

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the ATA German Language Division  
New York, NY  
October 30, 2009

The Administrator of ATA's German Language Division, Ruth Gentes Krawczyk, called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

The assembled members approved the agenda of the present meeting and the minutes of the previous year's meeting.

Visitors from Germany and Austria were recognized and brought best wishes from their associations, including Universitas in Austria who extended an invitation to participate in their activities. A gift of a tin with German cookies was shared among the members.

Ms. Gentes Krawczyk then gave an overview over the German-speaking or German-related sessions at this year's conference: 12 in all, which is more than in previous years.

The Administrator invited reports from Division volunteers with responsibilities for core services.

The staff of the Newsletter was not present but had submitted a brief report. Astra Van Heest as editor of *interaktiv* and Katrin Rippel as the person in charge of layout reported that a new column, Translator in Profile, was added this year. Abigail Dahlberg stepped down as a member of the editorial staff. New steps were taken to streamline the process, which means that deadlines for submissions were set for April 1, August 1 and December 1. The goal is for each edition to be finished by the end of these respective months.

Michael Wahlster, the person in charge of the website layout, was not present. Ms. Gentes Krawczyk gave an overview of updates to the website and its redesign, which brought us into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The new layout is modern, interesting, and contributions in the form of blog posts are always welcome.

Christoph Niedermair, the moderator of the GLD list, reported that the list now has 345 members. The average number of posts per month is 680, but there have been as many as more than 900. Mr. Niedermair announced that he will step down as moderator and pass all responsibilities on to the present co-moderator, Gerhard Preisser. In the past year, the moderators used a hands-off approach and only intervened in exceptional cases. The new moderator expects to use the same approach.

Jill Sommer, the representative of the Conference and GLD Dinner Planning Committee, invited those in attendance to contact her with ideas for the 2010 conference program. Her committee would welcome new members.

Michael Engley was asked to report on the plans for a mid-year conference with focus on German. His report included details about plans to organize a conference in Louisville, KY, where Mr. Engley lives. A sponsor for such a conference had been found and MATI had initially voiced an interest in planning a conference alongside ours. However, the timing for such a conference was not in MATI's favor and they pulled out. ATA Headquarters had additional reservations about Louisville as conference venue and the endeavor was then tabled. When asked

about interest in such a conference, response among those present at the meeting was lukewarm and no further attempt was made to revive plans. A new ATA divisions task force has been formed to pursue problems of cost. Options for college or university-based mid-year events have been discussed to include outreach, and these discussions are ongoing.

The floor was opened for questions and comments and one member mentioned that one of the sessions given in German had not been listed under German in the ATA program. Ms. Gentes Krawczyk explained that only one of four submissions for sessions was chosen due to the high volume of proposed sessions, and that German fared much better than some languages. The fact that one session had been missed under the list of German sessions was regrettable, but members voiced their overall satisfaction with the way the program had been filled.

The Nominating Committee for 2010 was chosen and Jill Sommer, Antje Katcher and Margrit Kull were confirmed.

The next conference will convene in Denver, and ideas were collected for subject matters of interest to attendees. Suggestions for guest speakers on the following topics were submitted: green/environmental issues, legal, automotive technical, translating for the media, terminology & linguistic differences between the East and the West in Germany. Nina Gettler and Ruth Boggs volunteered to be included on the Conference Organizing Committee. They invite all members to submit their ideas for subjects and qualified speakers to invite.

The question regarding where to conduct next year's GLD dinner was raised and the consensus was to stay in the hotel again. While attendees appreciated this year's dinner, the fact that a lengthy subway or taxi ride was involved and that space at the restaurant had been limited fueled the decision to keep it in the hotel in 2010, unless a perfect spot is found within walking distance of the hotel that can truly accommodate our group size.

The attendees were encouraged to join the GLD online list and to become guest bloggers on the website.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Susanne van Eyl