i>Phil Isenberg</i>
<i>Doina Francu</i>	<i>Katharine Allen</i>	<i>Rika Mitrik</i>
<i>Donna H. Sandin</i>	<i>Kim Olson</i>	<i>Rumi Nishimura</i>
<i>Edna Ditarando</i>	<i>Kleber Costa</i>	<i>Sarita Gomes-Mola</i>
<i>Elena Langdon</i>	<i>Lilian Ramsey</i>	<i>Steve Mines</i>
<i>Eloisa Marques</i>	<i>Luis Jimenez Mier</i>	<i>Subi Febres</i>
<i>Elvira Silversteyn</i>	<i>M. A. Alvim</i>	<i>Tereza D'Avila Braga</i>
<i>Frances Samuel</i>	<i>Manako Thaya</i>	<i>Terri Shaw</i>
<i>Genoveja Legowski</i>	<i>Marcia Angelides</i>	<i>Virginia Perez-Santalla</i>
<i>Georganne Weller</i>	<i>Marcio Badra</i>	<i>Vonessa Phillips Costa</i>
<i>Gilda Richard</i>	<i>Margareth Lulsdorf</i>	<i>Yoshiko Guy</i>
<i>Giovanna Lester</i>	<i>Maria Laura Mazza</i>	<i>Zarita Arayjo-Lane</i>

IT HAS BEEN A PLEASURE SERVING AS YOUR CAPTAINS

INTERPRETERS DIVISION

Giovanna Lester

Katharine Allen

PORTUGUESE LANGUAGE DIVISION

Clarissa Surek-Clark

Nelson Laterman

Riverboat Snapshots



(photo © 2006 Maynard Hogg,
www.flickr.com/photos/maynard/sets/72157594357058474/)





(photo © 2006 Maynard Hogg,
www.flickr.com/photos/maynard/sets/72157594357058474/)



(photo © 2006 Maynard Hogg,
www.flickr.com/photos/maynard/sets/72157594357058474/)



(photo © 2006 Maynard Hogg,
www.flickr.com/photos/maynard/sets/72157594357058474/)

