

Uniting as One for Greater Prosperity of the Asia-Pacific Translation Community

The 22nd FIT Statutory Congress and World Congress were held in Varadero, Cuba on 30-31 May and 1-3 June respectively. A key agenda item at the Statutory Congress is for FIT members to decide on the host of the next World Congress. The Translators Association of China (TAC), the Union of Translators of Russia (UTR) and the National Association of Official Translators and Interpreters of Costa Rica (ANTIO) participated in the bidding and made their presentations.

A total of 32 FIT regular members sent delegations to the Congress and 65 votes (including proxy votes) were cast. Finally, it is ANTIO of Costa Rica who won a majority of votes and will host the 23rd FIT World Congress in 2025. Our sincere congratulations go to ANTIO for winning the opportunity to host its first-ever FIT World Congress. TAC failed in its bidding, but our well-prepared presentation and elaborately designed bidding materials were highly regarded by participating members, demonstrating increased professional capacity and influence of China and the wider Asia-Pacific region as a whole in the profession.

As the event just concluded, it offered us much food for thought. On the one hand, among all participants at the Congress, 12 members are from the Americas,



15 from Europe and only 5 from the Asia-Pacific region. On the other hand, for the newly elected FIT Council, only 2 members out of 17 are from Asia with none on the Executive Committee. It is fair to say that Asia was, to a large extent, under-represented in the decision-making regime when it should have played a bigger role. In this context, the pressing task for us all now is to take practical measures to expand the influence of the Asia-Pacific region for common development of TTI profession at both regional and global levels.

Since its establishment in 1995, APTIF takes it as its mission to unify all members and further raise the

profile of the translation community in international organizations including FIT. The 22nd FIT World Congress came to an end, but it marked a new beginning for future development. By giving full play to the huge potential of APTIF, TAC is ready to deepen cooperation with all member associations for more rewarding outcomes in the profession, and APTIF Joint Committee is always ready to welcome more translation associations to join us. Let us unite as one and work together for a brighter future of the TTI community in the Asia-Pacific region and beyond!

(This article is contributed by TAC)

APTIF10 on Collaboration in the World of Translation and Interpreting: New Changes and New Modes in the New Era

Notice No.3

The 10th Asia-Pacific Translation and Interpreting Forum (APTIF10) organised under the aegis of the International Federation of Translators (FIT) and the Translators Association of China (TAC) will be held at Beijing Foreign Studies University (BFSU) on 25-26 June 2022. The format of the forum will be determined based on the situation of the pandemic.

To facilitate academic exchanges and communication between T&I researchers, students and people from the industry in the Asia-Pacific region during the pandemic, the forum will be open to all with no need to register.

APTIF (formerly known as the Asian Translators Forum) is a triennial event launched in 1995 to provide a platform for exchanges and cooperation within the translation and interpreting community in the Asia-Pacific region. APTIF10 welcomes researchers, practitioners and trainers in the field of translation and interpreting both within and beyond the region to discuss “Collaboration in the World of Translation and Interpreting: New Changes and New Modes in the New Era”, a theme that is of both historical and current, scholarly and professional relevance to the translation and interpreting community as well as society at large.

APTIF10 has 16 sub-forums with topics as follows:

- Collaboration in translation/interpreting of various fields (including classics, modern and contemporary literature, politics, diplomacy, economy, science and technology, etc.);
- Collaboration in various types of translation/interpreting practice (simultaneous interpreting, sign interpreting, community/public service interpreting, audio description, audiovisual translation, emergency translation, etc.);
- Collaborative training modes and development of translation and interpreting in the modern academy (collaborative teaching, multidisciplinary training, school-enterprise cooperation, etc.);
- Translation collaboration in language services (collaborative translation, crowdsourcing, fan translation, user-generated translation/interpreting, etc.);
- Collaboration in research, development and application of translation technology (between translators/interpreters and technology/software programmers, in the process of technological development);
- Patterns of translation collaboration between international and pan-national organisations.

Among the sub-forums, four are designed for postgraduate students.

22nd FIT World Congress Convened in Cuba

The 22nd FIT Statutory Congress and World Congress were successfully held on 30-31 May and 1-3 June 2022 respectively in Varadero, Cuba. The theme of this year's Congress is "A World without Barriers: The Role of Language Professionals in Building Culture, Understanding and Lasting Peace."

At the Congress, two delegates from APTIF members were elected FIT council members. They are Gao Anming, Executive Vice President and Secretary General of the Translators Association of China (TAC), also Chair of APTIF Joint Committee, and Lai Cheng Lei Victoria, President of the Federation of Translators and Interpreters of Macao. Their election will drive exchanges between the translation community of the Asia-Pacific region and its international counterparts, while enabling APTIF to play a greater role in the international T&I community.

At the invitation of the organizing committee of the Congress, Gao Anming also delivered a keynote speech via video link on 3 June with the theme of "Translating a World Without Barriers for a Shared Future - Prospects for the Global Language Service Industry in Consideration of Language Services in China". In his speech, Gao shared with the audience the development trends of China's language service industry and further elaborated on prospects of next-generation translation for the profession, calling on the T&I community worldwide to work together to promote the status and reputation of the translation profession and safeguard the interests of translation professionals.

According to a decision made by the Congress, the 23rd FIT World Congress will be held in Costa Rica in 2025.



Pierre-François Caillé Memorial Medal

Nominated by TAC, Frans De Laet, former Secretary General of FIT and overseas expert of TAC, was awarded the Pierre-François Caillé Memorial Medal, one of the most prestigious FIT awards.

Frans De Laet specialises in translation and interpreting in multiple languages, including English, German, Dutch and French. With more than 30 years of teaching experience in translation and interpretation, he enjoys high reputation in the industry. During his stay in China for more than a decade, he has made enormous contributions to the development of China's translation industry and the training of translation/interpreting professionals in China.

The Pierre-François Caillé Memorial Award was established in 1980, named after the founder of FIT, Pierre-François Caillé. It is one of the most prestigious awards presented by FIT to recognise those who make outstanding contributions to the international translation industry.



Awards ceremony for Frans De Laet (right)

The Bird of the South Festival Opened in Iraq

On 21 May 2022, Iraqi Translators Association (ITA) organised a festival entitled “The Bird of the South, the Poet & Translator Hasab Sheikh Jaafar”, which was held on the occasion of the Arbaeen (40 days since his passing). The festival was moderated by Dr Qassim Al-Asadi, President of ITA. The festival was attended by members of the administrative body of ITA and a group of members of ITA’s General Assembly, in addition to the poet’s family, Hasab Sheikh Jaafar: his brother, Dr Sahib Abu Jinnah, and his two sons, Ali, Hasab Sheikh Jaafar and Muhammad, Hasab Sheikh Jaafar.

The festival included various segments, including a short film produced by ITA about the late Hasab Sheikh Jaafar, which dealt with his life, the most important features of his poetry and his contribution to the promotion of poetry and translation in the Arab world. The attendees also submitted research papers in which they dealt with the role of the late Hasab Sheikh Jaafar, in the poetic movement in Iraq and the Arab world, as well as his great role in translation, especially in translating Russian poetry into Arabic. The

attendees considered him the first to put the Arabic readers in direct contact with the Russian poets.

At the end of the festival, the Medal of the Bird of the South Festival, together with certificates of appreciation, was presented to researchers.



The Bird of the South Festival



Events by Hong Kong Translation Society

1. The Hong Kong Translation Society is holding two-year-long programmes in commemoration of its golden jubilee. Commencing in October 2021, the marathon Hong Kong Translation Society 50th Anniversary Lecture Series 2021-22 keeps zooming out monthly online talks given by expert scholars and practitioners in the field, covering diverse topics and the latest developments in the T&I industry. The following chart is a list of previous talks held so far.

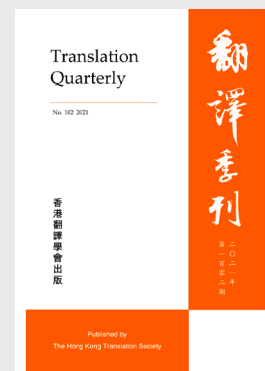
To find out more, please visit <https://www.hkts.org.hk/news>

Topic	Speaker	Dates
Perspectives on Learning Legal Translation	Dr. Clara Chan, Associate Professor, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, The Chinese University of Hong Kong (Shenzhen)	9 Dec. 2021
Digital Buddhist Translation Studies: Combining Digital Humanities and Buddhist Translation	Dr. Siu Sai Yau, Assistant Professor, School of Translation and Foreign Languages, Hang Seng University of Hong Kong	13 Nov. 2021
Translation and Governance: State Translation Activities in the Chinese Yuan and Qing Dynasties	Prof. Riccardo Moratto, Professor, Graduate Institute of Interpretation and Translation, Shanghai International Studies University	11 Dec. 2021
Court Interpreting: “Baloney” or “Abalone”	Mr. Tsang Man Sang, retired Senior Court interpreter, Judiciary, Hong Kong SAR	8 Jan. 2022
Intralingual and Interlingual Natural Science Translation and Environmental Education	Prof. Darryl Sterk, Assistant Professor, Lingnan University Hong Kong	19 Mar. 2022
Translation 4.5: The Age of Post-editing Technology	Prof. Benjamin T’sou, Emeritus Chair Professor, City University of Hong Kong; member, Académie Royale des Sciences d’Outre-Mer (Belgium); Founding President, Asian Federation of Natural Language Processing	9 Apr. 2022
Artificial Intelligence for Professional Translators	Dr. SIU Sai Cheong, Associate Professor, School of Translation and Foreign Languages, Hang Seng University of Hong Kong	28 May 2022
Translator Professionalism in Asia: Perspectives from practitioners and commissioners	Dr. Christy Liu, Associate Professor, Department of Linguistics and Modern Language Studies, The Education University of Hong Kong	25 June 2022 (forthcoming)

2. The other ongoing project is the Oral Translation History Research Project undertaken in collaboration with Hong Kong Baptist University, subsidised by a matching grant from the University Grants Committee. The target is to produce a series of videos tracing the development of T&I education and industry development in Hong Kong through in-depth interviews with veteran scholars, teachers and practitioners in the field. The results will be published later in the year.

3. The Society continues to co-organise annual activities, like the Hong Kong Youth Translation Competition held on 28 May and the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Postgraduate Academic Exchanges in Foreign Languages and Translation Studies in early June. The selection of the annual Hong Kong Translation Society F. C. Lo Scholarships this year was completed in May, and a total of HKD80,000 is to be awarded to eight local undergraduate students majoring in translation.

4. The Society's refereed journal *Translation Quarterly* is available for open access on our official website <https://www.hkts.org.hk/translation-quarterly>, the latest being the 102nd issue. It publishes articles, which are subject to peer review, written mainly in Chinese and/or English on any topic relating to translation studies, including book reviews. Please send contributions to the Chief Editor at tq@hkts.org.hk.



Translation Quarterly of the Hong Kong Translation Society

TAC Launched Its New English Website

TAC has just launched its new version of English website as one of the initiatives to commemorate its 40th anniversary.

The new website aims to provide news, information about the latest events and development trends of T&I industry both at home and abroad, facilitating exchanges between TAC and the international T&I community and promoting the profile and sustainable development of China's translation community.

Publications including TAC's bimonthly journal *Chinese Translators Journal*, *APTIF Bulletin* and reports on the industry can also be found on the website.

For more information, please visit <http://en.tac-online.org.cn/>



A screenshot of TAC's English website

APTIF Bulletin

June 2022

Publication Director: Gao Anming

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Advisory Committee: APTIF Joint Committee members

Art Editors: Gao Xin, Guo Wanru

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