

INTERSTENO Newsletter 57



April 2013

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From the President's desk

The “reporting” part of my journey to Argentina starts with a visit to the Senado. Jorge Bravo, chief of the Reporting Service, is waiting for me on the door. I met him in the '80 when we were both “young” stenographers, at one of the Intersteno Congress. Ever since, due to his passion for the Italian language and to our common view of the profession we have shared ideas, plans and visions. Every time I visit Buenos Aires I like to visit him and the staff of the Senate.

He introduces me to the young reporters at work in the office. A group of motivated professionals is operating regardless of the three different technologies being used to capture the speeches - shorthand or two alternative stenotype systems. In addition, there is the possibility of testing other methods, such as speech recognition. They are aware of what is in reality the main content of their task, which does not depend on the “taking” device but on the features of the final product, the “Diario de Sesiones”, the official bulletin of the Parliamentary sittings. The introductory, long speech of Presidenta Cristina (3 ½ hours) on the occasion of the opening of the legislature keeps them busy for the whole day but at last is published on time on the Senate website.

The informal dinner - thanks again for the kind invitation to the tasty “parrilla” meat - becomes a forum for debating the future of reporting and for exchanging expertise and proposals. Jorge and his colleagues want once more to be active partners of Intersteno, by means of the AATP (Argentinean Association of Parliamentary Reporters), which is the leading and most advanced engine of South American connections among hundreds of stenographers operating in the states or local Parliaments. There are pending projects which can be enhanced immediately. These include, firstly, the printing of a bulletin, thanks to the financial support of Intersteno (decided recently) will help to spread information all over the continent and will be a tool for contact with stenographers and associations; participation in the Intersteno Internet Keyboard Competition to be increased as far as it is possible; a rare books collection (see below) which will be linked to catalogues of other libraries dedicated to shorthand.

The visit to the Senado culminates with a surprise: I follow Jorge Bravo and Sergio Salinas through hidden passages and I find myself in a room surrounded by wooden cases filled with old books and, in front, a group of welcoming ladies dressed with doctor-like white coats and wearing plastic gloves. I am seated at a desk where I can handle the ancient collection of Pallant. There are hundreds of books and magazines dedicated to shorthand, from countries all over the world, collected by the former Senate stenographer, Pallant. (He passed away in the '60s). It is a gold mine of information and the history of the evolution of our techniques. Like a child with a new toy I go through fragile pages with pictures, names and reports. The personnel of the Library explains me the origin of the collection and the content of a 10-minute presentation video which can be shown at next Intersteno Congress. Among the books we find the reports of the first Intersteno Congress, telling of our own foundation steps. All Intersteno members will be able to know more about this unique collection in next July when my friend Jorge Bravo will be addressing the audience at the conferences programmed for the Ghent Congress.

The journey continue to Córdoba, the second main city of Argentine. There Victor Hugo Gonzalez, stenographer at the Parliament of the Córdoba State (Legislatura de la Provincia de Córdoba), introduces me to the Vice Governor, Alicia Prego, and to the Provisional President, Carlos Alesandri. It is a friendly conversation: they explain how parliamentary institutions held shorthand reporters in the highest regard, stress the role of modern reporting and announce

their intention of making possible the participation of local stenographers in the Intersteno Congress in order to widen the knowledge and participate in the future of our profession.

Returning to our dates, you can read updated information on the preparation of the Congress in Ghent. Registrations are increasing, the conference programmes are finalised (read about this in the following pages...) and the Jury is working hard, translating texts, counting syllables and characters, to ensure fair contests for all. I hope you are testing your skills and are ready with your equipment for the great day!

Let me draw your attention to the new Audio Transcription competition. It is a testing competition, but already many people have shown interest: we expect that this new competition will be a great success. Audio transcription nowadays is (and will be in a larger way in the future) the “normal” way of reporting in Parliaments and other professional activities. By introducing this contest Intersteno wants to keep pace with the most advanced development of reporting techniques and involve as many people as it is possible, with competitors being able to demonstrate the abilities they apply in their daily work.

Happy reading,

Fausto Ramondelli







Towards the Intersteno Congress: a long way to go (and a short time to get there)

As the 2013 Intersteno Congress approaches a wide range of exciting organizational issues are being managed and the programmes of both the plenary conference and satellite seminars have just been published on the official website.

On top of this an amazing series of competitions - from text production to text correction, from professional word processing to speech capturing, including real-time capturing - is being prepared. This promises to be a top-quality congress with high-profile speakers and experts from whole Europe and - one must say - from the entire world.

New topics are being covered by the next Congress, including audio description and new reporting techniques, which makes it a perfect recipe not only for a pleasant stay in one of the nicest places globally, but for updating skills and competencies, discovering new business opportunities, extending professional networks and getting in touch with professionals from other countries.

Frankly speaking, I cannot see any better opportunity to meet - in a single venue - such a variety of experiences, ideas, abilities, applications and networks, from the IPRS to the new-born ESTTR (European Speech-To-Text Reporters) group, to mention a few. It seems like a very ambitious program, and it is. And therefore - as Fausto Ramondelli rightly put it in the last newsletter - the very success of Intersteno will also depend on the extent to which communication will be effective and well-tailored, as “image” is a “major factor influencing our capability to contact people and associations around the world”.

For this reason, during the coming month, this short (and long) way to the Intersteno Congress will see strong efforts being made to promote the image of Intersteno and its activities as a whole. Since I am in charge of coordinating these efforts to boost and reinforce the image of Intersteno on a global scale, I hereby wish to extend my warmest thanks to the whole group and share some basic thoughts concerning the type of activities we will be carrying out in the next few weeks and, hopefully, for much longer. The overarching goal involving short and medium term actions will be to increase the number of individuals and groups affiliated to Intersteno, as well as raising awareness both within and outside Intersteno with regard to the activities of the group.

Many schools, associations, profit and non-profit groups, companies and professionals are being contacted to be informed of the activities of Intersteno with a view to contributing to make it THE place to be for advocating for reporting, speech and text processing. On the competition side, schools and individuals are being encouraged to take part and join Intersteno in order to enter a global network of professionals - and professional opportunities - worldwide.

With regard to new technologies and trends, much effort will be put into the creation of a consistent group of speech-to-text reporters. The new-born ESSTR group is consolidating around the idea of a “formal” group, with many members potentially coming to Ghent, not only to attend conferences but rather actively and effectively to contribute to make it accessible to the widest audience, including those with a hearing impairment. The same group is also gathering experts and professionals who work in the field of speech-to-text reporting but use a variety of different techniques, from hand-typing to velo-typing and speech recognition - which makes it a great occasion for discovering, testing, comparing and updating skills and competencies, as well as creating a solid network of professionals affiliated to Intersteno.

In addition to this, everyone is invited to join and follow the Intersteno official FB page. There you will find updated information concerning the Ghent congress, as well as some of the latest news about info and communication processing. Everybody should feel free to post and share ideas and thoughts on that page, as well as to suggest and stimulate new topics to discuss.

Intense (social) networking is aimed at reinforcing the identity of Intersteno as a group and to definitively establish it as a unique reference for all speech and communication-related professionals globally. In this sense, national press and authorities will be also constantly involved at different level and stages as we move towards Ghent so as to strengthen the image of the group on the institutional level as well.

Those of you who might be interested in cooperating, suggesting, writing, listing and posting are kindly asked to share ideas with me and the Intersteno board.

Without doubt, "Spread the word" should really be our motto for the coming weeks!

Saveria Arma

Professional respeaker and interpreter, speech-to-text reporter and real-time subtitler for the hearing-impaired. She is the founder of CulturAbile - the first Italian association operating in the field of sensory impairments (blindness and deafness) through the use of subtitling, respeaking and audio description. She has presented extensively on real-time reporting, audio description and respeaking. She manages a wide range of accessibility and communication-related projects.

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Latest news on Ghent 2013



In about 100 days the **49th INTERSTENO congress** will start in **Ghent**. It is time so subscribe at www.intersteno2013.org > **Register now**, since registrations end at 15th of May 2013. Do it right now and be one of the more than 400 expected participants!

At this moment already more than 100 persons from Europe, USA, Africa and Asia registered.

Low budget sleeping accommodation

Explore the information at the **Hotel accommodation in Ghent** menu to find the offered **low budget** sleeping accommodation in Ghent. Don't hesitate to contact the organization committee at rooms@intersteno2013.org.

QR-code and congress card

By registering to the congress a personal QR-code is generated.



This QR-code and a bar code will be printed on the congress badge and can be used as entrance control to the several congress events.

Smart phone and tablet users can use this code to access their personal data with their smart phone or tablet, inclusive competition results, when published. You only need to enter your password, sent by e-mail at the registration.

You should always wear your badge during all congress events!

General conferences and IPRS meetings



As was reported in the previous issue of our e-news, a few days ago Dr. Carlo Eugeni, chairman of the Presentations Committee, released the final programme of the general conferences and of the IPRS meeting, after approval by the Board. Please find it here. Interpretation in German will be available at the conference and, hopefully, real-time subtitling.

The keynote speaker of the general conference will be **Prof. Yves Gambier** (University of Turku - Finland). He will open the conference with a speech on Readability and Accessibility - Challenges in processing and disseminating information today.

Prof. Gambier is a well-known linguist. He has produced more than 180 publications in socio-terminology and special discourse since 1976. He was and is coordinator of different research translation projects. His speech will surely be of interest for everybody. This is another reason to attend our Congress!

IPRS-meeting - Sunday 14th July 2013 - 10.00-12.30 h

Chair: Rian Schwarz-van Poppel

Time	Speaker	Subject
10.00-10.30	Randel Raison (<i>USA</i>)	The State of Electronic Reporting in the United States
10.30-11.00	Lorraine Sutherland (<i>UK</i>)	From black art to black gown -- a postgraduate diploma in parliamentary reporting
11.00-11.30	Eero Voutilainen (speaker); (<i>Finland</i>) Maarit Peltola, Teuvo Rätty & Niklas Varisto (co-authors)	Rules of reporting: the principles of representing spoken discourse in the Records Office of the Finnish parliament
11.30-12.30	workshop about the previous topic	

IPRS-meeting - Monday 15th of July 2013 - 16.00-18.30 h

Chair: Rian Schwarz-van Poppel

Time	Speaker	Subject
16.00-16.30	Ayse Yedekci (<i>Turkey</i>)	The limits of the applicability of new technologies to parliamentary reporting services: the case of Turkish Parliament
16.30-17.30	Dominick M. Tursi (<i>USA</i>)	Evolution of shorthand machines
17.30-18.00	Zoi Resta (<i>Greece</i>)	The role of interpreters in communication
18.00-18.30	Herbert Houdijk and Matthijs Bakker (<i>The Netherlands</i>)	VLOS vs 2.0, the next level in reporting

General conferences - Tuesday 16th of July 2013 - 09.00-17.30 h

Chair: Dr. Carlo Eugeni

Time	Speaker	Subject
09.00-09.15		Opening address by local groups and Intersteno authorities
09.15-10.15	Prof. Y. Gambier (<i>Finland</i>)	Keynote -Readability and accessibility - challenges in processing and disseminating information today
10.15-10.45	Coffee break	
10.45-11.00		Report on IPRS meetings
11.00-13.00	First session - social inclusion Saveria Arma (<i>Italy</i>) Joel Snyder (<i>USA</i>) Channagiri N.Ajit (<i>India</i>) Tatsuya Kawahara (<i>Japan</i>)	Accessibility: new frontiers in reporting Audio Description: The Visual Made Verbal Computer Mediation of Communication and its impact on Society Subtitling lecture videos with automatic speech recognition
13.00-14.30	Lunch	
14.30-15.00	Jorge Bravo(<i>Argentina</i>)	Collecting the past to face the future: the present of the Argentinian Congress library.
15.00-17.00	Second session - training and practice Alessandro Tescari (<i>Italy</i>) Kyoko Arai (<i>Japan</i>) Katalin Hajdicsné Varga (<i>Hungary</i>) Laura Batani (<i>Italy</i>)	Facing tsunami bureaucracy. How to paste voice into a pdf file and sign it forever. Effective Tsunami Alerts from the Pragmatic Perspectives Teaching touch-typing to young and adult learners with the help of software programs Helping primary school students to face the keyboarding tsunami.
17.00-17.30	Closing remarks	

Web session to be accessed before the day of the conference

- prof. Waldir Cury (Brazil): The issue as to shorthand speed
- L.Jan den Holder (the Netherlands): Summary reporting contributes to confronting the “information tsunami”
- Fabrizio Gaetano Verruso (co-authors) Anna Maria Trombetti - Attilio Galimberti (Italy): Teaching shorthand on the web: An Italian example.

Better than on Facebook: get-together events on Tuesday 15th July

Real social networking will be the result of these two events included in the programme of our Congress:

14.00-18.00	Youth event (up to 26 years)
19.30	Thank you evening for all congress participants
21.00	Party time in the Ghent student area for all who feel young

What will happen during these events is a well-kept secret, but there is no excuse for missing them. Moreover, they are free of charge for registered participants.



Registration for Audio-transcription trial competition

This competition will take place on Sunday 14th July at 14.00 h.

As announced, participation in this competition must be handled via the national groups. A registration form [is available at this link](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/viewform?formkey=dHN3dDZkTGMzMGpPaW1SNzEzU3FXQXc6MA#gid=0).

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/viewform?formkey=dHN3dDZkTGMzMGpPaW1SNzEzU3FXQXc6MA#gid=0>

As for all other competitions, registration must be made by 15h May next. After that date no additional registration will be accepted.

15th May - last registration day for competitors in Ghent

For obvious organizational reasons this date is the last available for registering as competitors at the Ghent Congress.

After that day, one can register only at the Congress, with a higher fee.

Please keep in mind this important information, already released in our enews 55 of December last and register early at www.intersteno2013.org.

Invitation from Mr. Jim Kuday - NCRA Ceo

Jim Cudahy, NCRA Executive Director, devoted a full page in the recent Journal of Court Reporting (February 2013) to the promotion of Intersteno and the upcoming Congress in Ghent.

We warmly thank Mr. Cudahy for motivating NCRA members to attend our meeting and competitions and to improve networking with reporters all over the world.

You can read the article at the following link

<http://mydigimag.rrd.com/publication/?i=144887&p=11>.

Internet2013 - registration deadline 7th April!

As already announced, we are approaching the beginning of this competition, which will last from 8th April until 5th May next.

We know that registrations will arrive towards the closing date, but we cordially invite participants and countries to remember this deadline.

Competitors using steno machine of any kind will be listed in the classification list with the indication SM (steno machine).

Unesco Mobile Learning Week 2013



UNESCO held the Second UNESCO Mobile Learning Week (MLW) from 18th to 22nd February 2013 at its headquarters in Paris, France.

The event aimed to explore mobile learning as a unique and significant contribution to achieving the Education for All (EFA) goals of increasing education access, quality and equality. MLW 2013 will be focused on three particular EFA goals as they relate to mobile learning:

- Improving levels of adult and youth literacy: how mobile technologies can support literacy development and increase reading opportunities
- Improving the quality of education: how mobile technologies can support teachers and their professional development
- Achieving gender parity and equality in education: how mobile technologies can support equal access to and achievement in basic education of good quality for all, in particular for women and girls

This important meeting included the following events:

- Symposium on Mobile Learning.
 - Senior Policy Makers' Forum (invitation only).
 - MLW Webinar (open)
- The Webinar allowed people outside Paris to discuss topics related to mobile learning. It was moderated by leading thinkers in the field of ICT in education. Selected mobile experts presented their projects and answered real time questions from online participants.

A lot of useful information, texts of lectures and comments are available at <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/unesco/themes/icts/m4ed/unesco-mobile-learning-week/>. A very useful and profitable reading!

News from countries

F Keyboard? - QWERTY keyboard? A symposium in Ankara (Turkey)



"F Keyboard? - QWERTY keyboard? " This was the theme of a seminar on March 14th attended by a curious and capacity audience made up primarily of young people.

The meeting was held at the Adult Education Centre and Evening Art School Days of Kankaya, which is a central metropolitan district of the city of Ankara, and was organized with the cooperation of the Turkish group of Intersteno. Several members of this group can be recognized in the photo. Unfortunately Mr Ihsan Yener could not be present due to health problems, as well as Mr. Seçkin Köse for work reasons.

Recep Ertaş presented the history of the keyboard. The last part of his speech was transferred to the screen via typing in real-time by Emrah Kuyumcu. This proved that the use of the finger without looking at the keyboard can lead to high speed. This demonstration was followed with astonishment and praised with great applause.

It is to be recalled that need of a national keyboard for Turkish was indicated by Mr Yener in his first speech at the Intersteno Congress in 1955 and constantly pushed with manufacturers and state authorities.

Now the F keyboard is a reality and you can see its layout below.

Keyboard Layout: Turkish F - Türk F Klavyesi

+ ~	!	" 2	^ #	\$ ¼	% ½	& ¾	' {	([)]	= }	? \	-	< -
TAB	F @	G	Ğ	I İ	O	D Ƨ	R	N	H ø	P £	Q "	W ~	
CAPS	U æ	İ ş	E €	A	Ü ü	T	K	M	L	Y	Ş	X '	
SHIFT	>	J «	Ö »	V Ƨ	C	Ç	Z	S µ	B x	: ÷	; ,	SHIFT	
STRG		ALT								ALT GR		STRG	



Ms Sevilay Gündoğdu of the Intersteno-Turkish group presented a general description of Intersteno and Intersteno-Turk. The audience watched with interest and the younger generation greatly appreciated that part of her speech which mentioned the "Turkish Internet Championships" and the "World Internet Championships" which will take place in Ghent this year.

A further project foresees that tablet computers will be distributed to students. Emrah Kuyumcu spoke on the subject of "Tablet PCs and the F Keyboard", making reference to the use without looking at the keys.

Tufan Bekmez spoke about 'Computers and the use of Internet' and finished his speech by saying: "Give a gift to yourself that you can use for life. Learn touch typing On Keyboard F"...

The Intersteno-Turkish group took part in this seminar and is convinced that the promotion and dissemination of the topics discussed, especially in schools and other educational and public organizations, will lead to a better image of Turkey at a world-wide level.

Events

Global Centre for ICT in Parliament

This organisation, with which we have common interests, publishes a calendar of events in its website <http://www.ictparliament.org/>.

This calendar shows our Congress in Ghent, which is also announced in the upcoming events appearing at the top of the first page of this site.

Many thanks to the Global Centre for this publicity!



eLearning Africa 8th Conference

The 8th eLearning Africa conference will be held from May 29th to 31st at the Safari Conference Centre, Windhoek, Namibia. The key networking event for developing eLearning capacities in Africa, eLearning Africa 2013 will be hosted by Namibia's Ministry of Education in conjunction with the Ministry of ICT.

Tradition, change and innovation

eLearning Africa's innovative conference programme brings together over 300 speakers and chairpersons from 50 countries. Highlights include pre-conference workshops, plenary sessions featuring internationally acknowledged eLearning experts, networking opportunities and a wide variety of session formats.

Under the overall theme of tradition, change and innovation, eLearning Africa 2013 will examine the experiences, projects, investments, policies, partnerships and research that are shaping the continent's learning landscape.

New technologies combined with a pioneering spirit to improve lives are already changing the way we learn, work, and play. How are African youth shaping their identities and navigating different learning spaces with these technologies? How are universities, governments and the private sector working together to grow a culture of innovation on the Continent? Are new technologies fundamentally disruptive to tradition or do they open up space for the digitisation of tradition?



The Global Business School Network invites you to join it for the 2013 Annual Conference and 10th Anniversary Celebration in Tunis, Tunisia, June 10th - 12th .



The organizers of this event are working with the conference co-hosts, the Mediterranean School of Business (Tunisia) and Babson College (USA) to provide not just networking and learning opportunities, but to generate new ideas to address the growing issue of youth unemployment in the developing world.

Filled with engaging conversations, round table discussions and "Challenge Sessions," plus a full day looking closely at Tunisia and the MENA region, this year's conference will energize, enlighten and inspire the participants.

Visit its website at <http://www.gbsnonline.org/page/gbsn2013/>

What's new

Populaire film now available on DVD

The French film 'Populaire' attracted a great deal of attention and interest, especially among young girls and boys who saw it.

It tells the story of a typist who wins the world-wide championships. Thanks to Intersteno support the championship dreams of many young people have become a reality.

Unfortunately the majority of our readers have not had the opportunity to see it. However, the film will soon be available on DVD and can be purchased on the Internet.



Many thanks to Peter Walker for the revision of this text

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Please use news@intersteno.org for any additional comments as well as names of persons and entities interested in receiving this message. If you do not want to receive this letter, please send an email stating only UNSUBSCRIBE in the object of the message.

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INTERSTENO

International Federation for Information and Communication Processing
Internationale Föderation für Informations- und Kommunikationsverarbeitung
Fédération internationale pour le traitement de l'information et de la communication
