

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Ray T. Clifford, Chairman, Translation Summit
Phone: (877) 777-2327 Website: www.translationsummit.org
E-mail: rayclifford@translationsummit.org

SALT LAKE CITY TO HOLD COUNTRY'S FIRST "TRANSLATION SUMMIT"

Government, Business and Academia from Around the Country will Gather to Discuss Increased Domestic and International Demand for Translation Services

(Salt Lake City, UT) – The Brigham Young University Center for Language Studies announced today that it will hold a first-of-its-kind "Translation Summit" on March, 20, 2006. Translators, government representatives, and corporate executives from around the country will gather to discuss the increase in demand for translation services. The University's Center for Language Studies will host the summit on the campus of its sister institution, the University of Utah, and it will be co-sponsored by the National Virtual Translation Center (NVTC) and the American Translators Association (ATA). Interpreters will also be represented. Subtitled "The Latest Word in Translation," the event's theme is: *Bringing together private industry, government and academia.*

The National Virtual Translation Center was created in the wake of 9/11 to provide additional translation services for government. NVTC Director, Everette Jordan, who will participate, explained, "NVTC's goal is to augment existing government translation capabilities by 1) acting as a clearinghouse for facilitating interagency use of translators; 2) partnering with elements of the U.S. Government, academia and private industry to identify translator resources and engage their services; 3) build a nationwide team of highly qualified, motivated linguists and translators, connected virtually to the NVTC Office in Washington, D.C.; and 4) applying state-of-the-art technology to maximize translator efficiency."

NVTC's mission of using advanced technology to think out of the Beltway box is exemplified by a number of enterprising rural translation firms that now have access to federal contracts through virtual technology. Jordan cites a Native American tribal firm that was the first company to contract with the agency and has been providing the Intelligence Community translations of classified materials from far-flung locations. This illustrates how NVTC has developed a method of handling overflow material needing translation within the Intelligence Community.

"This summit is exciting and long overdue," said Marian Greenfield, President of the American (ATA). "It brings together all of the key players to make sure that government and industry get translation right," she added. ATA, organized in 1959, is the largest professional association of translators and interpreters in the United States, with nearly 10,000 members in over 70 countries, including translators and interpreters, industry and government language services procurement officials, and language services companies. The Association is active in professional development, translator certification, and educating clients on how to buy top quality translation.

The Summit will be held at the Marriott University Park Hotel at 480 Wakara Way, in Salt Lake City on March 20th.

#