## International Federation for information and communication processing

# **INTERSTENO** Newsletter 62









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## From the President's desk





At the end of the Board meeting I took a walk along the Danube riverside, past the "Whale" - a beautiful modern building in glass and wood near to where the Corvinus University stands, protected by the Liberty Bridge - and then through the colourful restaurants of the tourist-thronged Vaci Utca, saying goodbye to some Hungarian friends and to Budapest. It is in these attractive surroundings that the 50th Intersteno Congress will take place in July 2015.

The Board meeting has only recently ended and we are already thinking about the next steps to be taken. A new Intersteno account has been launched on Twitter (follow us!) and the www.intersteno2015.org page will soon be fed with useful information.

The new organization formula starts on the occasion of our "Jubilee" Congress. It is not a mere coincidence that these events are taking place together: we are grown-up enough to be able to face this challenge with awareness and courage. It will be one of the numerous achievements by which we celebrate another meaningful passage of Intersteno history. Board members share the enthusiasm as well as the responsibility for a project that implies huge efforts and cooperation. To mark this event I invite you to think of a few words (no more than 10) describing the cause, the history or the idea of Intersteno, at this stage of its life and submit them to us: write to myintersteno@intersteno.org.



The agreement with Corvinus University, that will provide the venue, is well defined and will be signed in a few weeks: it is a vast and beautiful building in the very heart of Budapest center, on the Pest side of the Danube. The competition rooms, the corridors and the halls are clean, large and well equipped.

An "Organization Committee" and a "Task Force" have been formed. The Hungarian National Group is willing to cooperate and to give the 50th Intersteno Congress the necessary touch of local taste. Maria Jacobs-Bene and Ágnes Oroszlán (Contact Tours) will assist us with suggestions and hints, as they have already done so far.

For the 50th Congress we are thinking of a special celebration, with gifts and surprises. We intend to attract as many young friends as possible. To encourage them we plan to reduce the registration fee. The Congress entrance form will be put online soon after the Council meeting confirmed for October 2014. You will find information on the congress website (www.intersteno2015.org) which will be constantly updated now on.

A "Call for papers" will be launched too, with the intention of organizing the Congress's conferences in good time. The Board has focused on a few main topics These are: 1) What we mean nowadays when we speak of "documents" and how the changes in information and communication distribution via the internet affect reporting and related professions; 2) How special software and other IT resources at our disposal can help us to better understand the relationship between language and writing; 3) How Intersteno can contribute to the definition of professional competences in the ongoing upgrade of services provided for institutions and customers.

The new tasks implied in the decision of directly organizing the Intersteno Congress require a new working method too. Not only must we be on time in providing the best performance, we also need to anticipate decisions on future challenges as efficiently as other associations like ours do. In this regard, we should not forget that some friends of Intersteno in Berlin have already done preliminary work, when this seemed to be our destination for 2015. Consequently, the Board has agreed that that option remains a privileged one on which we can count.

But the Board meeting in Budapest also dealt with many other duties of the Federation.

As the meeting date for the Council and IPRS is approaching, we decided to launch a pre-registration (see www.intersteno.org; deadline is April 15th!) in order to collect information on the number of participants. Given the many attractions of Shanghai and the generous hospitality announced and confirmed by the Chinese National Group we expect that a high number of friends will register.

The Board also agreed upon two projects presented by the Italian National Group: one is designed to begin the proceedings for having shorthand recognized as a UNESCO Masterpiece; the second is intended to spread knowledge about different writing/expression tools (shorthand, keyboarding, sign language, Braille code, NATO's alphabet) to children aged 8 to 13.



To encourage the presentation of other projects the Board decided to postpone to May 15th the deadline (originally fixed at 31st March).

We discussed some ideas for upgrading the competition rules, taking into account the changes occurring in professions and competences. In general, we think that Intersteno must organize fair and high-level competitions to attract motivated students and professionals. As quantity is sometimes the enemy of quality and since the Jury leaders and helpers are limited in number, the Board suggested that the Jury should evaluate proposals for simplifying or modifying proceedings and rules.



Board members, Jury leaders, the Scientific and the Education Committees are daily working very hard for the benefit of our Federation and for the future of our community and professions. As President I want to thank each one for the time they devote to this cause. And I want to encourage you, readers and friends of Intersteno, to contribute with your own efforts. The extra task we have decided to pursue - the direct organization of the Congress - is absorbing much of our energies: we need your help, the help of country groups (especially the larger ones), your support, your advice, your ideas.

Reaching the historic occasion of the 50th Congress, carrying ahead the Intersteno "ideal" for nearly 130 years of age has not been easy and smooth: it has been possible only because of the work and the beliefs of many people who love their profession and who have constantly improved their skills and knowledge, just as you do.

Happy reading!

Fausto Ramondelli

### Board meeting in Budapest 28 - 30 March 2014



Corvinus University Budapest. From left to right: Maria Jacobs-Bene, Georgette Sante, Fausto Ramondelli, Danny Devriendt, Gian-Paolo Trivulzio, Aliz Czuczor, Anita Dobos, Anna Zubály-Jakab, Ágnes Oroszlán and Rian Schwarz-van Poppel.

## Council and IPRS meetings 22-24 October 2014 in Shanghai - preregistration is needed within 15th April

Following the proposal presented in Ghent by Mr. Tang Keliang, our Chinese friends have confirmed that they will host our next Council and IPRS meeting in Shanghai. Here is the tentative programme of the meetings, updates will be released as soon as available.

For attending this meeting, a preregistration is needed, you can fill in the form at the first page of **www.intersteno.org**. No payment is now needed.

#### Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2014

09.00 h	Board meeting	Board
12.30-14.30 h	Jury meeting	Jury
12.00-14.30 h	IPRS meeting 1	IPRS
15.00-15.40 h	Opening ceremony	All
15.50 h	Group photo	All
16.30-19.30 h	Council meeting 1	Council
20.30 h	Welcome dinner	All

#### Thursday 23rd October 2014

09.00 - 12.00 h	Council meeting 2	Council
09.00 - 12.00 h	IPRS meeting 2	IPRS
12.00 - 13.00 h	Lunch	All
14.00 - 16.00 h	Viewing competitions & Visiting school	All
16.00 - 19.00 h	IPRS meeting 3	IPRS
20.30 h	Dinner	All

#### Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2014

09.00 - 12.00 h	Council meeting 3	Council
12.00 - 13.00 h	Lunch	All
14.30 h	Tourism	All
19.00 h	Farewell dinner	All

## 31st March 2014 - The start of keyboarding event has begun with over 1500 competitors



2014 Intersteno Keyboarding Contest NCRA is proud to support the 2014 Intersteno Keyboarding Championship. In this 12th edition of the contest, Intersteno hosts their online keyboarding championship with competitors from all over the world. Visit Intersteno.org to learn more about this

The 12th edition of this well-known competition has begun: over 1700 competitors are attended.

21 nations are participating, for the first time also Japan, and thanks to an intensive promotion plan by NCRA this year a group of 14 USA competitors will be with their colleagues.

Results will be progressively shown on www.intersteno.org - Internet contest -Classification lists: here you can also find the results of all previous competitions, thus giving the opportunity to compare and evaluate the performance of the top writers.

If you would like to show all results of your national competitors on your website we will be happy to send you the necessary codes. Please send a request to **internet@intersteno.org**.

## Intersteno Call for projects - deadline prolonged to 15th May 2014

Proposals for these projects were submitted by two countries. Many thanks to them.

The Board will evaluate the proposals and results will be released in our next e-news issue.

Conditions for submission are included in our previous release: we recall herewith the main ones.

The financing payment will be made by Intersteno to the official delegate of the



Member after or, exceptionally, even during the ongoing activity upon verification by the Board of the attained results.

The projects must envisage an international target or context and operate in the following areas:

Research and Studies

- Education
- Seminars and Meeting on relevant matter for Intersteno
- Information on Intersteno activities

Projects should contain the following compulsory information:

- Name and presentation of the most recent activities of the Member(s) proposing the candidate project
- Target group at whom the action is projected
- Description of the reasons why Intersteno should consider the project of general interest
- Description of the projected activities, with a clear explanation of time, resources and organization of people and tools needed for achieving them
- Expected budget of the project and expenses that will be borne by the Member

## The Intersteno Scientific Committee activities

Two of the aims of the Intersteno Scientific Committee are the creation of an International Digital Library on Stenography (or shorthand) and the recognition of shorthand as a UNESCO intangible masterpiece.

Jorge Bravo, who proposed the former idea in Ghent and is the director of the Argentine digital library on shorthand is in charge of carrying on the project. Sergio Salinas will care of the necessary organisational aspects and dr. Carlo Eugeni is scheduling and supervising all steps.



Former Intersteno President Gian Paolo Trivulzio, who managed to collect contributions from various sources such as directors of libraries and

owners of books on shorthand, has already taken the first step. These included Peter Walker (GB), Waldir Cury (BR), Boris Neubauer (DE), Carlo Rodriguez (I), Tsuguo Kaneko (J) and Jan den Holder (NL).

Now in progress is the work of the drafting by Sergio Salinas of a unique reasoned classification of every single book or review in the list, regardless of the country tradition. Once the list of entries is finalised it will be immediately sent to all those who are involved in the project for approval. They will be asked to complete and return an Excel list of the books (and entries) they have or are responsible for in their library. This phase should not go over June 2014.

After that, Jorge Bravo and Sergio Salinas will provide instructions to every single scientific coordinator regarding the digitisation of their shorthand books. Then every scientific coordinator is free to start or continue digitising their shorthand books.

In the meanwhile a platform will be created to host the International Digital Library on Shorthand and an agreement between the director of the library (to be appointed) and the single scientific coordinator will be mutually signed so as to allow the library to offer the possibility to anyone in the world (for the moment every single scientific coordinator and their visitors) to virtually consult all books in the world on shorthand by simply accessing the library online. Before the digitised books are available online, the chairman of the Intersteno Scientific Committee will ask for the scientific status of the library. In addition to the appointment of the library director, the name of the library is also yet to be chosen. Here the expression "International Digital Library on Stenography" or IDLoS is proposed. However contributions are more than welcome at the email address of the Chairman of the Scientific Committee (carloeugeni@gmail.com, object: Intersteno IDLoS)



As for the recognition of shorthand as a UNESCO intangible masterpiece the Italian delegation of the Intersteno, together with other state partners that will be identified in a later stage, will ask <u>the national UNESCO commission</u> to inscribe shorthand in the representative list of world masterpieces of humanity. The Scientific Committee chairman and the Intersteno President have already taken the first steps. In particular, the necessary form has already been partly completed.

However, before sending it to the Paris offices, it is necessary for Intersteno to go through various phases. Chronologically, the first (unofficial) phase is that of organising a public event that will raise public interest in shorthand. The organisational machine coordinated by the Chairman of the Scientific Committee is already in progress. An event in Rome will be organised in conjunction with the Italian Academy of information and communication "Giuseppe Aliprandi - Flaviano Rodriguez", the Italian Cultural Institute "Dante Alighieri", the Italian Ministry of Culture and Tourism, the Italian archives, the Italian Senate and other institutional bodies. The aim of the event is to raise awareness of shorthand in order for the submission to have the widest possible consensus among the entities that will be called upon to decide on its recognition as a national masterpiece. The Scientific Committee will provide information on this event and request help from the Intersteno Board.

The event is scheduled to be organised in June 2014. However some details need to be solved. All those international experts on shorthand that are interested in actively contributing to the conference are kindly invited to contact the Chairman of the Scientific Committee (carloeugeni@gmail.com, object: Rome

conference of the Intersteno) so as to demonstrate the international scale of stenography.

Once shorthand is recognised as a national masterpiece the door will be open to taking the official steps that will be communicated in the next enews. The final decision by the UNESCO Secretary General will be taken by June 2016, which will also be the first day of the recognition of shorthand as a world intangible UNESCO masterpiece.

All Intersteno members will be continuously updated on the process of the recognition of shorthand as a world intangible masterpiece by the Scientific Committee succeeding issues of enews.

#### Carlo Eugeni

## Some Notes on Note Taking - Ink on Paper versus Keyboarding. The pen is mightier than the keyboard?

The following text is the **report available on Internet**, published on the web site of the Association of Psychological Science in January 2014 by Wray Herbert.

Wray Herbert has been writing about psychology and behavioral science for many years. He has been a staff writer and editor for Science News, Psychology Today, US News & World Report, and Newsweek. He is currently a contributor to Huffington Post and Scientific American Mind. His work has also appeared in the New York Times Sunday Magazine, the Washington Post, and many other national publications

In this article he refers about an investigation done by two researchers: the results of their work will be available in the next months:

Mueller, P. A., & Oppenheimer, D. M. (in press). The pen is mightier than the keyboard: Advantages of longhand over laptop note-taking. Psychological Science

I am confident that several of our readers, especially Scientific and Education Committee members, would like to comment also, with reference to the Intersteno experiences which are a valid database for sound investigations and researches. A provocative question: "What about an improvement of our summary reporting competition, in which competitors only take down notes by hearing the dictation, without recording the whole text?"

### Gian Paolo Trivulzio

#### Ink on Paper: Some Notes on Note Taking\* (Wray Herbert)

I went to college long before the era of laptops, so I learned to take notes the old-fashioned way: ink on paper. But that does not mean my note-taking system was simple. Indeed it was an intricate hieroglyphic language, in which asterisks



and underscoring and check marks and exclamation points all had precise meaning, if only to me.

It's a lost art. Many college students have some kind of electronic note-taking device nowadays, and most will swear by them. And really, only a Luddite would cling to pen and notebook in the 21st century. Typing is faster than longhand, producing more legible and more thorough notes for study later on.

But has anyone actually compared the two? Is it possible that laptops somehow impair learning—or conversely, that pen and paper convey some subtle advantage in the classroom? Two psychological scientists, Pam Mueller of Princeton and Daniel Oppenheimer of UCLA, wondered if laptops, despite their plusses, might lead to a shallower kind of cognitive processing, and to lower quality learning. They decided to test the old and the new in a head-to-head contest.

Of course, students could develop an elaborate hieroglyphic system using a laptop. Keyboards have asterisks and exclamation points and so forth. They could also go beyond mere verbatim transcription, summarizing and paraphrasing. These are the strategies that in theory lead to deep processing and firmly encode new material in memory. But do typists do this, or do they just type as fast as they can? That is one of the questions that Mueller and Oppenheimer wanted to explore in a real-world setting.

They ran a few experiments, all basically the same. In the first one, for example, college students were assigned to classrooms, some of which were equipped with laptops and others with traditional notebooks. They all listened to the same lectures, and they were specifically instructed to use their usual note-taking strategy. Then, about half an hour after the lecture, all of the students were tested on the material covered in the lecture. Importantly, they were tested both for factual recall (How many years ago did the Indus civilization exist?) and for conceptual learning (How do Japan and Sweden differ in their approaches to social equality?).

This experiment provided preliminary evidence that laptops might be harmful to academic performance. The students using laptops were in fact more likely to take copious notes, which can be beneficial to learning. But they were also more likely to take verbatim notes, and this "mindless transcription" appeared to cancel out the benefits. Both groups memorized about the same number of facts from the lectures, but the laptop users did much worse when tested on ideas.

At least right away. Remember that they were tested half an hour after the lecture, without opportunity for review. But what if these students did what students commonly do—leave the lecture, go back to the dorm, go about their lives, and at some point in time pull out their notes to study for an exam? Would having more thorough, transcribed notes prove an advantage in this more natural setting?

The scientists tried to simulate this in another experiment. As before, some of the students took notes with a laptop, others with pen and notebook, as they listened to talks on various topics. They knew in advance that the exam would take place in a week, and that they would have a chance to study beforehand. As before, the test covered simple facts as well as concepts, inferences and applications of the material.

The findings, which Mueller and Oppenheimer describe in a forthcoming issue of the journal Psychological Science, were a bit surprising. Those who took notes in longhand, and were able to study, did significantly better than any of the other students in the experiment—better even than the fleet typists who had basically transcribed the lectures. That is, they took fewer notes overall with less verbatim recording, but they nevertheless did better on both factual learning and higher-order conceptual learning. Taken together, these results suggest that longhand notes not only lead to higher quality learning in the first place; they are also a superior strategy for storing new learning for later study. Or, quite possibly, these two effects interact for greater academic performance overall. The scientists had one more intriguing finding. At one point, they told some of the laptop users explicitly not to simply transcribe the lectures word-by-word. This intervention failed completely. The laptop users still made verbatim notes, which diminished their learning. Apparently there is something about typing that leads to mindless processing. And there is something about ink and paper that prompts students to go beyond merely hearing and recording new information and instead to process and reframe information in their own words, with or without the aid of asterisks and checks and arrows.

## Keyboarding - today and the future

Some schools in USA discontinue cursive writing instruction; others debate on when to introduce keyboarding skills.

Ricky Ribeiro, who is an American writer, technology enthusiast, social media lover and allaround digital guy, published an article in the online magazine EDTECH-focus on K12.

Here is an excerpt of the content: e-news has drawn attention to this subject in previous issues.

You can read the whole content by clicking on this link. (http://www.edtechmagazine.com/k12/article/2013/10/handwriting-vs-typing-which-skill-do-students-need-most).



It might sound unthinkable, but given the current trajectory of K-12 education, handwriting could take a back seat to typing as technology dominates the way we communicate.

The first blow dealt by technology has been to cursive writing. Earlier this year, teacher supplies retailer Really Good Stuff released a survey that found that "41 percent of elementary school teachers no longer incorporate cursive writing instruction into their curriculum."

While cursive has been the first pillar of student handwriting to fall, it seems likely that print handwriting will take a backseat to typing as well. That's because the **Common Core standards, which 45 states have adopted,** mandate that students take online tests as part of the state's ongoing evaluation of student performance. In fact, according to the standards, students must be proficient in typing by the time they reach the fourth grade.

This has some educators in Louisiana wondering if typing lessons shouldn't begin in kindergarten, according to a report from NOLA.com:

Most high school and college students are expected to type, rather than handwrite, their essays. To ward off disaster, school leaders are contemplating adding keyboarding classes, introducing online assessments in kindergarten and taking students to the computer laboratory for writing class. Since teachers already have jam-packed schedules, if typing is introduced at an earlier age, couldn't the focus on keyboard lessons diminish the role of handwriting overall?

After all, **the prioritisation of print writing versus cursive writing has been partly responsible for the latter's demise**, says Stephen Graham, a professor at Arizona State University and an authority on writing education, in an article in *The Providence Journal*.

The arguments that many educators raise in favour of handwriting education include the ability to read historic documents, such as the Constitution, which are written in cursive. Other reasons are rooted in nostalgia or current conventions that require a written signature – both things that **might lose their relevance by the time today's students reach adulthood**.

Rebecca Silva, a third-grade teacher at Sowams School in Barrington, R.I., expressed such concerns to *The Providence Journal*. She says students will lose that personal touch to their communication if they give up handwriting. Furthermore, won't they need to write cheques?

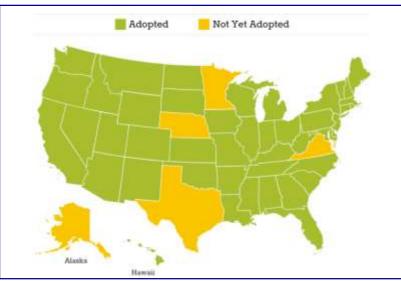
If paper mail is having trouble competing with email, you can bet the same will be true of paper payments versus electronic payments.

In fact, technology is moving at such a rapid pace that **even keyboards themselves are in danger**. A recent Gartner survey said that **tablets will make up half of all first-time computer purchases** by 2017, which means many children may not even use a physical keyboard.

On these topics you can also read these papers

- National Poll Reveals That Cursive Writing Education Is In Danger
- COMMON CORE USA State Standard Initiative

The image below clearly shows how many USA States adopted Common Core standards as at March 2014.



## What's next? Will schools stop teach typing?

The time-honoured skill of typing is still helpful, but it's becoming less necessary. And that raises the question: Does typing have a future?

In high schools and community colleges where keyboarding classes have been a staple for decades, some fear the courses may go the way of cursive writing lessons in elementary schools.

Dallas typing instructor Julie Phillips says predictive keyboards on smartphones and tablet touch screens that guess which words are being typed have taken the skill out of keyboarding. She says fewer students are coming in with keyboarding knowledge.

Mobile technology analysts say keyboards likely won't disappear from computers. But mobile phone-makers say speed is important, and predictive screens decrease the time needed to type – or thumb – each word.

From news on Salon

http://www.salon.com/2013/04/10/will\_typing\_follow\_cursive\_out\_of\_the\_classroom\_ap/

## World wide web - 25th anniversary

March 2014 marks 25 years since Tim Berners-Lee set out his vision of the World Wide Web.

A graduate of Oxford University, Tim Berners-Lee invented the World Wide Web, an internet-based hypermedia initiative for global information sharing while at <u>CERN</u>, the European Particle Physics Laboratory, in 1989. He wrote the first web client and



server in 1990. His specifications of URIs, HTTP and HTML were refined as Web technology spread.

He is the Director of the World Wide Web Consortium (<u>W3C</u>), a Web standards organisation founded in 1994 which develops interoperable technologies (specifications, guidelines, software, and tools) to lead the Web to its full potential. He was a Director of the Web Science Trust (<u>WST</u>) launched in 2009 to promote research and education in Web Science, the multidisciplinary study of humanity connected by technology.

The Web is currently going through a profound change, and the next 25 years are likely to be very different from the last.

In his invention of the Web, one of Berners-Lee's most important achievements was the development of the uniform resource locator (URL). Viewing a web page normally begins by typing a URL into a web browser. The web browser then initiates a series of communication messages behind the scenes in order to fetch and display the page.

Most URLs include a top-level domain name such as .com, .info, .net, or .org. These help the web browser to narrow down the set of servers on which the web page is hosted. Until recently there were only 22 of these generic top-level domains (gTLDs). There was also a separate set of top-level domains reserved for particular countries, but many of these have now become general purpose.

Over the next year more than a thousand new gTLDs will come online. Hundreds of these have already rolled out, from .shabaka (.web in Arabic) to .sexy, .technology and .singles. This has been hailed as one of the biggest changes to the internet since its inception. For companies and brands, this presents an opportunity to establish a new online identity. Some companies have obtained their own TLDs, including tech leaders such as .apple, .google and .microsoft, but also less obvious companies, such as .theguardian, talent agency William Morris Endeavor with .WME, and corporate giants of the Middle East, such as Etisalat, Qatar Telecom and Kuwait Finance House, with their brands in Arabic as well as in English.

### News from countries

#### New Intersteno Argentina website

The Intersteno group of Argentina released its website in January, (www.interstenoargentina.com) - another star in the Intersteno Federation galaxy of websites.



Argentina also has a page on Facebook, which is liked by over 1100 people.



## France - Sad news - Mme Denise Deslogis passed away on January 31st

Ms Denise Deslogis, wife of Mr. Jean Deslogis, passed away suddenly on Friday January 31st.

Denise Deslogis was born on May 31, 1931 and spent her childhood near Boulogne-sur-Mer, and later in Ivry-sur-Seine near Paris. In the early 1950s she studied Stenography in the Deslogis course. Jean Deslogis was her teacher. They married in 1954; had twins (Denis and Geneviève) in 1958 and a grandchild in 1988. On 18 December 2013, they celebrated 59 years of marriage, togetherness and love

For many years Ms Deslogis attended the Intersteno Congresses with her husband and took an active part in the correction works. She was still present in 2011 in Paris. Only her husband's health prevented her from being with us in Ghent 2013; nevertheless she did not forget to send a letter of support.



From left: Mme Denise Deslogis, M. Jean Deslogis and Mme Annie Donnet

## France - 8th March: General Assembly and elections of new Board

During the General Assembly of Intersteno-France on 8th of March 2014, the following people were elected:

- President: Marie-Pierre MAJOUFRE
- Vice-president: Simone BARDOT
- General Secretary: Jean-Charles LE MASSON
- Treasurer: Anne RABOT
- Vice-treasurer: Nicole HERB

Jean DESLOGIS and Jacqueline BERTIN-MAHIEUX were named "honorary members".



In the photo from right: M. Le Masson, Mme Bertin-Mahieux, Mme Majoufre, Mme Rabo

The Netherlands: VSLM keyboarding and audio transcription competition in Nijkerk - April 12th.



On Saturday, April 12th, VSLM, the Dutch Association of Teachers in Secretarial and Administrative subjects, organises a national typewriting competition for young students (min. 150 characters per minute, max 0,5 % of faults).

On the same occasion an audiotranscription competition will take place.

The participants in this last contest, which resembles the formula experienced for the first time in Ghent, have to accurately transcribe as much as is possible of a dictation lasting 10 minutes. The Dutch text is recorded at a speech rate of 800 characters per minute. Participants will each receive a USB flash drive with the MP3 audio recording of the lecture. They type this dictation for themselves at their own pace using a laptop with footswitch and headphones . In addition to a word processing program on the laptop ( eg Word ), a software program is needed for listening to the dictation (for example ExpressScribe which can be downloaded for free from the internet via the following link : http://express-scribe.nl . softonic.com / ).

Faults can be corrected during the competition: accuracy is very important since each mistyped word or character is multiplied by 100 and deducted from the total gross number of characters. The winner is the one with the highest net number of characters.

Participants are free to choose their equipment - laptop with traditional keyboard, Velotype/Veyboard or speech recognition. If speech recognition is chosen use a stenomask (silencer) must be used in order to avoid other participants hear the dictation.

Czech Republic - Keyboarding competition in Zakani Skol - Město Albrechtice - February -2014



Three, two, one, go! - Thus began a traditional and popular talent contest for eighty-four first and second degree students.

And what was their task? To write within 30 minutes as many exercises as possibile from the first grade of ZAV programmed teaching - seemingly an easy task but one requiring careful concentration, precision and courage.

These words are nearly the beginning of a report on the website of this school whose students are usually at the top of the lists in national and international keyboarding competitions. The report refers to the experiences and results of this contest and show the comfortable environements in which they have the opportunity to follow keyboarding courses as well as to extra training to achieve the best results.

You can read the full report of Tatyana Kurečková with photos by Charles Knapp at this link: www.zsma.cz/clanek/rozbili-jsme-klavesnice-zav.



#### Belgium - Interschool Championship 2014

APSB (The teachers' association in the French part of Belgium) for many years organises a competition, which includes different abilities. This year the tests will be in word-processing and fast writing via Internet and will be attended by nearly 380 competitors from 19 schools. Participants in the online keyboarding contest will compete in 6 languages (French, English, Dutch, Spanish, Italian)

At the end of competition, the prize-giving event will be hosted at the Athénée Royal in Esneux on Saturday, May 17, and will be followed by a banquet accessible to everybody. Schools and students will be rewarded not only with diplomas but with special prizes sponsored by several firms.



#### Belgium - ABW klaviervaardigheid 2014

Also this year the Teachers' Association of the Flemish part of Belgium is organising a keyboarding competition via Internet. This competition will last until 30th June next and over 200 participants are expected as has been the case in previous years.

Switzerland - Keyboarding competition has a long tradition



Bereits zum 17. Mal findet die SWISS Internet-Meisterschaft im Tastaturschreiben statt. Aus bescheidenen Anfängen entstanden, hat dieser Wettbewerb mit den technologischen Veränderungen der letzten Jahre laufend Schritt gehalten und ist zu einer traditionellen Veranstaltung mit wachsendem Erfolg geworden.

Auch 2014 wird der Wettbewerb an den PCs der teilnehmenden Schulen über das Internet ausgetragen, wobei die Resultate in Echtzeit eingesehen werden können.

SM/ISS 2014 emposicht die Teilnahme am Metthewerk in der Muttersprache oder in

Swiss2014 is the 17th installment in the history of this country: it began with traditional annual meetings attended by competitors carrying their heavy and cumbersome mechanical typewriters, then, later, with their computers. **Mauro Panzera** was the initiator of this event. The next step was allowing student to hold the competition in their schools, copying from a text delivered on paper as

still happens in the world-wide competitions of Intersteno. Results were collected on floppy disk, sent to a central Jury for their evaluation. Since 2003 it is all-online. What's next?

Turkey - National typewriting contest via Internet 2014



From 26 December 2013 to 27th January 214 a total of 509 competitors participated in this contest: 39 were very young people, aged from 9 to 14 years. As many as 64 competitors wrote in several foreign languages, some with success in 16 languages. <u>Classification lists are available at this link.</u>

This was once again a great success mainly due to the many efforts of Mr Ishan Yener and his staff in improving the technical and didactics aspects of keyboarding in Turkey.

### **Events**

29 March 2014 - Shorthand fighting dementia

Arbeitsgemeinschaft deutscher Stenographie-Systeme e.V.

This German Association, chaired by the well-known Intersteno friend, Mr. Ralf Groß, organised its Spring meeting, devoting a session with interesting reports about the topic of 'Shorthand fighting dementia' which is under investigation by several psychiatrists in Germany.

Here is the programme of the reports on this topic.

> Einführungsreferat

**Dr.med.JensZemke** Chefarzt Geriatrie · Asklepios Kliniken Schwalm-Eder Vorsitzender der Alzheimer-Gesellschaft Schwalm-Eder

 Das Mindener Projekt "Stenografie kontra Demenz" Fachliche Durchführung Norbert Haacke | Gunda Steinmetz Vorsitzender Mindener Stenografenschaft | Dozentin für Stenografie



New technologies are facilitating the creation and dissemination of new forms of content. In a world where multilingualism is becoming the norm, these changes raise new challenges on media producers, distributors, consumers and translators. Simultaneously, advances in ICT continually bring innovative translation tools and services to the market.

As the flow of content increases, so does the demand for translation in the form of dubbing, subtitling, voiceover, subtitling for the deaf and audio description. Technology has come to play an important part when trying to catch up with these changes. In recent years, developments in machine translation, cloud storage, digital television and voice recognition, amongst others, have not only had wide-reaching ramifications for the media and translation sectors, but have also gone mainstream, with users across the world having easy access to sophisticated technologies and expecting instantaneous results. Are these smart technologies leading to smart translation?

Please visit visit: http://www.languages-media.com/



20th Online Educa Berlin 3-5 December 2014 - Call for proposals

In 2014, ONLINE EDUCA BERLIN (3-5 December) is looking for the services, case studies, research, thinking, narratives and expertise that are shaping technology enhanced learning and training, under the overall theme of Changing Learning, two words inextricably linked in this transformative digital age.

Modern education is evolving into a different shape. Faced with the demands of an ever more complex world, today's learning is being delivered in a multiplicity of forms and a variety of new environments. What will the shape of future learning look like? How are we changing learning to meet our new demands? How is learning changing us? What does changing learning offer us?

The 20th edition of ONLINE EDUCA BERLIN will focus on the evolving shape of modern learning and the opportunity that the variety of modern, technology-assisted learning brings.

#### **Better and Best Practices**

Submit your proposal and share the "how to" of better and best practices. These examples grow didactic and digital competencies of learning professionals and improve relevant skills and capabilities for learners. Share what you have learned using specific techniques and methods.

Training, Learning and Talent Development Strategies

Implement training, learning and talent development strategies with learning professionals at <u>Business EDUCA</u>. Do technologies designed for organisational learning meet organisational needs? What are the views of consumers of learning materials on certification and assessment as they develop their talents and capabilities? What is the key to promote engagement?

#### The Cutting Edge

Submit your proposal and showcase the cutting edge. Share solutions, services or products for educators, learners, trainers and learning providers which support innovative methodologies, didactics and pedagogies and effectively use digital tools. Including consumer tech, wearable computing, augmented learning and? The Education Ecosystem

Submit your proposal to discuss the education ecosystem. What are the latest thoughts and examples of how education can be unbundled to create flexible, scalable and affordable learning and training?

(Big) Data for Education, Learning and Training

Contribute your expertise of using data for education, learning and training. Possessing and using relevant data can determine the value of education better than ever. What is your story?

Explore <u>www.online-educa.com</u> and discover everything the conference has to offer.

### What's new

#### Typen2013 by Geert Bonte

Geert Bonte is very well known in the Intersteno family for his participation in the competitions, as well as for his support as web-master of iprsinfo.org.

For many years he has collected data and pictures of the events in which he, and his family have taken part.

This year he reported on many events of 2013, among which was the Congress in Ghent, as well as other competitions which took place in The Netherlands and Belgium.

The author and his family also had the opportunity to visit a collection of old typewriters in Ghent.

The book is available in printed version as well as in .pdf and epub.format.

Even though written in Dutch its



content can be understood by German and English people since it is written in a vividly sketched manner.

Additional information is available at

http://www.lulu.com/shop/geert-bonte/typen-2013/paperback/product-21530565.

#### Exciting capability for writing real-time captions to YouTube



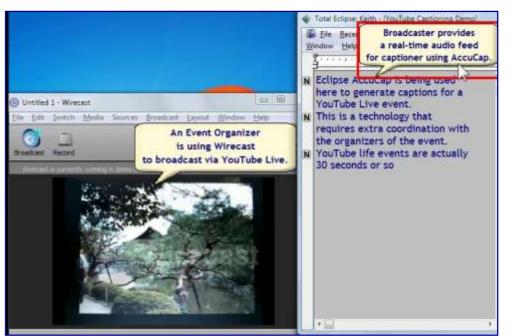
Recently YouTube made available real-time streaming of events to their users who are checked and tagged as reliable.

Now, one of the very interesting capabilities of the well-known American software Eclipse/AccuCap 6.X is a new feature that Google asked to have added for their clients using YouTube live streaming. Working in collaboration with developers at Google, we have added a captioning output specifically for YouTube live streaming events. Under User settings/Realtime/Output, there is now an output type that reads "YouTube Captioning." It has its own communications method, so the COM/File/etc. setting is ignored.

Since the size, position, etc., are all controlled by the YouTube side, the caption formatting settings normally intended for broadcast are entirely ignored. The only setting that is used is the URL/Header setting. When captioning a YouTube live event you will need to get the URL for the event, which includes the event id and special keys, and copy/paste it into this text box.

This is a technology that requires extra coordination with the event organisers. YouTube live events are actually 30 seconds or so behind real-time in order to handle all of the data buffering, so it is necessary to have a live feed of the audio that is real-time in order to provide captioning. The YouTube output from AccuCap timecodes each word, and Google's captioning data servers take those data and, using those timecodes, interleave it with the video in the background to synchronize the captions before sending the data to the viewers. The User settings/Document/Timecode/Offset setting can be used to adjust how early or late the captions appear for the viewers. Note that because of the time delay, it is actually possible to have captions appear slightly before the words are spoken. Many hearing-impaired viewers prefer this.

Special thanks goes to Laura Brewer, (who is well known among Intersteno people for her high performances in Paris and Ghent) who first recommended to the Google project managers that they contact Word Technologies directly about working together on this project, and for being the first captioner to test the new system while it was first in development.



#### Wearable virtual keyboard project

The Project Virtual Keyboard is a continuation of the Senseboard idea presented at the Intersteno Congress in Rome 2003.

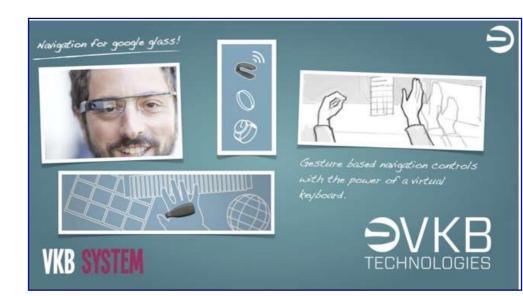
The fingers positions were measured by Electric Field Sensing and in combination with an inertial measurement unit (IMU) a learning system (based on ANN - Artificial Neural Networks) could learn your way of typing a text. After typing one page the system could read the typing. The accuracy was, however, only 90-95%.

After analysing huge data volumes from the tests with the Senseboard-device and combining this with the research being carried out at Mälardalen University, the solution to the low accuracy is a completely new sensor that can not only increase the accuracy of the hand position - it can also measure the position of the fingertip. The old system had only one degree of freedom per finger. Now we have at least two (it can actually be increased to three of even four).

The basic idea is still valid to measure both hand movement (using both an IMU and the new sensor) and a learning system (based on ANN - Artificial Neural Networks) could learn your way of typing on a keyboard. There will be a standard keyboard that you can use out-of-the-box. By using the learning mode you can actually make your own keyboard. You can easily define a complete new layout. As an example you can move the 'a'-key to your upper right corner of your personalized keyboard.

Since the Swedish company Senseboard is no longer in existence, this project is now in the hands of VKB Technology, a company based in Norway.

VKB claims that ChipSiP (a Taiwan based company) has developed an amazing chipset for glasses comparable to Google-glasses and this makes the need for the wearable virtual keyboard even more higher!You can see videos at http://www.senseboard.com/.



#### Logitech Ultrathin keyboard for iPad



iPad got a very huge consent, and it's virtual keyboard got a good evaluation, since it helps a lot in writing texts.

Nevertheless the professionals who needs to write long text, are not fully statisfied and an opportunity to have a physical keyboard has always been a topic of discussion when users talk about accomplishing real work on the iPad

In order to fill this need Apple is offering the Apple Wireless Keyboard, but many people thing that is not practical to carry around an extra keyboard. Several problems come to mind, such as how to protect it and how to efficiently carry it.

Logitech finally thought about how Apple would design a keyboard specifically for the iPad. The Ultrathin Keyboard Cover works like a smart cover by using magnets to attach to the iPad. The keyboard is smaller than a normal keyboard since it is the same length and width of the iPad. When the cover is not in use it will work just like a smart cover and protect the screen. The cover has a raised edge which keeps the keys from touching the screen when covering the device. The actual keyboard is very light and does not add very much weight to the device.

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