



The MITA Reader

- August / September '07

Catch the Web 2.0 Wave

By Laura Tamayo
Contributing Writer

If the words Web 2.0 mean absolutely nothing to you, then you've come to the right place. Let's start with immediate demystification:

There aren't multiple versions of the Web.

This 2.0 or "second version" refers to web-based communities and hosted services. These have always existed in one form or another, but the main focus before the Web 2.0 wave was static information. So the "second version" or Web 2.0 notion is not a new world wide web or even new tools; it's just a new focus in the way we use the Internet.

Part of the new relationship with the Internet involves more independence for the end user. How? Before, users were primarily readers, not publishers of material. Now users own and control the data that they themselves publish online.

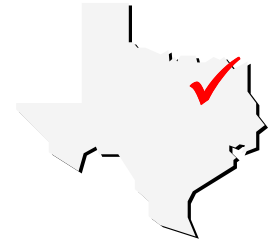
So in the end, Web 2.0 is just a catchy name to express an Internet use trend. Specifically, people are not only looking up information on the Web, they are creating information and putting it up on the Web themselves.

They do it individually, in collaboration with specific people, or together with the entire Internet-using world!

(Continued on page 4)

METROPLEX INTERPRETERS
& TRANSLATORS
ASSOCIATION

Serving DFW and North
Texas



Volume 3, Issue 5

August '07-September '07

In this issue:

- *Web 2.0, p. 1*
- *New MITA p. 1*
- *Symposium, p. 2*
- *Calendar, p. 2*
- *Cyber-glossary p. 5*

Come and Shape the New MITA!

To stretch a metaphor, the winds of change are knocking on MITA's door.

All MITAns are asked to come to the meeting at **3:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 6, 2007** to discuss the shape and function of MITA in 2008.

Based on the responses to the survey done earlier this year, the great majority of MITAns value a stronger internet presence (including a better directory) and more workshops. To accomplish this, certain changes must be made in the way MITA operates.

YOU are MITA! In lieu of a speaker on **October 6**, we will be holding a "general assembly" meeting. All members are asked to come: the value of a dynamic professional organization cannot be understated and ***your input is greatly needed!***

Happy International Translator's Day, September 30!

The **MITA Reader** is published by Carol Shaw (info@nexuslanguage.com) as a service to the members of the **Metroplex Interpreters and Translators Association (MITA)**.

Submissions are welcome (begged for, actually); articles should focus on language, cross-cultural, linguistic, or industry concerns, and be of interest to our general readership (preferably not language or country specific.)

Upcoming Events:

October 6, 2007 MITA meeting

October 20, 2007
AATIA Back Injury Seminar, Austin
(www.aatia.org)

Oct. 31-Nov. 3, 2007
ATA Annual Conference
www.atanet.org

November 7-10, 2007
ALTA Annual Conf.
www.utdallas.edu/alta

October 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

November 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Healthy turnout for TAHIT Symposium

By Esther Diaz,
Special to the Reader

The first TAHIT Symposium on Language Access was held on August 24 and 25, 2007, at M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas. The 144 participants came from Massachusetts, Oregon, Illinois, and all over Texas. They included interpreters, staff and administrators from major hospitals in Houston, Dallas, San Antonio, and Austin, as well as translation and interpreting agencies.

The event kicked off Friday with tours of M.D. Anderson and Texas Children's Hospital, followed by a reception, all of which were well-attended. The networking was great!

The following day was filled with plenary sessions featuring Legislative Updates, an Open Forum on Certification of Healthcare Interpreters, a Cultural Forum on Healthcare Beliefs and Practices, and the Standards of Practice for Health Care Interpreters.

Concurrent sessions were divided into two tracks: one for providers and administrators, and the other for interpreters and translators. Presentations for Administrators included a Forum on

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

Models of Service Delivery, The Development of M.D. Anderson's International Department, JCAHO Standards and How to Prepare for a JCAHO Survey.

Presentations for Interpreters and Translators included an Update in Pediatrics by John Cochran, M.D. from the Department of Emergency Medicine and Pediatrics at LBJ Hospital, a lively presentation on Professional Boundaries in Health Care, and a session on Congenital Heart Defects.

The Open Forum on Certification of Healthcare Interpreters involved discussion about the following statements:

- I think we are ready for national certification now
(30 strongly agree; 43 agree; 30 disagree; 8 strongly disagree)
- I think national certification at this time will answer concerns about the quality of healthcare
(27 strongly agree; 50 agree; 30 disagree; 4 strongly disagree)
- I think national certification will eliminate a lot of good practicing interpreters.
(4 strongly agree; 15 agree; 53 disagree; 45 strongly disagree)

There was also discussion of the following questions:

- What are the conditions that need to be in place for national certification to be credible and successful?
- What are the potential benefits and pitfalls of national certification? Who might it potentially help? How?
- Who might it potentially harm? How?

Results from this focus group will be tabulated with results from other focus groups around the country to be considered by the Standards, Training and Certification Committee of the National Council on Interpreting in Health Care.

By all accounts, the Symposium was a success. For those who missed it, an electronic copy of the program and presentations will soon be available.

Now, it's time to start planning for next year's symposium. We look forward to seeing you there!

.....
Mary Esther Diaz, M.Ed. is an interpreter trainer and ATA Certified (Spanish<->English) translator based in Austin, Texas. She currently sits on the Board of Directors of the National Council on Interpreting in Health Care (NCIHC) and the Texas Association of Healthcare Interpreters and Translators (TAHIT), and serves as Administrator of ATA's Medical Division. The Reader thanks her for permission to reprint her report, and Jorge Ungo for recommending it!



Thanks to Jorge Ungo (Masterword), who was instrumental in the TAHIT Symposium, for these pictures of interpreters and patient representatives from the Parkland Health and Hospital System and the Medical Center of McKinley. Jorge reports that discussions are already under way to schedule a second Symposium for April!

Web 2.0

(Continued from page 1)

A new use means a new vocabulary. Some are old terms with new meanings and others are new creations. If you don't want to be left out, you gotta learn the lingo. Here's a general overview of the most common terms and Web 2.0 sites in use today.

Social Networking

Social Networking sites are exactly what they sound like: virtual places for people to interact. They are generally centered around common interests and provide several means for members to communicate such as chat, messaging, email, video, voice chat, file sharing, blogging, discussion groups, forums, texting options, etc. Below is a list of some popular sites and what they're about.

My Space – Offers profile building and sharing, email, chat, blogging, forums, group building, music and video sharing, filmmaker, and events links.

Facebook – Site that lets members upload photos or publish notes, get news from friends, post videos on their profile, tag friends, and join networks to see people who live, study, or work around them. They've also adding all sorts of applications that let you do anything from sending virtual cocktails to joining charitable causes.

Faceclick – Dating site with private text and video messaging, email, and live one-on-one video chat.

twittle – Site designed for members to post commentary via phone, IM, or web posting. It also works within Facebook, Gtalk, and AIM.

Flickr – Site built for photo sharing that functions both on and offline.

iTunes – Site built for music sharing that functions both on and offline.

Scriptovia – Site built for essay sharing.

Linked in – Network of professional contacts where people can make virtual introductions.

Wikis

A wiki is a collaborative website built by anyone with access. The name comes from the Hawaiian term *wiki wiki*, meaning fast. So, basically, a wiki is a collection of wiki pages... that's right, a database for creating, browsing, and searching information. They can be public or private.

Wikipedia – Very popular encyclopedia.

Wetpaint – Every kind of wiki you can imagine: family sites, hobbies, causes, fan sites, etc.

Folksonomies

This term is a fusion of folks and taxonomy, and it refers to collaborative categorizing using tags. Tags are different from preset keywords only in that users type in whatever keywords they personally decide to associate with their content. With tags, users no longer have to classifying their content from a set of prescribed categories.

So, you can save a picture and add tags like "Christmas", "trip" and "family". Later, when you search for "Christmas family trips", this picture will show up along with every other picture containing these words.

Many different sites use this system. Delicious (their proper name and address is del.icio.us—just like that, no www) for example, uses a tag system to organize bookmarks.

del.icio.us – Keeps all your bookmarks in an online space that uses tags instead of folders, and lets you share them with others.

With all this, what's the wave of the future? Integration of course!

That's right, all savvy Web 2.0 users are now complaining that they have to use a com-

(Continued on page 5)

Web 2.0

(Continued from page 4)

bination of two or three of these programs to satisfy their communication needs. That means computer geeks everywhere are giddy and tapping away in a race to create that magnificent catch-all program that will let members of several of these communities bundle all their communities into one.

In the meantime, browse around and consider joining in on the fun. Join social networks that center around an industry you work in or are looking to break into, share files with project collaborators, share useful bookmarks with fellow translators or interpreters, or research slang and lingo by talking directly to primary users.

What are you waiting for? Jump on the Web 2.0 platform!

.....
Laura Tamayo is a translator, writer and regular contributor to the MITA Reader.

Mini Cyber-Glossary

AIM:	AOL Instant Messaging
blog:	a web log or online journal; to write a blog
chat:	conversation in real time; to type a conversation back and forth in real time
chatroom:	text conferencing system in which several people type a conversation back and forth in real time
folksonomy:	collaborative categorizing using tags
forum:	a discussion board on the Internet that centers around a specific topic
Gtalk:	Google talk, a chat system
IM:	instant message; to send an instant message
PM:	private message; to send a private message
social network:	a community
tag:	a relevant term assigned to a piece of information
texting:	sending messages to cell phones from another cell phone or over the Internet from a computer
the Web:	a bunch of documents linked to one another
video chat:	holding a conversation using video cameras and microphones
vlog:	a video web log or online video journal; to video record an online journal
Web 2.0:	web-based communities and hosted services that aim to facilitate collaboration between users
wiki:	collaborative website built by everyone with access