



2025 Literary Division Annual Meeting Minutes

The 2025 Literary Division annual meeting was held virtually on October 7, 2025, at 11 AM PT/2 PM ET.

27 members were present:

Liv Bliss

Katy Bridges

Kelly Burt-Candelaria

Steven Capsuto

Kate Deimling

Thomas Christopher Elliott

Shelley Fairweather-Vega

Mercedes Guhl

Zakiya Hanafi

Mark Herman

Kelly Koch

Ruth Gentes Krawczyk

Steven McGrath

Hartley Miller

Andrea Nemeth-Newhauser

Jennifer Ottman

Erin Riddle

Petra Rieker

Lesley Schuldt

Fang Sheng

Steve Smith

Sufimi So

David Stephenson

P. Striker

Evgeny Terekhin

Hannah Varadi

Melody Winkle

The meeting agenda was presented and accepted. Kate Deimling made the motion to accept and Liv Bliss seconded.

The minutes of the 2024 annual meeting were approved without changes. Kate Deimling made the motion to approve and Hannah Varadi seconded.

Overview for 2025

There are approximately 1000 people in ATA Literary Division.

Advocating for interests of literary translators

Cooperation with PEN America: Matthew Griffen, Olivia Caputo, and Kate Deimling staffed a table at 2025 PEN World Voices Festival.

The Literary Division helped arrange for ALTA to have a presence at the ATA conference.

Shelley Fairweather-Vega is working with National Writers' Union.

Revising statement on AI

The Literary Division contributed to changes in ATA's statement, including concerns about intellectual property and style.

Changes to literary prizes

The ATA is forming a committee to look at which languages should be covered for the Ungar and Galantière Translation awards. Kate Deimling is looking for members.

Annual Conference 2025 preview

Larissa Kyzer will be the Distinguished Speaker for the Literary Division. She is an Icelandic to English translator.

There will be several sessions of interest to literary translators.

The distinguished speaker session overlaps with the Book Fair, so there will be no Literary Division table this year.

Social and networking events at the conference:

After Hours Café, Thursday

Lunch at Fabulist Café, Friday

Discussion of blog, website, and social media.

The web site was redesigned with the help of ATA.

We have a blog with a few entries and we expect more to come.

There is a Catalog of Member Publications for 2025.

Social media:

We have an email list. There is also a Facebook account, LinkedIn group, and X account, which are less active.

New Business for 2026

Incoming LitDiv leaders Kate Deimling and Petra Rieker

Shelley and Mercedes are stepping down.

Kate Deimling will be the division administrator and Petra Rieker will be the co-administrator.

ATA Conference 2026

We are looking for ideas for ATA's 67th Annual Conference for sessions, activities, the catalog, and Book Fair.

The 2026 conference will be in San Francisco. We won't have a distinguished speaker for this year.

It's time to think about sessions we would like. Contact Kate Deimling with ideas.

A suggestion was made to have a happy hour at Vesuvio Cafe/City Lights Bookstore.

2026 Division events: topics, activities, speakers

It's time to think about sessions/webinars we would like in 2026.

New members for the Leadership Council.

Kate and Petra will be recruiting a new leadership council. The leadership council is a sounding board and is available to assist the administrators as needed.

Comments from attendees:

Ideas for sessions for the upcoming year:

A panel on dialogue translation.

Translation tools, such as project management, writing tools.

A panel on working with editors.

A panel on finding publishers.

How to navigate foreign rights.

A panel on CAT tools.

Members of the ATA Mastermind Literary group talked about their experience and encouraged interested people to sign up for the next round for Mastermind groups.

Shelley Fairweather-Vega was just announced as a finalist for the National Book Award For Translated Literature.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 AM PT/2:50 PM ET.

Minutes recorded by Melody Winkle