



Quote of the Month

"The first step towards getting somewhere is to decide that you are not going to stay where you are."

Anonymous

Letter from the President

Dear members,

Happy New Decade! Let's make 2010 a great year for medical interpreters. Despite a difficult global economy, the Bureau of Labor Statistics projects a better than average growth of 24% from 2006 to 2016 for translators and interpreters and the IMIA projects an even higher growth for our specialization. The IMIA just won its first International Award and is delighted to share this news with you. (See pg. 4)

Technology is helping spread the word about medical interpreting at a much faster pace than before. With the encouragement of dear colleagues, I finally heeded to their advice and got a twitter account www.twitter.com/izabelarocha and started a new blog <http://izabelsarocha.blogspot.com> to further spread the message about the importance of our work worldwide. My hope is that through this blog I can post my ideas and other articles in real time and encourage others to post comments and reactions. These were my small personal actions in the New Year to promote the profession. What are yours? Here are suggestions:

Get specialized training.

It is very difficult currently to get a medical interpreter position without specific training. Therefore, regardless of your educational background, if you do not have proof of completion of a medical interpreting educational program, that could be your first step. There are many programs available across the country and there are also online programs for those who wish to do them from the comfort of their homes. To find a medical interpreting training program in your state or region, go to: <http://www.imiaweb.org/education/trainingnotices.asp>

If you are already trained, consider continuing education workshops. IMIA is encouraging training organizations to offer such workshops, and they are also listed on the link above. The IMIA is also committed to providing members with 3 free of charge

remote workshops. Whenever attending a workshop, ask if the organization offers IMIA CEUs. If they don't offer it, ask them to contact the IMIA for information.

Become a credentialed professional.

If you are already working as an interpreter, consider becoming a credentialed professional by getting certified. Go to www.certifiedmedicalinterpreters.org and go to the 'Get Certified' section then 'register'. This will enable you to join the ranks of many credentialed professionals in other sectors and empower your career and our profession as a whole.

Advocate for reimbursement.

If you want to make a difference, come to the April 30-May 1 Medical Interpreter Forum in Washington DC to advocate for national certification and the reimbursement of language services in national health care reform. We need as many medical interpreters as possible to come to Washington to make an impact and show that we do have a critical mass of professionals in an ever growing emerging profession.

Join a Committee or Division.

The IMIA is a forum for committed interpreters to promote the essential nature of our work. Active participation in an association's activities provides you with a learning experience and a social network that in itself provides for better connections that might bring new work opportunities. Work with colleagues on causes you believe in or run for an office yourself.

Come to our Annual Conference

The IMIA Conference has become a must for those in the field to remain informed on the latest in medical interpreting. This year it will be on September 3-5, 2010. If you have never attended, make this the year to attend.

2010 promises to be a fantastic year ahead of us, stay tuned... The IMIA Executive Board has been strengthened by the appointment of highly qualified national medical interpreter experts who will soon be announcing new directions and initiatives. I hope you enjoy our new monthly sections on Interpreter Education, Ethical Considerations, and Featured Studies.

Sincerely,

Izabel S. Arocha, M.Ed.
IMIA President





2010 IMIA Conference

Submission Deadline is March 31, 2010 5pm EST

**- ENSURING PATIENT SAFETY FOR LANGUAGE -
MINORITY PATIENTS
- a new standard of care -**

**International Conference on Medical Interpreting
September 3rd – 5th, 2010
Boston, MA, USA**

Are language minority patients safer now?

**What have we done to standardize language services quality,
training, competence?**

**How can we help prepare interpreters for this new national
standard?**

We encourage innovative ideas for presentations and activities that support the theme of the year. Interpreters are asking for workshops that prepare them for national certification (see http://www.imiaweb.org/uploads/pages/195_2.pdf). The Scientific National Job Analysis from January 2009 confirmed that medical interpreting is a highly specialized profession. It demonstrated that much of the precision of the interpreter's work relied on knowledge of precise medical terminology in a variety of specialties. Therefore, conference planners would like to see more workshops devoted to medical terminology and best practices of language services delivery, technology, education. <http://www.imiaweb.org/conferences/2010callforpapers.asp>

National Certification

**Public Call for Spanish Oral Exam Raters &
Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) in 21 Languages -
Recruitment by National Board Underway**

The National Board of Certification for Medical Interpreters (see www.certifiedmedicalinterpreters.org) seeks Subject Matter Experts and Raters for National Certification. The Certification

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Exams are already available in Spanish as of 2009 and will work this year to develop national certification exams for 21 more languages.

The languages are:

Arabic	Japanese
Bosnian	Korean
Cambodian (Khmer)	Mandarin
Cantonese	Polish
Croatian	Portuguese
Farsi	Russian
French	Serbian
German	Somali
Haitian Creole	Tagalog
Hmong	Vietnamese
Italian	

Medical interpreters are still at risk of being left behind in the final health care reform legislation as many still view 'medical interpreting' as a bilingual activity and not as a regulated profession.

To see qualification requirements for raters and subject matter experts, go to http://www.imiaweb.org/uploads/pages/118_5.pdf

Office of Minority Health

**Office of Minority Health National Plan for Action
- Public Call for Comment - Due February 12,
2010**

The **National Plan for Action**, which captures the status of minority health disparities in our country and proposes 20 strategies for their elimination, is a thoughtful and thorough collaborative effort of representatives from community, faith-based and non-profit organizations, academic institutions, foundations and Federal, State and local agencies.





Initiated by the Office of Minority Health, the National Plan for Action inspires us to move forward to implement the strategies and provides us a roadmap to make an impact in the elimination of minority health disparities, a costly and undue burden on our country.

Comment forms are set up so that you may comment on individual chapters of the report or on the report overall. Comments will not be posted at this time, but will be used for development of the final plan. Please read individual chapters and take some time to add your voice to the thousands of concerned voices from around the United States.
<http://minorityhealth.hhs.gov/npa/templates/browse.aspx?lvl=1&lvlID=31>

The Joint Commission New Standards

The Joint Commission released new standards to improve patient-provider communication. These standards directly address spoken and written language needs. See Joint Commission Perspectives, January 2010, Volume 30, Issue 1, pages 5-6.
<http://www.ingentaconnect.com/content/jcaho/jcp/2010/00000030/00000001;jsessionid=1givjic1ov6vh.alice>

Ethical Considerations

Treating Patients When Language Is One of the Barriers - New Book

New York, USA (NY Times): Dr. Ofri often faced this type of challenge while caring for her immigrant patients, who suffer from both physical and emotional traumas brought by genetics and geopolitical winds they cannot control. She and other staff members at Bellevue try to soothe their pain, but they are often hindered by language and cultural barriers, and by the huge gulf between their life experiences.
cityroom.blogs.nytimes.com/2010/01/04/treating-patients-when-language-is-only-one-of-the-barriers/

Interpreting Advocacy

Medical interpreters are organizing themselves to attend the Fourth Annual National Medical Interpreter Advocacy Event in Washington DC on April 30th and May 1. If you are not able to attend both dates simply come to the one you can attend.

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April 30 - DC Advocacy Day

Come learn how to advocate and then go visit your state's congressmen! Take a group picture in front of Capitol Hill!

May 1 - Certification Forum Day

Come meet other stakeholders interested in working together to spread the word about the importance of credentialed medical interpreters to ensure patient safety.

To see the flyer please go to:

<http://www.imiaweb.org/uploads/home/4.pdf>

US Interpreting News

The IMIA eNews compiles on a monthly basis all articles related to medical interpreting and minority languages in the US and internationally. Occasionally, we publish an article on other interpreting specializations if we feel the subject matter might be of interest or relevance to medical interpreters.

Language Interpretation Services in Health Care Industry Reach Tipping Point in 2010

More than 24 million U.S. residents speak a language other than English or have trouble communicating clearly without resorting to their native tongues. The new health care plan being debated in Congress promises to bring millions more of these legal immigrants into a system already struggling to communicate with patients in their languages to assure they get the life-saving care they need. Is the health care system ready for more immigrants, even if they are here legally? Why should we embrace any language other than English anyway? Isn't this America? http://www.huffingtonpost.com/louis-provenzano/language-interpretation-s_b_403987.html

Lexi-Comp: Improving Patient Communication

Ohio, USA (Earth Times): The Patient Education Module within Lexi-Comp's web-based hospital-wide resource, Lexi-Comp® ONLINE™, makes it possible for healthcare professionals to access, customize, and print vital take-home information for patients. Lexi-Comp's leaflets cover over 1800 generic and 7000 brand name adult and pediatric medications, as well as information relevant to diagnosis of more than 1300 diseases, conditions, and procedures. For more information, please visit: www.earthtimes.org/articles/show/lexi-comp-focused-on-improving-patient,1075344.shtml





Michigan: Hospital aims to overcome language barriers

Michigan, USA (Daily Tribune): When it comes to caring for people who aren't proficient in English, Beaumont Hospital is taking steps to make sure important medical information isn't lost in translation. Beaumont is one of three hospitals in Michigan and nine in the country to participate in a quality improvement collaborative organized by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. For more information, please visit: www.dailytribune.com/articles/2009/12/04/news/srv0000006993980.txt

Work in Translation

New York, USA ((Wall Street Journal): Translators and interpreters work fluidly with languages, but their responsibilities differ. Translators work with printed copy. Interpreters specialize in the spoken word and serve as liaisons between two parties, such as a doctor and patient or defendant and attorney. They typically must consider ethical obligations; translators often have to massage copy to make sense of pop culture references. "Being bilingual isn't enough," says Judy Jenner, of Twin Translations. "We have to shape a message to an international audience." online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748703558004574582012163556106.html?mod=WSJ_hpp_sections_careerjournal

International Interpreting News

IMIA wins Intratnet Linguists of the Year Award for 2009

The International Medical Interpreters Association accepted the Intratnet™ Linguists of the Year Award in the following terms: "Our grassroots organization is working very hard to represent and advocate for this growing profession. It is an honor to receive this recognition in the name of all medical interpreters providing essential services to language minority patients worldwide," said Izabel Arocha, IMIA President. The Intratnet™ would like to thank all the sponsors of the Awards for their kind support: HTT, the Globalization And Localization Association (GALA), TERMNET, the International Association of Professional Interpreters And Translators (AIPTI), Elefnet, Traductera as well as all the subscribers to Intratnews. http://www.imiaweb.org/uploads/docs/Linguist_of_the_Year_Award_2009.pdf

Interpreter blamed for Vietnam's Mrs. World loss

Hanoi, Vietnam (Thanhniennnews): Ms Vietnam Hoang Thi Yen's interpreter's shoddy translation took the blame for the local beauty's disappointing second-place finish at the Mrs

World competition in the southern beach town of Vung Tau. www.thanhniennnews.com/entertainments/?catid=6&newsid=53924

Slang a Problem in Training Interpreters

London, UK (BBC): Some months ago I was speaking to the head of one of the UK's leading schools for training interpreters. She told me that their biggest problem - one which is growing with each new intake of students - is not necessarily what one might think, i.e.: their knowledge of the foreign language from which they are supposed to be interpreting. It is the quality of the English into which they render it. For more information, please visit: news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/magazine/8388545.stm

South Africa: Improve Migrants' Access to Health Care

Johannesburg, South Africa (HRW): South African health care professionals are endangering the health of the country's large foreign population by routinely denying health care and treatment to thousands of asylum seekers, refugees, and migrants, Human Rights Watch said in a report released today. www.hrw.org/en/news/2009/12/07/south-africa-improve-migrants-access-health-care

Publication of Authoritative Chinese Dictionary

Beijing, China (Xinhua): Senior Chinese leader Li Changchun congratulated Tuesday the publication of the latest edition of the most authoritative encyclopedic dictionary of the Chinese language "Cihai", or "sea of words." Li, a Standing Committee member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, expressed his gratitude to experts for their constant improvement of the dictionary and their "contribution to the prosperity of the socialist culture," in a meeting with the experts engaged in this "significant cultural project." news.xinhuanet.com/english/2009-12/08/content_12613845.htm

NEHTA releases Aussie health term system

Sydney, Australia (ZDNet): The National E-Health Transition Authority (NEHTA) today launched the first release of SNOMED CT-AU, a collection of clinical terminology which has been adjusted for Australians. SNOMED CT (Systematised Nomenclature of Medicine-Clinical Terms) records and interprets the terms used in hospitals and clinics. It gives healthcare providers and developers of e-health applications a common language, which ensures consistency in clinical communications. www.zdnet.com.au/news/soa/NEHTA-releases-Aussie-health-term-system-/0,139023165,339299894,00.htm?omnRef=1337





How Does a United Nations Interpreter Spend a Workday?

New York, USA (Sina): A UN Interpreter is one of the most integral members of the United Nations General Assembly. UN Interpreters belong to the Interpretation Service, which is part of the Meetings and Publishing Division. UN Interpreters benefit the United Nations General Assembly because they work as a mediation between languages. The language barrier is removed, due to the fast interpretative services these linguists provide. They indirectly help to facilitate world policy and peacekeeping efforts. <http://edu.sina.com.cn/en/2009-11-30/1033ml>

Pilot program Provides Free Telephone Interpreting

Sydney, Australia (Linex Legal (registration required)): A new national pilot program will provide free telephone interpreting to participating real-estate agents to help house new migrants, the Parliamentary Secretary for Multicultural Affairs and Settlement Services, Laurie Ferguson, said today. The Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC), through its Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS National), is piloting an extension of free telephone interpreting services to selected real estate agents around Australia. <http://ca.linexlegal.com/index.php>

Shortage of Translators and Sign Language Interpreters

Hobart, Australia (ABC): Tasmania's retiring Anti-Discrimination Commissioner believes the state has the most progressive and comprehensive legislation in Australia. [...] "There is just a complete shortage of translators, and also for the deaf community," she said, "and just being able to have access and the money to be able to provide a service to everybody, whether they speak English as their first language or are just coming to terms with English as a language." For more information: www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2009/12/05/2762925.htm?site=hobart

Minority Languages News

Translation to Save American Indian Languages

Minnesota, USA (Pioneer): Resources for American Indian language-immersion classes are in short supply, but thanks to the work of local law students, legally translated children's books are on the rise. In the past, the Alliance of Early Childhood Professionals translated children's books on their own, taping Indian translations over English type. Now, the translated versions are being published. For more information, please visit: www.twincities.com/localnews/ci_13891149?nclink_check=1

New Print Edition of Rare Maltese Dictionary

Valletta, Malta (Malta Independent): The Għaqda tal-Malti (Universita') with the support of US Ambassador Douglas Kmiec, has launched a new print edition of the 1856 dictionary published anonymously by Mikiel Anton Vassalli's sons, *Piccolo Dizionario*. The author of this unique work was Baron Vincenzo Azopardi, a well-known but self-effacing philanthropist who was committed to helping Maltese schoolchildren learn Italian and English through their native tongue at a time when primary and secondary education were still being introduced in Malta. www.independent.com.mt/news.asp?newsitemid=97951

Language Industry Unscathed by Global Turmoil

Brussels, Belgium (Di-Ve): The European language industry has been less affected by the economic crisis than other sectors, according to a study carried out for the European Commission. The study, which analyzed the language industry within the EU, covers language teaching, translation, interpretation, localizing and globalizing, subtitling and dubbing, language technology tools and multilingual conference organization. http://www.di-ve.com/Default.aspx?ID=72&Action=1&NewsId=67002&news_category=36

Featured Studies

Study shows teaching hospitals need better medical translator services

by: Shawn Rhea; **Organization:** Modern Health Care; **Link:** <http://www.modernhealthcare.com>

A study appearing in the December 2009 issue of *Academic Medicine* has found that teaching hospitals need to improve their provision of medical translation services to patients with limited proficiency in English.

Interpreter Education

In 2010, Where Can I Get Trained to Become a Medical Interpreter?

Please help us spread the word of where training is available by posting training notices on the national interpreter training directory at <http://www.imiaweb.org/education/trainingnotices.asp>. Any student or training organization can post trainings free of charge at the link above by going to the link 'post a training'. Viewers can search for interpreter educational programs by lan-





guage, category or state. To post trainings, go to <http://www.imiaweb.org/education/training-form.asp>

How Can I get Credit for the Continuing Education Credits I attend?

The IMIA offers CEUs to medical interpreters who undertake continuing education workshops that offer IMIA CEUs. Since this is a fairly new undertaking, many medical interpreter training organizations are not aware that they need to apply so that their trainings can offer IMIA CEUs.

Interpreters are also not aware that they need to fill out a form in the IMIA Education Section to claim CEUs for any continuing education workshop they attend that offers CEUs.

IMIA News

IMIA Executive Board Expands

The IMIA has encountered unprecedented growth in the last two years. The IMIA Executive Board felt that it was imperative to fill certain board positions so that the organization could have a strong governance structure to implement all the goals of the 2009-2011 Strategic Plan. We are pleased to announce the appointment of the following highly skilled individuals to join the IMIA Executive Board.

Linda Joyce, Language Access Consultant

Linda Joyce is a professional interpreter, interpreter trainer, language proficiency tester and language solutions specialist. She was the former Director of Language Interpretive Services at Grady Health System in Atlanta, Georgia where she helped develop and implement an innovative system of language access and collaborated with other departments and community groups to transform language services into a professional, multi-service department. Linda interprets remotely and also presents workshops nationally and internationally on aspects of best practices for providing linguistically and culturally competent language services. She is an advocate for the continuing development of the medical interpreting profession and proud to be the West Virginia State Representative for the International Medical Interpreting Association. Linda is also on the Leadership Committee of the Medical Interpreter Network of Georgia, and serves on

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Language Line University's Global Advisory Board. Linda has lived and worked in Spain, Brazil and Mexico and was a former Gulbenkian scholar in Lisbon, Portugal. She speaks Spanish and Portuguese. Contact: ljoyce@imiaweb.org

Hank Dallmann, Director of the New Brunswick Community Interpreter Project

Hank Dallmann has a M.A in Spanish Translation and Interpreting from Rutgers University, where he has been an instructor since 2005. He teaches medical and community interpreting, medical translation and the required internship component of the T/I program. He was responsible for developing curricula for those courses as well. Currently Hank is the Director of the New Brunswick Community Interpreter Project, part of the Office of Community Health at the Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, where he is an interpreter, translator, interpreter trainer, and a language access consultant. He is also a preceptor for Rutgers' practicums in medical interpreting and translation. He has given many workshops and presentations to healthcare providers and stakeholders of all levels about issues related to language access and culture. He has consistently worked to establish and expand professional interpreting and translation services at the RWJ Medical School, in the local community and throughout the state of New Jersey. Hank is the chair of a local language access workgroup and his current work focuses on laying the foundation for certification of medical interpreters in this state. In 2008 he was selected as the first New Jersey state representative for the IMIA. Hank also works freelance as a licensed trainer in Community Interpreting and Medical Terminology. He has lived and worked in Ecuador and has studied in Merida, Mexico. Contact: hdallmann@imiaweb.org

Janet Bonet, Certified Court Interpreter, Past President of Nebraska Association for Translators & Interpreters

Janet Bonet is a native Nebraskan dedicated to improving language access in any setting. She is the founder and past President of the Nebraska Association for Translators & Interpreters (NATI) and is now its Vice President. She has served on numerous boards and committees of local, statewide and national organizations that are researching and promoting language access in the medical, legal, social services, law enforcement and educational settings. As the VP of NATI, IMIA Boardmember and Global Advisory Council on Interpreter Certification council-member, she continues to dedicate time and invest her energy in





professional development for translators and interpreters in the local, national and international spheres. Janet's life-long passion for Spanish carried her in 1975 to Mexico where she lived for eight years. While attending the University of the Americas in Cholula, Puebla, she earned a BA, majoring in Anthropology with a minor in Spanish and successfully completed the graduate course work in the translation and conference interpreting program. Upon returning to Omaha in 1983, Janet began using her bilingual skills in the community and eventually entered the Masters Degree Program in Sociology at the University of Nebraska at Omaha, specializing in racial and ethnic relations. In 1989, in response to the economic opportunities and social needs presented by a changing demographics in Omaha, Janet and her husband, Jaime, established Protrans, a translation & interpretation service. jbonet@imiaweb.org

Janet is a State Certified Court Interpreter (Spanish/English) in Nebraska and Iowa. She was adjunct faculty at the College of St Mary in Omaha, teaching Foundations of Interpretation and has taught over 40 seminars, workshops and exam preparation classes at conferences and symposia across the country. She enthusiastically promotes lifelong learning and enjoys sharing her knowledge for the continued professional development of her colleagues and the public that utilizes language services. For that reason Janet has been the conference coordinator for NATI's 10 very successful annual regional conferences. She looks forward to serving IMIA with the same energy and dedication. Contact: jbonet@imiaweb.org

Ira Sen-Gupta, Executive Director, Cross Cultural Health Care Program, Seattle, WA

Ira has developed and conducted over 300 hours of training's in cross cultural issues for health care providers in the past year alone, and has trained Bridging the Gap, 40-hour training for medical interpreters, in a variety of settings, locally and nationally. A natural leader who began interpreting due to a need in the community, Ira became a professional interpreter and later went on to become co-founder of The Society of Medical Interpreters. She has also conducted two large scale needs assessments in the Seattle area: A Survey of Health Care Experiences of 22 Medically Underserved Communities in the Seattle Area, and A Survey of Interpreter Services Utilization in Eight Major Health Care Institutions in Seattle. Ira holds a BA and MA in English Literature and has trained as a cultural competency trainer under

Terry Cross of the Northwest Indian Child Welfare Association.

Ira's research experience in cross-cultural issues and cultural competency in healthcare, and dynamic training and facilitation abilities have made her a key resource for cultural competency training and assessment in numerous healthcare settings. Ira brings to her workshops a genuine enthusiasm for the subject, a wealth of stories and information, and an energetic style. Contact: isengupta@imiaweb.org

Lola Bendana , President Multi-Languages Corporation

Lola Bendana has a degree in international relations with a specialization in Latin American Studies and English-Spanish interpreting and translation. She worked in Costa Rica as a cultural/foreign affairs facilitator with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and as head of international relations with the Nicaraguan Committee for Refugees. After immigrating to Canada, she worked as a freelancer for the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada offering pre-departure and intercultural effectiveness courses on Nicaragua and Costa Rica. Lola has been involved in the translation and interpreting field for over 16 years; and since 1997, she has been the Director of Multi-Languages Corporation. In the past, she served as a member of the Board of Directors of the Healthcare Interpretation Network where she chaired the Policy and Terminology Committee; she was a member of the technical Committee of the Canadian General Standards Board that created translation service standards CAN 131.10-2008. Presently, she serves on the board of AILIA, is the Chair of the AILIA Communications Committee, Vice-Chair of the Association and member of the Translation Committee. She is also a member of the Healthcare Interpretation Network's Policy Committee and Multilingual Database Terminology Committee, member of the Critical Link Canada Standards of Practice and Training Committee, the CAC to ISO TC37 and is Canada's representative of the International Medical Interpreters Association (IMIA). Contact: lbendana@imiaweb.org

Please go to www.imiaweb.org/about/ to see their complete bios. The IMIA Executive Board is the governing body of the IMIA. This group meets every month. Every year it meets at the end of January to map out long term strategic direction for the organization. Please feel free to send the Board comments or suggestions at info@imiaweb.org





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IMIA Appoints new State Rep for California

California is a large state that has many medical interpreters, or 'healthcare interpreters' as they are called in California. The IMIA is proud to announce that the organization now has a new representative for the state of California. **Eva Molina-DeVilbiss, M.A** is a medical interpreter who is passionate about the profession and is eager to represent IMIA members in California. While California has a high LEP population, it does not boast a high interpreter staff per population ratio. Most hospitals rely on their staff to interpret and demand for interpreters far outweighs supply. Please see the new IMIA California page at <http://www.imiaweb.org/states/ca.asp> to see her bio and feel free to contact her at IMIACalifornia@gmail.com

NOTE: The IMIA continues to search for country reps for the countries not currently represented. If interested, please go to <http://www.imiaweb.org/states/default.asp> For those states where we have State reps, we are seeking Assistant State Reps.

IMIA Appoints new Country Rep for Spain

The IMIA is committed to the professionalization of the field around the world and is happy to announce that the Board appointed **Lluís Baixauli Olmos** as IMIA Spain Rep. He holds a BA in Translation and Interpreting (Spanish as mother tongue, and English and French, as foreign languages) and is one of the few professionals in Spain with specific training in interpreting and cultural mediation in medical settings. He has professional experience as a medical interpreter both in the UK and in Spain. As a researcher and lecturer he will help with the professionalization of interpreting in public services. He is aware that professional associations play a key role in fostering professionalization processes. Please feel free to email him at IMIASpain@gmail.com

NOTE: The IMIA continues to search for state reps for the states not currently represented. If interested, please go to <http://www.imiaweb.org/countries/default.asp> For those countries where we have Country reps, we are seeking Assistant Country Reps.

Farewell to Abbott Thayer as IMIA Operations Manager

Abbott has served the IMIA for over a year as Operations Manager. As he works on his PhD at the University of Amherst he

left the Operations Manager position in December to continue his work as a medical interpreter. The IMIA is grateful to Abbott for all the great work he has done in the past year with regards to many projects that would not have been possible without him. The IMIA Board and staff wish him great success in his continued work as a medical interpreter. Abbott is also an accomplished medical interpreter, scheduler and dispatcher.

IMIA Corporate Division

The IMIA is proud of its corporate members and the support that they provide to the organization. While some corporate members have expressed fear of taking sides in what can be described as a political environment with regards to certification, the Corporate Division takes the position of the IMIA, that certification need not be politicized and that all corporate members should support all efforts by all organizations that professionalize the field. While there is the possibility that the profession might have more than one certification in place in the future, there is only one national certification program in place at the moment, and that is the program that was established in 2009 by the National Board of Certification for Medical Interpreters and it needs your support. All corporate members are being asked to list their support by agreeing to have their names and logos listed on the National Board's website at www.certifiedmedicalinterpreters.org. Stay tuned...

As the Corporate Division structures itself, it is in need of a Vice Chair who will support Oscar Arocha, recently appointed Division Chair. Responsibilities include supporting Oscar in leading the Division and moderating the bimonthly meetings in Oscar's absence. The Division is also looking for a corporate member who is interested in the role of Corporate Division Liaison, who would help the Division in doing outreach and providing technical assistance to new corporate members. If interested in either, please contact Oscar Arocha, at oscar.arocha@bmc.org.

Action: Join an IMIA Committee/Division in 2010!

2010 will be a year of new, exciting projects. We'll be working hard within our committees to keep medical interpreters running strong. Active committees will create a vibrant inclusive organization where all participate, as in any grassroots organization, change this big must come from the bottom up.





To see IMIA Committee Meetings go to the IMIA Calendar of Events at: <http://www.imiaweb.org/events/imia.asp>

Other IMIA Meetings include:

Corporate Division meeting - Open to corporate members

Last Tuesday (9am Pacific / 11am Central / 12pm EST) January, March < May July Sept November.

Trainer's Circle meetings - Open to trainer members

Last Friday of each month same time as above

State Reps Meetings – Open to State Reps

Second Friday each month (9am Pacific / 11am Central / 12pm EST) alternating times with 1pm/3pm/4pm

Country Reps meeting – Open to Country Reps

Last Wednesday (9am Pac / 11am Central / 12pm EST) January, March, May, July, September and November.

Executive Board Meetings

First Thursday each month (8am Pac / 10am Central / 11am EST)

Consortium of Interpreter Associations

Third Friday each month (9am Pac / 11am Central / 12pm EST)

IMIA Advisory Board Meetings

all (9am Pac / 11am Central / 12pm EST)

January 19th / April 19th / July 19th / October 19th

IMIA Book of the Month

Medical Terminology for Health Professions

by Ann Ehrlich, Carol L Schroeder

Most interpreters are asking us what they can do to study for certification. Our recommendation is going back to the basics and reviewing medical terminology for health professionals. This month's book is a must for every serious medical interpreter. This is the second edition of this excellent introductory textbook in medical terminology (first edition, 1988). The book is accompanied by audiotapes and individual activities for students and an instructor's guide, computerized test bank, overhead transparencies, and classroom activities for instructors. This textbook introduces basic medical terms to future health care workers, emphasizing the mastery of word parts and their usage. Each chapter overviews the structure and function of a particular body system, then defines each component, common diseases, and surgical procedures. The fifth edition adds 100 new terms and deletes obsolete terms. The CD-ROM contains quizzes and

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learning activities. Annotation ©2004 Book News, Inc., Portland, OR.

[http://search.barnesandnoble.com/Medical-Terminology-for-Health-Professions/Ann-](http://search.barnesandnoble.com/Medical-Terminology-for-Health-Professions/Ann-Ehrlich/e/9781418072520/?itm=1&USRI=medical+terminology+for+health+professions)

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lich/e/9781418072520/?itm=1&USRI=medical+terminology+for+health+professions

Calendar of Events

The IMIA Calendar of Events has the purpose of informing the interpreting community of events related to health disparities, language access, linguistics, and medical interpretation and translation. We encourage organizations who have conferences coming up to please post them here and also to promote this particular calendar of events to others. If you have suggestions, please email info@imiaweb.org.

Please be aware of another innovative calendar -

<http://snipurl.com/diversitycal> -that provides event and holiday information on over 500 important holidays of all major religions, ethnic groups, and nationalities.

- [International Calendar of Events](#)
- [U.S. Calendar of Events](#)
- [IMIA Events](#)

About the IMIA Monthly eNews Brief

The IMIA eNews is our monthly news brief. The purpose and intent of this publication is to advance the medical interpreting profession by providing our members with the latest local, state and international news and reports, as well as provide monthly updates on useful websites, toolkits, and available trainings/resources. We know our members do not have time to read everything that comes across their desks or emails, so we actually take the time to select, from a myriad of sources, and condense it into a summary of the most updated, relevant, useful and interesting news about the field on a monthly basis. The focus is not on being an organizational newsletter focusing on the activities of the organization only, but on being an industry news brief on medical interpreting. Please send suggestions and comments about the eNews to Izabel Arocha at iarocha@imiaweb.org.





INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL
INTERPRETERS ASSOCIATION
Leading the advancement of professional interpreters

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