

SPRING 2025

MOVE SEMESTER REPORT SPRING 2025

PROGRAM DIRECTORS

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TRANSLATIONS

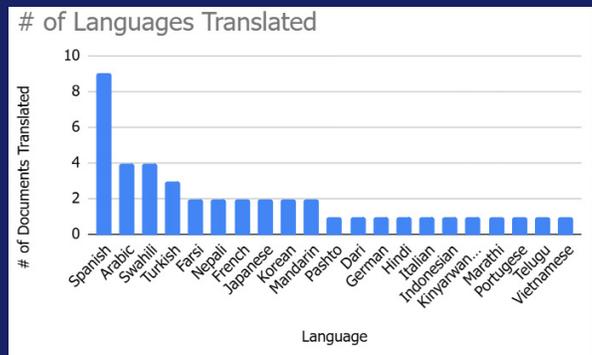
Introducing Semester Projects

A common problem we hear from our volunteers is the lack of opportunities to translate. Given that Spanish, Pashto & Dari and Arabic are the most commonly requested languages, there is a lack of work available for our other language teams. To offer more opportunities, we offered translation projects for any language team to work on. This semester, we created two projects: Know Your Rights and Street Sheets. The format of these translations differ from our typical work as we pivoted from a Word document to an Excel spreadsheet. An Excel workbook facilitated collaborative work amongst our multiple language teams while making the exporting process easier. These projects saw an increased number of languages involved in translations even from some of our more inactive teams. Moving forward, we believe having at least one active project is a great opportunity for our volunteers to stay active when we do not have a current request for their language.

Progress tracker to monitor ongoing projects

Language	Status	Progress Bar
Arabic	Completed Not Reviewed	100.00%
Dari	Completed Not Reviewed	100.00%
French	Completed Reviewed	100.00%
German	Completed Not Reviewed	100.00%
Hindi	Completed Reviewed	100.00%
Italian	Completed Not Reviewed	100.00%
Indonesian	Completed Not Reviewed	100.00%
Japanese	Completed Not Reviewed	100.00%
Kinyarwanda and Kirundi	Completed Not Reviewed	100.00%
Korean	Completed Reviewed	100.00%
Mandarin	Completed Reviewed	100.00%
Marathi	Completed Not Reviewed	100.00%
Portuguese	Completed Reviewed	100.00%
Spanish	Completed Reviewed	100.00%
Swahili	Completed Not Reviewed	100.00%
Telugu	Completed Not Reviewed	100.00%
Turkish	Completed Not Reviewed	100.00%
Vietnamese	Completed Not Reviewed	100.00%
Ukrainian	Work in Progress	91.67%
Polish	Work in Progress	75.00%
Farsi	Work in Progress	66.67%
Croatian	Work in Progress	58.33%

Over 20+ languages translated



Translations Overview

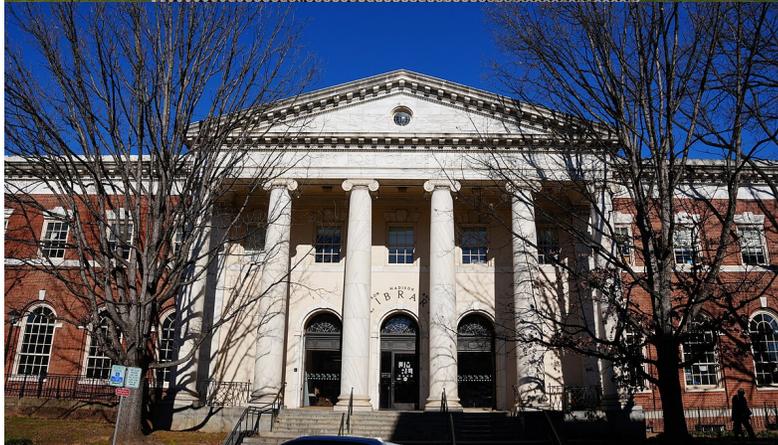
This semester we received 13 translation requests that equaled to 26 translations in total. Our most requested languages this semester were once again Spanish (8), Dari (3) and Arabic (3). The total number of languages requested were only 12 but by including our project work, the number of languages translated is 21 demonstrating the impact of projects has on participation. In total, the number of translations completed is 43 with over 20,142 words translated. We have a 77% success rate for translation requests. The uncompleted requests were typically Dari and Pashto which is due to a small number of Dari and Pashto volunteers.

Interpretations

This spring semester we had seven different requests for interpretations. However, we experienced difficulties following through with some requests. Both WorkSource Enterprises and Rivanna Conservation Alliance had both filled out the form but they did not get back to us with more details when requested. WorkSource Enterprises was too broad with their scheduling requests while Rivanna Conservation Alliance asked for an interpreter within 24 hours – a turnaround that was far too short for our team to find someone available. Another group, Greenstone, also could not get back to our interpreters about their event details on time. Given these mistimed occurrences, we consider adding a required 7 day notice for interpretation requests to ensure we have enough time to prepare their request and find volunteers.

Additionally, we received a unique request from UVA Astronomy for ASL interpretation. We attempted to reach out to the ASL department as we don't have any ASL volunteers but they did not get back to us.

For the rest of our interpretation requests, we successfully found volunteers to help. For Dean's Welcome and Garifuna Women Symposium they had a sufficient number of Spanish interpreters. We also provided Spanish volunteers for the ESOL Patrons program at Jefferson Madison Regional Library. This was a unique case where we had our Spanish interpreters come help interpret for a driver's education course.



Challenges

Interpretation can seem daunting for our volunteers as it requires a high level of fluency. Volunteers would greatly benefit from courses that teach them how to become interpreters. This is particularly useful considering the different fields of translation and interpretation such as medical and legal. Having access to courses or certificates can facilitate translation and interpretation professional development. However, these courses often have a paywall or are difficult to obtain.

EVENTS

After sending our feedback form at the end of the fall semester, we received many forms from volunteers saying they felt a lack of connection to the program and their fellow volunteers. In previous years, MOVE has offered volunteers to come to VISAS + MOVE events but this does not bring many MOVE members. This semester we wanted to focus on improving the social aspect of MOVE. One initiative we started were monthly MOVE newsletters to better inform our volunteers about upcoming events. It also served as a great way to promote ongoing translations and interpretations while also shouting out volunteers who helped out on previous projects. We found this to be an effective and aesthetic method to communicate to our teams.



An event we had planned was the MOVE Study Hour where MOVE volunteers were invited to come study and snack at the CAELC center. However, this event was cancelled due to university events and scheduling conflicts. Our most significant event this semester was the Lost in Translation - VISAS x MOVE Speaker Panel. MOVE collaborated with VISAS Café to host a panel of professionals to discuss their experience with interpreting. We invited Dr. Erica Cobb (UVA Spanish professor), Sylvana Fernandez-Ellauri (certified medical interpreter), and Marjan Omranian (co-founder & co-director of Cville Tulips). The speakers spoke about their firsthand experiences, challenges with interpreting, following the code of ethics and more. It was a unique opportunity for our volunteers to learn from experts and connect with fellow multilingual speakers.

MOVE NEWSLETTER APRIL 2025

Mark your calendar!
MOVE's VISAS End-of-the-Year Garden Party!
Join us in celebrating the fantastic work done by each of you and commemorating a year filled with successful international partnerships and language-sharing. More info to follow soon!

April 30th 2-3 PM Garden V

MOVE X VISAS Speaker Panel
The MOVE x VISAS Speaker Panel was a success! The panel, titled "Found in Translation: Using Language Skills to Connect with Your Community" featured diverse perspectives from professional interpreters and translators. We were so lucky to hear from Dr. Erica Cobb, Sylvana Fernandez-Ellauri, and Marjan Omranian who facilitated such thought-provoking and engaging discussions. Thank you to these lovely panelists, and thank you to the volunteers who joined us! More pictures linked here: <https://tinyurl.com/9d2wpcqd>.

Other Events to Look out For!
GHIORA AHARONI
Please join for 3 events [this week](#), with internationally celebrated artist [Ghiora Aharoni](#) sponsored by the Fralin Museum exhibition. Aharoni's beautiful artworks explore the intersections of art, mysticism, and text.
THURSDAY, APRIL 3, 2-3:15PM, IN BROOKS HALL COMMONS
Aharoni will join Religious Studies Prof. Ashur Blumens in a special session of his interdisciplinary seminar "Enduring Questions in Modern Judaism." The session is open to all. Reception sponsored by the Public Service Pathways program.
THURSDAY, APRIL 3, 5:30-6:30PM, CAMPBELL HALL ROOM 153:
Public Lecture: "The Soul of an Object: From the Sacred to the Utilitarian"
Reception to follow at The Fralin Museum 6:30-7:30pm
FRIDAY, APRIL 4, 12-1PM, IN GIBSON HALL 341:
Art- and language-focused student workshop, lunch provided. Aharoni will guide a participatory workshop on the artistic treatment of individual words as art for exploring cultural identities. (UVA students are welcome to register at bit.ly/3nqzqum.)
Participants should come with one word in mind, in any language, that they would like to explore.

Ongoing Projects

- Street Shows!!! (ALL LANGUAGES)
- Historical Japanese Walking Stick (Japanese)
- Game night on 5th Town Hall (Farsi, Pashto)
- UVA Health Multicultural Fair Flyer (Arabic, Dari, Pashto, Farsi, French, Spanish, Swahili)
- Market Central SNAP Flyer (Dari, Pashto)

Have questions? Feel free to email translations@virginia.edu. Follow us on Instagram @moveatova

UPCOMING PLANS

Starting the New Semester

To prepare for the new academic year, we plan to host an orientation for volunteers, similar to VISAS start week. With this event, we hope to make new volunteers feel welcome and incentivize them to get involve with more translations and interpretations. This orientation would serve as an icebreaker for our new and old volunteers then transition into how to use Microsoft Teams and the process of completing a request. We aim to host this event early September to allow for a transition period after the activities fair. We are also brainstorming a “code of ethics” for our translators to follow when they accomplish their work having been inspired by the code that medical interpreters follow.

Online Presence

To increase awareness about MOVE we will work on revamping the Instagram page. We already started by restarting the account with some new posts announcing events for the spring semester. To boost attention we did collaborative posts with VISAS when publishing for our crossover speaker panel. Moving forward, we aim to change the logo so that it seems more personalized rather than continue with the generic V symbol. Additionally, the highlights feature on Instagram is a great way to place additional information about MOVE like volunteer registration, Microsoft Teams, and translations. The MOVE website was also updated with new links and the addition of Know Your Rights. The project finished with translations spanning 19 different languages, our most diverse translation to date. The website will continue to be updated with new features in the coming school year to allow for more transparency and an expanded resource bank.

Events

Our upcoming event for the semester is our annual Translate-a-Thon that we began last fall semester. This event may be hosted during Global Week like what we had done previously. We hope to attract more participants with a more developed structure. Last time, we used Street Sheets for our event project but our volunteers were unfamiliar with the Excel translation structure and it took time for them to adjust. Now, we have developed the process of translating spreadsheets with our two projects this semester. This should allow for faster onboarding at the event and for more time to be allocated to pure translation.

SUMMARY

Translation Completion Rate



38 New Volunteers

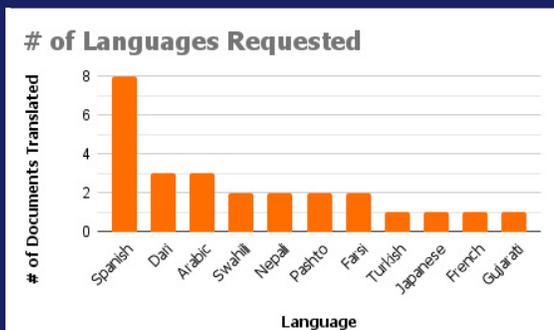
43 Translations Completed

3 Interpretations

20,162 Words Translated

53 Volunteers Involved

Number of Languages Requested



Types of Requests

