& SOCIAL JUSTICE

TECHNICAL COMMUNICATION

Welcome to the First Issue

Jerry Savage and Lucia Dura, co-editors

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Although every journal in the field of technical and professional communication has published articles concerning social justice over the years, *TCSJ* is the only journal exclusively committed to that concern. We urge you to visit our web page at <u>techcommsocialjustice.org</u> for a fuller statement of our mission and how we envision this journal participating in the work of bringing about social justice in all of the domains where technical communication operates, or should operate in the world. And although we take pride in what we bring to you in this first issue of *TCSJ* (and in the next two issues, which are already in preparation) we are constantly humbled as we encounter the work of scholars, teachers, students, and activists who are engaged in work for social justice in ways and domains we had not previously encountered.

Our first issue is a special issue on translation and social justice in technical communication. In a way, this may seem a risky way to launch a new journal, with an exclusive and in some ways specialized focus that relatively few technical communicators may consider relevant to their own work. However, we believe this is a good example of the riskiness of social justice work. It is inevitably risky if it is effective at all because it inevitably calls attention to conditions and arrangements that normalize injustice, exclusion, and other forms of oppression that, when exposed are likely to discomfort those who benefit from those conditions and arrangements. We acknowledge experiencing such discomfort ourselves.

And so, we urge you to read the guest editors' introduction by Suban Nur Cooley and Laura Gonzales, which we believe will make clear the importance of this issue not only for technical communicators who work in cross-linguistic communication but for all of us in technical communication - which in and of itself can be understood as always already a kind of translation practice. Finally, we hope you will see *TCSJ* as a welcoming forum for your own work in technical communication and social justice.

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