President's Letter: *Au revoir*

Marie José Daigneault
2002 NYCT President

This is it. I've paid my dues. I'm bowing out. Au revoir. Ciao. Hasta la vista.Welcome and good luck Teresa!

It has been fun. Really. Well, for the most part. Having the honor of representing the Circle for the past year has allowed me to meet and/or correspond with several of you, and I hope to continue meeting fellow members as I take a less active role. I'm only sorry that more people don't become more active.

But the 2002 Board has been wonderful. Together, we have evaluated and updated the Web site (phase I, with phase II to be implemented by the 2003 Board) after a careful analysis by and insightful recommendations from our talented Web site Chair, Margaret Altieri, and the invaluable technical support of our Web Master, David Mintz.

We also nominated Ellen Sowchek as our Editor, who produced several interesting issues, but unfortunately had to resign later in the year. Regardless, the Board was able to pull together and get the *Gotham* out to you while searching for a replacement. Our incoming President, Teresa Waldes, will be announcing the nomination early next year.

Several other accomplishments, albeit less noticeable, are worth mentioning, and attest to the everyday efforts of the Board members and other volunteers: publication of the printed Directory several months earlier than it has been in the past years, selling of numerous advertisements for both the Directory and the October *Gotham Translator*, streamlining and updating the database, keeping our finances on track, organizing exceptional meetings, continuing education workshops and events, channeling and answering numerous requests for information, referrals and help, finding candidates to run for a position on the 2004 Board, initiating the revision of our procedures handbook, manning the NYCT table at the ATA conference (distributing several hundred newsletters and directo-

ries), promoting the Circle and its members (thanks, George), etc.

This has been a rewarding and sometimes challenging team effort, and I would like to warmly thank all of the Board members, various Committee Chairs and other volunteers who have made this possible. Without you, the Circle simply wouldn't be. Which brings me back to my initial point : how great the Circle would be if we all put in a hour or two per week, or per month, or even per year (multiply that by 300+ members!!!). So I take this opportunity to invite all of our members to continue supporting the Circle, or start doing so if you haven't yet had the chance. I especially encourage new members to take an active role in our organization. There is no better way of doing something good, and getting known for it. ∎

It Is Time To Pay Your 2003 Dues and Update Your Profiles!

By Shena Crane, NYCT Treasurer

Attention all members! During the month of December you will receive a mailing for the payment of your 2003 dues. To ensure that you keep your valuable directory listings and membership benefits, follow the instructions in the mailing and send us your payment promptly.

Your **2003 dues are due by January 1st 2003** (calendar year basis). If your dues have not been received by January 31st 2003, your entry will not be included in the 2003 printed version of the Membership Directory. Your information will, however, remain in the online directory until the end of a 3-month grace period. If your dues have not been paid by March 31st 2003, your membership will lapse and your data will be purged from the online database.

The mailing will also direct you to check your online profile and update it if it is no longer current or complete. Remember that the profile information appears in the printed and online directories and is used for prospective clients to contact you as well as for NYCT purposes.

All members are expected to keep track of their profiles and update them online when needed. To update your profile, go to http://nyctranslators.org/update/ and enter your member ID number and password at the login screen. Your ID number and password will be provided in the mailing and can also be obtained from the website if you have forgotten them. Be sure to update the information on all **three data screens** of your profile, clicking on the "update" button at the bottom of each screen.

Your profile information comprises your:

- Contact Information (name, organization, address, phone/fax/pager/cell phone numbers, email)
- Preferences (whether you (a) want referrals; and (b) want your profile information to appear in the NYCT Directory)
- Language Pairs
- Areas of Specialization
- Services (what you offer, i.e. translating, interpreting, dubbing, etc.)
- Additional information

Please: (1) Do not write your information in all caps or all small caps. (2) Use standard punctuation (for example: Jane E. Doe). (3) Do not enter anything in the "organization" field unless it is part of your address. (4) Do not fill in the "country" field unless you live in a foreign country.

A brief recap of what has changed this year concerning membership and dues:

- The Board recently voted to repeal the extra charge for listing more than 5 language pairs. On the other hand, members with foreign addresses will be asked to pay an extra $5 for postage.

- The membership categories have been updated. Notably, we added a new Corporate Patron category (see http://www.nyc-translators.org/membership.html for details). Note also that the top of the membership page has been rewritten to better communicate the benefits of membership to interested applicants.

- After receiving many complaints from new members who joined towards the end of the year and were asked to pay dues again on January 1st, the Board decided to create a special first-time member category for people who join after July 1st. The higher (18-month) fee paid by first-time members covers membership for both the remainder of the current calendar year and the entire following year. This category is mandatory for new members but is not applicable to renewing or lapsed members. ∎

Come to the Traditional Holiday Party!

Join your fellow NYCT members at a festive holiday luncheon on Sunday, December 15th from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. We will get together to celebrate the season at La Petite Auberge, 116 Lexington Avenue (between 27th and 28th Sts.). Luncheon is $31 per plate (tax and tips included) with individual drinks paid for separately. Please reserve by e-mailing Debbie at dfolaron1@nyc.rr.com or calling (212) 334-3060. We look forward to seeing you!

Gode Medal Awarded to Susana Greiss

Susana Greiss

We proudly congratulate our very own Susana Greiss, recipient of the 2002 Alexander Gode Medal, ATA's most prestigious award, presented every year to an individual or institution for outstanding service to the translation and interpretation professions. The award was presented at the recent ATA Conference in Atlanta by George Fletcher, also a NYCT member. Susana, who received a standing ovation, was honored as a founding member of ATA's Portuguese Language Division and founder and past administrator of the Slavic Languages Division. Closer to home, Susana founded the NYCT's Spanish Special Interest Group (SpanSIG) and has been an active NYCT member for many years. She is ATA-accredited in English>Spanish, Spanish>English, Portuguese>English, French>English and Italian>English and holds a Master's Degree in Translation from the Graduate School of the City University of New York (CUNY). ∎

Annual Business Meeting - January 13, 2003

Participate in the life of your association! Come to the Annual Business Meeting held to review the 2002 financial statements and performance. The new Board of Directors will also discuss plans for the incoming year and answer members' questions. This event will be held on Monday, January 13th at 6:30 p.m. at the Masonic Hall (71 West 23rd St.), Room 2 East. Join us for dinner afterwards at 8:00 p.m. at The Silver Swan (41 East 20th St.). Dinner is $28 per plate (tax and tips included) with individual drinks paid for separately. Please reserve after January 1st by e-mailing Debbie at dfolaron1@nyc.rr.com or calling (212) 334-3060. We look forward to seeing you! ∎

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Localization Skills and Localizability Requirements

by Carla DiFranco

Material for this article was drawn from the October 22, 2002 talk to the NYCT. The full version of this article will appear in the January 2003 ATA Chronicle.

Localization Skills for Translators

Because the field of localization is quite complex, I will only name a few, key pieces of technical knowledge here, which should help increase your marketability and skill level.

HTML. Understanding how HTML works is a key localization skill, as is the ability to troubleshoot issues as you work on projects. If you are able to provide this service, it can only add more value to your already valuable skills. The following are some key points about HTML:

- Know enough HTML so that you can recognize tagged content in an HTML document.
  - Understand how HTML tagging works.
  - Clarify with your client which tagged content is to be localized.
  - Know how to recognize scripting in HTML files, such as Java script or an embedded CSS. Most of the time this scripting is not translated, but it may contain some translatable content.
- Invest in a good HTML editor. I cannot stress this enough.
- Translation tools are created to help you navigate translatable content in HTML.

It is relatively easy to ramp up to HTML. There are a number of books, online tutorials and community college courses in basic HTML programming.

XML. XML was not created to replace HTML - rather XML is a type of content that serves more as a vehicle for providing content in a number of places - on the web, in print documentation or other delivery formats - potentially at the same time. While HTML applies structural markup, XML applies semantic markup. The elements in XML are written out rather than abbreviated, so there is no confusion about what these should stand for. All formatting information is called from another file (an XSL or a CSS), and formatting can be changed for different locales if necessary. Here are some basic concepts about XML that are important for translators to know:

- Understand how XML is structured
  - The structure of XML will be much more explanatory than HTML. It will be easier to recognize translatable content.
  - Formatting information is called from a separate file and ideally this information may only need to be changed once.
  - It is imperative to always hand back valid XML files to your client.

- Translation tools are created to help you navigate translatable content in XML.

Character Sets. Knowing a bit about how character sets work will help you troubleshoot and understand why things function the way they do.

Originally, each character was mapped to a number on a code page. This may be a good system if the entire world used the same characters. But it doesn't. The world has hundreds and thousands of code pages that all happened to use the same numbers for different characters. Since a computer is only trained to understand numbers, it needs to be told which code page to read when it is reading some text.

In this example, the HTML page is looking for a specific code page:

```
<HTML>
<HEAD>
<META content="text/html;charset=1252">
```

If this number were changed to a code page for Hebrew (1255), some of the characters in the text would change to Hebrew characters, as per the numbers assigned to each by the system. The computer is merely doing what it's been told.

Enter Unicode. The idea in this case is to use one single code page for all languages, which includes all the characters used for written languages in the world. If you would like more information about Unicode, check the Unicode page online (http://www.unicode.org).

Here are some basic things you should know about code pages:

- Know how to tell whether a document is Unicode or whether it is calling an ANSI code page.
- All XML files are Unicode by default.
- Unicode calls the same code page for all languages
- Unicode is a standard agreed-upon system.

Translation Tools. These are also known as CAT (computer assisted translation) tools. Not only will these tools help streamline workflow, but they are also designed to increase productivity. Here is a short list of basic skills that you should have regarding translation tools.

- Understand how to manage a translation memory.
- Know how to create a well-formed terminology database.
- Know how the tool suites work together and how to best maximize these in your workflow.

- Machine translation is a fully automated translation process that is performed by the computer, and differs from a CAT tool.
- Understand the word-counting and analysis process.
- Know how to localize tagged format files using these translation tools (HTML and XML).

The key to these tools is understanding how they work. There are many training options available, including vendor training, tools workshops, translation programs[1], publications[2], online groups and online forums.

Localization Requirements for Clients

Localization should not focus on the localizers. A well-localized product is not only the responsibility of the localization project manager to organize and the localizers to translate and fix. Creating a globalized product is the responsibility of developers, software engineers, project managers and the localizer. Many things can be put into place long before localization begins, so that localization is less chaotic and messy. In the long run, streamlining the process will be less costly.

Currently, the localization process seems to happen outside of the source process. The product developed for the English-speaking markets is done separately from the localized product. So that the localized product will work properly,

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1 *For example, the Kent State University Institute for Applied Linguistics and the New York University Department of Foreign Languages and Translation offer courses in technical translation, project management and translation tools.*

2 *A Practical Guide to Localization by Bert Esselink, The Handbook of Terminology Management by Sue Ellen Wright and Gerhard Budin, XML Internationalization and Localization by Yves Savourel and Beyond Borders: Web Globalization Strategies by John Yunker all have chapters or articles on translation tools.*

many steps may be added before and during localization. The graphic above outlines the ensuing chaos that often takes place during localization. If better planning had been worked into the product cycle at the beginning, localization would not be as strenuous.

Following is a short list of a few localizability requirements that your clients should watch out for.

Translatable Content/Strings - keep it simple. The computer and high tech industries are filled with jargon, catch phrases and slang that we tend to use every day. This type of language is difficult to translate. Standard English should be enforced from the very beginning of product development and documentation. Here is an example.

Breadcrumbing

The breadcrumbing feature allows you to display a "path of navigation in the web interface. You can click on any collection in the path to display that collection. This feature can be switched on/off using the checkbox **Display Breadcrumbing navigation** in the **Display Tab** of the Preferences dialog box.

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http://www.hyperware.com/e/downloads/documents/releasenotes.pdf. This is an excellent example of modern jargon in documentation. While the meaning of this may be apparent to some, it will not be apparent to all. http://www.wordspy.com gives the following meaning:

breadcrumbing
noun. A navigation feature that displays a list of places a person has visited or the route a person has taken.

Backgrounder: Today's word is based on the fairy tale of Hansel and Gretel, who threw down bits of bread to help find their way out of the forest.
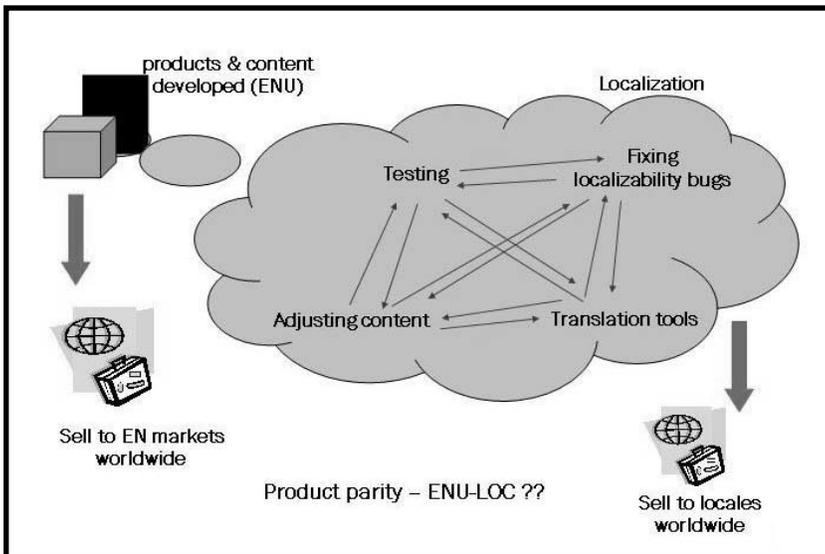
This term is totally unacceptable in terms of an East Asian localizer. The time and effort it would take to translate this term into the language of the target locale would be costly.

How are the files created or edited? Although it is easy to save a Word doc as HTML in Word, this process inserts extra formatting in the HTML document. It is extremely difficult to edit and translate a document created in this way. As a rule, any file that is handed off for localization should be created in its native format, whether it be HTML, XML, etc. The cleaner the documents are in the source language, the fewer the errors that will be encountered during and after localization.

Often scripting is introduced to an HTML file, which is problematic if implemented incorrectly. If localizable text is embedded in Java script, there is the risk that a localizer may miss the translatable text or damage
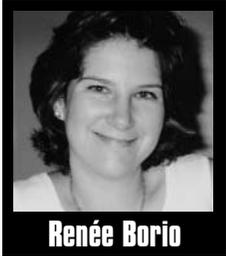
CIRCLE NEWS

Programs Committee Chairperson Appointed

Renée Borio

At its last meeting the Board voted to create a Programs Committee to provide support to our hard-working Programs Director Debbie Folaron. We are happy to announce that Renée Borio-Román has been appointed Programs Committee Chairperson. Renée wants to hear from you if you have ideas for program speakers or restaurants, or if you are willing to help out at monthly meetings taking attendance, handing out name tags, etc. If you are interested in getting involved please contact Renée at rborio@peoplepc.com or by telephone at (718) 823-8325. ■

ATA Members: The NYCT Needs Your Help!

Those of you who are ATA members will receive your membership renewal notice during the month of December. You can support the NYCT at no extra cost to you by checking the NYCT box in the dues form. If you do so, the ATA will rebate a portion of your dues to the NYCT chapter. Please do not forget! This is an important source of income for the NYCT and it does not cost you a penny extra. ■

2003 ATA Accreditation Exam Sittings

Exams will be held in the New York area (Manhattan location) on Sat. March 15 and Sat. Sept. 20, 2003. The registration deadline in each case is two weeks before the exam date. Before you sit for the exam, you may elect to take an ATA-sponsored practice test. If you are interested in the practice test or the exam, you must register directly with ATA. For information and registration contact: Terry Hanlen, American Translators Association, telephone: (703) 683-6100, e-mail: terry@atanet.org. You can obtain detailed information on accreditation exam procedures and download registration forms from the ATA website: http://www.atanet.org (click on "Accreditation"). ■

New Schedule for the Gotham Translator

In 2003 the Gotham will be published 6 times a year or every 2 months. The next issue will arrive in your mailboxes February 1st, 2003. To accommodate this new schedule, meeting notices will be published 2 months in advance, i.e. this December issue carries a notice about the December and January meetings and the February issue will include a notice about the February and March meetings. ■

Thanks to NYCT Volunteers in Atlanta

The NYCT had a table in the Exhibit Hall during the ATA Conference recently held in Atlanta. The table was staffed by NYCT members attending the conference who were kept very busy answering queries. Copies of the October issue of the Gotham Translator were distributed and the 2002 printed directory was also distributed to agencies and other buyers of translation services. Special thanks to the volunteers: Margaret Altieri, Teresa Waldes, Graciela Maleh, Erick Derkatsch, Julie Wochos, Connie Prener, Willard Wood, Nana Hamaoui, Daniel Ferraro, David Marinelli, Leila Bose, Anne Witt-Greenberg, Gloria Barragán, Robert Lee, Roxana Hululea, Vigdis Eriksen and José Daigneault. ■

The Best Secrets Are Those Well Kept — Or Are They?

by Roslyn C. Famous and Robin R. Randolph

"Hey guys! I just got accepted to the University of Puerto Rico's Graduate Program in Translation!"

"You *what*?"

"I'm going to get my master's in translation!"

"You mean you have to *study* for that?"

(Sigh) "Of course!"

"And you're going *where*?"

"To Puerto Rico."

"There's a university down there?"

Many conversations like this plague those of us who "fell upon" one of the best-kept secrets of Puerto Rico: the Graduate Program in Translation at the University of Puerto Rico. We say "fell upon" because it is one of the least known master's degree programs in the U.S. university system. This nearly 30-year-old program, founded as an experimental program by the late Dr. Angel Casares, became officially incorporated into the university's College of Humanities in 1974. It has long been overlooked, despite having turned out 300 fine graduates who work around the world. But the time has come for it to come out of the proverbial translation closet. So, we are going to take this opportunity to do what is rarely done. We are going to tell the world about this enigma of a program.

Normally, when you are about to enter the program and you tell your family and other close friends that you want to go down to Puerto Rico to study translation, of all things, they tend to picture you flying away to a Caribbean paradise for an extended vacation so that you can work on, as you put it, your "degree." While the vacation part isn't 100% correct, the Graduate Program in Translation at the Río Piedras Campus of the University of Puerto Rico just might be your idea of paradise, if you're serious about a career in translation. It's where students of various ages and backgrounds come together from places such as Puerto Rico, North America, Latin America, and Europe for the purpose of sharing their diverse language experiences and learning how to become better translators.

Upon arrival at the Graduate Program in Translation, new students attend an orientation session in which they are warmly greeted by professors, students, and the program's director, Yvette Torres. During this time, students sign up for classes based on their individual programs of study, the language pairs and subject areas in which they wish to specialize, and the length of time they plan to spend in the program. It is a 45-credit master's degree program, excluding the qualifying exam and thesis. So it is wise to plan out these credits as early as possible.

Typically, a first-year student's schedule will consist of the required advanced grammar and writing courses, which should not be underestimated by any means. Students are required to take these courses in their target language and are strongly recommended to take them in their source language. The advanced grammar course focuses on syntax and analyzing sentence structure, and the writing course allows students to practice many writing styles while expanding their active and passive vocabulary.

In addition to the rigorous coursework in the general translation seminars, specialized seminars are offered in business, medical, literary, legal, architectural, and environmental translation. Translation is generally from and into Spanish, English, and French. Courses in research, theory, and sight translation are also given in order to fine-tune the students' developing skills, and these classes may be taken to fill the 12-credit elective requirement. Also required are three credits in semiotics or semantics.

Work in the classroom is enhanced through seminars, lectures, and workshops, in which prominent guest speakers from the field of translation share their experiences and give students insight as to what to expect in the "real world." One of our most recent Visiting Professors was Marian S. Greenfield, a freelance translator, translation industry consultant, and Director of the American Translators Association, she serves as chair of the Professional Development Committee. Professor Greenfield came to the program in October to give a Spanish>English commercial translation course. During her month-long stay in Puerto Rico, she also gave a financial translation workshop and a very informative lecture on how to get started as a free-lancer. In November, Lawrence Venuti gave a three-day seminar entitled "Translating Literary and Pragmatic Texts: Equivalence, Norms, Ethics. Other guests from the past include Valentín García Yebra, Rudy Heller, Eugene Nida, Gregory Rabassa, Alastair Reid, Douglas Robinson, Margaret Sayers Peden, and Tom West.

Benefits

What are some of the benefits to having a Master's in Translation from the Graduate Program in Translation, you ask? Well, besides the endless comments on your great tan, one advantage to this program is that it is relatively small. With six full-time and five adjunct professors, and ninety active students in various stages of their degree, the program offers students the chance to be more than just a number. The quality of work we produce in class is quickly noticed. Many of us have been recommended for translation jobs outside of the university based on the high-quality work we produce in class. These jobs are great not only for gaining excellent

hands-on experience but also for boosting our self-esteem! Students also have the opportunity to intern at Atabex Translation Specialists, which is run by Carmen Díaz, a professor in the program.

Another advantage to studying in this program in Puerto Rico is that you instantaneously become a member of a very close network of qualified translators, whether you like it or not. We've heard that the translation world in New York is incestuous (a favorite Professor Greenfield refrain). Well, take that tight network and imagine you live in Maybury, U.S.A. Since this is the only translation program on the island, nearly all of the top-notch, working translators here have gone through the

Teaching in the Masters Program at the University of Puerto Rico   *by Marian S. Greenfield*

Teaching in the Masters Program at the University of Puerto Rico (la UPI) was truly a unique pedagogical experience. The students' level of commitment was amazing. While many of them work full- or part-time and most of them have full course loads, they carved out time to work diligently on my intensive course. Normally taught in 2-hour sessions given once/week over 10-12 weeks, we completed the course in 5 weeks by holding class 3 hours/day, 3 days week, with 2-3 hours of homework per day. Even with all their other commitments, the students did a great job with their assignments. That is true dedication.

Adding to the experience were the cultural and social opportunities. My first weekend in town one of the students invited me to a great salsa concert. Others accompanied me sightseeing around the island and to the movies, while my fellow faculty ensured that I had plenty to do on the weekends, including visiting the ecodestination Las Cabezas de San Juan and many, many of San Juan's best restaurants (and private kitchens). Of course a few trips to the beach were also in order.

Teaching in the Program also offered the opportunity to review my Spanish grammar and composition with one of the fine UPR Professors. Students were a bit bemused by my presence in class, but I think they enjoyed the repartee, while my fluency certainly returned to levels not seen since the months I spent studying in Spain in the 70's.

Yet the absolute best part of the experience was the unique opportunity for intimate contact with the students. Since I was doing my freelance work out of an office set up for me in the Program classroom building, I was on campus all day. Most of the students were also in the building all day, as the Program has two computer labs with Internet connection, one of which is also an excellent translation resource center with an impressive collection of dictionaries and glossaries, that the students are free to use, and they do. That gave me the opportunity to descend from my office every hour or two to look over the students' shoulders (my students and others in the Program, regardless of whose assignments they were working on). They would ask me questions, which I would ask them to resolve as a group, and I would guide the discussion. I was also able to watch as they did their Internet searches and give them suggestions to refine their searches. This opportunity to analyze how the students solve translation puzzles and help them refine their problem-solving and Internet search skills made my time in Puerto Rico truly the best teaching experience I have ever had.

And by the way, the Program is currently seeking a full-time professor to teach various translation into English courses. Anyone interested in exploring the possibility should contact Yvette Torres, Director, Graduate Program in Translation, University of Puerto Rico, ytorres@rrpac.upr.clu.edu, 787-764-0000 ext. 2047. ∎

program. The member directory of the *Asociación Profesional de Traductores e Interpretes* (APTI) here in Puerto Rico reads like the "who's who" of the program's alumni. When you meet others who have graduated from the program (and you will), there is an instant bond, because you know that you share the same formidable training and can speak the same language (no pun intended).

The advantage to being a part of this one-degree-of-separation network is that it keeps you on your toes as far as the quality of your work is concerned. There is not much leeway for shoddy work in or out of class: good news travels fast here, but bad news travels even faster.

The sense of belonging to a family of like-minded people is one of the best parts of the program. It's an open, inviting feeling that you note the minute you enter the program, and it's a feeling that makes you want to stay. Roslyn had been here only two months when Hurricane Georges struck and destroyed the island. There she was with no running water, no electricity, and two of her three new friends had left Puerto Rico due to the disastrous conditions. She seriously contemplated following suit, but it was her translation "family" and the knowledge that she would be missing out on great professors such as Marshall Morris that made her stick it out. That, she says, and the great food.

Overall, the program offers a very nurturing atmosphere for students. At any time of the day in the hallways at the program, you can hear a student asking Andrew Hurley or María C. Hernandez about grammar, or holding a discussion with Sara Irizarry or Charlotte Ward, or asking other professors about working with clients. And these open discussions are just as valuable to those asking the questions as they are to those listening in on the conversation. It's a great feeling knowing that your professors are there to impart their knowledge whenever asked. Though there may be times when they wish we weren't so darn curious.

Spread the Word

So there you have it. We have just "outed" the University of Puerto Rico's Graduate Program in Translation, one of the best-kept secrets of the island. Help us spread the word. Mention our program the next time someone asks you about getting a graduate degree in translation, or about how to get a good tan. ∎

Robin R. Randolph is a thesis student in the program and works as a free-lance translator and manuscript editor. Roslyn C. Famous moved to Puerto Rico in 1998 to study translation. Though she graduated last year, she is often seen lurking about the program. When not lurking, she works at Atabex Translation Specialists, where she began as an intern.

part of the script. The solution is to provide a *.js file that the individual HTML files will reference. Within this file, localizable text can be separated from the scripting in order to enable localization and minimize potential errors.

By the same token, a CSS may be embedded in a set of HTML documents rather than living in a separate file. If font information in the CSS must be changed for East Asian languages, it takes some time to change this in every file. A separate *.css file solves this problem.

XML content. Any XML schema created for any source language should also include elements that may be needed for the target locale languages. If a product is sold worldwide, it may have different features for different locales. Additional XML elements can provide the ability to identify extra content that may be needed or removed for these locales - while still maintaining a single source document.

From the perspective of the localizer or project manager, these solutions may seem self evident, but poor choices and mistakes continue to be repeated. Avoiding this in the future is a priority.

In order to do this, a feedback loop should be established between all parties involved with a localization project. This is the key to partnering with clients to create successfully globalized products.

Partner Together

Localizers should be communicating with their project managers, and project managers should communicate with their clients. After projects have been completed, it is a good idea to discuss the good, bad and ugly with all parties concerned.

In an ideal world, localization companies will partner with their clients. Using the expertise provided by their localization partners, projects can become less costly and easier to localize. However, localization project managers need the feedback and expertise of their freelance localizers to provide this information. Rather than localization occurring as an afterthought or a nuisance, it will be simply the last step in the process toward creating a global product. ∎

Carla DiFranco is currently a Software Localization Engineer at Microsoft, where she focuses on translation tools, recycling strategies, TM management and globalization efforts. After graduating from the Kent State University Institute for Applied Linguistics, she worked as a freelance translator and then as a project manager. She currently teaches terminology and technical skills at the BCC Translation and Interpretation Program in Seattle, as well as German>English translation (Intro and Patents) for the NYU Translation Certificate Program.

THE GOTHAM TRANSLATOR

The New York Circle of Translators (NYCT) is a New York State not-for-profit corporation regrouping independent translators and interpreters as well as companies and organizations. It is a chapter of the American Translators Association (ATA) which is, in turn, an affiliate of the International Federation of Translators (FIT).

NYCT members work in a variety of languages and specialties. Our members are committed to the exchange of ideas and mutual support. One of our goals is to educate the general public about the professional nature of interpreting and translating.

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