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Spring 2020

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The NETA 2020 conference is cancelled, then resurrected

by Marian Comenetz



May 9 was to be the date of NETA's 24th annual conference, held in cooperation with the Latin American and Iberian Studies Department of the University of Massachusetts Boston. Normally that conference is the highlight of NETA's programming year, an opportunity for T & I colleagues to engage in professional development and to meet and greet each other in person. For the first time, NETA had hired a professional events planner, who was to undertake a number of the tasks leading up to the conference, though not all of them. Finding speakers, for example, was in the hands of NETA's vice president and tech guru, Lesley Andrews, working with a fine group of colleagues: Loreto Ansaldo, Patricia Acosta, Stephanie Newton, Laura Rojo MacLeod, Susanna Torres, and Anne Vincent. By early March the program had taken shape, with keynote and endnote speakers in place and other speakers lined up in each of three categories: Translation, Interpreting, and "Other" (ex. tech, business, etc.).

Registration had begun.

Alongside NETA's own offerings, for the past three or four years we have had an academic division, with NETA board member Diego Mansilla, who teaches translation at UMass Boston (UMB), taking charge of organizing panels of students to present on various topics related to translation and interpreting. The majority of those students have been from UMB, but others have come from UMass Amherst, Westfield State, Boston University, Plymouth State, and more. While planning progressed for the primary program, Diego was devising panels for the academic side of things.

As March progressed, developments with the corona virus made crystal clear that



along with countless other organizations, we would not be able to offer our conference as scheduled. Our contract with UMB was cancelled, along with our contract with the events planner. Food orders were cancelled. Notification went out. And disappointment reigned. Then at a specially held NETA board meeting on April 11, Diego explained that the students who had worked hard to prepare their presentations as part of their course work wanted and needed to round things out for their academic credit this semester. With that premise underlying things, Diego proposed to create, within a mere four weeks, a mini-conference to be held remotely. Not only did he reinvigorate the student panels, working with various professors at UMass Boston and UMass Amherst, he also

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NETA News

Volume XXI, No. 82

Spring 2020

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Editor

vacant

Layout

Sarah Heller

Submissions

Submissions, comments and letters to the editor are welcome. Articles are subject to editing for grammar, punctuation, and space limitations. Upon request, a proof will be sent to you for review.

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The NETA 2020 conference is cancelled, then resurrected

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asked Lesley to renew contact with two of the speakers who had agreed to present at our regular conference even as he invited one other professor. On top of it all, he brought in three members of the Colectivo de Medios Latinos, a group of Latino journalists and media professionals in the Springfield and Holyoke area, to highlight their activities and the need for bilingual professionals in media. The result of Diego's efforts was the program you see below, a complex and diverse compendium of offerings involving over 20 presenters.

The next challenge was to implement that program virtually. The learning curve had to be high. Enter the above-mentioned Lesley Andrews, who consulted with the AV department at UMB and then took off on her own to pave the way for what turned out to be a magnificently produced extravaganza. Everything proceeded on schedule, exactly as set forth in the program, with virtually no hiccups.

The program ran from 9 a.m. to just after 4 p.m. Diana Rhudick, NETA's president, and Susan Gauss, chair of UMB's Latin American

and Iberian Studies Department, graciously greeted the attendees, after which the program unfolded. The variety of presenters and topics was stunning. Prof. Alicia Borinsky's lead presentation, "In Praise of in Betweenness: Translation and Uncertainty" was enthusiastically received in the chat forum. Nationally known former ATA president Corinne McKay explained in concerted fashion how to price one's work as a translator or interpreter. A panel of three professors spoke on the challenges of teaching translation and interpreting. Helen Eby reprised, in abbreviated fashion, her earlier monthly meeting talk on how not to go broke as a translator or interpreter. And the students, who after all were at the heart of the program, assumed their roles both competently and confidently. In short, this was a rich and excellent conference in every respect. Accordingly, positive comments emanated from the chat forum throughout the day.

In case you missed it, a recording of the program is available from Lesley at lesleyca@gmail.com. And if they have not yet done so, those who did join in can get a certificate of attendance, also from Lesley.

Many thanks, and congratulations to everyone who made this event possible, with Diego in the lead and Lesley in a key support role!

Editor's Note: Look for more reviews and summaries of the May 9 mini-conference in the summer issue of NETA News.



SCHEDULE

9:15-9:45 Opening Remarks

9:50-10:20 NETA Academic Division Opening

Alicia Borinsky "In Praise of in Betweenness: Translation and Uncertainty"

10:30-11:20 Keynote Speaker

Corinne McKay "Using objective data to price your work"

11:30-12:00 Professional Panel "On Interpreting: An International Perspective"

Presenters: Inés Fusco, Sladjana Jakovac, and Loreto P. Ansaldo

12:10-12:40 Student Panel: "Translation and Society"

12:50-1:20 Professor Panel: "Teaching Translation and Interpreting at UMass Amherst"

1:30-2:00 Professional Panel: "Colectivo de Medios Latinos"

2:10-2:40 Student Panel: "New Developments in Translation"

2:50-3:20 Professor Panel: Language Transfer on the Screen

3:30-4:00 Professional Speaker: Helen Eby "How to Be a Translator or Interpreter and Not Go Broke"

4:00-4:15 Closing Remarks



2020 NETA election news

NETA board members and the president began planning for board elections early in the year, but no new candidates stepped forward to run for office.

The election was further complicated by the fact that, due to the pandemic, we could not hold an in-person conference and that is where members traditionally meet with candidates and cast their ballots. Therefore, the NETA Board decided to cancel the election. Fortunately, incumbents Maiyim Baron, Antje Ruppert, and Diego Mansilla agreed to serve another term.

The NETA Board encourages all interested Netans to consider running for the board so we can have a vigorous contest next year.

ATA Annual Conference: Get Ready for ATA61



**ATA's 61st Annual Conference
is scheduled to take place
October 21-24, 2020, in Boston.**

**While we hope to see you in Boston,
we are also planning for a virtual
event. Stay tuned!**

**Whatever your role in the T&I
Industry, ATA61 is the place where
dedicated professionals come
together to expand their knowledge
and their network.**

Learn more: ata61.org

Marie-Madeleine von Puttkamer

By Eric A. Bye



image from Seth Ferranti//OZY.com

Marie-Madeleine von Puttkamer was born in 1881 in East Prussia, and she lived until 1944. She began her literary career around 1900 with the publication of a book of poetry that sold over a million copies in her lifetime and went through some 52 editions. She published poetry, short stories, plays, and novels – 46 works in all. She was enormously popular, but she is not well known today. The Nazis strove to burn her books, and today they are difficult to find. The author was Jewish – an obvious liability in Germany during the run-up to the Second World War. The Nazis targeted her works as degenerate because they were sensual and featured drugs and lesbianism. Upon the death of her husband – her senior by 35 years – her grief was so uncontrollable that a doctor surreptitiously gave her a shot of morphine; for the remainder of her life she was an addict. In 1943 she was admitted to a sanatorium because of her addiction, and there she died in unknown circumstances under the care of Nazi doctors.

The details of her life and many of her works have been assembled into a book entitled *Priestess of Morphine*, Ronald K. Siegel, editor, with my translations of several dozen poems. I audaciously tried to preserve the rhyme scheme and the meter of the original poems. This was difficult and time-consuming, but it was great fun, and of course the psychic rewards far outweighed the monetary ones. The book is available at Amazon books, and no doubt through interlibrary loan.

On the next page is one sample of Marie-Madeleine's poetry. It shows some of the possibilities and the limitations of the way I chose to work. It's also a welcome taste of springtime, natural beauty, love, and sunshine. The source was printed in Fraktur, the old-style German blackletter typeface, but for ease of reading I present it here in a more familiar font.

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Marie-Madeleine von Puttkamer

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Der Letzte Rausch

Ich bin jetzt schon so lang' gefangen
In dieser Stadt, so tief verflucht,
Indess mit stöhnendem Verlangen
Mein Sehnen seinen Süden sucht.

Ich kann nicht atmen in den Straßen,
Ich kann die Menschen nicht mehr sehen,
Die alle lange schon vergaßen
Das Bäume hold in Blüte stehn.

Die alle, alle nichts mehr wissen
Von Weidenkätzchen, grau umsäumt,
Und von den rosa Blütenkissen,
Auf denen sich der Frühling bäumt.

Und wissen nichts vom Sternenglanze,
Der seinen Silberschleier webt,
Und von der Weiten Welken kranze,
In dem die letzte Sehnsucht bebt. - -

Auf meinen Lippen, fiebermüden,
Zuckt meiner Sehnsucht letzter Schrei:
Ich will zur Sonne und zum Süden!
Du graues Land, gib du mich frei.

Doch Wälle türmen sich und Mauern
Und droh'n so unbezwinglich breit;
Ich weiss es wohl, sie überdauern
Mein bißchen karge Lebenszeit.

Ich weiss, nie wieder wird mir quellen
Orangenblütenduft so schwer;
Nie wieder spiel' ich mit den Wellen
Um sonngeküsten Mittelmeer. - -

Nie mehr? ... Ach, arme Augensterne,
Was weint ihr denn so bitterlich?...
Nie mehr den Duft der blauen Ferne...
Ich hab' nichts mehr, mein Lieb..., nur dich!

Und herzerreißend strömt die Wonne
In mich bei diesem schnellen Tausch, -
Dann sei du Süden mir und Sonne,
Du mein geliebter, letzter Rausch!

The Last Ecstasy

I have been stuck so long in the mire
Of this city, so deeply damned,
And moaning with desire,
My passion seeks a southern land.

In streets for breath I've fought,
The people no more I see,
For long ago they all forgot
The beauty of blossom and tree.

None of them, not one, knows a thing
Of gray-edged pussy willows,
And prancing, rampant spring
On rose-hued flower pillows.

Of starlight they know not a thing
And the silver veil it makes,
Or the distant cloud-formed ring
In which the final longing quakes. - -

Upon my fever-wearied mouth
Twitches my longing's final plea:
I crave the sun and the south!
You gloomy land, set me free.

But ramparts loom up, and walls,
And threaten, invincible and wide;
They will outlast, I know full well,
My brief and barren life.

I know the scent of orange bouquet
No more shall well around me;
I never again with waves shall play
By the sun-kissed southern sea. - -

Never again? ... Ah, poor apple of my eye,
Why bitterly weep and rue?...
No more scent of the blue, distant clime...
I've nothing left, my love..., but you!

And heartbreaking pleasures run,
At this rapid change, inside me, -
So be my south and be my sun,
O you, my dear last ecstasy!

“The Art of Translation” from Educare, Educere...for all seasons. Notes on language, translation, and the environment

By Laura Rojo MacLeod

Nature, the best art work, is alive and kicking. Every leaf, every track, each flower and bird, the trees and the sustaining life elements communicate not only their basic vitals in the ecosystem but also their profound dimensionality through the ages. This subject of dimensionality in nature's biodiversity traverses every field of human activity; logically so as we also are part of nature. From the environmental point of view, this is the planetary awareness concept already dealt with in well-founded texts by many important authors from the '70s onward.

From a cognitive and language process, this dimensionality is the good soil that will affect the word worker, the translator in this case, extensively and intensively. The unique human capacity to appreciate the natural world in all its dimensions is paramount to widen the scope of comprehension at all levels. Then the fertile ground for creation, for artistic and language development is set!

Originally, the task of translation started as a craft but at this point in the millennium, we are past this previous notion. Now it has reached the sky, higher horizons are calling, now it is embedded in the total dimensionality of art with far and wide remarkable effects.

Indeed, the art of translation is one of the richest areas of human knowledge, with more things in heaven and earth than the translator can even think of in his philosophy!

To start with, translators basically agree with Nabokov's first three main basic requirements a translator must develop and enhance permanently. On his steps, maybe I can suggest that it is essential to organize the translation task into three useful dimensions in order to convey the full meaning into the target language. These dimensions are personal, local, and, global; they require a serious approach alongside “a joyful secret” (J.L. Borges) attitude. Also, it may be of some use to include the Aristotelian modes *ethos*, *logos*, *pathos* to the dimensionality cocktail for the sake of a deeper outreach in the whole language process.

The personal dimension is a quiet introspection to analyze a variety of nuances both from the author and the translator. It's also the real tête-à-tête conversation between both of them about the source and target text. The local dimension refers to the physical area, the ground from which the text flies over. We include the familiar, the culture, the history, environmental and social facts. The global dimension reaches for the big picture, the connections outside locality, the external factors influencing the whole text.

Now it is of importance to note that the nonfictional and fictional fields are very different from each other. The skilled translator finds

it useful to work with a set of language tools for each of them.

Entering the non-fictional arena, I would mention my first technical-scientific text for translation of which the source language was English and the target language was Spanish. It was the first official UNESCO/UNEP educational handbook, in the late '70s, and was provided for my environmental group through one of our members. The ambassador worked at UNESCO at the time, around 1985, and he sent us the newly printed version. The group welcomed the material like manna from heaven and I did my job. This translated text was the first in my province to start the group's educational campaign with adaptations to the local natural scenario. It was a great accomplishment for many reasons!

And many scientific-technical translation works followed.

Down memory lane, it is interesting to point out the fact that I always loved languages. When I was 5 years old, we moved to Montevideo, Uruguay, for my father's job and me and my brother were immediately having private English lessons. Then French, some German too.

We grew up in an international environment so we were used to a variety of foreign accents.

I remember that my father engineer, who was able to translate technical terms competently enough, was my first supplier of technical dictionaries. Since my teenage years, I had sugar cane and mechanical dictionaries, industry manuals, then a paper industry one. Later, I acquired a citrus manual and many other reference books for specific fields. And my mother, a school principal all her life, also had a whole array of material around: pedagogical books, magazines, reviews, etc. El Tata, my father, also collected the *Popular Mechanics* magazine, both in English and Spanish, which I overused for my translations. He was a member of the Book of the Month Club. Both were avid readers and I can really tell that is so contagious! Reading, writing, working with words, discovering meanings and liaisons was not work but a fun time for me.

The art of translation is one of the richest areas of human knowledge.

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“The Art of Translation”

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Back to the future, the more complex arena is the fictional text where the artistic concept of dimensionality is totally present. This wide “natural” coverage takes special roots, particularly in the translator’s field work conceived as art, as a creative process beyond the opposite’s dichotomy of ‘faithful or unfaithful translation’, ‘better or worse’, ‘good or bad’ text etc. Surely, we can agree that they are necessary dichotomies, but dimensionality in art, in translation, evokes a different flair.

As Jorge Luis Borges, the great Argentinian translator, poet, essayist has said: “Ningún problema tan consustancial con las letras y con su modesto misterio como el que propone una traducción”. *[There is no problem as consubstantial to literature and its modest mysteries as that raised by a translation.]*

At this point, I am of the same opinion with Borges, who started the concept of “creative infidelities.” For the first time in the art and craft of translation, his new view is beyond opposites, he favors a new deconstructive approach, a response theory that fully engages the reader in the fictional piece. Though he states, a bit boldly, that “The original is unfaithful to the translation,” the fact is that he is creating more possibilities, infinite textualities for the material at hand. He thinks that a translation can improve the original when it is enriched by regional color, even fragmentary translations add to the whole creative work. We can agree or disagree, but there is no doubt his contribution to translation studies is a major one for many good reasons. Please check E. Kristal and SJ Levin on Borges’ translation approach. It was a special feeling of a job well done when I translated some of his well-known poems and stories, followed by an art collage, for my literary translation workshops.

From the educational viewpoint, the inclusion of the translation tool offers ample room for tasks and considerations. A well-seasoned language educator must first lay the foundations of both the source and target languages, then provide a variety of language activities for both, and finally check for oral competence in students. After these careful steps, I include translation activities in intermediate and post-intermediate language learning levels. Likewise, in teaching translation, there is the need of a solid comprehension of the target language basics in order to continue with the translation task per se.

Instructions on how to increase your NETA online privacy

by Diana Rhudick

If your name and contact information are included in NETA's online directory, be aware that these may be harvested by anyone using the web. The instructions below explain how to hide specific fields in your profile, which will of course also become hidden to potential clients.



Click on your name to show the menu.



Click on the gray box to left,

“Edit profile.”



Click on “Privacy,” in the middle.

This page lists each field of your profile, and gives you the option to make each field visible to anybody, members only, or nobody, (No access).

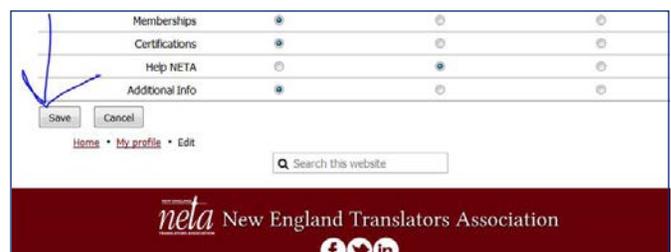


You can also click or unclick “Show profile to others” near the top.

The e-mail field is about 9 down on the list. You can select “No access” for it.



To save changes and exit, click “Save” at the bottom.



Websites and podcasts for the homebound

by Diana Rhudick

I fervently hope that by the time this newsletter is published, the information in this article is no longer relevant. That's because this article is a compilation of webinars and podcasts of interest to language professionals forced to stay home. Maybe, just maybe, we will be able to go out in public again by publication time. In case this hope is dashed, and in case the information is useful regardless of circumstances, I am presenting some links to a variety of resources that have come across my desk since the pandemic began.

Educational

Boston University's lecture series in literary translation, normally presented live and open to the public, is now online. The university has made available most of the talks [on their website](#). Click on "Event Recordings" to the right, and then "Seminar in Translation" farther down the page. You will note that NETA member Adel Fauzetdinova is the presenter in the second video, How "Bad" Translations Made "Good" Literature: *The Dostoevsky on the Pampas Case*.

Andy Way, of the Dublin City University School of Computing, provides [a series of seven videos](#) on neural networks and translation, past, present, and future. The videos range from roughly six to eight minutes each; the presenter's Irish accent is a lovely bonus.

For ATA members, the association is offering free recordings of many sessions from the 58th annual conference held in Washington, DC, in 2017. You need to log in to the members only section on the website. Otherwise, the videos are available for a fee here: atanet.org/conf/2017/virtual. A huge array of topics is covered, including training, financial translation, government T&I, legal T&I, agencies, technology, medical, and more. Look for some of the well-known presenters, including Netans Helen Eby, Lebzy Gonzalez, and Judy Lyons.

Business tips

In the spirit of giving, tech guru Jost Zetsche has made available to all comers the archive of his very useful newsletter, "The Tool Box Journal," in its premium edition. The publication is "a monthly journal for people in the world of translation who want to get more out of their computers." Jost provides a panorama of our industry, reporting on everything from animation in Windows 10 to GT4T and 100 years of interpreting. To access the archives, you will first have to sign up for the free version of the newsletter at <https://internationalwriters.com/toolkit/>. When you get your first issue, it will contain a link to the archives, with a user name and password.

Another ATA member, Tess Whitty, is offering free podcasts on translation freelancing, and the occasional free video, at <https://marketingtipsfortranslators.com/>. You will have to subscribe to access them. A pop-up box will appear where you can also sign up

for her weekly newsletter offering marketing tips.

Eve Lindemuth Bodeux and Corinne McKay, ATA members, produce podcasts under the rubric [Speaking of Translation](#). These tend to last about 40 minutes and touch on a wide range of topics: CAT tools, international payment methods, combining work and family, to name but three.

Just for fun

[Cirque du Soleil performances](#)

Seven one-hour live performances from around the world. Breathtaking!

[Bob Ross, The Joy of Painting](#)

All 403 soothing episodes starting from season one in 1983

[Monet and Boston: Lasting Impression](#)

A Boston Museum of Fine Arts virtual experience with images, video, and music

[MFA Video Library](#)

Add some art to your day and enjoy the MFA from home by watching this selection of videos, from virtual exhibition tours and interviews with artists to soothing musical performances. Each group includes up to six short videos. Visit the MFA's YouTube channel for longer, in-depth videos of lectures and programming, behind-the-scenes clips, and more.

[Smithsonian Natural History Museum Tours](#)

The Smithsonian, National Museum of Natural History virtual tours allow visitors to take self-guided, room-by-room tours of select exhibits and areas within the museum from their desktop or mobile device. Visitors can also access select collections and research areas at satellite support and research stations as well as past exhibits no longer on display.

[Google Arts and Culture](#)

Explore the world from your desktop by place, time, color, or artist. View artworks in amazing detail. Tour famous sites and landmarks. See amazing architecture. Visit the Afro Brasil Museum, the Uffizi Gallery in Italy, the Pera Museum in Istanbul.

How to be a translator or interpreter and not go broke

NETA Monthly Meeting, February 22, 2020

Reviewed by Marian Comenetz

We were delighted, back in October, to receive Helen Eby's proposal for a monthly meeting presentation to be entitled "How to be an interpreter or translator—and not go broke." One seeming obstacle: Helen lives in Oregon. An immediate solution: a webinar! Helen has presented webinars out west so has experience with them. Lesley, NETA's vice president and techie extraordinaire, was involved in the preparatory email exchanges, after which Helen herself did the tech honors while providing a multifaceted overview of her chosen topic. Sign-ups flowed in—there even was a waiting list. We were launched!

The scope of Helen's talk was broad, and the points she made to elaborate on her lengthy PowerPoint presentation were numerous. This write-up only provides a limited introduction to her topic to whet the appetite.

Main topics:

- An overview of business models: individual provider, solopreneur, boutique language service company, smaller and larger language service company;
- Types of employment: independent contractor, employee, ad hoc employee, part-time employee (the IRS lists types of employees);
- Features of a business plan: description of company, services/products, how it will achieve its goals, budget, current and projected financing, market analysis and strategy;
- Marketing: certification (vs. certificates) for translators and interpreters, proper presentation (both in writing and in person), professional invoicing, professional website

Nonbillable work can take at least 10 hours a week. It is essential to include it in your thinking when developing a business plan and calculating rates.

and business cards, finding business and forging business relationships, networking;

- Negotiation: meeting the client's needs, ASTM-based charts for translators and interpreters (Helen provides two carefully worked-out worksheets);
- Accounting: what to keep track of (time and money as limited resources), how to keep track of it (Quicken, Quickbooks), fixed expenses (cost of doing business), activity-based expenses (vehicle, mileage, parking, travel), nonbillable time; present proper figures to a CPA and have them take over from there;
- Target income: salaries of comparable professions and of T& I figures from Occupational Outlook Handbook, market research on compensation, ways to figure out your rate (rates for translators and rates for interpreters), taxes (IRS quarterly payments);
 - What to do if numbers don't add up to what we want: hone skills, attain new credentials, join a union, request funding, find another job.

Helen then demonstrated the use of her own rate calculator by filling in numbers provided by attendees. The results demonstrated how effective that calculator is in showing how various factors contribute to figuring out your rate.

Some disparate points that stood out:

- You'll choose your own business model or perhaps be part of more than one.
- "As of 2017, though employees can't deduct business expenses, the standard deduction has increased and might cover a significant portion of personal expenses."
- "In a business plan, a business owner projects revenues and expenses for a certain period of time....The idea...is to enable owners to have a more defined picture of potential costs and drawbacks to certain business decisions and to help them to modify accordingly before implementing these ideas."
- Consult with experts! Helen highly recommends SCORE (the Service Corps of Retired Executives), "a nonprofit association dedicated to helping small businesses get off the ground, grow and achieve their goals." SCORE was especially helpful in critiquing Helen's website and business cards.

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In case
you
missed it...

Links to language news

The Website of the **International Association of Conference Interpreters** has a lot of good info for Interpreters. Check out their page [AICC best practices for interpreters during the Covid-19 crisis](#)

Slator.com offers industry news articles such as [this one about California's Translators and Interpreters](#) trying to amend the new state gig worker law, AB5.

Commonwealth Magazine's May 1st online edition features an article by Sarah Bentancort [In COVID era, medical interpreters in heightened demand.](#)

Found in Translation is a Boston nonprofit with a mission to give low-income bilingual women an opportunity to achieve economic security through the use of their language skills. [Found in Translation](#) trains bilingual homeless women free of charge to be medical interpreters. Recently they were awarded a [2020 Project Innovation Grant](#) by the Comcast NBC Universal Foundation. Because of the pandemic, they are currently focusing their efforts on identifying and responding to the immediate needs of their interpreters, addressing food security, loss of housing and employment, and helping alumnae navigate the shifting landscape of federal, state, and local relief programs. They are also raising awareness of the importance of medical interpreters in the fight against COVID-19. [Read here](#) their letter to health providers.

Smithsonian Magazine has [an article](#) on the translation of the term "social distancing" in different countries and how that translation gives us a glimpse into how countries across the globe are coping with the COVID-19 threat.

How to be a translator or interpreter and not go broke

Continued from page 9

- Attend meetings of professional groups whose members may well need translation or interpreting services. Promote yourself appropriately, without ever denigrating anyone else. Heard by Helen at Toastmasters: "If you don't toot your own horn, someone else will use it for a spittoon!"
- Start local and branch out. It takes time to cultivate business relationships.
- Keep the focus on how your product can add value to the client's business or solve problems their business is facing.
- Be aware of the many fixed expenses of doing business, including health insurance, taxes and tax preparation, training, a car, travel, and many more.
- Nonbillable work can take at least 10 hours a week. It is essential to include it in your thinking when developing a business plan and calculating rates.
- Be flexible, and go the extra mile!

It's easy to see why Helen's presentation was so well received. Both through the chat feature of [GoToMeeting](#) and later, when Helen unmuted participants, questions and comments abounded.

Those who signed up for this webinar were provided with reading material and Helen's own rate calculator. In addition, her webinar was recorded and is available to NETAnS upon request. References include links for further perusal. Thus, anyone interested can get a far fuller sense of Helen's talk than this article provides.

For complete information, check the resources on her [Free Resources page](#).

Helen can also be reached by [email](#).

A French sonnet, glossary and vocabulary exercise

By Sybil Gilchrist

Jean-Paul Dubois won the Goncourt Prize for his novel *Tous les hommes n'habitent pas le monde de la même façon* (All Men Do Not Live in the World in the Same Way).

I wrote the following sonnet after reading an excerpt from pp.169-175 of Dubois' novel. This work was required reading for **Inspired by Real Life: Reading and Writing Exofiction in French**, a ten-week online NYUSPS course taught in French by Annie Heminway during the 2020

spring term. The narrator of the novel is an inmate who reflects on his life. My poem focuses on the beginning of his eleven years of marriage to a pragmatic pilot.

Following the sonnet and translation, you will find a French-English glossary, and a vocabulary exercise with an answer key. The vocabulary exercise highlights scenes of the hydrobase. Annie Heminway edited the sonnet, glossary, and vocabulary check.

Elle, Capitaine !

(Sybil Gilchrist)

Du boulevard à l'hydrobase, virtuose des virages
L'aviatrice de l'indestructible monomoteur
Croise par hasard le futur détenu enchanteur
Avant que leur amour ne devienne mariage.
Du ciel à la Terre, **Elle** fixe les points d'arrimage
Algonquine — Irlandaise, déposant des flotteurs.
Passport oublié, on mande le pigeon voyageur
D'accompagner au lac la pilote qui l'encourage.

Directe. Quand je t'ai vu revenir ce matin,
J'ai pensé que c'était un signe du destin.
Cabane sommaire : **Elle** fume la cigarette nuptiale
Lorsqu'**Elle** enfle sa combinaison bleu gris.
C'est avec cet homme que je vais finir ma vie.
Ils retournent sous la puissance de l'hélice bipale.

Madame, Captain

(Sybil Gilchrist)

From the boulevard to the sea plane base, virtuoso in steering,
Aviator (Winona Mapachee) of the indestructible single-engine plane
Perchance meets the future charming inmate (Paul Hansen)
Before their love becomes marriage.

From the sky to Earth, **She** secures the anchor points
Algonquin/Irish, landing the floats (of the plane) on the water.
(Winona's passenger forgot his bag containing his necessary documents at his cabin.
Winona and Paul will fly back to the cabin to pick up the bag.)
Forgotten passport, the carrier pigeon (Paul Hansen) is summoned
To go to Lake Sacacomie with the pilot who will seduce him.

[She is] Direct. When I saw you come back this morning,
I thought it was destiny.
Rustic cabin, [where] **She** smokes her wedding cigarette
While **She** puts on her gray-blue flight suit.
It is this man with whom I am going to end my life.
They return (to the sea plane base) under the power of the two-blade propeller plane.

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A French sonnet, glossary and vocabulary exercise

Continued from page 11

GLOSSARY

	Français	English
01.	algonquin (adj)	Algonquin, Algonquian
02.	allumer	to light
03.	arrimage (n/m)	docking, anchorage, stowage
04.	autochtone (adj)	indigenous, native
05.	balise (n/f)	beacon, marker
06.	bernache (n/f)	Canadian goose
07.	combinaison (n/f)	flight suit, jumpsuit
08.	emparer, s'emparer de	to seize, to grab
09.	empiler	to pile, to pile up
10.	enfiler	to put on, to pull up
11.	extirper	to pull out, to haul out, to drag out
12.	flotteur (n/m)	float
13.	hydrobase (n/f)	seaplane base
14.	Irlandaise (n/f)	Irishwoman
15.	lac (n/m)	lake
16.	loutre (n/f)	otter
17.	monomoteur (n/m)	single-engine airplane
18.	oie (n/f)	goose
19.	palmipède (n/m)	palmiped, web-footed bird
20.	sangle (n/f)	strap

VOCABULARY CHECK

Fill in the blank with the correct term found at the end of each of the four sections:

A.
1. [...] des Beaver DHC2 construits par De Havilland, indestructibles petits _____ qui depuis le 16 août 1947, jour de premier envol, traversaient tous les ciels du monde. 2. Baissant progressivement son altitude, l'avion dépassa l'_____, direction sud, puis vira à 180 degrés pour se présenter en ligne avec les eaux, déposer ses _____ et glisser vers la rive comme un gros _____ qui s'accorde une pause. 3. Tandis que j'essayais d'_____ tout ce matériel de la cabine quelqu'un me dit : « Vous n'y arriverez pas comme ça. »
a. extirper__ b. flotteurs__ c. hydrobase __ d. monomoteurs __ e. palmipède
B.
4. C'était Winona Mapachee, pilote de l'appareil qui s'_____ de tout le fatras (les bagages) et l'_____ en ordre parfait sur le bord de la rive. 5. Je la (la pilote) regardai vérifier les points d'_____ de l'hydravion, 6. Elle s'éloigna dans sa _____ bleu gris vers la salle d'embarquement. 7. Winona vérifia mes _____, lança le moteur, actionna quelques interrupteurs et nous éloigna lentement de la rive jusqu'à positionner l'avion au milieu de la rivière.
f. arrimage__ g. combinaison__ h. empara__ i. empila__ j. sangles

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A French sonnet, glossary and vocabulary exercise

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C.

8. Comme une _____ sauvage qui s'envole, le Beaver appuya ses pattes sur la surface des eaux.
9. Elle possédait gravée dans sa mémoire toute la cartographie de ce territoire et, à l'image des grandes voiles de _____ tout à leur migration, s'orientait en suivant son instinct qui l'amenait toujours où elle devait se rendre. [...] Elle fit ses approches coutumières entre les îles qui le parsemaient, s'aligna sur le cœur d'une _____ imaginaire, toucha l'eau du bout des pattes et glissa en douceur vers la rive.
10. Après avoir _____ sa combinaison et _____ une cigarette, elle m'a dit : « Quand je t'ai vu revenir ce matin à l'hydrobase j'ai pensé immédiatement : c'est avec cet homme-là que je vais finir ma vie. »

k. allumé__ l. balise__ m.____ bernache__ n. enfilé__ o. oie

D.

11. Winona mena le Beaver faire un petit tour sur l'eau, longea les îles à la manière d'un payageur sur son canoë, déranga un petit congrès de _____ quelques migrants fatigués.
12. [...] en m'offrant, plus tard, une sorte de noces en Beaver au bord du _____ Sacacomie.
13. Mais si l'on se plaçait, sous le regard du grand chef _____ Tessouat de la tribu des Kichesipirini, il ne faisait aucun doute que, bien que mort depuis 1636, ce grand sage de la nation indienne nous déclarerait, Winona et moi, mari et femme.
14. Winona représentait à mes yeux le formidable condensé de deux mondes anciens. Je ne sais jamais si j'ai aimé une _____ de Galway de sa part maternelle, ou une Algonquine de sa part paternelle et _____.

p. algonquin__ q. autochtone__ r. Irlandaise__ s. lac__ t. loutres

ANSWER KEY

A.	B.	C.	D.
01. d	04. h, i	08. o	11. t
02. c, b, e	05. f	09. m, l	12. s
03. a	06. g	10. n, k	13. p
	07. j		14. r, q

Editing and proofreading: from paper to digital

NETA Monthly Meeting, March 28, 2020

Reviewed by Marian Comenetz

As you take in the first slide in a PowerPoint presentation and catch sight of a cake with decorative icing reading “Happy Birthday Arika,” you know you’re in for a treat. After introducing herself, our speaker, Erika Schulz, having captured our attention with that memorable cake, started her presentation off in style, first addressing two questions at the heart of the session: Why do we edit? And, Why do we proofread?

We edit in order to modify a file by deleting, inserting, moving, or copying text. This can be for purposes of copyediting, reviewing, or transcreating—the latter involving adapting a text written in English so that it is linguistically and/or culturally appropriate in the target language. While editing is certainly done for grammar, spelling, punctuation, header/footer/font style, and formatting, the list of other factors that come into play is long. Some examples: accuracy, completeness, logic, flow, redundancy, style, function, register, audience, and of course, client expectations. Erika elaborated on each of these elements.

We proofread printers’ proofs and all manner of other texts so as to mark errors in categories ranging from punctuation (may differ by language), styles (ex. levels of headers), formatting (ex. how names of kings should appear), fonts, layout (ex. columns, bullets) and images. When a text appears in a different language, it must be copy-fit for overset, that is, the translated text must fit onto any given page just as the source text did. Some languages expand greatly yet extra pages simply cannot be accommodated due to the expense and confusion that would result. Imagine, for example, how a table of contents, an index, page numbers, and/or a glossary could change if expansion were acceptable. The entire publication would undergo dramatic disruption.

Next Erika addressed where editing and proofreading fit into the workflow of a project. She used the term “Word Workflow” to refer to a document that consists only of text. Not surprisingly, one begins with the source document, which is then translated, edited (at this point the document might go back to the client to be checked), proofread (the stage when changes are accepted), and then finalized. Things get more complicated if a text includes significant formatting and images. In such a case, Erika used the term “Graphic Design Workflow,” which entails more steps and may involve desktop publishing. In this scenario, after editing, the text is poured/imported into graphic design software. One, two, or three rounds

of proofreading follow, after which there is a quality control phase—the final step before the text is sent to the printer. Some related points:

- It is good, and less expensive, to edit in a file format that will allow for editing. Excel is not such a file format. It is primarily for numbers.
- It is helpful to have a PDF visible as you edit or proofread so as to see the intended appearance of the text.
 - Production time for books has decreased significantly in recent years, from three years to one year. Often only one round of proofreading is done, hence more errors result.
 - A CAT tool can be helpful for repeat customers. With it you build a database for each client.

In the past editors and proofreaders used lots of standard handwritten editing marks. Erika had us imagine the disadvantages of that approach: deciphering handwriting, pounds of printed paper needing to be shipped, shipping costs and time, and significant delays. Today things are entirely different, with communication taking place via email and in the cloud.

Erika then delved into a long list of “tools of the trade,” ranging from your own expertise and the need to keep learning to computer set-up, from documentation (like file name conventions) to dictionaries, glossaries and style guides (Erika has her own and recommends having them), from checklists to email etiquette, not to mention all-important invoicing. She elaborated nicely on each tool.

Having set the stage by explaining function and context, Erika then indulged us with a plethora of specific hints and suggestions. On the one hand, she reviewed the use of Word Options/Preferences, referring to things like formatting marks, track changes, carriage returns, paragraph marks, spellchecking,

While editing is certainly done for grammar, spelling, punctuation, header/footer/font style, and formatting, the list of other factors that come into play is long.

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NETA board meeting minutes, March 28, 2020

Virtual meeting on Skype due to COVID-19 lockdown orders in Massachusetts

Submitted by Rokhaya Smith, Secretary

A quorum was established as all Board members were attending.

Board Members Present: Lesley Andrews, Maiyim Baron, Laura Rojo MacLeod, Diego Mansilla, Diana Rhudick, Antje Ruppert, Erika Schulz, Rokhaya Smith

Absent: Crystal Zhong, Treasurer

Others present: Marian Comenetz, Program Committee

AGENDA

Facebook page and Elias Jacob's role

The status of FB administrators has not been determined as they have not been contacted yet. Terry is now a lapsed member. Maiyim will reach out to him to find out if he still wants to be an administrator and renew his membership as Antje has already nudged him multiple times. Lesley will contact Petra to see if she is willing to continue as an editor and also to give access to Lesley who will also edit the FB page appropriately.

With the world still reeling in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic, it seems that Elias is back in Argentina. Erika is to contact him and ask him if he wants to be a FB administrator, to follow up on the draft mentoring program for new members he wanted to present to the Board.

ATA61 in Boston: October 21-24, 2020

There are not new updates from Bruce and Rudy about ATA61 preparations.

Diana is safeguarding the 500 NETA bookmarks. It has not been decided whether more need to be ordered. Laura suggested NETA includes an online brochure on its website. Diana thought a brochure was static and suggested a blog instead. Marian said Bruce did this last time and her understanding is that he agreed to do this again. A blog would need to stay active with regular posts. Erika indicated that Bruce had information on things to do in Boston, what visitors might expect to find and do, restaurants to try and sights to visit. Diego was thinking of organizing under NETA's banner an after-hours gathering or other types of events. Diana is to ask Bruce about the creation of a blog and organization of events. Maiyim suggested NETA's FB page be updated with latest ATA61 information, but this needs to be confirmed. Diego is to email Rudy and Bruce to find out the status on ATA61. Erika indicated that Judith Lyons was very helpful organizing events and recommending places to visit in Boston during last conference. Diana will contact her to ask if she wants to do that again.

Diana received an email from Jamie Padula informing her that the ATA61 website (www.ata61.org) is ready and operational. Diana is to share with Sarah for the newsletter.

Editing and proofreading

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editing with tags, editing text with database fields, and awareness of how much decisions depend on what language you're working with.

Lastly, Erika said it would be wonderful if we could edit in InDesign. For the most part, though, it is compositors who are responsible for how the final text looks, so normally, editors and proofreaders submit marked-up copies to the InDesign person for final review. She showed us a page with many mark-ups indicated by circles, rectangles, and lines, all entered using Adobe Acrobat Reader, a free download that offers a host of tool options for editing and proofing. Erika illustrated how to make corrections—things like centering, indents, flush left, quotes, italics, caps or lower case, etc.—using square brackets, and then explain them separately, using Comments rather than the editing tool. It's important not to give options and to be clear rather than ambiguous.

While you may have gotten some sense of Erika's presentation from this write-up, there is no substitute for watching her in action. Her content was prodigious and her charm was infectious. Remember the icing on the cake, too!

To access a recording of this presentation, [email Lesley Andrews](mailto:lesley@netagroups.io).

NETA@groups.io

An online discussion forum for members of the New England Translators Association.

There are two ways to subscribe to our members-only discussion group:

- 1) Send a message to neta+subscribe@groups.io.
- 2) Go to <https://groups.io/g/neta> and click on blue rectangle, Apply for Membership in this Group.

Once you've been added, you can post new topics at this email: neta@groups.io.

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NETA board meeting minutes, March 28, 2020

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Treasurer's report

Crystal was absent, but she sent her report, which all Board members received. Antje, Sarah and Crystal are to receive 1099MISC for 2019. There were no questions or comments on the final report. Crystal took care of outstanding checks and Lesley was already processing refunds to those who had already registered for the NETA conference in May.

Conference – financial

NETA previously paid \$3,750.00 to Kristin. The remaining fee is \$375.00 (10% of the other \$3,750.00) for a total of \$4,125.00.

Lesley is to cancel the food order and inform Diego if any issue arises.

Marian wondered whether it might be helpful to have an update on Kristin's handling of the conference preparations. Two examples were a) a list of things she has accomplished and b) a sense of what should be done differently next year (ex. reaching out to people on our contact list whom we can target for our call for proposals, which should be sent out in September). Lesley said it would be helpful to have that information.

Checks from 2018 and 2019 conferences have all been dealt with.

Election and roles 2020-21

Diana is to email members, explaining that due to lockdown and confinement measures caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, all incumbent board members will remain active for another year unless some members want to step up and join. As such, elections will not be held until next year. Antje who had decided to step down has agreed to continue in her role and will be available unless another member wants to fill in her seat.

Membership

Other than a few issues that need to be dealt with, membership operations have been smooth. The Board had to decide what it wanted to do with lapsed members, whether they should be archived. Erika suggested they be offered a grace period, but Antje countered this policy should not apply to those whose membership lapsed a long time ago. Laura suggested that they be removed from the groups.io list. Lesley indicated she has not

done so yet but is planning to do it soon. Erika also emphasized that senior members (65 and over) were paying \$30.00 for dues instead of \$50.00.

Website

Lesley is to switch NETA over to Wild Apricot's payment system as WA will begin adding a surcharge if we continue with PayPal; both charge the same fees otherwise. That switch needs to take place by our renewal date in mid-September.

Monthly programming

NETA was able to move its March and April meetings online thanks to Lesley and her expertise.

NETA conference – miscellaneous

The Board decided not to try and reschedule this year's conference in the fall since ATA61 will be held in Boston in October. Diego is to ask UMB if we can schedule next year's conference on either May 8 or May 15, 2021. The Conference Committee is also to invite this year's scheduled speakers for next year's conference once the conference date has been confirmed with UMB. Kristin will proceed likewise with exhibitors and sponsors.

Diego indicated there is an interest for the academic division to hold students' presentations as they have been working hard on them. He asked if it would be a good idea to invite some speakers to participate in this online format. He added that the presentations would last about 3 hours and the event would be take place on a workday as some tech support from UMB should be available. He suggested it would be a good idea to do this under the aegis of NETA or with NETA's support for people who might want to participate and for those students presenting their materials. Diego also said the event would be free. Diana asked whether this should be on NETA's website if Diego had a list of the presentations. Diego did and is to contact students to get a final headcount of those interested in this format, work on a draft schedule and submit it to the board for approval. The plan is to stream this mini conference through Zoom Premium, which could accommodate up to 1,000 participants. The tentative timeline is scheduled for May 8th from 10:00 to 1:00.

NETA News

NETA needs an editor/proofreader for the newsletter. Antje suggested the Board email members to inform them of the opening and invite interested members to consider filling that role. Alternatively, Sarah could also put it in the newsletter.

Publicity Initiatives

The Board is still in favor of sponsoring MassAHEC again. With the COVID-19 disruption, the idea was floated that they probably have the capacity to go fully online. In that case, they might need a different level of support (NETA used to be a bronze sponsor, contributing \$300.00) and the Board agreed to support them either way.

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Board minutes, March 28, 2020

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ATA exam sitting

The sitting has been cancelled for May. NETA is not involved, ATA does it all on their own.

Miscellaneous

Request from Found in Translation

Karen Walker's (Career Advancement Manager at Found in Translation) requested for NETA volunteers at one of their Alumnae Association meetings. It was decided that this item be left in the Board notes for now.

FIT (Fédération internationale des traducteurs/ International Federation of Translators) membership

Diana looked into membership requirements for NETA and determined that NETA was not eligible as some of its members are students. However, it was pointed out that the ATA, the OTTIAQ (Quebec) and some other Canadian translators' organizations are FIT members even though they have students who are members of their organizations. Diana is to reach out to FIT to find out why NETA would not be able to join.

Zingword

Following NETA's inclusion in Zingword's comprehensive list of translators' and interpreters' associations, Diana signed up and received a message informing her that the platform was not ready yet. For now, the Board is waiting for the platform to be operational before informing NETA members.

Adjournment and Next Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00. The Board decided to convene via Skype again on April 11 to discuss the feasibility of the May 8th miniconference, issues and procedures related to NETA's 2021 conference, and NETA's Facebook page operation.

NETA board meeting minutes, April 11, 2020

Virtual meeting on Skype due to COVID-19 lockdown orders in Massachusetts

Submitted by Rokhaya Smith, Secretary

A quorum was established as only one board members was absent.

Board Members Present: Lesley Andrews, Maiyim Baron, Diego Mansilla, Diana Rhudick, Antje Ruppert, Erika Schulz, Rokhaya Smith

Absent: Laura Rojo MacLeod, Crystal Zhong, Treasurer

Others present: Marian Comenetz, Program Committee

AGENDA

Online May 9 mini-conference

Diego gave the Board a detailed update on the mini-conference preparations. He indicated that various factors needed to be taken into account: the technology component for going live online, the number of participants, and some participants and teachers not being ready or used to the online format. He emailed Board members a list of 5 potential academic division panels, half of which were confirmed and was still waiting to hear from the other half. He expected to know by Monday April 13th and thought there would be about 4 panels. He suggested that presentations could be shortened from 50 minutes.

The initial mini-conference day was switched from May 8th to May 9th.

Lesley has been in contact with Corinne McKay but has not reached out to Helen Eby yet.

Diego is going forward either way. He suggested to invite Corinne and Helen as they have shown interest in coaching new translators and interpreters.

Zoom or BlackBoard Collaborate would be used for the online format, with both setting a limit of 200 participants. Maiyim asked if the mini-conference should be open to NETA members. It was decided it would be a good idea and Diego suggested to ask UMB if they could support an additional number of attendees if more than 200 wanted to join. Lesley would run Zoom presentations, which would be run consecutively rather than simultaneously. Attendees could then join those they were interested in and sign in and out as they wish.

It was decided that a brief announcement would be posted on NETA's website once the Board received a definite program.

No CEUs will be issued for this mini-conference, which will be largely geared to translators rather than interpreters. It is possible to record presentations and make them available for future viewings.

While the mini-conference is free to attendees, it is possible that fees have to be paid to potential speakers.

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Board minutes, April 11, 2020

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NETA 2021 conference date and theme

Diego informed the Board that the 2021 conference would be on May 1, 2021 after conferring with UMB officials.

While the Board is still looking into possible themes, its members were not sure the green theme would work.

Lesley paid Kristin the remaining fee of \$375.00, issued refunds to attendees who had already registered for this year's conference, and cancelled the food order without incurring any fees.

The Board agreed that a special attendance rate for seniors and students be maintained in 2021. UMB professors will be informed adequately.

Student registration

Student registration is still confusing. The consensus is that UMB students including panel members do not pay. Teachers send Lesley a list of students and she registers them. Everybody is registered with a personal email with teachers entering each student's email. All non-UMB students need to register.

Volunteers

Kristin suggested paying some people instead of using volunteers. The Board did not know how much that would cost. Antje indicated that NETA has managed its previous conferences very well with volunteers. Lesley is to ask Kristin about providing an estimate of the number of people and hours, and a tentative cost for this. The Board decided not to consider this issue until Kristin provides staffing costs and a breakdown of how this operation would be run.

Service award

The Board decided to present the 2020 service award at next year's conference as it is a public recognition of the recipient's accomplishments.

Social media administrators and editors

Terry's membership has lapsed yet he is still both NETA's Facebook administrator and LinkedIn moderator. Other former members also have social media roles, as do some current members who appear to be inactive in social media roles. General sentiment among board members was that our social media roles need to be updated.

Lesley, who is willing to be our Facebook admin, will contact Terry about his stepping down. Then three other admins and two editors need to be contacted as to whether they wish to remain in those roles. Terry should make Diana our Linked In owner.

Erika has reached out to Elias and is still awaiting a response.

All emails sent to Netaweb.org run through Petra, Elena, and Dan Kelly (not sure if he still is a member).

Rochelle, Diana, and Joseph Brockway are moderators of the YouTube page. The Board decided that administrators and editors

who are not involved in NETA's activities should not serve as NETA's moderators and administrators anymore. Antje suggested that the Board make its members moderators, so we do not worry about lapsed or inactive members anymore.

Newsletter

Diana is to email members to submit articles for the newsletter.

Adjournment and Next Meeting

The meeting was adjourned shortly at 11:10.

The next meeting is scheduled on June 27th at the Waltham Public Library provided that social distancing and confinement measures are lifted. Stephanie Newton is invited to attend.

Resources for NETA members

Our website, Netaweb.org, has many resources for members, including:

- A list of recommended [language blogs](#),
- Contact information for specialized translator and interpreter [professional organizations](#),
- Answers to [frequently asked questions](#) about getting started in the field,
- A [model contract](#) and, just as important, tips of what to avoid signing.

Find more resources by clicking on the three lines in the website menu to the right of "Members Directory".