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## 40th ATA Conference held in St. Louis ...And a Good Time was Had by All

by Susan Nakano

The 40th Annual American Translators Association (ATA) conference was held in St. Louis, Missouri from November 3 to November 6. The Regal Riverfront Hotel, the hotel chosen to host the conference, is located just under the famous Gateway Arch. Many conference-goers took advantage of the opportunity to walk to the arch and enjoy the unique view from the top of one of the United States' most symbolic and well-known landmarks. The weather was perfect for those of us coming from north of St. Louis. The Midwest seems to have forgotten that it was November and we enjoyed a beautiful "Indian summer."

The conference began on November 3 with special sessions and a Welcome Reception in the evening. At the Welcome Reception, the Grand Ballroom was large, but even so, crowded with friends and acquaintances from previous conferences. Cameras flashed, people hugged and everyone enjoyed the good food offered. The members of the Japanese Language Division were having such a good time at the Welcome Reception that it was hard to get



The famous Gateway Arch

everyone to relocate to a different room for a Japanese Division gathering after the Reception.

Again, food was offered at the Japanese Division meeting. All stood up to introduce

themselves and we then had an opportunity to munch and mingle. Present were many brand-new members as well as veteran translators. A sign-up sheet was passed around for the JLD dinner to take place at a nearby hotel on Friday evening.

The next morning, Thursday, began with an opening session again in the Grand Ballroom. The mayor of St. Louis, Clarence Harmon, welcomed us to his city and read a proclamation declaring that week Translator's and Interpreters Week in the city of St. Louis. A message from the governor of Missouri, Mel Carnahan, was also shared, proclaiming the week Translator's and Interpreter's Week in Missouri. Then came the entertainment! The Chorus of the German Cultural Center entertained us with a selection of German folk songs and Schubert pieces, ending with a German rendition of "When the Saints go Marching In."



Hiroe Asahina, Tom Burney, Yuriko Hatasa, Shinji Nakano and Tim Hallet at the Network Session

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# ボード便り

by Izumi Suzuki

1999年11月3日より6日まで第40回ATA年次会議がミズーリ州セントルイス市で開かれました。今回は会議中に行われたいくつかの会合についても順を追ってかいつまんでお伝えします。

## ATA-1 開会セッション

この会議を以って2年間会長を務めたMuriel M. Jerome-O'Keefeさんは定款に従い退任されると言うことで、任期中のATAの歩みについてスピーチがありました。このスピーチは次のクロニクルに掲載されます。引き続き定款の一部変更\*に関する投票と会計役、書記、会長補各1名、理事3名を選ぶ選挙(ATA-2)が行われました。

\*これはボードで以前に決めた「会長の1年にする」「これに伴い会長補の代わりに第一、第二副会長を設ける」という変更ですが、賛成票は過半数に至らず結局今回は現状維持で変更なし、ということになりました。

## ATA-3 海外認定試験に関するフォーラム

海外における認定試験は、1980年代初期より小規模に行われていますが、昨年突然一部の会員より「止めて欲しい」と言う声が上がりました。「ATAが米国の協会である限り、国内の会員を保護して欲しい、外国の安い料金を翻訳する人達に仕事を取られ、経済的にかなりの痛手を被っている上、ATAが海外で認定試験を行っていることにより状況は悪化している」というのがその意見です。ボードはこのことを深刻に受け取り、臨時委員会を作ると同時に、今回の会議中海外認定試験の反対派、賛成派の両方の意見を聞く場を設けたのがこのフォーラムです。司会役を担当したNick Hartmann氏はフォーラムの後両者の意見をまとめATA総会の時報告を行いました。反対派の意見としては、「海外にいてもATAの会員である限り国内の会員と同じ権利を享受出来るはずで、試験を受けられないのはおかしい」、「海外にいる米国人の翻訳者を忘れてはならない」といったものがありました。

## ATA-4 年次総会

議題の承認、98年度年次総会の議事録の提出に続き、新会計役のEric McMillanさんから会計報告がありました。今回もATAの会計状況は程よい黒字でした。Hartmann氏による「海外認定試験に関するフォーラム」報告の後一般会員から質問がありましたが、例年どおり認定試験に関するものが一番目立ちました。次に選挙結果の報告がありましたが、次の通りです。

会計役 - Eric McMillan

書記 - Courtney Searls-Ridge

会長補 - Tom West

理事3名 Kirk Anderson - 389票 (現Chapter Committee委員長)

Scott Brennan - 342票

Timothy Yuan - 276票 (現Division Committee委員長)

選挙結果発表後、新会長Ann Macfarlaneさんから就任の挨拶がありました。Macfarlaneさんは旦那様と共に元外交官で、世界各地で生活した経験があります。末っ子のスティーブ君(12歳)はゴジラが縁で日本文化に興味を持つようになり、昨夏は2週間日本でホームステイしました。来夏はホストファミリーの坊やが来米するとのことです、Annさんも大いに日本に興味を持っていらっしゃるようです。(今IJET2000出席を勧めているところです。)御自身はロシア語の翻訳者です。

## 「翻訳者とマスメディア：マスメディアにおける翻訳と翻訳者のイメージを考慮するフォーラム」

元ホワイトハウスの報道長官Dee Dee Myersが話すというので、会場は入りきれないほど一杯で、立ち見の人も沢山出るほど。Myersさんの他パネルには英、仏、米のPR専門家及びATA広報委員会委員長のManouche Ragsdaleさんが出席し、メディアの報道から一般人が受ける翻訳者通訳者のイメージ、それに対して我々翻訳者通訳者はどうすべきかを、各国各様の例を挙げながら話してくれました。翻訳者、通訳者の社会的地位が低い、お客さんは翻訳通訳がどんなに大変か理解してくれない、と内部で愚痴をこぼしたり、ATAのような組織に頼るだけでは足りなくて、一人一人が積極的に記事に対して意見の手紙を書いたり、プレスリリースを送る努力をすべきだということ改めて痛感しました。

## ボードミーティング(11月6日、7日)

\* 現理事だったCourtney Searls-Ridgeさんが書記になったため、理事職が一つ空席になり、その穴埋めとして、得票数で第4位(229票)だったBeatriz Bonnetさんが1年間の理事職に就任しました。

\* 11月現在、会員数は7,200名を上回り、維持率も82%と益々高まっています。JLDの会員数は407名です。

\* セントルイス会議の出席者数は1,230名。

\* オンラインTSDの登録者数は3月に開始した時の2,200名から3,500名に増えました。ますます多くの企業が翻訳者通訳者をオンラインで探すようになってきている今日、TSDはATA会員のみが利用できるマーケティングツールです。まだの方、是非登録しましょう。

\* 認定委員会のShuckran Kamalさんが出席し、直接委員会報告を行いました。認定試験は

年次総会での会員による質問からも明らかのように、会員が一番関心を持っている分野です。委員会活動の報告に加え、委員会としての海外試験に対する所見も報告されましたが、これは「海外認定試験は継続すべき」というものです。

\* 次に海外認定試験臨時委員会委員長(鈴木)より報告が行われました。この委員会では、ATAは国際組織か米国組織かについての話し合いと、本部の収集した認定試験に関する数値データの分析を行いました。3ページの報告書を一言にまとめますと、「ATAは米国内的並びに国際的な活動範囲を持つ国内組織である。定款には会員を経済的に保護することは定められていない。グローバリゼーションの傾向は変えられるものでなく、ATAは会員の支持としてプロフェッショナルの育成により積極的に注力すべきだ」となります。当委員会の報告書、フォーラムの報告書、認定委員会の報告の3つを基に行われた話し合いの結果は、「年内にこの件に関する会員調査を行うこと。本部で他国の状況に関する情報を収集すること。この活動期間海外認定試験を一時的に保留すること。3月の理事会でこれらを検討して結論を出すこと。」です。

\* イタリア語部門が設立されました。

\* Translation and Computers and Terminology Committeeより、ATAホームページに「ユーザー間TACフォーラム」を設けて会員同士が助け合えるようにしたい、という動議があり、ATA弁護士がこれに関わる諸事を検討して問題なければ、という条件付きで可決しました。

\* これまでUniversity Accreditation Committeeと名づけられていた委員会は、その活動をもっと正確に反映するようにTraining Committeeと名前を変更しました。

今回の報告書も正式な議事録が手元に届く前にまとめたものですので、その点ご了承ください。いつものようにご質問、ご意見おありの方は鈴木までご連絡ください。(電話：248-344-0909、ファックス：344-0092、電子メール [suzukimyers@mindspring.com](mailto:suzukimyers@mindspring.com))

Izumi Suzuki is an interpreter and a translator, ATA-accredited in both directions between Japanese and English. Izumi and her husband Steve Myers operate Suzuki-Myers Associates, Ltd. in Novi Michigan. Izumi is a member of the board of directors of the ATA, and is the Assistant administrator of the Japanese Language Division.



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# JLD Times

*JLD Times Newsletter of the  
Japanese Language Division  
of the  
American Translators Association*

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Editor: Manako Ihaya  
Publisher: Hideki Ishii

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## From the Administrator

Jon Johanning



Once again the Division has presented a successful series of sessions at the ATA conference, and once again I, like all of you who attended, am sure, was frustrated by the frenzy to make contact with so many old friends and meet so many newcomers in a short few days. I wish I had been able to spend more time with more intrepid JLDers! And it seems that the opportunity for doing it all over again in Orlando is just around the corner, with next year's conference moved up to September.

In St. Louis, I had a look at the final version of our new Japanese translation and interpretation handbook; I hope it will be printed by the time you read this, given the lead time for this issue. As you will see, it is an outstanding introduction to the field, well worth the wait! A hearty "gokurou-sama" is due to all of the authors, as well as to Gregor Hartmann, Miho Kite, Hiro Tsuchiya, Yoriko Morita, Kyoko Saegusa, and everyone else who worked so hard to produce it. I hope that anyone who is in contact with a college or university Japanese department or other place where students of Japanese who might be interested in entering the profession congregate will recommend its purchase. It should be a best-seller!

Another significant event coming out of the ATA conference is a pair of steps toward bringing the division further into the cyber age: Harold Abilock agreed to work on setting up a division e-mail list through the ATA headquarters, and Susan Nakano volunteered to do the same for a division Web page, linked to the ATA site. It's great that these developments, long overdue, are underway.

Best wishes to all division members for the new year, century, and millennium, and don't forget to make plans to meet in Orlando, Florida this September!

# Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Japanese Language Division November 6, 1999; St. Louis, MO

by Jim Davis

The meeting was called to order by Jon Johanning, Division Administrator, at 3:30 p.m. Forty-seven members attended. The following items were discussed.

## 1. 1999 Conference Planning Committee Report

The committee consisted of John Bukacek (Chair), Hiro Tsuchiya and Etsuko Good. Eight sessions (in addition to the Division Annual Meeting) were held this year; all sessions were well attended (40-50 people). (The result of a survey on JLD programs that the Committee conducted is on Page 5.)

## 2. 2000 Conference Planning Committee

Gerry Gooding volunteered to chair this committee. Benjamin Tompkins and Akiko Sasaki-Summers volunteered to help. Hiro Tsuchiya agreed to serve as liaison from the 1999 committee. The following people offered to make presentations or to coordinate sessions: Alan Gleason (bilingual magazine), Atsushi Tomii, Harold Abilock (patent workshop with Gerry Gooding and others + general translation workshop), Jill Abilock (online research tools and useful web sites) and Ken Sakai (semiconductor industry and terminology). Hiro Tsuchiya noted the excellent attendance at the session related to the auto industry, and suggested that topics be selected with particular consideration to the economy in the region of the country where the conference will be held.

## 3. 1999-2000 JLD Directory

Izumi Suzuki, Assistant Administrator, distributed copies of the new directory to all members present at the meeting. She reported that this directory was compiled at ATA Headquarters. Most of the information contained in the directory was taken from the Translation Services Directory (TSD) on the ATA website. Members who are not listed in the TSD are included in the directory, but only the name and contact information appear. JLD members who did not receive a copy

of the directory at the conference should have received a copy through the mail from Headquarters.

## 4. Handbook on Translation and Interpretation

Jon read a message from Gregor Hartmann regarding the status of this project. The current plan calls for publication by the end of the year. Once the book becomes available, each author will receive two copies and each JLD member will receive one copy. Gerry Gooding reported that the patent translation handbook was priced so that income from sales of half of the copies would cover the total printing. The price for selling this book to the general public will be set in the same way. ATA members will receive a discount from the price charged to the general public. Yoriko Morita, who handled all of the DTP for this book, is not a Division member and did all of this work as a volunteer. Members attending the meeting signed a thank-you card for Yoriko. Jon will send her the card and a small honorarium as a token of appreciation from the Division.

## 5. Patent Translation Handbook

Gerry Gooding reported that the first printing of this book sold out, so the ATA had additional copies printed. The cost of this book is \$25.

## 6. Financial Report

Total revenue for 1999 was \$6,475; total expenses were \$7,647.67. In 1997 the Division carried forward a surplus of \$20,657.90. In 1998 the Division spent \$2,848.60 of this surplus; so far in 1999 we have spent \$1,172.67. Jon reminded the membership that we had planned to spend down the Division surplus at a rate of approximately \$5,000 per year over four years. Division dues were reduced from \$25 to \$15 in 1998, and the distribution of copies of the new handbook to Division members will consume some of the surplus. Attempts will be made to track income from the new handbook separately from income from the patent translation handbook. The Division may reduce dues again next year if the surplus remains high. (For JLD finance report by ATA Treasurer Eric Norman McMillan, see Page 5.)

## 7. Election of Officers

An election was held this year, and both Jon and Izumi were reelected for two-year terms. Jon has agreed to remain as Administrator for one more year. Izumi is

willing to become Administrator next year, when her term on the ATA Board ends. The Division will search for a new Assistant Administrator to fill out the remaining year in the current term.

## 8. Division E-mail List and Website

Jon raised both issues, and following some discussion Harold Abilock agreed to set up a list for the Division. The issue of a Division website was tabled until next year. (Note: After the meeting Susan Nakano agreed to look into setting up a Division website.)

## 9. JLD Times

Gerry Gooding announced that Manako Ihaya (Monica Hardesty) will serve as editor for the next two years. The membership applauded Gerry for his efforts as editor over the past two years.

## 10. Revision of Division Bylaws

Jon reported that current bylaws limit voting and the right to hold division office to Accredited Members. He would like to change this to Active Members, since the revised Peer Review Process now makes it possible to achieve Active Member status without passing the Accreditation Exam. Jon will look into making this change. Izumi encouraged all Associate Members to investigate the simplified Peer Review Process and consider applying for Active Member status. (The process is described in the May 1999 issue of The ATA Chronicle.)

## 11. Chinese Language Division

Jon reported that this new division is in the process of becoming established. He offered the support of the Division in the form of signatures on an organizing petition or advice on setting up a new division.

## 12. IJET-2000

Several speakers reminded the membership that IJET-2000 will be held in Kyoto on May 20-21, 2000 and that advance registrations (and advance payment) are always appreciated by conference organizers. All members were encouraged to attend IJET-2000. The IJET-2000 website is <http://www.ijet.org/ijet-2000>. Mayumi Nishioka is Chair of the organizing committee. Izumi, Allan Adams and (if possible) Ann Macfarlane will represent the ATA and will give a presentation on the current status of the American translation and interpretation industry.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

# JLD Finances Remain in Good Shape

by Eric Norman, ATA Treasurer

The Japanese Language Division continues to be in good shape financially.

One element of the finances that was discussed at the JLD Annual Business meeting was the division's reserves or "Prior Year's Surplus."

In November 1997, the Board unanimously approved the following motion: "Resolved, that the Board approves the Division Committee's proposal to establish a new line item for each division, "Prior Year's Surplus." It is the intent of the Board that these surpluses will be managed in the future in such a way that each

division will have the benefit of its surplus funds for projects requiring more than a single year's allocation. However, the "Prior Year's Surplus" shall not be allowed to be larger than \$10,000. Amounts accruing larger than that amount shall revert to the general fund."

In 1997, three divisions had accrued significant reserves: the Japanese Language Division, the Literary Division, and the Science and Technology Division. In an effort to get all the divisions in line with the Board action, these three divisions had their surpluses spread over the

next four years (fiscal years 1998-2001). JLD had a surplus of \$20,657.90. Therefore, the annual carryover amount for the four years is \$5,164.47 (actually \$5,164.49 for the last year 2001). For 1999, JLD had a total of \$7,480.34 available from prior years' surpluses.

The 1999 carryover for 2000 will not be determined until February once all the revenues and expenses have been processed. However, current financial projections show that JLD will not be affected by the \$10,000 cap for 1999.

## Survey on JLD events and programs at the ATA conference

by Etsuko Yashiki Good

In order to improve the quality of the JLD program and to meet members' needs, the Conference Committee sent a survey form to participating members. Here are the results of the survey:

### 1. How do you evaluate the following?

	Outstanding	Above Average	Average	Below Average	Poor	No Opinion	Total
Informal Meeting	10	14	6	2	1	2	35
JLD Programs	16	18	1	2	0	0	37
Time Schedule	14	19	4	4	0	4	45
Visual Aids	15	12	4	0	0	2	33
Program Topics	16	17	2	2	0	2	39
Dinner Meeting	23	6	6	0	0	0	35
JLD Meeting	16	8	4	4	4	0	36
<b>Total</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>10</b>	

Not everyone evaluated every item. For the most part the evaluations were very positive, with a few negative choices concerning JLD Meetings, time scheduling and programs. Everyone seemed to enjoy the Dinner Outing. Good job to Jon Johanning for the choice of the restaurant!

### 2. What is the best thing about JLD?

Comments on this question were positive and almost unanimous. They included such things as networking opportunities, meeting people and the sharing of information.

### 3. What does JLD need to improve?

The comments on this question were scarce, and focused on the need for JLD to disseminate more information; e.g. videos of programs, workshops and generally having vehicles for sharing information. Having more ongoing topics for meetings was also mentioned a few times.

### 4. What subject of presentations and services would you like JLD to offer?

This question solicited two issues: About half requested more technical services, such as information on localization, web site making, patent translation, etc. while the other half indicated a need for more support in literally and poetic translation. I suggest that JLD address both issues.

### 5. What type of presentation styles would you like—an individual presentation, a 2-3 presenter per session, a panel discussion and/or other format?

Opinions about this question varied widely. Most people indicated that any type of presentations, if done well, would be fine.

### 6. Are there any comments and suggestions to be considered for planning next year's JLD?

Very few members answered this question. Comments asked for better planning in meetings to avoid redundancy from year to year, and the need of better time planning for programs and presentations to avoid conflicts in scheduling.

### 7. Are there any general comments, suggestions, and opinions to JLD?

Comments were very positive; e.g. thank you and good job to the officers.

Thank you and I look forward to seeing all of you next year!

*Etsuko Yashiki Good is a native of Japan with two master's degrees in Linguistics and International Affairs from Ohio University. She has 15 years' experience as a buyer, a planner and a sales manager for major international companies such as Sony, Toshiba, Price Waterhouse and Westinghouse. She is also a long-time Japanese language teacher and a cross-cultural consultant. She has been a freelance English-Japanese translator and interpreter since 1998, specializing in business, legal, finance, localization and technical areas. She served as a member of the Conference Committee in 1999 and is active in the local America-Japan Association, Japanese School and High Tech Council in Pittsburgh.*



## St. Louis (from page 1)

The educational sessions began after lunch on Thursday. Thirteen categories of sessions were offered. For the Japanese Language Division, John Bukacek, with the help of Etsuko Good and Hiro Tsuchiya, assembled a comprehensive line-up of sessions addressing patents, translation trends, interpretation, automotive, grammar, techniques and tools. Some sessions were presented in English and others in Japanese. Audience participation was lively, as in Jim Davis' discussion of "Techniques for Japanese-English Translation" in which alternatives and intricacies of technical translation were offered by the presenter and discussed by the audience with language switching freely between Japanese and English.

Several conference participants came from overseas to participate. Notably, Mr. Tomii came from Japan, bringing a student from his Tomii-juku in Tokyo. Mr. Tomii was once again generous enough to lead his own session, "Overview of the Translation Industry in Japan and Review of Translation Skills," as well as take over when a portion of another session was cancelled. Mr. Tomii is a long-time participant in both ATA and IJET conferences. He is also a prolific author of Japanese-English language guides. We are lucky to have him participate year after year.

Thursday evening we enjoyed the ATA Networking session. The first half of the session was arranged to let the conference-goers meet other translators working in the same language. There were two tables set up for Japanese. The second half of the networking session was to meet other translators working in the same field of expertise.

We all know that the daytime sessions are only half of an ATA conference. The beautiful weather made it easy to venture out of the hotel in the afternoons and evenings to enjoy the food

and music offered by St. Louis. I was part of a lively group that discovered a small oyster bar near the hotel. They specialize in Cajun cuisine including crayfish (similar to shrimp) and alligator (a little rubbery but not bad). The delicious menu under the stars began the evening and a live band and dancing helped finish the evening.

Friday evening, 54 members of the Japanese Language Division walked to the nearby Adams Mark Hotel to enjoy a seafood buffet at Chestnuts. We may have driven a less friendly restaurant crazy by asking for individual checks, but they were very accommodating. The food was varied and delicious and conversation lasted well into the night.



TOP: From left to right; Jon Johanning, Gerry Gooding, Izumi Suzuki, Aiko Gooding  
LEFT: Mr. Tomii enjoys crayfish at a local restaurant.  
ABOVE: Presenters from the Chicago area; From left to right; Yuko Kato, Masako Takahashi



TOP:  
ABOVE:  
LEFT:

Saturday, the last day of the conference, included both the Accreditation Exam and the Japanese Language Division Annual Meeting. (For detailed minutes of the Annual Meeting, please see meeting minutes by Jim Davis' on page 4.) Jon Johanning presided over the meeting, joined later by Izumi Suzuki.

Gerry Gooding, Akiko Sasaki-Summers and Ben Tompkins volunteered to solicit speakers for the ATA conference next year. It is quite a job, so if you are at all interested in conducting or co-conducting a session or if you have ideas for topics for the Japanese Language Division next year, please, please let them know.

As usual, we all had a good time and look forward to the next conference in Orlando from September 20 - 23 in 2000.

*Network Communications was contracted to create recordings of all sessions at the ATA conference. To obtain a list of tapes available, contact either ATA or visit the Network Communications web page for the ATA Conference at [www.swiftsite.com/nettapes/translator99.html](http://www.swiftsite.com/nettapes/translator99.html). A list of tapes is available and you can place your order from this site.*

Susan was born in Milwaukee in 1962, became an American Field Service (AFS) exchange student to Yokohama in 1980 and graduated from Northern Illinois University in 1984 with a double major in Marketing and Computer Science.



She worked as a mainframe application-turned-system programmer until 1992 when she returned to Japan. Susan went back to her old high school as an English teacher and lived in her old neighborhood, hooking up again with the "boy-next-door," Shinji Nakano. Susan and Shinji were married in 1993. He quit his lifetime job at NEC and they moved to the U.S. in 1996. Moving to the country, they now work as freelance translators specializing in computer-related material. In November, Susan and Shinji were blessed with the birth of their first daughter, Emily and are only starting to appreciate the difficulties of being working parents.

# Words and 言葉

by Jim Davis

In this column I present sample passages that may be of interest to translators who work with Japanese and English. This segment is the conclusion of an essay that describes some of the characteristics of satellite telecommunications. I encourage the reader to translate the passage without looking at the remainder of the column and then compare the resulting translation with the one given below. Comments and suggestions are always welcome (jdavis@engr.wisc.edu).

## 衛星通信の特徴

### (5) 伝送遅延

衛星通信の回線長は衛星折り返しで約 7 万 km にも及ぶため、送信から受信までの間に約 0.25 秒の伝送遅延が生じる。このため、データ通信のように人間が介在しない場合や、映像伝送を単一方向で利用する場合には問題は生じないが、電話やテレビ会議など、人間が介在する双方向通信として利用する場合は約 0.25 秒の伝送遅延のため会話に不自然さが伴う。

### (6) スクランプルの必要性

衛星通信の有する特徴の一つである広域性は、一方では簡単に同報通信を可能にするなどの長所となって現れるが、一方では、一度送信した情報が予定しない相手に傍受されてしまうという、通信内容の秘密保持の困難性という問題ももっている。したがって、秘密保持のため情報にスクランブルをかけ、さらにスクランブルについての機密を保持する必要がある。

テレビ会議	video conferencing
傍受する	to intercept

The first topic of this section is “transmission delay.” As mentioned previously, 回線 is a “circuit,” and 及ぶ can mean—among many possibilities—“to reach” or “to extend to.” The term 折り返し indicates a “turn(ing point)” or a “return (from somewhere).” In this case it is clear that the writer is talking about transmission from the Earth to the satellite and back to the Earth. Use of the particle も before 及ぶ suggests that the writer con-

siders this distance to be quite long. Because there is so much information in the first sentence, we probably need to break it up. We could say, “The circuit length for satellite telecommunications extends as far as 70,000 km as a consequence of the signal’s travel to the satellite and back. As a result, a delay of approximately 0.25 seconds arises between transmission and reception of the signal.”

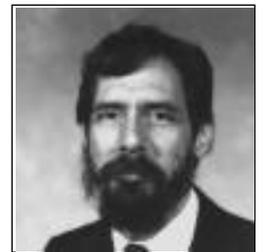
In the next sentence the writer considers the effects of this delay. In one situation there is no problem, in another situation there is. The first portion is straightforward: “This (delay) does not create a problem in situations—such as data transmission—where no people are involved, or when we use the system for one-way transmission of video.” The key element for the second portion of the sentence is the “interaction/involvement of people.” The sentence ends with 不自然さが伴う, which suggests that “an unnatural quality accompanies (the delay).” This unnatural quality manifests itself in a conversation, so we may wish to rearrange the wording of the translation, as follows: “However, in situations such as telephone conversations or video conferencing, where satellite telecommunications is utilized for two-way communication in which people interact in real time, the approximately 0.25 second transmission delay introduces an unnatural quality into the conversation.”

In the next section the writer addresses “the need for scrambling.” The term “scrambling” has a long history, but a more modern alternative might be “the need for encryption.” The first sentence covers a great deal of ground, presenting one strength and one weakness of satellite telecommunications. The writer focuses on the consequences of 広域性 (“the ability to cover a wide area”). The phrase 一度送信した情報 looks as though it could be translated as “information that has been transmitted once,” but in this context we are really concerned with what happens to “information, once it has been transmit-

ted.” Of course, the predicate that is associated with 情報 is not 予定しない but rather 傍受されてしまう. We often think of 相手 as “companion” or “opponent” in some sort of bilateral situation in which the two sides are clearly defined. In this case, however, we have 予定しない相手, which could be called “a third party” or more generally “an unintended party.” Putting together all of these pieces, we could translate this sentence in this way: “The ability to cover a wide area, which is one of the characteristics of satellite telecommunications, appears on the one hand to be an advantage in that it makes it possible to easily broadcast information to many sites. On the other hand, it also brings with it the difficulty of maintaining the secrecy/privacy of the content that is conveyed, since information—once it has been transmitted—can be intercepted by an unintended party.”

The final sentence presents a solution, or at least a response, to the problem raised in the previous sentence. In this sentence the writer uses both 秘密 and 機密. Although both terms can be translated as “secret” or “secrecy,” 秘密 is the more general term and can be used with regard to the full range of personal secrets, secret (closed door) sessions, trade secrets or even military secrets. Generally, 機密 is reserved for weightier issues and is not used for personal matters. This term could also be translated as “security.” We could render the final sentence as, “Information is encrypted in order to maintain secrecy/privacy, but there arises a further need to maintain the security of the encryption.”

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きゅうたいかんかく  
球體感覺

Literary News and Tidbits

by Eric Selland

Natsuishi Banya has been a presence in Japan's increasingly complex and interesting haiku world since the early '80s. In a traditional literary climate strapped by convention, Natsuishi has boldly broken away from the standard cultural and artistic expectations of a haikuist and made the haiku a platform for experiment and discovery - which is of course exactly what the haiku should be. But for Natsuishi, this means stretching the form beyond its usual boundaries, often ignoring syllable counts and seasonal words, and refusing to lapse into personal sentimentality as a means of producing what might be viewed by readers as the expected "haiku moment." If the heart of haiku is surprise, then Natsuishi is indeed surprising. One of his earlier books, *Shinkuuritsu* (Shichousha, 1986), is splattered with katakana, difficult readings and many unique readings of characters supplied with the use of furigana.

トウキョウ イカ レル ハナ ユキ ノ ハナ  
東京ニ怒レル華ハ雪ノ華

Tokyo ni ikareru hana wa yuki no hana  
Flowers angry  
In Tokyo  
Are snow flowers

The character for "angry" (okoru) is given the optional reading of "ikaru" in furigana, and is placed in an odd form (ikareru), making it possible to hear this also as "flowers going to Tokyo." Then, the choice of characters for "flower" is "hanayaka," or "ka," referring also to China, as well as brilliance and luster. It's an almost too heavy choice for this kind of image, but Natsuishi's aim in this book is to push the reader's perceptions somewhat off kilter. This poem leaves the interpretation open in a way so as to allow for at least three readings that I can think of off hand. It is likely that no two people will understand it in quite the same way. In the same book

is another poem, also supplied with furigana for kanji (though obviously only for visual effect in this instance), which supplies the surreal image of...

空中ノ帝国墓地二種蒔ク者ヨ

Kuuchuu no teikoku bochi ni tane  
maku mono yo  
Someone spreading seeds  
In the Imperial graveyard  
In mid-air

Again, Natsuishi breaks with expectations, and utilizes furigana, punctuation and kanji choices to add to the visual experience in a way not previously done in haiku. In a short statement accompanying selections of his haiku included in a modern anthology, *Gendai Haiku New Wave* (Rippuu Shobou, 1990), Natsuishi poses the question of how one might structurally dismantle the Japanese language so as to have a closer look, not in the analytical sense, but in the poetic sense. This is what Natsuishi sets out to do.

Natsuishi Banya completed his Masters degree in comparative literature at Tokyo University, which has made him deeply familiar with foreign literature, especially the European avant-garde of this century. He works out of the well-established though lesser known tradition of Modernist experiment in haiku begun by iconoclastic writers such as Tomisawa Kakio in early Showa, and continued by figures such as Takayanagi Shigenobu during the post-war period. Natsuishi reveals his theories and his analysis of this history in his book of essays *Haiku no Poetikku* (Seichisha, 1983).

Literary politics being what it is, Natsuishi has often had a tough time dealing with Japan's haiku societies, but recently he has risen above the fray and become instrumental in establishing a new, eclectic Modern Haiku Association through his magazine *Ginyu*, published in a quarterly, bilin-

gual edition. He also helped to present an International Contemporary Haiku Symposium in Tokyo last year, attended by haikuists from England, France and Germany. Some of these same writers from the international community are also regular contributors to the magazine. Through his current activities Natsuishi attempts to make haiku an important presence on the international stage as a "modern short poem," not necessarily limited by traditional Japanese imagery. A book of his has been published in English through Red Moon Press entitled *A Future Waterfall: 100 Haiku*, and he plans on publishing an anthology of modern haiku in English translation next year.

彗星見えてパリに三人やっとそろう

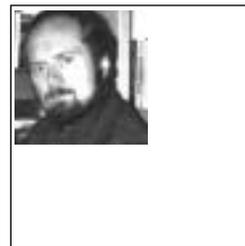
Suisei miete pari ni sannin yatto sorou  
The comet visible:  
In Paris the three  
Finally together  
(from *A Future Waterfall*, translation by Hiroaki Sato)

*Ginyu*

Editor: Natsuishi Banya  
3-16-11 Tsuruse-Nishi, Fujimi,  
Saitama, Japan 354-0026  
Tel-Fax: 0492-52-9823  
(The magazine has lots of interesting modern haikuists, including foreigners and some excellent women haikuists.)

Modern Haiku Association  
Chairman: Tohta Kaneko  
Dai-Ni Kairaku Bldg. 7 F  
6-5-4 Soto-Kanda, Chiyoda-Ku, Tokyo  
101-0021

Eric Selland is an independent translator working and living near San Francisco. His primary interest is in translating Japanese literature as well as writing poetry, but he pays the bills by translating in the fields of business, finance and some technical subjects.



# 地名人名閑話第一

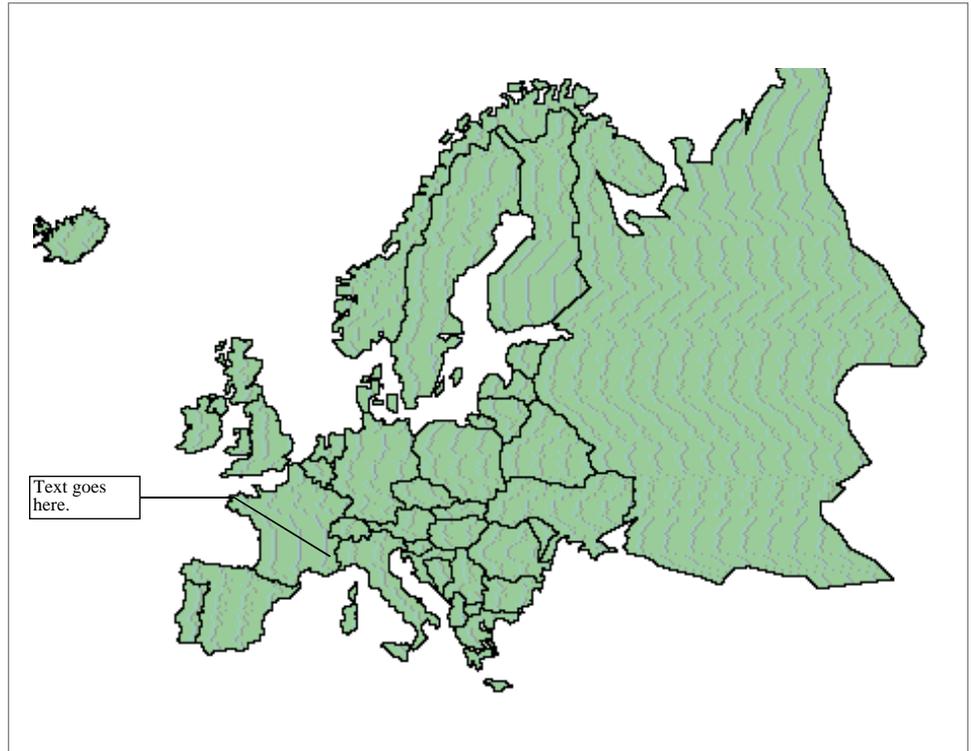
by Henry Hirose

This column will feature the discussions of the pitfalls in translating proper names between Japanese and English. This first installment will discuss the translation of European place names.

The translation of European names generally follows the principle of 原語主義, using original language names, with a smattering of English language names and older forms unique to Japanese. Even when original forms are used, there are many variations due to the possible variations in transliterations.

There are many major examples in which original language names are used. Some examples: ローマ for Rome, Roma in Italian; ジュネーブ for Geneva, Geneve in French; ミュンヘン for Munich, Munchen in German; etc. The difference results because the English language has formed its own renditions for these names through centuries of exposure to European history. Names of German states are rendered this way uniformly: ザクセン for Saxony and バイエルン for Bavaria in which the original German are Sachsen and Bayern, respectively.

In many of these cases, there are more than one acceptable form in Japanese due to transliteration choices. Venice is the most prominent of these names in which ベニス, based on the English, and ヴェネチア, from Italian Venezia, are both acceptable. There is a general differentiation of usage here in that scholarly sources almost always use ヴェネチア and the other form can be found in the tourism industry for example. There is also a third form, ヴェネツィア, which is the most faithful rendition of “Venezia” though not as common. In preparation for this article, I looked



up the Paris suburb of Neuilly as an example and came up with ヌイイ and ヌイイー. A web search indicated that the former is more common, at least on the web.

As with any linguistic rule, there are many exceptions to the use of original language names. One such exception is the use of English language names. This frequently occurs at the country level: エストニア for Estonia instead of the Estonian “Eesti”; オーストリア instead of the German “Oesterreich”; クロアチア instead of the Croatian “Hrvatska”. In general, country names are much more English in origin than from any other source. Some cities follow this rule as well, for example, Bucharest is still ブカレスト instead of the Romanian Bucuresti, pronounced ブクレシュティ.

Then there are archaic forms that predate the predominant influence of English. イギリス is an example of this. It is derived from the Chinese transliteration of England, 英吉利, and its pronunciation was adjusted for Japanese. There are other cases of Chinese origin but

only for kanji names of countries. For example, 瑞典 is Sweden. Its Chinese reading of “Ruidian”, read ルウェイディエン, is much closer to Sweden than the Japanese reading ズイテン. Many of these kanji names, such as 丁抹 for Denmark and 芬蘭 for Finland, have become rather obscure in Japanese usage and the only place where one can be certain of encountering them is in the Class I Kanji exams, 漢字検定一級.

There are many regions in Europe where the appropriate original language is either transient or where multiple languages are used. In these cases, cities have more than one name. Transylvania, now part of Romania, is a good case in point where there are three languages used, Romanian, Hungarian, and German, due to the presence of all three ethnic groups over the course of its history. The birthplace of the character Dracula is allegedly a city called Sighisoara シギショアラ which is Shassburg, シェースブルグ, in German and Segesvar, シェグシュヴァール, in Hungarian. Japanese sources on relatively obscure regions

like Transylvania are scarce so I cannot say for sure what the accepted usage is. But it seems to follow English usage so it will not be an issue for Japanese-English translators.

In the post-Cold War Europe, new countries have come about and others have changed their names, mostly to reflect its own name instead of the standard English version. Moldova is a case in point. The former Soviet republic of Moldavia, the traditional English language name of the region, changed its official name to Moldova and both English and Japanese have faithfully followed suit. The Japanese use both モルドバ and モルドヴァ.

Then there are other anomalies that seem like historical anachronisms and errors more than anything else. The Central European empire of the Habsburgs used to be spelled in English “Hapsburg.” But due to the efforts of English language scholars to align the name to its current

German version, it has now been standardized to “Habsburg.” There is no corresponding movement in Japanese and consequently, it is still written ハプスブルグ.

In English, the term “Czech” is strictly an adjective form of the land that comprises the Czech Republic and the noun for its people. Thus there is an awkward shortage of an English language name to call this region. The “Czech Lands” has been suggested, by The Economist magazine for one, but writing around this usage seems to be the norm. There is no such awkwardness in Japanese, チェコ will do fine.

Then there is the issue of actually translating names. South Tirol, Sudtirol in German as this is the predominant language there, is commonly translated as 南チロル. Opposite examples where names are not translated are the German states. North Rhine-Westphalia, Nordrhein-Westfalen in German, is a straightfor-

ward ノルトライン・ヴェストファーレン. But cases of 北ライン・ウェストファーレン do exist and I believe are justifiable. This state is a good case in which the number of transliteration choices causes much confusion, when conducting web searches for example. The following are all possible renditions and can all be found on the web: ノルトライン・ヴェストファーレン; ノルドライン・ヴェストファーレン; ノルトライン=ヴェストファーレン. Mathematical permutations for the above choices I believe are  $2^3$ , or eight. Then thrown in versions like 北ライン・ウェストファリア and it gets even messier.

Thus, while the general rule of 原語主義 can be observed, there are numerous cases on which exceptions apply as stated above. Since the examples above are only meant to illustrate the points raised, the professional translator is well advised to seek appropriate and authoritative sources. At the same time, the existence of acceptable variants allows us to reflect personal choice. This can be a complex field. For example, outright mistakes of pronunciation to errors in judgments are very common. Movie subtitles, known for other inaccuracies as well, are littered with such examples, and it leads me to believe that they are an entirely separate existence totally disconnected from historical and geographical reality.

*Henry Hirose was born in Japan and grew up in the US, where he was educated from elementary school all the way up to graduate school. Before plunging into freelance translation, he worked in the*



*accounting and real estate fields. Aiming at one time to teach at the collegiate level, Henry got an MA in East Asian Studies. He enjoys traveling, history, geography, postcards and Duke basketball. Currently, he lives in Tokyo.*

# Review

by Diane Howard

*Japanese Scientific Terms: Zoology*  
(Revised and Enlarged Edition).

Compiled by the Ministry of Education, Science, and Culture and the Zoological Society of Japan. Tokyo: Maruzen; 1988. ISBN 4-621-03533-9 C3045 P3380E. ¥3,380.

*Japanese Scientific Terms: Botany*  
(Revised and Enlarged Edition).

Compiled by the Ministry of Education, Science, and Culture and the Botanical Society of Japan. Tokyo: Maruzen; 1990. ISBN 4-621-03534-7 C3045 P2780E. ¥2,780.

*Japanese Scientific Terms: Agricultural Sciences.* Compiled by the Ministry of Education, Science, and Culture and the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science. Tokyo: Maruzen; 1986. ISBN 4-8181-8603-1 C3540. ¥4,330.

*Japanese Scientific Terms: Geology.* Compiled by the Ministry of Education, Science, and Culture and the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science. Tokyo: Maruzen; 1988. ISBN 4-8181-8155-2 C3525. ¥1,650.

*Japanese Scientific Terms: Seismology*  
Compiled by the Ministry of Education, Science, and Culture and the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science. Tokyo: Maruzen; 1991. ISBN 4 8181-8159-5 C3544. ¥1,100.

The dictionaries reviewed this issue cover the animal, vegetable and mineral worlds. These are all part of the Japanese-English, English-Japanese Monbusho glossary series of economical, reliable references. These dictionaries are somewhat old, but should be still available, although the prices have probably gone up.

“Cat,” “dog” and “horse” are not listed in the Zoology dictionary, and the equivalent Japanese terms are followed by their Latin counterparts. However, that important laboratory animal, the Chinese hamster, appears undisguised in English. The appendix is a list of phylum and order names and gives both katakana and kanji versions when both are used. However, the real strength of the book is in anatomical, genetic and microbiological terminology. If you translate in any of those areas, this 1122-page dictionary is a good backup. It also has some common statistical terminology, although none of the names of the major biostatistical tests or methods.

The shorter (684 pages) Botany dictionary is the equivalent for the plant world. The appendix is a list of plant names giving the Latin name, Japanese name and type (unfortunately listed in alphabetic order by Latin name). This is not the place to find common plant names, which are often a problem. Like the zoology dictionary, the strengths of this glossary are in genetics, microbiology, and plant structure. A fair number of laboratory terms also appear.

The Agricultural Sciences dictionary delivers just what the title promises, and, with 962 pages, in far more detail than one might have thought possible. Types of words included are fertilizers, soils, planting techniques, types of grains, breeding and feeding terminology and farm machinery. I have found this book to be less generally useful than the previous two; however, if you are working on a text in plant pathology or general farming, this would be a very good dictionary to have.

The two “mineral” dictionaries are both small books (Geography is 120 pages, and Seismology, 183 pages), and both are highly specialized. However, I have used both of them for petrochemical translations - driven to this mostly because I've never been able to find a good petrochemical dictionary (if anyone knows of one, write in). The Geography dictionary has three appendices: Japanese names of Koppen's classification of climate; general rules for Japanese terms derived from “degree,” “ratio,” “coefficient” and “specific;” and how to romanize Japanese scientific terms. The second appendix is a nice, neat summary in four sentences and is well worth looking at. Not unexpectedly, the Seismology dictionary ends with Japanese and English lists of the magnitude scale and seismic intensity scale for earthquakes.

*Diane Howard is a freelance translator working from Chinese and Japanese into English. She lives in Madison, Wisconsin, in an apartment that is (we hear) overrun with reference books. Diane specializes in medical and technical documents.*

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