

# *Ocskóné Dókus Tünde*

**“If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have absolute faith so as to move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. “ (1 Corinthians 13:2)**

Ocskóné Dókus Tünde's motto during her years at university was a quote from Romain Rolland: “My will is that whatever must be, it will be”. (R.R. The Enchanted Soul) The way we think of life changes as we go through different phases of life, partly because of the change in our thinking and partly because of the years we leave behind us. This is why today she feels the above mentioned quote of Saint Paul the most important in her life.

Ocskóné Dókus Tünde graduated in English-Russian-Polish language and literature at the University of Eötvös Lóránd. She was interested in literature in the first place so she wrote poems and tales. She even participated at a literary translation competition where she ranked the second place with the translation of a novel by Edward Stachura, right behind Péter Dávidházi, who is a well-known literary translator today. She had been interpreting during her university years, mostly for the Hungarian Writers Union and she had opportunities to travel in Hungary and to get to know cities and fantastic people.

Ocskóné Dókus Tünde wanted to teach and be a “literary person” so she started to teach at the Imre Madách secondary school Russian and English in Budapest. Besides teaching, she spent her time with her family and as a result of this translating was put into the shade for a while. She only translated for Interpress Magazin that had been a popular paper back in that time. According to her the 10 years she spent in the secondary school was a challenging period for her professional and for her personal life as well. She learned that one can only be really successful in their career if they have fantasy, character and open for those who they teach and are ready to accept differences in people. For her family and professional enhancement are equally important and she claims that no matter how busy someone can be, “if they are lucky (and it really needs luck), both of them will work out.”

The 10 years of teaching in secondary school was followed by 2 years of work in Libya, where she taught English at the school of the Hungarian Embassy for pupils and the Hungarian workers, and she even took interpreting jobs for the embassy.

After Libya she worked at the Agricultural University of Gödöllő Manager-training department and she taught at Corvinus University English language and technical translation for almost 20 years. When she won the Tempus tender with a EU translation she was asked to work out the accreditation scheme of the post gradual course for translation and interpreting. This one was one of the university's most successful training and she was the professional leader of it for more than 10 years. She got her PhD degree at Corvinus University in International relationships and from this point on her life she has been teaching professional courses at Hungarian and international universities. After 20 years of teaching economics and working out a communication course in English she started to work at Pázmány Péter Catholic University, where she was asked to work on the accreditation of the translation and interpreting MA. After successful accreditation the course was launched in 2012 with her being responsible for the training till 2014. She loves to spend her free time with her grandchildren and doing sports; she is a competitive person and during leisure time she does not think of the passage of time. ☺

To my question on training of translation and interpretation Ocskóné Dókus Tünde mentioned the example of the courses at Corvinus University, where the education builds on practice at the post gradual training and at the MA there are more theoretical courses. Her opinion is that creative, practical, interactive education based on partnership would be optimal. Regarding the differences between Hungarian and international students she says: “the Hungarian ‘listeners, as they are called in Hungarian, are rather listening to the courses than being actively participative.” As a teacher and professional translator and interpreter she thinks that not only for the ones working in this profession, but every good teacher should have professional and personal skills. The attributes of a good translator and interpreter are curiosity, being selective but most importantly to love the profession. “And it is really important that whatever you do, do it with joy and enthusiasm. When it comes to translating and interpreting I would like to mention three or rather four important things: knowledge of language, of background and of the mother tongue and the personal qualities.”

The advice Ocskóné Dókus Tünde gives for career entrants is short but pointed: “Always be maximally prepared on the work you take. Be selective. And, if the success is not complete, it is not your fault because you did everything you could.

Created by Nagy Krisztina