

'Living Translation as Translaboration: Introduction'

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Introducing the 'Living Translation as Translaboration' panel, this presentation will provide an overarching conceptual framework for the various panel presentations that follow. Central to this endeavour is our detailed exposition of the notion of translaboration, an essentially 'blended concept' (Fauconnier & Turner 2002), as both an investigate category and a critical practice that responds to the increasingly widespread confluence of 'translation' and 'collaboration' within and outside of Translation Studies.

Bringing 'translation' and 'collaboration', as well as the often highly heterogenous practices associated with them, "into open conceptual play with one another" (Alfer 2017: 275) allows us, we contend, to respond to the question of how exactly translation and collaboration intersect and bear on one another both conceptually and in practice, to explore translaboration as a category that illuminates the triad of people, processes, and products across various fields of practice, and to address the ethics of such encounters.

In the context of this particular panel, we focus on the added conceptual value generated by applying 'translaboration' to contemporary instances of 'networked' translation production, including but not exclusively focussing on various forms of technologically mediated, aided, or facilitated collaborative translation such as crowdsourced translation of technical and specialised material, fansubbing, collaborative translanguaging practices, or the socially constructed nature of machine translation. This allows us to frame the panel discussions, themselves conceived as a translationally collaborative endeavour, as an exploration not only about the inherently collaborative dimensions of both the practice and the concept of translation, but also the translational dimension (i.e. the knowledge transfer conditions) of 'collaboration' as conceptualised outside of Translation Studies (e.g. Carlile 2004).

References

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