ATA 61st Annual Conference
October 21–24, 2020
Online

In this preview:
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- SLD events:
  - Annual meeting agenda
- SLD-related sessions

HELPFUL LINKS

Main conference website: https://ata61.org/

At-a-glance schedule: https://ata61.org/glance/

Registration: https://ata61.org/register/

Division events page: https://ata61.org/division-annual-meetings/

Slovo episode about SLD-related sessions:
https://soundcloud.com/atasld/episode-23-slavic-languages-presentation-at-ata61

Sunday, October 18

4:00-5:00 PM EDT
SLD Annual Meeting (see agenda below)

The annual meeting is open to all SLD members (capped at 1000). You do not need to register for the conference to attend the meeting. The Zoom link for the meeting is on the division page on the conference website: https://ata61.org/division-annual-meetings/.

7:00-8:00 PM EDT
SLD Networking

This is the virtual “equivalent” to the annual SLD dinner. You must be registered for the conference to attend, and the Zoom link will be provided through the conference platform. Participants will be divided up into breakout rooms to facilitate conversation.
Sunday, October 18, 2020
4:00 PM EDT
Zoom

1. Call to order
2. Accept agenda
3. Approve minutes of last year’s meeting (available in Winter 2020 SlavFile, p. 7)
4. SLD Overview for 2020
   a. Report on SlavFile and blog, solicit session reviews
   b. Report on website
   c. Report on online forum and social media (Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter)
   d. Report on SLD Outreach initiative
   e. Report on SLD Podcast (Slovo)
   f. Report on SLD ATA Certification Exam Prep Group
   g. Report on human rights webinar
5. New Business for 2021
   a. Note that a revised Division Handbook (August 2020) exists to help volunteers
   b. Call for volunteers
      i. Blog, editor, nominating committee
   c. ATA’s 62nd Annual Conference (Minneapolis, MN October 21-24, 2020)
      i. Discuss topics and speakers wanted
      ii. Ask for Distinguished Speaker recommendations
      iii. Encourage division members to submit session proposals (online deadline February 1)
   d. Division plans for coming year (if not covered during report on previous year)
      i. Further professional development, particularly language-specific online workshops
6. Call for feedback and suggestions from the members
7. Call for newcomers to introduce themselves
8. Adjourn
Thursday, October 22

2:00-3:00 PM EDT
(007) Working in a Tug of War
Ellen Elias-Bursac (SLD/LD Distinguished Speaker)

Translators and interpreters at the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia found themselves in an unusually visible position. Translation and interpreting disputes were raised by the defense and prosecution in almost every session of court, and the translation units were regularly pressured to change their choice of words, phrases, and terms. The speaker will describe the ways translators and interpreters responded to these pressures and the mechanisms that were established to deal with these demands.

*Topics*: Government T&I, Interpreting, Legal T&I, Slavic Languages, Terminology, Translation

*Presenting Language*: English
*Level*: All Levels
*Hashtag*: #ATA61TugOfWar

3:30-4:30 PM EDT
(017) Playful Translation
Ellen Elias-Bursac (SLD/LD Distinguished Speaker)

Almost every novel the speaker has translated has been focused on the wars that ravaged the former Yugoslavia, but she has discovered that humor and playfulness are almost always essential to these works. The challenges take many forms: puns and jokes, situational humor, playfully long sentences, and culturally specific innuendo. The speaker will provide examples and discuss her development as a translator, particularly in terms of approaches to translating humor.

*Topics*: Literary Translation, Slavic Languages, Translation

*Presenting Language*: English
*Level*: All Levels
*Hashtag*: #ATA61PlayfulTranslation
Friday, October 23

2:00-3:00 PM EDT

(048) Getting Edited and Getting Ahead in Literary Translation
Shelley Fairweather-Vega, CT

Successful literary translation demands careful decision-making and immense creative effort. If all goes well, it results in a new work of art that reproduces the author’s style and message and showcases the translator’s creative potential. And then...the editor shows up. This session will review real-life examples of translated manuscripts that have been dissected and put back together again by publishing house editors—usually for the best. We will discuss various editing roles and styles, discover what book editors look for in a translation, and identify efficient ways for translators and editors to collaborate for the best possible results.

**Topics:** Independent Contractors, Literary Translation, Slavic Languages, Translation

**Presenting Language:** English with Russian examples

**Level:** Advanced

**Hashtag:** #ATA61GettingEdited

3:30-4:30 PM EDT

(058) Corporate Social What? Introduction to Corporate Social Responsibility and How It’s Usually (Mis)interpreted in the Post-Soviet States
Veronika Demichelis, CT

Corporate social responsibility (CSR) has been a global buzzword for years, but it’s a relatively new concept in the post-Soviet States. The CSR jargon in itself can be confusing for an outsider, and language and cultural barriers can make communication on this topic even harder. Based on her training and experience in the corporate world of CSR in Russia and internationally, the speaker will give examples of how key social responsibility terms are usually understood by stakeholders in the post-Soviet states and share what difficulties usually arise when companies try to implement CSR activities locally.

**Topics:** Slavic Languages, Translation

**Presenting Language:** English

**Level:** All Levels

**Hashtag:** #ATA61CSR
Friday, October 23

5:00-6:00 PM EDT
(068) How to Become a Literary Translator
Evgeny Terekhin, CT

The speaker will discuss his experience as a literary translator, from language school graduate to a freelance translator running his own business. The speaker will cover how he found and contacted his first clients, the major mistakes and failures that contributed to who he became, and the main lessons learned along the way.

*Topics*: Literary Translation, Slavic Languages, Translation

*Presenting Language*: English

*Level*: Intermediate

*Hashtag*: #ATA61LiteraryXl8or

Saturday, October 24

2:00-3:00 PM EDT
(099) Balancing Act: Sneaking Historical Context into a Literary Translation from Russian
Nora Seligman Favorov, CT

Russian history is full of terminology that doesn’t translate easily into English. Military ranks, social categorizations, and the minutiae of everyday life all require a degree of explanation in English that would be disruptive in a literary translation. The speaker will discuss a series of decisions she made in translating Sofia Khvoshchinskaya’s 1863 City Folk and Country Folk that were motivated by a desire to make the novel easily digestible for all lovers of 19th-century Russian literature, whether or not they know much about Russian history.

*Topics*: Literary Translation, Slavic Languages

*Presenting Language*: English

*Level*: Intermediate

*Hashtag*: #ATA61BalancingAct
Saturday, October 24
5:00-6:00 PM EDT

(116) Contract Language Categories: Russian versus English
Eugenia Tietz-Sokolskaya, CT

Contracts are powerful texts, imposing obligations, penalties, and limits, clarifying intent, and even causing changes in status. But how does a contract—‘merely’ words on a page—achieve its purpose? What phrases and structures indicate obligations? Permission? Intention? This session will examine Ken Adams's categories of contract language for English, then turn to Russian contracts to see how the same effects are achieved. Attendees will come away with several practical strategies for translating contract language between Russian and English.

Topics: Legal T&I, Slavic Languages
Presenting Language: English
Level: Intermediate
Hashtag: #ATA61RUvsENContracts

Please note that the session on immigration terminology traps previously scheduled for 3:30 PM on Saturday has been cancelled.