



INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL
INTERPRETERS ASSOCIATION
Leading the advancement of professional interpreters



eNovember 2011 eNews

Quote of the Month

"Hope is like the sun, which, as we journey toward it, casts the shadow of our burden behind us".

Samuel Smiles

Dear members:

It is my privilege to announce that
**The International Medical
Interpreters Association just received
the Charity Status!**



When Izabel Arocha was elected president in the summer of 2006, she, with the support of the IMIA Board, rigorously followed the process to obtain the non-profit status for IMIA. Certain regulations impeded IMIA to apply for such status until 2008. The organization went over several Bylaws revisions, including but not limited to the name change from Massachusetts Medical Interpreters Association - MMIA to International Medical Interpreters Association - IMIA, we are very happy to report that the name change was approved by over 80% of the membership.

Much of the work done in the past 25 years has been done solely by volunteers as an act of charity to the profession. The most recent Bylaws revision was also necessary due to our pending application with the IRS to become a 501(c) (3) organization. This new status just given to the IMIA by the IRS allows the IMIA to not only fulfill its mission as a charity organization but to also request funding and grants for many of its most urgent projects. This is definitely going to take the organization to another level, in terms of scope of work and funding resources, it is great that it came on our 25th Anniversary year, the organization has been completely self-supported, even so, the IMIA has been able to accomplish huge undertakings.

The 501(c)(3) charitable status is a federal status that means the organization does not have to pay tax on its surplus income. The 501(c)(3) charitable status also means that individuals and corporations may claim a charitable contribution deduction for contributions made to it. 501(c)(3) charities have that status for federal purposes no matter where they operate within the United States. If you want to check the federal status, it is possible to check online at the IRS website which provides the official list.

Obtaining the charitable status is simply fantastic news for the organization; it is also a validation for its strength and constant growth. IMIA has been a leader in the field for 25 years, let's just imagine what we will be able to accomplish now with this new status in the next 25 years, it is the time to work in **collaboration** to fulfill the IMIA Mission, which, at the end of the day, is the mission of all those committed to the professionalization of medical interpreters and access to healthcare services to diverse communities. Let's do it **together!**

On another note, we have many online and face to face events planned for 2012, make sure that you stay tuned for details and take advantage of the many benefits you receive as a member. Please feel free to contact me at any time if you have questions or comments about IMIA. If I don't see you at one of our forums, symposiums or boot camps, see you in Miami for our next full conference on February 15-17, 2013! Mark the date!

All the best,

Lola Bendana
IMIA President
President@imiaweb.org





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The International Medical Interpreters Association Celebrates Charity Status at 25th Year Anniversary: A Historic Perspective

This press release may be downloaded at:

http://www.imiaweb.org/uploads/docs/IMIA_celebrates_charity_status_at_25th_anniversary.pdf

National Certification



**THE NATIONAL BOARD OF CERTIFICATION
FOR MEDICAL INTERPRETERS**

ABOUT THE NATIONAL BOARD OF CERTIFICATION FOR MEDICAL INTERPRETERS

The National Board of Certification for Medical Interpreters is a non-profit organization, founded by IMIA and LLS, formed from an independent group of industry professionals who represent all key stakeholder groups, including professional medical interpreters, trainers, employers, providers, and regulators. The National Board developed the first and most comprehensive national medical interpreting certification program to date. It serves as the certifying entity and has independent authority over all essential certification decisions. www.certifiedmedicalinterpreters.org

National Board's Webinars on National Certification

The next webinar takes place 11/18/2011 at 11am EST
To access Audio portion of the meeting, use your phone:
USA Toll-Free: (877) 336-1839 ACCESS CODE: 6248587
(International or USA Caller Paid Toll: (636) 651-0008 ACCESS CODE: 6248587)

To access the Web portion of the meeting, on a computer:
Web Meeting Address: <https://www.webmeeting.att.com>
Meeting Number: 877 3361839 ACCESS CODE: 6248587
<http://www.certifiedmedicalinterpreters.org/info@certifiedmedicalinterpreters.org>

National Board's Webinars on National Certification 12/13/2011 at 3pm EST

Location / contact info / details:

To access Audio portion of the meeting, use your phone:
USA Toll-Free: (877) 336-1839 ACCESS CODE: 6248587
(International or USA Caller Paid Toll: (636) 651-0008 ACCESS CODE: 6248587)

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URGENT: WE NEED PILOT PARTICIPANTS TO FINALIZE THE EXAMS!

The National Board of Certification for Medical Interpreters seeking Russian, Cantonese, Mandarin, Korean and Vietnamese. Candidates to Finalize Pilot

Candidates who are willing to take the pilot test in Boston, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Florida, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oregon, Maine, Massachusetts, Tennessee, Georgia and Washington State. www.certifiedmedicalinterpreters.org

CCHI Commissioners Announce Grant to Develop Certification in Two Additional Languages

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, whose mission is to improve the health and health care of all Americans, awarded a \$308,750 grant to CCHI on July 1, 2011, to support a one-year program of work that will develop the Certified Healthcare Interpreter™ examination in two additional languages and conduct educational activities to help interpreters, interpreter trainers, supervisors, healthcare providers and other stakeholders in the healthcare arena understand certification so that more know how to use CCHI certifications appropriately.

<http://bit.ly/qSc4xYl>





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National Action Plan for Health Literacy (NAPIHL)

Health literacy includes being able to read and understand basic health information such as prescription labels, discharge plans, and other medical communication, make simple calculations and communicate questions and concerns to health care professionals. According to the [National Action Plan to Improve Health Literacy](http://health.gov/communication/HLActionPlan/) (NAPIHL), limited health literacy disproportionately affects minority groups because it is influenced by language fluency, age, socioeconomic status, cultural background, and educational levels.

<http://health.gov/communication/HLActionPlan/>

Location / contact info / details:

Pre-Convention Workshops: November 18, 2010

Annual Convention and World Languages Expo: November 19-21, 2010

Hynes Convention Center and Sheraton Boston Hotel
Boston, MA

<http://bit.ly/nyp13c>

Healthcare Disparities News



Language Rights Corner



Many Languages, One Democracy

Participation in the democratic process takes many forms, but perhaps none is accorded as much importance as voting. For the many new Americans in our country, one significant barrier to exercising this important democratic right was reduced last week when the Census Bureau issued the [newest list of jurisdictions](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/sayu-bhojwani/many-languages-one-democr_b_1023241.html) in which language assistance must be provided during elections for individuals whose English language skills may limit them from participating fully in the electoral process.

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/sayu-bhojwani/many-languages-one-democr_b_1023241.html

Upcoming Events

2011 ACTFL Annual Convention World Languages Expo

11/18/2011 - 11/20/2011

Place, not race, may be larger determinant

Examining a racially integrated low-income neighborhood in Baltimore, the researchers found that, with the exception of smoking, nationally reported disparities in hypertension, diabetes, obesity among women and use of health services disappeared or narrowed. The results are featured in the October issue of *Health Affairs*. Where you live could play a larger role in health disparities than originally thought, according to a study by researchers from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.

<http://bit.ly/oBolzY>

Joint Commission Journal Findings Show Need for Automation to Improve Safety, Quality

Differences in the quality and safety of medical treatment that minorities receive could be reduced through the better use of health information technology (HIT), according to a new article published in the October 2011 issue of The Joint Commission Journal on Quality and Patient Safety(TM). An accompanying editorial calls for automating and standardizing the data collection about a patient's race, ethnicity, and language to identify and address inequities in the quality of care for minorities.

<http://bit.ly/qkCBsE>





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Language Technology News



Chat Translation: Language Line Services Tweets in Top Five Non-English Languages

To meet the demands from the growing Twitter community, especially the non-English speaking community in the US, Language Line Services, a provider of interpretation and translation services, announced it is now tweeting in five of the top non-English ...Language Line Services Now Tweeting in Five languages . <http://bit.ly/ofnmyU>

Translating IT content is no easy task

Proverbs or even carefully interpret a passage of a text and translate the idea, as opposed to translating verbatim from the source to the target language. Research and previous IT knowledge is necessary for any technical translation. For more information, please visit: itdecs.com/2011/10/translating-it-content-is-no-easy-task/

Viewpoints – A great article about Technology

Special thanks to our Colleague Claudia Brauer, who do not hesitate to share an article of her own, about Technology for this publication, you can read at <http://www.imiaweb.org/uploads/pages/518..pdf>

Interpreter Ethics

Competence of Interpreters in a South African Psychiatric Hospital in

Translating Key Psychiatric Terms
<http://bit.ly/ncOXwK>

Ethical dilemma:

A Health Care Interpreter requests permission from injured patients visiting the ER of a private hospital to take pictures of their wounds with a mobile phone. When questioned, the Interpreter explains the benefit of having a simple reminder of "bad things" that can happen to anybody. Each picture depicts an open wound, a deep cut in an arm, an exposed fracture, a partially severed finger...there are no faces, just the wounds.

What is your first reaction when you read this example?

Annoyed
Indifferent
Curious
Sounds like a great idea
Disturbed

Why do you think there is nothing wrong with this practice?

Why do you think the Interpreter should be reported?

Are there any exceptions to be considered?

What would you do if you were a colleague?

What would you do if you were the supervisor?

We invite you to email us at: enews@imia.org and join the debate.

US Interpreting News



Free Online Dictionary Offers Opportunity for Revealing Hidden Secrets of Names

Bakersfield, CA (onlineprnews) October 11, 2011 - MFnames.com, the free online dictionary of names, provides people with opportunities for finding the hidden facts about their names. For more information, please visit: <http://bit.ly/pMgORj>





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Heart failure hospital stays fall 30% in ten years, saving billions

Hospital stays for heart failure fell a remarkable 30 percent in Medicare patients over a decade, the first such decline in the [United States](#) and forceful evidence that the nation is making headway in reducing the billion-dollar burden of a common condition. The Chicago hospital made sure Marure had a medical interpreter to translate a nurse's instructions into Spanish and convey her questions. Marure said it was the first time she understood her heart failure and why it was important for her to watch her weight — which can signal excess fluid. The hospital sent her home with a scale, made sure she had home care and a nurse called her periodically.

<http://usat.ly/nPNom0>

International Interpreting News



Canada - Iranian Refugee Latest Victim of Poor Interpretation

More than 40 errors were made in the two-hour hearing. The decision to send Mr. Zaree back was appealed to the Federal Court. Justice Martineau overturned the IRB's decision and Mr. Zaree will be given a new hearing. "The IRB has the largest foreign-language interpreter program in Canada with 1,200 interpretation contractors accredited in 267 languages and dialects participating in 50,000 proceedings per year, he said. All interpreters are tested before accreditation.

<http://natpo.st/n6U1z1>

The European Union Strides Forward

For anyone interested in interpreting and cultural competence, the EU is a hotbed of activity. (Did you know, for example, that EU has a transnational MA foundation program in interpreting and translation?)

Now the EU has just opened up a website called Poliglotti4.eu. It's an exciting twist: an online reference on multilingualism in Europe. A lovely feature is the "Language Observatory." The Observatory gathers and disseminates best practices in language policy and testing multilingual tools.

<http://bit.ly/qJxVT6>

Sign Language News



NAD-RID National Interpreter Certification (NIC) News Update

On December 1, 2011, the enhanced, streamlined, single-level NAD-RID National Interpreter Certification (NIC) Examination will go into effect. As announced at the RID National Conference in July, the enhanced examination will have the same content as the current NIC, but the content will be reformatted to focus more closely on critical interpreting skills. New scoring techniques designed to increase the accuracy, consistency and reliability of the examination scoring will also be introduced with this enhanced test. In addition to more effectively measuring the competency of exam candidates, the new scoring process will allow RID to provide exam results in significantly less time than before. The enhanced NIC will be administered at the same supersite locations currently available.

<http://bit.ly/p1Sy5I>

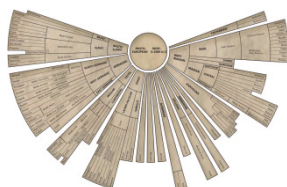




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Minority Languages News



For trainers, bilingual staff and organizations in health care that serve culturally diverse populations, Healthy Roads Media has long been a wonderful resource. Now they have several updates to share:

1. ***Mobile website (beta)***, [click here](#) - The mission of Healthy Roads Media is to explore ways that information technology can be helpful in providing health information access to hard to reach populations - especially low-literacy and/or non-English speaking persons.
2. ***DVDs***, [click here](#) - Much of the free on-line video content from the HRM website is now available on DVDs that can be duplicated for patients and/or staff.
3. ***Handouts***, [click here](#) - English and Spanish one-page handouts for 800+ health topics from MedlinePlus.

Featured Studies



Parents' Limited English May Prolong Child's Hospital Stay

SOURCE: *Archives of Pediatrics & Adolescent Medicine*, news release, May 2, 2011 U.S. study suggests interpreter services may be key to better care

Children have longer hospital stays if their parents or other main caregivers have poor English language skills, a U.S. study finds. The research, published in the May issue of the *Archives of Pediatrics & Adolescent Medicine*, included al-

most 1,300 children admitted to a children's hospital in the Midwest for treatment of infections requiring long-term antibiotics. <http://bit.ly/rn8iCq>

Disparities Cloud Health Improvements In Past Decade, Report Finds - Kaiser Health News

Minority and low-income groups continue to be less likely to have a regular source of health care when compared to the general population, despite efforts over the past decade to remedy the situation. This and other health disparities persist across race, ethnicity, income level and education, according to the final review of Healthy People 2010, just released.

<http://bit.ly/o0KBnn>

Interpreter Education News



Free Website Teaches 60 Languages

West Virginia, USA (Pronunciator): A new website called Pronunciator offers free language training in 60 languages. The main features of Pronunciator are real-time pronunciation scoring; virtual conversations; 3 million interactive lessons; and 15 million quizzes. It works in all web browsers, with no software to install.

For more information, please visit:

www.pronunciator.com

Translation

Chat Translation: Junction International Re-Launches Website to Educate Businesses





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Depending on the individual organization's requirements, the company may choose the translation service to either use internally for information purpose or for delivering the information to multilingual customers. Furthermore, website translation information:

<http://bit.ly/pMfaf1>

Interlinguae Seeks Authors Internationally

Interlinguae Ltd, the eBook publishing subsidiary of a successful translation company is looking for authors who are interested in having their work translated and distributed as eBooks across Europe and the World. For more information, visit:

<http://bit.ly/orGeS4>

IMIA Books of the Month



Interpreters as diplomats: a diplomatic history of the role of interpreters in world politics

by Ruth A Roland

University of Ottawa Press, 1999

Language Arts & Disciplines - 209 pages

This book looks at the role played throughout history by translators and interpreters in international relations. It considers how political linguistics function and have functioned throughout history. It fills a gap left by political historians, who seldom ask themselves in what language the political negotiations they describe were conducted.

Revisiting the interpreter's role: a study of conference, court, and medical interpreters in Canada, Mexico, and the United States

By Claudia Angelleli

John Benjamins Publishing Company, 2004 - Language Arts & Disciplines - 125 pages

Through the development of a valid and reliable instrument, this book sets out to study the role that interpreters play in the various settings where they work, i.e. the courts, the hospitals, business meetings, international conferences, and schools. It presents interpreters' perceptions and beliefs about their work as well as statements of their behaviors about their practice. For the first time, the administration and results of a survey administered across languages in Canada, Mexico and the United States offer the reader a glimpse of the interpreters' views in their own words. It also discusses the tension between professional ideology and the reality of interpreters at work. This book has implications for the theory and practice of interpreting across settings.

Calendar of Events



The following are the different events the IMIA is offering in 2012 for your professional development.

May 11-12 - 2012 IMIA Administrators Symposium
University of California, Irvine Medical Center • Los Angeles, CA

A forum for interpreter administrators to meet, learn, and share about interpreter management best practices.





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Registration opens January 1, 2012!

<http://www.imiaweb.org/conferences/trainersympca.asp>

June 1 & 2, 2011 - 2012 IMIA Trainers Symposium New York, NY

A forum for trainers to meet, discuss, and share best practices about medical interpreter education.

Registration opens January 1, 2012!

IMIA 8 Hour Medical Terminology Boot Camp™ - Upcoming Locations

SAVE THE DATES IN 2012!

Providence, RI – March 10

Los Angeles, CA – May 12

New York, NY – June 2

Fayetteville, AR – July 14

Tulsa, OK – September 8

Boston, MA - November 10

The IMIA would like to encourage all interpreters and stakeholders who are language access advocates to please share this PSA in every presentation you do.

To access the PSA, please go to:

http://www.imiaweb.org/Fluency_PSA_IMIA.mov

IMIA National Medical Interpreter Registry

Search the directory by name, language, state or country: The IMIA is proud to have the only national registry of medical interpreters in the US. It includes over 1,900 interpreters in over 100 languages, and each profile includes training, general education, work experience, references, and even their resume, if they wish to upload it. <http://www.imiaweb.org/corporate/find.asp>

Member profile new Options

IMIA has recently added new options to the member profiles where you may add your certification credentials and Certification information. If you have been certified recently please go to your profile to update your information at <http://www.imiaweb.org/members/profile.asp>.

IMIA List Serve

Find out how to join IMIA Members-only **List Serve** at <http://www.imiaweb.org/members/listserve.asp>

Advertise with IMIA

Select the IMIA Events you would like to advertise at! Ads will appear in the IMIA Events program booklets (distributed to each attendee) and in the online version of the booklet for approximately a year. You may wish to advertise in the IMIA eNews which has the same rates and are published on a monthly basis. These remain in the website after publication.

<http://www.imiaweb.org/conferences/advertising.asp>

Join IMIA's Social Media Networks!

Linked In

-Individual Profile

<http://www.linkedin.com/in/imiaweb>

-Group Profile

<http://linkd.in/I9ATUx>

Facebook

<http://on.fb.me/IB50Rn>

Twitter

@IMIAUpdates (Connected with Facebook)

<http://twitter.com/%21/IMIAUpdates>

@IMIAeNews (By Ingrid Leeman E-News Chair)

<http://twitter.com/%21/IMIAenews>

By Facebook, please join the page using the above link and click "Like. For Linked In connect with either of the two IMIA pages. Once connected, you can post interpreter related information for others to read. For more information, reach Mari Gonzales, the IMIA Social Media Director at gonzalezmarid@gmail.com

Committee Corner

E-news Committee had a successful face to face meeting at IMIA Conference on September 30th. And soon you will start looking for our changes according to your suggestions.





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ARE YOU INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT FUND-RAISING?

Join us by emailing the chairperson at
Fundraising@imiaweb.org

The IMIA eNews Committee Needs Your Contribution!

The eNews Committee would like to request contributions from all the members! All members have something interesting to share and we would like to post it on the IMIA eNews each month.

Has your organization offering a new training, service or product? Is your hospital department now doing interpreter rounds or being audited? Did you see a great article or webinar online that you would like to share you review? What conferences have you been to recently? Do you have an ethical dilemma to share? Do you want to suggest a book for our eNews book of the month? Want to start an IMIA Book Club?

Make the eNews your eNews!

In order to post it we need to receive the contribution by the 15th of each month to get it posted for the next month's eNews.

Please send suggestions, material and comments about the e-News to Claudia Perla, eNews Committee at IMIAeNews@imiaweb.org

We thank you in advance for your personal contribution as a volunteer, donor, or participant.

ISP Division Corner

IMIA ISP Member, Folio Group Receives Cape Town Regional Chamber of Commerce and Industry's 2011 'Western Cape Exporter of the Year'

Cape Town, October 20, 2011

EXPORT AWARD GOES TO CAPE TOWN SERVICE PROVIDER

"It is generally assumed that export awards go to product manufacturers, so I was delighted and surprised to discover that a company in the services sector could be recognised for its export activities," said Philip Zietsman, MD of the Folio Group, a language services consultancy based in Pepper Street, Cape Town.

The Folio Group received the Cape Town Regional Chamber of Commerce and Industry's 2011 'Western Cape Exporter of the Year' trophy for businesses in the SMME category, which is sponsored by Credit Guarantee, the largest insurer of trade debtors in Africa. For the entire article, go to:
<http://www.prlog.org/11701832-export-award-goes-to-cape-town-service-provider.html>

About the IMIA Monthly e-news Brief



The IMIA e-News 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, tool-kits, 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 but on being industry news brief on medical interpreting. For immediate release





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The IMIA is the world's largest professional association dedicated to medical interpreters.

Medical interpreters: **BE THE BEST THAT YOU CAN BE!**

Dear medical interpreter,

Joining the IMIA increases your work development potential and can open up new career opportunities. Become an IMIA medical interpreter: You'll feel a renewed sense of pride and confidence because **IMIA medical interpreters are respected as the best in their field**. Ample opportunities for professional development include:

- Committee Engagement
- Job Announcements
- Monthly Briefings
- Annual Conferences
- National Advocacy
- Leadership Development



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www.imiaweb.org



PROMOTING THE PROFESSION WORLDWIDE

