



INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL
INTERPRETERS ASSOCIATION
Leading the advancement of professional interpreters

2011 IMIA COUNTRY CHAPTER REPORTS



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USA

Edited by
Maurizio Di Fresco, IMIA International Chapter Liaison



Lluís Baixauli, SPAIN

There are several events I have attended to present papers from my personal research: ITAINDIA and Critical Link 6. I did not attend any of these on behalf of IMIA, although I mentioned the association and handed out IMIA visiting cards. I have also attended regularly the international reps meetings.

I have sent a letter to request the collaboration of different organizations (hospitals, patients' care centres, higher education institutions and research groups) in Spain. Although I am not aware of them having joined IMIA, I am certain that this action helped increase visibility for the organization in the Spanish context.

I think I have been able to recruit 2 members in my group. I have translated the IMIA Standards of Practice into Spanish. I also sent a proposal of code of ethics for public service interpreters in Spain to the research community COMUNICA, even though the proposal has not been formally accepted.

I am developing working relationships with the research community; and also with Barbara Navaza, who is coordinating an interpreting program with several hospitals in Madrid.

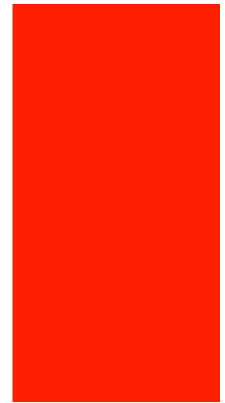
At the moment I am in the final stage of preparation of my PhD on ethics of the public service interpreter and on prison interpreting.

In the next few months I am planning to work on a ProZ initiative. In June 2012 I also plan to organize an event in Spain with Izabel Arocha about the IMIA Chapter Forum on Language Access.



IMIA Spain - IMIASpain@imiaweb.org.

Lluís Baixauli-Olmos is a PhD student at Universitat Jaume I (Spain), where he also studied his BA in Translation and Interpreting and a specialization course on interpreting in the healthcare and cultural mediation. He has taught translation and interpreting courses at university level. He has contributed to several conferences with papers and posters. His research interests are professional ethics of the interpreter and professionalization processes. He is committed to preparing a recommendation of ethical guidelines for public service interpreters in Spain.



Maurizio Di Fresco, ITALY

Two IMIA events will be held in Palermo, Italy, on November 28 and 29, 2011, encompassing a total of three events and involving two different locations. The first event is a symposium that will be held at the University of Language Mediation on two days: the first day will be attended by the students enrolled in the two final years of the university, while the second day will be open to teachers of language schools.

The other event is a workshop that will take place at the ISMETT hospital and will be open to clinical staff.

Concerning the institutional aspects, I had several discussions with regional and national representatives of the Italian Association of Conference Interpreters (AITI) in order to propose a collaboration agreement, which should benefit both organization, particularly in terms of visibility and educational activities. Negotiations are still underway, and we will hopefully establish a collaborative relation soon.

With regard to the activities related to IMIA members in Italy, I have contacted, both by email and phone, the current members in order to establish a personal relation hoping that this will help strengthening the ties between members and the IMIA. In addition, I publicized the Association with some potential members, obtaining that three of them have joined IMIA. One of these new members is currently assisting me with all the IMIA Italy activities and with international matters, and his support is pivotal to a good fulfillment of my IMIA-related tasks.

Actually, the IMIA Italy Assistant Representative has created a list of people who may potentially be interested in joining IMIA, and we will contact them in the near future.

As for other achievements for advancing the profession and the IMIA, I translated the Code of Ethics into Italian, and I am supervising the translation into Italian of the Standards of Practice (the Standards have already been translated, but they still need to undergo a revision process).

Both will soon be published on the IMIA website.

The IMIA is very proud to announce that Maurizio Di Fresco is now the IMIA Representative in Italy.



Maurizio Di Fresco

Maurizio Di Fresco studied Economics for two years at the University of Palermo, Italy, and then attended the Higher Institute of Interpreters and Translators, where he graduated in 1992. While working as a freelance interpreter, he studied Political Sciences at the University of Palermo, then started working as a full-time interpreter at the Department of Tourism & Transportation of Sicily, Italy. From 1999 to 2008, he worked as an in-house interpreter at the Mediterranean Institute for Transplants and Highly Specialized Therapies (a public hospital based in Palermo, Sicily, created in 1999 as the result of a public-private partnership between the city's two largest hospitals and the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center). In 2006 he obtained a second University Degree in Language Mediation. In 2008 he left the Language Services Department of ISMETT and became one of the two International Patient Services Coordinators who now manage all the administrative and logistic activities concerning foreign patients, including recruiting and directing interpreters and cultural mediators for many languages. In addition to being an International Patient Services Coordinators at ISMETT, Maurizio Di Fresco works as a freelance conference interpreter. Maurizio is also a Board Director of the International Medical Interpreters Association. Contact: IMIAItaly@imiaweb.org



Ester Leung, CHINA - HONG KONG

I have introduced the first medical interpreting course in Hong Kong in January, 2011. It is a medical interpreting course designed for the Ethnic Minority interpreters working in the public hospitals in Hong Kong. The whole course lasted a total of 130 hours plus 20 hours of practicum at hospitals during the period of Jan, 2011 to May 2011. During the course, different sets of code of practices of different organizations / institutions including the one of IMIA were widely consulted and discussed. Trainees of the course were also made aware of IMIA as the only international professional organization of the medical interpreting industry.

I have also presented a paper at the 4th Cross – Taiwan Straits Symposium on Translation and Intercultural Communication in Hong Kong, explaining and introducing the medical interpreting services in Hong Kong. I have also conducted a lecture and a workshop on medical interpreting at the Hong Kong Translation and Research Summer School (HKTRSS) of Hong Kong Baptist University, which is a sister institute of the UK Translation and Research Summer School (UKTRSS).

All of the above activities were efforts made to professionalize the medical interpreting services in Hong Kong.

In the long term, one of my plans is to work with the service users like the Hospital Authority of Hong Kong, United Nation's High Commission for the Refugees Unit in Hong Kong, Christian Action, and several other service providers in Hong Kong to establish an organization modeling on IMIA or as a branch of IMIA based in Hong Kong, to provide examination venue and opportunities to professionalize medical interpreters in Hong Kong.

IMIA Hong Kong, Ester Leung



Dr. Ester Leung has extensive experience interpreting in different legal and medical settings in England before she came back to teach in Hong Kong in 1997. She has published various articles on legal translation and interpreting also constructed a bilingual, legal corpora: “From legislation to translation, from translation to interpretation: the narrative of sexual offences in the courtroom” (which is available at <http://cpdb-arts.hkbu.edu.hk>). She now teaches at the Translation Programme of Hong Kong Baptist University. IMIAHongKong@imiaweb.org.



Lin Zhang, CHINA - BEIJING

What events have you attended on behalf of the IMIA?
China International Online Forum for the Translation Industry.

What events have you planned with the IMIA?
Introduced IMIA on the largest medical online forum
www.DXY.cn

What outreach have you done to IMIA members in your region/committee/division? Any confernece calls? meetings? email messages?
Received several consulting with IMIA for membership.

Any personal achievements that have advanced the profession or the IMIA?
I am a lecturer of Medical English in Peking Union Medical College.

Any presentations? Not yet.

Which organizations or individuals are you developing working relationships to advance medical interpreting?
Medical Interpretation Society of Peking Union Medical College, the first Medical Interpretation association in China.

What will you be working on in the next few months?
Working with Medical Interpretation Society to promote IMIA

How many members have you recruited or joined your group?
2 new members have joined with our team to promote IMIA.



IMIA Beijing

Lin Zhang received his Medical Degree (M.D) from Anhui Medical University and Master of Medical Sciences from Peking Union Medical College (PUMC), Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences. Then he works as a resident in PUMC Hospital. Dr. Zhang serves as interpreter for patient-doctor communication and international medical conferences in numerous settings. His colleagues and he has set up the Medical Interpretation Society (MIS) with PUMC in 2009, which has weekly training program for doctors and medical students.

To contact him please email: IMIABeijing@imiaweb.org



Mylene Queiroz, BRAZIL

In 2009, IMIA/Brazil attended ProZ Conference in Sao Paulo. In that occasion, I have set a stand to promote IMIA and distributed the IMIA Standards in Portuguese.

In 2011, I organized a 4-hour workshop with Professor Silva Aguiar from the department of Brazilian Sign Language at Federal University of Santa Catarina. The objective of this course was to raise awareness of sign language interpreters about the need to have appropriate training to work in medical settings. In that occasion, I talked about Imia's work and introduced the standards. I also had tried to recruit SL interpreters to be IMIA members. I realized that most of SL interpreters in Brazil do not have proficiency in English to be able to go on the site and take the steps to "become a member". For that reason, I would like to suggest that IMIA's webpages become more multilingual. We will need help of volunteers to translate important information.

Professor Silvana Aguiar and I will be having another workshop in October for about 20 participants. I will try to take some time to recruit and take the steps to become a member with this group.

In June of 2011, I also have defended my master dissertation. In my work, I introduced IMIA and talked about medical interpreting in the US.

In the occasion of my presentation a university professor involved with telemedicine project proposed that should try to use their technology and platform to start to start to train and offer remote medical interpreting. I am dealing with the project directors now and one of the requirements is that we have at least three other external members participants. Those members should participate in teleconference on monthly or bi-monthly basis. I have invited IMIA international to be one of these members as it is a great opportunity for IMIA.

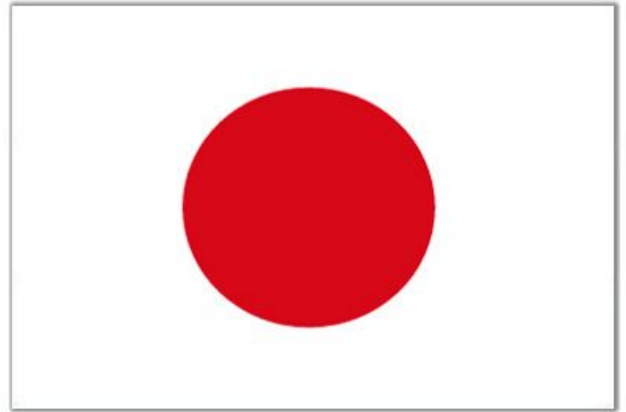
I am also preparing a paragraph for Eric Candle to promote IMIA Brazil Chapter Mission in Brazil who will be participating/speaking at the PROZ Conference that will be held in Rio de Janeiro on November 12 and 13th.

I have tried many different times to call and send letters of collaboration (that was suggested by Lola) to the most important translation and interpreting associations in Brazil (Abrates and Sintra). For same reason they never got back to me.



Mylene Queiroz
IMIA Brazil

Mylene Queiroz holds a B.A. in Social Science by the Federal University of Santa Catarina - UFSC. She is a native of Brazil who arrived in Massachusetts in 2000 where she had worked as a medical interpreter for the Women's Health Network and The Men Health Partnership at Brockton Hospital. Ms. Mylene has moved back to Brazil in 2008 where she is currently undergoing a Masters Program in translations studies at UFSC with a thesis focusing on Medical Interpreting in Brazil and concomitantly undergoing another B.A. with a major in English-Portuguese at COC University. Contact IMIABrazil@imiaweb.org.



Kazumi Takesako , JAPAN

What events have you attended on behalf of the IMIA?

- Academic presentation for “the 8th Asia-Pacific Travel Health Conference”, Oct.22, 2010, Nara, Japan
- Conference interpreting collaboration for “the Symposium on Medical Tourism and Medical Interpreting”, Oct 24, 2010, Kobe, Japan
- Lecture presentation titled “What you need to know to do, Sign Language interpreting in the US” for the Hirakata-city Interpreting Association, Osaka, Japan, Sep.25,2010,Osaka, Japan
- Presentation titled “Present Situation and Challenging of US. Medical Interpreting” for JAMI: Japan Association of Medical Interpreters 4th Conference, July 9,2011, Nagasaki
- Coordination collaboration for “Hirakata-city Medical Interpreting Civil Movement*1 (the first civil movement of this kind in Japan)”, May 24, 2011, Osaka, Japan
- Academic presentation titled “Interviews with US Medical Interpreters” for Japan Association of International Health, Mch.5,2011
- Conference interpreting collaboration with International Volunteer Association, Feb.19-20,2011,Shizuoka, Japan

What events have you planned with the IMIA?

- For 2012 or 2013, an IMIA Japan Symposium is being planned
- For July 21 and 22, 2012, collaboration with IMIA for JAMI and Travel Health Academic Association, Osaka.

What outreach have you done to IMIA members in your region/committee/division? Any conference calls? meetings? email messages?

- Nomination of West Japan and East Japan Reps.
- Involvement of IMIA members in any advocacy movements such as *1
- Involvement of IMIA members and inclusion of IMIA’s Code of Ethics and Standard of Practice in Osaka University’s minor program, “Medical Interpreting Course”.

Any personal achievements that have advanced the profession or the IMIA?

- As the JAMI’s Secretary General, I am advocating the profession and Promoting IMIA at national and prefectural levels.
- As the chair of Remote Medical Interpreting of JTTA: Japan Tele-medicine and Tele-care Association, I am contributing to advancement of the profession.
- Article written in Japanese, “Experiences as Medical Interpreter for Foreign Students” in the book “World of Global Human Sciences”, edited by Y.Nakamura, M Kawamori et al.2011, Osaka University Press

Which organizations or individuals are you developing working relationships to advance medical interpreting?

- JAMI, Osaka University & JTTA

What will you be working on in the next few months?

- I will work on strategic public relations plan for IMIA through my new two Regional Chapter Reps.



Kazumi Takesako

IMIA Japan - IMIAJapan@imiaweb.org.

As a representative of IMIA Japan and a current student of the PhD course of Human Sciences Dep. at Osaka University, Japan, Kazumi TAKESAKO has been conducting a research on medical interpretation. Based on professional experiences as English-Spanish-Japanese interpreter, she serves as the secretary general of Japan Association of Medical Interpreters (JAMI), the first nation-wide initiative to advance the profession in Japan. She also chairs the Committee “Tele Medical Interpretation” of Japan Telemedicine and Telecare Association (JTTA) and has been advocating for volunteer interpreters in medical settings. She has been working hard to have medical interpreting as a profession in Japan.



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Ravi Kumar, INDIA

What events have you attended on behalf of the IMIA?

I organized an International Conference on Role of Translation in Nation Building and presented a talk involving Interpretation and importance of Medical Interpretation

What events have you planned with the IMIA?

No event has been planned yet, but in near future we have intentions to organize specific workshops and seminar related to Medical Interpreting

What outreach have you done to IMIA members in your region/committee/division? Any conference calls? Meetings? email messages?

In the capacity of Founder President of Indian Translators Association, I regularly send mailers to translators and Interpreters community of India as well as across the globe. My mailers always contain additional tagline – “Ravi Kumar – IMIA Representative India”. Unfortunately, I have not received any single request for membership. This may be due to the fact that in India translation and interpretation activities have not yet received professional status.

Which organizations or individuals are you developing working relationships to advance medical interpreting?

Indian Translators Association as well as NGOs involved in promoting health care activities in rural areas of India

Plan of activities in the next few months?

Working with Indian Translators Association as well as NGOs working in health sector to promote medical interpretation.

How many members have you recruited or joined your group?

2 new members have joined with our team to promote IMIA.

Did they join IMIA, or are they helping you?

They have not joined IMIA but they are helping me occasionally



India Chapter Ravi Kumar

- To contact Ravi please email IMIAIndia@imiaweb.org.
- Serving as a board member and Founder President of [Indian Translators Association](#) New Delhi, India
- Serving as board member (2008-2011) to [Fédération Internationale des Traducteurs \(FIT\)](#), the world's apex body of translators and interpreters connecting more than 1,00,000 translators and interpreters across the globe represented by more than 110 translators' associations coming from 80 countries with its headquarters in Montreal.
- Actively involved in Simultaneous and Consecutive Interpretation services in Hindi, English and Spanish for Conference, seminars, business talks and medical emergencies.



Lolie Makhubu, SOUTH AFRICA

I joined IMIA less than a year ago and this year was the learning curve for me and has not attended any event on behalf of IMIA. The most pressing thing as an academic working at the university was for me to complete my Doctoral Studies in interpreting.

After meeting face to face with colleagues from other countries at the 2011 IMIA Conference in Boston, I hope to gain experience from other country representatives with the best practice so that I may plan similar events for my country.

There are no events which I have attended on behalf of thus far, but personally am involved with the research with 3rd year and Bachelor of Technology students in the field of translation and Interpreting. The current research we are working on is the provision or lack of provision of interpreting services in hospitals and clinic in the province of KwaZulu-Natal. I will share some of this during the conference as it is an ongoing activity.

Also I am in contact with another IMIA member from Cape Town and planning to discuss the following agenda as she has requested which would be part of IMIA as way forward for the country:

- Language needs & state of interpreting in South Africa, i.e. current situation
- The InterTel system
- The InterTel system: implementation in the rest of SA
- Media around InterTel
- Training of medical interpreters
- Standards for training and practice

What I can say I that personally I have just submitted my Doctoral thesis awaiting results which would open doors for me upon setting up appointments in various sectors in order to advance the aims of IMIA.



IMIA South Africa.

Lolie Makhubu is the Head of the Department and a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Media, Language & Communication. She is a freelance translator and interpreter. She has a BPaed, BA (Hons) from the University of KwaZulu-Natal and an MA from Stellenbosch University. She is an accredited (in both translation and interpreting) member of South African Translators' Institute (SATI). Her current research focuses on providing interpreting services in KwaZulu-Natal, in South Africa. She presented on the Code of Ethics and Conducts for translators and interpreters in workshop hosted by the DAC and PanSALB in Durban, South Africa in August 2010. She presented a paper at the Critical Link 6 Conference in July 2010 in Birmingham-in the United Kingdom. Previously she presented papers nationally in South Africa and internationally at The AIKS Conference 2010 which was held in Johannesburg, South Africa, did a presentation at the TermNet 2009 which was held at the University of Cologne in Germany, presented a paper during the FIT 2005 World Congress, which was held in Finland, at the University of Boston (USA), and at the University of Leiden (The Netherlands). She is also interested in translation, as well as SA Sign Language and its development, and has presented papers in these fields. She is involved in SATI, Interpreters Chapter, IATIS. For two terms in succession, she held the position of the Chairperson of the KZN Provincial Language Committee (KZN PLC), which is the substructure of the PanSALB. She lectures in communication, interpreting, translation and Research Methodology in the department. She lectured linguistics at the UKZN. She has three publications and two joint publications. IMIASouthAfrica@imiaweb.org