Monterey Forum 2007:
Methods in Translator, Interpreter and Localizer Training

This is a forum to discuss concepts, models and methods for translator, interpreter and localizer training. There is a special session on technology used in instruction inside and outside the classroom setting as well.

November 5, 2007 (Monday)

9:00 – 10:00  Keynote Speech

Translator training and technology: The risks of non-linearity
Anthony Pym (URV, MIIS)

Abstract:
The use of electronic technologies in written translation is steadily privileging non-linear textuality. This means that, in many different ways, texts are not produced by starting at the beginning and working toward the end; they are not used that way; and they are rarely translated that way. Many translation classes, however, are based on linear progression through the text, the narrativity of which retains serious humanistic and pedagogical virtues. Our training thus often sidesteps the new challenges surfacing in the professional environment. At worst, the result is a serious divide between linguistic and technological issues, as if neither side really concerned the other. Here we insist that electronic technologies are having wide-ranging linguistic effects, and that translators must be trained to deal with those effects. In particular, this means developing programs able to incorporate principles like the following: 1) the translation profession now covers a very wide range of textual practices, 2) linguistic quality increasingly depends on the maintenance and critical use of databases, 3) the communicative act now has as much to do with rewriting and revision than with spontaneous production, and 4) as technological skills increasingly dominate the wordface, the place of linear communicative skills has shifted to the multifaceted space of project management.

10:30 – 12:30  Localization Session

2:00 – 4:00  Translation Session

6:00 -  Reception
November 6, 2007 (Tuesday)

9:00 – 10:00  Keynote speech

"Theory minimax in translator and interpreter training"
Daniel Gile (ESIT)

Abstract:
This paper will attempt to show when and how some theory can be useful in translator/interpreter training. It will argue that a good strategy in introducing theory in translator/interpreter training is the minimax strategy, that is, introducing a minimum amount of theory aiming at a maximum effect.

10:30 – 12:30  Technology and E-learning Session

2:00 – 4:00  Interpreting Session