

## Prefazione Editorial Preface

The *Rivista Internazionale di Tecnica della Traduzione* aims at providing a forum for the multifaceted activity of translation. The contributions included in this third issue accordingly represent a variety of approaches to translation, ranging from traditional literary translation criticism (Avirović, Bertozzi, Campanini, Dodds, Scarpa & Ross), where the authors have aimed more at describing the translation procedures employed than simply criticising the less successful instances of translation, to more recent approaches that are based on the computational processing of texts (Magris, Tognini-Bonelli). As opposed to the conventional data storage hitherto available to linguists and translation theorists/practitioners, the possibility of storing texts/information in electronic form has opened up enormous possibilities for the analysis and production of multilingual written and spoken texts. In this spirit, Tognini-Bonelli's and Magris's contributions indicate the application of computational linguistics respectively to a corpus-linguistic approach to translation equivalence, and to the production from existing corpora of terminological databanks. In particular, in a translator's workstation specially designed for his/her needs, the possibility of consulting on-line an easily updatable multiterm bank that could be used in combination with a machine-aided translation tool or even a machine translation system (MT) has become a necessity for any professional translator worth his/her salt.

The other three articles in this issue deal with very diverse topics: the translation of opera libretti (Pintorno), a very specialised type of literary translation; the teaching of literary translation (Fourment-Berni Canani); and lexicography of the special language of sociology (Rega).

A very special mention goes of course to the proceedings of the Honorary Degree conferred in April 1995 by the University of Trieste on Prof. Peter Newmark for his immense contribution to making translation theory and practice an autonomous discipline. At a rather more personal level, I would like to express here the great affection and gratitude that I have for Prof. Newmark, who has been a prolific source of information and advice over the years. He has also been, and still is, a strong supporter of the SSLMIT as well as a lively contributor to the first two issues of *RITT*.

Finally, a few words on much more practical matters concerning the immediate future of *RITT* which, having changed publisher, is going to become a yearly review. Though translation criticism of previously published translations is going to remain the main vocation of *RITT*, in the next and

following issues we would like to create a greater balance between articles dealing with literary and non-literary translation, giving more emphasis to the latter, thus reflecting the overwhelming majority of translation activity in the world that is currently of a specialised nature. The deadline for contributions for the next issue is 5th May 1997 and we ask you to send your articles to the Editor on a disk (preferably in Word for Mac/Windows) together with a printout. Your bibliographical references must follow the style set out in the articles of this current issue of *RITT*. The working languages remain English, French, Italian, German and Spanish. From the next issue onwards, we ask those of you not writing in English to present your contributions together with an Abstract in English.

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