

# informATIO

December 2012

Number 4

## ATIO, CTTIC and AILIA

By Barbara Collishaw, President

I have been asked to explain the relationships between ATIO and two other organizations, CTTIC (the Canadian Translators, Terminologists and Interpreters Council) and AILIA (the Language Industry Association).

ATIO is a full, participating member of CTTIC, as are all the other provincial associations of translators, terminologists and interpreters, except OTTIAQ, which is not a member in good standing of CTTIC at this time. CTTIC—the Council—meets once a year in person and once a year by telephone conference. ATIO is represented on the CTTIC executive. A portion of each ATIO member's dues goes to support CTTIC's functions as a national clearinghouse, international contact point (as a member of FIT) and, most importantly, as the body that sets national examinations and standards for certification. All CTTIC members (still including OTTIAQ) are signatories to the Agreement on Pan-Canadian Titles.

AILIA represents the language industry, mostly medium and large firms that provide language services. These services include translation, interpretation, language training, language technologies and terminology.

## BEST WISHES

*The Board members and the Secretariat would like to wish all ATIO members a happy season and prosperous New Year.*

Although non-profit organizations, governments and individuals may be members of AILIA, only the "corporate" members have a vote at the annual meeting, and yet the fees for all categories except individuals are the same. ATIO and CTTIC share some of AILIA's objectives, such as to facilitate networking between the industry and other public and private sector partners; to stimulate the efforts of industry stakeholders, both at the national and international levels; and to support the emergence of alliances and projects to expand the industry. But ATIO and CTTIC are uneasy with the view of language services as an "industry" and the potential commodification of language services, to the detriment of professionalism.

ATIO and CTTIC have decided not to become members of AILIA under the present conditions. However, CTTIC-EDU has been working informally with AILIA in promoting its course offerings.

### CERTIFIED THROUGH CTTIC TRANSLATION EXAMINATION

*English-Chinese*  
Shek, Gilbert

### CERTIFIED ON DOSSIER IN TRANSLATION

*Italian-English*  
Enrietti-Zoppo, Cristina

## Inside...

ATIO Member Wins Word Artistry Award.....	Page 2
CTTIC Annual General Meeting in Ottawa, November 17-18, 2012.....	Page 3
Glendon Launches New Master's Degree in Conference Interpreting .....	Page 4
Hearst University's Translation Programs Initial Review .....	Page 5
Where Linguists get their Due: The School of Translation and Interpretation .....	Page 6
It Only Happens to Other People .....	Page 7
Noblesse Oblige .....	Page 8

# ATIO Member Wins Word Artistry Award

By Tom Ellett, Director, Independent Translators

Congratulations to Lisa Carter of Ottawa, a certified translator from Spanish to English, who was presented with the Alicia Gordon Award for Word Artistry in Translation at the recent American Translators Association (ATA) conference in San Diego, California.

Lisa won the award for her translation of a passage from *Voltaire's Calligrapher* by Pablo De Santis, one of six novels she has translated for publication. The award was established in memory of Alicia Gordon, known for creating imaginative solutions to knotty translation problems based on rigorous research.

Lisa was also nominated this year for the International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award for her translation of Jose Rodrigues dos Santos' novel *The Einstein Enigma*. In one of two sessions she presented at the ATA conference, Lisa gave a fascinating insight into her work on this project. At the publisher's request, Lisa worked from the Spanish translation of the original Portuguese text and made substantial edits, ultimately producing a tighter narrative that was commended by the author.

In an engaging 75-minute presentation, Lisa described the many challenges she encountered in the course of the project—some of them technical (translating complex philosophical and mathematical concepts, inconsistent characterization), some of



Photo: Diana Lima

Lisa Carter, C. Tran., after receiving the Alicia Gordon Award for Word Artistry at the ATA conference.

them practical in nature (accelerated deadlines, lack of editorial feedback). While Lisa described her award nomination as unexpected, her audience can have had little doubt that it was well merited.

Following her presentations at the ATA conference, Lisa has launched a series of online courses for aspiring and established literary translators. For information on these, and to read her informative blog, visit [intralingo.com](http://intralingo.com).

# CTTIC Annual General Meeting in Ottawa, November 17-18, 2012

*By Barbara Collishaw, President*

**C**TTIC, the Canadian Translators, Terminologists and Interpreters Council, holds its annual general meeting in the late fall, and this year it was ATIO's turn to host. The presidents of the provincial associations, the co-chairs of the certification board, CTTIC executive officers and staff of CTTIC, STIBC and ATIO all attended. About a dozen ATIO members attended the banquet.

## Budget

CTTIC's budget is of serious concern. OTTIAQ withdrew last year and without their large membership, there is a considerable operating deficit. Reserve funds are being used now, but in the new fiscal year, beginning in September, the situation will get worse. The meeting came up with some ideas to raise more funds, since the expenses have already been trimmed.

Associations could provide a one-time special assessment, but that would only help for one year. Most associations were very reluctant to consider raising the dues paid to CTTIC, because they would have to pass the increase on to their members, and budgets are tight all over. Each association currently pays \$25 per certified member.

Another way for CTTIC to increase its income would be to increase sales of CTTIC-edu online courses. At the moment, sales are very slow, but there are more courses available every month. If member associations and their members promote the courses more, they could be real money-makers. Startup costs were funded by the Canadian Language Sector Enhancement Program under the Roadmap for Linguistic Duality.

## Certification (examinations)

The co-chairs of the Board of Certification explained the progress that had been made this year in improving the examination process. Results are coming in more quickly, and more changes are on the way. Certification by examination is one of CTTIC's primary functions; not only is it essential, but it also provides income.

They are also studying the on-dossier and mentorship programs in use in various provinces.

## Mutual Recognition Agreement

Although CTTIC is not a party to the Mutual Recognition Agreement signed in 2004 (updated in 2007) by a number of provincial associations, the withdrawal of OTTIAQ from CTTIC and continuing concerns about its mentorship program call the MRA into question.

## Community Interpreters

CTTIC is leading the nation-wide stakeholders' group to look into the certification or regulation of community interpreters, including medical interpreters, and in some provinces, court or legal interpreters. Members of the group's subcommittees are surveying the situation in various provinces and trying to maintain harmony and focus among the very disparate members, which include professional associations, non-profit and for-profit agencies, schools and others.

## Elections

Faith Cormier (CTINB) remains president, Ellen Laoha (STIBC) remains treasurer, and Yolanda Hobrough (STIBC) and Malcolm Williams (ATIO) will continue as co-chairs of the Board of Certification. The new secretary is Alain Otis (ATIO) and the new vice-president is Golnaz Aliyarzadeh (STIBC).

## Various

Associations will aim to harmonize their terms for non-certified members: in some provinces they are known as Associate Members, but it was agreed that ATIO's Candidate for Certification status was the clearest.

A representative from Nunavut attended, and that association may be revived.

Associations will promote the use of CTTIC-edu programs, both as a means of providing professional development to members and as a fundraiser for CTTIC. The Board of Certification may use this system for training examination markers.

Associations will check their website to make sure there is a clear link to CTTIC and the other provincial associations.

# Glendon Launches New Master's Degree in Conference Interpreting

*By Andrew Clifford, Assistant Professor, Glendon College*

**T**he School of Translation at Glendon College (York University) in Toronto is now offering training for future interpreters. Its two-year graduate program is intended to train new generations of professionals for the conference interpreting market, but also for other markets—such as court and health care interpreting—that have traditionally been underserved by training programs. In this way, we hope to build capacity across interpreting settings.

The first cohort of students in English<>French courses started in September, and they will be joined in January by new classmates in non-official languages. Application deadlines for upcoming intakes of students are as follows:

<b>January 2013</b>	English<>Mandarin English <>Portuguese English <>Spanish	<b>December 5, 2012</b>
<b>September 2013</b>	English<>French English<>Mandarin English <>Portuguese English <>Spanish	<b>April 3, 2013</b>

If there is sufficient demand from potential students, the program may also be able to offer English<>Arabic and English<>Russian in September 2013.

The first year of the program is delivered entirely online, which means that students do not necessarily need to be in Toronto. Indeed, a great deal of interest has come from candidates in other countries. Classes in court, health care and conference interpreting take place in a virtual classroom that allows students to

perfect their consecutive skills and even to practice simultaneous interpreting in virtual interpreting booths. Remote learning also means that students can be taught by leading instructors from around the world, and that they can get used to interpreting in virtual platforms that are likely to figure prominently in the future of the profession. At the end of the first year, students are able to exit the program and earn the Graduate Diploma in General Interpreting, which will help them make a smooth transition to work in court or health care interpreting.

Students who continue in second year focus exclusively on conference interpreting, and they take courses at the Glendon campus, in our soon-to-be-completed interpreting lab. This second year of face-to-face skill

development means that students receive “blended” (i.e., both online and in-class) training over the course of the degree. In this way, they are better prepared to face the range of challenges that will confront them in the profession in the years to come.

The Glendon Master of Conference Interpreting has worked to shape this new program through

partnerships with important stakeholders, including professional associations like ATIO, and some of the national and international organizations that hire interpreters. We look forward to an ongoing dialogue with our industry partners as the program matures.

For more information on the program, please feel free to visit our website at

**[www.glendon.yorku.ca/interpretation](http://www.glendon.yorku.ca/interpretation)**

or to email us at **[interpretation@glendon.yorku.ca](mailto:interpretation@glendon.yorku.ca)**



# Hearst University's Translation Programs

## Initial Review

By *Andréanne Joly, Hearst University*  
*Translation Janet Jury, C. Tran.*

**F**or just over two years now, Hearst University has offered the only translation programs available in central and northern Ontario. It recently conducted a review and was in for a few surprises. Yes, the University is training the next generation of translators; but notably, it gives many professionals an opportunity to consider a career change. Nearly 90 percent of its clientele is made up of mature students, a proportion the University had not anticipated.

Fanny Joanis-Benoît is among the Francophone mature students working full-time in a community where English is everywhere. “The introduction of this program presented a good opportunity,” she said. “I could not have earned a second degree by distance learning. I didn’t hesitate to go back to the University, where I earned my first degree.”

Joanis-Benoît, the recipient of a FondATIO achievement award in 2011, is one of a number of budding translators who are experiencing a fairly unstable job market and preparing a Plan B.

Aside from these observations about clientele, there are the adjustments inherent in setting up any new program. Hearst University has already had to rethink the orientation of its translation courses.

The University designed its programs in light of the high degree of bilingualism in the region (with campuses in Hearst, Kapuskasing and Timmins). Until last April, it was planning to offer advanced courses in English and Translation to prepare translators to work into and from both official languages.

“Based on recommendations from the community, our Senate has decided to focus on training translators to work from English into French only,” explained Vice-President Sophie Dallaire. Since September, the northern Ontario institution has therefore favoured specialization over full bilingualism. “We have supplemented the compulsory courses with specialized courses in economic and business translation, and in technical translation.”

Another change is planned, this time for all academics at Hearst University, including its translation programs. Starting in September 2014, all courses will be offered according to the block-release model, that is, one at a time, in a series of six or twelve seminars over a three-week period. The idea is for students to become fully immersed, in a collaborative setting, through more intensive teaching.

“This approach strikes me as ideal for workshop training,” states Lyne Jolette, a translation professor. “For access to theory—always necessary—students will be encouraged to do readings outside of class time. The time spent with the professor will be geared mainly to exercises and interaction. This, in my view, will make the best use of the time.”

For information about its programs and block-release courses, contact Hearst University directly or visit its website, at [www.uhearst.ca](http://www.uhearst.ca).



# Where Linguists get their Due: The School of Translation and Interpretation

By Luise von Flotow, Chair, School of Translation and Interpretation, University of Ottawa

**A**t the School of Translation and Interpretation, University of Ottawa, linguists get their due. The best are admitted into our undergraduate and graduate programs, where their skills are honed and their interests broadened, and they are prepared for a job market that is growing worldwide. Indeed, one of the most important and attractive aspects of the School's programs—at both undergraduate and graduate levels—is that our graduates find work immediately. Translators are in demand everywhere.

The School admits about 40 anglophones and 80 francophones per year to the BA programs. Admission requires passing a stiff exam, since we need to be sure our students have good skills in French and English. Increasing numbers of our students are currently entering our Specialized BA, a quicker 2-year program, for those who have already acquired a BA in another field. And so, excellent bilingual candidates with backgrounds in science or law or history are joining the ranks of those linguists of the world who have well-paid, recognized employment in a huge variety of fields.

We offer a tri-lingual qualification as well—in French-English-Spanish—though we do not claim to train translators who work into Spanish. Our graduates work into French or English, and do so with great success—in government ministries and departments, in the Translation Bureau, in legal offices across Canada, in agencies, in private ventures, and abroad.

At graduate level, the School offers one master's degree that is a professional program—the Master in Conference Interpreting. It provides training for professional interpreters who will work largely in parliamentary or conference interpreting, and has the strong support of the federal government. A very demanding program, the MIC produces six to eight graduates a year, sometimes twelve, who often go on to work in the federal service. Some, of course,

go elsewhere, including to the International Court of Justice in The Hague.

In the MA in Translation Studies, students (who have backgrounds and training in translation) *study* translation, and do research on it. Around 12 students per year arrive in this program to examine many different questions relating to this ancient profession. For example, they study the impact of different Bible translations, the roles translators have played in scandalous and other political/cultural events, the role of translation in development work, the importance of translation in international communications, historical aspects of translation, and cultural translation (how we explain our differences to others). Some produce literary translations of publishable quality, and go on to see their work in print. Others work questions around the new technologies that are developing to support translation. This MA, in place for more than twenty years, is solidly established and has excellent graduates who are working internationally. It provides these graduates with strong theoretical training that is always linked to the very practical questions that translation entails. It also prepares students for the PhD program in Translation Studies.

The PhD has existed since 1997, the first such program in North America. Since translation is such an internationally booming business, it has welcomed candidates from many different places, from Taiwan, Iran, Jordan, Cameroon, Italy, Mexico and, of course, from Canada. They can complete their degrees in four years, and many do so, studying wide-ranging questions related to every aspect of translation. They publish widely, and are very active on the international conference scene in Translation Studies. Many have gone on to teach at other universities, others work in management positions in government, and many work abroad. The School keeps in close contact with its graduates, *always in touch*.

# It Only Happens to Other People

By Louise Voyer, ATIO Representative– Insurance

Louise Voyer Financial Services

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Translation Sharon Winkler Moren, C. Tran.

**D**isability insurance is a dry, off-putting topic for many people, but it's the best financial product for answering the following questions:

Why am I working? What would happen to the life I'm accustomed to if one day I suddenly had to stop working for health reasons, or I had to work less and I lost all or part of my income? Where would the money come from to pay for food, health care, rent, and so on?

From my savings or RRSP? Yes, but how long could I manage on what's in the bank?

A bank loan? Sure, but is my bank manager going to lend me money if I can't work anymore?

From my parents and friends? Maybe, but that's definitely a sure-fire way to make them stop returning my calls!

From my spouse? Of course, but there is a risk that total financial dependence on the spouse will cause problems for the couple.

From the government? Yes, but their programs are restrictive because you have to have a permanent, total or even terminal disease to qualify for and receive benefits.

And when all resources have been exhausted, there is welfare. But is that what you want?

For maintaining your personal well-being and lifestyle, the best solution is income protection through insurance. If you think about it, a 35-year-old earning \$40,000 a year today will earn no less than \$1,400,000 over his or her career, taking into account normal increases in income and inflation. Yet, a number of self-employed people have never stopped to ask themselves, "What would I do if I could no longer

work? Where would my income come from? How could I maintain my lifestyle?

One thing to consider is dental and medical costs, not to mention the price of medications, which is ever-rising. As a self-employed person, the premiums paid for this type of insurance are deductible for income tax purposes. However, without insurance, medical costs as such can only be deducted after the first \$1,500. So, it is more cost-effective to take out insurance for the tax savings alone. OHIP and RAMQ programs cover basic needs, but there is the risk that all incidental medical expenses could take another huge bite out of your savings. So, you might as well protect yourself. There are nine levels of coverage in ATIO's program and there is a plan to fit your needs and budget.

And it doesn't just happen to other people! Find out. For an estimate, email me at [louisevoyers5@sympatico.ca](mailto:louisevoyers5@sympatico.ca), providing your date of birth, family status (single, part of a couple, number of dependents), your province of residence and an idea about your monthly budget for these products.

## *Inform***ATIO**

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# Noblesse oblige

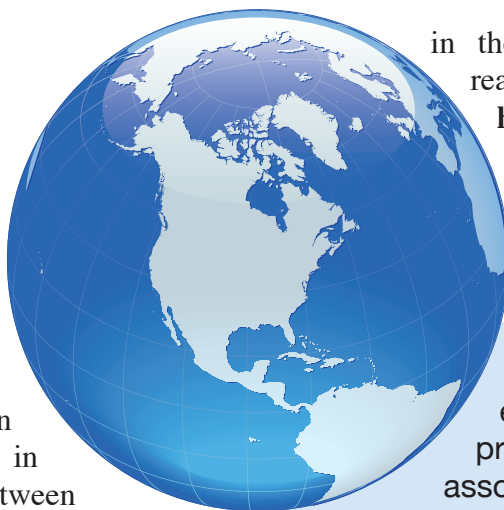
By Mark Villeneuve, C. Tran.

In the past year or so, I have been privileged to donate my professional skills and experience to assist garbage recyclers in Bogotá, rural teachers in Mozambique, Karen refugees in Thailand, disabled children in North Africa, orphans in the Mekong Valley, and many others in need. Surprisingly, in downtime between assignments, I have managed to translate more than 27,000 words for Translators Without Borders.

So last May, when I was in Argentina, I jumped at the chance to meet Enrique Cavalitto, who keeps TWB humming along from a modest corner of **Proz.com**'s office in La Plata. Over a heaping platter of empanadas shared with the whole team, I learned that despite a steady stream of new volunteer translators, demand continues to outstrip supply, more than doubling each year.

The charity organizations that rely on these *pro bono* services have no budget for translation and their very important humanitarian work would be severely curtailed without the generosity of TWB's 1,401 tested and approved volunteers. While there is still a great need for French-English translators in a variety of fields (this language combination, in both directions, accounts for more than half the total workload), TWB needs translators in all languages, especially so-called exotic languages, to serve many disadvantaged communities around the world.

As professionals, we are better off than 99 percent of the people on this planet. I believe that such privilege carries a concomitant obligation. If you could squeeze



in the occasional short text with a reasonable deadline, I urge you to visit <http://translatorswithoutborders.org/> and offer your services to a very worthy cause.

Tell Enrique I sent you!

Any volunteer is welcome, especially those from a professional translators' association. If forced to choose, however, Enrique Cavalitto would be especially pleased to receive help from English into the following languages:

- **Armenian**
- **Korean**
- **Tamil**
- **Turkish**
- **Any Sub-Saharan African language**
- **Any Indian/Pakistani language except Hindi**
- **Any Native American language**

## Ready to apply?

Fill out the application form at <http://translatorswithoutborders.org/How-to-Register>. You will be sent a short test text to translate in your language pair, and if the reviser approves your translation, you can begin helping out!

## NOTICE!

Please note that the ATIO office will be closed for the Holidays, from 5:00 pm on December 21, 2012, and will return to full operations as of 8:30 am on January 7, 2013

## FOR RENT

(SPECIAL PRICE FOR ATIO)

VILLA FRANCE - MÉDITERRANÉE -  
PORT LEUCATE (NEAR PERPIGNAN)  
400 M BEACH - 50 KM SPAIN  
2 BEDROOMS (6 PEOPLE) - PRIVATE  
PATIO - PARKING

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