

# From Bilingualism to Professionalism: A Symposium

*A Symposium Sponsored by the New York Circle of Translators (NYCT), the International Medical Interpreters Association (IMIA), and the Association of Language Interpreters of Greater New York (ALIGNY)*

TUESDAY, JUNE 2, 2015 • 4:30 PM – 7:30 PM

Hunter College West Room B126

Chanin Language Center, Insdorf Screening Room

Welcome to our symposium to advance the professionalization of public service and commercial language assistance in the New York City area. Today we offer a series of presentations by leaders in the field of language service professionalization and training, followed by a panel discussion of experts discussing the topic from the perspectives of advocacy and education.

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## Agenda

### ***Welcome and Introduction***

**Louise Jennewine**, New York Circle of Translators

### ***Presentations: 4:30 – 6:40 PM***

#### ***Translation and Interpretation at Hunter College: Academic Education and Professional Training for a Bachelor of Arts Degree***

**Maria Cornelio**, Hunter College

A description of the components that have created a successful program combining academically rigorous study with the practical skills students need to compete in the translation and interpretation industries.

#### ***Language Services at the United Nations: A Model for the Industry?***

**María Barros**, United Nations

A brief description of the working procedures and best practices of UN translation services in the areas of training, quality control, terminology management, MT (machine translation) integration, career support, and performance appraisal.

#### ***Legal Framework for Language Access and Interpreter Roadmap to Success***

**Eric Candle**, ECdata National Training Institute

A presentation of the key competencies needed by community interpreters at each point of their transition from bilingualism to professionalism; concepts (including prediction, cultural humility, intonation make-over, and others) to significantly enhance communication in a triadic encounter; and the current legal environment associated with access to public services for the LEP population group. The speaker will also address next steps in advancing language access services at the federal and state levels.

#### ***Quality Standards in Legal Translation: A Progress Report***

**Jean Campbell**, Shearman & Sterling, LLP

A discussion of the evolving standards used in measuring quality in legal translation, including outside referrals, in-house standards, accuracy, confidentiality, styles, and authorities for meaning.

### ***Ten-Minute Break***

### ***Panel Discussion, 6:50 - 7:20 PM***

Moderated by **Leonard Morin**, New York State Unified Court System

Panelists: Lionel Bajaña, María Barros, Jean Campbell, Eric Candle, Ricardo Fernández

### ***Closing Remarks: Where Do We Go from Here?***

**Leonard Morin**, New York State Unified Court System

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## *Presenter and Panelist Bios*

**Lionel Bajaña** has worked as a grand jury interpreter for the Bronx District Attorney's office, and has since been at the Bronx Supreme Court as a Staff Spanish Court Interpreter. He was elected chair of the court interpreters' chapter of DC 37/AFSME. He is a founding member and former president of ALIGNY (Association of Language Interpreters of Greater New York), and a member of NAJIT (National Association of Judiciary Interpreters and Translators). Lionel has written articles for *Proteus*, NAJIT's newsletter, and has been a presenter at NAJIT national conferences. He has also been invited as a panelist to speak at New York Bar Association about interpreter-related issues.

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**María Barros** was born and educated in Spain. She has degrees in classical languages and English philology and a Ph.D. in translation studies. She taught linguistics and English>Spanish translation at the University of León and Pompeu Fabra University (Barcelona) for several years. In 1997, she started working as a translator at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, where she currently holds a permanent position as senior reviser and terminologist of the Spanish Translation Service.

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**Jean Campbell** has been an in-house translator at Shearman & Sterling, LLP, an international law firm, since 1990. With a doctoral degree in philosophy and a minor in economics from the New School, she has taught philosophy at Seton Hall University, the New School, and Pace University, and has also taught translation studies at NYU for 18 years. Her dominant language pairs are Spanish>English, French>English, and German>English, working from Italian and Portuguese with less facility. She is active in the International Society for Universal Dialogue, and was elected Treasurer of that organization in 2012.

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**Eric Candle** is the President of ECdata National Training Institute, a New York-based interpreting and cross-cultural communication training and language access consulting company. He is also the International Medical Interpreters Association (IMIA) US Coordinator and NY State Chapter Chair. Eric is a qualified medical interpreter with 15 years of experience at the largest New York hospitals, a credentialed translator, and a licensed community/medical/legal interpreter trainer. He is a lecturer at Hunter College and the State University of New York, and has studied and taught in Canada, Germany, Austria, Norway, and Russia. He is a passionate advocate of meaningful and timely access to public services for LEP population groups, and has delivered numerous presentations all over the world on the professionalization of community, medical, and legal interpreting, culturally competent public services, US National Certification for Medical Interpreters, and the new modalities for delivering language services. Eric introduced the concept of Differential Diagnosis in teaching medical terminology for medical interpreters, and applied the "intonation makeover" approach for interpreters with languages of lesser diffusion to produce a less-accented speech. He holds an M.S. degree in computer translation and computer science, and an advanced certificate, "Creating and Leading Strategic Growth." His college graduation work was executed and presented in English, German, and Russian languages.

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**María Cornelio** is Coordinator, Spanish Major Concentration in Translation/Interpretation, Department of Romance Languages, Hunter College of the City University of New York. She was formerly Assistant Director of the Hunter College Program of Study Abroad in Argentina. For nearly a decade, she was Director of the Hispanic Resource Center at Columbia University Medical Center, where she directed language-support programs for Spanish-speaking patients in clinical trials and carried out language-competency assessments of bilingual healthcare professionals. During that time, she was also the Spanish-language consultant to the Institutional Review Board of the New York State Psychiatric Institute. Ms. Cornelio is a founding member of Kaiser Permanente's National Coalition for Quality Translations in Health Care, and for several years she taught in the translation certificate program at the University of Chicago. She designed "Translation in Healthcare," one of the country's first courses focusing exclusively on the translation of documents specifically for patients and healthcare consumers, a course which she taught in the translation certificate program at New York University for seven years. She holds a Master's Degree in International Studies. She studied at the University of Seville, Spain, at the University of Poitiers, France, and has a Bachelor's Degree in Spanish and French from Hunter College of the City University of New York.

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**Ricardo Fernández** has been a Spanish court interpreter with the State of New York for over twenty years. As an Adjunct Professor, he has been teaching courses at Medgar Evers, Baruch, and Hunter Colleges of the City University of New York since 2006, including different levels of the Spanish language, Latin American Civilizations, and "College Now" for High School students. He has also been teaching simultaneous and consecutive interpretation, as well as judicial interpreting and translation courses for the profession of judicial interpreter/translator, with the Department of Romance Languages at Hunter College since 2009. Ricardo will be defending his doctoral dissertation in Hispanic and Luso-Brazilian literatures and languages in September of this year. He holds a Master of Philosophy degree from the Graduate Center of the City

University of New York, and a Master of Arts in Spanish from Hunter College. He obtained his Bachelor's Degree in Paralegal Studies and the English language from Mercy College, in Dobbs Ferry, New York. He is the current Chair of the Association of Language Interpreters of Greater New York. As such, and throughout the years, Ricardo has organized and given preparatory courses for city, state and federal certification examinations.

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**Leonard Morin** is a staff interpreter at Manhattan Criminal Court. He previously practiced as a full-time translator (since 2004) and interpreter (since 2006). Leonard interprets Spanish and Dutch and translates chiefly legal and cartography-related documents from Dutch, Spanish, and German into English. He earned a propedeuse degree in law in the Netherlands and graduated from Columbia University with a B.A. in Latin American Studies. Leonard has earned translation and interpreting certificates and won academic prizes for his Spanish and German. He previously served as president of the New York Circle of Translators.

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## Resources

New York State Court Interpreter Code of Ethics

<https://www.nycourts.gov/courtinterpreter/pdfs/Pages84-86fromCourtInterpreterManual.pdf>

NCIHC National Standards of Practice for Interpreters in Healthcare

<http://www.ncihc.org/assets/documents/publications/NCIHC%20National%20Standards%20of%20Practice.pdf>

International Medical Interpreters Association (IMIA) Member Benefits

<http://www.imiaweb.org/members/benefits.asp>

National Association of Judiciary Interpreters and Translators

<http://www.najit.org/certification/faq.php>

New York Circle of Translators

<http://www.nyctranslators.org>

Electronic version of *Interpreting: Getting It Right* (published by the American Translators Association)

[http://www.atanet.org/publications/Getting\\_it\\_right\\_int.pdf](http://www.atanet.org/publications/Getting_it_right_int.pdf)

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