

## Questions for networking groups

In your breakout session you have 20 minutes to discuss one or two questions. Just pick one and see how it goes. When you are done with that one, start with another topic! Of course, you may discuss something else...

### Group A

- What was your first interpreting or translation job?
- What slows you down the most when you get to an assignment at a courthouse? What can you do about it?
- What was your first profession?
- What did you study in college? How did that prepare you for the work you do now?
- If you are certified, what did it take for you to get certified?

### Group B

- How did you develop your client base?
- If you have direct clients, how did you approach your first direct clients?
- If you have direct clients, do you really make more money per hour from working for them than for a language company? If not, why do you work for them?
- Was training important in your early career development? How about mentoring, even informal mentoring?
- Tell us about the first group of peers or association you joined and how it helped you grow. How could ATA help you in that way?

### Group C

- What type of training do you prefer and why? In person or online?
- If you like online training, do you prefer asynchronous training (on your own schedule, you grade yourself) or synchronous training (with scheduled sessions with a group of peers and scheduled feedback from the trainer) and why? How easy is it to find each type of training? Would you expect a cost differential?
- Do you think skills can be taught online? What would you expect of a quality skills training program online?
- What qualifications do you expect from a speaker or a trainer in a skills training program? Are certifications and experience as a trainer relevant? Is the success of the trainer's students relevant?
- When attending a training, are you more or less interested when you see that there are minimum requirements for attendance? What does that tell you about the program?

### Group D

- Professionalism as interpreters. The Supreme Court now says that gender-based dress codes can't be enforced. What aspects of the dress code would you change in your profession?
- Setting yourself up for success. What are the essential elements to be prepared for an online interpreting appointment, in your opinion? What has led to utter failure?

- Last-minute interpreting appointments. Translators have rush rates. Should interpreters have a rush charge for last-minute appointments as well? Why or why not?
- What are some ways a newcomer can enter the profession with confidence? In interpreting or in translation. Are there mentored paths?

#### Group E

- If a client asked you, as an interpreter, to provide a short on the spot translation, what would you do? Why?
- What do you do when you are in a medical setting and you are asked to help the patient fill the medical intake form? Do you have the patient fill it out in their language, do you write it in English, or do you follow a different process?
- There is no certification for community interpreters. Yet, we need them at schools, social services hearings, and others. What should be the role of the Educators and the Interpreters Division in addressing this issue?
- What major changes have you made in your work since the pandemic? (other than working from home)