

Restructuring Translation Education

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Editors

Restructuring Translation Education

Implications from China for the Rest
of the World

 Springer

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Preface

Twenty years ago, a translator would work for a few years on a translation assignment from a publisher. However, this has become a rare case, as clients often expect a 100,000-word document to be finished in just a few days. Expertise on computer-assisted translation and management of translation projects have become a necessity for translators to stay in practice. Unfortunately, this is absent in many universities that cannot afford a fully equipped translation training studio with a single seat averaging 60,000 RMB. Indeed, when MT, NMT, crowdsourcing, and online collaborative translation have become the usual practice in the translation sector, they remain unfamiliar terms to many teachers of translation in universities. One could not help but doubt if the universities' teaching philosophy, curriculum development, practicum, interdisciplinary training, faculty development, and university-enterprise collaboration reflect the advance of technology. Pure language-focused translation training can no longer satisfy the demands of the translation markets today. There has been an urgent call for the restructuring of translational education.

This book deals with the problems of translation education in the context of localization and globalization in the era of big data. By delving into the status quo of language service worldwide, the current and future application of big data technology, and the practice of crowdsourcing, online collaborative translations, speech-to-speech translation, and cloud-based translation, this book highlights the important changes in the market of translation and thereby points out the inadequacies in the teaching philosophy, curriculum design, and faculty development in China's undergraduate and postgraduate translation programs. More importantly, the book proposes solutions that have been successfully tried out in Shandong Normal University, Shanghai Foreign Languages University, Zhejiang University, the China University of Petroleum, Fujian Normal University, Nankai University, and Fudan University, which can be adapted to suit the situation of other colleges and universities. The illustrated cases include the project of translating and typesetting books by students for publishers, the experiment of liberal education among translators, the activity of translating public opinion updates, the teaching of technical writing as a supplement

to translation skills, the interdisciplinary training of legal translation, the online practicum of specialized translation, the collaboration between universities and enterprises in the field of translation, and the intensive summer courses of translation by experts from enterprises. By sharing the successful cases of the restructuring of translation education in colleges and universities in China, this book may, hopefully, throw light on reforming translation teaching for the rest of the world. Translation policy-makers, translation educators, translators, and learners alike can all benefit from this book.

The book consists of three parts. Part I is about the new demands for translators. Part II shows through statistic that translators trained in the traditional way can no longer satisfy the new demands, and Part III offers solutions proven viable in some of China's universities.

The book is the joined effort of a strong team, with three established professors of translation, three pioneering researchers in the field of transology, one training manager with a company, one board chairperson of a language service provider, and a deputy secretary general with a governmental organization of localization, all of whom have participated in reforms in translation education on which this book is based, from which views from colleges and universities, enterprises, and administrative authorities can be shown.

Dr. Cui, Qiliang, the author of Part II, is Associate Professor at the University of International Business and Economics. He is also Training Manager and Founder of Beijing IGS Global Technologies Co. Ltd. Dr. Cui doubles as Deputy Director of Localization Service Committee of Chinese Translators' Association, and he collects data about the employment of translation graduates and conducts research on translation training. Dr. Wang, Huashu, the author of Part I, is Lecturer at Guangdong University of Foreign Studies while doubling as Deputy Secretary General of Localization Service Committee of Chinese Translators' Association (www.taclsc.org, www.tac-online.org.cn). He explains related governmental policies. Xu, Bin, the author of Chap. 8, which deals with pilot projects in translation and publication, is Associate Professor at Shandong Normal University. The above three are the most active and influential researchers in the field of transology in China.

Professor Tao, Youlan, of Fudan University and Professor Xiao, Weiqing, of the Shanghai International Studies University are well-known professors in the field of translation. They, together with Dr. Zhang, Huiyu, Associate Professor at Zhejiang University; Dr. Xiu, Wenqiao, Associate Professor at China University of Petroleum, Beijing; and Ding, Xinru, Lecturer at Zhejiang International Studies University, are in charge of pilot projects in translation education in their respective universities and are the authors of the chapters in Part III. Mr. Lin, Shisong, Board Chairperson of Eagle Eye Translation Service, also joins us so that we can hear the voice from the business circle.

We would like to express our gratitude to the United Board for their long-time support for our project, including the 2015–2016 Grant for the program proposal,

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List of Abbreviations

ALC	Association of Language Companies
API	Application programming interface
BFSU	Beijing Foreign Studies University
BPO	Business process outsourcing
BTI	Bachelor of Translation and Interpreting
CAT	Computer-aided translation
CNKI	China National Knowledge Infrastructure
CSA	Common Sense Advisory
DITA	Darwin Information Typing Architecture
DTD	Document type definition
DTP	Desktop publishing
EQ	Emotional quotient
FIST	Fudan Intensive Summer Teaching
FIT	International Federation of Translators
GMX	Global Information Management Metrics eXchange
GNMT	Google Neural Machine Translation
GUFS	Guangdong University of Foreign Studies
IoT	Internet of Things
IQ	Intelligence quotient
IT	Information technology
ITO	Information technology outsourcing
LISA	Localization Industry Standards Association
MLV	Multi-language vendors
MT	Machine translation
MTI	Master of Translation and Interpreting
NLP	Natural language processing
NMT	Neural machine translation
OASIS	Organization for the Advancement of Structured Information Standards
OCR	Optical character recognition
OPI	Over-the-phone interpreting

PE	Postediting
RLV	Regional language vendors
SATC	Shanghai Association of Technical Writing
SLV	Single language vendors
SQ	Search quotient
SRX	Segmentation Rules eXchange
TAC	Translators Association of China
TBX	Term Base eXchange
TM	Translation memory
TMX	Translation Memory eXchange
VRI	Video remote interpreting
WYSIWYG	What you see is what you get
XLIFF	XML Localization Interchange File Format
XML	Extensible Markup Language

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