



**The UMTIA board is actively planning new workshops for the year. Here are some highlights of what the Upper Midwest Translators and Interpreters Association presented in 2019:**

At our **Sight Translation workshop** 70 interpreters practiced and refined their skills. They analyzed the difficulties of a text and developed strategies to prepare texts to be sight translated.

At our **Advanced Legal Terminology workshop** 38 interpreters learned ways to be more effective when interpreting for Criminal Law, Family Law and Immigration Law. They learned to focus on the meaning of the phrase and not just the meaning of individual words. As often many legal phrases have a different meaning than expected.

As a chapter of the American Translators Association (ATA), UMTIA hosted an **ATA Certification exam sitting** and translators tested their written translation skills in Spanish, Russian and Chinese. We held a **Translators' Café** at a coffee shop to encourage translators to network with each other and share their experiences as they learn more about the different areas translators work in.

At our **Special Education** workshop 51 interpreters learned more about the challenges of interpreting for children with disabilities. Three family advocates from PACER shared resources in Spanish, Somali and Hmong and presented terminology glossaries available from their website.

We introduced a new **Interpreters Café** to encourage interpreters to network, share their experiences and learn from each other about different strategies used to handle the ethical issues that can arise while interpreting. We also honored our volunteers and thanked them with a **Barbeque** at Boom Island.

At our **Interpreting for Solid Organ Donation workshop** 91 interpreters learned from LifeSource as they explained the process of organ acquisition and distribution and the types of conversations held with families of donors and the terminology used in the process. Interpreters worked in small language specific groups to review the terminology on patient intake forms and collaborated to decide on how to best translate the challenging concepts.

Our **Annual Meeting** focused on Interpreter Certification. We learned about National Certification and the process to reach the goal of medical and legal certification from presenters from the IMIA, NBCMI, CCHI, and the Minnesota Judicial Branch. We also listened to ideas from members on their needs and what they would like to see for topics of future workshops.

We follow the **Bill Proposal of Spoken Language Health Care Interpreting Registry** to ensure that the interpreters voice is represented and heard.

We continue to stress the importance of promoting the profession to encouraging the next generation of interpreters and translators. We presented **Interpreting as a Career** at 800 West Broadway in collaboration with MN WorkForce to recruit bilingual speakers and connect them with Interpreter training opportunities in local agencies, the University of Minnesota Translation and Interpreting Program and Century College Translation and Interpreting (TRIN) Program.

We also promoted UMTIA on **KFAI Radio** to recruit new members from other languages. The Board members are all volunteers. Join us! Become a member today and come network with others in the field. We need volunteers to support UMTIA to help us thrive and continue this important work.

Check us out at **UMTIA.org** or find us on **Facebook** and **Twitter**.