

Guest Speakers



Lieven D'hulst

Katholieke Universiteit Leuven
Belgium

Quels défis pour l'histoire de la traduction et de la traductologie?

[What Challenges for the History of Translation and Translation Studies?]

Conference Abstract:

In a recent work (D'hulst 2014), I argued for a history of translation less preoccupied by its place within Translation Studies or at the edges of other domains inclined to accord it a place (cultural history, social history, history of sciences, of philosophy, of literature, of linguistics, etc.) than by the specificity and the value of the historiographical point of view on translation. Correlatively, this would mean defining objects and methods in the service of their historical study, in dialogue with the knowledge and disciplines which revolve around it and provide it with concepts and models. This would also mean showing the significance and importance of historical research on translations and translating knowledge with respect to other intellectual and social activities. These different challenges will be the object of a presentation which will rely on examples drawn from a range of eras and cultural areas.

About the Guest Speaker:

Lieven D'hulst holds a Ph.D. in Romance Philology from the Université de Namur and Katholieke Universiteit Leuven in Belgium. He is a full professor of Francophone literature and Translation Studies at Katholieke Universiteit Leuven since 2003. He is a member of the editorial board of *Target. International Journal of Translation Studies*, co-director of the collection "Traductologie" at Artois Presses Université (France) and member of the Academia Europaea. Since 2013, he has been director of the Translation and Intercultural Transmission research group of his university. His research focuses on the relations between translation and transfer, theory and practice of the historiography of translation, and migration and multilingualism. He is the author or co-author of 20+ publications and more than 200 articles, book chapters and reviews. Among his most recent publications are *Histoire des traductions en langue française. XIX^e siècle* (co-edited with Y. Chevrel & C. Lombez), Paris: Verdier, 2012 and *Essais d'histoire de la traduction. Avatars de Janus*, Paris: Classiques Garnier, 2014. He has published in several journals specializing in translation, including *Meta*, and notably authored the entry "Translation History" in the *Handbook of Translation Studies* published by John Benjamins. [Web page](#)



Amparo Hurtado
 Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona
 Spain

La adquisición de la competencia traductora. La formación de traductores basada en competencias y tareas

[The Acquisition of Translation Competence. Task and Competence-based Translator Training]

Conference Abstract:

This conference aims to introduce the basic principles guiding competence-based translator training. First, we will present the research we conducted on translation competence and its acquisition: related notions, evolution of research, and existing models. We will focus on the Translation Competence and Acquisition of Translation Competence models developed by the PACTE Research Group, which were validated with experimental research. Second, we will explore three avenues that support competence-based translator training: competence-based training; specific competences in translator training; and a task and translation project-based approach as a framework for methodology and curriculum design. Finally, we will show how to design a translator training curriculum focusing on competence acquisition.

About the Guest Speaker:

Amparo Hurtado Albir is full professor at the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona's (UAB) Departament de Traducció i Interpretació since 1999. She has also taught translation studies and French to Spanish translation at the Escuela Universitaria de Traductores e Intérpretes of the UAB, at the École Supérieure d'Interprètes et de Traducteurs (ESIT) of the Université Sorbonne Nouvelle – Paris 3, at the Facultat de ciències humanes i socials of the Universitat Jaume I (UJI) in Castellón de la Plana (Valencia), and at the Facultat de Traducció i d'Interpretació of the UAB. Moreover, she is a professional French to Spanish translator and holds a Ph.D. in Translation Studies from the ESIT. She has directed research projects on translation pedagogy and translator competence acquisition at the UJI and the UAB. She is the principal investigator of the PACTE (Procés d'Adquisició de la Competència Traductora i Avaluació) research group, which has conducted experimental research on translation competence acquisition in written translation since 1997.

She is the author of numerous publications on translation theory, translation pedagogy, and translation competence, namely: *La notion de fidélité en traduction* (Paris: Didier Érudition, 1990); *Enseñar a traducir. Metodología en la formación de traductores e intérpretes* (ed.) (Madrid: Edelsa, 1999); *Traducción y Traductología. Introducción a la Traductología* (Madrid: Cátedra, 2001/2011; 5th revised edition); and *Aprender a traducir del francés al español. Competencias y tareas para la iniciación a la traducción* (Edelsa: Universitat Jaume I / Madrid: Castellón, 2015). She has also published articles in *Meta*.

[Web Page](#)



Rachel Lung
Lingnan University
Hong Kong

Sillan Interpreters in 9th-century East Asian Exchanges

Conference Abstract:

Interpreters are often anonymously and flimsily archived, given their subsidiary role in diplomatic exchanges. These fragmentary records pose problems for in-depth studies on ancient interpreters. Japanese monk Ennin's (794-864) diary documenting his decade-long (838-847) China sojourn, however, provides a delightful contrast to this evidence limitation. Known for its authentic, detailed, and objective descriptions, it contains thirty-eight references to four Sillan (ancient Korean) interpreters, of whom one was an interpreting clerk affiliated with a sub-prefecture in eastern coastal China. He was also Ennin's longest-serving interpreter, from 839 through 847, having been documented twenty-three times. This interpreting functionary, Yu Sinŏn, worked in a regional office of a Sillan enclave and assisted visitors from Japan and Silla. His work, apart from language mediation, included liaising, trading, logistics and message go-betweens. As a civil servant, this Sillan interpreter was expected to be law-abiding. Yet in his mediating services for Ennin, he frequently flouted the legal limits. In the process, he was given monetary rewards, although later textual hints suggest that his mediation for the Japanese monks was primarily based on goodwill and friendship. The elaborate descriptions in Ennin's travelogue offer us first-hand information about an interpreting official's infringements of the Tang Chinese laws. However, was it not exactly his official position, with easy access to institutional networks and legal bureaucracy, which enabled him to work around the loopholes? This case of an interpreter and his patron provides valuable evidence for the development of their initial professional ties and subsequent personal bonding. It also speaks of the arbitrary boundaries between interpreting officials and civilian interpreters in first-millennium East Asian exchanges.

About the Guest Speaker:

Rachel Lung is Professor in the Department of Translation of Lingnan University, Hong Kong. For the past decade, her research interests have been in the historical study of translation and interpreting in imperial China. She is particularly interested in identifying and analyzing archival evidence pertaining to interpreters and interpreting, which is a valuable means to unveil what inter-lingual mediation and being an interpreter were like one or two millennia ago. Using this empirical approach, she has published over a dozen journal articles on this topic since 2005, including "Interpreters and the Writing of Histories in China" in *Meta* (2009), together with a research monograph, *Interpreters in Early Imperial China*, published by John Benjamins in 2011. Her more recent research goes beyond imperial China to examine the roles of Sillan (ancient Korean) interpreters in East Asian civilian and commercial exchanges in the second half of the first millennium. Her forthcoming publications include: "Defining Sillan interpreters in first-millennium East Asian exchanges", in *New Insight on the History of Interpreting: Evolving Identities, Adapting Practices*, Benjamins Translation Library Series, (Eds.) Kayoko Takeda and Jesús Baigorri (2015), and "The Jiangnan Arsenal: A microcosm of translation and ideological transformation in 19th-century China", in *TTR: Traduction, Terminologie, Redaction* (2016). [Web Page](#)



Sylvie Vandaele
Université de Montréal
Canada

META

La recherche traductologique dans les domaines de spécialité : un nouveau tournant

[Translation research in specialised fields: a new turn]

Conference Abstract:

Historically, research on pragmatic translation, namely in the case of specialized fields, has been neglected, since Western translation studies were mainly established around questions pertaining to literary translation. Yet, pragmatic translation is largely dominant in professional practice. Similarly, professional translators and translation students have been reluctant to engage with translation studies research. We hypothesize that these negative prejudices, on both sides, originate with some of the founding, seminal authors of translation studies. This conference thus explores the theoretical positions expressed by Berman, Schleiermacher, and Ortega y Gasset; it also questions Holmes' map, before proposing an alternative map, one that opens all possibilities, from the point of both research and practice. Moreover, given the development of computer tools, we are convinced that translators will increasingly have to present themselves as experts capable of offering adequate guidance to clients. Finally, we propose to highlight a number of research perspectives, related more specifically to specialised fields, which can blossom in the context of translation studies, keeping in mind our deliberate intent to reconcile translation practice with translation research and so-called "theory", and vice versa.

About the Guest Speaker:

Sylvie Vandaele was editor of Meta for 6 years, from 2008 to 2014. Her academic background is twofold, with expertise in both science and translation. Following a doctorate of pharmacy (1982) and a PhD in the life sciences (molecular pharmacology, 1987), she pursued research in neuroscience at Harvard University, McGill University, and the Université de Montréal until 1995. After changing her career path to translation and establishing her own independent practice, she reconnected with academic life in 2000 when she joined the Département de linguistique et de traduction of the Université de Montréal. She teaches specialized translation, namely in medicine and in the life sciences (biotechnology), and is head of the research group BiomeTTico. Her key research interests are modes of metaphorical conceptualization in the sciences, studied both synchronically and diachronically. The perspective of the history of science is thus considered, accompanied by terminological research and by an ongoing reflection on translation teaching and practice. Certified translator and terminologist, she regularly contributes to the continuing education of professional translators through the Ordre des traducteurs, terminologues et interprètes agréés du Québec. Finally, she is a member of the Canadian Association of Translation Studies and of the American Translator Association, as well as of the History of Science Society (USA) and of the Société française d'histoire de la médecine. [Web Page](#)