

Introduction

The current volume comprises a selection of articles based on papers which were presented at the tenth anniversary of the International Postgraduate Conference in Translation and Interpreting (IPCITI), hosted by the Centre for Translation and Intercultural Studies at the University of Manchester from 29-31 October 2014. The result of a long-term collaboration between Dublin City University, Heriot-Watt University, the University of Edinburgh and the University of Manchester, IPCITI is designed to provide new researchers from all areas of translation and interpreting Studies with the opportunity to share their research with peers in a supportive and intellectually stimulating environment.

Thematically anchored by three key terms, namely, 'Intersect', 'Innovate' and 'Interact', this conference sought to provide a platform for researchers to explore and engage with new perspectives within and beyond Translation and Interpreting Studies that are shaping the future of the discipline. As a discipline formed at the **intersections**, translation and interpreting studies' ever-evolving dialogical interplay with topoi including intercultural studies, sociology and politics, media and visual studies, science and technology, and gender and sexuality studies (to name but a few) nourishes the discipline, constantly opening up new vistas of critical exploration. Secondly, with the explosion of social media since the inception of the IPCITI enterprise, it is vital to examine how new media and new technologies influence both how we interpret and translate on a practical level, and how we think about interpreting and translation on a conceptual level. Around the theme of **innovation**, researchers at the conference engaged with topics including new media and technologies, new theoretical frameworks, new methodological approaches and the new challenges and opportunities which face translation and interpreting studies in the digital age. The innovative responses to our increasingly globalised, technology-driven societies witnessed in translation and interpreting Studies, is accompanied by a concordant expansion of different modes of **interaction**. Understanding the ways in which existing and emerging communities of translators and interpreters interact with one another (as well as with those who theorise on their activities) was a focal point of critical attention at the conference. Researchers engaged with the specific forms of interaction between professional translators/interpreters and volunteers; translators/interpreters and academics, and translators/interpreters and machines.

In their various individual and interconnected ways, the following six articles respond to these attendant calls to intersect, innovate and interact. In the opening article, **Jérôme Devaux** investigates the interactions between new technologies and interpreters in the legal arena. Looking specifically at the use of video conferencing systems in public service interpreting, Devaux explores the question of whether interpreters perceive their role differently when using this technology and whether their physical location has an impact upon their perception. Using Actor-Network Theory, and more specifically, the sociological construct of *Translation* in his analysis of the interviews he conducted with three public service interpreters, Devaux posits that interpreters create small networks in an interpreted communicative event, in which they *Translate* only some of the court actors.

In their article titled ‘Towards the construction of organisational professionalism in public service interpreting’ **Jiqing Dong** and **Jemina Napier** present an exploratory study of the way in which interpreting agencies intersect with the professionalisation of Public Service Interpreting (PSI) in the UK. The paper offers a qualitative analysis of questionnaire results and observations of workplace interaction within an interpreting agency and provides an insight into the role interpreting agencies play in the shaping of professionalism, from the perspective of interpreters and that of managers. The paper begins to trace how the PSI profession is undergoing a transformation, changing from a ‘technical profession’ into a ‘managed profession, in which traditional values are increasingly merged with business principles and market tenets’.

Antigoni Bazani examines the intersections between translation and plurilingualism, bilingualism and code switching in her article which brings a fresh perspective to the field of Foreign Language Teaching (FLT). Drawing upon the *Common European Framework of Reference for Languages* (2001), Bazani investigates the reluctance to accept translation as an integral learning strategy within the foreign language classroom, despite its acknowledgment in the aforementioned document. By highlighting translation’s connections to the terms of bilingualism, code-switching and mediation in our ever-globalised societies, Bazani argues the case for what she considers to be the explicit and current role of translation in foreign language teaching.

The fourth article in this volume from **Thandao Wongsee** explores the innovative use of new freely available online technology by Thai fansubbers to subtitle the Korean variety

show *Running Man* for fellow fans. Wongseree focuses on fansubbing as a creative practice and draws specifically on the conceptualisation of creativity as an activity which is socially constructed by the interactions of individuals who are influenced by social and cultural environments. Via the findings of an online survey she carried out, Wongseree explores how factors including fandom, lax ethical and legal attitudes regarding the status of fansubbing, and a sense of appreciation and support fostered in online communities, all contribute to and perpetuate the creative endeavours of fansubbers.

In her article exploring the translations of Simone de Beauvoir's *Le Deuxième Sexe* (1949) into Chinese in both mainland China and Taiwan, **Nicki Liu Haiping** examines the intersections between the text and the specific socio-political environments into which it was translated, as well as the interactions between the text and the translatorial self. In her comparative analysis of four translations of excerpts from Beauvoir's chapters on marriage and sexual initiation, Haiping examines specific linguistic differences and theorises, with the aid of paratextual elements, that such translation differences can be accounted for due to the translators' divergent ideological positions vis-à-vis Beauvoir's existential feminism and also, due to external influences of the socio-political climate at the time of translation.

Zofia Ziemann concludes this volume with her article on the translation of the Polish modernist classic Bruno Schulz. Writing at the interface between the old and the new, Ziemann explores how the online retranslation of Schulz's short stories by a dedicated fan, John Curran Davis, has enabled Schulz's work to transcend potential temporal limitations with Davis's open-access online platform making Schulz's oeuvre available to a whole new readership, facilitated by the immediacy of reader-text interaction. Expanding current theoretical thinking on fan translation in Translation Studies, Ziemann's contextual exploration of Davis's translation practice analyses the theoretical and practical implications of its dubious legal status and its positioning with respect to divisions between elite and popular culture. Through her examination of paratextual features surrounding Davis's translation project, she explores both the intersections between academic readership and online communities, and institutionalised and unofficial circulation systems of literature.

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