January 26, 2015

To: Board of Directors and Past Presidents
From: Carol G. Velandia P.,Administrator translationspa@gmail.com
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Leadership Council Members: Helen Eby, Milena Calderari-Waldron, Gloria Rivera. Lorena Ortiz, Tricia Perry, Tianlu Redmond

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Summary of Activities and Next Steps
Interpreters Division 2014-2015
(Last report submitted on October 2014)

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Communications:

Members of this committee: Carol Velandia, Gloria Rivera and Tianlu Redmond

The Interpreters Division continues to put a strong emphasis on improving the communication with the current members or potential members of the Division, as well as keeping the communication with the Leadership Council (LC) transparent and effective and efficient. We are using technology to reach out to as many members and professional interpreters as possible and to provide quality information on professional development opportunities, news, articles and the profession per se. We currently have five tools for such communication:

Website http://www.atanet.me/ID/. The division's website continues to be the main tool the Division has to communicate with its members. One of the goals during the conference was to have a blog instead of having a printed newsletter. We have experienced a few challenges switching over to this format but we hope to overcome these challenges for the next quarter.

1) The main addition to our page has been the comprehensive list of certifications for interpreters nationally and internationally recognized. This list includes but is not limited to certifications for medical interpreters, judiciary interpreters, diplomatic interpreters and conference interpreters.
2) We continue to collaborate with the Medical Division and with more than 50 volunteers recruited by the initiative in the development of content for the MD-ID tab.
3) The Facebook page continues to be used as a tool to communicate with the members and inform them about conferences and other activities available.

LC List Serve: The list serve continues to be a main source of exchange of information with the membership.

Survey: We have developed a survey to gauge the interests and preferences of all interpreters' members of ATA. It is currently under review by the LC. If Headquarters approve the survey, we hope to broadcast it to all the members.

55th Annual Conference Summary

Networking Events

Committee members: Marisa Gillio, Gloria Rivera and Carol Velandia

Both the open house and the networking breakfast were very successful. We were able to build meaningful relationships with members of the Division. These members have provided valuable input to our LC and some have even become new members of our LC.
We created a post card stating a Mission for the Interpreters Division and all the links available to stablish exchange of information among members. The aim of such postcard was to consolidate member's expectations of the Division into a shared mission statement:
The image below is a visual of the post card provided.

Interpreters Division of ATA

As professional interpreters, we work to overcome language barriers. We facilitate equal access to services and education in many languages.

Whether you are a healthcare, legal, conference or business interpreter you can find a forum for discussion regarding interpreting issues, share your ideas, and work with colleagues to promote the development of the profession.

Join our Division today and make your voice heard!!

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We distributed 200 postcards during the open house and all the networking events. We also conducted a raffle and gave out about a dozen prizes including books, online courses and dictionaries. The generosity and commitment of the LC members was notable. .

Developing Collaborations among Divisions

In addition to the Medical Division, we are also collaborating with the Policy Advisory Committee in developing options to improve the ATA directory. This committee has done a lot of the work and it will be reflected on their report. At our end, as mentioned above, we developed the credential list and contributed to the Committee for their purposes.

Distinguished Speaker

We suggested the name of a key supporter of professional and qualified interpretation. Rebekah Tosado. She was instrumental in ATA participation on the Department of Homeland Security panel on Language Access Services and included our report on interpretation and translation in the DHS language access plans.