

## Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the ATA German Language Division

Seattle, November 11, 2005

The meeting was called to order by the Division Administrator, Frieda Ruppenner-Lind at 3:35 p.m.

The assembled members approved the agenda for the meeting. Due to a technical problem, copies of the minutes from the previous year's meeting (held in Toronto on October 15, 2004) were not available and could not be approved.

Ms. Ruppenner-Lind gave a brief overview of the Division administration's activities over the past year, which consisted in planning the conference program, inviting speakers, establishing and maintaining communication between Division members, facilitating dialogue through the GLD mailing list and making information available on the GLD website.

She then invited brief reports from the Division's officials. The first report came from Rainer Klett, the editor of the Division newsletter, *Interaktiv*. He and the assistant editor, Roland Grefer, take turns supervising the editions of the newsletter. Four issues were published since the last conference. The newsletter is sent electronically as an attachment to all Division members. Some 5% request a mailed hardcopy edition, which is taken care of by headquarters.

Mr. Klett invited the membership to submit articles, suggestions and questions to the newsletter for publication.

The next report was given by Christoph Niedermair, the listmaster in charge of administering the daily operation of the Yahoo mailing list. The list currently has 219 subscribers and the average monthly message volume is 500. Mr. Niedermair urged members to use the automated features of Yahoo! to manage the list in situations such as taking a vacation, change of email address, etc. These instructions will be publicized more prominently on the GLD website and in the newsletter.

Michael Wahlster, the webmaster of the Division, then gave a brief overview of the website (URL: <http://www.americantranslators.org/divisions/GLD/>) The site has comparatively low traffic. It now contains a dynamic feature, "Das steht woanders" and links to materials from conference presentations. Ms. Ruppenner-Lind encouraged presenters to submit their conference handouts to the website for the perusal of the membership.

New business: 2006 is an election year for the Division. Due to term limits, the Assistant Division Administrator, Ms. Jutta Diel-Dominique, will not be eligible to run for office again. The current Division Administrator, Ms. Frieda Ruppenner-Lind, is willing to run again for a second term. Ms. Jill Sommer volunteered to serve as the chair of a nominating committee, which will report to the Division Administrator. Ms. Sommer will appoint further members of the nominating committee.

Social events at the conference: It was suggested to extend the "Happy Hour" organized by the Division every year to 2 hours and to provide more seating.

The Division Administrator solicited suggestions and proposals for next year's annual conference program. Members suggested more technical-scientific content and presentations held in German. When questioned about the budget, Ms. Ruppaner-Lind explained that the association no longer does separate accounting for the various divisions. Starting in 2006, membership in divisions will become an integrated benefit of ATA membership, with an unlimited number of division memberships included in the dues. The organization makes it possible for all divisions to invite prominent speakers to the conference.

Among the topics suggested for possible presentations at the next conference were medical technology, laboratory technology, ultrasound, medical laser applications, and spinal surgery. In addition, some members requested a greater balance of GER > EN and EN > GER presentations in the conference program.

GLD is considering the possibility of hosting a German-language financial seminar in 2006 or 2007. Provided there is enough interest and active support, this event could be held at a low-cost site, such as a university, in a central location.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Dorothee Racette