

## Chair's Report

### Annual General Meeting, 15 September 2018

The Interpreting Division (ID) has continued to organise three main CPD events each year, developed by the committee at a special planning meeting in August. All the events offered are based on suggestions from ID members and participants in previous workshops and seminars. A summary of our 2017-18 programme is outlined below.

**Our first event** of the year: **"Interpreting for the Media"**, was an enlightening three-session day held on 12 November 2017. The first session of the day, entitled: **"Interpreting for the Television News"** was led by Dominique Lambert, who focussed, in particular, on the importance of the need for wide-ranging general knowledge of current affairs and associated vocabulary. He is convinced that extensive translating work is key to gaining the level of continuously changing terminology required and is invaluable for the interpreter.

Our second speaker, Alexander Kan, whose long and fascinating professional experience has ranged from interpreting in Leningrad/St Petersburg in the 1980s and 90s through to his post-1996 move to the UK, where his interpreting assignments have been mainly with BBC World TV. His very honest and revealing talk concentrated on his experience in translating and interpreting for the media. He looked in particular at the challenges of simultaneous interpreting and the need to be flexible in the smooth shift from the simultaneous to consecutive mode - sometimes in difficult circumstances. The post lunch Q&A session with speakers and committee members proved rather lively.

**Our 28 April event** explored **"The World of the Voice-over"** and **The World of a Professional Tour Guide**. First speaker, Fardous Bahbouh, director of Lingua Media Connect, outlined in detail various types of voice-over work, available resources for beginners, where to find voice-over work, how to approach agencies, how to prepare a professional demo, the advantages of having a home studio and, very importantly, how to take care of ones voice.

Our next session with Daniel Pageon: **"The World of the Voice-over"**, looked in particular at the very important differences faced by translators when dealing with translation of copy for the **"spoken word"**, as opposed to the more traditional **"written word"**. He also emphasised the need for flexibility and to this end caused quite some amusement when he showed the delegates how to create a fairly sound-proof **"booth"** with a chair and a blanket for doing voice-over away from a standard studio.

The very different **"World of a Professional Tour Guide"** was very ably led after lunch by Katie Belo dos Santos, a professionally qualified interpreter and Green Badge Guide. Katie not only talked about the importance of foreign languages in tour guiding but emphasised how crucial qualified linguists are in the tourism sector. She outlined tips and pitfalls and endeavoured to describe just what might happen on any one 'typical' tour guiding day!

Her colleague, Tess Pike, an accredited trainer and examiner for the Institute of Tour Guiding (ITG), outlined the work of ITG and her role, as a member of their Language Committee, in overseeing the transfer of the ITG language examinations to CIOL Qualifications (formerly IoLET).

The first session of today's final event of the 17-18 programme: **"Know Your Worth in the Interpreting Business"** was led by Julia Poger, a well-known conference interpreter and trainer. Julia's talk was aimed at interpreters wishing to improve relationships with clients and prospects, gain more respect and negotiate higher fees - such that they would have the tools to be able to put what they had learned immediately into practice.

The second session: **“A head for business, a voice for languages”** was led by Ewa Jasinska-Davidson who shared her considerable expertise on the multi-facets of business interpreting, focussing on how to broaden client portfolios and on how multiple skills can be harnessed to offer bespoke packages, including collaborative working.

A post-lunch Q&A session with our speakers, followed by the division’s Annual General Meeting rounded off a busy day.

### **Marketing our events**

Direct mailing of ID event information and online registration has become the norm and has been welcomed by members. ID also advertises via the CIOL Monthly newsletter, the CIOL website, the CIOL e-groups, a special ID Facebook event page and other relevant social media. Student members at training establishments are also routinely informed about our events through the CIOL database and their tutors. With their permission, non-members now also receive advance notice of our events direct from CIOL.

### **InterpNet**

InterpNet, as the name implies, is a network of interpreters working in a variety of languages and offering different types of interpreting. InterpNet members are willing to support and cooperate with other members on the list (all members of professional language associations), in terms of work and linguistic assistance. For those not familiar with its concept, it is a forum for mutual support, exchange of interpreting-related ideas, the posting of questions about anything from terminology to IT, right through to how to draw up a contract, negotiate with a customer, or even where to find a CPD event or course - and our ID events definitely qualify as such.

The moderated network (some 248 members to date) continues to grow but is generally less busy than in the past – maybe due to availability of so many other multi-media platforms. This e-group is much supported by input from our InterpNet coordinators: Gabriela Bocanete, Sabine Metcalf, Diana Singureanu and Michael Wells.

### **CIOL consultation & exchange of information**

The Chair and the Hon. Treasurer of each division are invited to meet with other divisions and the Head of Membership in regular joint Divisional meetings.

The divisions have seen considerable and wide-ranging changes over the recent years, including a revised constitution, a new accounting system and, not least, a VAT review, which means that the CIOL is not an eligible body for education VAT exemption. In practical terms, this means that divisional event ticket prices are now subject to 20% VAT.

In addition to planning and organising events, members of the divisional committees are now also required to comply with new or updated policies covering data protection, volunteers and equality, diversity & inclusion (EDI), as well as produce event risk assessments and an annual report for Council.

The ID committee, through its Chair, has continued to liaise with the Chair of Council and the Senior Management Team in respect of the ongoing challenges of the MoJ Framework as it affects our PSI colleagues. The division also raises with and responds to interpreting related matters raised by members - be it with the Membership department, Council or the CEO, as appropriate.

### Our thanks

Your committee should very much like to thank all our members and visitors for supporting the events and giving us important and objective feedback during the year. We can assure you that we do listen and where possible act upon it.

We also wish to offer our sincere thanks to the Institute staff at Dunstan House – Julie Hobbs & Monica Solanki in particular - who continue to give the Division extremely valued support in preparing for our events, sometimes way beyond the call of duty.

As chair, I also wish to thank my committee of volunteers, who have all given many hours of their free time to ensure that the division's affairs and events are dealt with to the very best of their ability and in a timely manner.

And to close, one very special mention. It is with some sadness today that we say farewell to **Marta Stelmaszak Rosa**, who joined us in 2012 and has been our IT guru and multi-media publicist for much of that time.

She will be much missed by many and we wish her all the very best for the future, not least as a recently elected Member of Council.

Christine Pocock, FCIL, DipTrans  
Chair Interpreting Division  
15 September 2018

The following people were elected to the Management Committee at the AGM held at the Novotel London City South on 15 September 2018:

**Galyna Bland, MCIL; Gabriela Bocanete, MCIL, CL; Teresa Grau MCIL; CL;**  
**Christine Pocock, FCIL; Diana Singureanu, MCIL, CL; Michael Wells, MCIL, CL:**