

## 2024-2025 Report on the ICLA Research Committee on Translation Studies

### International Comparative Literature Association (ICLA)

Submitted July 19, 2025

In our 11th year, the ICLA Research Committee on Translation Studies continues to promote the interdisciplinary field of translation studies by building an international network of scholars through conference seminars at both the ACLA and ICLA and at affiliated regional conferences. Our research committee comprises a small leadership group of ten and a larger email list of approximately 200 international scholars and affiliates.

In 2024, we organized two seminars. The first, “Everything Everywhere All at Once: Rethinking Intersemiotic Translation Practices,” took place at the March 2024 ACLA Conference in Montreal, with eight presenters (see **Appendix I**). This seminar was jointly organized with colleagues associated with the San Pellegrino Summer School for Advanced Research in Translation.

The second conference, “The ‘Growth’ of Translation Studies: View from Asia,” organized by steering committee members Rindon Kundu and Saswati Saha took place with a broader cohort of twenty-four international scholars (see **Appendix II**) at the ICLA Comparative Literature Association of India (CLAI) Conference in September 2024.

The CLAI panel, organized by the ICLA Translation Studies Research Committee, interrogated the disciplinary expansion of Translation Studies from within Asia’s diverse intellectual and linguistic ecologies. Drawing on Edward Said’s notion of the worldliness of theory, the panel foregrounded how translation, as theory and practice, is transformed when relocated across geographies. Through critical engagements with collaborative translation, translational historiography, institutional challenges, and the epistemic asymmetries of global knowledge production, the presentations traced how Asian scholarship is not merely responding to but actively reshaping the contours of TS. The panel reaffirmed that Translation Studies in Asia is not peripheral to theory but a vibrant site for rethinking disciplinarity, collaboration, and the politics of location in the global academy.

At the March 2024 ACLA conference, we also held an ICLA Committee business meeting, in which we drafted the “Translation Futures” CFP for both the 2025 ACLA Conference (a virtual meeting) and the 2025 ICLA Conference in Seoul, Korea, in collaboration with the Korean Association of East-West Comparative Literature and Dongguk University (see **Appendix III**: the CFP for ACLA and ICLA; **Appendix IV**: a list of ACLA 2025 Participants; and **Appendix V**: a list of ICLA 2025 participants).

At the upcoming ICLA 2025 conference, we will hold another business meeting of the ICLA, and we will discuss upcoming elections for a new leadership cohort for the Translation Studies Committee. We plan to have elections in 2025 so that the 2023-2026 cohort can facilitate the transition for the new leadership group, the 2026-2029 cohort.

Additionally, two members of our leadership group, Isabel Gómez and Marlene Hansen Esplin, published a co-edited volume that stemmed from the research committee's seminars from 2020-21, *Translating Home in the Global South: Migration, Belonging, and Language Justice*. Published in 2024 with the Routledge Advances in Translation and Interpreting Studies series, all nine chapters of this edited volume were completed by members of the ICLA Translation Studies Research Committee. We are grateful to the ICLA Executive Council for supporting the publication and dissemination of this book by providing a subvention fund of \$1600. This volume was recently awarded an honorable mention for the ACLA's 2025 René Wellek Prize for a co-edited collection (see **Appendix VI for the book description and TOC**).

## **2023-2026 Committee Leadership**

### **President**

Youngmin Kim, Dongguk University, [yk4147@gmail.com](mailto:yk4147@gmail.com)

### **Vice-President**

Marlene Hansen Esplin, Brigham Young University, [mhesplin@byu.edu](mailto:mhesplin@byu.edu)

### **Secretary**

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### **Steering Committee Members**

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Rindon Kundu, Sri Sri University, [rindon86@gmail.com](mailto:rindon86@gmail.com)

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Anandi Rao, SOAS, University of London, [ar75@soas.ac.uk](mailto:ar75@soas.ac.uk)

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Stephen Zhongqing Wu, Hainan Vocational University, PRC, [wzq89898@163.com](mailto:wzq89898@163.com)

Our research committee is open and warmly welcomes the participation and input of anyone interested in the field of translation studies. Should you have any questions or wish to join our email list, please contact the committee president Youngmin Kim ([yk4147@gmail.com](mailto:yk4147@gmail.com)) and our committee secretary Golda Van der Meer ([goldavandermeer@gmail.com](mailto:goldavandermeer@gmail.com)).

## **\*\*Appendix I: ACLA 2024 Seminar, “Everything Everywhere All at Once: Rethinking Intersemiotic Translation Practices”**

**ACLA 2024 Seminar**, Sponsored by the ICLA Committee on Translation: Everything Everywhere All at Once: Rethinking Intersemiotic Translation Practices

Organizer(s): Christi Merrill, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, Michelle Woods, New Paltz SUNY, Marlene Esplin, Brigham Young University

The idea for this panel grew out of a discussion at the 2023 Summer School for Advanced Research in Translation in San Pellegrino as faculty and students worked together to theorize

acts of multilingual and/or intersemiotic translation as distinct from the neural networks of Artificial Intelligence. We began asking: How might we understand the distinct role of human artistry in these translation practices in ways that are empowering to translators and other human creators? Which parts of our traditions fall outside the data sets recognized by current algorithms? Can interlingual translation and/or intersemiotic translation practices help present new and newly-imagined notions of the human (unbound by white, patrilinear, heteronormative and ableist thought) in the posthuman and transhuman moment? We are particularly interested in learning more about the particularities of examples that challenge the status quo and encourage both alumni of the Summer School and others interested in being part of the conversation to apply.

### **ACLA 2024 Seminar Participants**

#### **Translator Memoirs and the Autotheoretical Text**

Michelle Woods, New Paltz (State University of New York)

#### **Decolonial translations in Hindi literary texts: The case of Prakashwati Pal**

Swarnim Khare, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor

#### **Translating Futures: All Too Human**

Bella Brodzki, Sarah Lawrence College

#### **“Every beloved object is the center of a garden of paradise:” The Shapes of Story in *Too Loud a Solitude***

Summer Mohrmann, New Paltz (State University of New York)

#### **Language-Agnostic Space: From NMT to Multimodal AI**

Avery Slater, University of Toronto

#### **PEMT as Feedback Loops between Artificial Intelligence and Human Intelligence**

Youngmin Kim, Dongguk University

#### **Translation, History and the Digital Counterarchive: Chris Marker’s Level Five**

Claire Gullander-Drolet, City University of Hong Kong

### **\*\*Appendix II: 2024 CLAI XVII Biennial International Conference, in collaboration with University of Delhi, September 10-12, “The ‘growth’ of Translation Studies: View from Asia”**

**Organizers:** This international conference and seminar were organized by Translation Studies Committee Members Rindon Kundu and Saswati Saha in collaboration with the Comparative Literature Association of India (CLAI).

**CFP: “The ‘growth’ of Translation Studies: View from Asia”**

Even if a theory claims to be universal, according to Said (1983) it will alter when applied to a different location or era since all theories are “worldly,” or historically contextual. Said is of the opinion that no system or theory can exhaust the environment from which it comes or to which it is moved, despite the fact that transfers have the potential to diminish and institutionalise strong ideas. The same applies to Translation Studies (TS), its theories and practices. Although TS has largely centred around the Western epistemological discourses on translation, the discipline has seen rapid growth in countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America. Recent researches on mapping the intellectual structures and research trends in TS (Pan & Wu 2023; Lee & Wan 2018) have dealt with the keyword analysis, research sub-areas and institutional factors proving that TS has continued to flourish outside the Western world. Considering the interdisciplinary/multidisciplinary tendencies inherent in TS, scholars have also talked about the changing landscape of TS vis-à-vis the changes in the thematic concepts, methods and approaches thereby making translation “more fluid while scholars in TS are becoming more nomadic (in their affiliations and between disciplines) (Gambier 2023).

This panel will enquire into the growth of translation studies as a discipline, especially in Asian academic circles and will try to investigate whether the growth is taking place considering the local ethos and taking the situational realities in its purview or the development of the field in Asian land is orchestrated by reinforcing the western hegemony of the discipline through the channel of ‘globalization’. Since ‘translation’ as an act oscillates between the ‘present’ and the ‘past’, with shifts and overlaps in paradigm, this panel would also like to inquire into the historiography of the discipline in Asia and its future perspectives and challenges.

This seminar, organized by the ICLA Translation Studies Research Committee, invites abstracts interrogating the disciplinary growth of Translation Studies especially in Asia and considers themes including but not limited to the following:

Asian Translation Studies

Translation Studies: Local vs Global

Trajectory of the Discipline

Future of Translation Studies

Metahistoriography/ Historiographical methods of TS

Multidisciplinary nature and continuous paradigm shifts of TS

Institutionalization of TS in non-western countries

Challenges (internal/external) faced by TS in Asia today

Importance of collaboration in translation

### **CLAI Seminar Participants**

#### **Transformative Translation in the New Digital Age**

Youngmin Kim, Dongguk University

#### **Translationality: An Everyday Theory of Translation**

Matthew Reynolds, Oxford University

#### **Local Concerns and Trans-national Influences: Imagination of Reform in the Early Arabic and Urdu Historical Romances**

Mohammad Irfan, Ambedkar University Delhi,

**Mapping the Intellectual Landscape in India: Translation Today and the changing dynamics of research trends**

Saswati Saha, Sikkim University, India

**Use of Transmodality in ‘Modern’ Historiography of Assam Colony**

Pompi Basumatary, Christ (Deemed to be University), Delhi NCR, India

**Translating India’s Northeast: A Study of Select Anthologies from the Region**

Niborna Hazarika, Jawaharlal Nehru University, India

**Assam and the Assamese in English Translation**

Shibani Phukan, University of Delhi, India

Vivek Mishra, Southfield College (Loreto), Darjeeling, India

**Comparative and Critical Perspective on selected works of William Butler Yeats and Hari Bhakta Katuwal**

**Oral Traditions in Transition: An English Translation of the Ao Naga Story “The Story of Yartsüngla and Tenlala”**

Kikummaro, St. Joseph University, India

**Translation as a Method: Nourishing Generic Extant in Pre- Modern Chinese Literary Tradition**

Barnali Chanda, Harvard Yenching Institute and Ashoka University, India

**Parallel to Global South: Chinese Literature in Translation**

Suvro Parui, Vivekananda International Foundation (VIF), New Delhi, India

**Performative to the Prescriptive: An attempt to plot the important milestones in the practice of translation in Maharashtra**

Priyada Padhye, Jawaharlal Nehru University, India

**Drama Translation in Western India from 1860 to 1912: A Trend in Theory of Translation and Social Reform**

Kavita Patil, B. M. Ruia Girls’ College, Mumbai, India

**The Challenges of Indirect Literary Translation in India**

Nidhi J. Makwana, Pandit Deendayal Energy University, Gandhinagar, India

**Untranslatability as Method: Practicing Plurality in Translation**

Deepshikha Behera, University of Hyderabad, India

**Dynamics of Abridgement: Mapping the Spread of English in India**

Manas Ranjan, University of Delhi, India

**Complexities in Translating Hindi Literature for Global Audiences**

Anjali Kumari, Central University of Gujarat, India

**Memories and Desire in Margins: Reading Select Adivasi women poets from Kerala as Translation Mechanism of multi-lingual Affect**

Gihana P., Institute for Social Sciences, Humanities, and Oceanic Research (I-SHORE), India

**Importance of Collaboration in Translation: A Study of Amruta Patil's Kari and Srividya Natarajan's *A Gardener in the Wasteland***

Indulekha G, Central University of Gujarat, India

**Translating Narratives: An Analysis of Benyamin's Adujeevitham and Its Film Adaptation by Blessy**

Reneeta Anna Robert

**Ferrying back the 'Girmitiyas': A case for translating the Francophone Literary works from the West Indian Ocean into Hindi**

Runjhun Verma, Pondicherry University, India

**Towards Inclusive Translation Practices: Disability Perspectives in Asian Contexts**

Jyoti Prasad, Jawaharlal Nehru University, India

**Translating Again and Again: Towards the Conceptualization of Multiple Translations**

Ajay Varma Alluri, English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad, India

**The 'growth' of Translation Studies: A view from South Asia**

Rindon Kundu, Sri Sri University, India

**\*\*Appendix III, CFP for ACLA 2025 and ICLA 2025**

Translators and interpreters in the digital age face manifold opportunities and challenges that are only compounded as Artificial Intelligence in the form of Large Language Models moves into the public sphere. This seminar explores how new forms of technology and media shape the work of translation and prompt new forms of reading and engaging with archives or bringing the past into the present and future. We consider ethical and philosophical implications of emerging translation technologies. How do new translation technologies and literary ecosystems disrupt notions of authorship, textuality, and agency? What translation interventions are warranted to safeguard and lend visibility to minority languages and marginalized subjects? What are the particular perils and opportunities for translators in an era of globalization and our shared susceptibility to crises such as pandemics, the manipulation of information, and a changing climate? We ask what translators and translation theorists might offer a world coming to terms with new problems of language, communication, truth, and representation.

This seminar, organized by the ICLA Translation Studies Research Committee, invites abstracts interrogating digital translation encounters from a variety of methodological and theoretical perspectives—literary, historical, sociolinguistic, ethical—and considers themes including but not limited to the following:

Translation and AI  
 Translation and the Digital Archive  
 Translation and the Nonhuman  
 Translation and Globalization  
 Translation and Crisis  
 Translation Equity and Agency  
 Translation Justice in the Digital Era  
 Collaborative Translation  
 Translation and Affect  
 Translation and Intermediality

### **\*\*Appendix IV, ACLA 2025, Translation Futures, a virtual meeting**

**Organizers:** Anandi Rao, SOAS University of London; Youngmin Kim, Dongguk University

#### **Participants in the Virtual Conference:**

Friday, May 30, 2025

#### **Breaking Barriers: Leveraging Corpus Tools for Cantopop’s Global Reach**

Hiu Chi Chan, Chinese University of Hong Kong

#### **How to Translate Animals in Eco-translation: Adapting Methods and Strategies from Related Translation Theory?**

Hongyang Ji, University of Alberta

#### **Temporality of gender: Dealing with euphemisms and invisibility of “Chaste” Urdu in translating Sibylle Berg’s Gender Manifesto of the future**

Salman Abbas Syed, Aligarh Muslim University

Saturday, May 31, 2025

#### **Rethinking Translation Pedagogy in the 21st Century: Integrating AI and Digital Tools for Ethical and Critical Engagement**

Vanesa Cañete Jurado, Purdue University

#### **The New Translation Ethics in the Age of AI**

Stephen Zhongqing Wu, Hainan Vocational University of Science and Technology, Hainan Vocational University of Science and Technology

#### **Translation As an Act of Intelligent Coding**

Youngmin Kim, Dongguk University

## **\*\*Appendix V, Translation Futures, ICLA 2025, July 28-Aug 1**

Organizers: Marlene Hansen Esplin, Rindon Kundu, and Stephen Wu

### **Proposed Schedule and List of Participants:**

#### **July 28, Session 1, Modes of Digital Reading/Technical Translation**

##### **LLMs and Creative Translation: Decolonial Methods in Human-AI collaboration**

Behera, Deepshikha, The English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad, India,

##### **Collaborative Translation of Indigenous Literature: Digitization and Preservation**

Saha, Saswati, Sikkim University, India

##### **Digital Reading: How Does Meaning Travel**

Li, Xinyi, The University of Amsterdam

##### **Converging the Metalanguage of Information Literacy and Translation Literacy**

Marlene Hansen Esplin, Brigham Young University

#### **July 28, Session 2, AI LLM and Practices of Reading**

##### **Translating the Self: Maja Lee Langvad's Transnational Autofictional Narrative Identities**

Julie Allen, Brigham Young University

##### **Translating Posthuman's Power: A Subversion-Containment Analysis of Human's and GenAI's Rewriting**

Zhong, Zhenhao, East China Normal University, China, People's Republic of

##### **The Mantle of a Multi-hyphenate Translator**

Marcelo, Arra Dianne Beatingo, Ateneo de Manila University, Philippines

##### **Deleuze en Chine: traduire pour un savoir local**

Ao, Long, Nanjing University, China, People's Republic of

#### **July 29, Session 1, Machine Translation and the Global South**

##### **The Changing Connotation of Translation: Perspectives and Challenges in Translating Literature**

Chattopadhyay, Suchorita, Jadavpur University, India

##### **POS Tagging and Grammatical Structures in Tamil Lyrics by a Prominent Lyricist: A Natural Language Processing and Friedman's Model Analysis**

Gnana Prakasam Louis Raja., Saviour Prakash (1); Ganesan, Ramesh (2); GL, Christina Martha (3), 1: Central University of Tamil Nadu

**A Statistical Analysis of Vallinam and Idaiyinam Grammar in Tamil Pulavarkal from the 3rd Century BC to the 3rd Century AD.**

Ganesan, Ramesh (1); Gnana Prakasam Louis Raja, Saviour Prakash (2); GL, Christina Martha (3), Central University of Tamil Nadu

**Revisiting Shakuntalam's translations: Rethinking cultural translation in a digitized world**

Jha, Sachida Nand, Delhi University

**July 29, Session 2, South-South Translation**

**An Exploration of the ‘Perspectives’ and ‘Ethics’ of Translation as a Cross-Cultural Encounter: Comparative Analysis of the English Translations of Madhavikutty’s**

“ജനൽപ്പടിയിലെ വിളക്ക്.

Kombil, Megha Sathianarayanan, The English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad

**A brief analysis of the characteristics of Sijo and its translation as a bridge to Korean culture and the formation of cultural identities in Brazilian chant poetry**

Souza. Mello Alves de, Mariana; Magaldi. Alves, Carolina, Federal University of Juiz de Fora - UFJF, Brazil

**Black Translation as a Site of Reparation: Translation, Healing and Global South**

Kundu, Rindon, Sri Sri University, India

**Cultural Appropriation and Identity Reconstruction: The Translational Journey of One Thousand and One Nights in Modern China**

Kong, Que, Peking University, United Kingdom

**July 30, Session 1, East-West Translation**

**East-West Collaboration to Translate East-West Literature: the Case of Xie Hong**

Swindall Jr, Harold Wayne; Sun, Jicheng  
Woosong University, South Korea

**Gained in Translation: Comparative Translation in the 21st Century**

Hossain, Mashrur Shahid  
Jahangirnagar University, Bangladesh,

**New Translation Ethics in the Age of AI and LLM**

Wu, Stephen, Hainan Vocational University of Science and Technology

**July 30, Session 2, Translation Across Borders**

**Time and Gender in Translation: Dealing with Euphemisms and Invisibility of Urdu in the Translation of Futuristic Gender Discourse of Sibylle Berg**

Abba, Syed Salman, Aligarh Muslim University, India

**Translatable or Not? Tracking Yiyun Li's Fiction Style from 2003 to Today**

Wenqing Wang, Independent scholar, teacher in Shanghai Yangpu Bilingual School, China

**Langston Hughes Translates Nellie Campobello**

Esplin, Emron, Brigham Young University

**Translation as Border Crossing: A Study**

Timiri, Sai Chandra Mouli, Independent Scholar, India

**\*\*Appendix VI: *Translating Home* Book Description and Table of Contents**

*Translating Home in the Global South: Migration, Belonging, and Language Justice*, edited by Isabel C. Gómez and Marlene Hansen Esplin, Routledge, 2024.

**Book Description**

This collection explores the relationships between acts of translation and the movement of peoples across linguistic, cultural, and physical borders, centering the voices of migrant writers and translators in literatures and language cultures of the Global South.

To offer a counterpoint to existing scholarship, this book examines translation practices as forms of both home-building and un-homing for communities in migration. Drawing on scholarship from translation studies as well as eco-criticism, decolonial thought, and queer theory, the book's three sections critically reflect on different dimensions of the intersection of translation and migration in a diverse range of literary genres and media. The first part looks at self-translation, collaboration, and co-creation as modes of expression born out of displacement and exile. The second section considers radical strategies of literary translation and the threats and opportunities they bring in situations of detention and border policing. The final part looks ahead to the ways in which translation can act as a powerful means of fostering responsibility, solidarity, and community in building an inclusive, multilingual public sphere even in the face of climate crisis. This dynamic volume will be of particular interest to students and scholars in translation studies, migration and mobility studies, postcolonial studies, and comparative literature.

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*Isabel C. Gómez and Marlene Hansen Esplin, editors*

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*Marlene Hansen Esplin*

Chapter 2. Post-National Refugee Writing on Social Media: Translation as a Strategy of Survival

*Tatjana Soldat-Jaffe*

Chapter 3. An Almost Invisible Scene: Collaboration and Co-Creation in the Task of Translating

Ricardo Piglia

*Sergio Waisman*

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Chapter 4. Dwelling in Indeterminacy: Interpreting the Migrant Poet in Detention

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Chapter 6. "A Big, Beautiful Wall": Experimental Translation and Decolonial Practice in Mónica de la Torre's *Repetition Nineteen*

*Janet Hendrickson*

### **Part III: Stateless Translation and Planetary Ecologies**

Chapter 7. Fluid Voices: Translating Language and Place in Novels of Migration

*Yan Wu*

Chapter 8. Specters of Home in Agha Shahid Ali's Translations of Faiz Ahmed Faiz and Mahmoud Darwish

*Wafa Hamid*

Chapter 9. A Puerto Rican Poetics of Disaster Relief and Cuir Eco-Translation

*Isabel C. Gómez*

### **Report Respectfully Submitted on Jun 20, 2025, on behalf of the ICLA Translation Committee Leadership Group by:**

Marlene Hansen Esplin

Vice President of the ICLA Translation Studies Committee

Associate Professor of Humanities and Coordinator of Latin American Studies

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Brigham Young University