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Go to [page 9](#) for details.

25th ANNUAL  
New England Translators Association  
CONFERENCE  
SAVE THE DATE  
MAY 1, 2021  
VIRTUAL EVENT

NEW ENGLAND  
*neta*  
TRANSLATORS ASSOCIATION

## Attend NETA's annual conference on May 1

The NETA conference offers a broad range of presentations for translators, interpreters and language students. In addition to the previously announced sessions, we are pleased to include a panel discussion on the recent controversy over the translation of Amanda Gorman's poems. The full conference agenda appears beginning on [page 13](#) of this issue.

## Meet the Candidates in NETA's 2021 Election

There are five members running for four seats on the NETA Board of Directors this year. Candidate statements are on page 17 as well as in the Members Only section of the NETA website.

- MEMBERS DIRECTORY
- T & I RESOURCES
- MEMBERS ONLY
- 2021 CANDIDATE BIOS AND STATEMENTS

There will also be a candidate "Meet and Greet" session during the May 1 conference. Members can vote by April 30 on the website or at the conference the following day. Results will be announced at closing session of the conference.

As specified in NETA's Bylaws, the Board of Directors determines policies and manages the affairs of the organization. The Board also appoints officers (President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer) and people to fill other roles. The board

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## NETA is FIT!

*This is a special article by Alison Rodrigues, FIT VicePresident, as per my invitation to highlight our association's first year in the FIT family. She talked about vision, members, a sustainable model, the UN goals and more. I sincerely appreciate her time and contribution on great topics we shared for our membership. Thanks so much Alison!*  
- Laura Rojo MacLeod, Editor.

### FIT's vision for the future

Our vision is for a united, sustainable, recognised profession to fulfil the expanding global need for translation. FIT's role is, and will continue to be, to amplify the voice of translators, terminologists and interpreters on the international stage.

FIT is its people, their skills, experience and commitment. They embody the change we want to see in the future, although it's still hard to say what a post-COVID future will look like. The pandemic has highlighted the desperate need we as humans have for community, and FIT members' strong commitment to support each other throughout changing work paradigms has been evident.

I see that practitioners continue to adapt both technically and psychologically. As do associations. They are looking at their own models of membership and community engagement to cater for young, emerging professionals and established practitioners. After all, the current models have been around for some time and pathways and communication are evolving, becoming more diffused and interactive. I'd think our industry needs to move towards a sustainable professional model.

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### NETA News

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#### Submissions

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#### Delivery

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To subscribe to a forum, you must be a current member.

Look for the NETA Group on LinkedIn at:

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**Membership information** NETA accepts individual members only. A one-year membership is \$50 (\$25 until 6/30/21). NETA offers a \$30 (\$15 until 6/30/21) membership for students of translation and/or interpreting and individuals aged 65 or older. If you need a membership application or have other membership questions, contact: [membership@netaweb.org](mailto:membership@netaweb.org). Subscription to this newsletter is included with your membership.

## NETA is FIT!

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### Sustainable Development Goals and a sustainable profession

Sustainability is primarily about regaining balance. In our mind, a sustainable profession understands issues of best practice and professionalism. A sustainable profession creates growth and development pathways for new generations and responds adeptly to a changing future, addressing the influence of technology and the future of work.

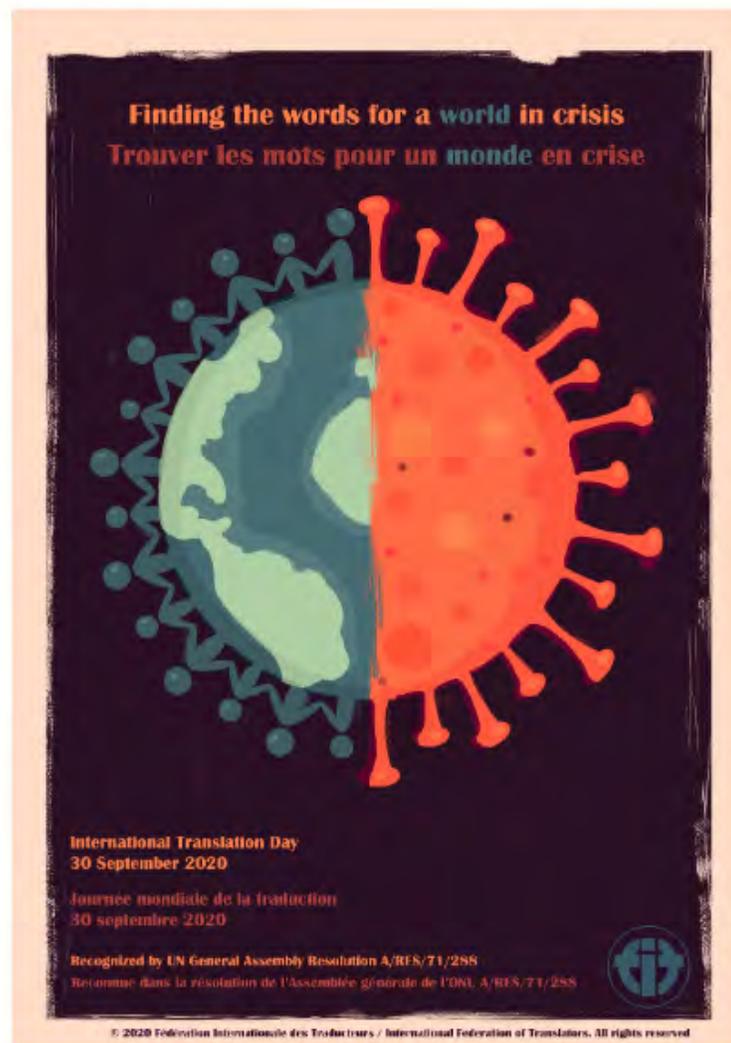
The UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) will eventually touch everyone's lives. Something as complex as reducing microplastics in the marine ecosystem begins with an action as simple as awareness of the amount of plastics you use or bring into your home. If we work together as one, every action, no matter how small, takes on relevance.

Translation and interpreting play a factor in implementing all areas of the Goals. For example, through helping others to access information, legal services, Education, and Health services. Climate challenges will inevitably cause higher levels of migration, health impacts and security issues.

Yet, it involves more than what we do for others, there is also the flip side: what we do for ourselves. We need to make sure we have appropriate conditions, fair pay and recognition; but also purpose, development, and satisfaction; i.e. sustainable practices and sustainable systems.

Michael Cronin of Dublin City University (DCU) began talking about Eco-Translation and what a sustainable profession might look like years ago. Similarly, a recent paper by Associate Professor Joss Moorkens, also of DCU, looking at Digital Taylorism in the Translation Industry, unpacked it very nicely. He refers to 'a small cog in a large machine' to represent the way that automation and technology can erode individual motivation and satisfaction as freelance work moves onto remote platforms, potentially reducing the elements that give work satisfaction, such as a feeling of contribution, connection with colleagues, learning, autonomy and purpose. If it continues at the same rate, without deliberate and reflective interaction, it won't be sustainable.

Sustainable systems are balanced, looking after the supply side - the human capital, social and natural resources- as well as the production side. It's also a question of perspective. We need 'machine in the loop' with people in the lead. Machines can't create value, only profit. People create value. A sustainable work system does not prioritise one over the other. I hope this will ultimately contribute to our higher goal of an inclusive, resilient, diverse, thriving and sustainable industry.



*Liza Gunenko won the FIT 2020 Poster Competition. Liza is a translator and interpreter as well as a graphic designer. Her languages are Russian, English, Spanish and Arabic.*  
[Image from the FIT website](#)

*Alison Rodrigues, is Vice-President of FIT, representing the New Zealand Society of Translators (NZSTI). A linguist with a background in legal/ technical fields and creative design, she coordinated the FIT Strategic Plan 'Building a Sustainable Profession'.*

## Lookin' for Links in All the Wrong Places

### NETA Monthly Meeting, January 23, 2021

Reviewed by Marian Comenetz

NETA's January monthly meeting, entitled Lookin' for Links in All the Wrong Places, featured our very own president, Diana Rhudick, whose beautifully planned and handsomely executed talk drew over 50 attendees eager to learn some of the "right places" to turn to for terminology searches. As stated in Diana's abstract, the goal was to find hits that are "accurate or appropriate to the text you are translating."

From the start, Diana made clear that searches often focus not only on specific terminology, but on background knowledge necessary for a proper translation. She then alluded briefly to how dramatically the field of translation has changed over the past 10-20 years. We have progressed from fax machines to CAT tools. Of course, the internet has changed everything, making searches easier and faster. Thanks to advancing technology, webinars, podcasts, and discussion fora abound (ex. ATA language divisions). Nowadays masses of information are at our disposal. The question is what to do with it. Diana quoted Nick Hartmann, a former ATA president, who once commented that the distinction between an amateur and a professional is rooted in knowledge of what to look for and how to find it.

Diana discussed some of the major browsers and then showed us a Wikipedia page that [compares search engines](#). Of particular interest is the Tracking and surveillance chart showing the extent to which Google tracks activity. Google does provide the most up-to-date terms with years when they appear. There are also specialized Google sites like Google Scholar for academic searches. Google has search engines in different languages as well as an Advanced Search function. (There was further elaboration here.) Diana informed us that Google processes approximately 90% of online searches in the US. On the other hand, a *Washington Post* journalist compared Google in 2000 and 2020 and found that its helpfulness had declined. Diana uses [DuckDuckGo](#) for searches. That search engine does not profile or track its users and shows all users the same results for a given search. In contrast, the major search engines like Google provide custom results. Board member and attendee Maiyim Baron favors the ecologically-friendly search engine [Ecosia](#), whose servers run on renewable energy and uses ad revenue from searches for reforestation.

**Nick Hartmann, a former ATA president, once commented that the distinction between an amateur and a professional is rooted in knowledge of what to look for and how to find it.**

Diana then explained an acronym that is coming into common use: VPN, or Virtual Private Network. With a VPN, traffic flow is encrypted, so activity is not tracked. VPN is used to protect sensitive data.

At this point Diana shifted gears, listing and commenting on a distinct number of websites that she considers largely reliable, though always with a caveat attached. These included [ProZ](#), [Translators Café](#), [WordReference](#), [Webopedia](#) and [Termium](#).

- Is [Wikipedia](#) valid? Diana showed that if you click on one of the languages on the left side of the Wikipedia page, you'll find that even if the photo is the same, the text that comes up is not the same as the English text since contributions are made by different individuals.
- Diana uses [Linguee](#) with caution, but NETAn Andy K. uses it a lot for what it is: a memory of other people's translations, with sources provided.
- NETAn Lyle P. referred to [Reverso](#), which is offered in six languages and where one can find examples of terms in context.

When using the above websites (and others), be sure to apply what Diana called "common sense reliability." For a text on Covid 19, consider the source of the material: is it the magazine *Health Today*, or Wikipedia, or the CDC? The extension .edu is for universities; the extension .gov is for government sites. Both should be reliable sources. When checking your guesses, if you're working into English, be sure to focus on US English. You might want to guess, and then google a given term. Watch out for machine translation among the sources you find. And be sure to be able to justify to a client why you used a particular term.

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# Lookin' for Links in all the Wrong Places

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## Tips and Tricks

Diana ended her talk with a series of Tips and Tricks. Some examples:

- The tilde can be your friend. Type in a keyword and then “~glossary” to get a relevant glossary. Type in a keyword and then “~thesaurus” to get lots of possible alternate terms.
- You can narrow down your search, if you wish, by adding “site:” and the two-letter abbreviation for a given country (a list of those abbreviations can be found at [bitmedia.com](http://bitmedia.com)).
- Or you can narrow your search down to find out how a given word has been used within any given university (ex. nightingale site: yale.edu).
- Yet another narrowing mechanism is to type in a keyword and then file type: PDF.
- Don't forget about Google Images, where you may figure out a term by seeing an image of it.

And there's this nifty tip:

- If you have an image but don't know exactly what it is, use the camera in the Google search bar to drop an image into Google camera! Diana dropped the image of an insect which turned out to be a cat flea. Who knew?

Clearly, Diana's presentation was rich in content. Her years of experience shined forth. And her pleasant, natural manner was in full evidence. All in all, this was an excellent meeting.

**NB:** Recordings of this and (some) other past NETA monthly meetings are available to NETA members, as follows:

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- Click on the “videos” link in the 4th bullet.
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# 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.



## A Conversation with Harold Augenbraum

### The history of translation and universal language and the effects of translation on the lived environment

NETA Conversations with *NETA News* editor Laura Rojo MacLeod featuring Harold Augenbraum

**Harold Augenbraum** is Co-Founder and Associate Director of the [Yale Translation Initiative](#) and former Acting Editor of the *Yale Review*. From 2004 to 2016, he was Executive Director of the National Book Foundation, presenter of the National Book Awards, where he established:  
5 Under 35,  
Innovations in Reading,  
BookUp, and other programs.

Among his translations are the novels of the Filipino author José Rizal and, with Ilan Stavans, the short stories of Mexican writer Juan Rulfo. He edited Marcel Proust's *Collected Poems* in bilingual format and co-edited the *Norton Anthology of Latino Literature* and *The Latino Reader*. In 2016, he received a fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts to translate Pedro Paterno's *Ninay*, the first Filipino novel. His current book project is *The Messiah's Tongue: The Quest for a Universal Translator*, forthcoming from Yale University Press.

**Laura:** *I'm very pleased to welcome Harold Augenbraum, Co-Founder and Associate Director of the Yale Translation Initiative, to our special NETA Conversations space. It's a delight to have such a qualified translator, director and author with us. Thank you very much Harold!*

*"Time is a tiger after me; but I'm the tiger too", quoting [J.L. Borges](#). We translators can identify quite well with his idea. We are the language experts time travelers!*

*At this point in time, we certainly can say that the history of translation is human history. The translator's art and craft are embedded in the cultural panorama of every epoch; we go with the fleeting times as part of it but we also are able to detach ourselves to do our job; it's a vis-a-vis journey...*

*Along the historical continuum, since [Horace](#) and [St. Jerome](#), the theory and practice of translation have gained momentum in the 80s and are still going strong. Today translation has such a multidimensional contour that it prompts us to wonder about its origins and goals again. Like the time-tiger, we go back to our beginnings, back to the future again!*

*Harold, please could you elaborate on your view on this historical process? What are the main guidelines to consider nowadays?*

**Harold:** The history of translation and the history of translation theory are two different topics, the second a subset of the first but it seems to me that the former is less studied, and even understudied. St. Jerome's theory of translating the Bible, sense to sense, meaning to meaning, as expressed in his letters may have had less impact on the world than the translation itself and subsequent translations of the Bible, which I believe now total over 700 languages. Translation of philosophical and theological texts had a great impact on the development of national entities, preservation of humanistic texts, the sharing of texts among cultures, and so on. In our own era, say, since the Early Modern period, say the past 500 years, translation in various types of business and the military has become an important transactional activator. For the past 70 years, government and private capital has dominated the market in translation. We need to look at the whole translational picture, not only theories of translation.

*L: Totally agree. The wider and more complete our view, the better the results.*

*Today's tumultuous times bring us to a halt and leave us speechless. I'd think then, more than ever, that language matters are of the utmost humane importance. A language showing a true national feeling, a brave spirit, like an independent patriot in pursuit of happiness for the common good. This is the 'people's language,' [N. Webster](#) says. We can add that this view prompts the search for a humanistic 'universal language,' much needed today.*

*We also can quote [W. Benjamin](#) and his concept of 'pure language,' in which "Translation should express the relationship of*

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## A Conversation with Harold Augenbraum

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languages to one another. They supplement each other in the 'pure language.'” Then, if this is the medium for the translator to work with, our role has the capacity for deep intertextual relationships that can bring forth more understanding for different cultures.

*How could you connect these ideas from a translator's point of view? Can we help build up a universal language?*

H: In *The Fall of Language in the Age of English*, [Minae Mizamura](#) has an interesting take on how languages work with one another and their effect on different cultures. If one looks at literary translation by itself, translations that present one another are possible, especially if one does not look at the cultural power one can have over another. But in the political realm of translation, even literary translation when English dominates around the world, can affect how cultures see themselves and can influence change. We are also seeing, in the [Amanda Gordon](#) Question, that the politics of translation can surface questions that other cultures may not have considered, and may not WANT to consider, because some may consider them to emerge from a specific culture, in this case American, which has a very different cultural history from The Netherlands, France, Angola, Thailand, and yet our view of who should translate becomes dominated by an American conception of social justice.

As for a universal language, I don't know what that would be. There have been dozens of attempts at a true universal language, which is different from the transnational languages that exist today (English most widespread among them). Benjamin's "reine Sprache" was, in my opinion, an extra-lingual chimera in a long line of search for the perfect language. Do we want a universal language? Would that destroy or preserve local languages? It's complicated and impossible to predict.

*L: About the effects of translation, for [L. Venuti](#), for example, translation can construct representations of foreign cultures, keep them with some degree of coherence and create possibilities for cultural change.*

*[D. Searls](#) provides a roundup 'ecological' experience. Not only did he deal with the paramount importance of reading as 'taking up what the text affords is translation', i.e. in my simple way, a good reading equals a good translation but also he elaborated on the importance of perception as intention and included the ethical aspect too. The protection of nature has always been my passion and pain. I still have a dream: global environmental ethics in decision makers mainly. And I believe we, experts language workers, can certainly add to this urgent human dream; that is, to help build up a 'green' cultural change.*

*What's your perspective on the power of translation to construct cultural identities?*

H: I think all translations construct cultural identities, as well as personal ones. Venuti's idea of foreignization versus domestication is important in all translation, literary and otherwise. But his more recent work analyzing the instrumentalization of the translator may have more relevance for translation in the environment outside literature. My translations are absolutely based in my national, ethnic, and local perspective. The question is whether you want translation to construct cultural identity. Translation is not the only question. The publication of translation is what we're talking about when we talk about constructing cultural identities. Who are the gatekeepers? In *The Unbearable Lightness of Being*, Milan Kundera notes that the Communist Party in the then Czechoslovakia preferred rock concerts to classical music because they represented a controllable break from a bourgeois past. Do we want self-interested cultural entities making decisions? It's more complicated than how you translate a body text. What about paratextual material? Bios? Marketing? One translation of José Rizal's *Noli Me Tangere* deleted or shaped sections to protect the image of the Filipino bourgeoisie. The absence or presence of translation in a community can affect people's very lives.

*L: Thanks so much Harold for this special time with us. We really appreciate your quality contribution on such relevant topics for our members and I look forward to your next book project. Please let us know and we'll have another happy conversation!*

# Partnering with Families to Promote Language Justice in Education

## NETA Monthly Meeting, February 20, 2021

*Reviewed by Marian Comenetz*

Over 170,000 students with disabilities are currently enrolled in Massachusetts schools. Half of them speak languages other than English. NETA's Loreto P. Ansaldo, community interpreter and translator, actively engages with a passionate team of parent advocates, activists and researchers to consider what factors enhance communication between schools and immigrant families, and what factors impede that essential communication. Loreto and three other members of her team presented at NETA's February monthly meeting. They and a fifth key player have been working on a project focused on language justice in educational settings in collaboration with Boston University's Initiative on Cities and Massachusetts Advocates for Children (MAC). The underlying language justice framework harks back to the work of the Highlander Center, founded in Tennessee in 1932 as a leadership training school and cultural center focused on social justice. The guiding focus of their project described at our meeting is a dialogue of learning how to use Community-Based Participatory Action Research (CBPR) approaches to support immigrant families of special needs students in their struggle for equitable access to services.

Each of the four panelists introduced herself.

**Consuelo Pérez** is originally from Peru and has been in the US for 30 years. Her daughter, now 19, suffered damage during the birth process. Consuelo's special education journey has been difficult, prompting her to get training so as to support her daughter and help other families who have had negative experiences.

**Angélica Bachour**, originally from Brazil, and living in the US for the past 16 years, has two special needs sons, aged 9 and 5. The more she learned about the law from her experience with medical and educational settings, the more she saw how hard it is to navigate these systems without native English. She noted, too, that according to DESE data, about 90% of the children in her community of Chelsea don't speak English at home! She uses her knowledge and voice to support other parents in her community.

**Loreto Ansaldo** is originally from Chile but has spent most of her life in Boston. She became a middle school math teacher and finds that both her immigrant status and lack of support in school as a child due to undiagnosed issues shaped her as a member of this research project.

**Catalina Tang Yan** was born and raised in Colombia to Chinese parents. As a doctoral candidate at Boston University's School of Social Work, her interests are in participatory action research to achieve racial, language, and social justice. Catalina is also a community interpreter.

As parents, advocates, teachers, community interpreters, translators, and researchers, the four panelists form part of the Community Advisory Team (CAT). Following CBPR principles, CAT members played a key role in the project and were engaged meaningfully throughout all stages of the research by sharing decision-making power and uplifting the experiential knowledge and expertise of parents. As a team, all panelists made equitable and valuable contributions to the presentation.

Language access laws beginning with Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act and encompassing other legislation over time, have stipulated that government agencies and other entities are legally obligated to ensure

meaningful access to those who speak languages other than English. Yet although such equity is ensured in law, many immigrant families don't have full access or support. Moreover, many immigrants don't know they have rights and so don't get the services that are supposed to be provided. The panelists at NETA's monthly meeting partnered with attorney Diana Santiago at MAC, who, as part of a statewide coalition, had filed a bill to provide more explicit guidance regarding school interpreters. One goal was to make it less easy for any bilingual person to "interpret" without training which includes the ethics dimension. In working with Diana, our panelists created focus groups in the top three non-English languages in Massachusetts, Spanish, Portuguese and Chinese, the idea being to increase community engagement

**The underlying language justice framework harks back to the work of the Highlander Center, founded in Tennessee in 1932.**

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## Partnering With Families to Promote Justice

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so that research and legislation are based on experiential factors, that is, lived experience of parents and guardians. Underlying the research and the focus groups was the ongoing goal, in the context of language rights, to lead from exclusion to tolerance to access to justice.

Loreto, Catalina, Consuelo and Angélica took turns describing the specifics of the focus groups and then presented the emerging themes they identified. They highlighted six findings:

1. Parents feel that interpretation in school settings is too often inconsistent and biased in favor of schools, with “interpreters” taking sides against parents and schools too often not observing parents’ expressed wish to have communication in a language other than English. Translation is often greatly delayed.
2. Parents don’t feel heard or respected by school personnel. Schools underestimate parents. Stereotypes of immigrant parents prevail.
3. Parents need support that they are not getting. They often feel frustrated, angry, disillusioned, and nervous. They don’t feel respected or welcome. Communication about where help is available is unclear.
4. Parents can advocate better when they understand the system. Too often, though, they are having to go in circles, with no follow-up. They don’t get answers to their questions. Poor communication results in parents sometimes not even being told what an IEP is!
5. Schools must have trained interpreters and translators who are culturally competent. Teachers, too, should be trained in cultural competence. More interpreters are needed so as to avoid delays and postponements.
6. Schools must listen to parents. Parents have limited time yet they need to be understood. Parents are on a difficult journey. Communication needs to be transparent.

Our panelists then reviewed the implications of their findings and their recommendations as a Community Advisory Team. They are actively disseminating their research findings with local and state agencies and suggesting action initiatives. Meanwhile, Diana Santiago at MAC continues her efforts to shepherd their bill focusing on structural inequities with the Massachusetts legislature.

Bottom line: Immigrant parents want, need,

deserve, and have a right to, far greater language access. Parents like Consuelo Pérez and Angélica Bachour are deeply engaged in fighting for this cause.

A robust discussion followed this outstanding presentation. As one participant wrote afterwards, “What an amazing and informative session. Wow!”

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### CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

**Volunteer to help with our May 1 Annual Conference!**

Volunteering to help with NETA’s conference is an excellent way to go behind the scenes and get involved in our language community!

We count on participant volunteers to help make things go smoothly and this year is no exception. We need volunteer monitors for the virtual sessions as well as volunteers to write a review or short summary of presentations for the *NETA News*. ***New this year, we welcome 1 or more submissions to the newsletter in your preferred language!***

***Join us for some fun behind the scenes*** while helping to make our event a success.

**Volunteer for the 25th Annual NETA Conference!**

***Simply check the volunteer box when registering and we will follow up with our volunteer information.***

We look forward to meeting you and hope that those who have volunteered in the past will join us again this year!

**QUESTIONS** about volunteering for the conference?

Email: [conference@netaweb.org](mailto:conference@netaweb.org)

## Nature and the Joy of a Juggling Job: Translating & Interpreting

### An excerpt from 'Educare, educere for all seasons' by Laura Rojo MacLeod

Submitted by Laura from the editor's desk

Nature plays and juggles all the time in a permanent balancing act. All its magnificent splendor displayed in a myriad of alive colors, sounds, forms and scents; all this 'carrying over' movements, sights, textures and elements, conveys a multi dimensional cocktail ready for comprehension from all ways of life. It is indeed a delight for the senses and beyond!

Indeed Nature communicates at every step of its vital processes and we, homo sapiens, are able to enter the natural world, both literally and figuratively, and understand its message. It is this amazing 'juggling act', this rich translational effect in nature, this strong faire appeal, that calls for language workers' expertise in order to be appreciated in all its dimensionality. Specifically, interpreters and translators at work, totally share the vast capacity for a whole wide language conception; a cultural, natural and personal comprehension from the very beginning of the job at hand till the finish line. That's a real juggling act indeed! What a wonderful gift in tandem with Nature!

At this point in the millenia, I believe we imperatively must develop a passion for meaningful communication at all levels and the strong belief in full environmental awareness and action to save the planet. Through language, via a communicative approach, we can be the 'soft naturalizers' treading softly to comprehend more and better the natural world, in communion with it for the sake of a better communication for all mankind, for the common good! A lot is being done in the life sciences, sociohistorical areas, technology, the humanities, where language in its specific fields adds up and strengthens the nature connection.

#### The juggling joy of the art of translation and interpretation calls for a playful time.

We certainly can say it's a working joy too but no doubt at the end of the road, we are strengthened, empowered, more knowledgeable and we feel happy we did it! For sure, we need to juggle with other factors like timeline, price, deadlines, resources etc. and many times they get discombobulated! Here I feel redivivus by the sight of my favorite nature piece! It keeps the inner joy at all costs.

First of all, I'd say the a priori joy of it all starts with a thorough personal 'know thyself' tour about yourself, honing your language competence for the job, both in the source and the target language. Then getting to know as much as possible about the author, the main theme, both for translation and interpretation, is a must. Secondly, appreciating the cultural and natural background where the piece of work comes from or how it is embedded into a special area is paramount. Thirdly, it follows the task per se, a balancing act unique to each professional and her/his method and strategies. Here we always do a careful total quality review of all these steps mentioned and finally we proceed to a thorough check of the final piece to be rendered, followed by notes or points to



MacLeod Hill in spring. Photo by LRM

ponder we consider relevant for the best whole comprehension. I usually add my nota bene as well.

Then the *a posteriori* joy follows! Seize a job well done, or almost perfect, meaningful and neat, very cohesive and coherent, a happy piece for all involved in the process. Translators and interpreters are the Homo ludens par excellence!

Finally, I kindly forward a personal invitation to immerse yourselves in this wonderful nature juggling to find a meaningful connection, a feature, an element, a way you can transfer into your job as interpreter and translator. Then submit to [newsletter@netaweb.org](mailto:newsletter@netaweb.org)! We will gladly collect your playful piece, edit a bit if needed and post it for more juggling joy!

Earth day will soon arrive. The world reflects on the countless ways we are part of this beautiful one and only blue spaceship and we make a point to strengthen, understand, translate and share the rich indigenous voices who are the perfect players in unison with the natural world.

And remember you are the best language juggler for the job! You have a unique capability for total whole comprehension ready to put it at work. Able to fully immerse themselves in different worlds to get the gist of it all to accomplish their job. I find it is my best 'happy hour'! With my quarantini... Cheers!

A special spring cheer to each and all of you! A new playful season is ahead of us, still with very safe precautions due to Covid but with our warm hope for humanity at its best for all. Stay positive and test negative!

# Red Pill or Blue: Unpleasant, Life-Changing Truth or Blissful Ignorance?

## NETA Monthly Meeting, March 20, 2021

Reviewed by Marian Comenetz

When it comes to internet security, data breaches are omnipresent, and hackers and scammers are actively at work. We have a choice: choose a red pill and come face to face with that reality, or a blue pill and continue to live in blissful ignorance or the real world. So said Joseph Wojowski, NETA's speaker at our March monthly meeting, a translator with 14 years of experience as well as an Adjunct Professor of Translation and Localization Management at the Middlebury Institute of International Studies. As the administrator of the ATA Language Technology Division, he is an expert on data breaches. As he focused on securing data storage and file storage, he made some shocking and unsettling revelations intended to prompt action on the part of anyone intent on protecting professional and personal data.

### The underlying facts

Yes, you have been hacked. Everything has been hacked. Anyone can break into anything. And there are two types of people: those who know they've been hacked and those who don't. A company may say that it will use reasonable measures to safeguard data, but add that it cannot guarantee security, thus information might be publicly accessible. A data breach might be their fault, but their wording relieves them of legal responsibility.

Web servers have taken steps to prevent mass breaches. One approach is putting passwords through a hash function. For example, many people use "password" as their password. Hashing converts that word into 32 random digits so that the output is unintelligible and cannot be undone. As a

result, if you forget your password, you can no longer retrieve it but must choose a new one. Providers do this to protect you, but so many people use "password" that the 32-digit hashed password is everywhere.

A second approach is "salting" a password. Web servers take a password, select salt particles (ex. %5, 3#, @7), set a frequency (ex. insert particle every 2 digits), and apply salt to the password. That way there is no match with anything else since the 32 digits are completely different.

### Not all hackers are bad.

Some constantly try to penetrate networks. Others are hired by companies to find vulnerabilities. And still others are not hired by companies but still tell companies about vulnerabilities or make them public. Those hackers target big corporations. But how does this relate to us as individual translators and interpreters? Well, if you use Microsoft, Google, or Amazon cloud servers—and virtually everyone does, you are subject to phishing or translation scammers. Joseph gave many examples of how hackers and scammers get information from you (ex. their emails may look legitimate but are fake, they use your name and credentials to defraud LSPs, thus harming your reputation). There are scams involving no payment or overpayment. Many request proof of ID. A couple of attendees

allowed as how they themselves have recently been targeted for such scamming, one having received a large check that came from an unknown source looking for information. It's important not to cash such checks, but to turn them over to a bank!

### Joseph's warning

Do not fall prey to scammers! He detailed reactive and proactive ways to ensure that you aren't victimized. One of many steps is to check websites like [translator-scammers.com](https://translator-scammers.com) or [translationethics.blogspot.com](https://translationethics.blogspot.com). Another is to post your CV in secure PDF font so that you are not confused for a scammer. And Joseph highly recommends getting your data off of what he calls "Micro-goog-azon" by backing it up to a commercially available cloud device which is not connected to the internet



Screenshot from Twitter.com

Continued on page 12

## Red Pill or Blue: Truth or Ignorance?

*Continued from page 11*

and therefore is not vulnerable. He provided examples of such “glorified external hard drives,” saying that you can take your information down should there be a problem. This is like creating your own personal cloud. Remember: anything on a public cloud is not safe.

### On to passwords

Some people have had the same ones for 20-30 years. Joseph emphasized that it is important to change passwords frequently. Hackers access passwords in one of two ways: by “brute force” (hacking billions of combinations of alphanumeric characters and symbols) or by “dictionary attack” (based on words that exist in any dictionary). Joseph detailed what makes a password insecure, repeatedly warned of how easily passwords can be hacked, and enumerated the characteristics of secure passwords. Passphrases can be secure, but only if they consist of four words that are not frequently paired. Password managers should be used only if passwords are secure and changed regularly.

Password	How Many People Use It?
123456	2,543,285
123456789	961,435
picture1	371,612
password	360,467

*Screenshot from Security.org*

### The problem: an insecure password.

The solution: self-salting. A safe password uses case-sensitive alphanumeric characters with symbols in random fashion. It needs to be rememberable. And it needs to be updated regularly. Choose a base password that is easily remembered. Choose a salt particle (\*2, 6&, @5, etc.). And “salt away,” that is, insert the salt particle at regular intervals (ex. every two digits). You’ll want to have at least 15 characters; more is better. The server will put in their own salt particles, too, so your password will be salted twice, and it cannot be “unsalted.” Moreover, it is uncrackable by either brute force or dictionary attack!

Joseph told attendees that the average person has 70 accounts online. He urged us to have a unique password for each of those 70 accounts, and to change it on each of those 70 websites every quarter—at solstice time, perhaps. He recommended making a list in a Word doc of all the passwords so as to have a record of them. Do not recycle passwords. It’s easy to come up with new secure passwords by changing the salt particles and/or their frequency.

Joseph left time for questions at the end of his PowerPoint, and questions proliferated!

### Some stand-out powerful parting points

- Hackers can crack your insecure password in anywhere from a few seconds to a few hours. You can check [howsecureismypassword.net](http://howsecureismypassword.net) to see how long it will take.
- Quantum computing is coming up. Once that happens, “it’s over.”

- This situation “needs to freak everyone out.”
- Nothing is safe, but best practices like salting will make you safer.

Joseph’s talk was hardly comforting, but it certainly was useful. He recommended having a nice cup of herbal tea and reading some text written before 1995. That should clear your mind. Then come back and change your passwords! After all, it was March 20, the Spring Equinox!

**NB:** Recordings of this and (some) other past NETA monthly meetings are available to NETA members, as follows:

*To access a recording:*

- Log in to our website, [netaweb.org](http://netaweb.org).
- On the far right of the green menu bar, hover over the three horizontal lines and select *Members Only*.
- Click on the “videos” link in the 4th bullet.
- There members will see the pertinent link and password to NETA’s video archive.

## 2021 NETA Conference Agenda

Go to [Netaweb.org](http://Netaweb.org) to register for the May 1 conference.

**9:15 - 10:05 KEYNOTE** - *Nina Hersher, CEO Digital Wellness Institute*

### Digital Flourishing: Achieving Wellness in an Increasingly Virtual World

Due to the pandemic, the shift to remote work and education has accelerated the need to optimize our digital habits and practice self-care. In fact, 87% of employees are looking to their employer to help them find better balance. This statistic is not that surprising given that, since February, there has been a 300% increase in the number of people searching for “how to get my brain to focus.” Join Nina Hersher - CEO of The Digital Wellness Institute, to discover how intentional tech practices are being used to both prevent and recover from burnout and sensory overload. Shift your tech habits from those that fatigue you to those that fuel you, and learn sustainable strategies to achieve wellness in a fast-paced world.

**Nina Hersher** is CEO of the Digital Wellness Collective and The Digital Wellness Institute, an international speaker, author, and leading expert in Digital Wellness. She holds a specialized MSW in Norms of Connectivity and Reconceptualizing Human Development in the 21st Century, and additional credentials as an Oasis in the Overwhelm Facilitator, Teen Outreach Program Facilitator, and Meditation Teacher. Hersher is also Founder of Evolving in the Digital Age™ Consulting, dedicated to best practices in mental health in a fast-paced world. Most recently, Hersher's work was featured at Spotify and in publications including The Stanford Social Innovation Review, Al Jazeera, and Voice of America. Hersher specializes in Digital Wellness seminars, retreats, and advising tech companies.

**10:10 - 11:00 TRANSLATION** - *Alejandra Patricia Karamanian, Certified Translator*

### From Snippets to Corpora – Looking up the Senses of a Word's Meaning

Dictionary-making has been constantly evolving over time and getting adapted to new ways of presenting information about the

meaning of a word. Just looking at how lexicographers worked yesterday and how they do today can give us a colorful picture of the world of words – something that we as linguists, whether translators, editors or teachers work with on a life basis.

First, we will approach the two major reference dictionaries in the English language: Oxford English Dictionary and Merriam-Webster: how a word gets into the dictionary. Secondly, we will discuss prescriptive and descriptive lexicography approaches which will lead us to the new types of dictionaries in the digital age. Finally, we will focus on the role of corpora – lexicography computer tools that analyze large sets of texts producing concordance lines and word sketches to help us decide about which word or phrase is best for our writings.

**Alejandra Karamanian** is a freelance certified legal translator, proofreader, and post-editor, and holds an MA in Teaching Spanish for Foreigners. As a tutor, she teaches translation and editing for associations of translation and Spanish for foreigners. She made presentations at translation conferences and universities, and published articles on translation and editing. Areas of specialization: legal, business, humanities, lexicography. She worked as a researcher in the making of the Diccionario normativo del español de la Argentina, authored by the president of the Argentine Academy of the Spanish Language. As a member of PLECA, she is working for a language observatory (FundéuRAE).

**10:10 - 11:00 INTERPRETING** - *Mali Sastri, VMT-R; Composer, Songwriter and Vocalist Jaggery*

### Introduction to Voice Movement Therapy for Interpreters

What can the singer/performer/vocal artist teach the interpreter about voice? This experiential workshop focuses on the expressive arts discipline Voice Movement Therapy, and its practical application for those working in a field where vocal overuse and misuse often occur. Participants will explore bringing play back into their relationship with their voices, while learning breath, movement, and vocal exercises aimed at increasing vocal flexibility, dexterity, relaxation, and confidence, while decreasing vocal fatigue, strain, and injury. Basic vocal production and breathing mechanics will be discussed, as well as the unique demands that interpretation work places on this delicate instrument.

**Mali Sastri** is a singer, songwriter, composer, performer, and registered Voice Movement Therapy practitioner. She studied with VMT founder Paul Newham at the London Voice Centre, and has worked with individuals and groups, locally and internationally, for over ten years. As a voice teacher, she is part of the music education program at Tunefoolery, a Boston non-profit for musicians in mental health recovery. Mali's work focuses on the unique capacity of the voice to act as a vehicle for self-expression and self-expansion.

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## 2021 NETA Conference Agenda (continued)

Go to [Netaweb.org](http://Netaweb.org) to register for the May 1 conference.

**10:10 - 11:00 OTHER - Panel Discussion.**

### Getting Started as a Translator

**11:15 - 12:05 TRANSLATION - Sabina Knight, Professor, Smith College**

#### Market Intrigues of Translating Chinese Fiction

As a scholar, translator and teacher of literature, I often confront asymmetries in the politics of Chinese-English literary translation. What of cultural sovereignty when publishers in English-language markets determine the form and fate of Chinese fiction? Through analyses of choices translators have made and their ramifications, I explore ways translators may acquiesce to or defend against processes of commercialization, Americanization and the erasure of cultural inequalities.

Specifically, I confront challenges I have faced in translating and introducing Chinese works to English-language audiences. When do translators turn away from fidelity or commitment to “equivalent effect,” towards cutting, editing or rewriting to please publishers or target audiences? I discuss five specific instances in which translators have re-written or asked authors to rewrite endings, titles and other elements of Chinese novels. I then posit that these choices effectively impose Western literary practices on the development of Chinese fiction.

**Sabina Knight** 桑稟華 teaches Chinese and comparative literature at Smith College. She is the author of *Chinese Literature: A Very Short Introduction* (Oxford 2012, Die chinesische Literatur, Reclam 2016, and 中國文學 OUP-HK 2018), *The Heart of Time: Moral Agency in Contemporary Chinese Fiction* (Harvard 2006, Brill eBook 2020), and essays in Chinese studies journals, *Journal of the Medical Humanities*, *Literature and Medicine*, 翻译家的对话, and *The National Interest*, among others. She is also a literary translator and a fellow in the Public Intellectuals Program of the National Committee on U.S.-China Relations.

**11:15 - 12:05 INTERPRETING - Dr. Holly A. Silvestri, Senior Coordinator of Translation, Training & Curriculum at the National Center for Interpretation**

#### Interpreting for Special Education

This workshop will review the laws that affect special education in the U.S. and how they affect the interpreter's decisions regarding protocols and codes of ethics. Best practices regarding interventions for linguistic clarification or due to potential cultural barriers to communication during an interpreting session will also be reviewed. Exercises will include practice scripts designed to highlight some of the challenges that interpreting for special education poses even for a skilled interpreter. Attendees will leave the workshop with a better understanding of the hybrid legal nature of this type of interpreting.

In addition to having significant experience in the field of secondary and university education, **Dr. Silvestri** has run her own LSP agency as well as freelancing for other agencies and government entities. Currently she works as Senior Coordinator for Translation, Training, and Curriculum at the National Center for Interpretation at the University of Arizona as well as teaching in their undergraduate Spanish Translation and Interpretation program. Her working languages are Spanish, French and English. She is a founding member of [Interpreters and Translators in Education](#).

**11:15 - 12:05 OTHER - Panel Discussion**

### Getting Started as an Interpreter

**12:55 - 1:45 TRANSLATION - Sabina Knight, Professor, Smith College**

#### The Unequal Politics of Translation

This workshop continues (though does not depend on) the workshop, “*Market Intrigues of Translating Chinese Fiction*.” After a brief recap, a Q&A session will consider the consequences of the inequalities between authors, translators and publishers from dominant languages and those still marginal in Anglophone markets. What room for maneuver remains for translators? How might we defend foreign authors from revisions to meet Western expectations? How might we confront the ignorance of, misunderstandings about and prejudice against Chinese and other cultures? How do we weigh choices to translate well-known versus lesser-known authors? What about representing women or ethnic minority writers? These questions have become more fraught with the rise of identity politics. Can a translator translate only if they check the same identity boxes as the original author? Will a chilling effect follow the controversy over the choice of translators for Amanda Gorman's “*The Hill We Climb*”?

**Sabina Knight** 桑稟華 teaches Chinese and comparative literature at Smith College. She is the author of *Chinese Literature: A Very Short Introduction* (Oxford 2012, Die chinesische

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## 2021 NETA Conference Agenda (continued)

Go to [Netaweb.org](http://Netaweb.org) to register for the May 1 conference.

### 12:55 - 1:45 TRANSLATION *Continued*

Literatur, Reclam 2016, and 中國文學 OUP-HK 2018), *The Heart of Time: Moral Agency in Contemporary Chinese Fiction* (Harvard 2006, Brill eBook 2020), and essays in Chinese studies journals, *Journal of the Medical Humanities*, *Literature and Medicine*, 翻译家的对话, and *The National Interest*, among others. She is also a literary translator and a fellow in the Public Intellectuals Program of the National Committee on U.S.-China Relations.

### 12:55 - 1:45 INTERPRETING - *Luciana Canestraro, CMI-Spanish*

#### **The Medical Interpreter, an Essential Part of the Care Team**

Medical interpreters are a fundamental part of clinical encounters involving LEP patients and families. Providers, hospital staff and leadership alike all agree. However, interpreters are often placed in the lower ranks of the care team hierarchy when in fact, such encounters would simply not take place without their valuable mediation. In the worst scenarios, interpreters are seen as “tools” to be “used” when needed.

This workshop will discuss the current landscape of the medical interpreter status within organizations. The presenter will address the critical importance of a culture change that would integrate interpreters into the multidisciplinary care team of any healthcare institution, regardless of size. Although such culture change would be most efficiently implemented from the top down, there is something that can be done from the bottom up. The presenter will discuss tools and steps interpreters can take to bring about a positive change, one provider at a time.

A native of Brazil, **Luciana Camestraro** received her bachelor's degree in Communications and Journalism from Stonehill College, MA. Luciana occupied several positions in the media industry in both TV and print before transitioning to public relations. After years in the public relations field, her passion for languages took her on a new career path. Luciana completed education in medical interpreting and soon after became a Portuguese and Spanish medical interpreter at

Boston Children's Hospital. She was then recruited as Coordinator and later as Supervisor of Interpreter Services, her current role, where she leads a team of high-performing medical interpreters.

### 12:45 - 1:55 OTHER - *Panel Discussion* **Translation and Identity**

In response to the recent controversy over who is most qualified to translate the poems of Amanda Gorman into other languages, a panel will discuss the relevance of a translator's identity to their work.

Panelists will include *Haidee Kotze, Professor of Translation Studies at Utrecht University*, and *Ilan Stavans, Professor of Humanities, Latin American, and Latino Culture at Amherst College*.

### 2:00 - 2:50 TRANSLATION - *Helen Eby, Certified Spanish Translator and Interpreter at Gaucha Translations*

#### **Alternative Review Methods for Better Accuracy**

How can a translator effectively review a translation under time constraints? This session will discuss ways to take a fresh look at translators' own texts before sending the translation off to a reviewer. Techniques include: Marking problems left for the end to ensure catching them in the review process; ensuring we do not lose our place; viewing the text differently, even though it is our own text, without printing it out again; using dyslexia friendly tools to view our text, such as read-aloud tools. The speaker learned many of these techniques by interacting with editors from professional associations.

**Helen Eby** is an ATA-certified translator and has been coaching translators who want to improve their skills for several years. She is also a member of several editor associations and is a founder of the Spanish Editors Association. This has led her to view the final review process from a creative perspective and use strategies that are common to editors in her translation. She is also a certified Spanish Oregon court and healthcare interpreter. She has given presentations at ATA, at meetings of its chapters, divisions and affiliates, and in other countries.

### 2:00 - 2:50 INTERPRETING - *Javier Castillo, Jr. President, Castillo Language Services, Inc.*

#### **Lines, Tigers and Bares!**

Forensic transcription/translation and sight translation are not always an exact science. The source material that we have to work with can be full of ambiguities and pitfalls. In this interactive course, we'll explore some of the most common

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## 2021 NETA Conference Agenda (continued)

Go to [Netaweb.org](http://Netaweb.org) to register for the May 1 conference.

### 2:00 - 2:50 INTERPRETING *Continued*

issues that can arise when interpreting/translating audio and written material that is less than perfect and find strategies for dealing with them to ensure accuracy (to the best of our abilities).

**Javier Castillo** is president of Castillo Language Services, Inc. in Greenville, NC. He is an interpreter, translator, consultant, trainer and internationally recognized speaker. He is a Federally and State Certified Court Interpreter, a Certified Medical Interpreter, (CCHI) and contract interpreter for the U.S. Department of State and routinely interprets for international delegations and high-level speakers across the United States and abroad. Javier is a frequent speaker and trainer at national and international conferences. He is the President of the Carolina Association of Translators and Interpreters (CATI), Head of the U.S. Chapter the International Association of Professional Interpreters and Translators (IAPTI) and an active member of NAJIT and the ATA.

**2:00 - 2:50 OTHER** - *Corinne McKay. ATA-certified translator; Colorado court-certified interpreter*

### Using E-mail and LinkedIn to Market to Direct Clients

Marketing to direct clients without meeting them in person can be a challenge for beginning and experienced translators alike. Fear of writing the wrong thing, writing too much or too little, and even choosing a subject line can cause "analysis paralysis," resulting in a lack of marketing effort in general. In this nuts-and-bolts presentation, we'll look at how to use e-mail and LinkedIn to make initial and ongoing connections with potential direct clients.

**Corinne McKay** is an ATA-certified French to English translator, a Colorado court-certified French interpreter, and the author of *How to Succeed as a Freelance Translator*, a business how-to guide with over 12,000 copies in print. She runs the online training platform Training for Translators, and served as president of the American Translators Association from 2017-2019.

**2:55 - 3:40 ENDNOTE** - *Jost Zetzsche. Independent Translator, Localization Consultant and Writer*

### One Thing to be Grateful for in the Midst of a Pandemic:

*A reminder why translators and interpreters should want to diversify.*

In this talk, Jost will look at why diversification should be a desirable and necessary component of any career description for technical translators and interpreters. There will be ample time for questions and discussion (during which Jost will likely be thankful that it's really hard to be pelted with tomatoes and eggs in a virtual environment).

**Jost Zetzsche** is a translation industry and translation technology consultant, an author on various aspects of translation, and an ATA-certified English-to-German technical translator. 1999 Jost co-founded International Writers' Group, LLC, on the Oregon coast. Originally from

Hamburg, Germany, he earned a Ph.D. in the field of Chinese translation history and linguistics at the University of Hamburg. Since 2016 he has been contracting with United Bible Societies to help create and curate the Translation Insights and Perspectives (TIPs) tool. In 2018 he was awarded with an honorary membership to the ATA.

### Academic Division

Diego Mansilla, chair of NETA's Academic Division, in collaboration with colleagues at area universities, has organized a number of panel presentations with participation by both current and former students. The topics cover a wide variety of issues including:

- Feminist literary translation,
- Post colonial translation,
- Poetry in translation,
- Mexican idioms,
- Solving translation problems through context
- Translation during the COVID-19 pandemic,
- Errors in translation,
- Consequences of mistranslation in occupational health,
- Translation in education and website localization.

The Academic Division also will host a special panel of youth interpreters. In addition, Diego would like to highlight that freelance translator Rudy Heller will be participating in a wrap-up discussion during the final Academic Division presentation. Rudy has led a number of discussions with students and others entering the translation field. Attendees have commented how beneficial and motivational they have found these exchanges.

The Academic Division panels will run concurrently with the other sessions, and will have the same start and end times. The schedule and details for the Academic panels will be posted on [NETA's website](http://NETA's website).

## Meet the Candidates in NETA's 2021 Election

Continued from [page 1](#)

consists of seven members elected by the membership. The term of office for board members is two years, beginning on June 1, and ending on May 31 of the second year. Elections of three and four board members, alternately, take place in May of each year. Any member in good standing may run for office.

The Board of Directors meets at least four times each year to transact the business of NETA. A quorum at board meetings is at least 2/3 of all board members. NETA members are notified by email of upcoming meetings and meetings are open to all members.

### 2021 Candidates for Board of Directors

#### Inés Fusco

Inés has been a NETA member since she entered the interpreter profession in 2016. For three of the last five years, she has served as a volunteer on the annual conference committee, leading the recruitment and coordination of volunteers and helping to create opportunities for vendors at the conference. She has written for the newsletter, participated as a panelist in the 2019 conference, as a UMass student presenter in the 2020 conference, and recently, she volunteered to be the job poster for NETA. Inés is a Spanish interpreter in the areas of legal/judicial, medical, and everything else classified as business/community. She interprets full-time for the Lawrence Public Schools, per diem at East Boston Neighborhood Health Center, and works in the community and the courts as a freelance interpreter. Inés recently earned her certificate in translation from UMass Boston and is actively learning and growing her practice.



Prior to entering the interpreting and translation profession, Inés worked as a bilingual project manager in healthcare where she led teams in the development of bilingual English-Spanish healthcare education and marketing programs for staff and patients.

She has been a fundraiser and volunteer for the American Cancer Society's Making Strides Against Breast Cancer, the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, and other community outreach programs. Inés was the co-founder and treasurer of the Resolution Run to Kick Cancer from 2006 to 2017, a fundraising event which she helped to grow to over 100 volunteers and close to 1000 registered runners.

#### Inés Fusco's Candidate Statement

I found NETA through one of my interpreting teachers who recommended the conference. The first time I attended a NETA conference, I volunteered as a way of getting to know other interpreters. I met wonderful people—the members and organizers of the conference were very welcoming, and it was a great event overall! I have stayed involved with the association and I am honored to have been invited to serve on the board. If elected, I look forward to bringing my interpreting and volunteer experiences to help grow the association's membership and the annual conference. I would also like to collaborate with others to engage students and create awareness of the interpreting and translation professions.

#### Sybil Gilchrist

Sybil Johnson Gilchrist received a BA in English from Virginia Union University. She spent her Junior Year Abroad at the University of Ibadan in Nigeria. After college, she enlisted in the US Peace Corps and taught ESL in francophone Cameroon. She earned an MA in French at Boston University while teaching in the Boston Public Schools. She was later hired as a French teacher by the Medford Public Schools. She remained there until retiring after 38 years in the classroom. During her career, Gilchrist also developed courses in remedial reading, English, Mandarin, and Latin.



Since 2006, Gilchrist has taken online courses in French > English translation and in French literature through NYUSPS. She holds an NYU certificate in F>E translation studies. She is a freelance F>E translator specializing in international development and transcriptions. Currently, Gilchrist is the corresponding secretary for the Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society-NE. She is the archivist for the Stoneham Martin Luther King Committee. She is also a member of the American Association of Teachers of French.

Gilchrist joined NETA in 2008. She served on the annual Conference Committee for several years. She contributes to NETA's newsletter. A few years ago, she participated on a panel at NETA's annual conference focusing on Translators without Borders. More recently, she presented her genealogy research on NETA's virtual summer 2020 session.

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## Meet the Candidates in NETA's 2021 Election

*Continued from page 17*

### Sybil Gilchrist's Candidate Statement

As a candidate for NETA's board, I look forward to continuing the hard work of this organization. When casting your vote, please consider that I am bringing my experiences as a translator, a member of NETA, an educator, and a team player to the Board of Directors.

### Steph Newton

Steph followed a meandering path from a neuroscience degree to the Peace Corps to the Boston Museum of Science before discovering the field of interpreting and diving in headfirst. She grew up speaking English at home, invented a language as a child ("Nitwoon"), and then started learning Spanish at age 11. Steph studied medical, legal, and community interpreting through Boston University's Interpreter Training Program. She previously worked as a freelance interpreter and is now CCHI-certified and working as a full-time staff interpreter at UNC REX Hospital in Raleigh, North Carolina. She loves languages and also speaks Portuguese, beginner French, and 28 words of Hebrew. For fun, she plays the tenor saxophone in an activist street band.



### Steph Newton's Candidate Statement

As a candidate for NETA's board, I'm thrilled to have the opportunity to run for a spot on the NETA board. In NETA and beyond, I currently represent the interpreters, translators, and linguists who are beginning their careers and are the future of the profession. These folks have energy and potential and are seeking ways to plug in to the community. As a member of the board, I will ensure that they feel welcome and know how to both learn from more experienced linguists and contribute their own perspectives to the community. The longevity of NETA and our field depends on new and/or young professionals getting involved and engaged. Additionally, I am interested in joining the NETA board to support NETA's endeavors in antiracism, accessibility, and advocacy. As representatives of multilingual professionals, it is integral for us to be inclusive and actively work towards fighting xenophobia and racism, welcoming a wide variety of experiences, and removing barriers to healthcare, information, and services. Having witnessed language- and culture-based discrimination as an interpreter, I believe that NETA has an important role to play in working against this. I would love to continue supporting our community by serving on the NETA board!

### Vanessa Rendeiro

My name is Vanessa Rendeiro. I am a freelancing mom whose business hours usually start after the regular ones. I am a certified community and medical interpreter and also a certified translator. I have been translating several documents to important organizations on Island. I also hold a university degree in arts, Portuguese, and English, and a postgrad in English as a second language. I was a middle and high school English and Portuguese teacher for many years while in Brazil. I have been living on Nantucket for over 11 years. Currently, I am a Council for Human Services member. On Nantucket, the Council for Human Services makes recommendations to the select board and town administration regarding the provision of human services in a manner which can best serve the residents of Nantucket, and the coordination of the efforts of existing service organizations. It consists of nine Nantucket residents who are appointed by the select board for three-year terms. I am very involved with the local folks by providing community services through the Immigration Resource Center Nantucket.



### Vanessa Rendeiro's Candidate Statement

I bring a deep, personal commitment to the work of NETA. On top of my professional role, I am a Brazilian community leader, and also a school council member, a Council for Human Services member—Town of Nantucket, a Nantucket Immigration Resource Center Board member, and have attended several community meetings on Zoom. I do as much as I can to contribute significantly to my community. I do believe that together we are stronger. I am an avid learner. I am excited about learning from all of you. I am always open to learning and new experiences. As part of my work with the board, I would like to help develop plans and address the challenges translators and interpreters may face today with sufficient flexibility to address the needs of tomorrow. I will bring my enthusiasm and experiences on other boards and councils. I would love to serve on the board to help create a vision for the future.

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## Meet the Candidates in NETA's 2021 Election

Continued from page 18

### Steve Sanford



Steve Sanford has been a court and conference interpreter for 23 years, and is currently a regional coordinator of interpreter services for the Trial Court of Massachusetts. He has also been an instructor in Boston University's Interpreting Program since 2005. The Interpreter's Gym, his Soundcloud page, provides free access to audio files for interpreters to practice with. Steve has also trained and mentored new court interpreters and participated in the translation of court forms and web text. He was one of the Portuguese Language Division's Distinguished Speakers at the 2010 ATA Conference and has presented at several NETA conferences, as well as at the 2018 and 2019 Paving the Way conferences. He has interpreted for former presidents of Cabo Verde and Brazil, and also for Nixon. Nixon da Silva, that is.

### Steve Sanford's Candidate Statement

I am running because I feel that NETA has been a very valuable asset to my professional development and professional networking. I'd like to contribute to it as best I can. After many years in this business, I feel I have a sense of what is important to us. I've been involved in many aspects of T&I; I've worked as a translator and interpreter, I've been a freelancer and an employee, I have taught interpreting and helped create training programs, and lately as a regional coordinator for the Office of Language Access (the new name for the MA Trial Court's Office of Court Interpreter Services). I have also gotten a sense of what it's like to herd cats.

## Translation in the News Who should translate Amanda Gorman?

**NETA** New England Translators Association (NETA)  
March 27 at 1:20 PM · 🌐

From our Program Coordinator, Marian Comenetz...  
<https://www.nytimes.com/.../amanda-gorman-hill-we-climb...>

NYTIMES.COM  
**Amanda Gorman's Poetry United Critics. It's Dividing Translators.**

[The New York Times](#)

**NETA** New England Translators Association (NETA)  
March 25 at 2:44 PM · 🌐

I think the translation world, diverse as it is, has a diversity/equity problem, in that people who are not white males deserve more opportunities and better compensation than they get. But I also think the whole concept of "translator" makes current notions of "identity" look pretty fragile.

WASHINGTONPOST.COM  
**Who should translate Amanda Gorman's work? That question is ricocheting around the translation industry.**

[The Washington Post](#)

**BBC NEWS**

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## Why a white poet did not translate Amanda Gorman

By Anna Holligan  
BBC News, The Hague

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[The BBC](#)