

# Annual Meeting of the Northwest Translators and Interpreters Society

*Minutes of the Meeting of Saturday, December 7, 2019*

*Highland Community Center, Bellevue Washington*

## I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:14 p.m. by President Shelley Fairweather-Vega with a quorum of members.

## II. President's Remarks

President Shelley welcomed meeting attendees. The minutes from 2018 were approved. Shelley mentioned a few highlights of the past year. NOTIS has reached a milestone of being 30 years old as an organization! We are in a strong financial situation, our accountant advised us that we need to spend more money in order to maintain nonprofit status. The annual report shows the 6 principles that the Board adopted to guide our spending into the future, please reference that. NOTIS has expanded our collaboration with various organizations including the program being developed by UW and the current program at Bellevue College. NOTIS hit about 600 members during 2019. The Northwest Linguist newsletter has appeared in print, thanks to the tireless efforts of Alicia McNeely. Copies were available at the meeting.

## III. Committee Reports

At the time of the annual meeting, the 2019 Annual report was incomplete, as the report from the Legal Division was withdrawn pending changes. Paper copies of the partial 2019 Annual Report were available at the event, and members were emailed a copy. The following reports were summarized at the meeting.

1. **Community Interpreter Division:** Division leader Cindy Roat and others organized 22 workshops, with one workshop somewhere in the state of WA every single weekend from January to April 2019 to accommodate demand for changing credentialed interpreter requirements, for a total of 95 training hours. A solid connection has been made in Alaska so we can expand our trainings further north, and the division seeks to expand more into Idaho.
2. **Translation Division:** The 2019 NOTIS Annual Conference was a great success, held at the Museum of Flight over two days, including a Language & Job Fair, training tracks for translators and for interpreters, and trainers from across the US and Mexico. Feedback was generally positive and feedback is being taken into account for future events. NOTIS has tentatively decided to make our Annual Conference a biannual event that does not conflict with other fall translation conferences, so next one would be spring 2021.
3. **Scholarship Committee:** Nancy Leveson reports that 7 scholarships were awarded in 2019 through a blinded selection process.
4. **Financial report:** NOTIS is in good financial standing, with a net revenue at the end of 2019 and must find more ways to put our funds to use in order to retain our

non-profit status. We intend to continue scholarships and look at additional options for programming with member input.

5. **Social Events:** Many social events were held in 2019, covering many languages and locations, some more well-attended than others. Attendees working with various languages of lesser representation in NOTIS's membership came to some of the events.
6. **Legal Division:** A large event was held in Redmond in 2019 and the Legal Division participated in various other events, including the Annual Conference. There will be an event for court interpreters on April 4, 2020. The full report from this division has been withdrawn and therefore is still pending.

#### IV. Presentation of Board Candidates and Election by Acclamation

Two new board member candidates were introduced: Yasemin Alptekin and Laura Friend. Incumbent candidates included Janet Yan He and Melody Winkle. Board members continuing their 2-year terms are: Shelley Fairweather-Vega, Lindsay Bentsen, Mary McKee, María Luisa Gracia Camón, Olga Cuzmanov (not present), Pinar Merton and Adriana González and Maria Farmer. Board members stepping down are: Alicia McNeely, Adrian Chiang Bradley.

All candidates were elected/re-elected as board members by general acclamation.

#### V. Thank yous

1. Thank you to Alicia and Adrian for all your hard work and dedication to NOTIS. You will be missed.
2. Thank you to Naomi, our office manager, for all her hard work to support NOTIS.
3. Thank you to everyone who has served as a volunteer in any capacity over NOTIS's 30-year history. This organization exists because of you.
4. Thank you to Shelley for serving as president and leading the meeting proceedings.

#### VI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:44 p.m.