



29TH

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

National Association of Judiciary Interpreters and Translators

May 16-18, 2008

Omni William Penn Hotel

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Advance Program

National Association of Judiciary Interpreters and Translators

1707 L Street, NW

Suite 570

Washington, DC 20036

202-293-0342

Session Highlights

Keynote Speaker

The Hon. Ida Chen,

Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia, PA.



Ida Chen is a judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia County, serving in the Family Court Division. She was born in Hong Kong and emigrated to the U.S. from Indonesia. Initially appointed by Governor Robert Casey in 1987, she was confirmed by the State Senate in 1988 and subsequently elected to judge in a city-wide political race in 1989. She is the first Asian-American female to be elected a judge in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Currently she presides over civil domestic violence disputes, handling approximately 12,600 matters per year. During the summer of 2006, she worked with Deputy Court Administrator Janet Fasy of the First Judicial District, in collaboration with Quantum (a commercial language service), Javier Aguilar (full time family court interpreter) and Osvaldo Aviles, interpreter program administrator of the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts to produce translated versions of the “Final Protection Order” in Russian, Vitenamese, Cambodiam, Chinese, and Spanish. Since 1999, she has participated in voluntary training programs with spoken language and sign language interpreters, many of which were conducted on Saturday mornings. In 1994, Chen and her staff issued the “Interpreters’ Quick Reference to Abuse Courtroom #3 in Family Court.” In 2005, 2006 and 2007, Judge Chen was part of a team that conducted training for judges in Philadelphia and at the statewide Conference of State Trial Judges.

Judge Chen graduated in 1976 from Temple University Beasley School of Law, where she taught as an Adjunct Professor from 1983 to the present. From 1985 to the present, she has been a lecturer at Cornell University’s School of Industrial and Labor Relations.

From 1976 to 1986, she served as a trial attorney with the US Equal Opportunity Commission (EEOC) where she litigated cases and class actions involving federal employment discrimination laws in federal courts from Massachusetts to West Virginia.

In 1986, she was the first Asian-American to be appointed a Commissioner to serve on the Philadelphia Commission of Human Relations by Mayor W. Wilson Goode. During her first year as Commissioner, she mediated an incident regarding street signs posted in Korean. She worked with the Commission to establish criteria that required human relations workers to speak various languages which led to the hiring of individuals who spoke Russian, Korean, Chinese, Khymer, Laotian and Vietnamese.

After an FBI wiretapping device was found in the Mayor’s office, Mayor John F. Street of Philadelphia appointed Judge Chen in December, 2003, to chair an ad hoc Ethics Committee as part of his re-election transition team. The committee’s mission was to make immediate recommendations on how to restore confidence in city government. On March 11, 2004, the Ethics Committee of the 21st Century Review Forum published a thirty-page report which made 16 recommendations regarding the new Omnibus Code of Ethics; the creation of a new Board of Ethics; adopting a Handbook of Ethics and Rules for city employees and appointees; revising an Executive Order pertaining to gifts; providing more resources to the Inspector General; new rules regarding financial disclosure forms, city procurement, as it relates to campaign contributions (“Pay to Play”) and no-bid contracts; and the advocacy of state-wide legislative reform with respect to campaign financing. In December, 2005, the City Council adopted several of the Committee’s recommendations and the Philadelphia Home Rule Charter was amended to create a new Board of Ethics with investigatory and enforcement powers in 2006.

In 2005, Chief Justice Ralph Cappy of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania appointed Judge Chen to chair the Interpreter Services Committee of the Pennsylvania Interbranch Commission for Gender, Racial & Ethnic Fairness, which seeks to bring about language access programs for individuals of limited English proficiency and for the deaf and hard of hearing in the courts and administrative agencies throughout the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Although various studies focus on the utilization of interpreters in the court system, in May, 2006, Chen’s

committee commissioned a first-ever professional survey of administrative agencies (with the active support of Nora Winkelman, Esq., Executive Deputy General Counsel for Legislative Affairs of the Office of the General Counsel to the Governor and the Honorable Pedro Cortes, Secretary of the Commonwealth) on their use of interpreters and translators in conducting administrative hearings. The results of the survey were published in August 2007. During the summer of 2007, under the leadership of president Judge Louis Presenza of Philadelphia's Municipal Court, the committee field tested a "Cue Card" and conducted training with court officers, court criers and judicial aides.

In 2005, Judge Chen collaborated with Melita Jordan, Director of the Bureau of Family Health of the Pennsylvania Department of Health, to initiate and innovative children's health program. Thereafter, Judge Chen worked with the Philadelphia Family Court, under the leadership of Administrative Judge Kevin Dougherty and Supervising Judges, Margaret Murphy and Idee Fox, to design a pilot project with the State Health Department. The objective of the project is to build Family Court's capacity by identifying eligible families (while they are visiting the Family Court regarding legal matters) and provide them with free health insurance for their children, in accordance with the Child Health Insurance Program.

Currently, Chen serves on the following boards: Drexel University, On Lok Senior Citizens Home, the Samuel S. Fels Fund, and has been a co-Chair for the Martin Luther King Day of Service for the past few years. In 2007, she served on the Susan B. Komen Breast Cancer Grant Committee. Previously she served on the following boards: Blacks Educating Blacks About Sexual Health Issues, Action AIDS, Aids Services in the Asian Communities, the William Penn Foundation, the Center for Responsible Funding, the Free Library of Philadelphia, the Franklin Institute, the Mid-City YMCA, Hahnemann University Hospital, and the National Constitution Center.

In 1987, Judge Chen co-founded the Asian-American Women's Coalition and at her urging in 1995, they established a scholarship fund to honor Cecilla Moy Yep (her co-founder). Over the years, AAWC has awarded 30 scholarships to outstanding and financially needy Asian-American women.

Friday Dinner Dance

Join your colleagues at NAJIT's annual social event. Catch up on old friendships and make new ones. Enjoy an evening of dancing and socializing. Dress: Business.

PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS

FRIDAY MAY 16, 2008

All Day Sessions:

- 9 AM – 5 PM** **KOREAN SKILLS TRAINING FOR COURT INTERPRETERS**
(Language: Korean)
Instructor: Young Lee
This six-hour skills tune-up on Friday, May 16 is designed to prepare interpreters to take the Consortium for State Court Interpreter Certification oral performance test in Korean on Sunday, May 18, 2008, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. This hands-on language-specific test preparation workshop offers participants ample opportunity to go through their paces in consecutive interpreting, simultaneous interpreting, and sight translation. Take advantage of this chance to stretch your muscles before the Consortium exam so that you are at the top of your game.
- 9 AM – 5 PM** **RUSSIAN SKILLS TRAINING FOR COURT INTERPRETERS**
(Language: Russian)
Instructor: Elena Bogdanovich-Werner, Ph.D.
This six-hour skills tune-up is designed to prepare participants to take the Consortium for State Court Interpreter Certification oral performance test in Russian, on Sunday, May 18, 2008, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The workshops will provide preparation in simultaneous interpretation, consecutive interpretation, and sight translation in Russian. After warm-up exercises, participants will be able to work on each mode of interpreting for 30 minutes, for a total of 1.5 hours. At the end of each 1.5-hour period, participants will be offered a series of exercises designed to build vocabulary, to increase mental agility, to sharpen problem-solving skills, and to improve short-term memory.
- 9 AM – 5 PM** **SPANISH SKILLS TRAINING FOR COURT INTERPRETERS**
(Language: Spanish)
Instructor: Susana Stettri Sawry
This six-hour skills tune-up is designed to prepare participants to take the Consortium Oral Performance Test in Spanish, to be offered during May 18, 2008, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. This session will review the basic concepts surrounding the use of the three modes of interpretation. Participants will practice sight translation, consecutive interpretation, and simultaneous interpretation, with attention to the appropriate protocol for each.
- 9 AM – 5 PM** **VIETNAMESE SKILLS TRAINING FOR COURT INTERPRETERS**
(Language: Vietnamese)
Instructor: Joseph Pham
This six-hour skills tune-up is designed to prepare participants to take the Consortium Oral Performance Test in Vietnamese, to be offered during May 18, 2008, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. This session is a good opportunity to polish skills in preparation for court interpreter certification examinations. This hands-on language-specific workshop offers participants ample opportunity to go through their paces in consecutive interpreting, simultaneous interpreting, and sight translation. Take advantage of this chance to stretch your mental muscles before the Consortium exam so that you are at the top of your game.

9 AM – 5 PM **TRANSLATION TECHNIQUES FROM THEORY TO PRACTICE**
(Language: English, all languages)

Instructors: Dr. Dagoberto Orrantia, Dr. Gladys González Matthews

This pre-conference workshop will analyze the strategies that translators use to render a text from one language into another. We will define, discuss, and practice techniques such as borrowing, calque, and literal translation. In addition, we will explore the dynamic translation approach of transposition, modulation, equivalence, adaptation, and compensation. We will also discuss the comparative study of parallel texts in order to better understand the source text, identify terms and structures, and define the expectations of the target text reader. Participants will apply these techniques to the translation of short English/Spanish texts. The focus of this workshop will be on legal texts.

9 AM – 5 PM **CONSECUTIVE INTERPRETING: NOTE-TAKING SKILLS**
(Language: English, all languages)

Instructor: Agustín de la Mora

Mnemonics and other tricks of the trade will be discussed during this very interactive workshop. Participants will be challenged to improve their memory and learn how to apply non-traditional methods to their consecutive technique, using mnemonics to encode and retrieve difficult-to-remember information. The session will also discuss the AIM method to improve overall performance when interpreting witness testimony. Participants are encouraged to bring tape recorders and participate actively.

Half- Day Sessions:

9AM - 12 PM **COURT TOUR**

9 AM – 12 PM **BEYOND A REASONABLE DICTIONARY: TRANSLATING
CRIMINAL JUSTICE TERMS**

(Language: Spanish)

Instructor: Sandro Tomasi

Since legal translation involves translating from one language, as well as from one legal system, to another, it is vital for the court interpreter and legal translator to go beyond the semantic meaning of terms. An understanding of the legal concepts behind those terms is indispensable in order to provide true and accurate translations. This interactive workshop will be divided into four sections: 1) the principles of legal translation; 2) the most authoritative Spanish and English law dictionaries to date; 3) a comparison of U.S. criminal justice terms compared with various Latin-American penal and criminal procedure codes; and 4) exercises, including multiple-choice and error analysis, to help outline the connotative and collocational meaning of legal terms and dictionary-fossilized translation mistakes.

9AM - 12 PM **FROM CHILE TO CHIHUAHUA: NEW CRIMINAL PROCEDURE
IN LATIN AMERICA**

(Language: Spanish)

Instructors: Katty Kauffman, Rafael Carrillo

While much has been written in Spanish, and some in English, about the criminal procedural reforms sweeping Latin America, there is scant published information about the novel process itself. During this session, speakers will review one of the most successful such reforms in the region - the revamped system of criminal prosecution in Chile - and its sister reforms in Oaxaca and Chihuahua, México. Parallels will be drawn with the U.S. system, and an extensive glossary will be provided. The session will be in English and Spanish.

2 PM - 5 PM

ADVANCED TOPICS IN MEXICAN SPANISH FOR COURT INTERPRETERS

(Language: Spanish)

Instructor: Dennis McKenna

This session is an introduction to Mexican Spanish for court interpreters. Emphasis will be on practical usage, with a brief review of the various ways in which Mexican Spanish differs from the Spanish spoken in other countries. Terminology covered will include slang and euphemisms likely to come up in court. Exercises will develop interpreter skills in language related to cars, drugs, crimes and swearing.

2 PM - 5 PM

JUVENILE COURT TERMINOLOGY – COMPARATIVE STUDY: NUANCES, EUPHEMISMS AND SPECIALIZED VOCABULARY

(Language: Spanish)

Instructors: Jayson Meline, Ali Salcedo

The rehabilitative or social service aspects of the juvenile justice system require an interpreter to properly capture the semantics associated with this setting. One of the pitfalls in formulating appropriate juvenile court terminology from English to Spanish is settling for an Anglicism rather than a solution rooted from comparative study of juvenile justice systems in Spanish-speaking countries. This session will provide participants with a basic understanding of the U.S. juvenile justice system and that of some Spanish-speaking countries; to compare models, legal concepts and lexicology, highlighting key changes that have occurred in the past 25 years in Latin America; and to present linguistic nuances and investigative strategies that can yield the most appropriate solutions when working in a juvenile court.

EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE SESSIONS **SATURDAY, MAY 17, 2008**

8 – 9 AM

SPECIALIZED TOPICS IN MEXICAN SPANISH

(Language: Spanish)

Instructor Biography: Dennis McKenna

The presenter will reveal how to acquire advanced knowledge of Mexican Spanish by actively seeking out terminology in the press, online, in film, TV and radio. One of the topics covered is the lingo of schools and education in Mexico, including colloquial expressions used by students. Narcocorridos and other popular music are also discussed, as well as recently published books that provide a wealth of material on current drug-related expressions and other slang.

8 – 9 AM

OVERVIEW OF LATIN AMERICAN CRIMINAL PROCEDURES

(Language: Spanish)

Instructors: Katty Kauffman, Rafael Carrillo

The speakers will provide an overview of one of the most successful reforms of the system of criminal prosecution in Chile - and its sister reforms in Oaxaca and Chihuahua, México. In December 2000, Chile's new code of criminal procedure went into effect, replacing system in place since 1907 with an oral, public, adversarial procedure. The new procedures will be described in detail and contrasted with procedures in U.S. federal courts and the new oral procedures in Oaxaca and Chihuahua (which closely follow the Chilean model). Parallels and differences in procedure and terminology will be pointed out.

8 – 9 AM

TRANSCRIPTION AND TRANSLATION FROM A-Z

(Language: English, all languages)

Instructor: Liliana Gonzalez

This presentation will cover aspects of transcription and translation, including: types of projects and source material, technical equipment, personal tools and requirements, estimating project turnaround, techniques, procedure, errors and pitfalls, self-evaluation, working in teams, reference material and resources, expert witness and advocacy. Appropriate for all levels, from beginner to the seasoned translator. Question and answer period as time allows, plus a status report from the TT Committee & TT Ensemble.

8 – 9 AM

ADVOCACY AND COMMUNITY LIAISON COMMITTEE BRIEFING

(Language: English, all languages)

Instructors: Dr. Peter Lindquist, Rob Cruz, John Estill

NAJIT's advocacy committee is a standing committee charged with monitoring and analyzing public policies, government initiatives and press coverage of matters pertaining to the profession of judiciary interpretation and translation and recommending responses to the NAJIT Board of Directors for possible action. NAJIT's community liaison committee is an ad hoc committee, charged reviewing entities that wish to partner with NAJIT and making recommendations to the NAJIT Board. Members of both committees will provide a general overview of committee tasks and actions taken regarding recent legislative matters, and other advocacy requests, as well as current and future partnership objectives. In a question and answer session we will ask for recommendations for future partnerships and request membership input on other subject matters for the committees to consider.

9:15 – 11:30 AM

METHAMPHETAMINE / CLANDESTINE DRUG LAB AWARENESS

Sponsored by the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation Clandestine Laboratory/Marijuana Eradication Unit, London, Ohio

(Language: English, all languages)

Instructor: Special Agent Dennis Lowe, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation Clandestine Laboratory/Marijuana Eradication Unit, London, Ohio)

Attendees will receive an overview of the methamphetamine abuse problem as it exists today: how meth affects the user, an overview of the manufacturing process, common terminology used in the methamphetamine underworld, and safety protocols. Glossary handouts as well as links to related websites will be provided.

9:15 – 10:15 AM

APPEALS BASED ON INTERPRETER ISSUES

(Language: English, all languages)

Instructor: Dr. Nancy Schweda-Nicholson

This presentation discusses appeals based on interpreter issues at both the state and federal levels. It focuses on: (1) the most common problems identified; (2) the grounds for the appeal; and 3) the court rulings as well as the reasoning behind them. The overview will outline the fundamental criteria involved in the process, including the importance of identifying the basis for the appeal in the trial transcript. It is often the case that, even with compelling evidence of a variety of errors, trial court decisions are affirmed. Cases under review will include classic examples as well as the most recent appeals available.

9:15 – 10:15 AM PAREMIOLOGY AND INTERPRETING PROVERBS IN THE COURTROOM

(Language: English, all languages)

Instructor: Dr. Alexander Rainof

9:15 – 10:15 AM ETHICS AND STANDARDS OF PRACTICE FOR INTERPRETING IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR

(Language: English, all languages)

Instructor: Jorge Ungo

This interactive session will look at the various codes of ethics and standards of practice for interpreters in a variety of settings. Participants will examine the development of codes of ethics in the judiciary, healthcare, and conference interpreting fields; review codes of ethics from other sectors; and discuss the implications of these codes and their impact on interpreting services in the private sector. Participants will also discuss specific ethical problems and how the implementation of different codes of ethics leads the interpreter toward different outcomes. Participants will gain an in-depth understanding of the relationship of each code of ethics to venue and audience and acquire a broader understanding of the ethical protocols in any given situation.

10:30 – 11:30 AM HOW THE CONSORTIUM INTERPRETER TESTS ARE GRADED

(Language: English, all languages)

Instructors: Wanda Romberger, Melinda González-Hibner

This session will de-mystify the process of developing and grading the Consortium court interpreter tests. It will describe how the Consortium tests are created: the procedure, selection of subject-matter experts, background, history, and psychometric underpinnings of the tests, as well as the mechanics of the testing process and test security measures. Melinda Gonzalez-Hibner, a federally certified interpreter who has served as a grader both for the Consortium court interpreter tests for a number of states as well as for the federal exam, will provide insights from a grader's perspective. Questions from the audience are encouraged.

10:30 – 11:30 AM INTERPRETING IN THE DIPLOMATIC ARENA

(Language: English, all languages)

Instructors: Jacki Noh, Doina Francu

Have you ever wondered what is it like to interpret at high level international conferences and diplomatic meetings in far-flung places? Hear about it first hand from two NAJIT veterans who have interpreted at high levels in sensitive situations. What extra stresses and what additional satisfactions do interpreting in these settings offer to interpreters? How does one prepare for these assignments? What tips should one keep in mind? Presenters are Doina Francu, a Romanian interpreter, who has interpreted for several US presidents and at UN-sponsored human rights conferences, and Jacki Noh, who has made multiple trips to North Korea for government talks and was recently in Beijing to interpret for the Six-Party Talks.

10:30 – 11:30 AM UPDATE FROM THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES COURTS

(Language: English, all languages)

Instructor Biography: Dr. Carolyn Kinney

This session will focus on the major developments in the federal court interpreting program in the last year, including the fee increase for interpreters, initiatives to ensure the use of qualified interpreters in federal courts, recent efforts related to the national court interpreter database, and the continued use of the contract regarding court interpreter services, terms and conditions. The outlook for the future of interpreting in federal courts will also be addressed, including an effort to develop alternative certification or qualification methods. There will be time for questions from the audience.

11:45 AM - 3 PM ANNUAL MEETING & LUNCHEON

Featured Speaker: The Hon. Ida Chen, judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia County.

3:30 - 4:30 pm TRANSLATING 'PLEA BARGAIN' INTO SPANISH: A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE LAWS AND SEMANTICS

(Language of session: Spanish)

Instructor Biography: Sandro Tomasi

A plea bargain is an established process within the American criminal justice system whereby the accused and the prosecutor work out a mutually satisfactory disposition of a case, subject to court approval. Comparatively, there are similar systems found in criminal procedure laws in countries whose official language is Spanish. This information reveals that most English-Spanish legal dictionaries published to date have provided incorrect translations for, not only, plea bargain, but the single term plea as well. In fact, few such publications have provided terms and definitions that offer any substantive assistance in translating this complicated term. This groundbreaking presentation will analyze various Spanish and Latin-American procedural laws that are analogous to the plea bargaining system and offer examples on how to best translate the term into Spanish.

3:30 –5:45 PM

COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS: A FRAMEWORK FOR SUCCESSFUL LANGUAGE ASSISTANCE PLANNING

(Language: English, all languages)

Panel Moderator: *The Honorable Ronald B. Adrine*

Panelists: *Juliet Choi; Christine Stoneman, Special Legal Counsel Coordination and Review Section, Civil Rights Division United States Department of Justice; Jeffrey S. Robinson, Director, National Virtual Translation Center, Washington, D.C; Rebekah Tosado, Director for Review and Compliance, DHS Civil Rights and Civil Liberties; Les Jin, Executive Director, National Asian Pacific American Bar Association; Nancy McCloskey, Coordination and Review Section, Civil Rights Division, United States Department of Justice*

All too often, individuals, organizations and governments find themselves on opposite sides of a language chasm. Absent a viable language assistance plan for bridging this gap, the parties are forced to rely upon whatever language resources are available. Viable language assistance plans effectively address the needs and resources of the communities and organizations they are intended to serve, yet they are not fungible "one-size-fits-all" templates applicable to all communities for all purposes. Drawing from experiences in working with interpreters and serving various limited English proficient communities, this panel of judges, lawyers, government, and LEP community advocates will share insights into the best strategies for building collaborative community partnerships that will result in viable, proactive, and competent language-assistance programs for emergency and non-emergency situations.

3:30-4:30 PM

THE PENNSYLVANIA STORY: WORKING TOGETHER FOR EQUAL ACCESS

(Language: English, all languages)

Panel Moderator: *Lisette M. McCormick, Esq*

Panelists: *Oswaldo R. Aviles, Janet Fasy*

In 2005, the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania formed the Interbranch Commission for Gender, Racial and Ethnic Fairness, with members appointed by the executive branch, the legislative branch or the judiciary branch. Working with many others throughout the Commonwealth, the members of the Commission have been implementing the recommendations set forth in a lengthy report issued in 2003 by the Committee on Racial & Gender Bias in the Justice System (a prior committee convened by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court which studied certain key issues from 2001-2003). The panelists will present their strategies in developing language access programs through their collective and coordinating efforts in providing equal access to justice to litigants of limited English proficiency, and to the deaf and hard-of-hearing.

3:30-4:30 PM

TRAINING INTERPRETERS IN MEXICAN-INDIAN LANGUAGES

(Language: English. Knowledge of Spanish is helpful.)

Instructors: *Dr. Georganne Weller, Guadalupe Ortiz*

This session will present an operational model developed by the National Institute for Indigenous Languages (INALI) for certification and accreditation in Mexican Indian languages. The legal framework is provided by the National Act for Indigenous Language Rights, which entitles these indigenous language speakers to enjoy the presence of an interpreter and a cultural broker during the legal process both within and outside Mexico's national borders.

**4:45 – 5:45 PM GETTING THE MOST OUT OF THE CONSORTIUM TEST
PREP KIT**

(Language: English, all languages)

Instructor: Wanda Romberger

In an effort to assist candidates in their goal to become certified, the technical committee of the Consortium of the National Center for State Courts has developed a test preparation kit. Knowing what the exam will be like, with examples of material typical of each section of the exam, helps reduce the candidate's stress, but that is not enough. This session will give guidance and tips on how to actively use the kit to maximize one's chances of passing the exam.

**4:45 – 5:45 PM THE LINGUISTIC AND EMOTIONAL CHALLENGES OF
INTERPRETING FOUL LANGUAGE**

(Language: English, with examples in Spanish and English)

Instructors: Claudia A'Zar, Verla Viera

Court interpreters frequently have to interpret foul language, which may originate in police reports where declarants use such language, or in the emotion-laden speech of a witness or defendant. Interpreter codes of ethics call us to render legally equivalent messages, adding or omitting nothing. This session will explore the meaning of legal equivalence in regard to foul language, and will look at possible renderings of Spanish and English swear words.

4:45 – 5:45 PM FEDERAL INTERPRETER'S ROUNDTABLE

(Language: English, all languages)

Instructor: Tony Rosado, Esq.

This is a follow-up session to very useful sessions conducted during NAJIT's annual conferences in 2006 and 2007. This round table fosters open discussion among staff and freelance interpreters in the federal court system and the USAOC in order to improve conditions and develop common solutions to everyday problems. We will also discuss ways to enhance the professional and ethical standing of federal court interpreters.

SUNDAY, MAY 18, 2008

8:30 – 9:30 AM WITNESS INTERPRETING

(Language: English, all languages)

Instructor: Lionel Bajaña

Witness interpreting is one the most daunting tasks a court interpreter faces. The dynamics of direct and cross-examination, together with monitoring by bilingual litigants, jury, judge or other participants make witness work uniquely stressful. This presentation will analyze the dynamics of witness work; speed and tempo of direct and cross-examination, how to deal with objections, emotional aspects, and modes of interpretation. Attendees will be encouraged to share their experiences and collectively analyze techniques that work better. All participants will leave the session with valuable insight into the task of witness interpreting.

8:30 – 10:45 AM ETHICS: THE RULES THAT INTERPRETERS LIVE BY

(Language: English, all languages)

Instructor: Ms. Melinda González-Hibner

Linguistic ability and interpreting skills are not the only qualities an interpreter must bring to the job. The interpreter's role requires a keen understanding of what kind of conduct goes over the line. The canons of the code of ethics and professional responsibility are very similar across jurisdictions and provide indispensable guidance in most situations we face in the courts on a day-to-day basis. Although the canons themselves seem straightforward, sometimes their application is not. The real world provides an infinite variety of situations to which the code can be applied to a greater or lesser degree. The instructor, a federally certified interpreter who formerly headed the Colorado state interpreter program, will explore ethical issues at this very interactive 2-hour, 2-credit ethics workshop.

8:30 – 9:30 AM INTERPRETING IN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CASES

(Language: English, all languages)

Instructor: Purvi Shah

In this workshop, the presenter will review the data of the Justice Speaks Task Force's interpreter survey in NYC, encapsulating observations and comments by court interpreters. We will share information from interpreters and domestic violence advocates regarding the challenges in the courtroom and best practices. Our dialogue will provide both groups with concrete strategies and tips to enable domestic violence survivors to access justice in the courtroom. The presenter's goal is to see increased collaboration among court interpreters and advocates, to increase cross-trainings, troubleshooting, and information sharing. Action plans can be developed to increase the effectiveness and utilization of interpreters who work with survivors of violence.

8:30 – 9:30 AM TERMINOLOGY MANAGEMENT

(Language: English, all languages)

Instructor: Natasha Curtis

Specialized terminology is fundamental to accurate interpretation and translation. This presentation will explore terminology research techniques. Tools to enhance and make the research process more efficient will also be presented. After identifying terms using the aforementioned skills and tools, the translator or interpreter will also benefit from a good record-keeping system designed to preserve terminological data with enough information so as to avoid the same process for the same term in the future. A sample of such a record-keeping system will also be presented. Finally, the new terms identified, validated and recorded need to be learned. The final part of the presentation will explore mnemonic techniques to facilitate study and retrieval of terminology.

9:45 – 10:45 AM TEAM INTERPRETING IN THE COURTROOM

(Language: English, all languages)

Instructor: Thelma Gomez-Ferry, Ramon del Villar

This conference workshop will focus on improving interpreting skills and learning how to incorporate team interpreting in the courtroom. Working in teams during lengthy court proceedings helps interpreters provide effective communication and preserves the accuracy, quality and uniformity of the interpretation. Team interpreting encourages cooperation and shared responsibility. It prevents burnout, premature exhaustion or fatigue, while allowing for a seamless rendition of the interpreting task. Since team interpreting increases efficiency, quality and uniformity in handling court proceedings while ensuring equal protection of the law for non-English speakers, interpreters require the full support of court administrators. In this session, participants will learn and master the guidelines to successfully perform as a team interpreter and will also learn how to promote the use of teams for lengthy court assignments. A question and answer exercise segment will conclude the presentation.

9:45 – 10:45 AM AN INTERPRETER EXAM: RELAX, IT'S ONLY A TEST

(Language: English)

Instructor: Agustín de la Mora

Taking a test is a nerve-wracking experience; but for some of us, the stress becomes so intense that it affects our performance. This presentation focuses on how to implement a self-study program that includes relaxation exercises as part of the training. Attendees will be invited to participate in a guided relaxation exercise. Suggestopedia and other learning techniques will be discussed.

Note: Due to the nature of this presentation, the group cannot be interrupted during the session. If you are planning to participate, please be there on time. Once the doors are closed, no one will be admitted entry.

9:45 – 10:45 AM AN INTERPRETER'S PIVOTAL ROLE IN A CAPITAL MURDER CASE

(Language: English, all languages)

Instructor Biography: Jacki Noh

On April 25, 1989, Jeong Soo Paek was accused of killing three people in a quiet suburb in Louisiana. The defendant went to trial facing the death penalty. On May 29, 1990, *The Times-Picayune*, a local newspaper, printed the headline, "Walking Out Free; Innocent Verdict for Paek Greeted by Cheers, Tears." Throughout this challenging assignment the interpreter worked with the defendant and all the Korean-speaking witnesses. Cross-cultural issues, code of ethics, emotionally and racially charged testimony, and taxing working conditions all came into play. Though it has been nearly 20 years, for the first time the interpreter will share the lessons learned in this assignment while telling this remarkable story step-by-step from jury selection to deliberations.

**11:00 – 12:00PM INTERPRETING FOR JURORS:
COMING TO A COURTHOUSE NEAR YOU**
(Language: English, all languages)

Instructor Biography: Tony Rosado, Esq.

Since its territorial days in the 19th century, the New Mexico Territory allowed non-English speakers to be on juries in civil and criminal trials. When New Mexico became a State in 1912, the New Mexico Constitution guaranteed the constitutional right to all New Mexicans to sit on a jury, regardless of mother language. Recent New Mexico Supreme Court decisions have extended this right to be a juror with the assistance of an interpreter to people of all languages. The trend in this country is moving towards more diversity, and in the future other states may allow non-English speakers on their jury panels. This presentation will address the technical and ethical aspects of juror interpretation and explore the professional opportunities for all court interpreters interested in this specialty.

11:00 – 12:00PM OTS (OTHER THAN SPANISH) ROUNDTABLE
(Language: English, all languages)

Panelists TBA

The issues facing interpreters of languages other than Spanish are often different from those facing Spanish interpreters. There are many more testing and training opportunities for the interpreters of Spanish, and in many localities there is insufficient volume to create staff positions in other languages. As a result, interpreters of these languages face different challenges and have to create a different professional package if they are to earn a living solely from interpreting and translating. The participants at this roundtable will brainstorm different ideas on how to approach the lack of linguistic resources in certain languages, discuss the need to travel nationally in order to make a living or get language-specific training, as well as develop marketing strategies. As the linguistic composition of the United States becomes increasingly diverse, a greater number of NAJIT's members work in a wide variety of languages with different needs. This roundtable is designed to start addressing these needs.

**11:00 – 12:00PM ¿COMO DICE QUE DIJO?
(IDIOMS, SAYINGS AND BAD WORDS)**
(Language: Spanish)

Instructor: Claudia Samulowitz

This session is for those who have ever wondered how to translate a particular idiomatic expression, a popular saying or a bad word while at the witness stand, counsel table or the doctor's office. Session attendees can expect to have a good time while learning how to render the correct translation of these @^%\$*! sticky terms.

11:00 – 12:00PM CALIFORNIA'S LANDMARK STUDY OF ITS TESTING PROGRAM FOR THE CERTIFICATION OF COURT INTERPRETERS

(Language: English, all languages)

Instructor: Jacquie Ring-Salguero

California's certification testing program for court interpreters, known for its rigor, was recently the subject of a major study. The state's judicial branch contracted with a national language testing and language services firm to take an in-depth look at their testing instruments and test administration. The investigation studied the knowledge, skills and abilities needed to interpret in today's courts; the degree of alignment of current tests with the necessary KSAs; scoring and administrative practices; pass rates; retake policies; and factors contributing to successfully passing California's written and oral exams. Researchers interviewed current interpreters, test candidates, court leaders and staff, labor and consumer representatives, and other stakeholders. This session will present the study's findings and recommendations, and delineate the steps the judicial branch is taking to act on the conclusions of this landmark study.

Examination Schedule and Information

NAJIT, National Center for State Courts Testing (NCSC) and American Translators Association (ATA) will all be testing during the Pittsburgh conference. The preliminary schedule is below, please watch this space for more details and links to registration forms.

NAJIT Certification Exams

Written Exam: NAJIT will be holding written examinations in Spanish on Thursday May 15, 2008. The contact for the NAJIT registering for the NAJIT certification exam is Stephanie Richie at Measurement Incorporated (919)-683-2413.

Oral Exams: Measurement Incorporated will be conducting oral exams all day on Thursday May 15 and Friday May 16 2008. Measurement Incorporated will be contacting NAJIT members who have successfully passed the written examination to schedule oral exams. The contact for all NAJIT exam questions is Measurement Incorporated.

American Translators Association Testing

ATA will be testing on the afternoon of Sunday May 18, 2008. To register for these exams, please visit www.ata.net.

National Center for State Courts Oral Examinations

NCSC will be conducting oral examinations in Korean, Russian and Vietnamese on Saturday and Sunday May 17 and 18, 2008. Exams are by appointment only. Please contact the Wanda Romberger at (757)-259-1576 for more information.

Hotel Information:

Omni William Penn Hotel
530 William Penn Place
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219
Phone: (412) 281-7100
Fax: (412) 553-5252

Special Rate: From \$125

Book By: **April 23, 2008** to receive special rate

For reservations call: 1-800-THE-OMNI or 1-800-843-6664
and mention NAJIT when you book your room

Conference Dress

Dinner Dance: Business

Pre-conference & Conference: Business Casual

REGISTRATION FORM
NAJIT 29th ANNUAL CONFERENCE
Friday – Sunday, May 16-18, 2008
Omni William Penn Hotel, Pittsburgh, PA

Please Mail or Fax this registration form to:

NAJIT
1707 L Street, NW
Suite 570
Washington, DC 20036
Fax: 202-293-0495

PLEASE NOTE IMPORTANT DEADLINES:

Earlybird and hotel deadline	Wednesday, April 16, 2008
ATA translation exam deadline (ATA)	Friday, April 18, 2008
NJITCE: Spanish deadline (Measurement Inc)	Monday, April 21, 2008
Korean, Russian, Vietnamese exam deadlines (Consortium)	Monday, April 21, 2008
Conference registration closes	Friday, May 9, 2008
Last day for refund (less: \$35 processing fee)	Friday, May 9, 2007

Register early to be sure—onsite registration will be offered only if space permits, and at higher fees

Please provide your contact information. Failure to provide complete information may affect your registration.

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Company/Agency _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Province _____ Zip code _____

Country _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

CONFERENCE PROGRAM REGISTRATION:

Includes opening dinner dance Friday, Saturday lunch, light breakfasts & refreshment breaks, Saturday & Sunday educational sessions, handouts. (

EARLYBIRD (by April 16)			REGULAR (April 17 – May 9)			Totals
Member	Nonmember	Student*	Member	Nonmember	Student*	
320	390	120	350	420	150	\$
EARLYBIRD Saturday or Sunday Only			REGULAR Saturday or Sunday Only			
Sat-245	Sat-315	Sat-80	Sat-275	Sat-345	Sat-110	\$
Sun-160	Sun-195	Sun-60	Sun-175	Sun-210	Sun-75	\$
Total Conference Fee						\$

*Student registration does not include Friday dinner. If you are not a student member of NAJIT, you must submit evidence of your current enrollment & course load with your registration form.

FRIDAY PRECONFERENCE EVENTS

All day workshops 9 am – 5 pm (lunch on your own), AM workshops 9 am – 12 noon, PM workshops 2 – 5 pm
 No Onsite registration for Friday sessions is available

	EARLYBIRD (by April 16)		REGULAR (after April 16)		Totals
	Member	Nonmember	Member	Nonmember	
SSTI Korean skills tuneup all day	125	150	150	175	\$
SSTI Russian skills tuneup all day	125	150	150	175	\$
SSTI Spanish skills tuneup all day	125	150	150	175	\$
SSTI Vietnamese skills tuneup all day	125	150	150	175	\$
Consec Interp – Note Taking Skills	125	150	150	175	\$
Translation Techniques all day	125	150	150	175	\$
Tour of courts AM all languages	20	20	20	20	\$
Transl Criminal Justice Terms AM	75	95	95	115	\$
Criminal Proc in Latin America AM	75	95	95	115	\$
Adv Topics in Mexican Spanish PM	75	95	95	115	\$
Juvenile Justice Terminology PM	75	95	95	115	\$
Preconference Total					\$

Conference Total: _____
Preconference Total: _____
TOTAL PAYMENT \$ _____

PAYMENT

My check for \$ _____ is attached

Please charge my credit card as follows

Card: Credit card: Visa Mastercard American Express

Credit card number: _____

Expiration Date: _____ / _____

Name on card: _____

Please let us know if you require special accessibility or assistance – attach a sheet with details.

Refunds will be given less a \$35 processing fee if request received by Friday, May 9, 2008. No refunds after that date, but substitutions permitted.

If you require additional tickets for the Friday courthouse tour, dinner dance, or Saturday luncheon, please fill out the attached form and return it with your registration.

ADDITIONAL TICKETS REGISTRATION FORM
NAJIT 29th ANNUAL CONFERENCE
Friday – Sunday, May 16-18, 2008
Omni William Penn Hotel, Pittsburgh, PA

Please Mail or Fax this registration form to:

NAJIT
1707 L Street, NW
Suite 570
Washington, DC 20036
Fax: 202-293-0495

Please use this form for additional tickets to the dinner dance and/or courthouse tour.

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Company/Agency _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Province _____ Zip code _____

Country _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

Additional Tickets:

Event	Price	Number	Total
Friday Courthouse Tour	\$20.00		\$
Saturday Luncheon	\$45.00		\$
Friday Dinner Dance	\$80.00		\$
Total			\$

PAYMENT

My check for \$_____ is attached

Please charge my credit card as follows

Card: Credit card: Visa Mastercard American Express

Credit card number: _____

Expiration Date: _____ / _____

Name on card: _____