



Tending the Nets Digital Quaker Glossary Project

Digital Quaker Glossary



**Bilinguall conversation at World Plenary Meeting,
January 2016**

Quakers speak more than 70 languages in 85 countries around the world. The FWCC Section of the Americas has been committed to conducting the business of the Section Meeting in a bilinguall Spanish-English fashion for over forty years, a unique practice within FWCC and the wider Quaker world.

The different terms used among Friends were put together in the 1994 Spanish-English Glossary. The current Spanish/English glossary is a photocopied photocopy of the 1994 glossary which was updated in 2000.

To continue to fulfill our vision of being a fully bilinguall section, it is necessary to update the 1994 Glossary and to develop a modern, on line, printable and interactive glossary of Quaker terms in all languages that Quakers speak in the Americas and around the world. Part of the goal is to make this glossary available more widely and easily accessible to from any electronic communication device when traveling and meeting Friends in different countries. The development of this digital glossary will also be a helpful tool for our interpreters.



**Interpreters table at FWCC Americas Section
Meeting, 2017**



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Interpreters



Interpreters are a critical part of keeping the FWCC family together. They need better tools to do their work.

Ten years ago, FWCC event participation from the Committee of Latin American Friends (COAL) was minimal. In 2013, we made it a strategic priority to nominate Spanish speakers to all of our committees, which has had tremendous success. Ten years ago, on average, 5 Friends from Latin American countries attended the Section Meetings. Today, we regularly have over 100 Friends participating from these countries.

Interpreters are not only necessary for larger events like Section Meetings, but also for the work that is being done through committees that meet, often monthly and at times more frequently, to do the work of the Section. We've worked to include at least one member of COAL on every FWCC committee. This ensures we are creating programs with equity. But this means we need interpreters to attend every committee meeting to interpret in real-time during the meeting.

While we've enjoyed a stable base of volunteers who have provided these services in the past, it is increasingly more difficult to retain these specialized services on a voluntary basis. This project would help us continue to have equity in participation and truly unite our global family of Friends.

<i>Phase 1</i>	Updating English & Spanish Glossary
<i>Phase 2</i>	Developing digital tools
<i>Phase 3</i>	Training of interpreters
<i>Phase 4</i>	World-wide glossary
	Sustainability

We operate as a single, unified Section in a way we could only imagine a few years ago. This is in large part because of the work of a talented group of volunteers.

“As far as I can see, it looks like we have Latin Americans on all or most committees, including dedicated interpreters. This feels to me like an enormous change.” Ann Stever, North Pacific YM

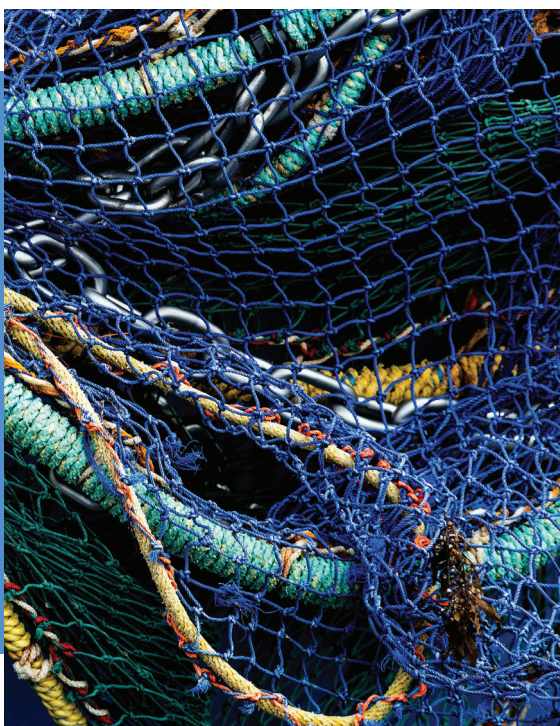


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Project Objectives

- Conduct a virtual and in-person consultation with current interpreters and a broad range of yearly meeting leadership to update the Spanish-English terms in the FWCC Glossary.
- Update the Spanish-English glossary to be online, interactive and multilingual.
- Hire a software development company to create a mobile and web-based app to make the glossary more accessible to interpreters, translators, language-learners and Friends traveling to visit other Yearly and Monthly Meetings.
- Sustain a stable corps of interpreters for FWCC events, committees, and other groups.
- Collaborate with other Sections to integrate other languages into the online platform. (English, Spanish, Aymara, French, Kiswahili, Hindi, Japanese, Chinese, Russian, Portuguese, Kirundi, Kinyarwanda, Tagalog—and ultimately all the languages that Quakers speak—in the Americas and around the world).
- Publicize the glossary to a wide range of Quaker and academic audiences.



“Communication and understanding between meetings of different traditions has gotten better. The communication on the part of the FWCC office and the contact with Friends throughout the Section has improved greatly. We are more in contact and more aware of what is going on.”

Se ha mejorado la comunicación y el entendimiento entre juntas de diferentes tradiciones. La comunicación de parte de la oficina del CMCA y el contacto con los Amigos en toda la Sección ha mejorado grandemente, estamos más en contacto y más enterados de lo que está ocurriendo.

Anonymous survey response, 2018