

# informATIOn

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## Annual General Meeting at Le Cordon Bleu in Ottawa

By Veronica Cappella, C. Tran., Director, Salaried Translators

On Saturday, April 16, fellow colleagues gathered at Le Cordon Bleu in Ottawa for ATIO's Annual General Meeting. It promised to be an exciting evening. Many colleagues came out to network and discuss the new OTTIAQ rules. We were treated to a nice glass of wine and some delicious hors d'oeuvres as soon as we entered the historic mansion. Members with more than 25 years with the Association were recognized and the Creighton Douglas Scholarship was awarded early in the evening. The honour went to Stephanie Roy, a translation student at the University of Ottawa. Stephanie helped organized a translation service for student groups at the university and was part of the organizing committee for this year's Translation Games, held at the University of Ottawa.

Shortly afterwards, after some mingling, we all filed in to the test kitchen, which had been transformed into a meeting room, only to be disappointed to learn that we had not reached quorum. We were unable to discuss the topics of the AGM or adopt last year's minutes, but it was an opportunity for members to discuss issues and concerns. We did discuss to some length how the new OTTIAQ rules would affect ATIO members. We also discussed professional issues and the future of the association and CTTIC. We were informed that a new ATIO website would be available in the next few weeks and that it would include a page for feedback and input from members. We were also reminded that CTTIC has obtained funding to

develop online training courses, which are currently being developed and should be available shortly.

Since quorum was not reached, we were informed that a postal vote would be held.

Afterwards, we attended a workshop on translating the language of food, delivered by Naomi Duguid, a traveller, writer and culinary expert. Topics discussed included how we identify with food and how food is used to bridge cultures. In particular, as the world becomes more global, individuals try new foods, and we can trace the history of food through the new words and terms that are coined. We also had an opportunity to make noodles that are typical to various parts of China (and later eat them!) and watch a film on the various landscapes of China.



Naomi Duguid

Photo Ken Larose



Photo Ken Larose

ATIO's Annual General Meeting

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# YOUR NEW BOARD FOR 2011-2012



Barbara Collishaw  
President

I've been asked to introduce myself, so here I am, your new president.

I intended to be a teacher, but turned into a translator and editor instead. I began working for the Translation Bureau in 1972, and have been a member of ATIO for about 30 years. Along the way, I have retired a few times, tried the freelance life as both a translator and an editor, and returned to the Bureau in 2000. I now work as a reviser in Parliamentary Debates.

Although my involvement with ATIO was slight until recent years, I paid my dues, paid attention to the goings-on, read *InformATIO*, attended a few workshops and AGMs, voted when necessary, and did a little volunteer translation. I have been on the ATIO Board for several years now; it is a diverse group of people from a variety of locations, and we all have strengths to share as we keep this association humming along.

What is my vision for ATIO in the next few years? I see our professional status respected more widely. I see membership growing steadily, until all qualified translators, terminologists and interpreters in the province join us. I see more members getting involved in our activities, not only attending, but also suggesting and organizing them.



Veronica Cappella  
Director, Salaried translators

Veronica Cappella graduated with a B.A. with a double major in Translation and Hispanic Studies from Glendon College (York University) in 2008. She became a certified translator in French-to-English translation in 2010 and is currently working as a French-to-English translator for the federal government's Translation Bureau.

She has worked in and travelled to various regions in Quebec, including completing a French-language training program in Trois-Rivières in 2004 and working in Rimouski under the Ontario-Quebec Summer Job Exchange Program in 2008.

She was elected as the ATIO Board's Director of Salaried Translators in 2011.



Yuri Geifman  
Vice-President  
Director, Court Interpreters

Yuri Geifman was originally trained as an English Teacher but became interested in translation when he landed a summer job at a major Ukrainian magazine in Kiev. His educational background includes a B.A. in Russian from the University of Toronto. He became a certified translator in Ontario in 2001. Yuri translates from Russian and Ukrainian into English, and from English into Russian, and is certified in all three language pairs. His areas of work are law, marketing and business. Yuri is also a certified court interpreter working throughout Ontario. He lives in Toronto and dreams of spending a few years traveling around China and Japan.



Denis Bousquet  
Director, Independent Translators

Denis Bousquet is the owner-president of Nautilus Translation Limited.

In addition to his role within ATIO, he is also:

President of the Canadian Translators, Terminologists, and Interpreters Council (CTTIC);

CTTIC's representative to the UNESCO Canada Commission on Culture, Communication and Information;

CTTIC's representative to TISAC (Translation and Interpreting Summit Advisory Council);

Member of the American Translators Association (ATA);

Member of the Canadian Internet Registration Authority (CIRA); and

Member of the Canadian Standards Council Technical Committee 37.

When he is not busy managing his translation company, he works on developing a brand new website dedicated to the professional development of language professionals, [cttic-edu.ca](http://cttic-edu.ca), which will go live very soon. This site was made possible through a financing arrangement reached through the Canadian Language Sector Enhancement Program.

# YOUR NEW BOARD FOR 2011-2012



Alana Hardy  
Treasurer

Alana Hardy has been a professional translator since 1999, when she began work in the private sector in Ottawa. She joined the Translation Bureau in 2006 and currently works for the Interpretation and Parliamentary Translation Division. She holds a B.A. in French as a Second Language and German Language and Literature from the University of Ottawa, a B.A. (Hon.) in Translation from Glendon College (York University) and a master's degree in Library and Information Science from the University of Western Ontario. She has been on the *InformATIO* Editorial Committee since 2003, and has served on the Board as Secretary-Treasurer in 2008-2009 and Secretary in 2010-2011. She received the ATIO Volunteer Award in 2007. She is interested in machine translation, etymology, and continues, as trite as it may sound, to be fascinated by language of all kinds.



Alexandra Scott  
Secretary

Alexandra Scott qualified as a translator in 1986. Her educational background includes a B.A. in Economics and a translation degree (*Diplôme de traduction*) from the *École de traduction et d'interprétation* at the University of Geneva, Switzerland. She translates from French and Italian into English and is certified for both language pairs. Her fields of specialization are law and business. She spent 14 years working in the field of trademark law, until the Internet made it possible to contact clients in far-off places. She has been working as an independent translator since 2004. She lives in Toronto with her husband and two daughters, but dreams of retiring in Montreal!



Dorothy Charbonneau  
Director, Conference Interpreters

Dorothy Charbonneau has been a professional interpreter for over 25 years. She has been a court interpreter in the provincial court systems of both Ontario and Quebec. She is currently a conference interpreter, and justice conferences are still her personal favourite. She has done volunteer work as a community interpreter as well. This is her second time on the ATIO Board; her first tenure ran from 1995 to 1997 and she joined the Board a second time in 2003. Dorothy is very proud to represent conference interpreting, proud to have been involved in creating the court interpreting category and is looking forward to the evolution of the interpreting profession as we work towards accrediting community interpreters. When not working as an interpreter, she can be found in the theatre—sometimes on stage, sometimes backstage. Her new passion is literary translation, and she is anxiously awaiting the publication of her first literary translation.

## Your New Board for 2011-2012

The newly elected Board members are:

<b>Barbara Collishaw</b>	President
<b>Yuri Geifman</b>	Vice-President
<b>Alexandra Scott</b>	Secretary
<b>Alana Hardy</b>	Treasurer
<b>Veronica Cappella</b>	Director, Salaried Translators
<b>Denis Bousquet</b>	Director, Independent Translators
<b>Dorothy Charbonneau</b>	Director, Conference Interpreters
<b>Elisa Paoletti</b>	Director, Terminologists
<b>Yuri Geifman</b>	Director, Court Interpreters
<b>Jianhua (Gerald) Yang</b>	Director, Foreign Languages

**Congratulations to all!**





Elisa Paoletti  
Director, Terminologists

Elisa Paoletti presently works for the Translation Bureau as a terminologist on the team responsible for updating and enriching the Spanish component of TERMIUM®, the Government of Canada's terminology and linguistic databank. In this capacity, she represents the Translation Bureau at the Joint Committee on Terminology in Canada (JCTC).

Elisa comes from Argentina, where she obtained her degree as Technical, Scientific and Literary Translator of English in 1994. She later pursued a diploma in Conference Interpretation and finished that graduate course in 1998.

She arrived in Canada in 1999 to study at the University of Ottawa, where she obtained her M.A. in Translation in 2001. After graduation, she worked as a freelance translator and terminologist for clients from the public and private sectors. She also taught terminology to third-year students of the Baccalaureate Program in Translation, School of Translation and Interpretation, University of Ottawa.

Elisa became a certified translator from English into Spanish in 2002 and a certified terminologist in English, French and Spanish in 2010. She has Portuguese as a working language as well.

Elisa has been the Director of Terminologists for the ATIO Board since April 2010. She is also a former Director of Foreign Languages (2008-2010).



Jianhua (Gerald) Yang  
Director, Foreign Languages

Born in China and educated in China and the UK, Gerald Yang is a Certified Translator in English to Chinese and Chinese to English. He is also among the first Mandarin Court Interpreters to be fully accredited by the Ministry of the Attorney General of Ontario. He boasts career experience in fields ranging from marketing to management, from world heritage consultation to mass media. He believes his multi-sector, cross-cultural background is an enormous asset to his translation practice, enabling him to be one of the most versatile certified translators in the market. As Director of Foreign Languages, he aims to work with fellow members certified in foreign languages to raise public awareness for this profession, promote the professional services of members certified in foreign languages to society, and instill and enhance the image of ATIO and CTTIC in the diverse ethnic communities

## ATIO Sponsors Translation Games Held in Ottawa

By Elisa Paoletti, C. Tran., C.Term., Director, Terminologists



On March 18, Dorothy Charbonneau, Director of Conference Interpreters, and I had the honour of representing ATIO at the opening ceremonies of the 6<sup>th</sup> Translation Games. ATIO was one of the main sponsors, and Dorothy was invited to give a speech. She emphasized the importance of education and training as a sound foundation of a promising career.

The Translation Games (<http://www.jeuxdelatraduction.com>) were created in 2006 by students at the University of Montreal with the aim to “create ties with future colleagues, establish professional relationships with representatives of the language domain and highlight the quality of the translation education received at Canadian universities.”

The Games took place from March 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup>. This is the first time that the Games have been held in Ottawa and that the ten Canadian universities offering translation programs have taken part.

The ten delegations translated advertisements, technical texts and songs in both official languages over the course of the weekend. The defending champion was the team from the University of Montreal, who lost the title to the host. At the end of the Games, the University of Ottawa was crowned “National Translation Champion.”

We extend our congratulations to the new champions and wish all the participants the best as they continue their studies. They all deserve praise for their enthusiasm, camaraderie and skill. Long live the Games!

# The Bell Has Rung...

By Nancy McInnis, C. Tran., Past President

... and my final duties as President of ATIO have been crossed cross off the list one by one. The AGM in April marked the end of 10 years on the Board of Directors, including four as President. I had no idea what was waiting for me when I volunteered to run as Director of Independent Translators many years back!

Much has been accomplished, but as always, much remains to be done. Work is still on-going to improve the CTTIC certification process. But a new proposal has been brought forward, and ATIO has reviewed it carefully. We have submitted our concerns to the CTTIC committee reviewing the proposal, and we look forward to future developments.

ATIO is still working hard to bring you interesting and informative workshops. And we are always trying to lure more of you to the Annual General Meeting each spring. It

is an important meeting where you are given the opportunity to vote on matters of direct concern to you. But it is more than that. It is an opportunity to speak to colleagues and catch up on news in other areas. It is a chance to network and expand your contacts. And it is well worth the price of admission just for that reason alone.

ATIO offered more workshops in 2010 than in 2009—all at an extremely affordable price. Workshops, the AGM and the Christmas dinners are all subsidized to ensure that every member can take advantage of these opportunities.

If you have an idea for a workshop, an article in *InformATIO*, or a project you think needs attention, I encourage you to get involved. We are always on the lookout for ideas (and speakers!) for workshops, volunteers to invigilate exams, articles for *InformATIO*, and members willing to work on projects. There's just no telling where your volunteering may take you!

## Salute to 25-Year Members

The following members joined ATIO in 1986 and have seen the Association through the ensuing quarter-century.



Nancy McInnis and Elizabeth A. Asbury

Photo: Ken Larose

## Congratulations!

Elizabeth A. Asbury, *Translator*

Lise Bazinet, *Translator*

Andrée Brault-Plouffe, *Translator*

Alain Côté, *Translator*

Monique Durette, *Translator*

Lynda Gagnon, *Translator*

Martine Hinton, *Translator*

Edna Hussman, *Translator and Terminologist*

Rafael Solís, *Translator*

Jacques Sylvain, *Translator*

Evelyne Urban-Reber, *Translator*

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# Watch Out for Scam Artists!

By Alexandra Scott, C. Tran., Secretary

It has come to our attention that scam artists are targeting translators and interpreters, using a variation of an “advance payment” or “overpayment” scam.

A translator or interpreter is contacted by a person requesting his or her services, and offering payment by cheque, money order or traveller’s cheques, in advance. Payment is received but the amount paid is higher than the amount agreed upon, and the professional is asked to send back the excess amount.

In another scenario, a complete refund is requested because the client claims that his or her plans have changed, or some emergency has developed. Often, the victim is told that he or she can keep a portion of the money for the inconvenience caused. Rather than reversing the payment he or she has received, the victim is persuaded to send or wire money back to the scammer from his or her own account or funds.

After the scammer has received some money from the victim, the scammer becomes unreachable. The scammer’s initial forgery is later discovered by the individual or by the bank. The transaction is reversed by the bank, the victim

loses whatever amount he or she sent to the scammer, and penalty charges may be incurred.

We recently received a report from one of our members, Marie-Hélène Larrue, about such a case concerning a translator who was almost ensnared by this ruse. A man sent an e-mail message requesting translation services. He agreed to pay 30 per cent in advance and sent the translator a money order and a copy of his passport. The translator carried out the translation, but the amount of money received was greater than the agreed-upon price. The client therefore suggested that the translator simply send a cheque for the difference. Fortunately, she suspected that there was something fishy going on and did not send any money. She then realized that the passport and the money order were false. While she did not lose any money, she spent a week on this project for nothing.

We urge all members to be on their guard for these kinds of fraudulent practices and to carry out due diligence in relation to new clients, by conducting online research to determine the creditworthiness of persons or companies that approach them for work. There are a number of resources available to check on the payment practices of potential clients, such as the “Blue Board” on [www.proz.com](http://www.proz.com), or the database of payment practices of translation agencies available at [www.paymentpractices.net](http://www.paymentpractices.net) upon payment of the subscription fee.

**ATIO takes this opportunity to thank the  
sponsor of the 2011 Annual General Meeting  
and Networking Evening**



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# Reflections on the Working Methods of the Language Professions in Canada

By Alain Bernier, C. Tran.

Translation Richard Campion, C. Tran.

**R**apid changes in our world oblige us to regularly question our work methods. Whether it is computer-assisted translation, research on the Internet, social media, or international financial reference standards (IFRS), present-day linguists are constantly facing serious challenges.

There is no doubt that new research and editing tools lead to progress. However, they can also make us lose sight of the whole, just as recourse to the assembly line mentality of an over-specialized society can lead us to think in a purely linear fashion.

But is the human mind linear? Or is it rather free-ranging and all-encompassing? Is it not capable, and does it not have the advantage, in comparison to a mechanical tool—as proof, the repeated victories of humans over computers in chess—of holding several questions and problems simultaneously, and analyzing their underlying reasons and extrapolating their consequences, while separating the general principles contained therein? And, to do this, do we not need just a bit of concentration and critical thinking?

Unfortunately, these new research and editing tools are liable to make us neglect studying the context and

rigorously analyzing the text, and make us forget the importance of global and specific research, as well as the semantic aspects of the text.

For example, let us take computer-assisted translation. There is no doubt that this technological advance has greatly increased productivity. However, do we not then run the risk of forgetting the principles taught by Marshall McLuhan? In fact, when we transmit the message, are we still aware of factors like the recipient, the author, the medium, the nature of the message, the most efficient ways of transmitting it, such as the right tone and the right word?

What is translation? It is an art and a science, but in what order and in what proportion? Did we not, for a long time, concentrate on the study of those techniques specific to the language professions, forgetting that technical mastery itself is no guarantee of elegance and style, and that we might be better off reading the great authors for elegance and style? And if time constraints made us choose from among these great authors, would it not be better to read those who asked questions rather than those who proposed solutions?

If we do not adopt a global perspective and think critically, we run the risk of going astray and not fulfilling our mission as communicators. And this is a vital mission, for in a country as multicultural as Canada, excellence in communications has a key role to play.

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## Insurance Offering for Members of ATIO

By Louise Voyer and Carol-lee Whipple

**O**nce in a while, ATIO Members contact us about the opportunity to be part of an Association Group Insurance Policy which would offer Life, Disability, Health & Dental Coverage as a package. The advantage to this type of plan would certainly be that as a great number of members all apply for the same coverage, the risk would be averaged, not to mention that this type of plan would be easy to apply for.

The disadvantage though is certainly worth considering. As members get older and claims increase, the rates would certainly go up and all members on the plan would see a significant increase in premiums. Another disadvantage is the rigidity of the plan itself whereas ATIO members would have little or no options to choose those benefits that are attractive to them or to personalize their own plan design. It would simply be a “yes” or “no” check off box with no personal choices for the members.

As brokers serving the ATIO membership for many years, here is our preferred approach. We have established a service level that requires us to discuss the needs of each member and fine tune the products offered according to the member’s priorities. Most members are self-employed and prefer to have a tailor-made plan where they make their own choices as to the actual levels of coverage and benefits they prefer. We have had much success over many years with this personalized approach. Of course, we also offer a generic Association plan with 9 levels of coverage for those who still want pre packaged options.

As brokers, we have the fiduciary responsibility to be aware of innovative and non-traditional products on the market in order to meet the needs of those members who are uninsurable under standard policies. This sometimes makes the insurance world seem ever changing and onerous, but at the same time, it puts us in the advantageous situation of always being able to offer something to all the members regardless of their health. It may not always be the product



originally hoped for, but the product we identify will certainly be better than nothing at all.

We look forward to continuing to serve the members as always.

For any questions or concerns, please contact us at [atioinsurance@gmail.com](mailto:atioinsurance@gmail.com).

In addition, join our new ATIO insurance Blog at: <http://atioinsurance.blogspot.com>

Mrs. Louise Voyer or Miss Carol-lee Whipple  
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