FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 22, 2011

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“Found in Translation” Speaker Series Offers Insights on Translation Profession from Researchers and Practitioners
All Lectures in Lunchtime Series at MIIS are Free and Open to the Public

Monterey, CA—The Monterey Institute of International Studies today announced the first three lectures in its annual “Found in Translation” speaker series, which discusses the latest issues, developments and trends in the fields of translation, interpreting and localization studies. Ranging from theoretical to more applied approaches, as well as professional accounts from the field, the Found in Translation series features leading researchers and practitioners sharing their insights with Monterey Institute students and faculty.

The fall Found in Translation series will include the events listed below. All events are free and open to the public, and will take place from 12:15 p.m. to 1:45 p.m. in the Irvine Auditorium, McCone Building, 499 Pierce Street in Monterey.

September 27 – “Mental Conditioning for Interpreters” by MIIS Associate Professor Julie Johnson

Interpreting requires intensive cognitive processing. A big part of interpreter training involves learning how to listen and, for consecutive interpreting, take notes in ways that facilitate effective processing and retention. But what if you are having trouble keeping your attention focused in the first place? What if performance anxiety has you tied in knots? Prof. Johnson will present her current research and discuss her hypothesis that mental conditioning aimed at strengthening students’ underlying attentional and self-regulatory abilities might positively affect their experience of interpreting tasks and objectively improve their performance.


With 506 possible language combinations among the 23 official languages of the European Union, ensuring universal access to the documents and discourse of the democratic process can be a daunting task. How does the European Parliament’s translation service deal with the high volume of work, tight deadlines, and increasing pressure to do less with more? What role does technology play in the daily work of an EU translator? The speaker, a translator and administrator from the European Parliament, will address these and other questions as he gives an inside look at the translation process in an organization that translates over a million pages of text a year.
November 1 – “Community Interpreting for Less Visible Communities: An International Overview of Interpreting in Prison Settings” by Dr. Aída Martínez-Gómez Gómez

In a world where societies are constantly diversifying, prison systems—an essential part of society—need to face the challenges presented by the new multicultural and multilingual prison reality. However, although such challenges are similar all over the world, the measures implemented to overcome the language barrier vary greatly from one country to the next. This talk will aim to shed some light on the current international situation of language mediation in prisons around the world, thanks to the information provided by countries with the highest rates of foreign prisoners. Issues such as the legal framework ensuring language and communication rights for prisoners, the use of professional and ad hoc interpreting services, the distribution of translated materials, the recruitment of bilingual prison officers, and foreign language training for prison officers and prisoners will be addressed.

For more information about this lecture series, please contact Monterey Institute Translation Program Chair María Sierra Córdoba Serrano at 831.647.4609 or mcordobaserrano@miis.edu. Information about all Monterey Institute campus events is available via our online events calendar at http://www.miis.edu/community/events.

What: Found in Translation speaker series at the Monterey Institute

When: Sept. 27, Oct. 4 and Nov. 1 from 12:15 p.m. to 1:45 p.m.

Where: Irvine Auditorium
McCone Building
499 Pierce Street
Monterey, CA 93940

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The Monterey Institute of International Studies, a graduate school of Middlebury College, has been preparing graduate professionals for global careers in the private, public, nonprofit and educational sectors since 1955. Located in Monterey, Calif., the Institute offers advanced degrees in international business, international environmental policy, international policy studies, language teaching, localization management, nonproliferation and terrorism studies, public administration, and translation and interpretation, as well as a variety of specialized certificates and programs. The Institute, whose approximately 800 students come from more than 60 countries, is also home to the James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies. In 2010 the Monterey Institute became a graduate school of Middlebury College, one of the nation’s leading liberal arts colleges. Visit www.miis.edu to track campus news or find an expert.