

# inforMATION

issue 6 summer 2005

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Dear MATI members:

As summer approaches, MATI prepares to host an ambitious program—in variety and number—of events for our members. I encourage you to make plans and set aside time to attend our second Annual Conference, September 15–18, hosted by DePaul University's Modern Languages Department. Dr. Georganne Weller, who is currently the co-director of Centro de Estudios de Lingüística Aplicada in Mexico City, and staff interpreter for the FTAA trade negotiations in Puebla, Mexico, is our scheduled keynote speaker, and will also conduct a language-neutral two-day intensive conference interpreting workshop. Great sessions are planned in literary translation, editing, and medical interpreting and translation. We hope to include a tour of nearby Children's Memorial Hospital as part of the program, and an outdoor reception Saturday night, to celebrate the end of the summer. 2005, the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages' Year of Languages, seems particularly right for celebrating our profession and encouraging further development and expertise.

This year, the role of interpreters has found notoriety, both in a Hollywood film that if nothing else provides for excellent cocktail conversation, and in more serious events such as Arabic interpreter Mohamed Yousry's conviction for purportedly providing material support to terrorists. Inasmuch as they both affect the public perception of the role, function and duties of the interpreter, professional associations should take notice and engage debate on the many ethical issues that are critical to the performance of our job.

Just this past May, the National Association of Judiciary Interpreters and Translators held its annual conference in Washington, DC. In addition to excellent educational sessions, NAJIT hosted an important forum in which Administrative Offices of the US Courts' representatives addressed—and in some cases didn't address—major ethical and professional concerns of freelance interpreters working in the federal district courts, who will now have to sign individual contracts in order to work for the judiciary. What is telling is that the US Courts felt no need to include interpreters in their advisory board in drafting the contract, and still today feel it would not have made a difference to do so.

While disheartening, it clearly signals an opportunity for language professionals individually and as a group, to become involved in raising our profile and influence, so that we can rest assured that our ethical and professional boundaries are respected, and that we can bring our expertise to bear on relevant issues and on equal footing with entities large and small who contract our services. I personally hope that MATI can prove to be an effective forum for members interested in advocacy, to increase awareness of these issues.

Sincerely,

Moira Pujols  
MATI President

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## Election announcement

Dear MATI Members:

The votes have been counted for the 2005 election and we're pleased to announce our new board members:

Barbara Collignon — Vice President  
Silvia Fosslien — Secretary  
Brooke Anderson — Director  
Maria Schwieter — Director

Our newly elected board members will serve two-year terms beginning July 10th at our General Membership Meeting.

Congratulations to the newly-elected board members and thank you to everyone for your continued commitment to MATI and our profession.

Sincerely,  
Moira Pujols  
Madeleine Velguth  
Jeff Gary  
Enrica Ardemagni  
Montserrat Zuckerman  
Alberto Aguilar  
Silvia Fosslien  
Sara Vlahovic  
Rodney-Douglas Bogardus

# Mark your calendar!

## THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR INTERPRETATION FCICE ORAL TEST PREP SEMINAR IN CHICAGO, JUNE 24 TO JUNE 26, AT DEPAUL UNIVERSITY.

This is an extraordinary opportunity to access intense preparation for the Federal Court examination for Spanish judicial interpreters, offered for the first time outside of Arizona.

All the details can be found at MATI's Web site-[www.matiata.org](http://www.matiata.org)-or contact our President, Moira Pujols, at [mpujols@matiata.org](mailto:mpujols@matiata.org).

## The Second Annual MATI Conference will be held this year in Chicago

Thursday, September 15 through  
Sunday, September 18, 2005

Save the dates and please let your MATI Board members know what speakers you'd like to see there, what topics you'd like to discuss, and any other ideas you have that will help make this an even better conference than last year's in Milwaukee. See you in Chicago!

## Translation Software Tools Seminar

Hilton Garden Inn | Chicago, Illinois | July 9, 2005



Jost Zetzsche, translator and tech expert, will help you **recover from your technical paralysis** in this positive and **fun-filled seminar that is a necessary investment** in your business as a translator.

Get an **insider's look at CAT tools** with no-nonsense assessments of their strengths and weaknesses. Understand the practical and impractical sides of **desktop publishing software**. Learn about the free software programs that can help you **work more efficiently** and what programs to avoid at any price.

All attendees will **receive a FREE copy** of the latest edition of Jost's 200-page e-book, **Translator's Tool Box: A Computer Primer for Translators**.

Hosted by the

  
**American  
Translators  
Association**

ATA will provide a **full-day training seminar**, including a continental breakfast, a **Job Marketplace**, and a **Networking Session**. Attendees will **earn 6 ATA Continuing Education Points**.

To learn more about the ATA Translation Software Tools Seminar, please visit [www.atanet.org/pd/tools](http://www.atanet.org/pd/tools) or contact ATA at (703) 683-6100 or [ata@atanet.org](mailto:ata@atanet.org).

*An ATA Professional  
Development Seminar*

# MATI Member Publishes Spanish-English Law Dictionary

By *inforMATION*

*From the Editor: Cuauhtemoc Gallegos (known to friends and colleagues as Temo) is a familiar and respected figure among interpreters and translators in the Chicago area, where he has worked in and promoted the profession for years. In fact, Temo was one of the earliest supporters of our efforts to form MATI. Now we learn that his long-awaited Spanish-English legal dictionary is available. Of course we wanted to give inforMATION readers a behind-the-scenes look at the making of a dictionary by one of our own, so we asked Temo a few questions about his project and the outcome.*

***What gave you the idea to compile a dictionary in the first place?***

I work as a bilingual lawyer and professional translator and interpreter myself and I always wanted a bilingual dictionary constructed so it would list the target-language single or multiple equivalents, while also offering the tools needed to choose the most appropriate ones for the task.

Since most bilingual legal dictionaries don't follow this approach and typically limit themselves to listing equivalents, I felt a need existed for a compilation of legal terms, in English and Spanish, in a format that makes them more accessible to the user and also provides the necessary tools to be able to choose the most fitting.

Following such a design, Merl Bilingual Law Dictionary offers a multifaceted navigational structure and a wealth of contextual information that make it unique and extremely practical.

***What do you mean by a “multifaceted navigational structure”?***

Yes, adopting cyber language, this refers to the multiple options available to the user to find a particular word, concept or phrase. For example, the term *lawyer* is considered the equivalent of *abogado*, as are *attorney at law* and *legal counsel* in English and *licenciado en derecho* in Spanish. But are they really? You would want this clarified and discussed. And what about the terms *jurist* and *jurisconsultus*? Ideally you would want to have all these terms linked and at your fingertips. Simply listing cross-references is usually not sufficient to develop the necessary understanding of the connotation and legal import of these and most entries. A more complex organization of entries is necessary, one based on the structural nature of legal institutions and legal culture.

***And “wealth of contextual information”?***

You need information to understand the meaning and determine the appropriate usage of legal terms, but not just any kind of information. It has to be contextual, that is, directly relevant and describing the various possible uses of the term or concept involved. The term *estate*, for example, appears with four distinct and identifiable legal meanings in this book, and so does the word *carga*. You want to get a clear and precise distinction in each case so you are in a position to determine the equivalent or term you need. Merl Bilingual Law Dictionary does that using a variety of tools: lexical and legal comments, background comments, comparisons of same-language terms and target-language equivalents, synonyms, antonyms, lists of related and connected terms and specialized glos-

saries, all in addition to cross-references.

***How different is Merl Bilingual Legal Dictionary really from other works?***

On one level this book feels and looks like other bilingual dictionaries. It has been designed and printed to be portable and user-friendly. But the differences are many. A perfunctory review of a few of its 432 pages reveals that the text is tightly packed and includes many main entries rich in detail and many subentries that cover variations and combinations of the term in question. These features begin to show you that this book is and feels new and highly functional.

If you're looking for the target-language equivalent of *attachment*, for instance, you can start on page 24, where you see that *embargo* is the answer, but you also want to make sure you are using the appropriate equivalent and using it correctly. Besides, *embargo* is a broader term. You can verify the term by reviewing the information included in the entry: a definition of *attachment*, a comparison with *sequestration* and *garnishment*, an explanation of how *embargo* is broader, a list of subentries, and a list of related terms. Still in doubt? You may want to go to page 279 next and look up the entry at *embargo*, where other target-language equivalent alternatives are listed and discussed together with subentries, comments, related terms, and legal references from various countries.

***How long did it take to compile and write this dictionary?***

This dictionary was long in the making. Although compiling took perhaps a decade, the actual writing and final research was done over the last three years. It took several visits to Mexico and Canada, and countless hours in libraries and courthouses in many places.

***What background do you bring to the undertaking?***

My professional training is as an attorney and as a translator and interpreter. In these capacities I have been immersed in legal terminology and in particular the interaction between common-law and civil-law traditions most of my professional career. So it is really not surprising that I decided to write about one of my favorite subjects.

***Did you consult with others in the process?***

A dictionary is traditionally a team effort. This work was no exception. Besides quoting leading scholars and experts on the subject, many others contributed directly or indirectly to this publication. I am indebted to all of them, and in particular to my contributing editors who introduced points of view and modifications that significantly changed and enriched important sections of this book.

***How is your dictionary being promoted?***

*Merl Bilingual Law Dictionary's* official publication date is July, but books are already being sold, mostly through the Internet. At this point reviews are being sought and received, and promotion will start in earnest soon. Initial sales will be exclusively through direct mail and on-line, and the book will not be available through distributors or bookstores, at least during the first part of its promotion.

***Who is buying it?***

This book is especially attractive for translators, interpreters and other bilingual professionals, but I have been pleasantly surprised to learn that a few copies have been bought by English speakers with the intention of using the English language sections of the book.

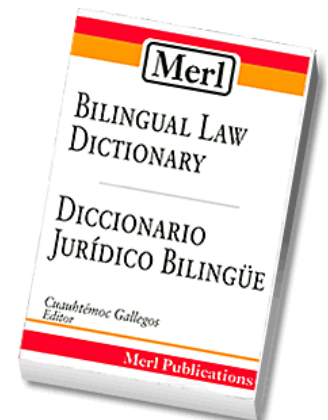
***Temo, thanks for taking the time to answer our questions, and thank you for your work to advance our profession.***

***inforMATION***

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**Book Information.**

**Title:** Merl Bilingual Law Dictionary-Diccionario Jurídico Bilingüe  
**Publisher:** Merl Publications  
**Editor:** Cuauhtémoc Gallegos  
**Pages:** 432  
**Dimensions:** 6 x 9  
**Format:** Paperback  
**ISBN** 1-886347-03-04  
**Web site:** [www.merlpublications.com](http://www.merlpublications.com)



# How I was duped

Dear Colleagues:

This is, briefly, the true story of how I was duped.

I received an email with a request for Spanish interpretation services for the wife of a minister traveling from abroad. Once I accepted the proposal, I was told that someone in the USA would be paying the plane tickets and all other expenses and that I would receive a check for my services. I received a check (official-looking, from National City Bank, and supposedly guaranteed by the issuing bank) for an amount higher than what I had billed, and with instructions to cash the check, pay myself for my services and immediately send the remainder via Western Union or a similar entity. After I had sent the money, I received a message letting me know that something terrible had taken place, that they would be unable to travel to Indianapolis, and that I should charge for the inconvenience and send the rest so that they could cover the charges for their “accident.”

At this point, I suspected money laundering and contacted the bank and the FBI. I was told at the bank that the check was false (the teller had assured me that the check was fine when I cashed it) and that I had no recourse. I was charged \$6.00 on top of my loss. The official bank notification came by mail 10 days later. The FBI explained that there was no way to trace the people because they could pick the money up at a Western Union anywhere in the world with the code I had given, and that it would be impossible to track them by name. They gave me no hope of recovering my loss, which amounted to \$2,700 at that point. Had I fallen for the plea to return my fee, I would have been out a lot more!

I hope this can prevent someone else falling for this scheme, known as the “advanced payment scam.”

Greetings,

Percy Consiglieri  
GMG ENTERPRISES TRANSLATIONS  
317-280-8551

## What is a Translator?

By Lawrence Schofer

I thought members of our profession would be interested in this excerpt from an article in a Polish newspaper (Nowy Dziennik, May 20, 2005):

“What is a translator? The best, most penetrating, merciless reader” — as writer Andrzej Stasiuk used to say. Last week some 174 of these “best, most penetrating, merciless readers” from more than 50 countries came to Cracow for the First World Congress of Translators of Polish Literature.

...[And this year’s prize winner]: Henryk Bereska, translator and poet, who specializes in translating Polish into German. Over a 55-year career he has translated over 100 books, including Prus, Reymont, Mickiewicz and Zeromski from older literature as well as newer writers like Andrzejewski, Iwaskiewicz, Nalkowski, Milosz, Zagajewski, and Herbert.

In his acceptance speech, he remarked that “A translator is a compulsive maniac, who can walk blindly through a big city with the single goal of uncovering the actual meaning of a given word.”

Lawrence Schofer is a German to English and Polish to English translator and can be reached at [lawrence.schofer@verizon.net](mailto:lawrence.schofer@verizon.net).

# Going to Washington

By Kathleen G. O'Hanlon

The pull was irresistible. The Schedule-At-A-Glance offered a wide variety of enticing sessions, opportunities to be tested and to learn how to test interpreters, and an unusual appearance by U.S. Court administrators about the new document concerning contract court interpreters. Add to that the conference venue, Washington, D.C., with its culture and history, and clearly this National Association of Judiciary Interpreters and Translators event was not to be missed.

The conference site was The Hotel Washington, with mosaic floors and gracefully curved stairs to the balcony's meeting rooms, only a block or two from the White House. Its quaint cage of harried registration clerks and often-jammed hallways and rooftop dining space were a reminder that, this year at least, atmosphere and charm seemed to have won out over spaciousness. However, the site's location and small scale made it easier to get from session to session, chat more with colleagues between events and do more sightseeing.

Pre-conference workshops, offered for a half or full day May 13, included a) training of trainers for oral certification exams; b) wiretap and tape transcription issues for interpreters; c) a 21-day program for improving one's simultaneous skills; and d) translation/interpretation of English legal terminology into Spanish. This last session was expertly led by Alicia Agnese, a former Georgetown University lecturer in translation studies who currently designs Spanish translation workshops for institutions of learning and associations worldwide.

Her excellent preparation, in general and for this session in particular, was evident. She modeled effective techniques for ferreting out the most precise translation with context as a guiding light. She provided useful handouts, and she was able to encourage interaction without allowing participants to waste seminar time with long personal anecdotes. A sampling of legal terms explored and then employed, rapid-fire, in translation exercises were *action*, *agree/agreement*, *business*, *constructive*, *fee*, *qualified*, and *require/requirement*. These terms may appear to be simple, but colleagues are encouraged to consult *El inglés jurídico norteamericano*, by Enrique Alcaraz Varó, and the companion dictionary by the same author, for discussion and analysis of legal terminology.

The choice of sessions ranged from financial crimes to practical leadership and from tape transcription to thematic learning. Particularly ambitious and useful was Holly Mikkelson's session entitled "The Interpreter's Need to See the Speaker: Myth or Reality?" Mikkelson, one of interpretation's pioneering professors and a co-author of the definitive textbook on court interpretation, wrote that this issue "has come to the fore as more and more organizations attempt to implement remote interpreting as a cost-saving measure." The U.S. District Courts are already a major example of this trend, employing remote (audio-only) interpretation from provider courts to districts across the country. The purpose of this session was to explore the most recent research into the question of visual

stimuli in oral communication and to draw research-based conclusions about remote interpretation's application. Not surprisingly, many studies seemed to indicate that remote interpreters experience more fatigue, stress, dissatisfaction, and feelings of loss of control over their work and commit more errors than do interpreters working live; as a matter of fact, one study reported by Moser-Mercer of professional interpreters viewing multiple-angle video images while working at a three-day meeting revealed that their error rate began to climb as early as 15 to 18 minutes into their renditions. However, other studies suggest that, in medical settings, some patients seemed to prefer using remote interpreters because of privacy concerns.

What is the optimal way to set up and provide remote interpretation? Mikkelson provided the following guidelines: 1) technical support must be effective and immediate; 2) sound quality needs to be impeccable since we are deprived of the whole realm of the visual with audio-only equipment; 3) turns must be of limited duration; 4) the best possible video connection should be provided; and 5) advance preparation needs to occur—documentation must be provided about court/medical cases to be taken up, for example, and interpreters must be trained on handling the equipment and the specific event, for instance, how can you get the witness to stop to allow consecutive interpretation if he can't see your subtle gesture? And interpreters should already be familiar or be made familiar with the physical and social settings into which we are speaking remotely: If you've never interpreted a preliminary hearing before, how do you know who is speaking and when if you can't see the "actor" who goes with the voice? Evidently, more research is needed to explore what many remote interpreters are already experiencing. Mikkelson suggested that the entertainment industry, research centers who study brain function and dysfunction, unions, international organizations and telemedicine might all be sources of information or possibly funding for continued study of this critical topic.

Another noteworthy session on Saturday was a presentation by three representatives from the

*The choice of sessions ranged from financial crimes to practical leadership and from tape transcription to thematic learning.*

Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, followed by limited questions and answers, largely about a new terms-and-conditions document some federal contract court interpreters have been asked to sign. (Please join the free list serve at [www.najit.org](http://www.najit.org) and read *The President's Letter*, in this issue, for more information.)

One of the many invitations made to interpreters and translators at this year's NAJIT conference was to participate in the ATA/NAJIT Outreach Program. Join the School Outreach Movement, go to a school, give a short presentation you have simply downloaded from an ATA website, and effect meaningful change in the mindset of the next generation of Americans about the professions of translating and interpreting. It's that simple; it's that powerful. You could even win free attendance at ATA's November conference in Seattle if you act now. NAJIT's Advocacy Committee, which has worked toward the development of a law to prohibit making children act as interpreters, has scored other victories as well, and the ATA/NAJIT position paper on the recent Yousry case and ethical considerations should be in the briefcase of every court interpreter in the country. See [www.najit.org](http://www.najit.org) for more information on these and other initiatives.

This year's NAJIT conference also included raffles for several nice items, including the grand prize of free attendance at next year's conference, at the Houston Marriott, May 19-21, 2006. So, y'all come.

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*[The author is a federally-certified court interpreter, journalist and former university instructor of ESL and Spanish who currently lives in Chicagoland but spent nearly 10 years in Texas. Her e-mail address is [KathleenOHanlon@aol.com](mailto:KathleenOHanlon@aol.com).]*

# Lulu Press: Free Software, Free Publishing

by Corinne McKay

Many of us “word people” aspire to some day write a book, whether it’s a term dictionary in our language pair, a travel memoir, or the novel we fantasize about during translation’s less gripping moments. Unfortunately, the large majority of would-be authors are dissuaded not by writing the book but by getting it published, given that this usually involves either creating a book proposal and querying multiple publishers, or shelling out a large amount of money to a self-publishing press.

The “third way” in the publishing world is Lulu (<http://www.lulu.com>), the brain child of Red Hat (as in: market leader open source software company) co-founder Bob Young. Originally conceived as a way to allow open source developers to affordably publish software manuals, Lulu now supports self-publishing of books, music, comics, calendars, magazines and more. Best of all, there’s no setup fee, no minimum order, and the author sets his or her own royalty and gets paid quarterly by Lulu. Lulu makes money by taking a small percentage of each sale, but since this commission is taken only on actual sales, there’s nothing to lose by putting your content out there; you just upload it and Lulu prints a book whenever someone orders one.

Lulu is a pretty revolutionary concept in a number of ways. Turnaround is immediate, and requires no special software; you can upload a PDF of your English↔Russian philately dictionary and order a copy a few minutes later, or as Lulu says, “Create File, Upload, Price and Publish.” Lulu offers a variety of cover and binding options, ranging from

completely professional, with ISBN (many Lulu books are for sale on “mainstream” sites like Amazon) to spiral bound with a black and white cover. And although Lulu was originally launched with the technical set in mind, their current “Top 100” includes such volumes as “How to Start a Wedding Planning Business” (#1), “The Hardball Times Baseball Annual” (#9) and “The End of the Oil Age” (#17), in addition to technical manuals such as “Learn C on the Macintosh,” “Visual Studio .NET Tips and Tricks,” and others.

Lulu provides each book with a web page including a sample chapter and reader reviews, as well as the tools to sell your book yourself, including “Buy Now” buttons to put on your own web site. Unlike a conventional publisher, Lulu puts no restrictions on how or where you sell your book. In addition, Lulu is currently hiring freelance translators (<http://www.lulu.com/about/jobs.php>) in a variety of language combinations.

*About Open Source Update:* This bulletin is brought to you by Corinne McKay, freelance writer and ATA-certified French to English translator, <http://www.translatewrite.com>. Please feel free to forward it to friends and colleagues. Your information will never be shared with a third party. Subscribe: send an e-mail with “Subscribe” as the subject line to [opensource@translatewrite.com](mailto:opensource@translatewrite.com) Unsubscribe: as above, but with “Unsubscribe” as the subject line Feedback: as above, but with a subject line of your choice!

# Paragraph Mark? What Paragraph Mark?

By Jost Zetsche

*[Editor's Note: See the notice on p. 3 of this issue of inforMATION for Jost's Translation Software Tools Seminar coming to Chicago on July 9, 2005.]*

At a workshop in San Francisco last week, one participant asked me a question that she considered the ultimate of all computer-related questions: When you're working in a Word document and you highlight and delete the last bit of a paragraph, the current paragraph and the following paragraph can lose all formatting. Why is that?

Well, there's an easy answer to this and -- what else would you expect -- another that's not quite as easy.

Either way, the "paragraph mark" lies at the core of the matter. Paragraph marks are the non-printing characters that Word places every time the author of the document hits the Enter or Return key to start a new paragraph. These characters are invisible unless you make them visible by clicking on the Show/Hide Paragraph button on your toolbar or pressing Ctrl+\* (or Ctrl+Shift+8).

You might assume that there's nothing special about that character, but the fact is that the paragraph mark contains all the paragraph formatting, or the "style" of the paragraph (such as Heading 1, Normal, Bullet, etc.). Once you know that, you can use this feature to your advantage by copying and pasting the paragraph mark to another paragraph to copy and paste formatting (though there are other and better ways to do this as well).

The problem is that once you delete that mark,

you delete the style for the entire paragraph, and the results within Word can be utterly unpredictable. It's possible that the two combined paragraphs will take over the formatting of the first paragraph, or the second paragraph, or revert to the Normal style. . . .

While all this may not be extremely helpful, it is a very helpful practice to work with the non-printing characters displayed so you can make sure that when deleting the last part of a paragraph you do indeed only do that rather than deleting the paragraph mark right with it.

## **The Last Word**

The Toolkit is a biweekly newsletter for people in the translation industry who want to get more out of their computers. If you would like to recommend this newsletter to a colleague or friend, send them to [www.internationalwriters.com/toolkit](http://www.internationalwriters.com/toolkit). If he or she mentions your name during the subscription, I'll put your name in a drawing for one free Tool Box book per edition.

If you would like to promote this newsletter by placing a link on your web site, I will in turn mention your web site in a future edition of the Tool Kit. Just paste the code you can find under [www.internationalwriters.com/sample.html](http://www.internationalwriters.com/sample.html) into the HTML code of your web page and the little icon that is displayed on that page with a link to my web site will be displayed. Here's a reader who loaded the code last week: [www.mgo-traduccion.com.ar](http://www.mgo-traduccion.com.ar)

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## New Educational Tool for Financial Translators & Interpreters

Did you miss the highly successful ATA Financial Translation and Interpreting Conference?

Order the CD-ROM today!

Only \$69 for ATA Members  
(\$129 for nonmembers)

Visit <http://www.atanet.org/pd/finance/cdrom.htm> to learn more.

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The ATA Financial Translation and Interpreting Conference was the inaugural event for creating an electronic library of advanced education that will serve to reach more professionals in more successful ways. More than 30 sessions — over 45 hours of content -- have been audiotaped and integrated with supporting slides, documents, and other information to create a multimedia CD-ROM that will serve as a valuable educational tool.

Note: Not all presentations are included on the CD-ROM due to speaker consent or program changes. Visit <http://www.atanet.org/pd/finance/cdrom.htm> to learn which sessions are included.

For ATA-certified members, you'll be happy to learn that this CD-ROM has been approved for Continuing Education Points! Earn one point for each hour viewed, up to a maximum of 10 points.

Take advantage of this new opportunity provided by the ATA.  
Visit <http://www.atanet.org/pd/finance/cdrom.htm> today!

## ATA CERTIFICATION EXAM HELD IN CHICAGO

The American Translators Association held a certification exam sitting in Chicago, Illinois, on Monday, June 6, 2005. For those who were interested but unable to take the exam this time, we urge you to prepare now, including by taking a practice exam, so you can get the graded feedback in time for the next exam in our area. As you may have noticed, the MATI board is making every effort to ensure that interested members of our profession can enjoy the benefits of certification without having to travel long distances to take the ATA exam. If you are interested in the eligibility requirements, please check for more information at the Web site of ATA, [www.atanet.org](http://www.atanet.org).

# Translation and Interpretation Conference

## August 13 – 15, 2005, Cordoba, Argentina

Dear Colleagues and all those in the translation industry,

We are proud to announce that our preliminary program is ready and available on our Web site.

As in every Conference we've organized, we devote the first day to our Pre-conference Seminars. (Please keep in mind that **August 13–15 is a long weekend** as Monday 15 is a public holiday in Argentina this year). What follows is some information on one of the **six seminars** we want to share with you this year. We'll be sending more information on other interesting seminars and presentations soon.

### **GENERAL ASPECTS OF FOREIGN LANGUAGE USE IN TRANSLATION.**

This workshop aims to describe and analyse both the linguistic and the discursual properties of the foreign language that may lead to potential errors in translation. It will also provide the participants with the necessary linguistic background to help them examine the relationship between complete texts and the linguistic, social and cultural contexts in which they function. The workshop will consist of text analysis and error correction.

### **Professor Alejandro Parini**

Director of the School of Languages and Foreign Studies at the University of Belgrano in Buenos Aires. He is also the Director of the MA and BA in English programmes run by this University. He is a Visiting Professor at City University, London and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts. Professor Parini teaches sociolinguistics and works on the application of this discipline to the fields of translation and second language learning. He has taught EFL and lectured in many parts of South America and the United Kingdom. He has since 1995 been an independent writer, editor and consultant, and has contributed a number of articles and essays to different periodicals and journals. Professor Parini is also the author of *Short Essays on Language*, a book of essays on the English Language published by the University of Buenos Aires. His research interests include the linguistic and cultural implications of English as an International Language and the sociolinguistic aspects of the study of language and gender in society.

The Graduate School of Translation and Interpretation of the Monterey Institute of International Studies will sponsor a medical translation and interpretation seminar from August 18 to 21, 2005 in Monterey for German and Spanish translators and interpreters. For more information visit the GLD Web site at <http://www.ata-divisions.org/GLD/> and go to the link under "Veranstaltungen."