Division Annual Meeting

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
LANGUAGE TECHNOLOGY DIVISION OF THE
AMERICAN TRANSLATORS ASSOCIATION
Saturday, October 1, 2022
Online

Members present: Bridget Hylak (Administrator), Percy Balemans, Viktoryia Baum, Blaise Hylak, Andy Benzo, Aaron Hebenstreit, Carola F. Berger, Caroline Kim, Eric Liao, Jacki Noh, Miki Allen, Nathan Huang, Tracy Cook, Zbigniew Ostrega, Nicolás Arízaga

1. Call to order at 12:32 pm
2. Accept agenda (none opposed)
3. Minutes of last year’s meeting
   • The minutes of last year’s meeting were displayed and accepted with no changes.
4. Language Technology Division Overview for 2022
   • Meeting led by B. Hylak from prepared slide deck.
   • Announcement and presentation of newly designed logo, new social media presence (Instagram) and increased member engagement.
   • Links to ATA63 Conference Sessions shared (https://ata63.org/sessions/) with instructions on how to easily find technology-related sessions. Members encouraged to plan conference schedule accordingly.
   • Announcement/description of LTD DS candidate, Jeff Weiser, and time/date of his sessions at ATA63.
   • Overview and description of ATA TEKTalks series. Links to the replays and summaries/blog of 2022 TEKTalks shared (http://www.ata-divisions.org/LTD/ata-tektalks-the-time-is-now/)
   • Overview and description of LTD research on MT and MTPE. Note to keep in mind best practices for both tech and lang when discussing MTPE. Reminder that lang/loc automation increase reliability, accuracy and consistency, but done properly, involve additional cost, maintenance, training, expertise and manpower. Key to note when speaking to clients.
   • Invitation to “MTPE Breakfast Club” events. Description and dates shared with members present.
   • Announcement of, and invitation to consider, LTD Dinner at ATA63:
     o October 13th at 7 pm
     o Fogo de Chão Brazilian Steakhouse in LA
     o $50 per person
   • Call for LTD Nominating Committee
   • Call for LTD Leadership Council Members
   • LTD New Business
     o ATA TEKTalks 2.0 has several prospects and one confirmed participant (Memsource). Request for suggestions from members.
   • Continued research on MTPE with long-term, eventual goal of possible ATA MTPE Certification
• Working on an MTPE “Primer” – general considerations on MTPE output, pricing, pros and cons etc. for clients and linguists - which could be posed to the ATA’s website as a guide prior to any official ATA-approved certification. The “Primer” is currently being drafted by LTD members with particular consideration toward concerns and fears among our ling industry colleagues. The document is tentatively entitled, MTPE (nQsf) – MTPE, not QUITE so fast…
• Backburner: Introduce concept of ATA Certified “Linguist Technician,” a tech-savvy linguist with demonstrated competence in both language and lang tech tools
• Elections and nominations: 2023 is an election year for our division.
• Social media:
  o LTD has a lively online presence. Members are invited to follow the LTD on social media.
• Additional call for volunteers:
  o LTD requests volunteers to engage and grow the division.

5. Questions from members

• Carola Berger recently attended (virtually) the AMTA (Association for Machine Translation in the Americas) conference and was wondering if we have reached out to get any guidance forming our MTPE guidelines. She mentioned that the focus of this conference was quality output, and various metrics were discussed at the same. MQM (Multidimensional Quality Metrics) highlighted as a leading standard. Indicated that the ATA’s Judy Jenner would be a great resource to reach out to, as Judy attended the conference in person.

6. Adjourned at 12:58 pm

7. Compiled and submitted by: Blaise Hylak, LTD Leadership Council