



**Multi-Languages Corporation Conference 2007**  
**University of Toronto – Victoria College**  
**Toronto, Ontario, Canada**  
**Saturday, November 10th, 2007**



8:30 – 8:50

Registration - Free gift for first 10 people to register

9:00 – 11:00

**Dr. Claudia V. Angelelli**  
***The Interpreter's Visibility: Agency as Controversy***

Although language interpreters play a key role in cross-cultural interactions in which speakers do not share a language, the literature on language interpreting portrays them as invisible “language-switching operators”. While difficult to sustain or explain, the notion of neutrality and transparency are deeply embedded in the professional organizations and schools that educate translators and interpreters. Recent studies of the examination of interpreters at work portray interpreters who are co-participants in the interpreted communicative event. This paper first reports on the construction and administration of an instrument to measure the visibility/invisibility of the interpreters in terms of: 1- alignment with the parties, 2- establishing trust with/facilitating mutual respect between the parties, 3- communicate affect as well as message, 4-explain cultural gaps/interpret culture as well as language, and 5- establish communication rules during the conversation. Subsequently, using an ethnographical approach, this paper examines the interpreter's interpersonal role as it becomes visible to both the interlocutors and the observer. At California Hope, a public hospital in the South Bay area (the site), ten Spanish/English interpreters were observed during 22 months. A total of 392 health-care encounters were analyzed between Spanish-speaking patients and English-speaking health-care providers using discourse and content analyses. In the interactions they facilitated, these interpreters gained visibility through text authorship, which they achieved through a variety of communicative strategies (e.g. bridging communicative needs, filtering essential information from less important one, seeking and exploring answers to questions, and bridging cultural gaps between health-care providers and patients). This study portrays interpreters in a different light and it has theoretical and practical

implications for interpreting and cross-linguistic communication in general, and for health-care communication specifically.

Dr. Claudia V. Angelelli holds a Ph.D in Educational Linguistics from Stanford University, a Master of the Arts in Teaching Foreign Languages (Spanish), with graduate certificates in TESOL and a Language Program Administration from the Monterey Institute of International Studies (MIIS), and a degree in Legal Translation from the UCA, Argentina with certificates in English/Spanish/French translation and interpreting (T&I). She is a Professor of Spanish Linguistics at San Diego State University where she teaches course on Applied Linguistics including Spanish discourse analysis; Testing, Acquisition of Spanish; English-Spanish translation/interpreting theory and practice. Her research focuses on cross-cultural communication, specifically on the role of the interpreter in a medical setting. She is the author of *Medical Interpreting and Cross-cultural Communication* (Cambridge University Press), the first ethnographic study of Spanish/English medical interpreters, and *Re-visiting the role of the interpreter: a study of conference, court, and medical interpreters in Canada, Mexico and the United States* (John Benjamins) the first quantitative study on the role of interpreters across settings. She has published numerous book chapters in edited collections and articles in journals such as *Interpreting*, *META: Journal des Traducteurs*, *The Annual Review of Applied Linguistics*, *The Translator*, *Critical Link*, and the *ATA Chronicle*. She developed the first empirically-driven language proficiency and interpreter readiness test for The California Endowment and *Hablamos Juntos*. She is also a co-author of the *CHIA Ethical Principles and Standards of Practice*. She is the Vice President of the American Translation Studies Association, a Director of the American Translators Association and of the Consortium for the Distinguished Language Centers. She an advisor at the National Council of Interpreters in Healthcare and at Robert Wood Johnson Foundation National Program *Hablamos Juntos*.

11:00

Coffee Break

11:15 – 12:45

## Shamin Jhooty *Court Interpretation*

There is notion out there that anyone who speaks a second language can interpret. However this seemingly simple task is actually very complex and consists of these components – active listening, memory retention, mental transposition and verbalization.

A court interpreter requires:

- \* Mastery of both source and target languages
- \* Excellent linguistic capabilities to quickly analyze the message to determine the most appropriate adaptation from one language to another
- \* Ability to pay close attention to details for extended periods of time
- \* An understanding of the fundamentals of the law & legal proceedings
- \* Knowledge of the subject matter and terminologies being used in a proceeding
- \* A trained short-term memory
- \* Formal training in the Simultaneous Interpretation mode
- \* Public speaking skills

Key Components of Court Interpreter Training are

- \* Court Interpretation – Introduction & Orientation and Code of Ethics;
- \* Different modes & tools of Interpretation – Consecutive & Simultaneous Interpretation, Sight Translation, Note taking etc.;
- \* Practice of different modes of interpretation;
- \* Legal Terminology & Basic Legal Proceedings – detailed information of legal terminology used everyday in Courts, basic knowledge of law and legal proceedings and courtroom settings and roles of different persons in a courtroom;
- \* Substantial hours of Court proceeding observation and writing a report of cases observed and notation of all difficult terminology used in those proceedings. (To determine the level of comprehension of the real legal proceeding in terms of accents of different participants and court jargon etc.);
- \* To receive classroom training of legal terminology in the target language of the interpreter;
- \* Testing through mock trials.

The speaker will analyze and present on these concepts.

Shamin Jhooty has a *BSc. Masters in Journalism*, and is an Accredited Court Interpreter by the Ministry of Attorney General of Ontario. She has formal college training in Court Interpreting from Vancouver Community College, British Columbia. She is a Certified Translator English - Punjabi (STIBC), was a member of the Board of Directors of STIBC in 1996-97 as the Director at Large (For Admission Exam) and one the STIBC markers for translation Certification Exam.

She is committed to improving quality of court interpretation in Ontario. Extensive experience in the court interpreting field through working in a wide variety of areas - from providing interpretation for all different levels of Court proceedings, reviewing interpretation for accuracy, mentoring, developing interpreter testing materials, marking translator certification exams, providing guidance on court interpretation curriculum & procedures and technical support for interpretation equipment used in the courtrooms.

Through twelve years of “hands on” experience in providing court interpretation for judicial proceedings at a professional level, she obtained extensive knowledge of court interpretation theories, techniques and application, as well as court interpretation procedures, policies, rules and legislative statutes. Translation, script writing, editing and presentation of news & entertainment programs on Radio & Television. Translated University research findings from English into Punjabi and produced educational audio-visual materials to disseminate information to the target audience.

Member of Interpreter Training Curriculum Advisory Committee, provided guidance & direction for the development of ‘Interpreter Training Curriculum’

Declared to be an expert witness in the field of Court Interpreting at a Superior Court Hearing in Ontario.

Lunch 1:00 – 2:00

## María Constanza Guzmán

### *Perspectives on the Translator's Visibility*

Traditionally, translations have been considered secondary and derivative to original works. Translators, in turn, are considered subordinate to authors. Common images and conceptions construct the translator as a scribe, a copier, or the neutral messenger of a stable message. Translation has most commonly been theorized from the perspective of the study of languages as systems that exist for the purpose of the neutral communication of messages. According to this framework, the translator is often seen as *only a means* to understand the translating process, that is, what happens between two clearly differentiated texts in two clearly differentiated languages. This emphasis on the purely linguistic operation tends to render the translator a minor, or invisible figure.

In recent years, theories in translation studies have become increasingly interested in going beyond the idea of translators as invisible mediators and recognizing their role as active agents who participate in the writing of texts and in the production of knowledge. According to this point of view, such an active, creative role is inherent to translation. One of the key notions around which the role and agency of the translator have been discussed is that of the translator's (in)visibility. I will address major discussion points regarding this notion and present a variety of examples in order to illustrate the various realms—professional, institutional, cultural, personal, political—in which the question of the translator's (in)visibility manifests itself, and indicate possible implications and consequences in each case. The role of the translator will be discussed in its complexity as an agent who exists and performs in collective spaces of dialogue, power, and negotiation.

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María Constanza Guzmán is an Assistant Professor at York University (Glendon College), where she teaches in the School of Translation and in the Hispanic Studies Department. Currently, she is the Coordinator of the Spanish-English Translation Certificate. Prof. Guzmán holds a PhD in Comparative Literature from the State University of New York, an M.A. in Spanish Translation from Kent State University, and a B.A from Universidad Nacional de Colombia. Her main scholarly interests are Translation Studies and 20th century Latin American Literature. Currently, her research focuses on translation theory and pedagogy, with a particular emphasis on contemporary theoretical perspectives drawn from literary and cultural studies. Recent articles include “Los desafíos de Gregory Rabassa, traductor al inglés de *Cien años de soledad* (in “Traducción/ Género/Poscolonialismo. Ed. P. Calefato and P. Godayol. *Designis* (FELS). Barcelona: Gedisa), and “The Spectrum of Translation in Cortázar's ‘Letter to a Young Lady in Paris’.” *Ikala: revista de lenguaje y cultura*. Universidad de Antioquia). Her translations of one book and several scholarly articles have been published. Prof. Guzmán has worked as a translator and project manager, and has experience with teaching and translation technologies.

## Ana Cristina Fernandez

### *CAT Tools*

### *A practical introduction*

Translation needs have been changing and with these changes come a higher demand for translation, shorter deadlines and the need to use more specialized tools. As a result, computer-aided translation tools have become a possible solution to meet the market demands without sacrificing quality.

With the aid of demonstrations, the goal of this presentation, will be to introduce translators to some generic translation tools. We will evaluate some of the strengths and weaknesses of using a translation memory and will try to dispel the most common misconceptions about CAT tools.

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Ana Cristina joined Lexi-tech as a student in January 2005. She has experience in terminology, translation and in training office employees. She graduated from the University of Ottawa in December 2006 with an Honours BA in Trilingual Translation and a Minor in Spanish. She has worked on several translation projects with many clients, such as Correctional Services, Miele Ltd. and Canada Council for the Arts. Her areas of interest are Arts, Sociology, Communication and Applied Sciences. In addition to her translation experience, she obtained an advanced education in the use of CAT tools while working with the terminology and project management teams. She became the official training instructor for the Ottawa branch over a year ago and continues to give training sessions to in-house translators, project managers, management staff and external resources. She is a member of the Recruitment and

4:15

### **María Constanza Guzmán**

Glendon College School of Translation  
York University

Presentation on the programs offered for translators at Glendon College.

4:30

### **Nelida Chan**

Medical Terminology Project

Presentation on the Terminology Management System Project conducted by York University and the Healthcare Interpretation Network - HIN.

5:00

Award presentation

## **Award Recipients 2007**

Sameh Abdou	Arabic
Mohamed Ali	Somali
Rodolphe Destombes	French
Shyamala Navaratnam	Tamil
Cesar Rouben	French

The Multi-Languages Award was created in 2002 to recognize those interpreters / translators who provide an outstanding service, are dedicated professionals and are committed to self improvement by actively participating at professional development activities. They are selected based on their level of professionalism, quality of interpretation/ translation, punctuality and overall performance (not by number of assignments).

**Thanks to all our award recipients and to all of you, our translators/interpreters.**

5:15

Raffle

**Free** raffle of one SDL Trados 2007 licence for Freelancers - \$995 value

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Contact in Canada:  
Serafino Graziosi  
[Sgraziosi@sdl.com](mailto:Sgraziosi@sdl.com)

Participants must be present at time of raffle to be eligible to win

Certificates of participation will be issued to those attending the full day

**This conference has been approved in advance for 5 CE American Translators Association—ATA Points**