2026 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Designing your Future in the Language Industry

Johnson City, TN
Nov 7 - 8

Tennessee Association of Professional Interpreters and Translators
TAPIT

CONFERENCE **PROGRAM**

November 7-8, 2026

D.P. Culp Center at East Tennessee State University
412 J.L. Seehorn Jr. Road, Johnson City, TN 37614

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7 (MORNING) 5 ATA CEUs	
8a–8:45a	**REGISTRATION & Full Breakfast** East Tennessee Room entrance (2nd fl.) and Dining Hall (3rd fl.)
8:45a–9a	**Welcome Address by the TAPIT President**
9a–10a	**Keynote Address:** **STAYING AHEAD OF THE CURVE (1 h)** by Javier Castillo TN AOC 1 FL | CEAP 1 CE hr | 0.1 IMIA CEU
10a–11a	**WHAT CAN ACADEMIC AND FIELD RESEARCH TELL US ABOUT THE INTERPRETER'S CRAFT? (1 h)** by Dr. Brandee Marie Strickland TN AOC 1 FL | CEAP 1 CE hr | 0.1 IMIA CEU
11a–11:15p	**Morning Networking Break / Refreshments**
11:15a–12:15p	**"I'M NOT JUST BILINGUAL, I'M A PROFESSIONAL INTERPRETER" (1 h)** by Dr. Tatiana González-Cestari TN AOC 1 FL | CEAP 1 CE hr | 0.1 IMIA CEU
12:15p–1p	**Lunch Break and Networking** Dining Hall
1p–1:30p	**TAPIT Business Meeting for Members**
1:30p–1:45p	**Sponsor Highlights**

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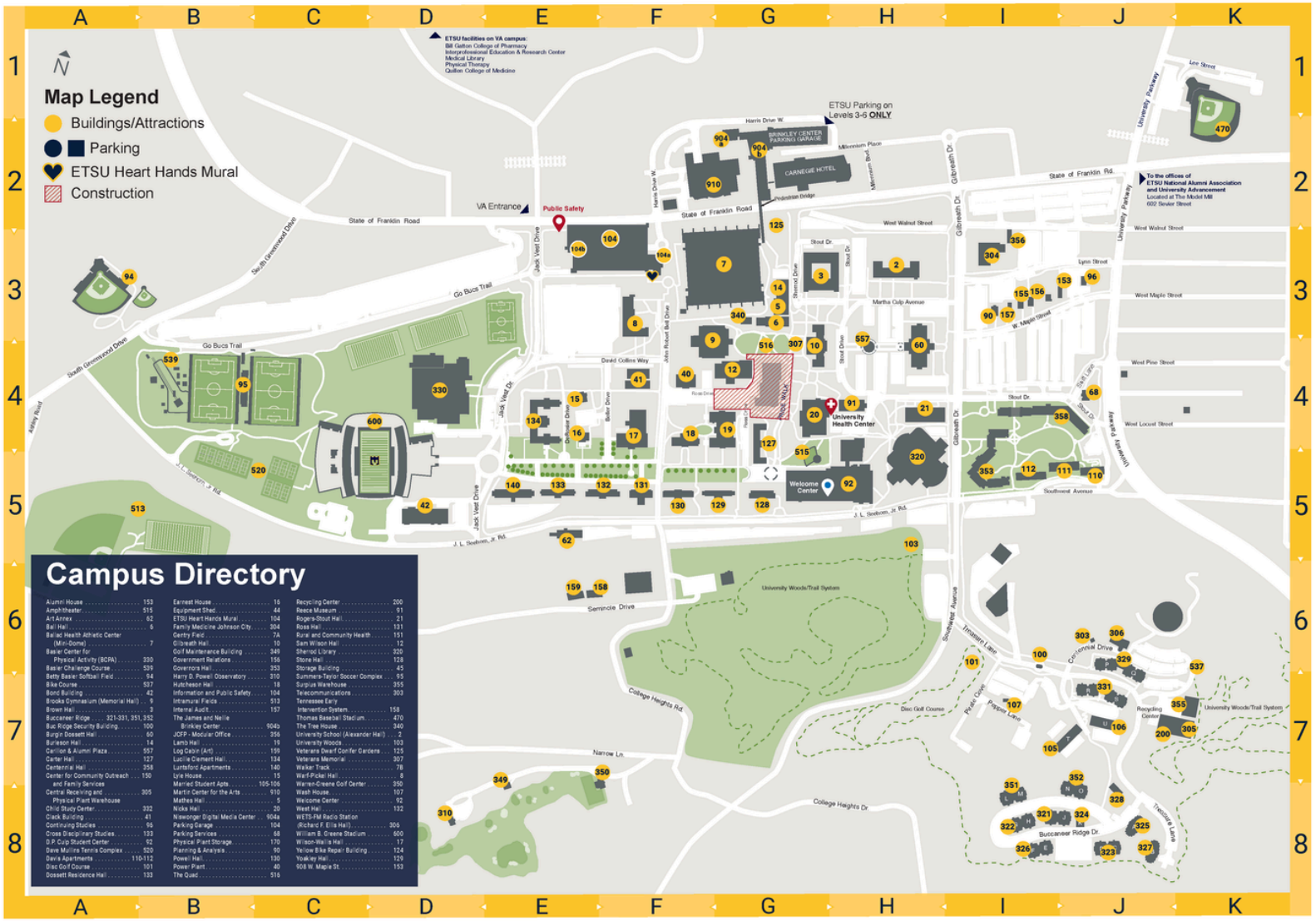
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7 (AFTERNOON)		
1:45p–2:45p	**MEMORY MASTERY (1 h)** by Javier Castillo TN AOC 1 FL | CEAP 1 CE hr (PB) | 0.1 IMIA CEU	
2:45–3:45p	**LET'S PRACTICE: REWIRING THE BRAIN (1 h)** by Bruni Treviño Dopatka TN AOC 1 FL | CEAP 1 CE hr (PB) | 0.1 IMIA CEU	
3:45-4p	**Afternoon Networking Break**	
	Room A East Tennessee Room	**Room B** Meeting Room 219
4-5:30p	**DRUGS, MEDICATIONS AND PHARMACOLOGY (1.5 h)** by Dr. Tatiana González-Cestari TN AOC 1.5 FL | CEAP 1.5 CE hr | 0.15 IMIA CEUs	**PATHWAYS: TRANSLATION CHALLENGES IN LITERATURE (1.5 h)** ETSU Panel on Literary Translation TN AOC 1.5 FL
5:30–6p	**Networking / Activities**	
6p–9p	**Conference Celebration Dinner**	

CONFERENCE **PROGRAM**

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412 J.L. Seehorn Jr. Road, Johnson City, TN 37614

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8 3 ATA CEUs		
8a–8:45a	**REGISTRATION & Full Breakfast** East Tennessee Room entrance (2nd fl.) and Dining Hall (3rd fl.)	
8:45a–9a	**Welcome Address by the TAPIT President**	
9a–10a	**THE SYMBOL SOLUTION: UNDERSTANDING AND BUILDING A SYSTEM OF SYMBOLS TO IMPROVE NOTE-TAKING (1 h)** by Javier Castillo TN AOC 1 FL | CEAP 1 CE hr (PB) | 0.1 IMIA CEUs	
10a–10:15a	**Networking Break**	
	Room A East Tennessee Room	**Room B** Meeting Room 219
10:15a–11:15a	**TEACHING AND LEARNING MEDICAL INTERPRETING SKILLS: INSTRUCTOR AND STUDENT PERSPECTIVES (1 h)** by Dr. Liv Detwiler TN AOC 1 FL | CEAP 1 CE hr | 0.1 IMIA CEUs	**WHEN ONE IS NOT ENOUGH: STANDARDS FOR TEAM INTERPRETING IN LEGAL SETTINGS (1 h)** by Dr. Nattalia Paterson and Dr. Chantal Portillo TN AOC 1 FL
11:15a–12:45p	**COMPUTER ASSISTED TRANSLATION (CAT) TOOLS WORKSHOP (1.5 h)** by John Mark Maust TN AOC 1.5 FL | CEAP 1.5 CE hr (PB) | 0.15 IMIA CEUs	**SIMULTANEOUS WORK IN JUVENILE COURT (1.5 h)** by Courtney L. Cevallos TN AOC 1.5 FL
12:45p–1:30p	**Final Remarks and Networking**	


Map Legend
Buildings/Attractions
Parking
ETSU Heart Hands Mural
Construction
ETSU facilities on VA campus:
Bill Gatton College of Pharmacy
Interprofessional Education & Research Center
Medical Library
Physical Therapy
Quillen College of Medicine
ETSU Parking on Levels 3-5 ONLY
VA Entrance
Public Safety
State of Franklin Road
Go Bucs Trail
South Greenwood Drive
Jack Vest Drive
John Robert Bud Dixon
David Collins Way
Stout Drive
Martha Culp Avenue
Gilbreath Dr.
University Parkway
Southwest Avenue
Seminole Drive
College Heights Rd.
College Heights Dr.
Narrow Ln.
Buccaneer Ridge Dr.
Treasure Lane
Pirate Cove
Pegasus Lane
Disc Golf Course
University Woods/Trail System
Millennium Place
Millennium Blvd.
Harris Drive W.
Pedestrian Bridge
West Walnut Street
West Maple Street
West Pine Street
West Locust Street
Lynn Street
Lee Street
Shertod Drive
Road Drive
Baker Drive
Southwest Drive
Ashley Road
Sevin Greenwood Drive
J. L. Seehorn, Jr. Rd.
Concordia Drive
Jonesboro Lane
BRINKLEY CENTER PARKING GARAGE
CARNEGIE HOTEL
University Health Center
Welcome Center
To the offices of ETSU National Alumni Association and University Advancement
Located at The Model Mill
602 Sevier Street
Campus Directory
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Art Annex 62
Ball Hall 6
Ballad Health Athletic Center (Mini-Dome) 7
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Basler Challenge Course 539
Betty Basler Softball Field 94
Bike Course 537
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Brown Hall 3
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Bus Ridge Security Building 100
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Burleson Hall 14
Carlson & Alumni Plaza 557
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Mathes Hall 5
Nicks Hall 20
Niswonger Digital Media Center 904a
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Parking Services 68
Physical Plant Storage 170
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Powell Hall 130
Power Plant 40
The Quad 516
Recycling Center 200
Reece Museum 91
Rogers-Stout Hall 21
Ross Hall 131
Rural and Community Health 151
Sam Wilson Hall 12
Sherrod Library 320
Store Hall 128
Storage Building 45
Summers-Taylor Soccer Complex 95
Surplus Warehouse 355
Telecommunications 303
Tennessee Early Intervention System 158
Thomas Baseball Stadium 470
The Tree House 340
University School (Alexander Hall) 2
University Woods 103
Veterans Dwarf Conifer Gardens 125
Veterans Memorial 307
Walker Track 7B
Warf-Pickel Hall 8
Warren-Greene Golf Center 350
Wash House 107
Welcome Center 92
West Hall 132
WETS-FM Radio Station (Richard F. Ellis Hall) 306
William B. Greene Stadium 600
Wilson-Wallis Hall 17
Yellow Bike Repair Building 124
Yoakley Hall 129
908 W. Maple St. 153

ABOUT **TAPIT**

Our mission is to elevate the professional image of translators and interpreters by educating the public and language service users while emphasizing the importance of certification and language proficiency. TAPIT unites court, medical, community, and sign language interpreters and translators in Tennessee, fostering collaboration and addressing common interests to build a strong statewide presence that:

- Advocates for and promotes the interests of interpreters and translators in Tennessee.
- Upholds the highest ethical and professional standards in the fields of interpreting and translation.
- Provides a platform for discussion of language access and professional issues affecting interpreters, translators, courts, legal and healthcare services, educational institutions, and business and individuals contracting for language services.
- Communicates the latest industry news.
- Organizes and delivers training courses and workshops for interpreter and translator professional development.
- Serves as an advisory resource for interpreters, translators, courts, legal professionals, law enforcement, healthcare providers, businesses, and educational institutions on matters related to the interpreting and translation professions.

Board of Directors

Hebba Abulsaad
Matt Benton
Barbara Derthick
Dr. Felipe Fiuza
Eleazar Jimenez
María Belén Miller
Julita Ledesma de Rusiñol
Richard Ponce-de-Leon

A Message from the Board

Every conference offers an opportunity to step back from the day-to-day work of our profession and think about what comes next. This year's theme, **Designing Your Future in the Language Industry**, invites us to take an active role in shaping our careers, strengthening our skills, and preparing for the opportunities and challenges ahead.

The language industry continues to evolve. New technologies, changing client expectations, expanding areas of specialization, and new ways of delivering language services are reshaping the work of interpreters and translators. In this environment, building a sustainable and rewarding career requires more than simply responding to change. It requires us to make deliberate choices about how we grow, adapt, and define our professional paths.

As you take part in TAPIT 2026, we invite you to approach the conference with curiosity and intention. Learn from the experiences of others, explore new possibilities, and consider how the ideas you encounter can become part of your own professional journey.

The future of the language industry is still being shaped, and so is your place within it.

Welcome to the 2026 TAPIT CONFERENCE, and thank you for being part of Tennessee's interpreting, translation, and language access community.

JOIN **TAPIT**

Explore TAPIT membership options and find the level that best fits your professional needs. Membership connects you with Tennessee's interpreting and translation community while providing access to resources, professional development, networking opportunities, and member benefits.

NETWORKING

With our membership of over one hundred interpreters and translators from all over Tennessee and many other states, you have the opportunity to connect with experienced professionals to share your interests and experiences. Our monthly virtual meetings and events provide wonderful opportunities to interact.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The 2-day TAPIT Conference is held in the Fall. TAPIT brings prominent speakers and presenters from all over the country and abroad who share their fascinating, useful, and interesting information with us. The Conference consists of a wide range of presentations related to interpreting and translation and an evening social event.

WORKSHOPS AND SEMINARS

Throughout the year TAPIT conducts virtual (Meet-and-Greets) and in-person workshops and seminars in different regions of Tennessee.

WHATSAPP GROUPS and SOCIAL MEDIA

You will be able to communicate with other members, find out about job opportunities and training, and share information on terminology and other items of interest to the profession.

WEBSITE

You will have access to information, including members-only content, that you can use in your daily professional life and information about other members you may be interested in contacting by phone or e-mail.

JOIN **TAPIT**

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PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Whether you are seeking information about the profession or Continuous Education Units, we offer opportunities throughout the year via monthly virtual or in-person gatherings, virtual and in-person workshops, and conferences.

SOCIAL EVENTS

Besides virtual Meet-and-Greets, interpreters and translators also enjoy informal gatherings where they get together with others sharing the same interest in languages, as well as other hobbies such as hiking, or food.

WHO CAN BE A MEMBER?

TAPIT has several types of membership:

- **Active:** For any person engaged in the remunerated practice of interpreting, translation, and/or transliteration, or any person who shares TAPIT's interests.
- **Student:** For any person engaged in academic studies as defined by the Membership Committee or Board of Directors
- **Group:** For an organization, government agency, or educational institution with an interest in the language professions. There are two types:
  - Corporate (provides benefits for up to 5 of their staff)
  - Institutional (provides benefits for up to 10 of their staff)

Speaker Bios and Summaries



Javier Castillo | *Keynote Speaker*

Javier is president of Castillo Language Services, Inc. in Greenville, NC – an interpreter, translator, consultant and internationally recognized speaker. He is a Federally Certified Court Interpreter, NC AOC certified court interpreter, Certified Medical Interpreter (CCHI), and contract interpreter for the U.S. Department of State, routinely interpreting for international delegations and high-level speakers across the United States and abroad.

Since 2007 he has trained court, medical, conference and community interpreters nationwide, including in-house training for hospitals, Administrative Offices of the Court, and Departments of Social Services, and courses he developed for staff and contract interpreters of the U.S. Department of State Office of Language Services. He has designed and taught courses on working with interpreters at Campbell Law School and the UNC School of Law, plus Continuing Legal Education courses for members of the judiciary.

A frequent speaker and trainer at national and international conferences, he served as President of the Carolina Association of Translators and Interpreters (CATI), Chair of the National Association of Judiciary Interpreters and Translators (NAJIT), and Head of the U.S. Chapter of the International Association of Professional Interpreters and Translators (IAPTI). He is an active member of the American Translators Association.

Speaker Bios and Summaries

Javier Castillo | *Keynote Speaker*

SATURDAY AT 9:00 AM | TN AOC 1 FL | 0.1 IMIA CEU | CEAP 1 CE hr

STAYING AHEAD OF THE CURVE (1 h)

Abstract:
In this entertaining and thought-provoking session, attendees will have a chance to do some introspection and find ways to stay ahead of life's different curves. In the face of changing landscapes, with AI, and other threats and opportunities, it's important to prepare and think about the different ways that one can future-proof one's profession. Attendees will learn ways of thinking about their current and future situations and find ways to be prepared to provide the highest level services for their clients in a rapidly changing environment.

Language Scope: Language-neutral
Topics Covered: Interpretation, General Knowledge

SATURDAY AT 1:45 PM | TN AOC 1 FL | 0.1 IMIA CEU | CEAP 1 CE hr (PB)

MEMORY MASTERY (1 h)

Abstract:
In this session, we take an in-depth look at the interpreting process, find strategies to improve retention and learn techniques to improve both active/working memory and long-term retention.

Language Scope: Language-neutral
Topics Covered: Interpretation, General knowledge

Speaker Bios and Summaries

Javier Castillo | *Keynote Speaker*

SUNDAY AT 9:00 AM | TN AOC 1 FL | 0.1 IMIA CEU | CEAP 1 CE hr (PB)

THE SYMBOL SOLUTION: UNDERSTANDING AND BUILDING A SYSTEM OF SYMBOLS TO IMPROVE NOTE-TAKING (1 h)

Abstract:
This is a practical, interactive session designed to help interpreters capture meaning faster, take clearer notes, and reduce the mental load of note-taking while they interpret. The Symbol Solution teaches a simple, adaptable approach to using symbols in your notes. Whether you work in legal, medical, educational, business, community, conference or other interpreting settings, you will leave with practical tools you can begin using immediately. Attendees will learn how to use symbols to capture key ideas, relationships and details more efficiently, replace unnecessary words with clear and meaningful visual shorthand, apply practical symbols in consecutive and simultaneous interpreting, create a personalized symbol system that fits their assignments and work environment, and take notes with greater clarity and confidence. The session is for interpreters who want to understand how to incorporate symbols into their note-taking, strengthen their consecutive-interpreting note-taking skills, develop symbols that make sense for the work they do, and feel more organized and confident when handling dense or fast-moving information. The session is language-neutral and open to interpreters at all experience levels.

Language Scope: Language-neutral
Topics Covered: Interpretation

Speaker Bios and Summaries



Courtney L. Cevallos

Courtney has been a Certified Interpreter since 2017 and has experience working primarily within the State Court system, providing interpreting services in a variety of legal and judicial settings. In addition to her court interpreting work, she is also deeply involved in early intervention services.

SUNDAY AT 11:15 AM | TN AOC 1.5 FL

SIMULTANEOUS WORK IN JUVENILE COURT (1.5 h)

Abstract:
Participants will practice simultaneous interpreting Termination of Parental Rights hearings, according to the seven grounds for termination, as we simulate the reading of a judge's ruling in a juvenile court. This courtroom-like workshop is designed to give space for different skill levels of interpreters to practice and improve speed, precision and accuracy.

Language Scope: Language-neutral
Topics Covered: Interpretation; General Knowledge; Legal; Technical

Speaker Bios and Summaries



Dr. Liv Detwiler

Dr. Liv H. Detwiler received her PhD in World Language Teacher Education from the University of TN, Knoxville and is a CCHI certified medical interpreter. She interprets locally as a contracted and volunteer interpreter, and has collaborated with Somos Amigos, a volunteer run/community driven health clinic in Naranjito, Dominican Republic. She is a senior lecturer in Spanish at ETSU and has been an instructor for the advanced medical interpreting/translation coursework for several years. Her research interests include instructed second language acquisition, experiential learning, teacher agency, and reflective practice, amongst other topics.

SUNDAY AT 10:15 AM | TN AOC 1 FL | 0.1 IMIA CEU | CEAP 1 CE hr

TEACHING AND LEARNING MEDICAL INTERPRETING SKILLS: INSTRUCTOR AND STUDENT PERSPECTIVES (1 h)

With Cameron Schaffner and Justin Hamilton

Abstract:
In this session, the panelists will share their experiences as an instructor and former students in advanced medical interpretation coursework. Each participant will reflect on the ways in which their educational training and preparation informed their professional pathways as community/medical interpreters. Panelists will highlight memorable encounters and challenging moments in their early years of interpreting that continue to inform their current practices. We will also highlight ways in which the ETSU program has prioritized community collaboration in the interest of enhancing medical interpreter development. In the second half of the session we will engage the audience in three intermediate interpreting practice activities, a sample of what we do in the interpreter training courses.

Language Scope: Language-neutral
Topics Covered: Medical interpreting, Interpreter Training

Speaker Bios and Summaries



Dr. Felipe Fiuza

Felipe Fiuza is an Associate Professor of Spanish at East Tennessee State University (ETSU), where he is also the Director of its Language and Culture Resource Center (LCRC). He received his Ph.D. in Spanish Literature from Purdue University in 2017. As director of the LCRC, he works towards closing the gap between native speakers of English and people from other languages and cultures by providing language services, such as ESL classes, interpretations for health clinics, and translations. He has over 25 years of experience in education.

SATURDAY AT 4:00 PM | TN AOC 1.5 FL

PATHWAYS: TRANSLATION CHALLENGES IN LITERATURE (1.5 h)

With the ETSU Translation Panel

Abstract:

In this panel we seek to discuss some challenges that a translator faces when dealing with works of Literature. We will also discuss strategies, pathways, that one can choose to address those challenges. With that in mind, we will tackle morphological puzzles, metric dilemmas from poetry, background differences between author and translator, and even the trials of translating one's own life partner. Some of the pathways include, but are not limited to, extensive research, footnotes, transcreation, and neologisms. Each paper presentation might focus on specific words, authors, books, or specific texts, but all will be inviting each presenter and the audience to what we hope will be an engaging discussion about the topic.

Language Scope: Language-neutral

Topics Covered: Literary Translation, Challenges, Identity, Gender, Authorship, Cultural Context, Translation Puzzles

Speaker Bios and Summaries



Dr. Tatiana González-Cestari

Tatiana González-Cestari, PhD, CHI-Spanish has 23 years of combined experience as a pharmacologist, researcher, professor, leader, and remote interpreter. She is the Director of Language Service Advocacy at Martti an Equiti Solution where she focuses on hospitals' language access best practices and impact on quality, compliance, and financial metrics. Tatiana is part of the NCIHC Board and Policy, Education and Research Committee and co-author of The Remote Interpreter textbook. Tatiana obtained her pharmacy degree and her Ph.D. in pharmacology from Universidad Central de Venezuela.

SATURDAY AT 11:15 AM | TN AOC 1 FL | 0.1 IMIA CEU | CEAP 1 CE hr

"I'M NOT JUST BILINGUAL, I'M A PROFESSIONAL INTERPRETER" (1 h)

Abstract:
The interpreting field continues to grow rapidly, and more robust training is being developed for all specializations and modalities. However, the training system for interpreters still needs to be standardized across language pairs and the country. So, what can interpreters do to support professional standards and educate those requesting services? We, interpreters, are models and hold ourselves and each other accountable. In this presentation, we'll discuss what's expected from interpreters, the various credentials available, and how you can stand out in this competitive market. We'll help you plan your path to finding work using your portfolio and social media presence.

Language Scope: Language-neutral
Topics Covered: Interpretation, General knowledge, Other Topic(s)

Speaker Bios and Summaries

Dr. Tatiana González-Cestari

SATURDAY AT 4:00 PM | TN AOC 1.5 FL | 0.15 IMIA CEU | CEAP 1.5 CE hr

DRUGS, MEDICATIONS AND PHARMACOLOGY: IMPLICATIONS FOR LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS AND TRANSLATORS (1.5 h)

Abstract:
Most healthcare-related interpreting sessions involve information regarding names of medications, classification, side effects, routes of administration, dosage, and mechanisms of action by which drugs work in our body. In addition, translated versions of specialized books and documents in pharmaceutical and pharmacological fields into non-English languages are vital sources of information in many countries. Having a basic understanding of drugs and medication-related concepts makes interpretations and translations more accurate and understandable. This session will review the information mentioned above, how our body affects drugs, pharmaceutical presentations, implications of understanding certain pharmacological parameters, and medication terminology in general.

Language Scope: Language-neutral
Topics Covered: Interpretation,Translation,General knowledge,Medical,Technical,Medical-Legal

Speaker Bios and Summaries



John Mark Maust

John Mark Maust was born to North American parents in Tegucigalpa, Honduras. He has lived in four countries in his childhood (Honduras, Ecuador, Costa Rica, and the United States). Bi-lingual and trans-cultural, he served as a volunteer interpreter from a young age. He received his Bachelor of Arts in International Studies and Master of Arts in Romance Languages from the University of New Orleans. John Mark is a certified court interpreter and recently completed a master's degree in professional English--Spanish Translation. He spends his days working in Tennessee courts and hospitals, teaching college level courses, and pursuing his hobby of nature photography.

SUNDAY AT 11:15 AM | TN AOC 1.5 FL | 0.15 IMIA CEU | CEAP 1.5 CE hr (PB)

COMPUTER ASSISTED TRANSLATION (CAT) TOOLS WORKSHOP (1.5 h)

Abstract:
A hands on workshop designed to introduce interpreters to available tools for written translation. While technology is not able to completely replace the human translator, there are tools specifically developed to make the process more efficient. Participants will use their own laptops to use MateCat, a free online CAT tool, to translate a short text provided by the instructor and then use the same tool to revise each other's work. The session will cover the strengths, pitfalls, and ethical considerations of using computer assisted translation.

Language Scope: Language-neutral
Topics Covered: Translation, Technical, Legal, Medical-Legal, Medical, Community, Education

Speaker Bios and Summaries



Dr. Nattalia Paterson

Dr. Nattalia Paterson is a Portuguese interpreter and translator. She holds a Ph.D. in Linguistics from Northwestern University and a B.A. degree in Language Studies – majoring in Linguistics, Translation and Conference Interpretation from PUC-Rio. She also holds medical (CCHI) and state court interpreter certifications, in addition to serving as a contract interpreter for the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Federal Courts. Nattalia served as President of the National Association of Judiciary Interpreters and Translators (NAJIT) Board of Directors for two years, co-authored NAJIT's guidelines on team interpreting, and continues to contribute through the organization's Advocacy, Position Papers, and Forensic Transcription and Translation Committees, as well as the American Translators Association Advocacy Committee.

Dr. Chantal Portillo

Dr. Portillo was born in the USA and raised in Spain, providing her with a bi-lingual and bi-cultural family background from a young age. This sparked her interest in languages and interculturality, which led to a Bachelor's degree in Translation and Interpretation first, and a Master's and PhD in fields related to intangible heritage, sustainable tourism and intercultural interpretation in the creation of sustainable cultural tourism products. Chantal was a conference interpreter in Spain and a Judicial Translator and Interpreter certified by the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs for a decade. After moving to the USA and working as a certified medical interpreter for a year, she got certified as a judicial interpreter with the Oregon Judicial Department in 2014. In 2020, after being an independent contractor for 23 years, Chantal was hired as an on-staff interpreter by Court Language Access Services (OJD), her current placement. Chantal is also ATA certified.

Speaker Bios and Summaries

Dr. Nattalia Paterson and Dr. Chantal Portillo

SUNDAY AT 10:15 AM | TN AOC 1 FL

WHEN ONE IS NOT ENOUGH: STANDARDS FOR TEAM INTERPRETING IN LEGAL SETTINGS (1 h)

Abstract:
What happens when a court interpreter reaches their limit mid-hearing–and no contingency plan exists? Team interpreting is one of the profession's most effective safeguards against interpretation failure, yet it remains chronically underused, underfunded, and frequently misunderstood in legal settings. When courts rely on a single interpreter for extended or complex proceedings, the risks to accuracy and due process increase significantly. This presentation introduces NAJIT's second position paper on team interpreting, a substantially expanded edition that builds on the association's foundational guidance with a comprehensive framework for planning, coordinating, and executing team assignments. The session highlights key recommendations from the paper and addresses common misconceptions surrounding team interpreting. Designed for interpreters, language access coordinators, and legal professionals, this presentation reframes team interpreting as a professional standard that protects quality, reliability, and the integrity of judicial proceedings

Language Scope: Language-neutral
Topics Covered: Interpretation,General knowledge,Legal

Speaker Bios and Summaries



Dr. Brandee Strickland

Dr. Brandee Marie Strickland is a certified court interpreter for the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) of the State of Tennessee and an Associate Lecturer of Spanish at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, where she teaches intermediate- and advanced-level Spanish, including courses in interpreting, which include modules on interpreting in legal, medical and educational contexts.Her experience as a practicing interpreter, language educator, and university faculty member informs her interest in connecting research on interpreting with the knowledge and practices of professional interpreters.

SATURDAY AT 10:00 AM | TN AOC 1 FL | 0.1 IMIA CEU | CEAP 1 CE hr

WHAT CAN ACADEMIC AND FIELD RESEARCH TELL US ABOUT THE INTERPRETER'S CRAFT? (1 h)

Abstract:
In this presentation we will examine articles and book chapters that present academic and field research addressing the work of interpreters in a variety of settings, including medical, legal and educational settings. We will discuss key factors that are commonly observed, described and measured in those texts, such as the various types of difficulties or challenges faced by interpreters in particular medical, legal and educational settings, strategies used to overcome them, classifications of interpreter errors, etc. We will reflect together on how this academic research can help inform our practice, or craft, as interpreters.

Language Scope: Language-neutral
Topics Covered: Interpretation, Medical, Legal, Education, Other Topic(s)

Speaker Bios and Summaries



Bruni Treviño Dopatka

Bruni Treviño Dopatka was born in Mexico. She has lived and studied in Mexico, the United States, France, Germany, and Austria. She received a bachelor's degree in French and a master's in German. She temporarily moved with her husband to Germany and was chosen to do an internship and subsequently worked as a business analyst for an affiliate of Mercedes-Benz. She swims, hikes, plays the piano, periodically bikes, and continues to learn Russian. She likes to use her skills to teach. She has been a certified Spanish court interpreter in Tennessee since 2004, occasionally a French interpreter for the court as well, and a CCHI medical interpreter since 2016. She has presented many times at TAPIT, as well as at the Community Mediation Center, the Lincoln Memorial School of Law, and the Knox County Public Defender's Office.

SATURDAY AT 2:45 PM | TN AOC 1 FL | 0.1 IMIA CEU | CEAP 1 CE hr (PB)

LET'S PRACTICE: REWIRING THE BRAIN

Abstract:
As artificial intelligence continues to transform the interpreting profession–and in some settings already replaces certain interpreting tasks–our human expertise remains essential, particularly in situations requiring judgment, empathy, cultural awareness, and nuanced communication. Continuing to develop our skills is therefore more important than ever. The class also recognizes an important reality of our profession: many interpreters are experienced professionals and some are approaching or enjoying their senior years. Understanding how our bodies and brains work, and learning practical ways to support them, can help us remain effective interpreters while contributing to our own longevity, vitality, and quality of life.

Language Scope: Language-neutral
Topics Covered: Interpretation, Medical-Legal