

PRESS RELEASE  
November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2013

## **HBKU'S TII Launches Call for Papers in Preparation for the Fifth Annual Translation Conference, "Global Translation Flows"**

*Monday November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2013* – Hamad bin Khalifa University's Translation and Interpreting Institute (TII) in partnership with Bloomsbury Qatar Foundation Publishing will host the Fifth Annual Translation Conference on April 13-15, 2014 at the Qatar National Convention Center (QNCC).

Emphasizing the important role of this conference in developing the translation and interpreting knowledge, in Qatar and the region, Dr. Amal Al Malki, Executive Director of the Translation and Interpreting Institute says: "The Annual Translation Conference has become an attraction to academics, students as well as professionals from all over the world. We continue to promote translation and interpreting as scholarly and professional activities and create the intellectual spaces for knowledge exchange as well as training."

Dr. Al Malki describes the conference as a great networking opportunity that poses as a bridge between academia and the market promoting quality and conscientious translation: "TII's students at the MA in Translation Studies as well as their colleagues from the region and beyond will get exposed to current trends in the translation discipline and will attend vocational workshops."

Historically and now, the Gulf has been known as a site of transit, translation, and exchange. "Global Translation Flows", the Fifth Annual Translation Conference, seeks to explore the complexities of intercultural communication and translation both in and beyond the region. On one hand, the flow between cultures opens up the possibility of exchange and new knowledge. On the other, it has been associated with colonization and cultural imperialism.

Given the tradition of exchange and translation within the Gulf itself, this conference is particularly interested in papers that focus on translation as it relates to travel narratives in and beyond the region, development and modernity, translation revival in the GCC region, and efforts to document and preserve Gulf Arab heritage, oral traditions, and culture in new global context.

Commenting on the upcoming conference, Dr. Moneera Al-Ghadeer, the Director of Postgraduate Studies and Research at TII, says: "The Fifth Translation Conference recognizes the Gulf region as a site of global flows in which trade, cultural movements, languages, and migration together produce a process of translation. The conference

encourages scholars to rethink these remarkable moments of cultural and linguistic encounters in order to examine how, in turn, they have generated translation flows, traversing from west to east and vice versa.”

Possible paper topics include the study of translation as it relates to migration and communication networks:

- the construction of narrative in historical and current events, or vis-à-vis the concept of citizenship
- mass media, social media, and citizen media
- the Arab Spring; transnational communities and institutions (GCC, EU, MERCOSUR, inter alia); communication in and between religious communities
- conflict
- global literary networks
- women's networks and gender
- globalization and counter models of globalization, past and present
- new intercultural connections forged by emerging transcontinental migrational flows
- difference and otherness in translation

The deadline for submission of proposals is January 15, 2014. Submissions (in Arabic or English) can be completed online by following the link <http://www.tii.qa/conference>

All applicants should have an institutional affiliation, contact information (including email) and an abstract of 200 to 250 words.

Accepted papers will be allocated 30 minutes in the conference's program, which will include 15-20 minutes for presentation and 10-15 minutes for discussion.

\*\*\*END\*\*\*

### **About The Translation and Interpreting Institute**

The Translation and Interpreting Institute (TII) is part of Hamad bin Khalifa University. Founded with a remit to build capacity in Qatar and the region and to function as a physical and virtual space within which sophisticated translator and interpreter education, high-level training in a range of languages, and quality translation and interpreting services are delivered to the highest international standards, TII also provides a platform for conducting cutting edge research in the field and is committed to fostering an environment that is supportive of cultural exchange and scholarly excellence.

Led by a distinguished international team of faculty and staff, TII consists of a Postgraduate Studies section, a Research Center, a Language Center and a Professional Services section. It organizes a wide range of international and local events throughout the year, many of which are open to the public.

### **About Bloomsbury Qatar Foundation Publishing**

Bloomsbury Qatar Foundation (BQF) is owned by Qatar Foundation and managed by Bloomsbury Publishing Plc in London. BQFP is based in Doha, Qatar, and has four core aims:

- Publishing: To publish books of excellence and originality to the highest editorial, design and production standards, in Arabic and in English. The list ranges from board books for babies, children's books, fiction and non-fiction for adults, information and reference, and academic monographs.
- Connecting local research with the global research community through publishing original peer reviewed academic articles, book and journals through [QScience.com](https://www.qscience.com) and manage scholarly communication services to advance the research capability of Qatar.
- Reading and Writing Development: To encourage lifelong literacy in Qatar and the Arab World.
- Knowledge Transfer: To transfer publishing and related skills to Qatar and the Gulf region via training and other initiatives.

### **About Hamad bin Khalifa University**

Hamad bin Khalifa University (HBKU), a member of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development, is an emerging research university building upon unique collaborations with local and international partners. Located in Education City, HBKU seeks to provide unparalleled opportunities for scholarship, teaching, discovery, and learning for all of its students through an array of interdisciplinary programs.

HBKU's partners are Virginia Commonwealth University in Qatar, Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar, Texas A&M University at Qatar, Carnegie Mellon University in Qatar, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar, Northwestern University in Qatar, HEC Paris in Qatar, and University College London Qatar.