

ROBERT EWING FINNEGAN



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OVERVIEW: Native English and near-native Portuguese speaker. Decades of experience as translator, interpreter and manager. Fast learner with strong communication, leadership, & team skills.

CAREER To provide accurate and fluent translations and interpretation, editing and proofreading to maintain client satisfaction

OBJECTIVE

LANGUAGES:

English	Native;
Portuguese	Read, write, and speak fluently with knowledge of Brazilian and Continental dialects
Spanish	Read & understand spoken language at a proficient level
Tetum	Read & understand spoken language at a proficient level

EXPERIENCE:

ADJUNCT PROFESSOR OF TRANSLATION, NYU

2014-Present

- Create Syllabus for introductory course in Portuguese-to-English translation for online course at New York University (NYU);
- Create course material and provide references and readings for student follow-up.
- Teach basic concepts and craft, deliver and grade assignments in several types of translation;
- Act as a gateway for students who wish to take the more advanced levels of the online course at NYU.

SENIOR TRANSLATOR, UN
07/2013

11/2008-

Serious Crimes Investigation Team (SCIT), East Timor

- Provide direct and continuous management and administration of specific tasks assigned to linguists
- Accept and process material received in the SCIT workflow from assignment through quality control and delivery of the product to the client
- Mitigate risks through periodic checks on the status of translations/transcriptions in process to identify potential delays or problems
- Upload completed material and return to superior
- Designed and oversaw implementation of and training in CAT program, first in SCIT and then throughout UNMIT (United Nations Mission in Timor-Leste)
- Monitor linguist performance, identifying strengths and weaknesses
- Maintain liaison with linguists to promote collegial relationships
- Provide verbal activities report to supervisor and periodic verbal and written reports to the higher management, as required
- Train national and international staff linguists in interpreting skills, CAT programs, translation theory and practice
- Principal responsible for translation of legislation in East Timor from Portuguese to English

MANAGING PARTNER/SENIOR TRANSLATOR, CONTACT Ltda., Brazil

4/1997-11/2008

- Liaised with clients for event organization, contracting of conference interpreting equipment and personnel

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- Recruited and staffed personnel for in-house contracts and proposals
- Recruited contract interpreters for specific assignments
- Managed on-site employees, their timesheets, hours, attendance
- Used several databases to manage resources
- Edited and proofread proposals, resumes
- Scheduled and administered language tests to candidates
- Experienced in managing translation efforts to ensure on time delivery of projects; proper assignment of onsite and offsite placement of interpreters, translators, instructors, and cultural advisors for language service support contracts and programs
- Experienced in following quality control processes to ensure quality, content, and on time delivery of translation projects
- Main POC and coordinated with various client companies to ensure client satisfaction, prompt invoices and payments made/received

FREELANCE TRANSLATOR

02/1992-present

- Providing high-quality translations from English to Portuguese, Portuguese to English, Spanish to Portuguese and Spanish to English.
- ATA certification as Portuguese-to-English translator
- Responsible for all outbound/inbound correspondence translation for a number of companies, working from home. These ranged from factories, NGOs to export firms
- Experienced in proofreading and editing of translations from other professionals
- Prepared and reviewed invoices to be sent to the customer
- Managed translation, localization, glossary development, and desktop publishing of national security software manuals supporting border protection for airports, sea ports, and other areas. Manuals include biometrics, passport scanning of international travelers
- Organized short-courses for peers in northern Brazil
- Worked in-house for a brewery for 3 years in charge of inbound/outbound communications with suppliers and visiting technicians during line expansion project
- Worked in-house for 1 year for World Bank database project as translator
- Worked in-house for 9 months for NGO during preparation for major international event as liaison with participants and translation of documentation
- Recognized by special notice from the Office of the Dean of Post-Graduate Studies and Research at the Federal University of Para (Brazil) where the university appointed me so that all researchers could send me their academic papers for translation and the university was responsible for payment. Several hundred research papers accepted by international peer-reviewed journals
- In recognition of the quality of English translations for DFID and the British Council, the UK contracted as Rapporteur for Negotiations between the Governments of the UK and Brazil on Poverty Reduction
- Continue to provide top-level translations for UN and Timorese government as freelancer

FREELANCE INTERPRETER

02/1992-present

- US State Department certification as Portuguese-English Liaison and Seminar interpreter
- Experienced in coordinating hundreds of interpreting projects for clients in Brazil, Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela, Suriname, the USA, the UK, the Netherlands, Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, East Timor and Indonesia
- Experienced as conference interpreter, liaison interpreter, medical and court interpreter.
- Acted as personal interpreter for clients such as the CEO of HSBC, President Lula, UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon, Prime Minister Gordon Brown and executives of many multinationals and high-ranking government delegates (Brazilian and others)
- Recruitment and Training Coordinator (Brazil) for Babels – a volunteer organization providing interpreting for the Social Forums (in Brazil, Europe and South America), working with over 800 interpreters in over 30 foreign languages
- Volunteer interpreter for Babels in Brazil, Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela, Belgium and France

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- Volunteer interpreter for visiting heart surgeons from the UK to Brazil
- Continue providing top-level interpreting for US embassy in East Timor and Timorese government

ENGLISH INSTRUCTOR 1990-1991

WIZARD Language Course, Belem, Brazil

- Instructed English to native Portuguese speakers
- Provided individual and class instruction
- Tutored students so they could pass final exams/ university entrance exams
- Coordinated other instructors in course
- Revised and improved teaching material

Private instructor

- Provided on-site English instruction to executives
- Taught English at the UFPA MSc Course in Petroleum Geophysics

CHRISTIAN VOLUNTEER WORK 1978-1990

THE FAMILY INTERNATIONAL

- Engaged in Christian Outreach, Bible Studies and Evangelism throughout the Brazilian Amazon, other parts of Brazil, rural areas in the state of Michoacan in Mexico, and rural areas of the Provinces of Quebec and Ontario
- Collected and distributed donated goods to those in need in Brazil
- Home-schooled and supervised home schooling via correspondence courses of missionary children in Mexico and Brazil
- Worked with drug rehabilitation groups in Brazil
- Engaged in community efforts of construction and farming in Canada
- Taught computer skills to the blind in Brazil

MISSILE REPAIRMAN 1976-1977

US ARMY, Fort Bliss, Texas

- Maintenance of Hawk anti-aircraft missiles, radar and carrier
- Secret clearance from DoD
- Honorable discharge

EDUCATION & TRAINING:

NATIONAL LABOR COLLEGE 2013-concluded

- Certificate of Labor Studies

SAINT PIUS X PREPARATORY SCHOOL 1975-1976

- Catholic Boarding School, Seminary

WORKSHOPS AND SHORT COURSES

- ATA, Medical Terminology for Interpreters 2013
- Harvard, Chinese History 1 2013
- MIIS Revising and Editing for Translators 2012
- Isa Mara Lando, Producing a Natural Sounding Text in Translation 2007
- Lia Wyler, Fluency in Translation 2007
- Infoland, Basic and Advanced Conference Interpreting Techniques 2006
- Infoland, Advanced CAT program skills 2006
- AML Translations, Basic and Advanced CAT programs 2004
- Commonsense Advisory, Marketing for Translation Companies 2003
- AMERIKAS Translations, Accounting Terminology for Translators 1999

ACTIVITIES & ACHIEVEMENTS:

- Certified Portuguese-to-English Translator by the ATA
- Contract Portuguese<->English Interpreter for US State Department

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- Certificate of Recognition for Volunteer Services, East Timor 2013
- Elected to Executive Board of ABRATES, 2008-2010
- Member of ATA – American Translators Association
- Member of ABRATES – Brazilian Translators Association
- Member of SINTRA – Brazilian Translators Union

COMPUTER KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS:

Windows	Linux
Microsoft Word	Microsoft Excel
Microsoft Outlook	PowerPoint
Adobe Acrobat	Wordfast Classic
Wordfast Pro	SDLX Trados
STAR Transit	

PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES

Name	Email	Relationship
John Milton, Professor at University of Sao Paulo	jmilton@usp.br	Client
Joao Paulo Esperanca, Translator/Interpreter, National Parliament	jpesperanca.timor@gmail.com	Colleague
Michael Andersen, Interpreter	diliparadise@hotmail.com	Colleague, Client
Gisel Noce, Translator at Presidency of the Federative Republic of Brazil	nemtudotemnome@gmail.com	Client, Colleague
Carla Mirela Ramos, Translator	carlamirela.ramos@gmail.com	Colleague
Ian Thompson, Director, TNC	ithompson@tnc.org	Client
Julia Alinho, Information officer, UN	juliaalinho@gmail.com	Colleague, Client
Kathy Mutz, Translator	kathymutz@yahoo.com	Colleague
Ayrton Farias, conference interpreter	ayrtonfarias@globo.com	Colleague
Carlos Aragon, Director ACTO	carlos.aragon@uol.com.br	Client
Scott Bronstein, Senior Producer CNN	scott.bronstein@turner.com	Client
Sheyla Carvalho, Translator OAS	sheyla@brasillis.com.br	Colleague, Client

Many more available upon request.