

Annual Report 2010

The year saw a wide assortment of activities in the field of translation and interpreting. Growth in the sector and the development of technology have opened up a broader range of work opportunities for professionals while also placing increased demands on practitioners' knowledge and skills in the face of stiff competition and tougher working environments. The Finnish Association of Translators and Interpreters (SKTL) submitted several statements and opinions on government reports and legislative reforms affecting the operating environment of translators, interpreters and education in the sector. Ten issues of *Kääntäjä–Översättaren*, the SKTL periodical, were published in 2010. SKTL members have had access to legal advice in copyright and contractual matters once a week.

SKTL has provided its members with diverse supplementary training to maintain and develop their professional skills. Among the major events in 2010 was the annual Finnish–Swedish translation seminar, organised together with the Research Institute for the Languages of Finland. The International Translation Day seminar, arranged jointly in 2010 by the SKTL, the Association of Finnish Translation Companies, the Translation Industry Professionals KAJ and the University of Tampere, focused on various aspects of quality and attracted a record audience. The well-attended annual Symposium on Translation and Interpreting Studies, organised this year by the Teachers' and Researchers' Section of the SKTL together with the University of Helsinki, dealt with methodology. An electronic symposium report, called *MikaEL*, is published on the SKTL website. A specialised course for medical translators, arranged by the Scientific, Technical, Medical and Commercial Translators' Section and the Turku Chapter of the SKTL, was held in December. There was also a broad range of other training events for smaller, targeted groups.

Ville Keynäs received the Mikael Agricola Award for the Finnish translation of a work of fiction. The J. H. Hollo Award for the Finnish translation of a work of non-fiction went to *Natasha Vilokkinen*.

The visibility campaign of the Literature Translators' Section continued; two literary evenings under the heading *The Translator's Voice* were arranged in cooperation with the restaurant of KOM Theatre. On these occasions, translators talked about their work and answered the audience's questions. The third *Translator's Rose* prize was awarded to the Finnish Association of Physiotherapists. By granting this prize, the Scientific, Technical, Medical and Commercial Translators' Section strives to raise awareness of the importance of its members' work to society at large. Audiovisual translators turned out in large numbers to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the AV Translators' Section in November.

Established forms of domestic cooperation continued. In the sector of copyright, cooperation was carried out with *Sanasto*, *Kopioisto* and associations in the literary field, among others on further development of the system for literary copyright holders' compensation and general improvement of copyright holders' situation. Efforts to prepare a new model agreement and recommendations for subcontracting on scientific, technical, medical and commercial translations continued with the Finnish Association of Translation Companies. The SKTL is represented on the Authorised Translators' Examination Board, which operates within the Finnish National Board of Education. The Union of Journalists in Finland and the AV Translators' Section have worked together on negotiations and other factors affecting audiovisual translators' remuneration and working conditions.

The SKTL has supported its members' coping and well-being at work by giving them the opportunity to take part in rehabilitation courses and in fitness and activity holidays. The rehabilitation course is arranged in cooperation with the Social Insurance Institution. The fitness and activity holiday is organised jointly with the Union of Journalists in Finland and supported by the MTLH Association and Finland's Slot Machine Association (RAY).

International cooperation is brisk. The SKTL has been an active member of FIT (Fédération Internationale des Traducteurs), CEATL (Conseil Européen des Associations de Traducteurs Littéraires), Nordiska Författar- och Översättarrådet (the Nordic council for authors and translators), Littera Baltica, the Three Seas Writers' and Translators' Council, and EULITA (European Legal Interpreters and Translators Association). Active cooperation is also conducted with many sister organisations abroad.