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MT & TM 利用で翻訳効率アップ

久徳省三

1958年日本大学法学部卒業後、約40年各社で国際ビジネスに従事、1998年定年退職後、フリーランス翻訳家。現役時代の主な仕事は音響製品の輸出、米国内販売、電機・自動車部品の輸入販売など。現在、社団法人日本翻訳連盟 理事、翻訳支援ツール研究会委員長。

講演内容概要

1. MT 利用の動機
ATLAS を用いて対訳文例集を作成、後日 grep 検索で類似文の翻訳に活用
2. MT 利用と辞書
利用者辞書の構築
3. TM 利用の欠点
直訳調の訳文のリライト
4. MT & TM 利用の例
PC-Transer を用いて TM を利用した効率アップのデータを紹介し、プロジェクタで PC 画面を投影し、作業手順を説明

JAT ' s meetings are held at Forum 8 in Shibuya, at the following address:

Forum 8, Dogenzaka 2-10-7, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo

東京都渋谷区道玄坂 2 - 1 0 - 7 新大宗ビル.

For a map to the meeting site click on

<http://www.jat.org/maptonextmeeting.html>

Please check at the lobby on the eighth floor to confirm the room.

8階の受け付けで会場となる部屋をご確認ください。

日時： 10月21日2時30分から4時30分です。

JAT東京地区活動委員会

佐藤幸浩 (Hiro Sato)


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July 16 JAT Kansai Meeting Report

Kansai Activities
Committee

Calendar Copy Translation Workshop



On a hot day in July (what day isn't?), a dozen or more hardy folks trekked to Osaka International House in Uehonmachi for a translation workshop with David Eunice, a long-time translator in the Kansai area. We didn't know it was going to be a hands-on workshop at the start, but it worked out nicely. The focus was a series of poetic photo captions for a calendar showing scenes of the Japanese countryside, particularly rice fields. David had been working closely with the author, Prof. Kazuko Tomiyama, on both a book and annual "Rice in Japan" calendars. David notes that "she writes especially of the labour of people who created the landscape and scenery of the countryside and of their descendants who maintain and recreate it in the annual farming cycle."

In groups of three or four Japanese and non-Japanese we worked on spot translations of an assigned line from each stanza. We did our best in the limited time, and the results were read aloud, written on the whiteboard, and discussed. The exercise was quite interesting, following David's lead. One example of our output was unexpectedly captured in a digital photo (with some gaps) of the whiteboard:

コシヒカリとくだものの里
Home of premium rice and orchards

モモやスモモが一度にさいて
山里の早春の
なんとやさしく華やかだろうか

How gentle and splendid is the early spring of the mountain village when the peach and plum bloom together.

日本の風景がやさしいのは
草も木も、土のかけらに至るまで
人間が手をかけ、手をかけ、
また手をかけて
いつくしみ育てたものだからだ

Through years of care people have shaped the beautiful landscape from the plants to the soil.

田植えを待つコシヒカリの畦が
それを語りかけている

This toil can be seen in the... ..await the planting...

Should the title include the word "Koshihikari?" *くだもの* should be "fruit," no? We discussed and considered the implications of words as befitted the photo, and compared the fruits of our brief efforts with David's finished product:

Land of premium rice and fruit

Trees of peach and plum come into bloom together. The early spring in this mountain village has a gentle splendor all of its own. The landscape of Japan is accommodating because, from the trees to the clods of earth, people have shaped it with their hands, and shaped it with their hands, and shaped it with their hands again. This is the story told by a ridge between the paddy fields as it waits to see the planting of Koshihikari rice.

After the meeting most participants went on to a Chinese meal and further informal chatter. For reference, David's translation with parallel Japanese text can be found in this book:

Translating Land of Water and Forest, Japan
富山和子著「水と緑の国、日本」(講談社)
Kazuko Tomiyama, 1998 Kodansha ISBN-06-209380-4

--- Report by Richard Sadowsky

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September 16 JAT Tokyo Meeting Report (NPO Survey Report)

JAT Board
NPO Committee

9月16日の東京定例会で、これまでにNPOについて調べたことを発表しました。資料は主として経済企画庁および東京都生活文化局のウェブサイト、および東京都生活文化局発行のNPOガイドブックから入手しました。文章中に赤字で記したのは、特にJATに関係あると考えられる事項です。青字は調査を担当した佐藤 (Emily S²) によるコメントです。

特定非営利活動法人 (NPO) についての基礎資料

1 . WHAT IS NPO?

(特定非営利活動促進法の目的と法人格取得の効果)

近年、福祉、環境、国際協力、まちづくりなど様々な分野において、ボランティア活動をはじめとした民間の非営利団体による社会貢献活動が活発化し、その重要性が認識されているところです。現在、これらの団体の多くは、法人格を持たない任意団体として活動しています。そのため、銀行で口座を開設して預金通帳をつくったり、事務所を借りたり、不動産の登記をしたり、電話を設置するなどの法律行為を行う場合は、団体の名で行うことができず、様々な不都合が生じています。この法律は、これらの団体が法人格を取得する道を開いて、このような不都合を解消し、その活動の健全な発展を促進し、もって公益の増進に寄与することを目的としています。なお、この法律は、平成10年12月1日から施行されています。

2 . WHO CAN FORM NPO?

対象団体

この法律に基づいて、特定非営利活動法人になれる団体は、次のような要件を満たすことが必要です。 <Note NPOs can have paid directors but not more than one-third of all the directors. See "工" below.>

- ア 特定非営利活動を行うことを主たる目的とすること
- イ 営利を目的としないものであること
- ウ 社員(注2)の資格の得喪に関して、不当な条件を付さないこと
- エ 役員のうち報酬を受ける者の数が、役員総数の3分の1以下であること
- オ 宗教活動や政治活動を主たる目的とするものでないこと
- カ 特定の公職者(候補者を含む)又は政党を推薦、支持、反対することを目的とする

ものでないこと

キ 暴力団でないこと、暴力団又は暴力団員の統制の下にある団体でないこと

ク 10人以上の社員を有するものであること

特定非営利活動の対象となる活動

<Those marked in red are considered to be within the scope of JAT activities.>

- 1 保健、医療又は福祉の増進を図る活動
- 2 社会教育の推進を図る活動
- 3 まちづくりの推進を図る活動
- 4 文化、芸術又はスポーツの振興を図る活動
- 5 環境の保全を図る活動
- 6 災害救援活動
- 7 地域安全活動
- 8 人権の擁護又は平和の推進を図る活動
- 9 国際協力の活動
- 10 男女共同参画社会の形成の促進を図る活動
- 11 子どもの健全育成を図る活動
- 12 前各号に掲げる活動を行う団体の運営又は活動に関する連絡、助言又は援助の活動

不特定かつ多数のものの利益の増進に寄与することを目的とするものであること

「社員」は、社団の構成員の意味で、総会で議決権を持つ者がこれに該当します。会社に勤務する人(会社員)という意味ではありません。

<NPOの数>

平成10年12月1日～平成12年9月1日累計で全国で2476団体が認証を受けています(うち204団体が全国組織として経済企画庁ら)。JATの類似団体としては日本翻訳家協会(JST)が認証を受けています。

3. ADVANTAGES AND OBLIGATIONS

- NPO法人設立のメリット・義務

(1) メリット

- ・事務所の賃貸契約や銀行などとの賃貸借契約締結の際に、団体が契約の主体になれる。
- ・国際協力を行う場合、相手国の信用を得やすくなる。
- ・法律に定められた運営や情報公開を行うことにより社会的信用が得られる。
- ・行政や企業からの支援が得やすくなる(イベントへの協賛など)

(2) 義務

- ・法人としての税負担が生じる(東京都の場合、年間7万円くらい?)。従業員を雇った場合、社会保険や労働保険に加入する義務が出てくる。
- ・財務や事業の内容、および団体の情報を公開する必要が生じる。
- ・解散の際に残った資産がある場合、提供した人には戻されず、他のNPO法人や公益を目的とする法人、あるいは国や自治体などに引き継がれ

る。

4. APPLICATION PROCEDURE

- 設立の手続き

特定非営利活動法人を設立するためには、法律に定められた書類を添付した申請書を、所轄庁に提出し、設立の認証を受けることが必要です。提出された書類の一部は、受理した日から2カ月間、公衆に縦覧されることとなります。所轄庁は、申請書の受理後4カ月以内に認証又は不認証の決定を行います。設立の認証後、登記することにより法人として成立することになります。

法律に定められた書類とは

(Many! ただし簡単に記載できるものもあります)

1. 定款 Constitution

(NPO法の規定に基づいて作成します。現行のJAT規約に含まれていない事項もあるため、NPO申請にあたってはこれを作り直す必要があります。<定款>

2. 役員名簿 List of directors

(役員の氏名及び住所又は居所を記載した名簿) <Sample 1>

3. 各役員の就任承諾書 Statement of acceptance by the directors:

「私は、特定非営利活動法人JATの理事に就任することを承諾します」と記載してある書式に各人が署名

4. 各役員の住所又は居所を証する書面として条例で定めるもの

(住民票 or 外人登録 or if the director is residing outside of Japan, an official certificate from that country: 外国語の文章には、翻訳者を明記した日本語の訳文を添付)

5. 特定非営利活動促進法第20条各号に該当しないこと及び同法第21条の規定に違反しないことを各役員が誓う旨の宣誓書の謄本 (Written oath?)

「私は、特定非営利活動促進法第20条各号に該当しないこと及び同法第21条の規定に違反しないことを誓います。」と記載してある書式に各人が署名

6. 役員のうち報酬を受ける者の氏名を記載した書面 (List of paid directors:

As stated earlier there is no NEED to have paid directors.) <Sample 2>

7. 社員のうち10人以上の者の氏名及び住所又は居所を記載した書面 (List of 10 or more members - their names and addresses) <Sample 3>

8. 特定非営利活動促進法第2条第2項第2号及び第12条第1項第3号に該当することを確認したことを示す書面 (A simple statement of confirmation)

<Sample 7>

9 . 設立趣旨書 (State the reasons for establishing an NPO)

[<Sample 4>](#)1 0 . 設立者名簿 (List of founding members) [<Sample 5>](#)1 1 . 設立についての意志の決定を証する議事録の謄本
(Minute indicating the members' willingness to set up an NPO)

1 2 . 設立当初の財産目録 (List of assets at the time of incorporation)

1 3 . 設立当初の事業年度を記載した書面(Financial year) [<Sample 6>](#)1 4 . 設立の初年及び翌年の事業計画書 [<Sample 8>](#)
(List of scheduled activities for the first two years)1 5 . 設立の初年及び翌年の収支予算書
(Budget plan for the first two years)

所轄庁とは (JURISDICTION)

事務所が所在する都道府県の知事。ただし、2以上の都道府県の区域内に事務所を設置する場合は、経済企画庁長官。

5. MANAGEMENT of NPO - 管理・運営

役員 法人には、理事3人以上および監事1人以上を置かなければなりません。理事は法人を代表し、その過半数をもって業務を決定します。役員になれる人については、親族の数の制限など法律で一定の制限が設けられています。

総会 法人は、少なくとも年1回、**通常総会**を開催しなければなりません。

収益事業 法人は、特定非営利活動に係る事業に支障がない限り、その収益を特定非営利活動事業に充てるため、収益事業を行うことができます。この場合、収益事業に関する会計を特定非営利活動に係る会計から区分しなければなりません。

会計原則 法人は、予算に基づき、また、正規の簿記の原則に従って会計簿を記帳するなど、法律の第27条に定められた原則に従い会計処理を行わなければなりません。

定款変更 **定款を変更するためには、所轄庁の認証が必要です。**ただし、軽微な事項（所轄庁の変更を伴わない事務所の所在地の変更、資産に関する事項および公告の方法に関する事項）については、所轄庁の認証は不要です。なお、この場合には、定款変更後に所轄庁に届け出ることが必要となります。

解散・合併 特定非営利活動法人は、総会での議決・所轄庁の認証等の一定の手続きを経て、解散又は別の特定非営利活動法人との合併を行うことができます。法人が解散する場合、残余財産は、定款で定めた者(他の特定非営利活動法人など)に帰属しますが、その定めがない場合は、国又は地方公共団体に譲渡するか、最終的には、国庫に帰属することとなります。

監督等 所轄庁は、法令違反等一定の場合に、法人に対して、報告を求めたり、検査を実施し、また、場合によっては、改善措置を求めたり、設立認証を取消すこともできます。また、特定非営利活動促進法に違反した場合には、罰則が適用されることがあります。

6. OBLIGATIONS - 法人格取得後の義務等

法人格取得後は、この法律やその他の法令、および定款の定めにしたがって活動しなければなりません。特に次の点に留意すること。

(1) 事業報告書等の情報公開と所轄庁への提出

法人は、毎年（毎事業年度）の事業報告書等(定款、認証・登記に関する書類の写し、事業報告書、財産目録、貸借対照表、収支計算書、役員名簿、役員名簿に記載された者のうち前年において報酬を受けたことがある者全員の名簿、社員のうち10人以上の者の名簿)の書類を、所轄庁に提出するとともに、事務所に備え置いて、利害関係人に閲覧させなければなりません。また、これらの書類は、所轄庁において、一般公開されます。なお、経済企画庁が所轄庁となる法人の場合は、事務所の所在する都道府県においても、公開されることとなります。

(2) 納税

法人に対しては、いろいろな税金が課せられます。詳細については、専門家にご相談ください（[日本翻訳家協会に問い合わせたところ、基本で9万円くらい課税されるのでは？とのことでした](#)）。

7. COSTS - 申請手続き等の費用について

上記の書類作成を行政書士に依頼するとそれなりの料金がかかりますが、標準料金は特に設定されていないようです。NPO設立初期手数料を調べた範囲でも、定款作成だけなら2万円とか、全部で20万とか、100万とかさまざまでした。

9月19日 東京都生活文化局コミュニティ文化部振興計画課における相談の主な内容

9月19日の午前中、NPO委員会の佐藤綾子とBill LiseがNPO担当課を訪問し、定例会で出た質問などを聞いてきました。

Q: 都庁で発行している特定非営利活動法人設立のための「ガイドブック」に掲載されているもの（団体名義で口座を開設するなど）のほかに、NPOになるメリットはあるか？

A: メリットは「ガイドブック」に記されている通りである。

Q: 総会はどのように開催すればよいか？

A: 必ず1カ所に集まってface-to-faceで行わねばならない。定款の変更、解散、合併の3点については、必ず総会の議決が必要である。また、事業計画や収支決算ならびにその変更についての承認も、総会で得るのが望ましい。役員を選任や解任、職務および報酬については、総会で決定してもしなくてもよい。

Q: 会員が世界各国にいるJATの場合、全員が1カ所に集まって総会を開くのは不可能だが・・・

A: 全員に議決事項について連絡し、委任状をもらえば問題ない。招集はe-mailでもよいが、委任状は書面とする（ファックスも可。e-mailを受け取ってプリントアウトするのは・・・ダメとは言われなかった）。定足数については定款に規定を設けねばならないが、1/2である必要はない（かといって1/10ではまずいだろう）。

Q: 理事会もface-to-faceで開かねばならないか？

A: 理事会についてはその必要はない。ビデオ会議などをやっているNPOもある。

Q: NPOとして登記する際には、どの程度の費用がかかるか？

A: 自身で登記するならば費用はかからない。NPO申請にあたっては費用はかからない。登記は「組合等の登記」方法に基づいて行う。会社登記のように、同じ名前での登記（たとえばほかの団体が同一名称の「日本翻訳者協会」と申請しても）を阻止することはできない

Q: NPOでの「監事」の役割は？

A: 理事の業務執行の状況を監査し、NPOの財産の状況を監査し、問題があれば社員総会を招集するか所轄庁に報告する。社員が監事になってもよい（同様に理事も可）。決算報告書の監査は監事が行う。公認会計士による監査は要求されていない。

Q: NPOにおいて「社員」とは、「総会で議決権を持つ者」とのことだが、この社員以外に会員（＝議決権を持たない会員）がいるのも可能か？

A: 可能である。

Q: もし、NPOを設立すると決定して、書類が準備できたら、その後の手続きはどうなるか？

A: 書類作成の過程でまた相談したいことがあれば、受け付ける。大丈夫であれば申請し、書類受理の日から4ヶ月以内に都庁は審査して認証・不認証を決定せねばならない。

以上、調査結果をご報告申し上げます。

NPO Committee Chair NPO委員会委員長

Emily Shibata-Sato 佐藤綾子

会合ではこの後、会長のKathy Taji, 会計担当のBob Oliver、WebmasterのSteve Venti が、今後の運営やウェブサイトの管理について報告しました。



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Comments/questions about this report are welcome.
Send them in to aya-sato@ms.tokyo.jcom.ne.jp

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Translating Japanese Science Fiction: Interview with Edward Lipsett

Publications Committee

今回は、日米のSF (Science Fiction) に造詣が深く、平井和正氏のウルフガイシリーズ「狼の紋章」の英訳を手がけられたEdward Lipsett 氏にインタビューしました。1976年に発表された「狼の紋章」は *Wolfcrest* のタイトルのもと、講談社インターナショナルから出版されました (1985年)。平井和正氏は、漫画・テレビアニメの「8マン」の原作、『ウルフガイシリーズ』、そして売り上げが総計で2000万部を超えた『幻魔大戦シリーズ』などで有名なSF作家です。詳しくは同氏の公式サイト [ウルフガイ・ドットコム](#) へどうぞ。

どういう経緯で平井和正さんと知り合い、「狼の紋章」の英訳を引き受けられることになったのでしょうか？

I've always been an SF fan, and once I got over the shock of being in Tokyo and learning to open my mouth without looking like a total idiot, I began looking around for places to satisfy my habit. Fortunately, I ran into an ABC (American-Born Chinese) named Ted Quock, who was teaching English there. In addition to teaching English at one of the countless English schools (he later became a full-time teacher at Simul Academy, and when Simul died moved on to get a "real" job at a university...), he was also assisting a group of professional SF translators as a "native American." And better yet, he needed a replacement.

Well, needless to say, I was delighted to get the offer. I got to meet some very talented people - Shibano Takumi, Yano Tetsu, Asakura Hisashi, Itoh Noriaki, Yamada Junko, Satoh Takako and many, many more, not to mention people from publishing, like Hayakawa and Sogensha. I was in seventh heaven, not only enjoying the people, but also being able to really stand back and take a look at Asimov, Heinlein, Clarke, EE Doc Smith, L Frank Baum, etc, etc...

柴野拓美、矢野徹、浅倉久志、山田和子、佐藤高子・・・ SFやミステリーの翻訳で有名な方々ですね。うちの本棚を見ても、矢野徹さんのハインライン、佐藤高子さんのF.ボームの「オズ」シリーズ、山田和子さんのマッキヤモンなどがあります。あと伊藤典夫さんのアーサー C.クラークも・・・

I was also introduced to intriguing customs of the group, such as dropping an egg into a glass of left-over beer/wine/shochu mix the next morning for breakfast <g>.

The group would get together about once a month back then, under the auspices of Shibano Takumi , at some inn or hotel in the extended Tokyo area, and spend one night carousing (excuse me), uh, studying. Through this group of people I met many people related to the SF industry, but not directly in translation, including game publishers, book and magazine publishers, and artists (I shook hands with Matsumoto Reiji! I was so thrilled!). And somewhere along the way, someone remembered my name when Hirai Kazumasa was looking for someone to translate his work.

It was to be published by Kodansha International, which was still independent of Kodansha back then. Apparently Hirai himself took all responsibility for finding and approving the translator, and he chose me after an astonishingly brief meeting. To seal the deal, he wrote me a check for a hefty retainer, although I didn't really understand why at the time. It was above and beyond the royalties I was to receive, which were dictated by Kodansha. He sent me a complete set of the books in the series - over a dozen of them! This was clearly a best-selling author...

The next step was off to Bunkyo-ku to meet with the editor at Kodansha International, who, not surprisingly, wanted to see a sample of my work. I slogged out a chapter in about a week, taking care to make it look somewhat presentable, and sent it in on a brand-new 5.25-inch floppy disk, from my brand new NEC 9801-F2 (as I remember). He had some minor corrections and comments, but basically we saw eye-to-eye.

私も、まず最初に使ったのがNEC9801-E（フロッピーは8インチ）で、次がFシリーズ(5.25インチ)でした・・・

From there it was pretty straightforward, and the next time I went to a honyaku benkyoukai, I had questions of my own to ask. They had a lot of fun ribbing me as I had ribbed them - Where did I study Japanese? Any 6th-grader would know that one! Or sometimes, I wonder what he really wanted to say... it doesn't make much sense, does it? It was enormously instructive and enjoyable, and in addition to improving my translation, it also improved my Japanese.

I remember the biggest problem we had was how to show that a group of criminals

was using Osaka-ben... after it's translated into English, there is little difference between hyoujungo and zuzu-ben. I finally just went with some 20s-style gangster English, but I must say I was never happy with the choice then, and it still grates when I read it. I have yet to come up with a significantly better way to handle it, though.

The schedule was quite relaxed, and the manuscript was duly handed in, checked, revised, proofed, and printed. It came out as a 2-volume set under the title *Wolfcrest*, which is close to the original Japanese 狼の紋章. I really wanted to somehow work the "bar sinister" or something similar into it, but the editor advised me to keep it simple. And when I perused the book, I was also astonished to discover that it had an extensive glossary at the back! This was apparently Kodansha's idea, in an attempt to boost the prospective audience.

I also found the cover amusing - it is actually an excellent cover, because it summarizes the book very nicely. The essential content of the book is presented succinctly and graphically, as you will discover if you read it (見てみたい気がします・・・).

I learned a few key lessons from this process. First, hang out with people where you want to be. I enjoy SF, and found a way to spend time with Japanese involved in the field (I still talk to many of them via email). As I was having fun, a possible bit of work came up, and I was in the right place to get the invitation. Second, be nice to people you think are idiots. I didn't like all of the people at those benkyoukai, but most of them were (and are) important in the Japanese SF and/or publishing worlds, and having them like you (or at least not dislike you) was crucial.

I also discovered what that retainer was for... shortly after the book was published, Hirai called up again, and asked me to check over the next book he was writing, parts of which were sited in the US. He wanted me to make sure it all sounded authentic...

なるほど・・・で、実際に英訳を手がけてみていかがでしたか。本家(?)アメリカと日本のSFとでは、どのように違うのでしょうか。これからSFの翻訳を手がけてみたい、という人に何かアドバイスはありますか。

また実際の英訳の際には、どの程度の「ローカライズ」が可能だったでしょう。たとえばこの話の主人公の名前は、犬神明(いぬがみあきら)で、ヒロイン(担任の先生)の名前は青鹿晶子(あおしかあきこ)です。漢字ですと、すぐ見分けられるのですが、英語でAkiraとAkikoと表記すると、まぎらわしい気がします。また、Aoshika Akikoと書いても読みにくいでしょう。

しかも物語の後半に、明がもうひとり登場(ルポライターの神明)してさらにややこしくなります。このあたりは原文通りに、と要求されたのでしょうか。また原文では、「校長」とか「教頭」とか、肩書きでしか呼ばれない人々もでてきます。これらの人々はどう処理されたのでしょうか？

以上の質問については、次のようにまとめて答えていただきました。

A short comparison of SF in Japan and the US

In mainstream fiction, wordsmiths like Mishima Yukio or James Joyce can bend all sorts of grammar and other rules and still be hailed as masters. In the more commercial world of general science fiction and fantasy, however, it is a bit more difficult. Once you are an established writer, of course, you can write experimental stuff, disregard whatever rules you like, and still keep a reasonable following, but in general people expect certain minimums in their books.

Unfortunately, what people expect seems to be quite a bit different between there and here.

In the United States, while there are always exceptions, generally a book has to offer a number of essential elements: a narrative hook to grab the reader at the very start, a character whom the story is about, and a problem for the character to resolve, for example. If the background is interesting that is certainly a plus, but it is not essential to a sale. The characters, however, really have to be believable in order for a book to do well in the States, and the problem has to be something important within the context of the story.

This doesn't seem to hold true in Japan. Far too many stories still use cardboard cutouts of characters, which might be marginally acceptable if coupled with the right storylines. The stories themselves, however, are often what we would call background scenarios or vignettes in America (or Europe; forgive my provincialism)... the characters are transported back in time and spend 15,000 words exclaiming over the wonder of dinosaurs. There is apparently no need to explain why they were transported back in time, or to have them face any particular problems... just being there and seeing dinosaurs is sufficient. Just one example, but the same type of writing is really quite common. There are, thank goodness, many exceptions.

The problem of theme is another problem that appears in almost all Japanese writing, not only fiction: few Japanese have any interest in thematic paragraphs for sections, or thematic sentences for paragraphs. An astonishing number can't stay focused on the theme for more than a few sentences at a time before wandering off somewhere. In fiction, however, these problems are critical, because if they interfere with the narrative flow and bring the reader out of the story and back to reality, the work may be critically flawed.

My own background includes reading essentially every SF book written in the US until about 1980, and all the ones recommended by Locus (at least) since. In Japan, I've read most of the SF books that won awards or were recommended by people whom I thought would know. There is a lot of good stuff here, no question about it, but there is also an astounding amount of material that really reads like American backshelf throwaways -- an interesting idea lost among cardboard props, plot devices pulled out of thin air, and thinly-disguised discourse on everything under the sun by the author.

I am talking about my own, American-bred, SF likes and dislikes. The people in Japan, obviously, have a different set of criteria for judging what is good and bad. That's fine; Japanese literature only has to justify itself to the Japanese. *Wolfcrest* is one of these books. I like the basic concept, that of a Japanese high-school student who happens to be a werewolf, and it has some interesting trimmings, but the characterizations, storyline and narrative description are all, *by American standards*, inadequate to make it very successful in the States. Considering how successful Hirai Kazumasa and the entire series are in Japan, it is clear this is a highly ethnocentric opinion, however.

For better or worse, I was given instructions to keep the English version structurally similar to the Japanese - they didn't want things moved around, added or deleted. As I found out later, this was because the text was to be prepared as an English side-by-side for the Japanese, with notes for the Japanese reader. It was much easier that way, because I didn't have to sweat much over how to arrange things for the best feel, or worry about what style to use.

There were some problems that needed to be resolved, like a few side characters without names or sexes... the principal of the school, for example. In Japanese you can just say "Principal" or skip the reference entirely, but in English we really need a "he" or "she." I was forced to check with the author, who said he'd never thought about it (fascinating! I could never write without a picture of the character in my mind...), but probably such-and-such for each instance. Since they were side characters, it really made no difference to the story. Another character, peripheral in this book but who stars in his own series, has the same name, Akira, and a very similar last name... Again, from the American perspective this really should have been changed, but that wasn't an option in this job. About the only change I made to names was generally referring to people by their first names, rather than their last names as in the original, and I needed the authorization of the author to get that liberty. (I remember that when the first Perry Rhodan books came out, the alien Crest had his name changed to Khrest... in Germany, where the books were authored, that brand of toothpaste wasn't sold.)

All in all, translating the book was a lot of fun... there were no heavy philosophical sections to wade through, no massive research needed into lycanthropy, no bizarre dream sequences, and it was mostly written in plain Japanese, without, for example, the created jargon of cyberpunk. And it was definitely a blast to get copies of a printed book with my name on it, even if it did come out with that cover...

そのカバーです（誰の絵でしょう？）。



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Comments/questions about the article are welcome. Send them in to editor@jat.org

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新刊本のご紹介

Publications Committee

日外アソシエーツ編集部編

全国地名駅名よみかた辞典

A5版 1,380頁

定価（本体7,400円＋税）

ISBN4-8169-1622-9

2000.9刊行

昨年12月のJAT定例会において、「人名地名熟語の読み方調べ方」についてお話下さった日外アソシエーツ常務取締役編集局長の北原園彦さんから情報をいただきました。全国の市町村名など117,300件に加えて、8,500件の駅名も調べられる、とても便利なよみかた辞典です。

先日、私が英訳していた原稿のなかに上津浦という地名が出てきました。Gooで検索しても読み方がわかりませんでしたので、この辞典を使って検索してみました。

まず漢字の上からしてどう読むか（かみ、うえなど）わかりませんので、検字表というのを使って3画の漢字のリストから上を探します。検字表では頭字と2文字目から検索できるようになっていますので、上がみつかったら次に、上と津の組み合わせを探します。津は9画ですので、「上保、上前・・・」と見ていくと・・・上津がありました。（105ページ）です。上津浦のよみかたはこうつうらでした。熊本県天草郡有明町内の地名です。

このページから上津ひとつとっても、かみず、かみつ、かみづ、じょうず、こうづ、こうつとさまざまなよみかたがあることもわかりました。

辞典の詳しい情報は、こちらをどうぞ。なお、日外アソシエーツの青木さんから、JAT会員からの注文については10%引きとするという申し出がありました。その際は他のオーダーと区別する必要があるので、青木さんまで直接メールで（aoki@nichigai.co.jp）、氏名・届け先・支払方法（カード、商品代引き）を連絡いただきたいとのことです。

ついでにYahoo News で関連の話題をみつけました。

「七ヶ宿町、なんと読む？」
2000年10月2日（月）8時58分

宮城・七ヶ宿町の「ヶ」 / 「か・が」で町議会激突(河北新報)

自治体名に含まれる「ヶ」の読み方をめぐる論争が9月、宮城県七ヶ宿町の町議会で繰り広げられた。町議が「しちがしゅくと読むべきでは」と濁音

読みを支持すれば、松村行衛町長は「正式には『か』だ」と清音の正当性を主張。平行線をたどる攻防に、周囲は「たかが一文字の問題」と冷めた見方だが、河北新報への投稿がきっかけになった議論が町議会議場という政治の場にまで持ち込まれた裏側には、「いかに伝統を見直していくか」という文化論も潜んでいるようだ・・・

(この地名は七つの宿(しゅく)という意味の「しちかしゅく」が本来の呼び名だったそうですが、時代とともに「か」が「が」になったようです。)

次に、会員の富井篤さんからの情報です。

オーム社出版の「科学技術英大辞典(第2版)」(2,000ページ、B5版、消費税抜き55,000円)および「科学技術英和大辞典」(2,300ページ、A5版、消費税抜き54,000円)それぞれの「縮刷版」(コンパクト版)が9月27日に発行されました。価格は、いずれも消費税抜きで、大辞典の約1/4の15,000円です。

消費税込みで15,750円になりますが、ご希望の方がおりましたら富井篤 at LDE00420@nifty.ne.jpまでご連絡くだされば、JAT会員特別割引として、消費税、送料込みで14,000円でお求めいただけるようにしました。

(詳しくは、[こちら](#)をどうぞ。)

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"Innovations" IJET-12@Monterey/2001

IJET-12 Committee

第12回 英日・日英翻訳国際会議

Twelfth International Japanese/English Translation Conference

米国カリフォルニア州モンレー	Monterey, California
2001年5月26日(土) ~ 27日(日)	May 26 (Sat.) and May 27 (Sun.), 2001
参加費 (土曜日夕刻、モンレーベイ水族館でのディナー代を含む)	Cost (includes dinner Saturday night at the Monterey Bay Aquarium)
一般参加者: \$200 学生: \$100	Standard fee: \$200 Student rate: \$100

技術革新を主なテーマとして、第12回英日・日英翻訳国際会議が米国カリフォルニア州モンレーで2001年5月26日～27日に開催されます。同地は、息を呑むような美しい大自然に加え、人気のモンレーベイ水族館やペブルビーチ・ゴルフ場など、数々のすばらしい施設を備えています。サンフランシスコから車で2時間、シリコンバレーから1時間という便利さのモンレーは、第一級の会議・宿泊施設を提供するばかりでなく、各種レジャーを楽しむ場所としても最適です。

今回のIJET会議では、英日・日英多数の翻訳家が興味をもつさまざまな話題について討議しますが、なかでも過去数年間、全世界、特に翻訳業界に強い影響を及ぼしている技術革新に焦点を合わせる計画です。ウェブサイトやインターネット、翻訳サポート・ソフト

With technical innovations as its key theme, the twelfth IJET conference will be held on May 26 and 27, 2001, in Monterey, California, an area of breathtaking natural beauty as well as world-class sights including the renowned Monterey Bay Aquarium and Pebble Beach Golf Course. Only two hours from San Francisco and an hour from Silicon Valley, Monterey offers not only top level conference facilities and accommodations but a wide variety of leisure activities as well.

This IJET conference will cover many issues of interest to Japanese and English translators, but will place special emphasis on the technical innovations that have had such a powerful impact on the world over the last few years, especially on the translation industry. Panels on web sites and the Internet, use of translation support

の利用、またコンピュータ・ゲームのソフトウェア、and issues relating to computer and video game translation are only part of the array of sessions offered.

この価値ある翻訳会議に加え、ビジネスとレジャーの両立をお考えの皆様にとっても、モンレー訪問は理想的トラベル・プランと言えます。利用空港が西海岸サンフランシスコ国際空港であるため、世界中どこからでも気軽にお越しいただけます。ぜひ参加をご検討ください。

While the content of the conference offers excitement, the Monterey location provides those looking for a combination of business and leisure time the perfect business/vacation opportunity. The West Coast location with its key connection at the major international airport of San Francisco makes this site easily accessible to travelers from around the world.

詳細についてはホームページ <http://www.ijet.org/ijet-12> に掲載中です。またはAlan Siegrist (Eメール: ijet-12@ijet.org) までお問い合わせください。

For further information check out the web site at: <http://www.ijet.org/ijet-12> or contact Alan Siegrist at: ijet-12@ijet.org

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Review of *Hon'yaku wa bunka de aru* by Fujioka Keisuke

Publications Committee

Last month's *Bulletin* carried the [table of contents](#) of a recently released book 翻訳は文化である (丸善ライブラリー) by 藤岡啓介, who drew on insights gained in working as an editor over four decades to produce a book that is unusual in covering literary translation, the history of translation in Japan, and the practical aspects of professional translation. After editing translations in a publishing firm Fujioka edited and published the monthly journal 工業英語 and the 科学技術25万語大辞典. Since 1997 he has been editing a bilingual version of *Cobuild English Dictionary*, and he has also written and translated several other books.

If you're looking for a book that will help you with specific suggestions on *how* to translate, this is not the book for you. The author has deliberately avoided the example translations found in so many books on translation. Instead the aim implied by the title lies in highlighting how translation--be that of literary works or technical texts--is vital to the development of civilization and the human spirit and how the Japanese language and culture acquired their current vigour through translations. Yet the actual content of the book is more down-to-earth than this might suggest, and the book is full of interesting anecdotes that demonstrate Fujioka's familiarity with post-Meiji translation history, as well as with Western and Chinese translation history.

After mentioning how the Japanese sidestepped the need to translate Chinese texts by using *kambun kundoku*, Fujioka goes on to argue that when European novels were first introduced into Japan, the names of the authors would have meant nothing to Japanese readers, so the translator's name was listed alongside that of the author, thereby borrowing the translator's authority to boost the sales of the book. This was in a time when translations were often made by established writers or well-known scholars, and it was the origin of the practice of always citing the translator's name on the cover of translations--a practice that is only recently becoming more common in the West. Fujioka suggests that if all translators (including those of technical and commercial texts) put their name to their work the quality of translations would improve, as translators would take greater responsibility for their work.

In the Meiji period few people could understand foreign languages, so there was no fear of being criticized for errors, which led to bold and well-written translations. As the number of people with foreign language skills rose, however, translators became more concerned about being criticized for errors, and the resulting slavish respect for the source text led to the prevalence of awkward translations. Whereas most translators in the prewar years had been writers, academics, or journalists who did translation as a sideline, the sixties saw the emergence of professional translators. Agencies and technical writers also began to appear (although the very first translation agency dates right back to 1910).

Chapter 1 (翻訳者の条件) emphasizes the importance of not just ability in the foreign language, but also good expression in Japanese, and lists the author's minimum criteria for translators. He is highly critical of how the Shakespearean translator Odajima Yushi (Fujioka refers to him only as O氏) recently published four translations in a "Best of Chekhov" series, working from English renditions rather than the original Russian--something that Fujioka regards as unforgivable in this day and age, particularly since the resulting translations are rather flat. Later, however, Fujioka argues that relay translations via an intermediary language are easier for translators to understand, making it easier to produce an outstanding rendition. This is another reason why there were so many excellent translations in the Meiji period, when translators were often forced to work through a filter language such as English. Fujioka is also critical of the recent practice of 超訳 (arbitrarily adding lines that are not in the original and omitting information or rewriting the original so as to make it 'easier' to read) and of the way in which the translator's identity has often been obscured in the 超訳 of Sidney Sheldon's novels. The practice of 監訳 also comes in for criticism. This is where a well-known specialist translator lends his (or her) name to a team translation, thereby blurring the locus of responsibility for the translation. Fujioka regards such practices as worse than translation errors, which he regards not as a matter of incompetence, but as an inevitable hazard in the intellectual task of translation. This is why it is important for translations to be checked by someone other than the translator.

Chapter 3 (直訳か意訳か) makes the valid point that the much-used terms 直訳 and 意訳 take on different nuances or meanings depending on the user, and argues that it is dangerous to discuss translation in these terms. Fujioka also describes what he says is a recent trend whereby translators are sometimes asked by editors to rewrite their translations into more prosaic and less polished Japanese. The rationale is that readers are used to literal translations or lack the ability to savour sophisticated Japanese, or that they would prefer a literal translation to ensure that no errors occur, rather than an outstanding translation full of errors. Without some supporting evidence it is difficult to judge whether this claim is indeed accurate, but my own impression is that such attitudes have started to change for the better in more recent years.

The author makes some controversial points in this chapter. For instance, he argues that good translations are ones that read well (fair enough) and, more contentiously, in which it is easy to find the original word from the translation. (He doesn't say why it is desirable to be able to match the two texts up in this way.) He also claims that nowadays it is possible to produce an idiomatic translation by making good use of dictionaries, even without particularly good foreign language competence.

Chapter 2 (翻訳の環境) focuses on dictionaries, a topic about which the author is highly knowledgeable because of his background, although personally I found this chapter less interesting than other parts of the book. The account of machine translation in Chapter 4 (人の領域、機械の領域) makes no new contribution to the discussion. Fujioka believes that MT has still not reached a usable stage, but he suggests that technical texts and simple texts that do not require complex syntactical analysis are suitable for MT. He argues that MT is not impossible if texts are written clearly and simply--the problem lies with the writers of texts, not with MT itself.

Chapter 5 (翻訳の代価) is a concrete discussion of translation rates and the wide range of translators' income, quoting actual translators and also the guidelines

recommended by 日本編集プロダクション協会料金契約問題委員会. Despite the low rates some translators receive, Fujioka argues that there is no other job through which one can gain such pleasure and satisfaction by dint of one ' s own efforts. Royalties and copyright fees for translations are also discussed in some detail.

Chapter 6 (翻訳と編集) draws on the author ' s experience as an editor to discuss different categories of people who end up as translators, commenting on their strengths and weaknesses. Rather surprisingly, Fujioka says some editors recommend that their translators use particular dictionaries and reference works and he suggests that if the editor prepares a ' model translation ' of the first several pages of a book this will show the translator what approach to adopt (although he admits that this rarely happens).

The author makes some rather controversial comments about women translators, who are on the increase in Japan in recent years. While admitting that the translator ' s gender should not matter, he argues that women are sometimes not suited to certain texts. For instance, in novels where four-letter or four-character words are used frequently, women translators seem to produce flat translations in which the language is dull, and they have trouble expressing sexual scenes and slang or taboo words in Japanese. Women are also less familiar with sports and gambling, so have difficulty coming up with appropriate expressions. Fujioka says these differences arising from the different backgrounds of men and women will no doubt become less apparent in the future, but they still exist at the moment. He suggests they might disappear if women translated under a man ' s name, but this would jeopardize the translator ' s individuality. Men and women also differ in practical ways, with women generally observing their deadlines but men being more likely to be diligent about making changes and correcting errors at the proofreading stage, whereas women seem to believe their work needs no further polishing. Fujioka attributes this to the fact that many women translators entered the translation profession without ever having had to face the rough and tumble of the world, whereas men have had to face many trials and tribulations in life. While many of Fujioka ' s comments here might raise the reader ' s hackles, his long years of firsthand experience in working with translators of both sexes mean we cannot simply dismiss his views out of hand.

Fujioka also emphasizes how the translation environment a century ago was far different from today, with a lack of appropriate translational equivalents, no bilingual dictionaries, and no associated knowledge, so it was virtually impossible to produce good translations. The infrastructure today is vastly different, with the advent of dictionaries and translation tools and with the Internet bringing the world closer both physically and culturally, so that today there are far fewer extenuating circumstances for mistranslations. Fujioka estimates the translation industry in Japan today to be worth two trillion yen, with the bulk of the work being carried out by professional translators and consisting of technical or business documents where the translator remains anonymous.

Overall, the book is a little unstructured, as is common with Japanese books of this type, and it is somewhat frustrating in that the author raises interesting points but fails to follow them up. Nevertheless, I found it to be an interesting and worthwhile read by an author who has extensive and intimate knowledge of the translation profession in Japan, and I would recommend it to JAT members wishing to broaden their

knowledge of our profession beyond the practical aspects of how to translate particular words or constructions.

Comments/questions about this review are welcome. Send them in to editor@jat.org

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Board, Membership, and Committee Reports

Kathleen Taji,
JAT President

JAT Board

JAT Board Report for September 2000

The JAT Board held an administrative panel discussion with interested JAT members on September 16, in lieu of the regular JAT meeting with a guest speaker. The three major issues that were discussed were registering JAT as a nonprofit organization (NPO) with the Japanese government, hiring an administrator to handle the clerical tasks of the treasury and JAT membership, and the webmaster ' s plans for the JAT website. The directors who presided at the meeting were Bob Oliver, Hiro Sato, Emily Shibata-Sato, Kathleen Taji, and Steve Venti.

Approximately 15 to 20 JAT members attended the meeting and the majority of the attendees were generally supportive of hiring a clerical administrator and registering JAT as a NPO. However, some of the longstanding members expressed their concern that the act of hiring an administrator would negatively affect the spirit of volunteerism that has sustained the association. Another major concern was the added financial cost to the treasury that a paid administrator would incur. Presently, the general cost estimated by the board for an administrator is about one million yen per year.

The directors ' stance to these concerns is that the spirit of volunteerism will not be negatively affected by the employment of an administrator. Presently, the clerical tasks required of the treasurer and the membership secretary continue to grow in tandem with JAT ' s membership (currently 429 members). It is becoming unrealistic to expect the volunteer directors, serving as treasurer and membership secretary, to commit an inordinate amount of their free time to keeping the books for the organization. As a result, it has become more difficult to recruit members who are willing to serve in these capacities, in view of the heavy responsibility and time commitment that volunteering would entail. The JAT treasury has about nine million yen. The board feels that JAT can afford the cost of an administrator.

The NPO issue

Emily Shibata-Sato and Bill Lise, members of the NPO Committee, met with the Tochou officials on September 19 to clarify some of the questions regarding the process and the costs that the procedure may incur.

The following is a summary of the information submitted by Emily and Bill regarding the NPO issue.

1. JAT, in its present state, does not legally exist. As a result, the association has not been able to open a bank account using the JAT name. All expenditures are presently tied to Bob Oliver ' s personal credit card. If JAT is officially registered as a nonprofit organization, the association will be able to open its own account.
2. An added advantage of incorporating that has not been given much thought is the intangible one of status. Organizations and businesses JAT deals with will take the organization more seriously if the association is incorporated.
3. JAT will be able own the right to use names such as IJET.
4. The financial statements do not have to be audited by a CPA. This would be the task of the kanji.
5. JAT's assets are currently defined as individual assets. When the association incorporates, it must certify that these assets have become the assets of the organization. It is up to the Tax Office as to whether tax is paid on these assets. In addition, there are measures to exempt NPOs from the standard houjin jumin ze (70,000 yen).
6. The Tochou officials were vague on the question as to whether IJET would be classified as a profit-making activity, simply stating that JAT ' s activities would be judged on a case-by-case basis. Revenue generated from membership dues is not considered taxable income.
7. All documents must be submitted in Japanese. Japanese translations of address certificates issued by foreign governments are required.
8. The general opinion is that forming a corporation costs considerably less and easier than anticipated.
9. The registration process requires that JAT submit a teikan in Japanese that will be different in form from the present JAT Constitution, which is in English. However, in order to do this, a referendum by the entire membership must be held to amend the present Constitution, as stipulated by Article VII of the current JAT Constitution. However, most of the substance of the current JAT Constitution can be “ plugged into ” the boilerplate teikan, according to the samples that the NPO Committee has received from the Tochou.
10. The NPO Committee formally requests that the directors reach a decision on whether to pursue the process of registering JAT as a NPO to enable the committee to begin preparing the teikan and to enable the JAT Board to conduct a referendum in accordance with Article VII of the JAT Constitution--since the teikan must be approved by referendum before it is submitted to the Tochou.

Based on the recommendations of the NPO Committee, the decision to register JAT as a nonprofit organization with the Japanese government was unanimously passed by the directors on September 29, 2000. An electronic referendum on the teikan, that will be prepared by the NPO Committee, will be held tentatively in early December. The Referendum Committee will be chaired by Jeremy Whipple and Adam Rice will serve as the technical advisor in setting up the electronic voting process.

The JAT Website

The following report was submitted to the JAT Board by Steve Venti, JAT Webmaster, regarding the policy that will be taken on the JAT website.

JAT currently operates two Websites: jat.org and ijet.org, which are hosted on two separate servers. jat.org is maintained by the JAT Webmaster; ijet.org is maintained by the individual IJET committees in conjunction with the JAT Webmaster. This means that once an IJET committee disbands, that committee's Website basically dies, which is yet another issue that needs to be addressed eventually.

There was discussion earlier this year about hosting the two sites on the same server to consolidate payment procedures, but as it turns out, the domain names are billed individually, so there is no advantage to be gained.

In April of this year, trouble at Digiweb resulted in some members being unable to access the Website for an extended period of time. Help from Malcolm James and Keith Wilkinson enabled me to give Digiweb specific information about the problem, and there have been no further incidents. Accordingly, there is no longer any need either to move the site from Digiweb nor to set up a mirror-site in Japan.

At present the JAT-list, JATBoard-list, and other sundry lists serve our day-to-day communications needs adequately; thus the Website serves two functions that can be classified as follows:

1) Host for Web content (material that is idiomatic to the Web)
At present, the only such content is the sign-up page, but in the future, we may want to develop multimedia Web content such as streaming video of JAT events.

2) Repository for archival material
Past issues of the Bulletin, JAT member directory, photos, etc.

In this sense, much of our Web content is actually produced by the Publications Committee and Membership Secretary; thus, the Webmaster's job does not include the creation of Content, only it's maintenance, and in the future, it may be beneficial to integrate the Website committee as a sub-committee of the Publications Committee.

Also, in an effort to stimulate participation, I am thinking of calling on the general membership to volunteer to create multimedia content. Potential projects include multimedia slideshows of photos from JAT events, "flash-card" style display of glossaries or word lists, and the creation of streaming media.

In conclusion, I propose that:

1) Any major redesign of the Website, whether it be out-sourced or

performed with in-house resources, be postponed for the time being, and that the Webmaster proceed with a small-scale reorganization of the existing format in order to make the site easier to navigate.

2) The Board adopt an official Website policy comprising the following:

- a) More content will be devoted to photos and reports on recent JAT events.
- b) The general membership is to be encouraged and given support to create Website content on a volunteer basis.
- c) JAT publications are to be standardized in PDF format and made available for download from the Website.
- d) The Webmaster's duties are to be documented in order to ensure a smooth transition. This includes providing copies of necessary software.

Based on the above, the JAT Board has generally agreed to accept Steve ' s recommendations.

Membership Secretary's Report

Tony Atkinson. membership@jat.org

Here is the Membership Secretary's Report for September 2000.

As of October 9, 2000, the statistics for JAT membership are as follows.

Total number of members:	429
Overseas members:	166 (39%)
Members in Japan:	263

JAT-List

Subscribed:	409
Not Subscribed:	20

Open Directory:	268 listed
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<http://www.jat.org/opendir.html>

New members who joined in September (14, listed in alphabetical order)

Kunihiko Arai
 Sophie-Claire Charon
 Graham B. Chave
 Deborah Davidson
 Yoshikuni Funada
 Stefan Heusler
 Anandadhara Kumar
 Yoko Kurata
 Winston Lees
 Takashi Natori
 Mariko Nishida
 Minoru Sakurauchi

Paul Seward
Machiko Yamamoto

Renewal dues and requests for directory updates were received from the following members from September 9 though October 9.

Renewal Dues: 26 (listed in alphabetical order)

Tomoko Adachi
Eric Alsrue
John Bryan
Diane Burry
Peter Durfee
Stephan J. Franciosi
Amir Freimann
Bruce Holcombe
Junko Igarashi
Rieko Iseki-Komatsuzaki
Stacey Jehlik
Steven W. Johnston
Atsuko Kuroda
Duncan Macintyre
Mieko Mochizuki
Motoko Naito
Paul Rust
Yuzuru Sato
Charles Stewart
Jeffrey G. Stocker
Sayoko Takada
Minako Taniguchi
Hisao Tsunokawa
Mutsuyo Okumura Unger
Sonny Watanabe
Mikio Yonekura

Directory Updates: 13 (listed in alphabetical order)

Eric Alsrue
Peter Ball
Betsy Benjaminson
Diane Burry
Hiroshi Honjo
Kenneth R. Jones
Ruth Kanagy
Yutaka Matsumoto
David L. Reynolds Jr.
Juliane Suzuki
Koichi Tani
Minako Taniguchi
Steven P. Venti

Cancellations/Expiries (15, listed in alphabetical order)

Akiko Fujikawa
Nicola Humphreys
Michael K. Johnson
Shane Jones
Nobuki Kato
Kaori C. Major
Robert L. Meadows
David E.C. Mills
Yukari Miyamae
Sherry Miyasaka
Masatoshi Nishikawa

Elizabeth Oswald
Scott Petersen
Jiho Sargent
Haruko Watanabe

Committee reports

Bookshelf Committee
Chair George Tokikuni, bookshelf@jat.org

This month, we have nothing new to report.
As I said before, we are planning to update the JAT Bookshelf in the near future. If you have a book, a magazine, a newsletter, or anything you think important for your work, please drop me a line.

External Liaison Committee
Chair Fred Uleman, liaison@jat.org

Taiwan Association of Translation and Interpretation Executive Director Emily Her was in Tokyo recently to talk with translation organizations, companies, and translators as part of her research. When I talked with her on Sept 26 (at the gracious introduction of the Japan Society of Translators, which mentioned JAT and me to her), she was particularly interested in the two issues of translator education and industry certification.

On the first, I explained that there are many Japanese schools but few university-level courses. (Please tell me if you know better, and I will pass the correction along.) And the non-university schools span a considerable quality range.

On the second, I said that two translation organizations (the Japan Translation Association and the Japan Translation Federation) have tests sanctioned by their respective ministries (Labor for the JTA and MITI for the JTF) but neither means much in the marketplace. Indeed, there is no national or other-body certification prerequisite to market entry in the translation field in Japan. This then led to an extensive discussion of the translation market -- which is very much a free market. Not only is there no certification required, there are no standard rates and there are not even any reliable data on numbers of translators or numbers of translation companies.

Near the end, I happened to mention that I would be in Taipei Oct 3-7, and she invited me to talk to the Graduate Institute of Translation and Interpretation (where she is former director) at the National Taiwan Normal University. This I did on Oct 6.

To these students, I emphasized that translation is a content-based profession in which we seek to recreate the source text in the target language. This means producing a text that conveys the same information

and emotions. It does not mean slavish literalism. Given this requirement, I noted the need for field-specific expertise (so you can fully understand the source text and can write plausibly in the target language) and pointed out the advantages of specialization. I also told them of the Japanese market's unregulated nature and said that the translator is tested every day on every job -- not in a one-time certification process. Finally, I urged them to think of themselves as brands and to work on growing their brand.

Over lunch, Dr Her remarked that nobody had ever talked to translators about branding before. And many faculty members are skeptical about specialization. But if it really is a market, this makes sense. It is possible to survive as a low-bid commodity, but it is the brands that we think of as the successes. She also expressed interest in getting some JAT-like networking going in Taiwan among the Chinese/English people. (I urged her to make it worldwide.) Because I had told her about JAT and the Honyaku list, and had stressed what a supportive community we have and how it benefits everyone, she will probably follow up on this.

Coincidentally, that evening I attended a dinner where I talked briefly with another acquaintance in Taiwan who, it turns out, teaches translation at a different school. I told her of my conversation with Dr Her (whom she knows) and suggested they cooperate in getting the networking going. She sounded very interested, and I am hopeful.

In addition to my activities in Taiwan, the committee publicized the JST's translation award ceremonies on September 30 and the JTF's Translation 2000 conference on November 2 on the JAT list so JAT members would know what these other groups are doing and would have the opportunity to take part in their activities. This is also part of JAT's networking.

Finally, the ELC sent out over two dozen copies of the IJET-9 Proceedings to translation organizations, schools, and luminaries as a way of publicizing JAT's good work and raising our international profile.

Ando-san, ELC member, has graciously translated the ELC report into Japanese as provided below.

対外連絡委員会(ELC)の10月報告

台湾翻訳通訳協会(TATI)の何慧玲(Emily Her)専務理事が9月下旬、翻訳諸団体や個人翻訳者との交流を図る目的で来日されました。日本翻訳家協会(JST)のご紹介で9月26日、何慧玲女史に東京でお目にかかる機会に恵まれました。同女史から翻訳者の教育と資格試験について尋ねられましたので、次のような説明をしました。

- ・日本には翻訳コースをもつ学校はたくさんありますが、大学レベルのコースはほとんどありません。専門学校もたくさんありますが、ピンからきりまでいろいろです。
- ・日本の翻訳者資格認定試験としては、労働省認可の日本翻訳協会(JTA)が実

施する「翻訳技能審査」や通産省認可の日本翻訳連盟(JTF)が実施する「ほんやく検定」などがありますが、翻訳業界ではどの資格もあまり重視されていません。日本では、国家試験や公益団体の認定試験に合格することが翻訳の仕事に従事するための必須条件ではありません。翻訳という市場は自由市場とでも言うべきものです。翻訳者としての資格は特に定められておらず、翻訳の標準料金もなく、翻訳者や翻訳会社の数は信頼できる数字さえもない状態なのです。

何慧玲女史との話の折に、たまたま10月3日から7日まで台北を訪れる所用があると申しましたところ、同女史が以前所長を務められていた国立台湾師範大学の翻訳研究所のゼミで話をしてもらいたいとの依頼を受けました。このような機縁で私は10月6日に、同研究所でおよそ次のような主旨の話をしました。

翻訳という仕事は、原文の内容を目標言語で再生することです。原文と同じ意味(いみ)と味(あじ)を伝えなければなりません。単に語句を置き換えるだけの作業ではありません。原文の意味を十分に理解し目標言語でそれらしく表現できるレベルの専門知識が必要とされます。そこで、分野ごとの専門性が重視されるのです。日本の翻訳市場には特に規制はありません。翻訳者の能力は1回だけの資格試験で判定できるものではなく、日々の仕事で評価されるものなのです。翻訳をするあなた自身がブランドであり、自分のブランド名を広めていく方向で努力していただきたいと思います。

昼食の折に何慧玲女史は、「ブランド」と翻訳者を関連付けた話は初耳だと言われました。また、翻訳の専門性については疑問視する大学教職員が多いが、翻訳の市場性を考えればそれも納得できるとも言われました。安値で商品売ることでは何とかやっていくこともできますが、高級ブランドを確立してこそ、はじめて商売に成功したと言えるでしょうと補足しました。何慧玲女史は、台湾で中国語と英語にかかわる人々に何かネットワークを作り、広めたいと言われました。そこで私は、台湾という狭い世界にとどまらずもっと広い世界に広げていただきたいと激励しました。これに関連して、JATという団体やHonyakuというメーリングリストについて紹介し、このような活動の重要性や有用性を強調しました。

別の学校で翻訳を教えている方とその日の夕食会でたまたま話をする機会がありました。その方は何慧玲女史と顔見知りだということもあり、昼に話した内容をかいつまんで伝え、お二人が協力すればネットワーク作りの進展も早まるでしょうと申し上げました。彼女も非常に興味を示されたので、かなり期待がもてると思います。

さて、JATの会員に他団体の活動を紹介するために今月は、日本翻訳家協会(JST)が翻訳文化賞などの表彰式を9月30日に開催することや日本翻訳連盟(JTF)が11月2日に翻訳祭を催す情報をJATリストで紹介しました。このような広報活動もJATのネットワーク作りの一環であると考えています。

そのほか、JATの活動内容を広く知らせJATの国際的な知名度を高めるために、合計で20数冊ものIJET9会議録を翻訳諸団体や大学、先生方に配布しました。

NPO Committee ・ NPO委員会
Chair Emily Shibata-Sato, npo@jat.org

9月16日の東京定例会において、これまでの調査結果を発表した。翌週の19日に、東京都庁のNPO担当課を訪問し、定例会で出た質問などについて伺った。その結果は、今月号のNPO Survey Reportにまとめた。今後は、NPO申請時に提出する「定款」の検討を予定している。

Publications Committee
Chair Emily Shibata-Sato, JAT Publications Director, editor@jat.org
Members Kathy Taji, Judy Wakabayashi, Roger Machin, Hidenori Kashihara

Bulletinの発行形態について検討しているが、本年12月までは従来通り毎月発行することとした。また来年からpdf形式で発行するかどうかについても検討中である。

Bulletinがオンラインとなった96年11月以降のインデックスを作成することとした。会員からボランティアを募り、Kevin Kirton氏に作業を依頼した。本年12月号に掲載する予定。

Tokyo Activities Committee
Chair Yukihiro Sato hanami@mx2.nisiq.net

The following presenters were fixed for upcoming JAT meetings.

October: Shouzo Kyotoku, J, Business translations and machine translations

November: Paul Seward, E, topic is still pending.

December: Seth Reams, E, Translations in broadcasting industries

In September, I asked the persons below:

Paul Rust -- Negative

Paul Flint -- Negative

Michael House -- No responses

Dennis Schneider -- No responses

For the January presenter, Tomii-san introduced me Mr. Naomi Matsuoka, who is an expert of a data base creation for translation. He was a presenter at IJETs-7 and 9.

Kansai Activities Committee
Chair, Richard Sadowsky sadowsky@sannet.ne.jp

No report was submitted.

Website Committee
Chair Steven P. Venti, JAT Website Director, webmaster@jat.org

I have been proceeding with revisions of out-of-date portions to the the JAT Website, and several tentative revisions were uploaded on October 14, including new versions of the index page, board page, and the about JAT pages.

Thanks to Kashihara-san for his help with the Japanese version of the about JAT page.

Questions or comments about revised content can be directed to [<webmaster@jat.org>](mailto:webmaster@jat.org).

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From the Publications Committee

The JAT Bulletin has been compiled by the JAT Publications Committee. The articles contained here have been reviewed and edited by the committee members; Emily Shibata-Sato (Chair,) Kathy Taji, Judy Wakabayashi, Roger Machin and Hidenori Kashihara. Some minor editorial changes have been made to the articles in the JAT Bulletin, but otherwise they are as they were received from the authors. For opinions and comments, article submission and further information, please write to editor@jat.org.

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編集後記

次号（2000年11月）の投稿締め切りは11月8日（水）です（なお締め切りは、**毎月第2水曜日**です）。編集部または各投稿者宛のご意見・ご要望は、<editor@jat.org>宛てお送り下さい。

Email to the Publications Committee or to contributors: <editor@jat.org>.

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MEMBER'S PAGE ▶