

NOTA

NORTHEAST OHIO TRANSLATORS ASSOCIATION

Spring 2020

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President's Message

Dear NOTA members,

I hope this message finds you and your loved ones well.

A big part of the world has been deeply affected by COVID-19 since we last issued our newsletter in February. It has been incredibly challenging for many to navigate these uncharted waters, and understandably so. My heart goes out to those who have been most harshly hit by this global crisis.

NOTA's Executive Committee has tried in small ways to support our members through these tough times. We have been posting coronavirus-related resources on our Forum, we converted our scheduled in-person training into a webinar, which took place on 4/25, and we just announced membership discounts (effective until September 1st). We hope to find more ways to help our local community of translators and interpreters to weather the storm. Your suggestions are welcome.

Considering the current situation, the Executive Committee deemed it wise to cancel the conference we had announced and started to organize. Thankfully, all the work we had already invested is not lost, and we are aiming at holding NOTA's first full-day conference in August 2021.

Our next event will probably be another webinar. I encourage you to reach out to our Event Chair, Olga Shostachuk, if there is a topic or a speaker you would like to suggest!

Our secretary, Gwendoline Bocher, recently informed us that she had to step down for work-related reasons. We reached out to Hannah Sampson who enthusiastically agreed to serve as *interim* secretary until the position is up for election next year. We are grateful and excited to have you on board, Hannah!

NOTA just held its yearly elections, the results of which are announced in this newsletter. Thank you to Celeste Malone for organizing the elections again and to all who took the time to vote. A very warm welcome to our incoming treasurer, Yrene Starke! Our vice-president, Julia Villaseñor, and I have been working on drafting a more specific description of the VP duties to be incorporated into our bylaws, and you will soon be asked to vote on that.

We know—and are saddened—that many of you have seen your workload drop significantly over the past few months. As economies progressively reopen, this will improve. Meanwhile, the interpreting profession is undergoing considerable changes as we learn to adapt to this unprecedented situation. *Distance interpreting* is undeniably a necessity, but it also raises a number of technical, business and health-related issues (e.g. acoustic shock, extra cognitive load, relevancy of domicile, liability in case of equipment failure or power loss, etc.) that interpreters have to grapple with. It is a balancing act to learn to be flexible while remaining committed to quality and remembering that in no situation should our health be compromised.

I wish everyone the best of luck.

Please, do not hesitate to reach out to us if there is anything we can do to help.

Sincerely,

Hélène V. Conte
President



2020 Election Report

Hélène V. Conte was re-elected as President; she obtained 93% of the votes. Two other people were written in for the position: former NOTA President John Shaklee, and Silvia D'Amico. [We would like to remind our members that potential candidates must be contacted before they are written in at an election. A person cannot be elected as a Board Member without their knowledge or against their will.]

Christine Mack Joyce was also re-elected as Membership Chair, with 100% of the votes.

Yrene Starke was elected Treasurer, also by 100% of the votes.

Congratulations to all three officers and thank you very much for volunteering to serve in our organization!

Report prepared by: Celeste Klein Malone, Chair of the Elections Committee

T&I Spotlight



Silvia D'Amico

"[B]eing polite, empathetic, kind, and being able to communicate effectively with clients and colleagues will benefit your translation business and help you grow into someone people will want to keep working with."

Read Silvia's interview [here](#).

Executive Committee News

The Executive Committee met remotely on Thursday, April 23. You can find the meeting minutes [here](#).

The Executive Committee wishes Gwendoline Bocher all the best in her endeavors and welcomes Hannah Sampson as Interim Secretary. The Secretary position will be up for election in 2021.



Please welcome our new secretary!

Hannah is an ATA-certified Spanish to English translator and editor based in Kent, Ohio. She holds a B.A. in Latin American Studies and Spanish from Ohio Wesleyan University and an M.A. in Spanish Translation from the Institute for Applied Linguistics at Kent State University. Hannah has collaborated with the Black Squirrel Translator Collective since 2019. She specializes in medical and legal translation.

Welcome, New Members!

Justin Kap Piang

Yufei Li

Ljudmila Nicklow

NOTA Hosts First Webinar

NOTA hosted its first webinar on April 24, 2020. "Financial Literacy 101" was presented by Timothy T. Malone II, MA, CMI. He discussed principles of finance as applicable to translators and interpreters who translate in the field and who are small business owners. NOTA extends its gratitude to Tim and to the attendees.

NOTA Postpones 1st Full-Day Conference

Due to the current global health crisis, NOTA has decided to postpone its first conference until August 2021.

COVID-19 Language Resources

Translation Commons

Translation Commons has made a multilingual interactive poster-maker to help communities combat COVID-19. You can view the poster-maker here: [Covid-19 Multilingual Poster-Maker](#)

Translators Without Borders

TWB's COVID-19 glossary is currently available in 23 languages to help field workers and interpreters raise awareness about COVID-19. You can view the glossary here: [TWB COVID-19 Glossary](#)

Cuyahoga County Multilingual Resource Center

Resources are available in Arabic, Chinese, Nepali, Russian, and Spanish. You can view the resources here: [Cuyahoga County Multilingual Resource Center](#)



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This newsletter is edited by Victoria Chavez-Kruse. If you would like to contribute or have news that may be of interest to NOTA members, please email victoria@vcktranslation.com.

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