



As always, the NETA conference will offer a wide variety of sessions for interpreters and translators at all levels of experience. In addition, there will be many opportunities for networking with colleagues and organizations looking to hire language professionals.

Speakers for 2020 will include Anna Zielinska-Elliott on translating Haruki Murakami and other Japanese authors' work into Polish, and on building and working with a community of European translators of Murakami's work. Esther Serra Luque will give a workshop on interpreting for people who have experienced trauma, and Mali Sastri will do a voice workshop for interpreters, offering techniques on caring for your voice.

Registration includes lunch & closing reception, a full day of presentations by seasoned interpreters and translators, and an academic track led by university students and professors.

Since 2016, our conference has been held in cooperation with UMass Boston's Department of Latin American and Iberian Studies Department and the College of Advancing and Professional Studies Translation Program. We are fortunate to share this spacious and attractive venue. Go to the [NETA website](http://NETAwebsite) for more details on the conference and to register.

2020 NETA Conference Proposals must be received by Feb 28!

The New England Translators Association 2020 Conference Committee invites you to consider participating in our conference on Saturday, May 9 as a presenter.

We offer a balanced selection of sessions for both interpreters and translators, in both practical and academic fields. The day-long conference will include presentations which focus on specific areas of expertise and concern or offer hands-on experience with practical tools and techniques linguists use. Sessions are 50 minutes long to allow for questions after the presentation. Some sessions are presented by panels with 3-5 participants who share expertise on their subject.

The conference committee will consider your proposal and how it fits with the subjects to be presented. We are looking for a bio and abstract about your proposal to be included in our program and posted on NETA's web site, and we ask that you submit these using the [2020 NETA Conference Proposal Form](#) **no later than Friday, February 28.**

The conference will take place at the Campus Center of the University of Massachusetts at Boston. We will also have exhibitors attending which include many area educational and language services organizations. Presenters are offered an honorarium of \$200 to \$500 which varies according to the type of presentation. We may also be able to assist with travel expenses if needed.

This will be our 24th annual conference, and the fourth to be organized in cooperation with UMass Boston. You will have the opportunity to interact with the most active and committed translation and interpretation professionals in New England, allowing you to expand your business contacts and professional relationships.

Whether you present in the morning or afternoon sessions, we will invite you to participate for the entire day to enjoy collegiate

relationships with all attendees, including breakfast, coffee breaks, lunch, and a reception following the wrap-up of the conference.

Early bird registration is open!

Register by March 20 to get the discount. Go to NETAweb.org and remember to log in first to get the member early bird rate.



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Marian Comenetz

Save the date!

NETA's Annual Conference will be May 9, 2020.

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NETA News

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NETA News is a quarterly publication of the New England Translators Association. The opinions expressed herein are those of the authors and not necessarily those of NETA. We reserve the right to refuse submissions.

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Terry Gallagher

Layout

Sarah Heller

Submissions

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A Festive Holiday Party!

by Marian Comenetz

Was it the fifth or the sixth year in a row that NETA's annual holiday party unfolded at the lovely condo of Lesley Andrews's mother? Either way, Lesley and her Mom again afforded us superb hospitality in a festive setting. Not only did they provide us with a perfect venue and organize things for perfect flow, they themselves prepared two special hors-d'oeuvres, piece by piece, and they arranged for extra Yankee swap items in case we didn't have quite enough. Above all, it is their warmth that sets the stage for what invariably turns out to be an excellent event.

NETAns and family members arrived bearing a variety of food and Yankee swap offerings, and a contribution for our annual contribution to a local food bank. Conversation flowed easily. Spirits were high. And attention was rapt as we gathered round to see what emerged from the swap packages. As always, the variety was considerable. Among other things, we found a fine gift candle, cookies and tea, an Eiffel tower ornament, a snazzy water bottle, a Veggetti device, two back scratchers, an artistic necklace, an umbrella, Taza chocolate, and even castanets! More than in the past, each recipient was reluctant to part with their discovery, so less swapping than usual.

NETA extends thanks to Lesley and her mom for hosting the best of holiday gatherings. If you missed it this year, do consider coming in the future. For now, happy holidays and a healthy, T & I-filled 2020!



Pokémon localization: *onigiri* or jelly-filled doughnuts?

By Elias David Jacob

Language localization can be defined as the process of adapting content to suit the taste of a specific target market. This may include, for example, the task of finding specific ‘local’ versions of jokes, dishes or changing units of measure.

A question that many translators working with subtitling and localization face is: when to localize and when to maintain the original term? Is *onigiri*, Japanese rice balls, familiar enough to Americans to maintain its name or should it be changed to something like a jelly-filled doughnut?

[Pokémon](#) is one of the most successful Japanese franchises, which includes more than a hundred games for different platforms, card games, movies and over a thousand episodes of an animated series. It is to be expected that there would be a couple of translation errors in the series considering how many episodes had to be translated.

Somewhere along the way of dubbing Pokémon into English, the translation team decided that a jelly-filled doughnut would be a better fit than *onigiri* for the US viewers. The problem was that the actual episode wasn’t edited to include a jelly-filled doughnut and when Brock, one of the protagonists, mentions the doughnuts all we see is *onigiri*. Even though this episode (*Episode 25: Primeape Goes Bananas*) was released in 1997, it has become a meme we can still appreciate as an example of a poor localization choice. [Click here](#) for a comparison of the English and Japanese versions.

Clyde Mandelin, of the [Legends of localization blog](#), explains that “There are two main approaches when it comes to cross-culture translation: take the source to the reader (make it so the reader can appreciate the translation as if it had been written in the target language to begin with, aka localization), or take the reader to the source (keep everything as-is and just assume the reader understands the source culture/language, or provide lots of translation notes on the side somewhere).”

As the Pokémon series’ main audience is young children, it could be expected that they don’t know much about Japanese cuisine. It’s possible that the mistake on the westernization of the *onigiri* was in the post-editing of the episode. There’s also a chance that the translators suggested keeping *onigiri* but the client ([4kids entertainment](#)) didn’t think it was a good idea.

The Pokémon franchise also includes several soundtrack albums, and they are not free of

errors either. The first English localization of a Pokémon soundtrack was in 1998. The album was titled “Pokémon 2 B A Master”. The Pokémon theme song on the album had the tagline: “Gotta catch ‘em all.” In their Latin American Spanish version, they decided to translate “capture of all Pokémon” to “el secuestro de los Pokémon” (the kidnapping of Pokémon) which darkens the tone and adds a different layer to this animated series aimed at children. [Click here](#) for the Spanish version of the song.

Even if these localization errors might not even be noticed by

most people, their impact might be bigger than what we’d expect. There’s a big difference for a kid to learn a song about capturing Pokémon like 90s kids did in English-speaking countries and singing about kidnapping Pokémon as kids did in the Spanish-speaking countries of America. In newer seasons, the localization of cultural things like *onigiri* was handled better. For instance, in episode 118 we can see that in the English version they changed the rice ball to a sandwich. However, later in that episode, they changed the rice ball to a Graham cracker.



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Pokémon localization

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Other differences

In the series, there are Pokémon League championships that are named “conferences” because of a translation mistake. The Japanese (ポケモンリーグの大会) means “Pokémon League Tournament,” but the last word (大会), depending on the context, can also mean “conference”. In the show, participants battle each other during the events, so “conference” isn’t a good equivalent, but the dubbers kept that mistake throughout the following seasons.

One of the protagonists of the series, Brock, had the same name but a different pronunciation in one Spanish version. His original pronunciation /brøk/ was maintained in the version for Spain, but in the Latin American Spanish version, the dubbers decided to pronounce the name as /brøk/. Perhaps the name Brock would be very hard to find in Latin America, while the name Brooke would at least ring a bell to the audience in Spain because of the influence of TV shows and movies from English-speaking countries.

In the ninth season of the Italian version of the game, Pokémon Emerald, the anime

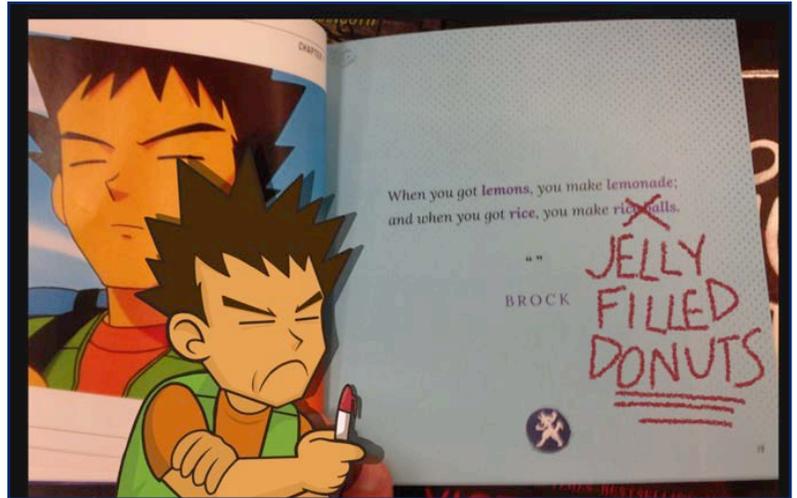


The character Brandon (or Baldo)

character Brandon was named Baldo. However, during season 12, his name changed to Mariano. Similarly, character Riley was changed to Marisio in the Diamond, Pearl and Platinum games but his name in the anime’s season 12, it is Fabiolo. These inconsistencies might have

happened due to a change in the translation team or company that worked on the games and series.

Memes originating from Brock’s jelly doughnut scene:



Commentary on the documentary ‘Dreaming Murakami’

By Laura Rojo MacLeod

The film starts with the translator, Mette Holm, saying ‘There’s no perfect sentence as there’s no perfect despair’. She is not sure about whether to use the word ‘sentence’, ‘text’ or something else. She consults with a colleague who suggests using ‘text’ because there may not be a perfect sentence but the text can achieve a certain degree of perfection. Agreed.

Indeed this is the translation I was thinking of as well. Sentence is a stricter unit than text and hence it is limiting. There’s no doubt the translator of fiction should opt for a term with wider semantic and syntactic meaning. Narrative fiction calls for many possibilities!

**“If the dream is a
translation of waking
life, waking life is also a
translation of the dream.”**

R. Magritte

In Murakami’s fiction, these possibilities, the subtle duality of the ‘real’ and fantasy world, are present throughout his work and in the superb translations of Mette Holm. She is an accomplished professional who has translated many novels by the Japanese contemporary novelist.

I must mention that my personal span of preference favors non-fiction works so I must add as the great JL Borges said: ‘please forgive my ignorance’ for I regret I have never read this Japanese novelist. Now the Argentine author wrote fiction but was mainly an essayist and poet. Still, it is interesting to notice many similarities in both Borges and Murakami.

The film, though a basic visual portrayal, appeals to a variety of interpretations. But time is a tyrant, so for the sake of brevity, I can mention only the two most important ones from my point of view.

First, *la force de base*, the essential mission and work of the translator, is highlighted in the documentary. It is presented as the relentless search, a long journey, for the best translated word and phrase. No argument about that, but it is displayed by means of a grotesque otherworldly creature—a tall frog. This creature follows the translator everywhere, mentally asking her for help in stopping ‘the worm’ who lives underneath. Here we draw the evident parallelism or analogy: The frog is the author or the text in need of translation. It is also the translator in her unconscious mind looking for answers. The hidden worm implies the unknown word, the hidden term lurking underneath. It may also be considered as another unconscious element: an echo? Another dream?

Secondly, the film depicts a voyage, a mysterious dreamlike adventure where we can understand the unity, the community of thought and heart of the Japanese culture. This adventure could have benefited from beautiful landscapes views or inviting locations

but the opposite is the norm, and it becomes tedious at times. Few visual natural beauties can be rescued. One bright spot is the rock music, in vinyl discs, played at a dimly lit bar where a cultural conversation takes place. The old bartender sings and dances to the rhythm, adding a fun touch. Also, the conversation with the sushi store owner adds some humor as she reflects on business in the past, the present and the future in an entertaining way.

In the end, there is a temporary win over the ‘worm’ but the ‘frog’ is badly hurt. Audiences see that everything is blurred, confusing. Is death approaching? Is the text at another level? Desperation? Still looking for the exact term? The possibilities are ad infinitum...

And then an incantation happens...It evokes a special élan flair in the audience. It is the effect of the translated text, now spiritually and visually accessible through the skilled worker of the word: the translator.

Found on the internet



Subtitle

[A podcast](#) about languages and the people who speak them.

Language defines us. It unites and divides us. It mystifies us and makes us laugh. We care deeply about it, whether it’s apostrophe abuse, speech discrimination, or the sweetness of a mother tongue. Language evolves voraciously and uncontrollably. Sometimes parts of it fade away toward extinction.

Subtitle tells the stories of people with linguistic passions: comedians, writers, and researchers; speakers of endangered languages; speakers of multiple languages; and just speakers. People like you and me.

Subtitle is produced by Quiet Juice and the [Linguistic Society of America](#) with major funding from the [National Endowment for the Humanities](#).

Challenges in the translation of a full-length book on violence against women

NETA Monthly Meeting, January 2020

Reviewed by Montserrat Zuckerman

January gave us a wintry day for NETA's first monthly meeting of the year. The meeting featured professor and author, Dr. Lisa Aronson Fontes, and our esteemed colleague, longtime translator Mr. Rudolf Heller Ovalle, otherwise known as Rudy. I have already mentioned wintry which probably and unfortunately kept many from attending a very interesting session. Nonetheless, 9 people were present plus 5 remote attendees.

Lisa teaches at UMass Amherst and holds a doctorate in counseling psychology. She is the author of several books that address child and domestic abuse across cultures. In addition, Lisa is fluent in Spanish and Portuguese and has had long standing ties with organizations and groups in Latin America that address these issues. Rudy is from Colombia and has resided in the US for many years. He is an ATA certified translator and a federally certified court interpreter. In his work as a court interpreter, he has come across both victims and perpetrators of domestic violence, so he was acquainted with these issues. As you may have guessed, Rudy translated Lisa's book.

At the monthly meeting Lisa and Rudy addressed the challenges they encountered in the translation of Lisa's 202-page book, *Invisible Chains: Overcoming Coercive Control in Your Intimate Relationship*. Chapters 1 – 4 in Parts I and II of the book address the meaning of the term coercive control and its causes. Specific populations are addressed in Part III, where Chapter 5 is dedicated to coercive control in LGBTQ relationships and in those where the man is the victim of a female partner and Chapter 6 addresses coercive relationships in adolescence. Part IV is a DIY manual on putting an end to a coercive relationship, from a self-guided assessment to where to turn for help and recovery.

The book was published by The Guilford Press in 2015 and translated into Korean, Japanese, Cantonese and Mandarin. The translated Spanish version, titled *Cadenas invisibles: El control coercitivo en las relaciones de pareja* was self-published, and Lisa explained that she bought the rights for the translation into Spanish when the publisher was not forthcoming with one. It fell on her to look for a translator and she found Rudy through a mutual friend and colleague. Until the NETA presentation, Lisa had not been aware of Rudy's initial reservations about working with an author fluent in Spanish for fear that she might interfere with his translation of the text. Though Lisa had input in the translation throughout, according to Rudy, this fortunately

never became an issue for their collaboration. The Spanish text also benefitted from Mariana de la Vega's input. Mariana is a linguist who lives in Mexico and is listed as a translator along with Rudy. Lisa and Rudy agreed that the translation evolved into a team effort, with the additional contributions of a social worker from Colombia.

It was determined from the start that Spanish readers in Latin America as well as in the US would be the target audience. Just as *Invisible Chains* is meant for the lay reader, the translation should likewise be easily accessible to the broadest audience possible. Decisions had to be made as to whether to address the reader in the formal *usted* versus the informal

tú; *usted* won out, a decision that the attendees overwhelmingly supported.

Decisions around terminology involved the use of terms that have different meanings (e.g., stalking, spouse, partner, car, micromanaging, withholding, silent treatment) or for which there are slightly different spellings (*coercivo* vs. *coercitivo*, e.g.) depending on the country. While grammatical gender could have been an issue because of key terms used throughout the book, such as *la víctima*, a feminine word which applies to all victims regardless of gender, in this case it wasn't, as the author establishes in the first few paragraphs of *Invisible Chains* that the victims of coercive partners are predominantly female.

Until the NETA presentation, Lisa had not been aware of Rudy's initial reservations about working with an author fluent in Spanish for fear that she might interfere with his translation of the text.

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 "View profile."



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).

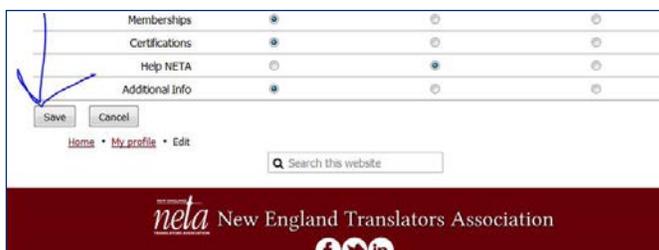


You can also click or unclick "Show profile to others" near the top.

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.



Challenges in the translation of a full-length book

Continued from page 7

Finally, decisions had to be made as to the title and who would be listed on the cover next to the author. While the title of the English version had been imposed by the publishing house over Lisa's objections, it had grown on her and a direct translation made sense, thus *Invisible Chains* became *Cadenas invisibles*. Since the chain depicted on the cover of the English version is not commonly used in Latin America, a different kind of chain was selected for the cover of the Spanish version. Regarding the translators' names, it was felt that it would be best not to crowd the cover and their names appear in large font on the first page just under the author's name. The team decided to use Rudy's nickname instead of Rudolf as it could be interpreted to be a woman's name, and to add his mother's surname, Ovalle, to give his name the needed Spanish touch that might be lost by listing Heller only.

In conclusion, this NETA monthly meeting did not disappoint as the presenters did a fine job showing what is involved not only in translation but also in the presentation of the final translated product so that it will appeal to the audience for which it is intended. Several attendees, myself among them, bought one or both titles, and I have brought both books to the attention of the victim witness advocates with whom I come across in my work as a court interpreter. Thank you to Marian Comenetz, who organizes NETA's monthly meetings, which are free, open to the public and to Lesley Andrews, who provides us with remote access to the presentations.

Editor's Note: See the article on page 9 of this newsletter which describes the remote access experience that Lesley provides.

My adventure zooming to a monthly meeting

By Sarah Heller

I attended my first meeting remotely when I logged into NETA's January Monthly Meeting. It was a very liberating feeling, that was also tinged with regret: Liberated that I could be transported to another place so effortlessly and regretful to think of all those NETA Monthly Meetings that I had missed unnecessarily. Skip the 3-hour R/T drive; I can jump onto my computer and be there in about 90 seconds. Of course, it is not the same as being there in person and getting to chat with the speaker and other people before and after the meeting. But if it is a choice of not going or attending by Zoom, it is, as they say, "a no-brainer".

You do need to be a little organized so you remember to sign up at least few days ahead with NETA's tech guru, Lesley Andrews, who makes the remote magic happen. Lesley always posts a registration link and the sign-up deadline in the meeting announcements that go out to all members via e-mail. After registering, you will receive a confirmation e-mail containing instructions for joining the meeting. You don't have to create an account but you will need to download the Zoom app to your computer or connect via web app.

Lesley explained to me that NETA has been offering remote participation in monthly meetings for about five years. She has tried several different programs: Cisco, Webex, AnyMeeting, and Zoom. Zoom is the winner until something better comes along. Up to now, the meetings have averaged about 10-12 remote participants, but one meeting had over 30 people registered. The meetings are run as a webinar, so that remote participants can see and hear the presentation, as well as ask questions through Lesley via the Zoom chat function. Lesley assures me that it's not difficult to set up and run a Zoom meeting when everyone is online. The NETA meetings are more complicated because some people attend in person and others are online. This makes

it challenging to capture the best quality audio for the remote participants so they can hear the presenters as well as questions and comments from people in attendance.

My experience at the January meeting was excellent. Kudos to Lesley because the sound was fine. I could hear both of the presenters as well as the audience. Audience members were not visible, but there were clear views of the presenters and the slides being projected. When I logged on, remote participants all had their sound muted which was good because we were not distracted with any coughing, paper rustling, etc. coming from us. We could concentrate undisturbed on the presentation. However, we did need to be careful not to inadvertently unmute our sound. That did happen briefly and it took a minute to realize where those extraneous sounds were coming from. Fortunately, it didn't last long and we all were back in harmony. In order to ask a question or comment, the remote participant sends a chat message

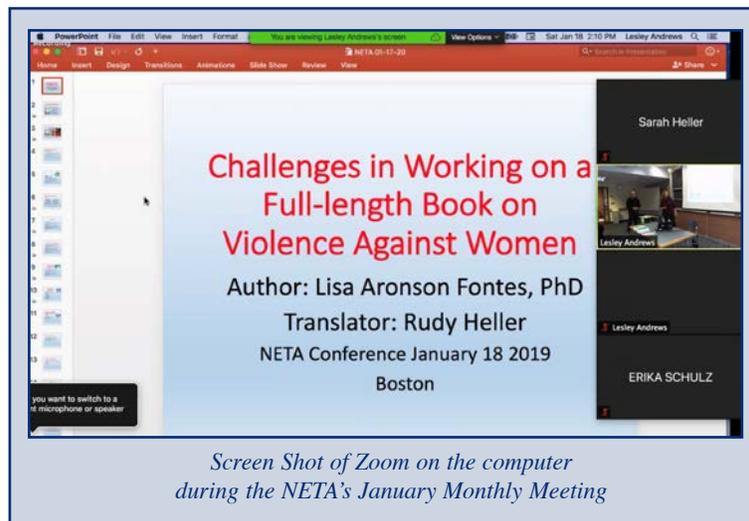
to the moderator (Lesley) and she conveys the question to the presenters at an appropriate time. Thus, we were able to participate quite fully in the meeting even though we were many miles away. Being in my 70's, I still marvel at the wonders of technology!

In addition to being able to attend remotely, NETA also offers the option of watching a presentation on demand. Not all presentations are

recorded and available for viewing. However, as of February 2020, there is a collection of about a dozen videos archived. Anyone interested in viewing a presentation can contact [Lesley](#) to receive a link and password.

[PC Magazine](#) has a thorough review of Zoom that explains the steps to participate in a Zoom meeting as well as how to get started as the originator of a Zoom event.

This method of attending meetings is highly recommended. In an age of climate crisis, it will surely become more and more the norm for attending all kinds of events. As a matter of fact, I am attending my second Zoom meeting in a few days. I got an invitation to a meeting in Worcester (about 30 minutes drive) or via Zoom. I jumped at the chance to Zoom. There was a brief hesitation when I saw that they were offering refreshments, but then I figured I could always raid my own pantry and even eat during the meeting without fear of annoying my neighbors. A win-win!



Screen Shot of Zoom on the computer during the NETA's January Monthly Meeting

NETA Board Meeting minutes, January 25, 2020

By Secretary Rokhaya Smith

A quorum was established as 2/3 of Board members were attending.

Board members attending: Lesley Andrews, Maiyim Baron, Laura Rojo MacLeod, Diego Mansilla, Erika Schulz, Rokhaya Smith.

Board members absent: Diana Rhudick, Antje Ruppert

Also attending: Elias Jacob, new member

Also absent: Crystal Zhong, Treasurer

AGENDA

Ideas from Elias Jacob, new NETA member

Elias requested to attend the meeting to share ideas to help NETA as a volunteer.

- Elias felt NETA could benefit from a more prominent presence on social media and offered to build an attractive profile for NETA on Twitter and Facebook. During the discussion, it was mentioned that NETA's Facebook page was confusing and does not allow users to post items directly on its page. Maiyim will contact Terry Gallagher and Petra Schweitzer (Administrators), and Elena Langdon-Fortier (Editor) to determine whether they still play these roles, introduce Elias and have them make him and Lesley Editors. This will allow Elias to revamp or make NETA's Facebook page more attractive, and Lesley to help out with tech issues.
- Elias also suggested that NETA offer a mentoring program to its new members. He is to come up with a summary and/or a template for this and send it to the Board for a vote.
- Other ideas included media outreach and reaching out to colleges with foreign language programs to offer talks on translation and interpreting. He will draft a list of colleges that might be a good fit for this project.
- Another suggestion focused on research projects that members would work on, which would be published in a translation journal. The Board decided that this required a lot of time and effort, was a complicated issue and that writing blogs and articles for the website would be easier and more manageable.

Elias is to develop his ideas and ways to implement them and send this to the Board for approval and a vote. It was suggested that he submit a proposal on Facebook matters and the mentoring program by the next board meeting on March 28, so we can share the details at NETA's annual conference in May.

ATA conference in Boston: October 21-24, 2020 (ATA61)

It was shared that Bruce and Rudy (and others) have been promoting ATA61. They did so at ATA60 in Palm Springs last October. The idea for a blog by NETA for the conference was floated. The Board agreed that it should contact Bruce and Rudy to check on the status of NETA's contribution to ATA61 and liaise with

them often to evaluate the progress made into the ATA61 conference preparations. Erika is to contact Bruce and Rudy and ask them about volunteers, perks for the latter and ensure that all materials (table cover, brochures, NETA membership forms, bookmarks) will be available and ready for NETA's table.

Treasurer's report

The Board did not receive a treasurer's report from Crystal who could not attend. As to who is to receive W9s or 1099 MISC for 2019, only Crystal can answer this question. It seems that all financial matters are currently in order. After reopening a new bank account with Bank of America, Crystal and Lesley are now signatories. Lesley has the bank card, the account number and the login information and is all set for online banking.

2020 NETA Annual Conference

- Lesley updated the Board on Kristin (Conference Manager) and her targeted items. Registration is now open, and things are moving along smoothly. Early bird registration runs January 20th through March 31st. Lesley informed the Board that the speaker committee is saving NETA \$ 2,500.00 by reaching out and communicating with potential speakers.
- Elena has been sharing information related to previous conferences she chaired.
- With regard to the call for papers, it was agreed that it should be sent out in September 2020 for NETA's annual conference in 2021 to allow ample time to find suitable speakers.
- There are speakers for most presentation slots. The speaker committee is working on getting abstracts and bios along with the conference schedule on NETA's website as soon they are finalized. As of now, it is very likely that Jost Zetsche will be the keynote speaker. The speaker committee is working on securing an endnote speaker and another speaker for a session geared toward translators and Diego is managing the academic side of the conference.

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NETA Board Meeting minutes, January 25, 2020

Continued from page 10

- Lesley is to schedule regular phone meetings with Kristin to work on the conference timeline.
- Kristin is to contact potential sponsors and exhibitors for the event and seek to increase their numbers. Rokhaya is to send Lesley a list of potential sponsors and exhibitors.
- Laura expressed her wish to see NETA adopt environment-friendly practices and considers extending this to the quality of members' translation and interpretation craft. She would like to email conference attendees to bring personal mugs for the conference if they want to participate in this effort. Another idea that was broached was for her to reach out to UMB food services and find out how they can make the catering event greener.
- UMB professors do not need to register their students but will need to send NETA the list of students attending.
- ATA sitting will be offered again the day following the NETA conference this year. Efforts to offer one in March were not fruitful. The Board feels there should be another sitting the day after ATA61.
- Lesley is to contact Ines Fusco (who has been coordinating conference volunteers over the past few years) and connect her with Kristin.
- It was suggested to come up with a theme for next year's conference at NETA's board meeting in March and to revisit it in its June meeting.
- The Board voted unanimously to give Loreto Ansaldo NETA's service award for her work on conference speakers. It was suggested to invite Ilse to attend the conference since the award bears her name, and Rokhaya is to contact her to invite her to the conference.

Mini conference committee

Members Patricia Acosta, Loreto Ansaldo, Laura Rojo MacLeod, Elizabeth Morais, Stephanie Newton, Susana Torres, Erika Schulz and Anne Vincent have agreed to identify and reach out to potential speakers and then communicate with them over time.

General attendance certificates

Certificates will be put in folders. People requested CEUs be sent to them electronically and were sent PDFs. Putting up signs at the conference could be an option.

Election and Roles 2020-2021

The Board discussed the nomination of new candidates to eventually replace Antje, Diego and Maiyim who are up for reelection.

Diego and Maiyim said they will continue to serve if there are no new candidates. The Board will try and come up with new candidates. Elizabeth Morais was mentioned, but it seems she has a busy teaching schedule.

Membership report

The membership report was not discussed as the Board did not have it when the meeting started. It turns out Antje, who is the Membership Coordinator, had sent earlier before the meeting, unbeknownst to Board members.

2019-2020 Monthly Meetings

Laura is to contact Marian Comenetz to find out if she (Laura) can do the April meeting.

With regard to Zoom recordings, it was asked if participants can be emailed ahead of meeting to invite them to turn off their mics as the sound quality was sketchy during previous meetings.

Website

Payment system will be switched out of PayPal to Wild Apricot's on September 18th. NETA needs to notify WA.

Request from Karen Walker,

(Career Advancement Manager at Found in Translation)

She wanted to know if NETA members could be their guests at some of their Alumnae Association meetings to educate participants on NETA's work and benefits of membership with NETA or other similar associations. It was suggested to share the request on our io group list along with her contact information so interested members can contact her directly.

Suggestion that NETA join FIT (Fédération internationale des traducteurs/International Federation of Translators)

After finding out that fees were 3.10 Swiss francs *per capita*, the Board voted unanimously to join. Lesley and Diana are to look into membership details.

Next Board Meeting

Next regular board meeting date: March 28th, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. at the Waltham Public Library.

Minutes submitted by Secretary,
Rokhaya Smith