

CONFLUENCE

TRANSLATION IN THE CAPITAL AREA

Translation Conference 2019
Saturday, April 6 · 8:30 a.m.–5 p.m.

MC MONTGOMERY
COLLEGE

Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus
Health Sciences Center
7977 Georgia Avenue
Silver Spring, MD





ABOUT THE COVER

The cover image, from *De Toren van Babel* by Pieter Bruegel de Oude (Vienna, 1563), is familiar as a symbol of human communication (and failures of human communication) across diverging languages. Past keynote speaker David Bellos (Confluence 2016), author of *Is That a Fish in Your Ear? Translation and the Meaning of Everything*, has questioned the negative view of linguistic diversity that pervades the Tower of Babel bible story.

WHAT IS CONFLUENCE?

Confluence is an initiative to promote translation, interpretation, and translation education in the National Capital Area. One of our Confluence events is an annual all-day conference held at Montgomery College (MC). It brings together translators, interpreters, and others interested in these fields for workshops and opportunities for discussion, networking, career development, and celebration. Confluence focuses on various aspects of translation, including literary, practical, and philosophical dimensions.

Confluence also celebrates International Translation Day at Montgomery College each September by co-hosting a fun Open Mic event with the DC Area Literary Translators Network. Confluence events continue throughout the year with a series of translation-themed events oriented to students on MC's three campuses.

Sponsors

We gratefully acknowledge our event sponsors.

Montgomery College Office of Community Engagement

MC Humanities Area

This event is free and open to the public. Space is limited, so please register online at <https://cms.montgomerycollege.edu/Confluence/> For more information, including disability accommodations, call Mark Miller at 240-567-1538.

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CONFERENCE 2019 AT-A-GLANCE*

- 8:30 a.m.
Doors Open, Registration
- 9:30–10:45 a.m.
11 a.m.–12:15 p.m.
Morning Sessions
- 12:20–1 p.m.
KEYNOTE ADDRESS / Katherine E. Young
- 2–3:15 p.m.
3:30–4:45 p.m.
Afternoon Sessions
- 4:50–5 p.m.
Wrap-up

*Concurrent Sessions:
Translation/Interpretation Techniques and Practices
Art of Literary Translation
Business and Ethics of Translation
Career Development, Training and Education

WELCOME!



Dear Conferees,

On behalf of Montgomery College, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the 2019 Confluence Translation Conference. Montgomery College is a microcosm of our globalized world and languages are vital bridges across our differences. According to Montgomery County statistics, one in three residents of the county speaks a language other than English at home. With a third of our neighbors having been born outside the US, making higher education accessible to all means that the College has embraced using multiple languages in its daily business. The College's website has now been translated into six languages beyond English, and interpreting services at the College are available in dozens of languages. Our community engagement centers also serve thousands of people in their native languages, in addition to English. Such services help students and their families to enroll, connect with financial aid, and navigate all the resources the College has to offer.

There could not be a better time to celebrate the importance of translation and interpretation at Montgomery College. I commend participants in the Confluence Translation Conference for their important roles in bridging the cultural and linguistic differences in our midst. Languages truly are keys to our shared futures, and your work opens opportunity to all our community members!

I hope you have a productive and inspiring conference.

Sincerely,

DeRionne P. Pollard, PhD
President, Montgomery College

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Note: All events take place in the Health Sciences Building (HC). Room numbers are provided for each event. (See campus map in back of program.)

8:30 a.m.

Registration Check-in and Coffee

Lingua Franca Room, HC 201

9:30–10:45 a.m.

A Case for Contextualized Training of Health Care Interpreters

Presenter Indira Sultanić

Babel Room, HC 122

Voz de los sin voz: Translating Human Rights through Visual Arts and Poetry. Mario Bencastro's "Monseñor Romero," Artist Rafael Rodriguez' "Mis Zapatos," and Resistance Murals in El Salvador

Presenters Allyson Lima, Sarah Jorgensen, and Rafael Rodriguez

Eskimo Snow Room, HC 224

Midwife or Surgeon: The Publisher's Role in Bringing Out Translations

Presenters Barbara Goldberg, Nancy Naomi Carlson,

Merrill Leffler, and Carol Volk

Rosetta Stone Room, HC 222

Handwriting on the Wall: Why the Written Word Is Still Important

Presenter Jennifer Case

Septuagint Room, HC 124

11 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Websites, Treaties, and Maps, Oh My! Navigating the Many Flavors of Diplomatic Translation

US Department of State Panel

Babel Room, HC 122

What It Means to Be a Professional Interpreter and How to Get There

Presenters Michelle Gallagher and Maisoon Ateem Abdelrhman

Eskimo Snow Room, HC 224

Focus on Amharic (two presentations):

• A Tradition in Wax and Gold: Amharic Poetry and Ethiopian Identity

Presenter Tewodros Abebe

Rosetta Stone Room, HC 222

• Quality in Translating from and into Amharic

Presenter Alemtsehay Wedajo, Tayitu Cultural Center

Rosetta Stone Room, HC 222

Challenges for Rare Language Certification—Romanian Case Study

Presenter Anișoara Tutor

Septuagint Room, HC 124

12:20 p.m.

Keynote Address by Katherine E. Young

"Personal & Political: Ethics in Translation"

Babel Room, HC 122

1 p.m.
2–3:15 p.m.

Lunch on your own (See list of restaurant options near campus.)

Questions of Interpretation (two presentations):

• **Cultural Competence, Medical Translation and Interpretation for Patient Safety**

Presenter Jennifer Maxwell

[Babel Room, HC 122](#)

• **Will Artificial Intelligence Replace Interpreters?**

Presenter Marilyn Sephocle

[Babel Room, HC 122](#)

Teaching Translation, Teaching Language

Presenter Lynn Palermo

[Eskimo Snow Room, HC 224](#)

Lyrical Movements of the Soul: What Does Prose Poetry Aim For and Which of Its Elements Defy Translation?

Presenters Keith Cohen, Jonathan Woollen, David Keplinger, and Will Schutt

[Rosetta Stone Room, HC 222](#)

Transcreation: More than Just Translating Words

Presenter Alejandra Franks

[Septuagint Room, HC 124](#)

3:30–4:45 p.m.

Turkish Translation Slam

Presenters Derick Mattern, Ralph Hubbell, and Christopher Childers

[Babel Room, HC 122](#)

Focus on Chinese-to-English Translation (two presentations):

• **Needle in the Haystack: Strategies for Finding That Elusive Chinese Character**

Presenter Andrew Gudgel

[Eskimo Snow Room, HC 224](#)

• **Chi > Eng: Notes from the ATA's Newest Certification Exam**

Presenter Douglas McNeal

[Eskimo Snow Room, HC 224](#)

Serving Students' Language Needs: Collaboration with Montgomery County Language Bank

Presenter Huong Nguyen

[Rosetta Stone Room, HC 222](#)

Farsi versus Dari

Presenter Farah Arjang

[Septuagint Room, HC 124](#)

4:50–5 p.m.

Confluence 2019 Wrap-Up

[Babel Room, HC 122](#)

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Katherine E. Young is the author of *Day of the Border Guards*, 2014 Miller Williams Arkansas Poetry Prize finalist, and two chapbooks. Young has read her poetry at the Library of Congress and at US venues from Massachusetts to Mississippi; she has read internationally at the Oxford (UK) Literary Festival, at English and Scottish venues from Cheltenham to Edinburgh, and in Moscow and Novosibirsk, Russia. Young is the translator of *Farewell, Aylis*, by Azerbaijani political prisoner Akram Aylisli, named one of 2018's "Eleven Groundbreaking Works" by *Words Without Borders*, as well as *Blue Birds and Red Horses* and *Two Poems*, both by Inna Kabysch. Young's translations of Inna Kabysch won third place in the 2011 Joseph Brodsky-Stephen Spender international prize competition and were commended by the judges of the 2012 Brodsky-Spender Prize; a translation of Russian poet Xenia Emelyanova won third



PHOTO BY SAMANTHA H. COLLINS

place in the 2014 Brodsky-Spender Prize competition. Young's translations of Russian-language authors have appeared in *Asymptote*, *Los Angeles Review of Books*, *The White Review*, *The Penguin Book of Russian Poetry*, *Words for War: New Writing from Ukraine*, *100 Poems about Moscow: An Anthology*, winner of the 2017 Books of Russia award in Poetry, and many others; several have been made into short films. Young has been invited to lecture on translation at the University of Oxford (UK), Pushkin House (UK), the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and the Institut Perevoda (Moscow, Russia). She was named a 2015 Hawthornden Fellow (Scotland) and a 2017 National Endowment for the Arts translation fellow. From 2016 to 2018, she served as the inaugural poet laureate for Arlington, Virginia. <http://katherine-young-poet.com/>

WORKSHOPS AND PRESENTERS

A Case for Contextualized Training of Health Care Interpreters

9:30–10:45 a.m. • Babel Room, HC 122

An examination of the issue of insufficient exposure to medical environments during interpreter training in academic and para-academic institutions and organizations and the lack of professional internships and shadowing opportunities both prior to and on the job. As a result, many (new) interpreters are underprepared for the variety and unpredictability of the numerous medical contexts.

PRESENTER:

Indira Sultanić is an assistant professor of Spanish translation and interpreting studies at Virginia Commonwealth University. She earned a PhD in translation studies from Kent State University, and an MA in translation, Spanish, at the same institution. Sultanić is a Certified Healthcare Interpreter™ and has worked in the language industry as a project manager, translator, and a medical and community interpreter for more than 11 years. Her teaching expertise includes medical, legal, and community interpreting, Spanish-English translation, Spanish-English comparative grammar, and Language for Special Purposes (LSP). Sultanić has also taught Computer Assisted Translation (CAT) Tools at a graduate level. Her current research focuses on medical interpreter training, interpreter readiness for the hospital environment, translation and

interpreting pedagogy, language access, language industry, curriculum design and development, and service-learning.

Voz de los sin voz: Translating Human Rights through Visual Arts and Poetry: Mario Bencastro's "Monseñor Romero," Artist Rafael Rodriguez' "Mis Zapatos," and Resistance Murals in El Salvador

9:30–10:45 a.m. • Eskimo Snow Room, HC 224

On October 14, 2018, the canonization of Saint Oscar Arnulfo Romero y Galdámez was celebrated in St. Peter's Square in Rome. Monseñor Romero's voice for human rights ("voz de los sin voz") is central to understanding violence, immigration, and the history of conflict in El Salvador. Students from Professor Allyson Lima's Spanish class will read the poem "Monseñor Romero" by acclaimed writer Mario Bencastro and will also read Lima's translation of the poem. Salvadoran artist and MC student Rafael Rodriguez will present his painting "mis zapatos" (my shoes) followed by a discussion of visual imagery (the artist's shoes) as metaphor. Art History Professor Sarah Jorgensen's presentation of murals in El Salvador, inspired by Monseñor Romero, includes images from a 2018 trip to El Salvador sponsored by Global Humanities Institute at Montgomery College.

PRESENTERS:

Allyson Lima teaches Spanish at Montgomery College and is a poet and translator. Lima has translated the poetry of Mario Bencastro (El Salvador). Her poem "Walls" will be published in May 2019 in the literary journal *Catamaran*.

Sarah Katherine Jorgensen is an art history professor at Montgomery College. She has worked at museums in New York, California, and Washington DC.

Rafael Rodriguez studies art at Montgomery College and has a studio space at Red Dirt Studio in Mt. Ranier, Maryland. Born in Santa Rosa de Lime, a small town in El Salvador, he moved to the United States to find a place away from violence in El Salvador. His art reflects his own life as an individual and also the lives of other young immigrants in this country. His goal is to become an art teacher to contribute to making a better future for the youth of El Salvador.

Midwife or Surgeon: The Publisher's Role in Bringing Out Translations

9:30–10:45 a.m. • Rosetta Stone Room, HC 222

You've polished your translation masterpiece, and it has been accepted for publication. You can now sit back and relax, awaiting your complimentary copies of the finished book or journal in which your work appears, right? Not exactly, as your work will be scrutinized and edited to fit the aesthetic of your publisher. This panel of translation editors and publishers—themselves prize-winning and well-published translators in the United States and around the world—will describe what happens after a work has been accepted for publication—a process that may not be as smooth as you'd think.

PRESENTERS:

Barbara Goldberg has authored six prize-winning books of poetry, including *The Royal Baker's Daughter*, winner of the Felix Pollak Poetry Prize. Her most recent book is *Transformation: The Poetry of Translation*, winner of the Valentin Krustev Translation Award. Books translated and edited with Israeli poet Moshe Dor include: *After the First Rain: Israeli Poems on War and Peace*. Recipient of two fellowships from NEA and former senior speechwriter for AARP, she is currently series editor for the International Editions at the Word Works.

Nancy Naomi Carlson is a translator, poet, editor, and essayist, and has authored nine titles (six translated). She has received grants from the NEA, Maryland Council for the Arts, Arts & Humanities Council of Montgomery County, and was a finalist for the BTBA, as well as the CLMP Firecracker Poetry Award. Her work has appeared in the *American Poetry Review*, *The Georgia Review*, and *Poetry*.

Merrill Leffler is the author of three collections of poetry, most recently *Mark the Music*. Former Poet Laureate of Takoma Park, he is the publisher of Dryad Press. He recently published *And*

So Is the Bus: Jerusalem Stories by Yossel Birstein and *Oedipus in Brooklyn and Other Stories* by Blume Lempel. Forthcoming is *Elena Schvarts: Poetry and Prose*, translated from the Russian by Thomas Epstein and others.

Carol Volk, director of DC-ALT, has published over two dozen literary and scholarly works from the French with Farrar, Straus and Giroux, Metropolitan Books, The University of Chicago Press, Harvard University Press, and others. Authors include Tahar Ben Jelloun, Jean Dubuffet, Eric Rohmer, Amélie Nothombé, Patrick Chamoiseau, Luc Ferry, Olivier Roy, and Robert Bober. A native New Yorker, she currently lives in the DC area and, in addition to her work in literary translation, is a member of the US Foreign Service.

Handwriting on the Wall: Why the Written Word Is Still Important

9:30–10:45 a.m. • Septuagint Room, HC 124

With computers, the Internet and other technological developments, why should we even talk about handwriting? While typewriting is becoming more common, handwriting is somewhat neglected in education, especially in higher education. For those learning a language that uses a non-Latin script, or those learning English and whose first language uses a non-Latin script, handwriting is a concern in the very beginning, then quickly put on the back burner. From the perspective of a foreign language student, an ESL teacher, and a translator, handwriting is still important in foreign language and translation education. Presentation is in English; many of the examples will be in Arabic.

PRESENTER:

Jennifer Case is an Arabic-English translator and certified ESL teacher. She freelances as a translator and occasionally teaches ESL to adults in the DC metropolitan area. She grew up as an English monolingual; Arabic is her second language, which she learned through continuous studying and experiences abroad. One of those experiences abroad was living in Palestine for three months while teaching Arabic speakers English as a Foreign Language. Providing the means to communicate and be understood by others is what fuels her passion for translation and education.

Brochures, Websites, and Treaties, Oh My! Navigating the Many Flavors of Diplomatic Translation

11 a.m.–12:15 p.m. • Babel Room, HC 122

Three language professionals from the nation's oldest language service provider—the US State Department's Office of Language Services (LS)—offer a panel discussion on the roles of translators and project managers in the changing landscape of diplomatic translation. Technology, new media, emerging languages—all

impose heavier demands and call for constant innovation. Panelists will focus on two areas of LS's work: (1) the comparison and certification of the foreign language and English texts of treaties and other international agreements—a painstaking process unique to LS; and (2) an overview of the many project types that LS handles—from audio translation to polished diplomatic notes—and how LS engages its clients to ensure quality and responsiveness.

PANELISTS:

Ida Jones began at the State Department's Office of Language Services (LS) as a translation intern in the summer of 2011. She eventually migrated to the project management team, where she brings to bear experience in technology and teaching, as well as translation and project management, coordinating translation services for the State Department, White House, and other government agencies. Of Caribbean extraction, she holds a bachelor's in French from SUNY Oswego. Binghamton University awarded her a master's in computer science, certification in French to English translation, and a PhD in translation studies.

Pascale Ledeur Kraus, born in Paris, France, joined the Translating Division of the State Department's Office of Language Services, bringing more than 30 years of experience working as a contractor for such clients as the United Nations, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the Organization of American States, the Inter-American Development Bank, and the International Olympic Committee, both as a translator and a high-level conference interpreter. She holds a diploma from the Institut Supérieur d'Interprétariat et de Traduction (ISIT) in both translation and conference interpretation, an MA in conference interpretation from the Monterey Institute of International Studies, and an MBA from the George Washington University. She has taught translation and interpretation at the University of Maryland's Graduate Studies in Interpreting and Translation program. She serves as senior diplomatic translator (English and Spanish into French) in the Translating Division.

Rachel Polakoff graduated salutatorian from Colgate University in 2002 with dual degrees in French and Japanese Language and Literature. After living in Japan for the next four years, she completed her studies in Japanese Translation and Localization Management at the Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey. Selected from this program as one of only a handful of professional translation project managers in the US, she began working for the Office of Language Services in 2008 as a terminology management intern. She now serves as senior translation project manager and team leader. Incorporating technology into translation workflow is one of her passions and fuels new and innovative workflows for managing tech-laden requests, such as brochures and websites.

What It Means to Be a Professional Interpreter and How to Get There

11 a.m.–12:15 p.m. • Eskimo Snow Room, HC 224

Do you speak more than one language? Discover a rewarding career that leverages your language abilities! With more than 26 million limited English proficiency (LEP) residents in the US (more than 8% of the total population), interpreters are increasingly needed in health care, education, and the courts. This session provides an overview of the interpreting profession and outlines a career path to becoming a trained, qualified interpreter.

PRESENTERS:

Michelle P. Gallagher, MBA, MA, managing director of Cross-Cultural Communications, has more than 15 years of experience in facilitation and management of professional training programs for international audiences. She has taught at the Universidad Europea de Madrid and managed training organizations in Madrid and Maryland. She has also worked as a freelance Spanish interpreter and translator. She received a BA in international relations from Tulane University and an MBA in marketing and general management from the University of Maryland's Smith School of Business. She spent nine years living in Madrid, where she received her MA in conference interpreting at the Universidad de Cluny – ISEIT. In 2018, she was elected webmaster for the National Capital Area Translators Association (NCATA).

Maisoon Ateem Abdelrhman, program manager of Cross-Cultural Communications, is originally from Darfur, Sudan. An Arabic and Darfurian interpreter, she received her degree from Khartoum in medical laboratory science and is currently a master's degree student at the School of Conflict Analysis and Resolution at George Mason University. She has worked in several nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) in Sudan supporting refugees with a focus on HIV/AIDS, maternal and child health, and monitoring human rights violations. In the United States, she has served as an evaluation officer at the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation and as a community health promoter and Arabic and Darfurian community interpreter for the International Rescue Committee (IRC) in Baltimore, Maryland, where she helped refugees gain access to social services and medical care.

Focus on Amharic Translation (two presentations):

A Tradition in Wax and Gold: Amharic Poetry and Ethiopian Identity

11–11:30 a.m. • Rosetta Stone Room, HC 222

Amharic, the national language of Ethiopia, is a refined language of an ancient land, with complex grammatical rules and

a sophisticated writing system. Amharic poetry has qualities deeply rooted in the ስጦት እና ወርቅ (*sem'na werq*, literally meaning “wax and gold”) poetic tradition, in which double meanings are intended to convey piercing social and political commentaries. This presentation provides samples of such pieces selected from popular verses and from the presenter’s own work; it explores the challenges and gratifications of translating Amharic poetry into another language, particularly into English. The presentation will use adaptive rather than literal translation methods to give a fuller essence of the original pieces.

PRESENTER:

Tewodros Abebe is a published poet whose works have appeared in various print and media outlets aimed to reach a wide range of audiences. His collection of Amharic poetry, titled *Fetena*, and available on Amazon, has received outstanding reviews from literary circles in Ethiopia and abroad. He has written many pieces in English that have appeared in international publications, such as *The Africa Report* and *The Economist*. More than twenty of his brief comments have been published in the editorial pages of *The Washington Post*. Tewodros Abebe currently serves as senior archivist at Howard University in Washington, DC.

Quality in Translating from and into Amharic

11:30 a.m.–12:15 p.m. • Rosetta Stone Room, HC 222

Tayitu Cultural and Educational Center, headquartered in Silver Spring, Maryland, is uniquely situated to help promote the development of professional standards for Amharic translation. As a community organization founded by an acclaimed Ethiopian immigrant artist, Tayitu has been the center of gravity for most Ethiopian immigrants to the DC region. Tayitu serves members of the African community, providing artistic training and academic tutoring and mentoring services to close the academic achievement gap that adversely (and disproportionately) impacts students with immigrant, minority, and low-income backgrounds. The mentoring program strives to promote good citizenship through academic success and to increase the college-bound rate and ultimately success at the college level.

Tayitu members tend to be polyglot, speaking at least one foreign language and English, and for this reason members are often asked to translate official documents from English to Amharic, or at times to edit or review the works of other translators before dissemination to the public at large. Based on this experience, Tayitu has become aware of a general lack of standards for quality in translation from Amharic into English, and vice versa, and would like to participate in developing a strategy to ameliorate this situation.

PRESENTER:

Alemtsehay Wedajo is director of the Tayitu Cultural and Educational Center (Tayitu), a community-based nonprofit arts, cultural, and educational organization serving the Ethiopian

community and other African community members in the Washington, DC, area.

Challenges for Rare Language Certification—Romanian Case Study

11 a.m.–12:15 p.m. • Septuagint Room, HC 124

A presentation of certification-related challenges faced by rare spoken languages, and solutions identified by different entities operating in the linguistic market. Using her own experience acquired while pursuing the certification for Romanian language, Anișoara Tutor will present efforts made to establish a new language combination within the American Translators Association and for becoming a licensed court interpreter. The presentation will compare Texas and Florida certification procedures and will pinpoint options offered for the medical field and underline the ways in which holding a certification may positively impact one’s opportunities for professional development and rewarding compensation.

PRESENTER:

Anișoara Tutor is a Texas-licensed court interpreter for Romanian language. She was a member of the Initiative Committee to establish a new language combination (English to Romanian) within ATA and is currently a member of ATA, the ATIF Chapter, and the Texas Association of Judiciary Interpreters and Translators. She has more than eight years of experience as a linguist and freelance translator and interpreter.

Keynote Presentation “Personal & Political: Ethics in Translation” Address by Katharine E. Young

Babel Room, HC 122

Questions of Interpretation (two presentations):

Cultural Competence, Medical Translation and Interpretation for Patient Safety

2–2:50 p.m. • Babel Room, HC 122

As the United States becomes a more racially and ethnically diverse nation, health care systems and providers need to respond to patients’ varied perspectives, values, and behaviors about health and well-being. Failure to understand and manage linguistic, social, and cultural differences may have significant health consequences for minority groups in particular. Language and

cultural competencies are among the main components to help close the gap evident in health care disparities. This workshop is designed to improve self-efficacy and communication skills when interacting with culturally diverse Spanish speaking patients and families as well as other health professionals. It aims to provide a framework for discussion of, and examples of practical approaches to, cultural competence by evaluating current definitions of cultural competence and identifying benefits to the health care system; identifying models of culturally competent care; determining key components of cultural competence and developing recommendations to implement culturally competent interventions and to improve the sensitivity and awareness of health care professionals working with patients and family.

PRESENTER:

Jennifer Maxwell is a Spanish professor and director of the Spanish for Health Care certificate and the Spanish for Health Professionals online certificate program at The Catholic University of America in Washington, DC. She teaches medical Spanish, cultural competency, interpreting, and translating courses (face-to-face and online) to undergraduate and graduate nursing, health science, and health care professionals. She is also a medical translator and interpreter in the metropolitan DC area. She holds an MA in Spanish from Middlebury College and a BA in economics from the State University of New York at Oswego. Each year she directs a group of nursing and medical students and health care professionals to volunteer their health care and Spanish language skills at the Roberto Clemente Clinic in Limón, Nicaragua; La Universidad de Sagrado Corazón in San Juan, Puerto Rico; and Miranda Orphanage in Chiquimula, Guatemala.

Will Artificial Intelligence Replace Interpreters?

2:55–3:15 p.m. • Babel Room, HC 122

As computers are increasingly configured to think like humans, interpreters and translators have legitimate concerns about the future of their profession. Are these two professions truly at risk of disappearing?

PRESENTER:

Marilyn Sephcole, PhD, is a polyglot who speaks nine languages and works in seven of them. Together with her colleagues Dr. Antonio Rodriguez and Dr. Carol Beane, in 1995 she founded the interpretation certificate program at Howard University and currently serves as director of Howard University's Interpretation and Translation Unit. The program has been offered in eight languages. She earned a PhD in German from New York University, an MBA from Howard University, and an MA in international public policy from Johns Hopkins University. Her publications focus on interpretation, minorities in Europe, and women in international relations.

Teaching Translation, Teaching Language

2–3:15 p.m. • Eskimo Snow Room, HC 224

This hands-on workshop focuses on the pedagogical value of placing translation of authentic texts at the heart of language learning, as a way to spark intellectual curiosity and a sense of purpose in the language classroom, pursue study of language structures, and foster passion for exploration of cultural issues. The discussion begins with a brief introduction to the main principles of project-based learning and the shift in pedagogical thinking it implies, as it provides opportunities to integrate development of translation skills into the language classroom. Then we'll look at a few examples of projects completed by undergraduate students at different levels of language proficiency, reviewing factors that need to be considered when undertaking such projects with a class. We'll brainstorm on potential texts and the types of projects they could lend themselves to, and briefly address the problem of grading. The presenter will provide a variety of texts for the session, but participants are also encouraged to bring examples of texts or ideas for projects, so we can talk through how to develop a project or course-focus around them.

PRESENTER:

Lynn E. Palermo is associate professor of French at Susquehanna University (Selinsgrove, Penn.), where she teaches undergraduate French at all levels. She has published short story translations, some solo and some as co-translator, with reviews such as *World Literature Today*, *Exchanges*, and *Kenyon Review Online*. Currently, she is translating *Humus*, a novel by French author Fabienne Kanor (UVA Press, 2020). Her research background is in the cultural politics of Interwar France. She is a volunteer translator for the United Nations.

Lyrical Movements of the Soul: What Does Prose Poetry Aim for and Which of Its Elements Defy Translation?

2–3:15 p.m. • Rosetta Stone Room, HC 222

An examination of the sub-genre or hybrid genre, prose poetry. What are its artistic aims? How are the challenges in translating prose poems different from those in translating poetry or prose? Prose poetry has at times been described as writing that rivals painting; at other times, it has been compared to the undulations and modulations of music. Its amalgamation of poetry and prose suggests that it has borrowed the best from our two dominant literary forms to create something new. Does the prose poem present different challenges for the translator—requiring different strategies and techniques? Or, does it generate its own battery of challenges, requiring an arsenal of new strategies? Why has the writer chosen to communicate his or her idea/thought/feeling in prose poetry rather than in

plain prose or free verse? Working from the premise that prose poetry, a *mélange*, partakes of elements of both poetry and prose, this panel will consider whether the problems double in the translating of prose poetry, or whether prose poetry, by its very hybridity, presents the translator with a whole new Pandora's box of problems.

PRESENTERS:

Keith Cohen is a fiction writer, translator (French to English) and tutor of French and English who taught comparative literature at the University of Wisconsin-Madison for 30 years. He has published many literary translations, the most widely circulated being "The Laugh of the Medusa" by Hélène Cixous. He also translated Cixous's novel, *The Third Body*, and a voluminous work of cultural anthropology entitled *A History of Virility*, edited by Alain Corbin et al. He currently lives in Washington, DC.

Jonathan Woollen is deputy director of events at Politics and Prose bookstore and leads the store's International Literature Book Group. He is currently working on an English translation of Régis Jauffret's *Microfictions*, published in 2007 by Éditions Gallimard.

David Keplinger is the author of five collections of poetry, recently *Another City*, which won the 2019 Rilke Prize. He has worked with authors Jan Wagner (German) and Carsten René Nielsen (Danish) on four collaborative translations, most recently Nielsen's *Forty-One Objects* (2019). Keplinger has won the TS Eliot Prize, the Colorado Book Award, and two fellowships (poetry and literary translation) from the National Endowment for the Arts.

Will Schutt is a poet and translator from the Italian language. His collection of poems, *Westerly*, won the 2012 Yale Younger Poets Prize. His most recent translations are *My Life, I Lapped It Up: Selected Poems of Edoardo Sanguineti* (Oberlin College Press 2018) and Fabio Genovesi's novel, *The Breaking of a Wave* (Europa Editions 2017). He has received an NEA Literature Translation Fellowship and a PEN/Heim Translation Fund Grant.

Transcreation: More Than Just Translating Words...

2–3:15 p.m. • Septuagint Room, HC 124

A word-for-word translation—or direct translation—of marketing content from one language to another may not be effective to communicate marketing messages, and, in fact, it may fail completely. Therefore, marketing messages must be re-created to ensure they are culturally relevant and evoke the same emotion as the original in the target language. This is achieved through *transcreation*, also known as "in-language copywriting," "cultural adaptation," or "copy adaptation." Someone who transcreates works with concepts that may involve words and design elements. The starting point for this process is not just the source text, but a creative brief, which outlines the desired

outcomes including target market, demographics, and any relevant branding and style guidelines the transcreation needs to adhere to. The person producing the transcreation thus understands the desired outcome thoroughly and must then be given the freedom not only to translate the original but also to make significant changes to it in the process. And, in the process of changing the message from one language to another, the person producing the transcreation will be aware of changes in tone, style, context, or intention. For this, not only an in-depth knowledge of the source and the target language and culture is required, but also copy-writing skills.

PRESENTER:

Alejandra Franks is a Spanish translator and editor in the United States, mainly for large U.S. banks and public health organizations, with more than 15 years of experience. This includes three years of experience in translation project management, six years in terminology and other translation assets management, and five years in transcreation. She has also performed as a medical and legal consecutive interpreter, and has presented at several NAJIT annual conferences, at meetings of the National Capital Area Translators Association (NCATA), and the Washington, DC-area's Translators Without Borders, and at the annual Confluence translation conference in Maryland.

Turkish Translation Slam

3:30–4:45 p.m. • Babel Room, HC 122

It is common to paint translation in broad strokes with abstract terms: voice, fidelity, tone, ethics. The purpose of this panel, however, is to experience (and talk about) translation in an immanently detailed way, examining a text at close quarters. Our method is to present a brief passage of lyric prose (chosen by an outside party) written by a contemporary Turkish author, in two versions: one to be translated by Hubbell, the second translated by Mattern. Neither will have seen the other's work beforehand. Childers (who knows no Turkish) will guide a discussion about the choices each version displays, for which the translators will have to provide on-the-spot justification. In other words, we want to talk about the effect of choosing this comma instead of that dash, of this article versus that one, of what effects distinguish one synonym from another. It will be a full demonstration of the inevitability of the translator's voice, as well as of what we do when we read a translation critically and slowly. Turkish—an agglutinative, non-Indo-European language lacking gendered pronouns—is an ideal language for this sort of dialogue precisely because its structure is so different from English. The conversation is meant to be fine-grained, exacting, in-depth, and with the full participation of the audience.

PRESENTERS:

Christopher Childers is currently finishing work on a large volume of Greek and *Latin Lyric Poetry: From Archilochus to Martial* for Penguin Classics, for which he received an NEA translator's grant in 2017. His translations have been published in the *Kenyon Review*, *Agni*, *Parnassus*, *Literary Matters*, and elsewhere. He lives in Baltimore, Maryland.

Ralph Hubbell earned an MFA in fiction from Johns Hopkins University after having lived in Turkey for eight years. His essays and translations have appeared in *The Hopkins Review*, *Asymptote*, *The Bosphorus Review of Books*, *Tin House*, and elsewhere. He teaches writing to ELL students at the Maryland Institute College of Art and is currently translating a collection of stories by the Turkish writer Oğuz Atay.

Derick Mattern holds an MFA in poetry from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and another from the Iowa Translation Workshop, where he was an Iowa Arts Fellow. Currently a 2018 NEA literary translation fellow, he is finishing a volume of selected poems by Turkish poet Haydar Ergülen. His translations of Ergülen's work have appeared in *Modern Poetry in Translation*, *Asymptote*, and *World Literature Today*, among others.

Focus on Chinese-to-English (two presentations):

Needle in the Haystack: Strategies for Finding that Elusive Chinese Character

3:30–3:55 p.m. • Eskimo Snow Room, HC 224

You've opened your dictionary but can't find the Chinese character you need. Or worse, you find an unusual character in your dictionary, but the definition makes no sense in the context of your translation. What are some strategies to help a translator find that elusive Chinese character or definition? Andrew Gudgel discusses alternate techniques for looking up Chinese characters and phrases in dictionaries (such as the four corners method), as well as potential pitfalls a translator might encounter while consulting his or her dictionary. He then briefly explores strategies to use when the character's definition doesn't appear to fit the context of the translation and suggests further resources for translators to use as part of their search for the right word.

PRESENTER:

Andrew Gudgel is a freelance writer and translator of Classical Chinese whose translations have appeared in multiple issues of Western Michigan University's journal of translated poetry, *Transference*.

Chi > Eng: Notes from the ATA's Newest Certification Exam

3:55–4:45 p.m. • Eskimo Snow Room, HC 224

The certification examinations administered by the ATA (American Translators Association) are notoriously difficult: in general, fewer than two in ten candidates pass each year. Behind each exam, however, lies a substantial amount of work, in choosing, translating, and editing a working key, which then is modified as each candidate's unique translation is evaluated.

In a language pair as far apart as Chinese and English, what are some of the higher-level differences the exam graders are evaluating? In particular, when working from Chinese into English, how does the translator deal with a language written in characters that have no gender, number, or endings, the verbs of which have no elaborate system of tenses, the nouns of which are marked by no articles, definite or indefinite; indeed, a language which, before contact with Western languages, never really distinguished between nouns and verbs at all? To what degree should the translator remain faithful to the Chinese original, as opposed to following the style for writing in English? By a review of specific translation "bloopers," Doug McNeal will discuss his struggles with such issues, on topics such as explicit subordination, appropriate anaphora, and other forms of "sentence surgery." The presenter requests that his potential audience bring to his attention (formcneal@hotmail.com) any examples from their own experience of concepts or nuances "lost in translation," or tantalizing past puzzles or tricky points from their own translating, especially from Chinese or other East Asian languages into English, which he might incorporate as suggestive of the more difficult grammar points to cover. Any and all suggestions welcome! Presentation given in English, with examples drawn from Chinese-to-English translation; but the presentation should be of interest to Chinese translators at the mid- to senior level, working in either direction, as well as those who work with other East Asian languages.

PRESENTER:

Doug McNeal translates from either Korean or Chinese into English, his native language. He also interprets consecutively between Korean and English for medical appointments and for government services generally, including legal affairs, anywhere in the area of greater Washington, DC. After arriving in Korea in 1967 as a Peace Corps volunteer teacher of English, he lived in (경북) Yòngch'òn and Seoul for a total of six years and since has worked with the language off and on for more than 50 years. Later, while working as a US diplomat, he volunteered to study Chinese, lived in China for five years, and since has worked with Chinese for more than three decades. He has been a member of the American Translators Association (ATA) since 2008, wherein he is proud to contribute as a founding member of and grader for the Chinese>English Work Group. An active

member of NCATA, the local ATA chapter for the area of greater Washington, DC, he currently is cheering from the sidelines as the ATA's Korean Language Division organizes to create its certification exams in both directions.

Serving Students' Language Needs: Collaboration with Montgomery County Language Bank

3:30–4:45 p.m. • Rosetta Stone Room, HC 222

Montgomery College, the most diverse college in the continental United States, is on the front lines of translating educational credentials—from more than 160 countries—into metrics recognized by the American system. Cultural understanding must be part of translation in the educational context, including translation of credentialing documents, whether generated by foreign academic institutions or by family members who reflect cultural values that do not translate into the American system of education. As director of TRiO, a US Department of Education Program designed to increase rates of college retention, graduation, and transfer for underrepresented students, including first-generation, low-income, and disabled students, Huong Nguyen will present an argument for utilizing the Montgomery County Language Bank, a service dedicated to providing *accurate* translation by offering trained volunteers to help facilitate the translation of the lives of students from all over the world to an American community college serving more than 60,000 students.

PRESENTER:

Huong Nguyen directs the Student Support Services TRiO Program, overseeing between 175 and 230 students each semester, including their enrollment activities and the integration of College policies and program procedures. She manages the program and provides academic support and referrals; she works with students to graduate and transfer to a four-year institution, offering appropriate close guidance for each student's success in college and career preparation. She devises individual academic plans, links students to tutors and mentors, and responds to questions pertaining to academic and career goals. Ms. Nguyen began her career at Montgomery College in June 2004 in one of the Academic Initiatives' MC/MCPS partnership programs. She served as the primary liaison connecting Montgomery College, Montgomery County Public Schools, and the Gateway National Network. She is particularly proud of partnering with the National Network to create the Student Information System (SIS), a national database that is currently being used by 41 community colleges throughout the country. Ms. Nguyen is a part-time rehabilitation counselor at Cornerstone Montgomery Inc., where she works with adults with disabilities to develop individual rehab plans and to provide life skills support and behavioral counseling, and assistance finding community resources, financial assistance, and employment. In

her spare time, she volunteers at Montgomery County Language Bank as a translator for social workers, police officers, and paramedics.

Farsi versus Dari

3:30–4:45 p.m. • Septuagint Room, HC 124

Dari and Farsi are the same language spoken in two different locales, similar to British English and American English. In this presentation, the audience will get a glimpse of the differences and similarities between Farsi and Dari through personal pictures, videos, and a Powerpoint presentation. A linguistic approach, including culture and translator/interpreter dilemmas for languages of the same root, will be discussed, and the audience will leave the session with an impression of the challenges that translators of different dialects of the same language encounter in sticky situations.

PRESENTER:

Farah Arjang has worked as a translator and interpreter for more than 25 years. She interprets for international conferences and trains linguists across the globe. She also works in team settings (terminologist, translator, editor, proofreader) for large and specialized projects. She is experienced in running workshops and presentations, and in cross cultural training for the Farsi and Dari languages. She serves as president of the National Capital Area Translators Association (NCATA) and is a voting member of American Translators Association (ATA).

AREA RESTAURANTS

If the weather permits, conferees might consider ordering to-go food and eating outside in the adjacent historic Jessup Blair Park. The Lingua Franca Room (lounge, HC 201) will also be available during lunch. Address for delivery if you order lunch To Go: 7977 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring.

The first afternoon session begins at 2 p.m. sharp, so please plan to come back from lunch on time.

Restaurants Within Walking Distance:

Crisfield Seafood Restaurant

8012 Georgia Ave, Silver Spring
(just across Georgia Avenue & 410)
301-589-1306
www.crisfieldseafood.com
0.2 miles · 4 minute walk

Pacci's Neapolitan Pizzeria

8113 Georgia Ave, Silver Spring
301-588-1011
www.paccispizzeria.com
0.4 miles · 7 minute walk

Fire Station 1 Restaurant & Bar

8131 Georgia Ave, Silver Spring
301-585-1370
www.thefirestation1.com
0.4 miles · 8 minute walk

Mandalay (Burmese/Myanmar)

930 Bonifant Street, Silver Spring
301-585-0500
www.mandalayrestaurantcafe.com
0.6 miles · 13 minute walk

Roger Miller Restaurant (African)

941 Bonifant Street, Silver Spring
301-562-7050
0.6 miles · 12 minute walk

Lotus Café (Vietnamese)

8077 Georgia Ave, Silver Spring
301-588-8888
www.lotuscafebar.com
0.3 miles · 7 minute walk

Moorenko's Ice Cream

8030B Georgia Ave, Silver Spring
301-565-7804
moorenkos.com/buy/cafe
0.2 miles · 4 minute walk

Addis Ababa (Ethiopian)

8233 Fenton Street, Silver Spring
301-589-1400
0.6 miles · 12 minute walk

Negril (Jamaican)

965 Thayer Ave, Silver Spring 301-585-3000
www.negrileats.com
0.5 miles · 11 minute walk

Langano (Ethiopian)

8305 Georgia Ave, Silver Spring
301-563-6700
www.langanorestaurant.com
0.6 miles · 12 minute walk

Lucy Ethiopian Restaurant

8301 Georgia Ave, Silver Spring
301-589-6700
lucyethiopiansilverspring.com
0.5 miles · 10 minute walk

Vicino Ristorante Italiano

959 Sligo Ave, Silver Spring
301-588-3372
vicinoitaliano.com
0.3 miles · 7 minute walk

Dragon City (Chinese To Go)

918 Sligo Ave, Silver Spring
301-565-8850
dragoncitysilversprings.com
0.4 miles · 9 minute walk

Lesaac Ethiopian Café

8200 Fenton Street, Silver Spring
301-565-9595
www.lesaacethiocafe.com
0.5 miles · 11 minute walk

Ghar-E-Kabab (Nepal/India)

944 Wayne Ave, Silver Spring
301-587-4427
www.gharekabab.com
0.6 miles · 13 minute walk

Big Greek Café

8223 Georgia Ave, Silver Spring
301-587-4733
www.biggreekecafe.com
0.4 miles · 9 minute walk

RESTAURANTS IN TAKOMA PARK (short-drive away):

Mark's Kitchen

Middle Eastern Cuisine

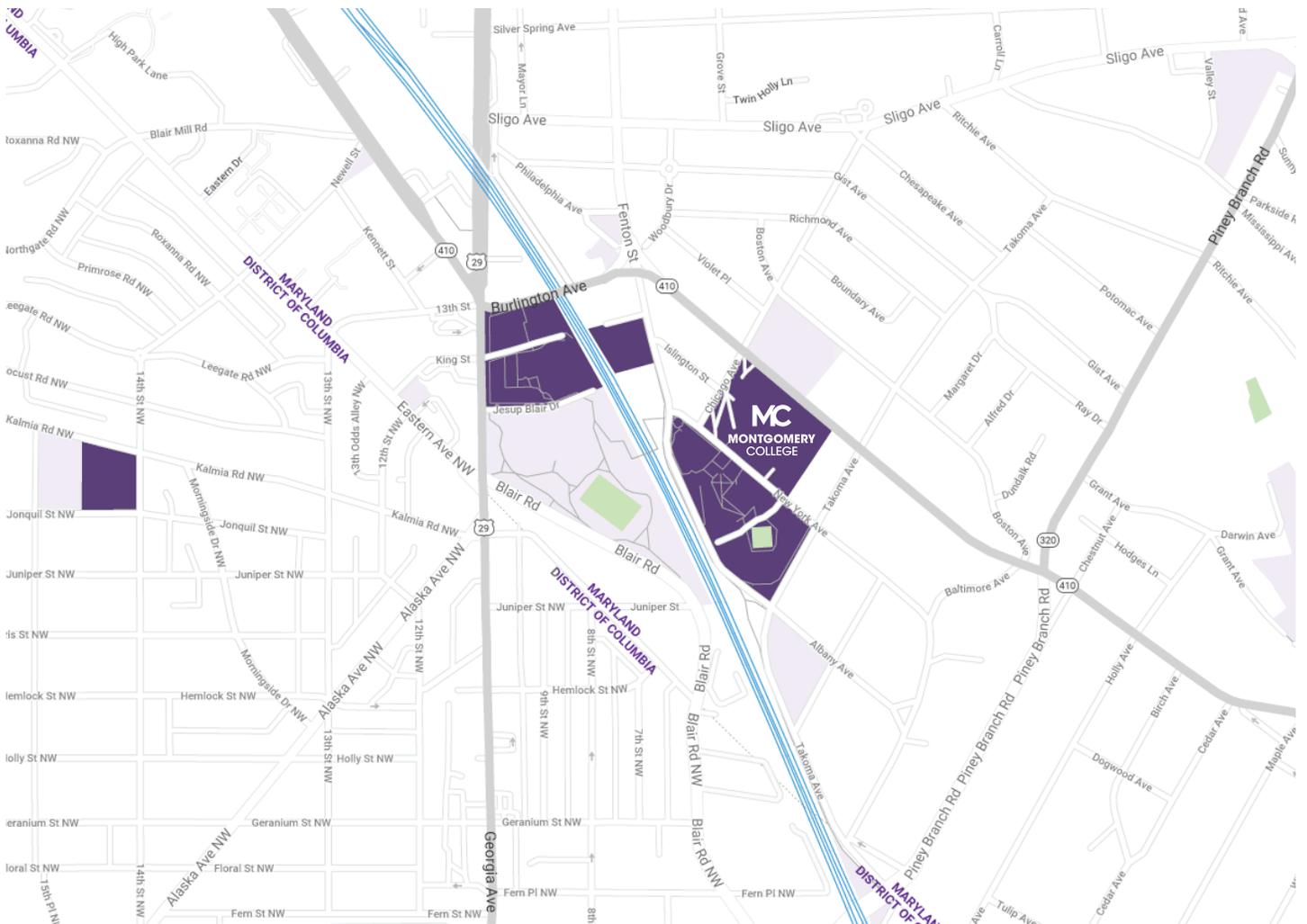
Republic

Soupergirl

Busboys & Poets

Roscoe's Pizzeria

AREA MAP



BEFORE YOU LEAVE

Please help us by sharing your feedback on this year's conference. Tell us what you liked about Confluence, what we can do to improve, and if you would attend a future Confluence translation conference before leaving the conference (forms available). You can also share your thoughts, comments, or suggestions online via email to mark.miller@montgomerycollege.edu

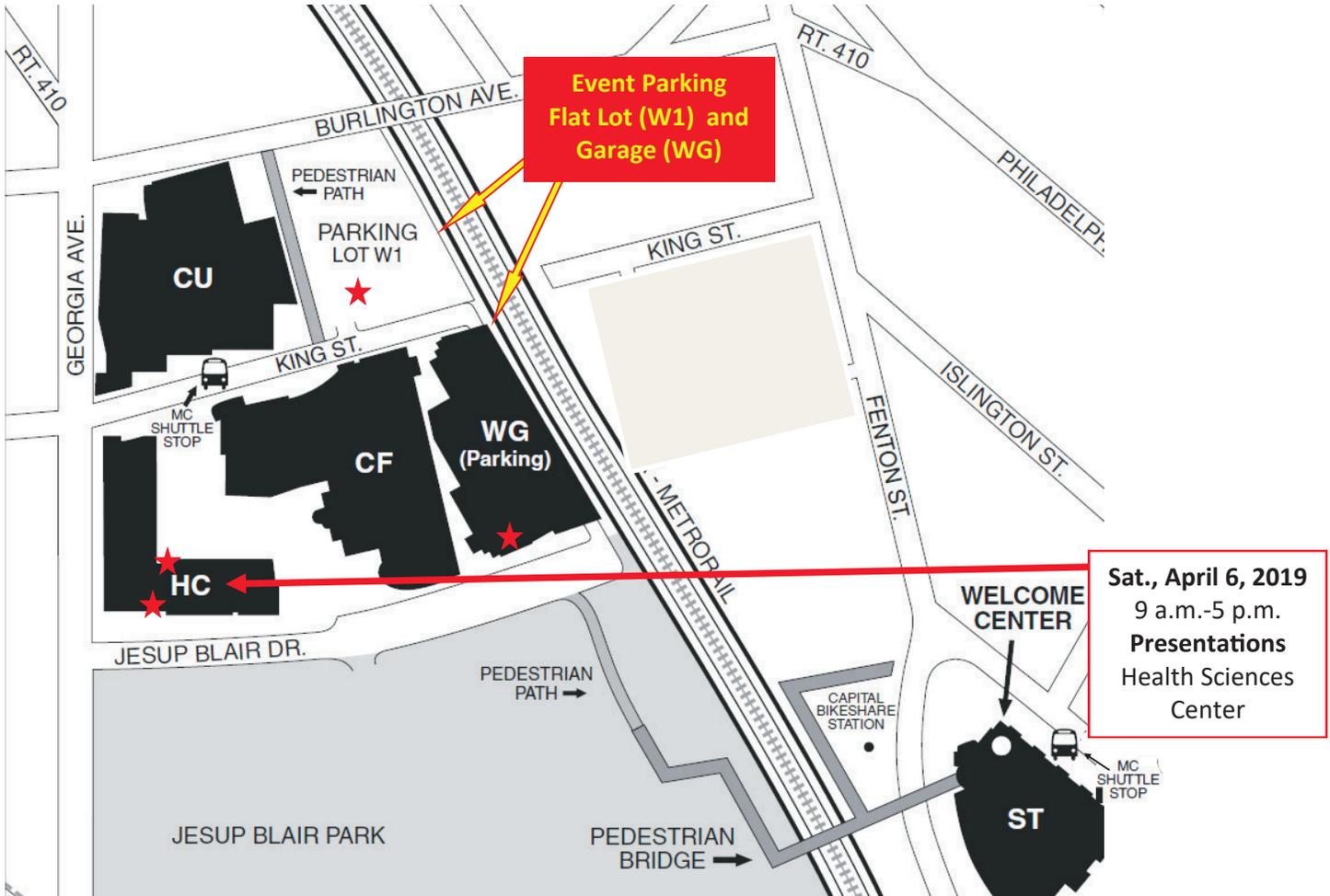
CONFLUENCE 2020. If you would like to help plan/organize the next Washington Capital area's Confluence, please contact the organizing committee: mark.miller@montgomerycollege.edu.

Confluence

Translation in the Capital Area

Saturday, April 6, 2019

Montgomery College Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus



Montgomery College Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus

Health Sciences Center Building
7977 Georgia Avenue
Silver Spring, Maryland 20912
240-567-1300

montgomerycollege.edu

Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus Legend of Buildings

(as of August 2014) ★ = Building Entrance

- CF The Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation Arts Center
- CU Cultural Arts Center
- EG East Garage (parking)
- HC Health Sciences Center
- ST The Charlene Nunley Student Service Building
- WG West Garage (parking)

In case of emergency, dial 911 and contact campus security: 240-567-1600.