

Invited talk

Encountering the Unknown, Part 2

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At the AMTA conference four years ago in Denver, I challenged both translators and the MT community by presenting them with “task lists” of items that would help them build bridges to each other.

The tasks that the translators were “charged” with were to look back at previous responses to technology, put into perspective what MT is in relation to other technologies, differentiate between different forms of MT, employ MT where appropriate, and embrace their whole identity.

The MT community was asked to acknowledge the origin of data and linguistic expertise it uses, communicate in terms that are down to earth and truthful, engage the translation community in meaningful ways, listen to the translation community, and embrace their whole identity.

For this presentation I will attempt to evaluate how the two sides have done, what other tasks might need to be added, and whether there actually are still two sides.

I have collected feedback from the greater community of translators for this presentation.