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President's Message

Hello Intersteno Friends.

Welcome to the Autumn Edition of **e-news**. I hope this message finds you all in good health and fine spirits.

During the Summer holiday, the work of Intersteno board, committees and member groups continued, resulting in exciting developments for our congress in Cagliari. You received an extra **e-news** about sleeping accommodations in Cagliari. Some of us strengthened the professional relationships with other associations. Others finalized arrangements for an outstanding council meeting coming up this October in Istanbul.



On Facebook, Georgette Sante posted not so long ago beautiful photographs showing many faces from the past. Some, like Gian Paolo Trivulzio and Ishan Yener, are unfortunately no longer among us, but fortunately others have taken over tasks as far as possible, so that the work of Intersteno can continue and our Federation will develop more and more towards a modern institute that is willing to cooperate with other institutions. We do so in the spirit of the words pronounced in June 2017 by our former chairman, Fausto Ramondelli, who wrote: "Intersteno should continue to be a point of reference and a vanguard for the future generations of reporting professionals. This will be possible if we look beyond the present, if we donate to Intersteno the moral efforts, the spirit of modernity and the open-minded attitude of Gian Paolo Trivulzio and Ishan Yener".

I cite this quote (do you remember, **e-news** 80, From the President's Desk) because we have passed the halfway point in my two-year term of office. I am positive about the future. I realize that we can only achieve our goals with the help of everyone involved with Intersteno.

A small group of stakeholders will meet in Istanbul. We will undoubtedly work fruitfully together, with a view to the congress in Cagliari, but also on the distant future. Also in Istanbul, the existing contacts between reporters will undoubtedly be deepened and expanded during the IPRS meetings, but also when, for example, they sail the Bosphorus on a boat trip.

Friendly regards and best wishes for the next few months!

Rian Schwarz van Poppel
INTERSTENO president

IPRS report

The official schedule for the IPRS meetings in Istanbul can be found on the www.intersteno.org website. Portions of each day's session will be used for planning the 2019 congress agenda. Suggestions are welcome from everyone.

Scientific Committee report

At the request of several new members, the Scientific Committee of Intersteno will now meet annually. In accordance with this new schedule, the Scientific Committee will meet during the Council Meeting in Istanbul.

The agenda of the meeting is going to be particularly interesting this year, because some important steps forward have been made.

First, participants will be briefed about the proceedings of the conference. The Scientific Committee of Intersteno and onA.I.R. – Intersteno Italia have organized in Milan (Italy): the “6th International Symposium on Live Subtitling and Accessibility” www.respeaking.net/Milan2018.html



Dr. Carlo Eugeni

Among participants at the Symposium are some Intersteno friends like Minori Arai (Senate of Canada), Henk-Jan Eras (Second Chamber of Dutch Parliament), Wim Gerbecks (Velotype) and me. The aim of the symposium is to make the interests of the Academic Community (currently more interested in audiovisual translation) and those of the Reporting Community (currently more interested in the profession) converge. This was my initial goal when I first became chairman of the Scientific Committee back in 2013, at the 49th Intersteno Congress held in Ghent, during which we had prof. Yves Gambier (University of Turku) as a keynote speaker.

One of the topics during the symposium will be a project that my university and Wim's company have won together with other international bodies. This is a clear signal that we met that goal, though the way is still long.

Other topics of the Scientific Committee meeting in Istanbul will be:

- the language comparison project designed by Jean-Charles Le Masson and carried out by my students. It is at an intermediate stage. We will not be able to have it accomplished by the council in Istanbul, but we will hopefully have it ready by Cagliari. This means that we will have the opportunity to test its functioning, though not officially, at the congress;
- the ISA project, digitising books on shorthand, ideated by Gian Paolo Trivulzio and carried out by Boris Neubauer and Jorge Bravo in collaboration with other Intersteno friends;
- the Plain Language project, carried out by Allen Rotz and me, which has already brought to the production of the new Intersteno leaflet;
- the parliamentary reporting project, led by Eero Voutilainen, and trying to compare the different parliamentary reporting systems all around the globe;
- the Intersteno anthem, which I managed to write thanks to the contribution of all the Intersteno friends who contributed, and that will be released for the first time during the 52nd Intersteno Congress;
- the next General Conference in Cagliari, which is attracting its first participants already.

Any contribution aimed at enriching this program is welcome at my personal email address: carloeugeni@gmail.com

Mission Accomplished in NOLA at NCRA!

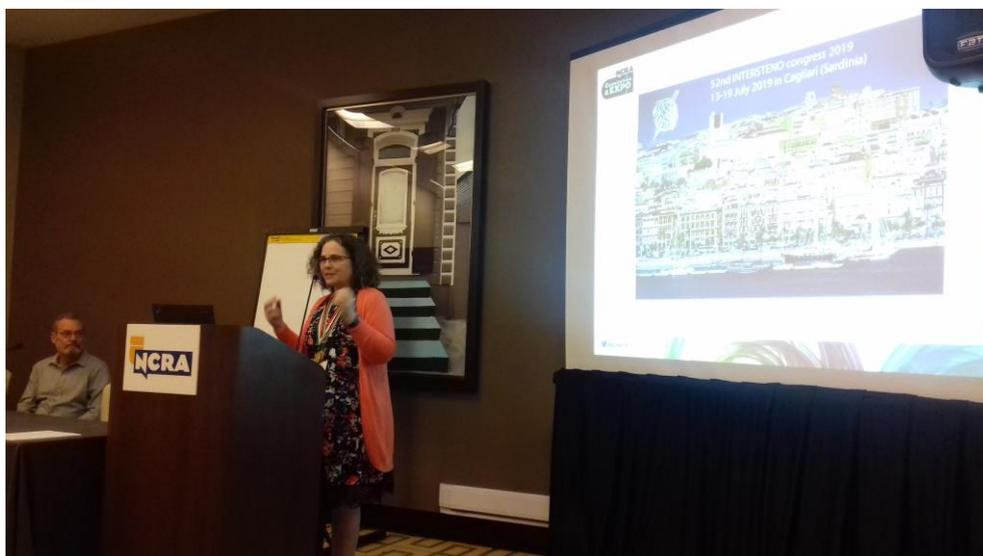
By Dr. Carlo Eugeni

After a friendly 3-day stop in Washington DC, hosted by our vice-president Russell Page and Allen Rotz, member of the scientific committee, I attended the NCRA convention in New Orleans (the world capital of blues and jazz!) as an Intersteno ambassador.

NCRA is the American “National Court Reporters Association” and has as members stenographers working for US courts (both federal and state) as well as freelance reporters and captioners. It is the most important federation of speech-capturing professionals, with more than 3,000 members. Like Intersteno, they understood the importance of being part of a larger community, especially as Thomas Alva Edison and many other fellows in the world were introducing technological innovations in the country (they had the idea of creating a national association during the 5th Intersteno Congress held in 1893 in Chicago!).

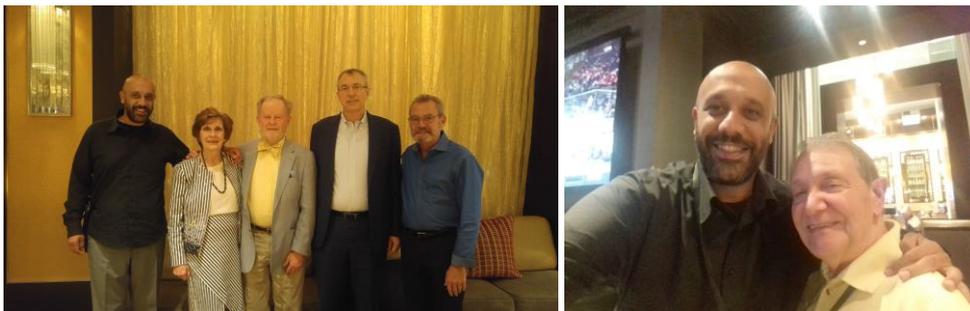
I was invited directly by Marcia Ferranto, who is NCRA’s Chief Executive Officer. She is really committed to NCRA being an Intersteno member. Besides, she knows how important it is to have continuous relations between our two associations, so that all members are motivated by NCRA membership. For this reason, she asked Tori Pittman, Sheri Smargon, and Russell Page to talk about Intersteno, the importance of being a member, and the experience of congresses.

I attended the seminar, too. It was fantastically led by Tori, who enthusiastically introduced Intersteno and got participants interested in our Federation and in the next Congress in Cagliari; Sheri, who talked about our contests and the adrenaline involved in having so many people from all countries and age groups who compete for the title of world champion; and Russell, who explained how our Federation works in terms of bodies, membership, and rules, and further illustrated the advantages of being part of our next congress. Participants had questions for me, too, and I was very happy to share our wide approach to information and communication processing, in terms of countries, languages, techniques, and age groups. Many thanks to Francesca Marchionne for providing many different travel brochures from Cagliari, which captured the interest of the attendees.



During the five days of the NCRA Convention, I was able to meet with many Intersteno friends and people who have never attended an Intersteno congress and who would like to come to Cagliari. Russell and I were very warmly welcomed by Intersteno pillars Virgene and Dale Biggers. Being from New Orleans, they introduced us to local cuisine and traditions. We talked about Intersteno and the past and future of our professions; I met Intersteno medallist John Wissenbach, with whom I shared many insights about contests and techniques; I extensively talked to Dominick Tursi, director of the New York Gallery of

Shorthand, who introduced me to many NCRA members curious about Intersteno; I also had the chance to celebrate Georgina Ford's birthday with her family and friends.



A very interesting meeting was the one that Russell and I had with Marcia Ferranto and Max Curry, NCRA president-elect for 2019-2020. Both Marcia and Max expressed their deep will to attend Cagliari's congress, and were very positive about maintaining a strong relationship with Intersteno. Moreover, they offered to host the 2020 Intersteno Council and IPRS meeting in conjunction with their annual convention in Orlando, Florida. Finally, they both mentioned NCRA Board Member Christine Phipps as a potential member of the Scientific Committee. I was able to talk to her; she is an expert in technology related to court reporting and looks forward to attending our congress and scientific activities.

Finally, let me express my very positive impression about NCRA's convention, their training sessions, their vendors' exposition, their desire to know more and more about any aspect of the profession, and their great experience with certifications.

To sum up, NCRA is willing not just to renew its membership, but also to be further involved in our activities. Furthermore, enthusiasm was spread by Intersteno veterans, who got many NCRA people attracted by Cagliari's congress. NCRA even proposed to host our Council in 2020.



Though it was not a *Mission Impossible*, let me excitedly conclude this brief report – that I would like to further expand with each of you – with Tom Cruise's words: *mission accomplished!*

A Perspective on Australian Parliamentary Reporting

By Jean Baigent

If you are ever thinking of a career change in reporting, Australian Parliamentary reporting is truly great fun, professionally satisfying and certainly worthwhile considering in a

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INTERSTENO

International Federation for Information and Communication Processing

reporting career. In the UK and Australia, the parliamentary reporters are called Hansard reporters. Hansard is not verbatim, but given the advent of YouTube, it has now become substantially verbatim with repetitions and redundancies omitted and obvious mistakes corrected; essentially, it leaves out nothing that adds to the meaning of the speech or argument.

Initially, it was William Cobbett who printed the parliamentary debates, who sold his interest to Thomas Hansard in 1811, the son of Luke Hansard, the printer to the House of Commons. It was then that it was referred to as "Hansard" and viewed as the most accurate and authentic account of parliamentary proceedings.

While I love court reporting, the daily accounts of extraordinary lives and circumstances, I do miss the intellectual challenge of beautifying a messy, muddled speech. I love putting words in the right order, short concise sentences, getting to the bottom of an unintelligible side comment. The turns in the Chamber are only 10 minutes, sometimes five, but we have an hour to make it flawless, which also involves checking all uncertainties.

In the early days as a new reporter, when I would hear the Chamber bells ringing, I remember feeling terror. My morning prayer would be, "Please God, in the heat of the battle to get the words, let me have a clean sentence that has no split infinitives, dangling modifiers or double negatives; that has verb congruency; that the member gives me his or her speaking notes, and, oh, please, just let me get it right." Mind you, it is not always a difficult battle. There are some beautiful eloquent speakers out there too, who are dreams to report, irreverent, brilliant and hilarious.

I found clarifying uncertainty the biggest difficulty of a Hansard reporter's duties. In court, you can go turn to an exhibit. For instance, to this day I remember the uncomfortable feeling of sending "obvious" notes to members. Although not always needed; for example, if a member used an acronym like the MUA, that is, the Maritime Union of Australia, we would have to write it out in a full parenthetical next to the acronym so the reader would know who the member was talking about. But on one late night sitting, I had a member say in his speech, "... and I thought to myself, WTF." Oh, no, I thought, what am I going to write in my note to the member verifying this? And, I have to sign my name underneath the note's request. My thoughts raced. What am I going to say to my sub-editor when she says, "Jean, are you sure about this?" Fortunately, my anxiety immediately subsided when the member elaborated with his true meaning, simply adding, "What's the forecast?"

When you walk into the Western Australian Parliament, there is a glass cabinet that contains old steno machines, namely, the paper, paperless, floppy disc writers and also a shorthand notebook showing the Pitman shorthand script. Unfortunately, in Victoria, the parliament is no longer using stenographers. Even the former colleagues who I used to work are no longer using their machines. They now go into the Chamber with a notepad and then use Dragon voice recognition from their notes. It is hard to understand how much time they devoted to their skill, to then give it up. Thankfully, the Western Australian Parliament still has a core team of stenographers, but sadly looks to be going the same way as Victoria. The New Zealand Parliament has live captions for the hearing impaired, which was introduced in 2016. I am not sure if any Australian Parliament is considering it, federal or state, but hopefully it will be. I would hate to think that the Diamante or Mira writers will be the last machines featured in the Parliamentary display cabinet as relics from the past. Once again, realtime writing, that is, captioning, it is hoped, will save the profession. Maybe, it is not too late for Victoria.

[Jean Baigent is a former Parliamentary Reporter with both the Victorian and Western Australian Parliamentary Debates.]

About a 100-year-old school

By Bernadett Berencsi and Anita Dobos

An exhibition was opened in the school, where we graduated, in Eastern Hungary, in Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg county, in Nyíregyháza. This school is Nyíregyházi SZC Széchenyi István Közgazdasági, Informatikai Szakgimnáziuma és Kollégiuma.

István Széchenyi (1791-1860) – who is also called „the greatest Hungarian” – was an earl, politician, writer, polymath, economist, minister. He was one of the creators of modern Hungary.

This school is 100 years old this year and this exhibition is in honor of the achievement.



Huge honor for us



Some mosaics

In this school, students can study economics, IT, business administration, sports, finance, office secretarial skills, accounting and of course, foreign language.

It was a great honor to us, that – like other „famous” former students – we and some of our results are also in the exhibition material! This school was the foundation for our profession, so we are delighted, that they honored us as well by choosing us as one of the subjects of the exhibition!



We remember gratefully our teachers Andrásné Sebők (+), who unfortunately can not be among us, Józsefné Kuripla and Erzsébet Fehérné Veller. We are very grateful to them!

It's a special honor for us too, that we participated with the students of „our school” in international competitions and Intersteno congresses. Thank you for the huge work of these students' teachers, like Erzsébet Fehérné Veller, Ibolya Tarné Földesi, Katalin Pázmándi and all teachers in this school, who helped training!

We can say (as Intersteno-members, moreover also former competitors) with Intersteno since many years we have received a lot of value! Just a few: good colleagues, valuable people, helpful friends and challenges in our work, which we are always happy to do!

We are sure, that many people (students, teachers and competitors) think also the same. For example they are students and teachers, who are motivated by the international competitions and Intersteno congresses.

Really sad, that unfortunately there are doubtful people, who questioned the existence and importance of our international organization. But without Intersteno and other active national groups it would be impossible to participate in international professional life! There would be no motivation for students, competitors and for teachers. With Intersteno and other active national groups everyone can achieve better results in international competitions and/or at Intersteno congresses!

We are grateful, that our professional life started at this school in Nyíregyháza and we are happy, that we also had the opportunity to start our international professional life!



Our profession in pictures



Istanbul was also a theme

We hope that our good relationship with this school will continue in the future, as well as with other national groups and Intersteno! Like before we will work on that. We wish all the best to our old school and every international colleagues/friends! We hope the next 100 years will be as successful as the first 100 years for our profession in our old school!

A stenotypist from the Argentinian Chamber of Deputies at the Italian Senate

The month of May for the Reporting Department of the Senate of the Italian Republic has been rich of the stimulating inspiration offered by some visits received from various foreign delegations. Particularly pleasant, above all from the human point of view, has been the most unexpected of these visits, as it often happens with the last-minute events.



Giulia Torregrossa

One Friday at end May, in fact, I received a message from my colleague and ex Intersteno President Fausto Ramondelli, who informed me about the presence in Rome for the whole following week of a stenotypist of the Chamber of the Argentinian deputies, desirous to visit the Reporting Department of the Senate. The initial enthusiasm has immediately been accompanied by a light apprehension for the uncertainty of the moment: it was prepared to begin in fact a week, because the new Government had to still be formed and, accordingly, the convocation of the sessions was uncertain. I predisposed therefore two alternatives of visit for the guests, with the possibility to assist to the session or to participate to a guided tour of Palazzo Madama; I also prepared a Spanish translation of a brief presentation of our job, that we always hold ready for these occasions.

When I went to welcome them and found myself in front of Débora Loreley Fernández, a young and elegant girl, with her 8 month-old marvelous daughter, accompanied from Fausto, I melted of tenderness: and so, the visit developed in an informal, pleasant and relaxed climate; the ideal to draw the maximum profit from the professional information interchange, precious occasion to learn and to grow from the working point of view, opening the mind to different way to conceive and to do the same job, even on the other side of the world.

Luckily there was no session, therefore I could devote me to the guests with all calm. This way we have been able to discover we have in common a lot of things besides the stenotypy and the American CAT software we use, that is also used by the Canadian Senate and by some Australian local Parliaments (apart from the fact that we are women and working mothers, who do their best to reconcile the rhythms of a peculiar working life and the breastfeeding of their toddlers); we also discovered our differences, as it regards the formalities of management and organization of the job and publication of the report.

In addition to the interest from the professional point of view, as I said, the visit of the Argentinian colleague has been extremely touching under the human point of view. In fact, Débora has been for me a great example of woman and mother. Her serenity in developing all the activities she had planned to do together with her infant stricken me very much (included to visit alone the city!). The small Esmeralda has always been serene and calm, because she was with her mother, bringing a gust of joy to all my colleagues, who were more than happy to hold her: during the tour of Palazzo Madama she took a nap in the baby wear and was also breastfed in my boss' office, letting her mother to do the visit with all serenity. To reconcile family life and working rhythms is not always easy, but even impossible (also for who works in Parliament).

Thanks Fausto for bringing Débora at the Senate: knowing her was very rewarding and instructive. I hope that other colleagues will come soon to visit us from all the parliamentary reporting world.

And now let's see how the same event was considered by my colleague Débora:

«After an intense work during the abortion discussion in the Argentinian National Congress and going through lots of changes in my life because of maternity, I thought about leaving my job as a stenotypist. Before taking any wrong decision, I decided to do a trip to find myself again and, as a friend was getting married in Milan, I took a plane together with my daughter Esmeralda from Buenos Aires to Rome. It was going to be a very special journey. We visited some cities in Italy and my last stop was Rome.



Encouraged by my sister Micaela, also a stenographer of the Chamber of the Argentinian deputies, I wrote to Fausto Ramondelli and asked him if I could visit the Reporting Department of the Senate of the Italian Republic. I also wanted to dance some tango with Fausto, but with my baby Esmeralda was going to be hard to visit an Italian milonga. He kindly arranged everything so that Esmeralda and I could know the Senate during a Thursday morning.

This trip and visiting the Senate in Rome that 31st of May restored my balance and center. We met with Fausto at the Parliament's door and I was delighted when Giulia and Viviana Pisanti, a colleague of hers, came out to receive us. They were so gracious to us that Esmeralda smiled, wanted to be hold in their arms and a lovely and unforgettable day started.

Fausto invited us a delicious breakfast meanwhile in the Senate everybody was astonished by seeing a baby. I was a bit afraid that Esmeralda cried during the visit but luckily, she didn't. Some people say that when the mother feels comfortable and in peace in a place, the babies just enjoy. I felt so well received and in a friendly atmosphere that my daughter was relaxed and pleased to be there.

I love pianos and I was surprised that the machine used by the Italian reporters is like them. I liked to see the various types of the Michela's machine invented by Antonio Michela Zucco as they are different to the machine we use in Argentina. I did not know how to express my gratitude to Giulia and her colleagues for preparing such an explanatory and interesting presentation about how they work and for their presents. It was also great to learn about the ways they publish the debate and that the citizens can get from Internet a first draft of the text within 30 minutes.

After the clear explanation of the work, they took us to an awesome guided tour in Italian and Giulia translated for me. The Palazzo Madama is extremely surprising, full of history and with beautiful and meaningful decorations. To end this lovely visit Fausto invited Giulia, Esmeralda and me some tasty ravioli and an incredible Italian espresso.

I am so thanked to Giulia Torregrossa for her warmth and because in a way she showed me that we can love our family and our job, keep learning every day and cope with having these demanding duties. Having her as an example of mother and as a stenotypist full of energy and interests to develop her profession, I realized I like a lot what I do and specially when we can exchange our experiences with other colleagues in the world. I would like to share more experiences, keep this communication and start a nice friendship.

Thanks Fausto for this great day and for generating this enriching human and professional relationship across the seas. We hope you and your colleagues visit Argentina and our Parliament soon».

Débora Loreley Fernández and Esmeralda Scanlan

A court reporter meets the parliamentary reporters of the Italian Senate

By Giulia Torregrossa

On July 9th, 2018 the Reporting Office of the Senate of the Italian Republic received the kind visit of Al Betz and his wife Kay, who were able to contact us through the intermediary of Leah Willersdorf, President of the BIVR (British institute verbatim report), and Fausto Ramondelli, reporter of the Senate in retirement and former Intersteno President. I welcome this opportunity to thank both for allowing us to meet a fellow overseas stenotypist and for allowing him to visit the Senate report team: getting to know someone who does an activity like ours in some other part of the world is always an experience that enriches us.

In order to prepare the best possible reception, we documented the activity and personality of the guest that we were going to receive and so we discovered that Al Betz is a long-term stenotypist (since 1968!), of judicial scope, but not only: he founded a private reporting company in 1977 and was one of the pioneers of the transition from mechanical to digital stenotyping in the USA, through the experimentation of CAT (computer aided transcription) softwares. It also runs a family-owned company, which focuses on Outfluence programs for business and education (a communication concept designed to improve abilities and inspire success for the student, the business person, for anybody).

After a guided tour of the most beautiful rooms of Palazzo Madama, which oozes history from every room, we finally landed in the Floor of the House. Then, Al interviewed us for a radio broadcast that goes on air two Saturdays a month on the radio station Internet www.stenographersworld.com (the interview will be broadcasted in next fall)¹. In the past some of us stenographers had already supported some video interviews for Italian television, in the elaboration of historical documentaries about the Michela machine, but this was our first radio interview². The initial emotion for the novelty, therefore, was soon diluted by the informal atmosphere that Al and Kay immediately had to establish, and which prepared a very fertile ground for an effective communication of our activity (which, moreover, is their field!).

Trying to hypothesize the topics of greatest interest to the listeners, who we imagined to be experts in the field, we had prepared a general presentation of our activity, with an overview of the evolution of our stenotypic technique, the history and tradition of the keyboard Michela, with a focus in particular on the patent that the inventor registered in the United States in 1879 and on the first female stenotypists of the Italian Senate (Annina Violetta and Luigia Gillio, which were probably among the first in the world). We also talked about our personal stories, telling Al how we came to parliamentary reporting³.

Paolo Antonio Michela Zucco then illustrated the experimentation carried out in the Senate between the '80s and '90s of the most popular programs at the time for computer-assisted transcription and motivated the choice of software that we still use for our daily work (the same employed by the Canadian Senate for reporting and subtitling in real time,

¹ The interview took place in the room called the former «Barberia», which is currently used to host small groups of visitors, but where in ancient times a service was provided for honorable senators (as shown by a barber chair that was left in the hall, to remember the room's original destination).

² Honestly, as a girl I had conducted some radio broadcasting in a small local radio station here in Italy, but it was a summer job and I faced topics of less complexity!

³ I, for example, had other programs: I was about to graduate in classics (Latin and ancient Greek) and I wanted to go for a doctorate in Finland ... But then with Michela it was love at first sight, and - fortunately, I would say, considering how much I love my job - my life has taken a completely different direction.

in English and French, by the Argentine Chamber of Deputies in Spanish, by the Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago and by some Australian local parliaments).

We then addressed the issue of the difference between judicial and parliamentary stenotypy, illustrating our flagship product, that is to say the online publication of the drafts during the session, in real time, with a time delay of only 40 minutes (essential for the activity of specific queries - to check quotes and bills numbers but also to insert the parliamentary procedure's formulas - and for the passage from the oral speech to a written text that has the value of an official document). In the writing phase in the plenary, our main concern is to record as much information as possible, not just with reference to everything that is said, but also with reference to everything that is done. So this is why, in order to describe what we write, we use the Latin expression «dicta and acta»: in fact, not only we write whatever is said, even by several speakers at the same time, especially outside the microphone, as often happens in the much frenzied works of the Italian Parliament (because what the stenographer hears, as a public official, has the value of testimony, since it could escape even the most sophisticated amplification systems); but we also write what happens, like the applause, the content of protesting banners, etc.

In the past, before the advent of CAT software, the stenographer dictated the shorthand notes to a typist; when the working modalities have changed and the whole reporting process has been taken over by just one reporter, in order to save money and workers, it was necessary to interface the Michela stenotype keyboard with the computer as effectively as possible, to get a correct text in real time: to do so, important changes in the way of writing have been devised to obtain the best results. Changes cost labor, especially when they interfere with automated mental processes, and not everyone has the same openness to them⁴. But a stenotypist who wants to keep himself or herself constantly up-to-date must always remain open to change: now, our next challenge is the approach to the most recent American conflict-free theories⁵. Therefore, if the modification of a consolidated working method is frightening, in the face of a clear benefit for the quality of working life, it is always worth making the effort, especially when the result can be a text ready in real time, already roughed and accompanied by punctuation. This is the unparalleled advantage given using digital stenotypy: applying the filter of the human intelligence, with the aid of technology, in real time (and not later for the correction of a text that has been automatically transcribed)⁶.

The editing phase is probably the one that most differentiates the parliamentary and judicial reporting, because the aim of a parliamentary report is the writing of an oral speech, fully respecting the content and the style as much as possible, but making it legible - according to the dictates of Sir Erskine May - and not its reproduction as it is, as it is essential to do in the transcription of a deposition or of a telephone interception. In the various historical periods the criteria for editing parliamentary debates have evolved, so if you read a 19th century report, you might get the impression that the speakers all speak a similar way, with the advent of radio and video broadcasts and, finally, of the forced alignment - the last frontier of parliamentary reporting, which combines the written text

⁴ For example, in 1881, when the first stenotypy course was organized for the pen shorthand writers of the two chambers of the Italian Parliament, those of the Chamber of Deputies abandoned it shortly after, and here lies the historical reason for the difference in their reporting methods.

⁵ In fact, the Michela system is traditionally known to be a phonetic one, a feature that allows a very high recording speed of information; but, given its great versatility, it can also be used in orthographic and spelling mode - which privileges accuracy - or in a hybrid mode, the best compromise.

⁶ In this regard, I was heartened to read that Betty Willett, a very well known British stenotypist, who used a palantype machine, and award-winning President of the aforementioned BIVR, disappeared from the scene for three years during her testing of CAT systems, to make her writing compatible with the computer. I felt heartened because the changings in writing that we are going through now too are really demanding.

with the video recording of the session - the parliamentary report has come very close to a verbatim text, even if it is not (and in fact it is often called «an intelligent verbatim»).

The moments of more intense formal work were then interspersed with a pleasant lunch break, which was also attended by Fausto, aware of the fact that our guests were also tourists curious to know the most succulent dishes of typical Roman cuisine. On this occasion, in the very short walk between Palazzo Madama (seat of the plenary), Palazzo Carpegna (seat of some permanent Commissions), Palazzo Cenci (home of other permanent Commissions, recently renovated) and Palazzo della Sapienza (headquarters of the Historical Archive), beautiful historic buildings that are located next to each other, we have illustrated to Al and Kay some beauties of which the center of Rome is scattered: the Roman basin discovered during the excavations of the tunnel connecting Palazzo Cenci and Palazzo Madama, that today is a fountain that adorns «Piazza della Costituente»; or the splendid dome of Borromini of Palazzo della Sapienza (which was the first seat of «La Sapienza» University of Rome); and we also told them some legends, like that of the ghost of Beatrice Cenci or of the Egyptian obelisk that would be buried between Palazzo Giustiniani and Palazzo San Luigi de' Francesi.

We are waiting for you, friends and colleagues, to visit the Senate or to attend a plenary session!

Info: http://www.senato.it/3386?voce_sommario=28&testo_generico=501 or http://www.senato.it/3044?voce_sommario=29&testo_generico=504

From left to right, the picture shows Dr. Massimo Martinelli (Head of Italian Senate reporting office), Al Betz, Giulia Torregrossa (Italian senate reporter), Paolo Antonio Michela Zucco (line manager and revisor of the Italian Senate), and, in the middle, Michela, the real protagonist (an original wood model, set on a tripod, from 19th century).



Speech Recognizer (I. talgreinir) - Iceland

By Berglind Steinsdóttir, Head of Speech Department

The main novelty within the speech department of the Icelandic Parliament is the implementation of an open source equipment called 'speech recognition'. For the last few years *Language and Voice Laboratory at Reykjavik University*, which is a part of CADIA (interdisciplinary research center in artificial intelligence), has been developing a new computer program that will in due time type the speeches made by Iceland's MPs. The toolkit used is called Kaldi (<http://kaldi-asr.org/doc/>) and the punctuation model is Punctuator (<https://github.com/ottokart/punctuator2>), both of these models free of charge and accessible online. The users can change the codes as they like and therefore the software may be left open to everyone once the project is completed and they may then be able to work on other speech recognition equipments for Icelandic, such as within health care and judiciary.

This method, having a machine typing speeches, is certainly not new. It has been tried elsewhere in the world, but hopefully new technology will be able to sidestep the former imperfections. The equipment consists of an acoustic model which has been trained with 6200 hours of MP speeches and a language model trained by a text corpus of almost 60 million words from MP speeches. The same corpus has been used to train the punctuation corpus.

The conjecture is that the speech recognizer will replace the human typists up to 90%. Some MPs will (probably) always be hard to understand and certain errors will be difficult to avoid which means that a human typist will have to read through the machine text while listening before the editor finishes editing the speech. Last winter quite a few experiments were done by the speech department with speeches provided by the equipment and the raw material was surprisingly good.

The process is like this:

- 1 Instead of a typist waiting for the speech to finish to get an access to the file, the speech is typed by a 'talgreinir' almost as fast as the speech is made, with no spelling errors but no human understanding. No commas will be typed but full stops and new paragraphs.
- 2 The speech is forwarded to an editor who edits the speech and then publishes it on the website and forwards it to the MP who made the speech via email.
- 3 The chief editor prints the speech and proofreads it on paper.
- 4 The editors correct the original document, with corrections from the chief editor, as well as the MP if needed.

The most important thing **still to be improved** is the "**understanding**" of the machine. The aforementioned vocabulary will be growing constantly and the memory will be improved. For the time being, the staff members have only had extra work because of the experiment but all in all there is a huge optimism that it will shorten the working period and increase accuracy because the machine does not make spelling errors or errors due to lack of human attention.



Left to Right: Laufey Einarsdóttir, Svanhildur Edda Þórðardóttir, Steinunn Haraldsdóttir, Dána Rós Riviera, Sigurlín Hermannsdóttir, Berglind Steinsdóttir and María Gréta Guðjónsdóttir.

News from Argentina

By Jorge Bravo

140th anniversary of the creation of Argentinean Senate and Deputies Parliament's stenographers' office

On June 25th of 2018, the 140th anniversary of the creation of Argentinean Senate and Deputies Parliament's stenographers' office was celebrated. Therefore, both legislative chambers rendered tribute to the stenographers' work in Argentina.

In the Chamber of Deputies, the event was attended by its president Dr. Emilio Monzó, the parliamentary secretary, the parliamentary undersecretary, Dr. Guillermo Castellano (Director of stenographers) and the Deputies Parliament's stenographers.

The president of the Chamber presented a plaque to the Stenographer's office in recognition of their service, followed by the director who took the floor to express gratitude and made an historical review of the office's work.



In turn, at initiative of the parliamentary secretary, the act in the Senate was participated in by the president of the Senate and vice-president of the Nation, Graduate Gabriela Michetti; the provisional Senate's president, Senator Federico Pinedo; the parliamentary Secretary, Dr. Juan Pedro Tunessi; and Mr. Jorge Bravo, Stenographer's general director, and all other members of Stenographer's office. Other directors, staff of Senate and stenographers from other provincial legislatures were also present.

The authorities highlighted the role and prestige in stenographers' work as part of the law-making process and their responsibility for the parliamentary debates' publication. A Diploma of Honor was awarded "*in recognition of their outstanding labor as scribes in parliamentary debates*", which bears the signature of the President of the Senate and the parliamentary secretary, Graduate Michetti and Dr Tunessi, respectively.

During the ceremony, greetings sent by colleagues from Argentina and all around the world were mentioned, as well as from associations, such as: Argentinean Association of Parliamentary Stenographers (AATP), the National Union of Brazilian Stenographers (UNATAQ), the current president and the previous one of Intersteno (Mrs. Rian Schwarzvan Poppel y Fausto Ramondelli, respectively), the president of Scientific Committee, Carlo Eugeni, etc.

The full video can be watched on the following site:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IY6BulnLJMo>

Brief historic review: In 1872, the president at that time, Domingo Faustino Sarmiento, sent a law project to the national Parliament to establish an office of stenographers which would record and publish both parliament chamber's debates. Taking the phrase of the Roman emperor Caius Titus, "*verba volant, scripta manent*", the president Sarmiento said that words fly but the written word remains. And he also stated: "It can be said, without exaggeration, that it will always be a noticeable gap in practice of our institutions, while the inhabitants of the Republic cannot follow the course of the debates of our legislative chambers from any place in our country."



The proposed legislation was approved, consequently, in 1872 the Parliament's office of stenographers was created. However, the assignments were numerous to be carried out by a single office. Therefore, in June 25th, 1878 by another law project approved as law 915 and sent by the president, the stenographer's office was divided in two: one for the Senate and the other for the Deputies' chamber.

That is the date of birth of Senate and Deputies' chamber's office of stenographers, and why this event in 2018 is taken place celebrating its 140th anniversary.

A 102-year-old stenographer is recognized by Argentinean Senate

He was tennis world champion in Turkey, too.

As part of the ceremony, an honorary diploma was presented to a former stenographer who is now 102 years old. His name is Federico “Pico” Barboza, he entered to the office by public contest and developed his entire career in it. He became stenographers’ deputy director and worked as one in ONU. In parallel with stenography, he worked as a lawyer professionally, and excelled in tennis; in which in 2003 at his 87, he won the world championship of the International Tennis Federation for people over 85 years placed in Turkey.



For health reasons, he could not be present at the ceremony. His son received the diploma and thanked for the recognition on behalf of his father. He added as an anecdote that even today his father keeps writing in shorthand.

Stenography course in the province of Misiones, Argentina

In Misiones province, northeast of Argentina, Prosperitá foundation began to teach two shorthand courses. The first one started in April and the second, at the beginning of August. The purpose is not only learning shorthand but also, grammar, punctuation, etc.

The teachers are the stenographer Zoraida Chaparro and the Graduated Sandra Rodriguez.



The provincial deputy Silvana Giménez, the lawyer and president of the foundation Victoria Chiape and the director of Senate’s stenographers participated in the act in which the course began in April.

The support of the national senator Magdalena Solari Quintana is noteworthy for the course to be imparted. It is important to mention that Posadas city’s deliberative council in Misiones signed a framework agreement of reciprocal collaboration with Prosperitá foundation in relation to the implementation of this stenography’s course.

Stenography course in the province of Catamarca, Argentina

In August 15th, in Catamarca province, in the northwest of Argentina, a Parliamentary stenography course organized by the Senate of that province (in



which 9 stenographers work) began. The programme targets employees from Catamarca's Senate and parliaments of Central valley. Due to the success of the announcement and the registration of almost 100 students, two courses will be taught.

The event took place in the Senate auditorium, filled in its capacity by the students enrolled, authorities, stenographers from other provinces and representatives of Argentinean Stenographers and Stenotipist Union.



As part of the event's aperture, Catamarca's Senate director Liliana Luna Lopez Parliamentary secretary, Omar Kranevitter; National Senate Stenographers' director, Jorge Bravo, and Catamarca Senate's president, Ingeniero Jorge Omar Solá Jais, talked emphasizing the importance of the formation of new stenographers.

The course is run by Prof. Águeda Lezcano de Vera and the system to be taught is the Pitman.

After the speeches of the authorities, Stenographer's general director of the national senate, Jorge Bravo, spoke about the history, present and future of the profession.

Stenography students' visit to Argentinean Congress

Students from Escobar's deliberant council's parliamentary stenography course (2017) visited the Senate and the Stenography Palant collection in the Congress' library.

In the program "Palabras Dibujadas" - Radio of the Library of the Argentine Congress

On the initiative of the professors Patricia López y Walter Claudio Benavides, students made an educational visit to the national congress; particularly, to the Senate Stenographers' office and the "Palant" Stenography collection, which belongs to the National congress' library.

After that, a small group was interviewed in the stenography radio program, "Palabras dibujadas", in the National Parliament's radio.

In this course, the taught shorthand system is the Spanish Martí, with adaptations of Ramón Escobar and Patricia López.



Beck Dorey-Stein's memories, President Obama's stenographer

By Jorge Bravo
Azat Ambartsoumian
and Diana Campi

From the “Palabras Dibujadas” (“Drawn Words”) Program, we would like to recommend a book that has just been published in the United States, in which the author recounts her experience as a stenographer in the White House. The book is called From the Corner of the Oval and the author is Beck Dorey-Stein.



Beck Dorey-Stein is a graduate of Wesleyan university. She worked as a stenographer in the White house from 2012 to 2017. Previously, she worked as an English teacher in Highstown, New Jersey, Washington DC and Seoul, South Korea.

She had just written her first book, published on July 10 in 2018, whose title is From the Corner of the Oval, and it has already had a great impact on the written press and television in USA. The writer describes her time in the White house and what she learnt from working for the 44th USA president.

Dorey-Stein was part of the team in charge of recording and transcribing every public utterance, speech or interview from 2012 and 2017. She also shares her trips with the presidential team.

Beck Dorey-Stein's book focuses on the time she spent as a stenographer in Obama's administration. She recorded and transcribed each word that the president said. To accomplish this task, she travelled around the world and witnessed many important moments as Obama's official stenographer in president Obama's term for five years, like his historic trip to Cuba, and she had the possibility to meet many presidents from all around the world.

What did the American newspapers say about the book of Beck Dorey-Stein's?

- “[Beck Dorey-Stein’s] breezy page turner is essentially Bridget Jones goes to the White House.” — (*The New York Times*)
- “Obama administration memoirs are rolling in, but in a refreshing twist From the Corner of the Oval swaps policy for good old-fashioned workplace drama. Readers won’t find state secrets so much as they’ll get a glimpse at what life was really like working for the most historical of administrations. There are countless flights on Air Force One, late nights at four-star hotel bars in far-flung locations, and a bravely honest retelling of her workplace affair.” — (*Entertainment Weekly*).
- “[Dorey-Stein] writes with wit and self-deprecating humor but is fully aware, too, of the pomposity and petty spite of official Washington. She’s at her best and funniest when recalling the physically unhealthy and vaguely ridiculous work of following the president wherever he goes.” (*The Wall Street Journal*)
- “Addictively readable . . . Dorey-Stein absorbs it all with a fine eye for detail and conveys it with freshness, candor and humor. . . She may be a stenographer, but this is not typing; this is writing”. (*The New York Times Book Review*)

In short, an interesting book for us to know the experience of a stenographer who worked for the 44th president of the United States.

Stenographers and artists in Paris, France

On May 25, 26 and 27 Marina Fons, a stenographer of the Argentine Senate, exhibited some of her paintings in Paris at the Art Shopping Salon Carrousel du Louvre. She also participated in the exhibition “Artists of the Senate” (2014, 2015 and 2016), in the Jadite Gallery, New York (USA, 2015), at the Ahmed Shawki Museum, Giza, Cairo, (Egypt, 2016),

where he won the "first prize of the exhibition", at the III International Contemporary Art Biennial of Argentina (2016) and at ArtExpo New York (USA, 2017).

And Valerio Rinaldi, stenographer of the Chamber of Deputies of Argentina, presented his latest music CD ("The lake that overflowed the drop") in "Le Café de la Plage", in Paris.

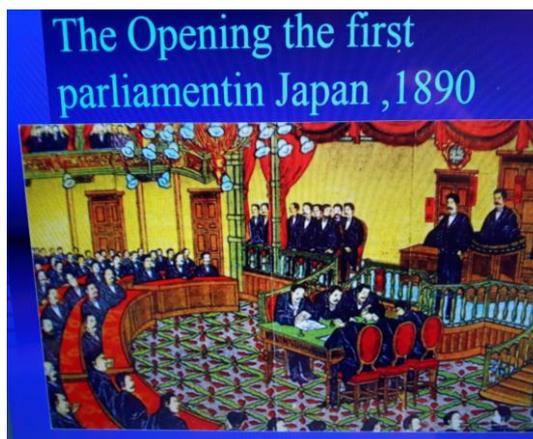


In June he played his music at the Embassy of Argentina in Washington, United States.

The Stenography in Japan, yesterday and today

By Jorge Bravo,
Azat Ambartsoumian
and Diana Campi

In the radio programme "Palabras Dibujadas" ("drawn words" in English), which we do every Friday on the radio of the nation's library in Argentina, we always talk about everything that has to do with the shorthand and the profession of stenographers. There we develop their origins, we know the present and we talk about the future of the profession. In one of the sections, which we call "Viajando con Palabras" ("Traveling with words"),



we know the history and the present in Argentina and different countries of the world to learn more about the profession, who have been the most important stenographers in history, what activities are carried out today in each country, etc. In one of the programs of this year we refer to the research we conducted on the Stenography in Japan, work made from the books available at the Palant Collection of the Library of the Argentine Congress and our personal books and magazines. And in this case, we also have the invaluable collaboration of a colleague known to the Intersteno community, Tsuguo Kaneko, whom we thank especially for his contribution at our research.

The text of our work is as follows:

In Japan, shorthand is called SOK-KI. It was Minamoto Koki who introduced this art in Japan in 1879.

The first system was published in July 1883 by Kuroiwa and Heloi. In October 1883 Minamoto Koki published his method.

The Japanese government, in 1890, decided to organize an official service of parliamentary shorthand. Fourteen stenographers, students of Minamoto Koki, were employed in the Chamber. Messrs. Wakabayashi and Hayashi were the first two heads of the stenographic service.

In 1873 a stenographic association was founded in Tokyo to which Wakabayashi, Kanzo Hayashi and 5 students of Minamoto Koki belonged.

A large number of systems were born in Japan, adaptations of the Pitman and Graham methods; those of Wakabayashi and Shido Kenkichi had little diffusion and resemble the Minamoto Koki system.

Wakabayashi Kanzo published an adaptation of Pitman's "PHONOGRAPH", which was published in June 1886 under the title SOK KI NO KEI. Hayashi Shigeatsu published a treatise, he also founded a newspaper in 1885 and was a stenographer of the Senate.

Naotaké Kanda published a geometric system with the title "BOCHO HITSUKI SCHIM PO".

Hayashi published two newspapers and a small treatise of the Wakabayashi system, whose 4th edition is from 1889.

Edouard Gauntlett made an adaptation of the Pitman Phonography to Japanese. He had to face the difficulty because of the large number of Japanese vowels. This system, like the KANA or simple system of own writing in Japan, is totally syllabic.

Gauntlett was born in England, emigrated to the United States. From there he went to Canada and then, in 1890, to Japan, where he taught English and then the Shorthand. After studying the 3 or 4 systems existing in Japan, he prepares for 6 years his *PHONOGRAPHIA JAPONICA*, used by numerous stenographers of the Japanese Parliament.

On the other hand, French Stenography also had followers.

According to l'Annuaire international (1886), a follower of the Duployé method adapted it to the Japanese language. And in September 1885 a course was opened at a state school in Tokyo.

In 1874 the Earl of Castillon, a member of the Orientalist Congress, published a similar essay in *STÉNOGRAPHE*.

Albert Navarre, in his book *Histoire Générale de la Sténographie et de l'Écriture a travers les Ages* says that one of his students, surnamed OSAKU, learned the Duployé system and promised to adapt that French system to Japanese. He returned to his country on occasion of the Russo-Japanese war, from which Navarre never heard from him again. And he adds that in 1898 he taught the Duployé system to a very intelligent student - his surname would be Chardin (?) - whose father was a French consul in Yokohama. The young man, before entering the diplomatic career, stayed a while in Japan.

A French priest, surnamed BERGER, settled in northern Japan, where he taught French shorthand.

During the trip he made to France in 1902, the French Catholic Bishop of Tokyo and Yokohama, MUGABURE, of the Basque Country, in an interesting interview with Albert Navarre gave information on the Japanese language and the abbreviated script in Japan.

Today, thanks to the information provided by our colleague Tsewo Kaneko, we can say that the number of stenographers in some Japanese organisms is as follows

- The House of Representatives holds 125,
- The House of Councilors holds 100,
- They are all hand writing verbatim reporters.
- And the Supreme Court keeps 187 machine verbatim reporters (Stenotypists).



Shorthand & Information Society, by Tsuguo Kaneko

And Tsuguo Kaneko adds: "We don't have exact numbers though; the members of Japan Stenography Association and nonmembers are estimated about 2,000 - 2,500 reporters are working in various purpose in Japan Today."

Kaneko is the author of an interesting book called Shorthand and Information Society.

From the information provided also by Tsuguo Kaneko, we can say that today there are about 20 systems are still in use in Japan. Among others, the following:

- Shugiin system (The House of Representatives system from Takusari system)
Discontinue training
- Sangiin system (The House of Councilor system from Takusari system) Discontinue training)
- Nakane system
- Waseda system

And the still training now are:

- Nakane sysytem (Nakane Sokki Gakkko, Kwansei Gakuin University Shorthand club, Gifu Commercial High School Shorthand club etc)
- Waseda system (Waseda University Shorthand club etc)
- Yamane system (Kansai University Shorthand club)
- V system by Masakatsu Kotani
- Ishimura system (Fukuoka University etc)
- Nissokuken system

Other graphic shorthand systems are:

- Nagasho system (Satoshi Konishi, Nagasaki prefecture)
- Gendai Kokugo Hyosho Sokkiho (Takumyo Mori, Kyoto city)
- Satake system (Yasuhei Satake, Tokyo)
- Itoh system (Katsuji Itoh, Nagoya city)
- Kokuji system (Juko Kokuji, Hiroshima city)
- Takusari system (Gen-ichi Takusari, Tokyo)
- Yoneda system (Doshisha University, Kyoto, Yoshikane Yoneda)
- Fukahori Uchu Kana system(Tomo Nakata,Hyogo prefecture
- Etc.

As for shorthand machines, we can mention Sokutaipu system (Akira Kawakami, Tokyo) and Speed warpro (Kunihiro Shibata, Tokyo), among others.

As we can see, Japan is a country with great traditions, even in shorthand.

Intersteno Turkish group - brief information

By Seckin Kose

Our past president, Ihsan Yener, invented F keyboard. It is the most suitable keyboard for Turkish language. With this method, computers have been used without looking at the keyboard in a scientific way.

Ihsan Yener organized Turkey's membership into Intersteno and after the membership was confirmed, he arranged the participation of Turkey in council meetings and competitions. He played important role in our country's high-rank results in competitions.

While aiming to increase use of F keyboard in Turkey, Ihsan Yener had work closely with the people listed below, under Intersteno Turkish Group. This group consists of 70 instructors, competitors, academicians and stenographers. The President of the group is the most senior member.

Some members of our group are listed below (based on seniority):

- - Muzaffer OKUTKAN,
- - Ünal UZDİL,
- Ece ÖZBAYRAK
- Seçkin KÖSE
- Hasan ATAY
- Bayram BORA
- Akar APAY
- Erdal CAVA,
- Cezmi SEZER
- Hüsnü ABBAS
- Yılmaz TOKGÖZ
- Osman TÜLÜ
- Saynur KILIÇASLAN
- Nurben DÖNMEZ
- Ümame KUYUMCU
- Mesud KARAGÖZ,
- Gülnur İNAN,
- Prof.Dr. Belkıs ÖZKARA
- Prof.Dr. Ahmet Kemal BAYRAM
- Doç.Dr. İsmail Hakkı NAKİLCİOĞLU,
- Hakan KURT
- Tufan BEKMEZ
- Hakan TOPUZOĞLU
- Recep ERTAŞ
- Celal AŞKIN
- Recep ÇÖMLEKÇİ
- Emrah KUYUMCU
- Ümit SERBEST,
- Sevilay GÜNDOĞDU
- Dr. Aydın AKYOL
- Adnan AKMEŞE,
- Arif ALTUNTAŞ
- Av. Süleyman ÜNSOY
- Av. Bekir ARABACI
- Murat ARIKAN
- Abdullah Cemal TOLA
- Hüseyin ÖZÇELİK
- Hasan ERDOĞAN
- Gökhan KÖSE.

After our late president Ihsan Yener passed away, and at the request of our two senior instructors (Muzaffer Okutkan, Unal Uzdil) and our first Word champion, Ece Ozbayrak, Seckin Kose became president. Seckin Kose has been working in the group as Ihsan Yener's assistant for the last 25 years.

Intersteno Turkish group

Ihsan Yener has been the country representative since Turkey became a member of Intersteno. After Ihsan Yener was appointed Honorary President, Seckin Kose became (and is still serving in the position) the country representative to Intersteno.

The Occupational Associations in Turkey are:

- F keyboard and Information Technology Association (founded by Ihsan Yener)
- F Keyboard Flying Fingers Association (founded by Seckin Kose)
- Stenographs Association (founded by Stenographs employed in Turkish Parliament)

These associations are supporting and assisting Turkish representatives in Intersteno activities. Our group, country representative, and associations have been working closely to broaden the scientific usage of keyboards in our country, and they have shown incredible effort to have ten finger keyboard usage in schools.

Kind regards

Seckin Kose

Intersteno country representative Turkey, and President of Intersteno Turkish Group.

Council & IPRS meetings in Istanbul

Intersteno Turkish Group (F-Keyboard and Information Processing Association) is ready to welcome the Intersteno Council and IPRS members to the Council and IPRS meeting in Istanbul, 10-13 October 2018.

Venue Holiday Inn Şişli Hotel, Halaskargazi Cad. 19 Mayıs Mah. No:206 34360 Şişli İstanbul. Tel.: +90 212 373 3800.

Participation Fees

Basic package (single room, 3 nights)	440,00 EUR
Basic package (double room, 3 nights, 2 persons)	730,00 EUR
Extra night, single room	80,00 EUR
Extra night, double room, 2 persons	100,00 EUR
Optional excursion to the Bosphorus and Nature Tour	75,00 EUR

The basic package includes:

- 3 nights with breakfast in the Holiday Inn Şişli Hotel, Istanbul
- Welcome dinner at the hotel
- 2 lunches at the hotel
- Use of conference rooms and technical equipment at the hotel
- Coffee break once a day (or more, if requested)
- Mineral water on the tables, in quantities as needed
- Guided tourist tour of the city
- Gala dinner at a Turkish-Ottoman Cuisine Restaurant in Istanbul
- Use of parking garage at the hotel.
- Use of fitness and wellness facilities at the hotel, as well as massage services, with booking at least 12 hours in advance.
- Tourist tax

Registration and payments

Registration is in progress, directly on the website of the Intersteno Turkish Group

www.interstenoturk.org.

In Memoriam

At 102 years old, the Argentine stenographer Federico Barboza died on September 3, in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

He was born in Buenos Aires on April 22, 1916. He moved to the province of Santa Fe and then returned to Buenos Aires, where he participated in a public contest to become a Stenographer of the Senate. He won that contest and began working as a stenographer on March 1, 1937, with the position of assistant stenographer. He developed his entire career there and became Deputy Director of Stenographers. He retired on December 31, 1977.



In addition to stenographer, he was also a lawyer and practiced both professions. He was an excellent stenographer not only in Argentina: for many years he was one of the Argentine stenographers who worked as a stenographer at the United Nations, where he had the opportunity to meet stenographers from other countries and the most distinguished personalities in the world.

Very recently, on June 26 of this year, within the framework of the 140th anniversary of the creation of the Argentinean Senate stenographers' office, an honorary diploma was presented to him "in recognition of his outstanding work as a stenographer of the Argentine Senate, within the framework of the commemoration of the 140th anniversary of the creation of the Stenographers office."

He also developed an outstanding work in sports. He was president of the Buenos Aires Lawn Tennis Club and vice president of the Argentine Tennis Association. At age 60, he was Argentine tennis champion and won championships in other countries. But his most important triumph was in Turkey, where at his 87 he won the world championship of the International Tennis Federation for people over 85 years. He has retired from tennis at age 90 to be with his wife, who was ill. All an example!

Last year we were lucky enough to interview him on the radio program "Palabras Dibujadas" ("Drawn Words") where he told us his experiences in his long career, always emphasizing the preparation that a good stenographer should have and the training that should be done for it.

Federico Barboza has passed away, but he left us his example of life and his commitment to the profession. From here, these words are a modest tribute in his memory. Rest in peace!

Event Calendar

A special note: The deadline to submit articles for the December *e-news* is 25 November. Thank you to all contributors – past, present and future – for keeping us informed and connected!

October 10-12, 2018	Intersteno Council Meeting - Istanbul
October 27, 2018	50-year Wiener Urkunde (Vienna, Austria)
July 13-19, 2019	52nd Intersteno Congress – Cagliari, Sardinia
August 15-18, 2019	NCRA convention - Denver, Colorado (USA)

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International Federation for Information and communication Processing

Internationale Föderation für Informations-und Kommunikationsverarbeitung

Fédération internationale pour le traitement de l'information et de la communication

