



THE MITIN NEWSLETTER

Michigan Translators/Interpreters Network

ATA Chapter

"The Linguistic Heartbeat of Michigan"

WWW.MITINWEB.ORG

SEPTEMBER 2006

Upcoming Event

Perspectives on the Future of Technology & Interpretation

Saturday, September 16, 2006
1:00 p.m.

Lutheran Social Services
3rd Floor Conference Room
801 S. Waverly
Lansing, MI 48917

(See the map on the last page.)

How is technology affecting the future of the interpretation industry? If you are an American Sign Language (ASL) interpreter, spoken language interpreter, instructor, or owner of an interpretation agency, plan to attend our next event to find out. Joy Thomassen of Intensified Interpreting Services, LLC in conjunction with the Interpreter Improvement Guild at the ASL Resource Center in Auburn Hills and Carlos Pava of Voices for Health with offices in Grand Rapids and Lansing will discuss the application of a new technology for multilingual interpretation.

Although Video Relay Service has greatly benefited the ASL community by providing live video interpretations of phone conversations under the auspices of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), it has fostered additional application to multilingual environments in the form of Video Remote Interpretation which had no connection to the FCC. This has raised

some valid concerns. Come hear Carlos and Joy as they discuss a vital topic for all interpreters.

If you are an ASL or spoken language interpreter or own an interpretation agency, you must know about the impact the technology will have on your business. Joy will present a live demonstration of the technology and discuss the positive impact it has on the ASL community. The technology's use for non-ASL contexts holds similar promise, but carries significant drawbacks that both Carlos and Joy will explain. Should a video monitor replace a live human being in the doctor's office, the court room, or for a psychological evaluation? Voice interpretation technology: Is it a blessing or blight? What do you think? As interpreters we must discuss this topic together and look forward to your input and participation as we seek solutions for our industry's future.

West Michigan will pull out the red carpet for us and be our host for the event. Join us on September 16th at the Lutheran Social Services, Conference Room in Lansing, MI. If you are coming from the Detroit or Grand Rapids areas, several cars and mini-vans are available for car pooling. For more information, please contact Kevin Casillas, MiTiN Events Manager (mitinevents@hotmail.com / 313-461-3669).

We hope to see you there!

July Meeting Report

MiTiN Contracts a Case of Dance Fever

by Steve Gualtieri



Photo credit to Izumi Suzuki

"Dance is the only art of which we ourselves are the stuff of which it is made," Ted Shawn (1891-1972) - American Modern dancer and choreographer, and co-founder of a dance school and company named Denishawn School of Dancing and Related Arts.

The quote above ended the demonstration given at MiTiN's August meeting, held at El Comal restaurant, on Detroit's southwest side. As a comal is a ceramic dish used for cooking tortillas, it is appropriate that attendees feasted (fiesteated, as it were) on a meal of flautas, burritos, tacos, papian and huevos con espinacas.

Mr. Shawn's words were delivered by Elaine Marrero, our featured guest. Elaine, originally from Puerto Rico, is Proprietrix of the Troy Dance Studio, and the holder of an impressive list of accomplishments. She is a former World Champion Latin Dancer, and the first Latina judge for the Junior Olympics. In addition, she is a member of the dance troupe *Sensuality*, which performs locally and nationally. Accompanying Elaine was Mirza Rozado, the Chief Executive Officer

of the Troy Dance Studio and fellow native of the "rich port," is herself a gifted dancer. She, too, is a member of *Sensuality* and a nationally respected massage therapist, having treated an array of professional athletes, actors and fellow dancers.

Although the flier promoting this gathering advertised a "presentation," it would be more accurate to describe the event as an impromptu dance lesson, dipped (so to speak) into a lecture. Elaine detailed at length and in detail of the origin of Latin dance in general, and demonstrated select various versions, in particular.



Elaine Marrero

Photo credit to Izumi Suzuki

As proof that we live in a global village, the origin of *Latin* dance stems from the music made by workers in *African* fields. A given beat conveyed a specific meaning, and this method of communication was used to distribute news. Over time, this method developed and spread, moving to villages and cities, where it became the preferred (and sometimes only) way to inform others as to what was going on around the corner, and around the world. Further proof of the evolution of the artistic expression is that, when merengue debuted in the late 1800's in Puerto Rico, it featured front-to-back movement. However, when it re-

appeared in 1920's in The Dominican Republic, it was performed in a side-to-side fashion (this method still is stressed in Mexico, Columbia and Venezuela).

An overarching theme of the discussion is the irony that dances previously seen as risqué, if not vulgar, are themselves meant to be the expression of love, not lust, and that in this genre the poses and movements denote *respect* for one's partner. Admittedly, there *is* a high degree of physical closeness, but strict attention is paid to boundaries, and eye contact and hand gestures are the *real* signs of intimacy.

In closing, and to tie together the meaning of dance and the meaning of words, it is fascinating (at least for a bunch of linguists) that the name cha-cha-cha is an onomatopoeia, taken from the sound of soles of shoes scraping the floor while it is being performed.

...see you next month, cha-cha-cha.

Steve Gualtieri is an interpreter and translator of Spanish, and a trainer of Spanish and ESL. One may reach him at 248.545.0099, or at sng118@juno.com (or maybe at the Troy Dance Studio)

Join MiTiN

The Linguistic Heartbeat of Michigan

Membership application form is available at

<http://www.mitinweb.org/membership.cfm>

Annual membership fee:

Corporate membership \$50

Professional membership \$40

Most MiTiN events are open to non-members also. Come and talk to our member translators/interpreters.

From the President

The 47th ATA Conference

by Izumi Suzuki

OK, it is the time of the year again. Yes, the 47th ATA (American Translators Association) Conference. For those who do not know the origin of MiTiN; the group that later became MiTiN was first formed by some of the ATA members from Michigan when they got together for the ATA Conference in New Orleans in 1990. Now 16 years later, the conference will be held again in New Orleans. As a founding member of this Michigan group, I almost feel nostalgic going back there.

The conference will be held from Wednesday, November 1 to Saturday, November 4 at Sheraton Hotel located near the French Quarter. There will be over 175 educational sessions in a variety of languages and specialties. If you claim to be in the translation and/or interpreting business, this conference is a must. ATA has almost 10,000 members, and over 1,200 members will be there from throughout the U.S. and around the world. There will be Job Marketplace where you can promote your services and interview with language services companies. An exhibit brings companies together for you to see the latest software, publications, and products available to fit your unique needs.

Over the years, I have gained so much knowledge, contacts, friends and business that have enriched my business and personal life. Each language division prepares wonderful educational sessions. For example, the Japanese Language Division that I belong to will bring an automotive engineer who will talk about the Toyota Production System, and a world-renowned simultaneous interpreter who works at highest-level global

conferences as well as for the Japanese Imperial Family.

The early bird discount still applies – until the end of September. There are special room rates at Sheraton available for the conference attendees. I wouldn't call it cheap, but if you share a room with a friend or two, it's not bad. And there are many other hotels nearby. Visit www.atanet.org/conf/2006 for details.

I hope to see you at the conference!

Mark Your Calendar

- **Translation Forum**
Saturday, October 14, 2006
Marygrove College, Detroit, MI
- **Translation Software and Computer Assistance Forum**
Saturday, November 18, 2006
Farmington Public Library
- **Christmas Party**
Saturday, December 09, 2006
Simmons Room, Novi, MI

Update Your Profile

Update your profile on MiTiN website before October 31, 2006 11:59 p.m.

Our 2007/2008 Professional/Corporate Membership Directory will be printed based on the information you input by then.

Anything after that will be updated on our website only.

VP's Announcement

Lourdes Helena Gallagher
leaves Michigan

by Elke Kramer

Dear MiTiN Members,

Lourdes Helena Gallagher, an expert in Portuguese, Spanish and Italian, as well as a Board member of MiTiN for several years is moving to Oregon this fall to follow her husband to his new work location. On behalf of MiTiN, I would like to thank Helena for all her hard work she has invested into MiTiN Board including the support and cooperation she offered for so many members.



Lourdes Helena Gallagher
Photo credit to Fumiko Kawamura

I have known Helena for many years, and can only say that we are losing a real language enthusiast and expert in her field. Her motivation and flexibility has made it a pleasure to work with her. Helena's interpersonal skills have made it possible for her to take on any project from teaching the language to interpreting on-site. Her outstanding professional traits and skills built her business into the success as it is today.

I am sure she will be a great success in Oregon too and keep many of her clients and cooperation partners in Michigan. Helena, on behalf of MiTiN, we wish you a successful new start in Oregon and a great time!! And stay in touch!!

2006 MiTiN Board Members

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MiTiN's goals are:

- To promote the continuing education and development of interpreters and translators
- To promote networking among interpreters and translators including interaction and support of like organizations
- To operate a referral service through publication of a member directory and online directory available to the public
- To promote and publicize professional standards and practices
- To promote and support the general development of cross-cultural communication skills

Send Your Articles

The MiTiN Newsletter is published each month. If you know, see, or hear anything interesting to MiTiN members, write it and send it to our Editor, Miyako Okamoto mafoothill@ameritech.net.

Please do not forget to add your name, language pair and contact numbers.

MiTiN table will be there at the ATA Conference!



Laissez les bons temps rouler!

ATA 47th Annual Conference

New Orleans, Louisiana

November 1-4, 2006

Sheraton Hotel

Picture and logos retrieved September 2006 from www.atanet.org

Advertisement Options

Upcoming 2007/2008 Printed Directory

<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 150px; margin-bottom: 10px;"></div> <p style="text-align: center;">Half a page (Price E)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">This will be generated by the system based on your information in the online Directory, www.mitinweb.org. Size: 3" x 4 1/4" Color: Black and white only</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Full page (Price A, B, C, or D)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Create your own page and send the camera-ready hard copy with your payment. Or it can be generated by the system.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Size: 6 1/2" x 4 1/2" Color: Black and white only</p>
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Note: Professional or Corporate member's name, contact numbers, and language pairs will be automatically listed in the printed Directory as they are listed on the MiTiN website as of October 31, 11:59 p.m.

In addition to the listings, half a page or full page ad, as described above, will be included in the printed directory if you place order now.

Member Price:

- A. Inside cover \$200**
- B. Back cover \$200**
- C. Back inside \$150**
- D. Full page \$40**
- E. Half page \$20**

Non-Member Price:

- Inside cover \$200
- Back cover \$200
- Back inside \$150
- Full page \$100
- Half page \$40

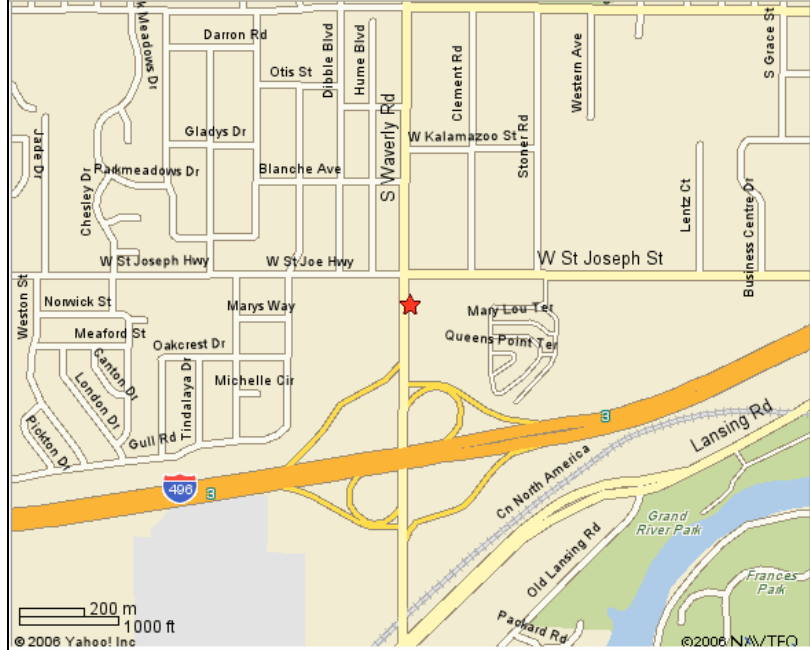
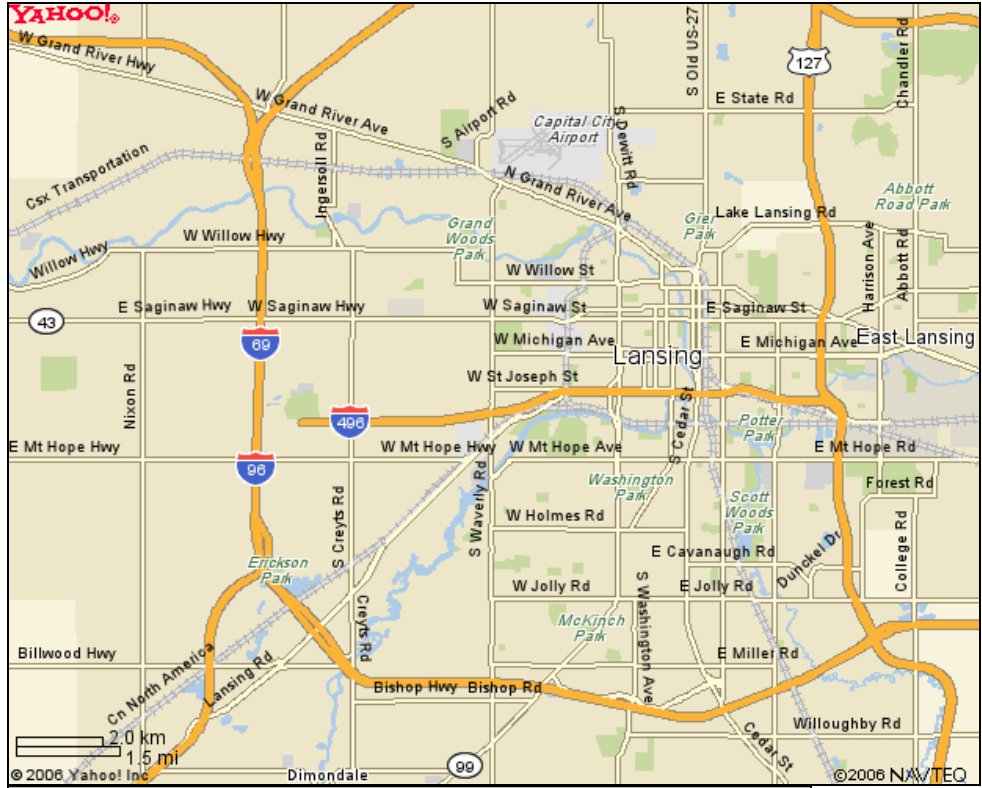
By October 31st, send a check **payable to MiTiN** (and the artwork if it is for full page) to:

MiTiN
P.O. Box 852
Novi MI 48376

Perspectives on the Future of Technology & Interpretation

Lutheran Social Services
3rd Floor Conference Room
801 S. Waverly
Lansing, MI 48917

Saturday, September 16, 2006
From 1:00 p.m.



Go to Yahoo! Map for driving directions:

http://maps.yahoo.com/maps_result?addr=801+S.+Waverly&csz=Lansing%2C+MI+48917&country=us&new=1&name=&qty=