

CURRICULUM VITAE – TONY PRATSCHKE

General

Over a period of thirty years my consultancy work has taken me to many countries where the first language was not English. Because of this I had many opportunities to develop language skills starting with the translation of local materials into English and proofreading material produced by my team members.

Since returning to Ireland in 1999 I have undertaken a postgraduate diploma in Irish Studies and Translation (2002-03) and a diploma in radio broadcasting (2004-05). I work full-time as a writer, translator and broadcaster. I am at present studying for an M.A. in Modern Irish Translation Studies, at Queen's University Belfast (part-time).

Education

1958-1962	<i>Bachelor of Electrical Engineering, University College, Cork, Ireland.</i>
2002-2003	<i>Diplóma Iarchéime i nGaeilge Fheidhmeach agus Aistriúcháin (Postgraduate Diploma in Applied Irish and Translation).</i>

Languages

English, Irish, Latin, Russian, French, Bahasa Indonesia and Esperanto.

Experience

2000-Now	Freelance Writer, Translator and Broadcaster
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I work as a freelance writer and translator from English, Irish, Latin, Russian, French, Indonesian and Esperanto (source languages) to Irish and English (target languages). I provide a variety of editing and proofreading services (<www.clearenglish.net>). In addition, I work as a volunteer translator for free, open source software.

Recent work includes the following:

- An autobiography from Irish to English (“An Baile i bhFad Siar” by Dónal Mac an tSithigh);
- Translation of contract documents FR>EN
- Web site localisation EN>GA, FR>EN,
- Translation and proofreading of contract documents for a French national service provider FR>EN;
- Translation of a film script from English (with some French) into Irish for a national competition (script won, film has been produced, premiered in September 2005 and sequel is now in preparation);
- The preface for an American publication on Gregorian Chant from Latin (Vatican II document) to English;
- A book of traditional folk tales from Russian to Irish (in progress)(personal project);
- Irish Government EU Presidency web site <www.eu2004.ie>. Working as member of translation team producing daily translations of Government press releases, photo captions, etc. (EN>GA);
- County Development Boards – minutes of meetings (EN>GA);
- A UK Department of Education, – education documents (EN>GA);
- Iterium Software, St. Petersburg, Russia – Mobile Phone Manual (proofreading) (EN-EN);
- Kvalloy bv, Baku, Azerbaijan – proofreading translations (RU-EN);
- In addition to these I broadcast in Irish on RTÉ Raidió na Gaeltachta (RnaG) and TG4. I have produced and presented a documentary on RnaG (“Na Gaeil Muslamaigh – The Irish Muslims”) and been the subject of an half-hour documentary programme on TG4 about my life and work (“Comhrá” with Máirtín Tom Sheáinín Mac Dhonncha). I have appeared in a documentary (“Cogar”, in Irish) studying the life styles of Irish Muslims. I recently managed a project to run a community radio station for one week in Carnew, Co. Wicklow, financed by the Eastern Region Health Service Executive and promoting 'Home First', a project to bring representative groups of

youth and age together in a social setting. I have also run a weekly one-hour radio show for Queens Radio (University Radio Station at Queens University) with the first half-hour in Irish and the second half-hour primarily in English during term time. The second programme catered specifically for the overseas student groups studying at Queens.

Software

I work using a range of CAT (Computer Assisted Translation) software to ensure consistency in the quality of output. Some time has been spent on research of Government and other State organisation web sites comparing samples of English<>Irish translations produced to date.

An Caighdeán & Dialects (Gaeilge/Irish)

Whilst the main bulk of my work is delivered according to the standards set down in “An Caighdeán Oifigiúil” (Official Standards for written Irish), I have also translated texts for clients using Munster, Connemara and Donegal dialects.

Equipment & Communications

I use the following computer equipment:

Computer 1: MS Windows Vista, OpenOffice, MS Office, DTP, ABBYY Fine Reader (OCR software for converting non-electronic format documents), MS Publisher, Scribus, Project Manager.

Computer 2: Solaris 10 OS with full range of similar programs to Computer 1.

Computer 3: Ubuntu OS with full range of similar programs to Computer 1.

Broadband connection;

CAT and other related software: OmegaT, Wordfast, CatsCradle, SDL Trados 2007, Babel, POEdit, AnyCount, Translation Office.

Earlier Work Experience

1999-1999 Team Leader, Programme Management Unit, Department of Labour, Pretoria, South Africa <i>Managed EU funded project in South Africa introducing new labour management structures and agencies.</i>
1997-1998 Team Leader, TACIS Co-ordination Bureau, Moscow, Russian Federation <i>Managed Bureau employing Russian and EU experts preparing annual indicative programme for EU Technical Assistance programme in the Russian Federation.</i>
1997-1997 Team Leader, TEAM Area Project, Aqaba, Jordan <i>Managed EU funded project supporting the Middle East Peace Process developing an economic zone at the Northern end of the Gulf of Aqaba, spanning Egypt, Israel and</i>
1995-1996 Team Leader, Rural Consultancy Centres Project, Nizhny Novgorod, Russian Federation <i>Managed British Government project establishing a network of rural consultancy centres in the Province of Nizhny Novgorod to support newly established private farming enterprises.</i>
1993-1994 Team Leader, AKKOR Project, Moscow, Russian Federation <i>Managed EU funded project supporting the development of a new national organisation. for private farmers in Russia.</i>
1989-1990 Freelance Consultant <i>Worked on subcontract (in Germany) for UK Mergers and Acquisitions company preparing detailed reports and brochures for (former) East German companies seeking Western partners and investors.</i>
1991-92 Team Leader, PT Telkom Project, Bandung Indonesia <i>Managed International Telecommunication Union (ITU) project updating training facilities and programmes in Indonesian national telecommunications organisation.</i>

1999-1999 Team Leader, Programme Management Unit, Department of Labour, Pretoria, South Africa <i>Managed EU funded project in South Africa introducing new labour management structures and agencies.</i>
1985-1989 General Manager <i>General Manager of small London-based property development and building company. Responsible also for launching joint venture trading company importing building components from Ireland to the UK market.</i>
1975-1984 Self-employed Organisation Development Consultant <i>Provided consultancy and training/development services to a wide variety of companies in Ireland mainly in the electronic/computer, service, and agriculture sectors.</i>
<i>Managed EU funded project developing an economic zone at the north end of the Gulf of Aqaba, spanning Egypt (Taaba), Israel (Eilat) and Jordan (Aqaba)</i>
1970-1974 Chief Training Officer, Mufulira Copper Mine, Zambia <i>Managed large training department (100 staff) at mining centre on the Copperbelt.</i>
1962-1970 Principal, School of Electrical Engineering, Limerick, Ireland <i>Developed, established and managed School for apprentice and technician training.</i>

Activities

Founder and National President, iMeasc (an organisational network promoting Irish language and culture amongst new immigrant groups in Ireland);

Member of National Executive of Conradh na Gaeilge (The Gaelic League) – Irish language organisation promoting language and cultural activities throughout the country.

Member of National Executive Committee of Oireachtas na Gaeilge – Irish language organisation organising annual literary, musical and general cultural festivals throughout Ireland at different times in the year.